



PHOTOS BY LOUISE KRAFT/THE GAZETTE

Viking dragon trainer Sig directs young Kevin as to how to call forward and pet a baby naddar.



William Arundel covers his nose as the baby naddar lets out a plume of smoke.



Eli and Sela Kwawu receive dragon tattoos from Sig the dragon trainer at Walmart.

Dragon Training at Walmart

Through the early heat of Saturday morning, July 7, Sig, the Viking dragon trainer, arrived at Walmart with a baby naddar dragon. Enclosed between the openings of four store aisles, the baby dragon checked in at over 7-feet tall swinging a 14-

foot tail. The baby naddar and his trainer are on a promotional tour for an upcoming Dreamworks' "How To Train Your Dragon Live Spectacular." The tour will make its Washington premiere at the Verizon Center July 19 -22. For more information visit www.dreamworksdragonslive.com

Route 1 Widening: Wait for Transit Study?

Flanagan proposes county review of transit options affecting Woodlawn Historical District.

BY GERALD A. FILL
THE GAZETTE

Following the Federal Highway Administration's June 5 public meeting on widening options for Route 1, another twist may further complicate approval for the best approach to widen Route 1 in the Woodlawn Historical District.

A new proposal has surfaced to detach the district from the FHWA design options until the Fairfax County Transit Study is completed. The author of that proposal is Earl Flanagan, Mount Vernon planning commissioner.

Currently, the two FHWA options do not have support among the communities affected. One option, called the "Bypass option," would cut through a portion of the Woodlawn Stables property, and the other option called the "widening in place" option would cut

Countywide Transit Network Study

The Fairfax County Department of Transportation has announced the beginning of the Countywide Transit Network Study "to determine the type of transit systems needed" ... and "to develop recommendations for where Metrorail should be extended, where streetcar or light rail systems are appropriate, and where dedicated lanes that allow buses to move faster could go." Fairfax County will hold the first public meetings on the study beginning July 16, 6:30 p.m. at the Fairfax County Government Center and July 19, 6:30 p.m. in the middle school cafeteria of Hayfield Secondary School.

through a portion of the historic Baptist church property. FHWA staff are reworking the design options.

Flanagan said "the dilemma has been caused by not having a transit study done before proceeding

SEE STUDY, PAGE 24

Public Comment Sought On Westgrove Park

Commission plans July 30 meeting.

A public information meeting will be held on the Westgrove Park Master Plan on July 30 to collect citizen comments to help shape the draft master plan.

The Park Authority notice calls attention to the fact that the sponsor applicant for the off leash dog park, PACK, requested that the potential interim use be shown as a permanent feature on the master

plan. Natural resource protection, interpretation and education areas have also been proposed for the site.

Westgrove, an undeveloped 21.3 acre park that was formerly the site of a sewage treatment plant, was transferred to the Park Authority in 2001. For the past two years it has been the subject of discussion and scrutiny because a group of citizens, Pumphouse Association for Canine Kindness (PACK) has proposed the establishment of an interim off leash dog park (OLDA). Its proposal was to use the existing concrete pavement in the center of the park on

SEE WESTGROVE, PAGE 8

Regulars at the White House

Local musicians perform for presidents and their guests.

BY JEFFREY AARON
THE GAZETTE

About a dozen times a year, Chris McFarlane and Mark Questad, both of Mount Vernon, don their special full dress U.S. Marines uniform, pick up their musical instruments and head to an address in Washington that most will only visit once in a lifetime as a tourist: 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue.

They will go through security, as almost every employee of the president's does, and move to a holding room supervised by the chief usher of the White House. There they will begin a cycle to which they're both accustomed: waiting.

"We are invariably always ahead of schedule," McFarlane said. "We will arrive in the late afternoon (for an evening event) and they always allow double, even triple travel time for us to get there on time."

Because McFarlane plays the bassoon and Questad the French horn, they're consistently part of the welcoming ceremony when a president receives a guest for an official event, such as a state dinner.

Before the guest arrives, the band will set up in the grand foyer, just inside the door from the North Portico. As the guest's car pulls through the northeast gate, the president and first lady walk out to greet them. After exchanging pleasantries, the band begins to play and there McFarlane, Questad and

SEE WHITE HOUSE, PAGE 24

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 *Renovated 4 levels w/walkout basement. Patio to beautiful garden backyard back to wood. Beautiful hardwood floors, Oak cabinets, new laminate floors, new railing, M Bathroom eye ball sky light. Current year replaced all exterior doors and roof. Side patio great place to relax.
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8519 Highland Lane
 Charming patio home w/attached carport. 3 bedrooms, 2 full baths; room w/lower ceiling on attic level could be used as 4th bedroom (has door, closet & window). Large master suit on main level with attached bath, separate laundry room, family room, wood/ceramic floors main level. Newer double pane windows, cute as a button Large storage shed, Large yard. Convenient to Ft Belvoir, Fairfax Pkwy, I-395, Mt Vernon Pl... **Maridol Garcia-Joy (703) 655-0777**



Prince William **\$365,000**
8959 Hanson Grove Court
 Regular sale. Former model home w/ one car garage backs to woods (premium lot)*4 bedrooms & 3.5 bathrooms gas fireplace w/ stone mantle gourmet kitchen. Fully finished basement w/ den, great room and rec room great location minutes from 66 & Pkway & Nissan Pavillion.
Bo Shinawatra (703) 901-6642



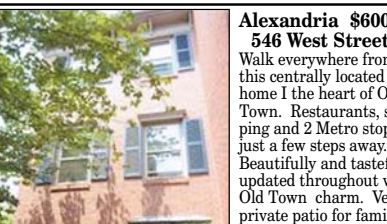
Fairfax Station **\$965,000**
9764 Viewcrest Drive
 Stunning Stanley Martin custom home - quiet cul-de-sac. Interior offers traditional formal rooms, gourmet kitchen and 9+ foot ceilings. Glorious master suite w/master bath/2 person tub. Bed 2 is ensuite. Basement has a complete au pair suite - 2nd Master with W/D, full kitchen, bedroom & den. Huge, professionally landscaped yard w/irrigation system. Quiet, yet moments from 123 and Fx Co Pk. **Lenny Marsh (703) 282-6511**



Arlington **\$369,900**
4067 Four Mile Run Drive, S #203
 Sunny and bright 2 bedroom, 2 bath condo with sunroom and extra storage. Fully loaded kitchen with stainless steel appliances, granite countertops, 42i cabinets, hardwood floors. Community amenities.
Rita Tassa (703) 629-8624



Alexandria **\$700,000**
635 First Street, #304
 Beautiful condo with gleaming hardwood floors, gourmet kitchen with cherry cabinets, stainless appliances and granite counters. Elegant crown moldings, oversized bedrooms n two masters on opposite sides of the condo! Lovely private balcony for your morning coffee. Walk to shopping, restaurants, metro and the river. DC just minutes away!! **The Gillette Team (703) 307-5698**



Alexandria \$600,000
546 West Street, N
 Walk everywhere from this centrally located home 1 the heart of Old Town. Restaurants, shopping and 2 Metro stops just a few steps away. Beautifully and tastefully updated throughout with Old Town charm. Very private patio for family cookouts. Remodeled kitchen with new stainless steel and updated bathrooms. Largest open floor plan available with lots of light. Freshly painted and new roof.
The Gillette Team (703) 307-5698



Great Falls **\$895,000**
9405 Fairpine Lane
 Well maintained Colonial home with recently updated custom Kitchen 42" cabinets and Granite counter tops. Hardwoods on 2 floors, Fully finished basement and fenced in yard.
Ihor Makara (703) 402-2654



Springfield **\$639,900**
8018 Langbrook Road
 Awesome huge home on beautiful lot in Cardinal Forest. Hardwood floors in most areas. Well maintained with 5 large bedrooms on upper level. Replaced kitchen cabinets. Some bathroom and lighting updates, replaced roof and siding, garage doors, most windows and front door. Large attractive family room with beautiful windows overlooking lush landscaped yard. Lovely home!
Becky Berning (703) 930-3400



Falls Church **\$194,900**
5575 Seminary Road, #111
 Wonderful main level freshly painted condo w/ bright beautiful kitchen, wood laminate floors, new lighting fixtures & MBR w/ walk-in closet. This place sparkles! The convenience of no steps but the security of an above ground balcony. Garage parking, extra storage, fitness center & pool. Savoy Park - a well maintained condo w/ lush landscaping in a fabulous location. Near bus, Skyline & Mark Ctr!...
Becky Berning (703) 930-3400



Chantilly **\$575,000**
13506 Star Flower Court
 Beautiful brick front colonial on cul de sac lot in Poplar Tree Estates! Newer roof, energy efficient windows, vinyl siding, freshly painted and new carpeting throughout family with wood burning fire place and vaulted ceilings * large eat in kitchen with pantry * formal dining and living rooms * main level den * large master bedroom with walk in closet * 3 additional large bedrooms with full bath * enjoy the view of mature trees from the deck * a must see! **Meg Olympia (703) 475-1552**



Burke \$325,000
6048 Bonnie Bern Court
 Beautiful updated townhome in delightful neighborhood conveniently located near VRE station *** Remodeled kitchen with replaced cabinets, counters, appliances and tile floor. Wood laminate floors and updated bathrooms. Nicely finished walkout basement overlooking green space. Check out this lovely home!
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Annapdale **\$599,900**
4013 Hirst Drive
 Gorgeous new construction inside the beltway on gigantic lot!! Hardwood floors on main level with den that could be used as fifth bedroom. Kitchen has stainless steel appliances, granite counters and gorgeous backsplash!! Upper level has four huge bedrooms and master has private bath with walk-in closet. Backyard features landscaped stone patio. Located on a quiet street, a must see!! **The Gillette Team (703) 307-5698**



Fairfax **\$825,000**
5502 West Ridge View Drive
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Woodbridge **\$279,900**
2200 Jib Lane
 Third party approval. Beautiful single family house with split level. Includes four bedrooms, three full baths, dining room and living room. The kitchen has granite counter tops and maple cabinets. Hardwood flooring throughout the house with ceramic tiles. House is sold as is.
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Alexandria **\$335,000**
1258 Martha Custis Drive #519-12
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NEWS BRIEFS

Suspect Dies after Shooting

Police are investigating an overnight officer-involved shooting that left one person dead. 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 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. Neither officer required medical treatment at the scene.

The deceased has been identified as Nicholas Allen Kaelber, 21, of Wakewater Way Woodbridge.

This investigation is ongoing. The two officers will be placed on routine administrative leave.

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.

Church To Distribute Food

Rising Hope Church will host a Produce Handout on Friday, July 27, 1-4 p.m. in its parking lot at 8220 Russell Road (opposite Aldi). Those in need should bring their own bags for the free food.

Fitness Event To Support New Hope

Gold's Gym will host a Help the Homeless event on Saturday, July 28, 8 a.m.-1:30 p.m., to benefit New Hope Housing. More than 100 people are anticipated to participate in this series of fitness classes that are open to the community and will raise funds for New Hope Housing's programs serving homeless families and adults. Class offerings will include: Body Flow (8 a.m.), Step Interval (9:05 a.m.), Cycle (9 and 10:05 a.m.), CXWORK (10:10 a.m.), Cardioblast (10:45 a.m.), 360 (11:15 a.m.) and Zumba (11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m.). To register for one or more classes, visit <http://hthwalks.org/goto/goldsgym> or contact Michelle at 703-799-2293 x11, or mjannazo@newhopehousing.org. : Gold's Gym is located at 7770 Richmond Highway (Route 1) in Alexandria.

New Hope Housing provides shelter, transitional and permanent supportive housing, outreach and support services for homeless families and single adults in Fairfax County, City of Alexandria, Arlington County, and City of Falls Church. In 2011, New Hope Housing served over 1,200 individuals including 240 children. For more information, go to www.newhopehousing.org

New Pastor at Calvary

Calvary Presbyterian Church welcomes its new pastor, the Rev. Michelle Fincher. The public is invited to meet her on Sunday, July 15 at the 10 a.m. service. Calvary Presbyterian Church is located at 6120 North Kings Highway.

Workshop on Home Safety

Mount Vernon At Home is hosting a workshop on home safety and fall prevention on Wednesday, July 18, 10 a.m., at Sherwood Regional Library, 2501 Sherwood Hall Lane (entrance on side parking lot).

RSVP to Mount Vernon At Home, 703-303-4060.

The workshop is open to the public.

'Big Box: Threat or Opportunity'

"Big Box: Threat or Opportunity" on Tuesday, July 17, 8:30 a.m., will be hosted by the Mount Vernon-Lee Chamber of Commerce and presented by Community Business Partnerships. This seminar is for small business owners that want to learn strategies for thriving when "big box" stores come to local retail communities.

There is no cost for the seminar. "Big Box: Threat or Opportunity" will be held at the chamber office, 6911 Richmond Highway, Suite 320, Alexandria.

NEWS



PHOTO BY LOUISE KRAFFT/THE GAZETTE

Exploring Summer Theater

The costumed cast of Peter Pan poses in the hallway for a photo before heading back inside for rehearsal. Pictured are: Emma Brown, Kate Wharton, Adele Godby, Mikayla Henry, Brevan Collins, Danielle Yates, Leia Surovell, Jack Pyles and Katharine Burgess.

Council Backs Full Restoration

Also supports retention of marina concession and mooring field.

BY GERALD A. FILL
THE GAZETTE

The Mount Vernon Council of Citizens Associations approved a resolution supporting the National Park Service's recommendation for full restoration of Dyke Marsh wetlands.

Reflecting on the council's vote, Betsy Martin, chair of the Environment and Recreation Committee of the Mount Vernon Council of Citizens Associations, said: "This resolution — passed by a vote of 22-2 — shows

that there is broad community support for fully restoring Dyke Marsh, while at the same time preserving the mooring and anchoring areas of the Belle Haven Marina. ... This restoration would benefit fishermen, hunters, kayakers,

boaters, and birdwatchers and all the rest of us who appreciate the beauty of the marsh." Martin also pointed out that if nothing is done soon to restore and protect the marsh, it will continue to disappear. The National Park Service and the Corps of Engineers collaborated to prepare this first ever Environmental Assessment of the federally protected Dyke Marsh. The public comment period is over for this phase. After analyzing the comments, the U.S. National Park Service will prepare an Environmental Impact Assessment and seek public comments on their recommendations for action.

Part of the council resolution reads as follows: "Therefore, be it resolved, the Mount Vernon Coun-

cil of Citizens' Associations (MVCCA) supports option D (Full Restoration), with a caveat to retain the marina concession and mooring field. This option would:

"1. Fully restore the southern promontory that historically protected the marsh from the eroding effect of hurricanes and nor'easters from the south;

"2. Construct a new tidal gut to discharge in an upstream direction, which would protect the last major tidal creek in the marsh from the effects of tidal surges and storms;

"3. Place fill in a deep channel caused by dredging, to divert flows back to the Potomac River main channel;

"4. Construct breaks in the Haul Road, to reestablish hydrologic connections between eastern and western sections of the marsh; and:

"5. Place fill along the main portion of Dyke Marsh out to the historic 1937 boundaries, restoring 130 acres of marsh and constructing tidal guts similar to historical flow paths."

In 2009 the U.S. Congress commemorated the 50th anniversary of the passage of Public Law 86-41 mandating federal protection of Dyke

Marsh as a U.S. Wildlife Preserve. The landmark environmental assessment comes at a time when the Park Service and Corps of Engineers analysis has shown that the marsh will disappear in approximately 40 years without mitigation to control stormwater runoff and erosion."

The entire MVCCA Resolution on Dyke Marsh restoration is printed in the Council's June, 2012 Record at: <http://www.mvcca.org/record/record-current.pdf>

For information on Friends of Dyke Marsh: www.fodm.org

For information on the EA prepared by the U.S. National Park Service: www.nps.gov/gwp.



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One of Mt Vernon's best values and on a quiet cul-de-sac with renovated kit, baths and finished lower level.

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UNDER CONTRACT



8724 Plymouth Drive—\$1,699,000
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1019 Priscilla Ln—\$799,900
Waynewood

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1148 Westmoreland Road—\$759,900
Tauxemont

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8418 Stable Dr. 609,900
Multiple Contracts—Over List!

Sold



8607 Cushman Place —\$679,900
Waynewood

SOLD—Brought the Buyer



1805 Courtland \$559,000
Hollindale

SOLD



2204 Popkins Ln- \$679,500
Hollin Hills

SOLD



8002 Bainbridge Drive—\$529,900
Hollin Hall Village

SOLD



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Woodmill Estates

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PHOTOS BY JEANNE THEISMANN/THE GAZETTE



Belle Haven Marina owner George Stevens holds a certificate of appreciation presented to him June 28 by a group from Fort Belvoir that participated in a sailing team building exercise. Pictured are: instructor Fred Wilson, Hospital Corpsman Kasey Smith, George Stevens, Medic Sgt. Samuel Ramos, Hospital Corpsman Tana Miller, Hospital Corpsman Alvin Farthing and Staff Sgt. Jerome Schorr.

'Fair Winds and Following Seas'

Fort Belvoir unit builds teamwork on the Potomac.

BY JEANNE THEISMANN
THE GAZETTE

As a member of the Joint Services team at the hematology oncology unit at Fort Belvoir Community Hospital, Staff Sergeant Jerome Schorr is accustomed to working under pressure with others. But his problem-solving and communication skills were put to the test during a week-long team building exercise at the Belle Haven Marina.

"This was an incredible opportunity for us," said Schorr of the 10-hour sailing course that ended June 28 with match racing at the marina that sits along the banks of the Potomac River. "The instructors couldn't have been better. They broke everything down to a level even we could understand," he added with a laugh.

Schorr and four of his colleagues participated in the four-day exercise that was custom designed for them by Belle Haven Marina



Instructor Fred Wilson reviews sailing safety procedures following a team building exercise with a group from Fort Belvoir's hematology oncology unit.

owner George Stevens and instructor Fred Wilson.

"We take our basic adult sailing course and modify it to work with the teams that come to us," Stevens said. "Some groups are more competitive than others but even on a social day, it's about building teamwork and trust."

The largest full-time facility of its kind on the Potomac River, Stevens has worked with groups as large as 20 members on a fleet

that ranges from Sunfish and Flying Scots to a 34-foot cruiser to teach cruising skills.

"Our usual class size is three students," said Stevens, who has owned and operated the marina since the mid-1980s. "We rotate them between driving the boat and operating the main and jib sails. This way everyone gets hands-on experience and can leave our course ready to do a solo sail."

Sergeant Samuel Ramos joined Schorr, who approached Stevens with the idea for the exercise.

"This was a unique opportunity," Ramos said. "It definitely challenged us and took a lot of teamwork and trust between us to succeed."

Wilson served as the instructor for group, who presented Stevens with a certificate of appreciation that included the sailing adage and nautical blessing "Fair Winds and Following Seas."

"What a great group of young men and women," Wilson said. "They were focused and disciplined but had a great sense of humor. It was a pleasure to sail with them."

For more information on Belle Haven Marina, call 703-768-0018 or visit www.saildc.com.



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Alex/Wessynton Upper \$600's
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Alex./Mt. Vernon \$452,900
8620 Curtis Avenue
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Alex./Mt. Vernon Woods \$319,000
7901 Martha Washington Street
Lovely 3BR/2BA Rambler with Family Room addition and a large screened (20x19) porch. Beautiful corner lot with fish pond off the porch. Large shed/workshop out back. Hardwood Floors add to the charm. Minutes to Fort Belvoir, 15 to Old Town, 25 to National Airport and 30/35 mins to Pentagon/D.C.



Alex./Yacht Haven Estates \$699,000
4520 Dolphin Lane
Stunning 4BR/3.5BA Rambler w/2-car garage in Premier Riverfront Community of Yacht Haven near Mt. Vernon Yacht Club (Marina, Pool & Club House). Beautiful family rm addition off the kitchen. Sun rm w/cathedral ceiling opens to a fabulous bkyd w/extensive decking & beautifully landscaped garden - perfect for entertaining. Enormous master bath will pamper w/soaking tub, separate shower, & double sinks. Lower lvl has game room, recreation room, bar, & full bath. Great Location - Meticulously landscaped corner lot. Must See!



Alex./Wessynton Mid \$600's
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 Ft. Belvoir - This is a Keeper!



Alex./Mt. Vernon \$2800/mo
8318 Orange Court
Beautiful 4BR/3.5BA Colonial w/3 finished levels in Historic Mt. Vernon. Newer kitchen & baths, gleaming hardwood floors, screened porch, deck, carport & large corner lot. Separate laundry & storage rooms. Scenic commute along the G.W. Parkway. Minutes to Fort Belvoir, 15 mins to Old Town, 25 to Ntl Airport and 30/30 mins to D.C. Walk to Elementary & High School.



Alex./Riverside Estates \$635,000
3120 McGeorge Terrace
Beautiful 5BR/4BA home w/nearly 3500 sf in historic Mt. Vernon. Spectacular 2 level addition off the kit creates an open floor plan & includes a stunning Great Room w/vaulted ceiling & arched custom windows w/plantation shutters. Remodeled gourmet kit w/custom cabinetry, SS appliances & silestone counters. Huge master bedroom suite. Refinished hwd floors. Lower lvl addition includes luxurious full bath adjoining 2 bedrooms-great for an in-law or au pair suite. Spacious 2 car garage, large deck, fenced bkyd. Backs to woods, providing an oasis of serenity. This home is absolutely breathtaking!

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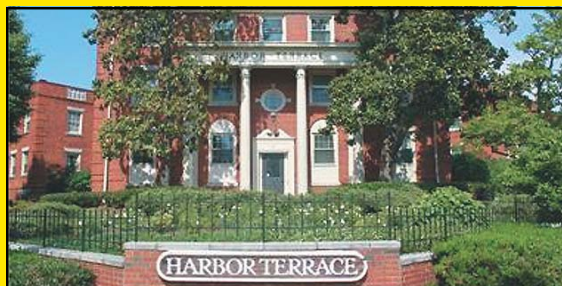
Alexandria **\$725,000**
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7101 Marlan Drive
Lisa McCaskill 703-615-6036



Alexandria/Del Ray **\$499,900**
3 BR/1 BA Darling Detached Del Ray Cottage features wood floors, open concept living, updated kitchen with granite countertops & maple cabinets, new windows and fabulous fully fenced front and back yard with shed and gorgeous stone patio for entertaining. Short stroll to restaurants, shops & farmers market in Del Ray.
2404 Randolph Avenue East
Bobi Bomar 703-927-2213



Belle View **\$254,900**
Beautiful 2 bedroom, 1 bath condo conveniently located just a couple of blocks from shops and restaurants, the riverfront, jogging and bike trail. Renovated kitchen with granite counters, 42" Maple cabinets and pass thru to the dining room. Updated bathroom with marble-topped vanity, new fixtures and tile. Outdoor pool, parks and playgrounds, tennis & basketball courts!
1215 Belle View Boulevard #B1
Christine Garner 703-587-4855



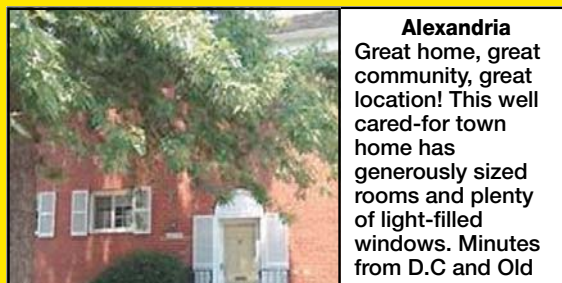
Alexandria **\$324,500**
Wonderful 2-lvl condo in fantastic north end of Old Town! Walk to Metro, restaurants, shops, bike path & river, & just one light to D.C.! Spacious 1BR+addntl. loft which is perfect as 2nd BR or den. Hdwd floors, fireplace & skylight. Great flr. plan w/950 sq. ft., lrg. BR w/ double closets & closet organizers, & kit. w/new stainless steel appliances!
511 Bashford Lane #5
Lisa McCaskill 703-615-6036



Lake Wilderness/Spotsylvania **\$350,000**
Your dream vacation home just over an hour away! This amazing home is on a double lot and on the lake with a motorized dock to cruise around the lake on. 3 lvs, 3 BR, 3.5 BA, 2 FPs, beautiful open kitchen that looks out to the lake. Wrap-around deck, sky lights, Jacuzzi bath and so much more.
12504 Mortar Lane
Kerrie Price 703-549-8700



Rosemont/Del Ray **\$895,000**
Fabulous 5 BR, 3 BA home with desirable open floor plan located just a few blocks from METRO, shops & restaurants in Old Town and Del Ray. Wonderful Great Room addition w/gourmet kitchen, family room, dining area and sunroom. Upper level w/3 BR including large Master BR w/sitting area. Finished lower level, 2 gas FPs & off-street parking.
606 Ramsey Street
Christine Garner 703-587-4855



Alexandria
Great home, great community, great location! This well cared-for town home has generously sized rooms and plenty of light-filled windows. Minutes from D.C and Old Town, Alexandria.
1613 Ripon Place #837-16
Alice Novak / Michelle Gustafson 703-587-2140



Harborside Old Town **\$2,850,000**
Exquisite home in the heart of Old Town. Stunning river views at every level. A perfect oasis. Large, light-filled, gracious rooms, deep moldings, Otis elevator, custom built-ins. Luxurious master suite with tall windows, river views, private his and her bathrooms and walk-in closets. Library/Office, Kitchen w/Breakfast Bar, terrace, four fireplaces, two-car garage, boat slip.
18 Wolfe Street #55
Sue Feinthal 703-819-1964



Alexandria/Wilton Woods **\$585,000**
Move-in ready! Complete renovation by long-time owner makes this home perfect for you. 4 BR/3 BA home on 2 levels w/oversized 2-car garage & fully fenced backyard on over 1/3 acre. Lg BRs w/ big closets! Gleaming refinished hardwood floors, completely new kitchen with everything, new windows, roof, carpets, huge rec room, & 1 Year Home Warranty.
4208 Shannon Hill
Phil Cefaratti 703-371-7601



Old Town **\$519,000**
Sensational historic brick town home; best of old and new. Exposed beams, wood floors, high ceilings & fireplace. Owners have added new metal roof, copper downspouts, new windows, tankless water heater. Delightful private patio garden. Just 3 blocks to the Potomac River.
406 South Royal Street
Diann Hicks 703-628-2440



Alexandria **\$724,900**
Fab 3-level Cape Cod in Rosemont. Steps to Metro. Lg yard w/ sidewalk cut-in for poss. driveway. Great front porch. Complete master suite on upper level with full bath, walk-in closet, and skylight. Fam rm off kitchen has radiant heated concrete floor. Hardwoods thruout. Full height basement ready to be finished! 1-year home Wmty. *Alexandria Times* Home of the Week!
100 Maple Street East
Phil Cefaratti 703-371-7601

Interested in a career in Real Estate? Classes only \$99.00 now!
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News



Children Conduct Wreath-Laying Ceremony

Members of the Virginia Society of the Children of the American Revolution (C.A.R.) led a patriotic wreath-laying ceremony honoring five men who fought for American Independence (1775-1783) buried at Pohick Church in Lorton. The historic church counted George Washington and George Mason as members. The C.A.R. members as young as nine years old conducted the ceremony. The C.A.R. invited other patriotic organizations to participate, and several accepted: National Society Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR); National Society Sons of the American Revolution (S.A.R.); General Society Sons of the Revolution (S.R.); and the Virginia S.A.R. Color Guard. Representatives of local societies and chapters who laid wreaths included: Sarah Hardy, Regent, Kate Waller Barrett Chapter, NSDAR; Adrienne Kerchner, Thomas Lee Chapter, NSDAR; Dr. Mary Elizabeth Cutting, Recording Secretary, Nelly Custis Chapter, NSDAR; Gail Eger, Regent, Mount Vernon Chapter, NSDAR; Darrin Schmidt, Past President, Fairfax Resolves Chapter, S.A.R.; Peter Davenport, President, George Mason Chapter, S.A.R.; Stephen Kerchner, President, Col. James Wood II Chapter, S.A.R.; F. Paul Briggs, President, George Washington Chapter, S.A.R.; and Lawrence McKinley, Vice President General, Mid-Atlantic District, S.A.R.

BULLETIN BOARD

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

ONGOING

Vacation Bible School at Plymouth Haven Baptist Church is open for

registration for those who have completed kindergarten through 5th grade. The school takes place from July 23-27 from 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at Plymouth Haven Baptist Church, 8600 Plymouth Road, Alexandria. Register by phone at 703-360-4370 or on-line at

www.plymouthhaven.org. **MVCCT's Summer Camp.** Two-week sessions: July 30 to Aug. 10; Aug. 13 to 24; One week: July 23 to 27. Prices range from \$270-\$650, discounts for Early Bird, siblings, and

SEE BULLETIN, PAGE 9

HOST AN EXCHANGE STUDENT TODAY!

(for 3, 5 or 10 months)



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



Elisa from Italy, 16 yrs. Likes to play tennis, swim, and loves to dance. Elisa can't wait to join her host family's activities.

Make this year the most exciting, enriching year ever for you and your family. Welcome a high school student, 15-18 years old, from Italy, France, Norway, Denmark, Spain, Germany, Brazil, Thailand or China as part of your family for a school year (or less) and make an overseas friend for life.

For more information or to select your own exchange student please call:

Diane at (703) 507-9224
Marcy at 1-800-888-9040 (Toll Free)
or e-mail us at info@world-heritage.org

For privacy reasons, photos above are not photos of actual students



www.whhosts.com

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to this **Chair Donation**, a House
Was Built in Northern Virginia



This used chair was donated to
Habitat for Humanity ReStore.

It was purchased at the ReStore for \$35.
The \$35 will go towards building a home
for a family in need in Northern Virginia.



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News

Westgrove

FROM PAGE 1

an interim basis until such time as a long-term master planning process was completed and the Park Authority Board decided on the future of the park. More than 500 citizens signed a petition in support of such a proposal.

Environmental advocates argued that it was preferable to leave Westgrove in its undeveloped status that served as a haven for birds and other wildlife. The environmental advocates took a position that an off leash dog park was inimical to the interests of the park and in any event there was no master plan to allow an off leash dog park.

The Planning Commission recently reviewed the proposed interim off leash dog park proposal and concluded that it would conform to the Comprehensive Plan. Opponents contend that it would be a violation of Park Authority policy to grant a permit for PACK to serve as an OLDA sponsor in the absence of a master plan.

The Park Authority welcomes comments mailed to the Project Manager Jay Rauschenbach, or email to parkmail@fairfaxcounty.gov or delivered in person at the July 30 public information meeting. — GERALD A. FILL

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SUMMER WONDERS

MOVIES ON THE POTOMAC
FRIDAYS/SUNDAYS THROUGH SEPT 28

AMERICAN MARKET
SATURDAYS THROUGH OCT 27

POPS ON THE POTOMAC
SATURDAYS THROUGH AUG 25

SUNSET YOGA
TUESDAYS/THURSDAYS THROUGH OCT 25

SEE WHAT'S NEW AT NATIONALHARBOR.COM



On the banks of the Potomac River at the Woodrow Wilson Bridge, with easy access from I-495 and I-295

OBITUARY

Frank M. Somerville

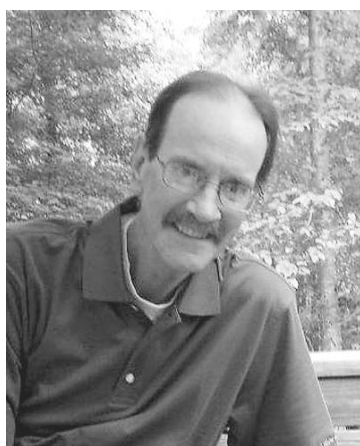
Frank M. Somerville, 65, died July 6, 2012 in Little River, S.C. He is predeceased by parents, James and Frances Somerville and sister, Jane S. McGhee. He is survived by his wife of 33 years, Linda (Lyn) Somerville and children, Matthew of Arlington, Virginia and Stephen of Sebring, Fla.; brother, James (Bobbie) Somerville of Hilton Head, S.C. and sister, Nancy Somerville Korvin of Rochester, N.Y.

Frank, together with his family, lived in the Fort Hunt section of Alexandria area for 62-plus years, graduating from Mount Vernon High School in 1964. He served in Vietnam and was wounded, receiving a Purple Heart in 1967. He made his career in financial services working at Bellamah, Neuhauser & Barrett, The National

Bank of Washington, Fund for Government Investors & Community Savings & Loan. He retired as a government contract analyst at AT Kearney.

He was an avid golfer and hunter but he most enjoyed fishing for bonefish in the Islands. In the 1990s he was involved in the baseball program of Fort Hunt Youth Athletic Association as a coach, umpire and spectator.

Rather than an acknowledgement with flowers, the Somerville family has specifically requested donations to the Mercy Care Hospice that was so very supportive of making his life comfortable over the past several weeks. Memorial contributions should be made to Mercy Care Hospice, 8216 Devon Court, Myrtle Beach, SC,



29572, 843-848-6480, www.mercyhospice.org.

The family is planning a celebration of his life rather than the traditional services which was what he wanted. Relatives and friends are invited to Union Street Public House in Old Town Alexandria on Saturday, July 14, 2-5 p.m.

BULLETIN BOARD

FROM PAGE 7

all day attendance available. At Heritage Presbyterian Church, 8503 Fort Hunt Road, Alexandria. To register for camps, visit www.MVCCT.org.

UCM's food pantry depends on community donations. Canned meat and fish are needed, as well as canned soups, fruits and vegetables.

Help by dropping off food donations at UCM's main office, 7511 Fordson Road, Alexandria. UCM's food pantry accepts food donations Monday – Friday, from 9 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. and the first Sunday of the month from 9:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.

UCM's Back Porch Thrift Store is in need of donations of furniture. UCM will pick up furniture, as well

as other larger donations, or they can be dropped off at the back of the store Monday through Saturday, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. To arrange for pick-ups, call 703-768-7106, ext. 320. Located at the Mt. Vernon Crossroads Shopping Center at 7838 Richmond Highway, Alexandria.



Here's To Your Good Health! Promoting Health and Wellness Free Community Lectures



How to Maintain a Healthy Belly

Tanya R. Davis, MD, Gastroenterologist

Wednesday, July 25, 2012

6:30 pm

Inova Mount Vernon Hospital



Symptoms of Vascular Disease

Rodeen Rahbar, MD, Vascular Surgeon

Thursday, July 26, 2012

6:30 pm

Inova Mount Vernon Hospital

Inova Mount Vernon Hospital's FREE Community Lectures

Our mission is to provide our community with health and wellness information on medical issues that may increase your quality of life. That is why physicians practicing at Inova Mount Vernon Hospital volunteer their time to provide community lectures. Please join us for these FREE Health Lectures during the month of July.



These lectures are FREE and to better serve you, we ask that you register by calling **1-855-My-Inova (694-6682)** or by visiting our Website at inova.org/asktheexpert

OPINION

Every Vote in Virginia Will Count

Top presidential donor zip codes in this area show Virginia is purple; Romney or Obama to be decided on Election Day.

If you wonder if presidential politics really matters in this area, consider that Northern Virginia and suburban Maryland hold some of the top zip codes for contributions to the two major party candidates.

Donors who live in McLean 22101 gave \$422,770 to Romney this presidential cycle, and \$232,876 to Obama. In McLean 22102, donors gave Romney \$255,444, and Obama \$193,321. In Arlington, 22207, donors gave \$193,543 to Obama and \$178,196 to Romney. In Alexandria 22314, donors gave \$172,425 to Romney and \$142,467 to Obama.

While Maryland consistently votes for Democrats in presidential races, donors who live in Potomac, Md. 20854 gave Romney \$340,885, and Obama \$291,402.

In order to vote in the presidential election on Tuesday, Nov. 6, residents must be registered to vote at their current address by Monday, Oct. 15.

Virtually everyone in Northern Virginia is eligible to vote absentee, and absentee voting

in person begins Sept. 21. Here is the qualification that applies: Any person who, in the regular and orderly course of his business, profession, or occupation, will be at his place of work and commuting to and from his home to his place of work for 11 or more hours of the 13 hours that the polls are open.

Any commute in Northern Virginia could potentially take four hours or more in a crisis situation. This is definitely a case where voting early is an excellent idea. Don't take the risk that the next derecho storm or earthquake will keep you from the polls on Nov. 6.

This area has very high rates of voter registration. Consider that Fairfax County, with a population of just more than 1.1 million people, has 711,817 registered voters. And 24 percent of Fairfax County's population is un-

Some Top Local Zips, Presidential Donors

McLean 22101

❖ Romney \$422,770

❖ Obama \$232,876

Bethesda 20817

❖ Obama \$359,656

❖ Romney \$249,399

Potomac 20854

❖ Romney \$340,885

❖ Obama \$291,402

McLean 22102

❖ Romney \$255,444

❖ Obama \$193,321

Arlington 22207

❖ Obama \$193,543

❖ Romney \$178,196

Alexandria 22314

❖ Romney \$172,425

❖ Obama \$142,467

Great Falls 22066

❖ Romney \$166,457

❖ Obama \$91,290

Arlington 22202

❖ Obama \$79,568

❖ Romney \$39,740

Alexandria 22301

❖ Obama \$52,347

❖ Romney \$42,095

Source: OpenSecrets.com and VPAP.org

der 18, so not eligible to vote.

Arlington has a population of 216,000 and 157,236 registered voters. Sixteen percent are under 18.

The City of Alexandria has a population of 144,000 with 101,887 registered voters; 17 percent are under 18.

We're lucky in Virginia to have the Virginia Public Access Project, vpap.org. On the VPAP website, maps of Virginia's zip codes showing shades of red and blue give a quick visual sense of how purple the Commonwealth really is. Take a look.

Compromise on E-ZPass Transponders

While the Virginia Department of Transportation initially proposed that all E-ZPass customers would pay \$1 a month for each transponder they have, on July 9 VDOT announced that if one had a transponder before July 9, 2012, no fee will need to be paid until one has to replace the transponder.

New E-ZPass customers will pay a 50-cent

monthly fee for a standard transponder and \$1 monthly fee for a "Flex" transponder. The Flex transponder allows drivers to switch to a high-occupancy position if they have three or more people in the vehicle so that they can drive in the new Beltway toll lanes for free. Drivers with fewer than three passengers will pay a toll to drive in the express lanes that will vary depending on how much traffic there is.

This is certainly better than charging all E-ZPass users \$1 per month per transponder. We still wonder why the cost of transponders is not recovered in the tolls paid rather than as a separate fee whether or not drivers are regularly driving on toll roads.

— MARY KIMM,

MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

More Guns, More Costs

To the Editor:

Congratulations Virginia for re-

newing its status as gun runners to the nation ["Guns from the South" July 5-11, 2012]. Unlimited guns to individuals, free movement of firearms around the Commonwealth, and prohibition

of the destruction by law enforcement officials of guns voluntarily surrendered and those confiscated from criminals. What's next, arming middle schoolers?

I cannot believe that our legis-

lators believe these laws are actions of rational persons. Even if the common beliefs about the interpretations of the second amendment weren't a fraud perpetuated

SEE LETTERS, PAGE 12



Supporting WPHS Music

The Stratford Woman's Club President Judy Henderson and Carol Howerton, liaison to West Potomac Choral Department, present a donation to Ernest Johnson, choral director of WPHS. The donation will be used to offset fees required for the fall choral retreat at Camp Highroad in Middleburg, attendance at the Honors Choir and All State events and help those who may not otherwise be able to afford to pay for uniforms or trips.



Supporting Sandburg

Past President of Stratford Woman's Club Nancye Rosenkranz and Anne Guenther, liaison to the Carl Sandburg Middle School Computer Department, presented a check to Twyla Banks, teacher and FBLA sponsor, to be used for equipment to benefit the middle school's computer program.

Mount Vernon Gazette

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Water Views in Belle Haven



Exceptionally Charming! Beautiful 5 bedroom, 3 full bath + 2 half baths, stone and brick colonial sited on a lot with Potomac River Views! Large and gracious living room with fireplace,



several seating areas, exquisite moldings, built in shelves + cabinetry, French doors leading to deck, elegant dining room with fireplace, light filled updated kitchen with breakfast area. Inviting

family room with fireplace, and 2 car garage. ~ \$1,395,000

6111 Vernon Terrace Alexandria, VA 22307

Fabulous Penthouse



Just Listed! Panoramic views of the Potomac River and Washington from this 2 bedrooms, 2 full and 2 half bath penthouse offering tall ceilings, exquisite moldings, hardwood floors, gourmet chef's kitchen with adjoining great room, living room with fireplace and adjoining dining room, wrap-around balcony, 3 garage spaces, outdoor pool, sauna, and party room. Two units combined into one home~ \$1,400,000



400 Madison St Unit 2203 Alexandria, VA 22314

Open Sunday in Waynewood



Spacious Trenton colonial with stunning renovation provides a bright open floor plan with huge upscale kitchen and comfortable living spaces. Four large bedrooms, renovated baths, sizeable open family room adjacent to kitchen, dining room with exposed brick wall, two fireplaces, garage, lush landscaping with stone walkways, covered patio and fully fenced. ~ \$849,000



8808 Fircrest Place Alexandria, VA 22308

Gorgeous in Belle Haven



Elegant custom built colonial in the heart of Belle Haven. 5 bedrooms, 4.5 baths on over 4200 finished square feet. Tall ceilings, exquisite moldings, hardwood floors, elegant formal rooms, 4 fireplaces, 2 car garage, updated kitchen with stainless steel appliances, large master suite, and fabulous deck for entertaining. ~ \$1,695,000



2202 Woodmont Road Alexandria, VA 22307

End Unit in Stone Gate



Lovely updated end unit 3 bedroom, 3.5 bath townhouse with granite counters, stainless appliances, some hardwoods, each bedroom has its own bath, two car garage, pool and tot lot. Near 3 metro stations, DC and Old Town! ~ \$510,000



4666 West Braddock Road Alexandria, VA 22311

Perfect in Wellington



Country living on over half an acre just off East Boulevard Drive in sought after Wellington. 5 bedrooms, 4.5 baths, on 3 fully finished levels spanning almost 4000 finished square feet. Large rooms, great flow, stunning kitchen renovation, overlooking huge family room and quite back yard sited on a private culdesac.~ \$1,595,000



900 Clifton Drive Alexandria, VA 22308

New Price - Open Sunday



Four season water views backing to bike trail on almost 1/3 acre! State of the art kitchen, 4 bedrooms, 3.5 baths, on 2 fully finished levels



with 2 car attached garage. Welcoming foyer, formal dining room, living room with fireplace, 3 season room just off kitchen opens to large patio.~ \$899,000

8503 West Boulevard Drive Alexandria, VA 22308

Just Listed - Open Sunday



Brand New colonial sited on over 3/4 acre lot with creek alongside! 4 bedrooms, 3.5 baths. Wrap around porch, custom moldings and millwork, beautiful kitchen with large



granite island, 2 gas fireplaces, 2 car attached garage, mud room with built-ins, large trex deck with optional screen porch. Attic with storage + temperate controlled crawl space. ~ \$925,000

6012 Florence Lane Alexandria, VA 22310

Live Life on the Water



Resort Living on a bluff overlooking the Potomac River from every room! Only 30 minutes to the Washington DC, but with a remote feeling and renovations just completed! Idyllic for relaxation with all the



luxurious modern touches. Grand entertainment areas inside and outside w/ pool and cabana. Impressive bedroom suites, sunfilled morning room and spa inspired lower level.

5 bedrooms, 5.5 baths. \$2,950,000. Adjacent parcel of .34 acres also available for \$1,050,000.

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LETTERS

FROM PAGE 10

by the National Rifle Association, the one-a-month limit was not considered in conflict with that interpretation. Even that law was much more liberal than many other states' laws that are not considered in conflict with the second amendment — especially since it had so many loopholes that guns were already flowing pretty freely.

So what could our legislators possibly be thinking? Why not close the loopholes that threatened our safety by the proliferation of guns on the street? Surely the legislators couldn't have been convinced by the "sob" story of the man who couldn't buy his wife and daughter a gun in the same month as he bought his own. If the two women could legally own guns, they could have accompanied him to the gun sale to buy their own guns in the same month.

Nor could they have been convinced by the increase in tax revenue: more guns mean more crimes; means more injuries and deaths (intentional or accidental); means more violent challenges to law enforcement ... all translating into new costs to the public.

It couldn't have been the four-hour wait for a background check. That's far less time than is required

for obtaining a driver's license, whose purpose is to allow people to transport themselves to work, shopping, vacations, etc., legitimate and productive tax producers. A gun's only purpose is to create a controlled explosion to forces a projectile out with fatal force, too often aimed at another person. So the concern is that a potential buyer might walk away from a sale because they don't want to wait the four hours. Do we really want to encourage the impulse buying of guns by creating a no wait background check?

Perhaps, then, the reason is that legislators want to accommodate their constituents' desire for increasing their home arsenals. Or they want to keep the NRA money gravy train running into their political money pots. Or maybe they're just afraid of the NRA's political muscle (threats), and they don't have the moral courage to do what is right, that is, create a safe environment for the Commonwealth's citizens.

I encourage the legislature to withdraw in next year's session all of the newly passed gun-related laws as well as a withdrawal of the liberal "carry" laws that have hit the streets in recent years. Better yet, I encourage Governor

McDonnell to call a special session of the legislature now to pass such laws as soon as possible. We'll all sleep better at night with fewer guns around the Commonwealth, not to mention knowing that the legislature is capable of rational and intelligent thoughts and actions.

William Zaccagnino
 Alexandria

OLDA: Long Overdue

To the Editor:

After what seems to have been an eternity, the proposal for an off-leash dog area (OLDA) at Westgrove Park is finally edging closer to fruition. The application of the Park Authority (FCPA) now pending before the Planning Commission (PC) is scheduled for an up or down vote on July 19. That application is pursuant to Virginia Code Section 15.2-2232 and concerns the request that the PC interpret the OLDA proposal to determine whether it complies with the Comprehensive Plan as written. Under Section 2232B, if the PC does not act within 60 days of

SEE LETTERS, PAGE 26

FOUNDERS WALK

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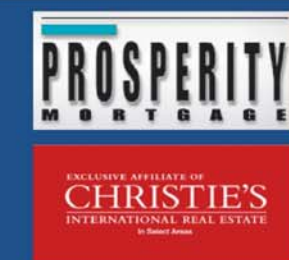
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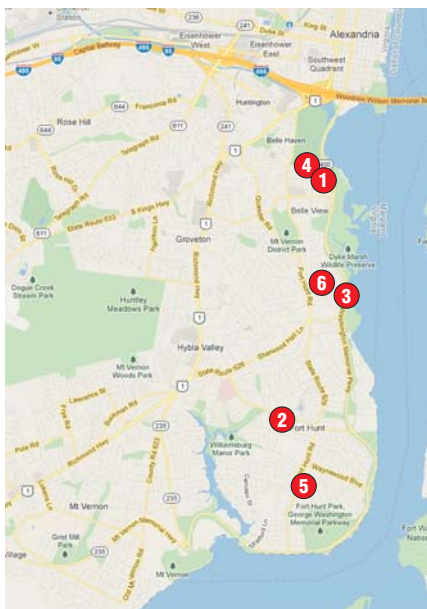


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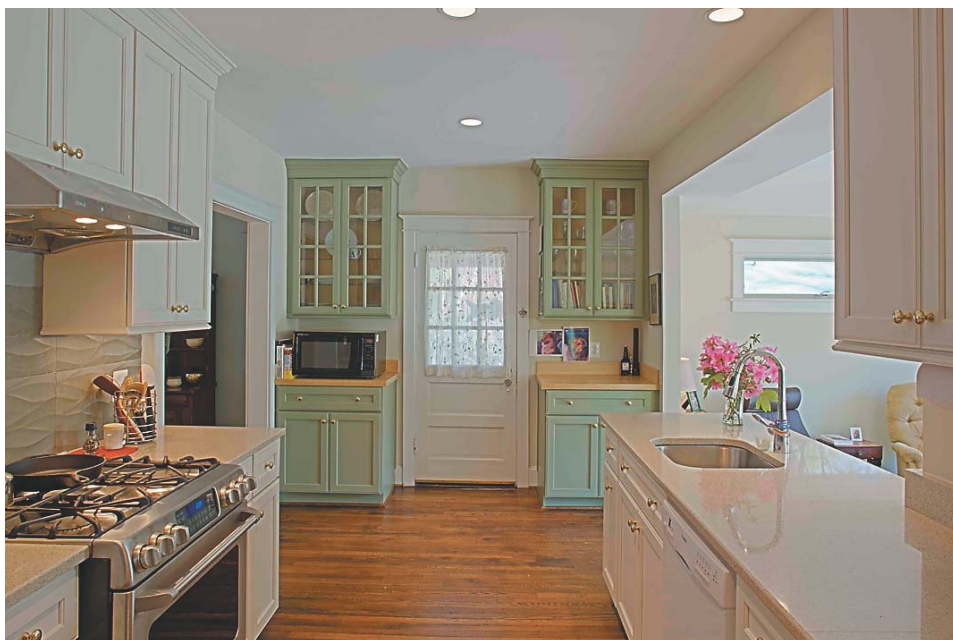


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4 6305 POTOMAC AVE	5	4	0	...	ALEXANDRIA	\$925,000	Detached	0.24	22307	NEW ALEXANDRIA	05/01/12
5 8636 PLYMOUTH RD	5	3	1	...	ALEXANDRIA	\$925,000	Detached	0.56	22308	PLYMOUTH HAVEN	05/16/12
6 1204 VILLAMAY BLVD	6	4	1	...	ALEXANDRIA	\$875,000	Detached	0.55	22307	VILLAMAY	05/30/12

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Home Life Style



PHOTOS COURTESY OF CASE DESIGN/REMODELING, INC.



David Vogt of Case Design Remodeling, Inc. created an open kitchen and dining area in this Falls Church home. Local contractors say developing a list of everything that one might want in a dream home is a good starting point when remodeling.

“A client can benefit from doing their homework and being engaged in the selection process early on.”

**— David Vogt
of Case Design Remodeling, Inc.**

Home Remodeling 101

Experts offer suggestions for a timely and efficient renovation.

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL
THE GAZETTE

Case Design/Remodeling, Inc.

Whether expanding a home or just remodeling an existing interior space, building projects can be daunting, especially if the goal is to be finished by a certain date.

“If you wanted to get going on a project and your goal was to be done by Thanksgiving, the planning process and permit process is probably as long as the building process, but you don’t want to rush through those aspects of it and then wish you’d done something differently,” said David Vogt of

LOCAL CONTRACTORS say there are a few things that homeowners can do before the first nail is hammered to ensure a smooth and an efficient construction process. Creating a list of everything that one might want in a dream home is a good starting point.

“A client can benefit from doing their homework and being engaged in the selection process early on,” said Vogt. “Maybe start by collecting photographs and magazine articles of things you like. That will help paint an overall picture of the feel that you want for the space.”

Bob Gallagher, president of Sun Design

Inc., in Burke, says a good source for ideas is the Houzz Interior Design website www.houzz.com as well as the iPad and iPhone applications. “It is phenomenal. There are many amazing photos on there.”

The next important step in the process say experts is determining a budget. The National Association of the Remodeling Industry advises homeowners to decide how much they are going to spend before calling an architect or contractor. “The truth is not many people enjoy establishing a remodeling budget,” said Dean Herriges, National Association of the Remodeling Industry National President in a statement. “Many homeowners prefer to call a contractor and

expect him or her to create the budget for them, which is not the best way to begin.”

“I’d love for a client to have some numbers of how much they want to spend,” said Jeff Pregman of Two Poor Teachers in Annandale. “I’d rather have a client that has a little bit of knowledge, a budget and a timeline so I can come in and give them everything they need.”

The National Association of the Remodeling Industry recommends that homeowners decide how long they plan to live in their home before deciding how much to spend on remodeling costs. “If you

SEE REMODELING, PAGE 18

PHOTO COURTESY OF SUN DESIGN/HADLEY PHOTOGRAPHY



Bob Gallagher, president of Sun Design in Northern Virginia, remodeled the kitchen and dining area of this Fairfax Station home. Local contractors say coming up with a budget can help ensure a smooth and efficient construction process.

Remodeling

FROM PAGE 17

are going to stay in the home for more than 10 years, you should spend as much as you are able to create the home of your dreams," said Herriges. "However, if you are planning on moving in the near future, you should take care not to over-build for your neighborhood."

AFTER A BUDGET is established, experts say homeowners must tackle the task of interviewing and selecting a contractor. Contractors can be found through the National Association of Home Builders and the National Association of the Remodeling Industry. Homeowners should ask prospective contractors for references and proof of insurance. The National Association of the Remodeling Industry also suggests checking with the government Consumer Affairs Office and the Better Business Bureau for complaints on record for the contractor.

Once a decision is made about who will do the construction, it is time to seal the deal. "The contract is a critical step in any remodeling project. This is the one item that holds the job together and ensures that all parties involved agree to the same vision and scope for the project," said Herriges.

The contract should detail what the contractor will and will not do, and should include a list of materials for the project, including size, color, model, brand name and product, said Herriges. Homeowners are advised to make sure financial terms, including final price and payment schedule, are spelled out in the contract.

"The homeowner could and should ask questions about the process for the project's development. They should make sure they understand the sequence of things that are being done so that decisions needed are made when they are needed," said Potomac resident Susan Matus of Case Design/Remodeling, Inc. "Don't design while you are under construction. Spend the time in the beginning so that you are not making changes constantly during construction. A good remodeler will have helped you make the right decisions before the project starts."

Maintaining a good relationship with a contractor is paramount to bringing a project to fruition. "The key to a good homeowner-contractor relationship is open communication," said Herriges. "Start a dialogue over issues you have, no matter how small you think they are. Chances are the problem can be overcome."

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LEGAL NOTICE

Pursuant to the provision of section 4-1-16 of the code of the City of Alexandria, the Alexandria Police Department located at 3600 Wheeler Avenue, Alexandria, VA 22304 is now in possession of unclaimed bicycles, mopeds, lawn equipment, money, scooters, and other items. All persons having valid claim to the property should file a claim to the property with reasonable proof of ownership or the items will be sold, destroyed, converted or donated. For a complete listing go to <http://alexandriava.gov/police/> and contact the Police Property Section at (703) 746-6709.

OBITUARY

Danny Dee Dooley, 58, of Martinsburg, WV, went to be with the Lord, Saturday, July 7, 2012 at City Hospital. Born November 24, 1953, in Dixon IL, he was the son of the late James V Dooley and Patricia A. Berogan Dooley Batton. He was a Union Carpenter and he loved to build old hot rods. He was a member of the Hub City Model A Ford Club of Hagerstown, MD. He is survived by a son Danny D. Dooley II of Fargo, ND; two grandchildren, Logan and Braedon Dooley; one brother, Kevin Michael Dooley of Downey, CA; one sister, Vicki Wadsworth of Dixon, IL; and his beloved partner Karen T. Berry of Martinsburg. Funeral services were held 5:00pm Tuesday, July 10, 2012 at Brown Funeral Homes' South Berkeley Chapel in Inwood, with Rev. William Crowe officiating. Interment was private. In Lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Hospice of the Panhandle, 122 Waverly Court, Martinsburg, WV 25403

21 Announcements

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SCHOOLS

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

Celeste Walker, a graduate of West Potomac High School, has been selected by the Society of Chemical Industry, America Section, as an SCI Scholar for 2012. In addition to a \$1,000 prize, scholars are awarded prestigious 10-week summer internships at major U.S. chemical companies. Celeste currently attends University of Virginia and will complete an internship at Ashland Chemical Company.

Mt. Vernon High School has received a \$2,000 mini-grant from the Virginia Foundation for Healthy Youth to support a local chapter of Y Street, VFHY's national award-winning youth volunteer advocacy group. The grant will aid in promoting a healthy lifestyle to youth by training teen volunteers who promote a healthy lifestyle.

Elizabeth Romano of Alexandria, who is studying at Widener University in Chester, Pa., was named to the Dean's List for the spring 2012 semester at Widener.

Adam Godfrey of Alexandria graduated with a bachelor of science degree in business administration and French from Merrimack College on May 20.

Peter Routh of Alexandria, graduated from Bowdoin College, majoring in Government and Legal Studies on May 26.

Bucknell University has released the dean's list for outstanding academic achievement during the spring semester of the 2011-12 academic year. Several residents from Alexandria has been recognized, including:

* **John C. Luce Jr.**, son of John and Margaret Luce and a 2008 graduate of St. Stephens & St. Agnes School.

* **Jason D. Neithamer**, son of Calvin and Susan Neithamer and a 2008 graduate of St. Stephens & St. Agnes School.

* **Simeon B. Smith-Wimbush**, son of Iris Wimbush, Chau K. Tieu, daughter of Binh Tieu and Phuong Trinh, and a 2011 graduate of Mount Vernon High School.

* **Alexandra B. Van den Berg**, daughter of Alan and Anne Van den Berg and a 2011 graduate of St. Stephens & St. Agnes School.

Local residents graduated from Clemson University at three Commencement ceremonies May 11: **Brian Edward Beaty** of Alexandria, who graduated with a bachelor of science in political science (International Politics); **Kathryn Kelly Finnigan** of Alexandria, who graduated with a master of science in historic preservation and **Brittany Lee Ryan** of Alexandria, who graduated summa cum laude with a bachelor of arts in political science

Mount Vernon resident **Elizabeth Barrett** of George Washington University has been selected for the U.S. Department of State Critical Language Scholarship (CLS) Program to study Chinese in China during the summer of 2012.

Katie Rippy, social studies teacher at Mount Vernon High School, has been named the 2012 Virginia History Day Senior Division Teacher of the Year. Rippy was selected for this award for her creative teaching methods that interest students in history and help them make exciting discoveries about the past. As a state award winner for Virginia, Rippy will receive a cash award of \$500. In addition to receiving the Virginia History Day Senior Division Teacher of the Year Award, Rippy will be nominated by the Virginia State Coordinator for the National History Day Patricia Behring Teacher of the Year Award for Virginia that recognizes outstanding National History Day teachers.

David McDonald and **Carmen Mendoza** of West Potomac High School have been selected to attend the Virginia American Legion Junior Law Program at the Virginia State Police training academy in Richmond, scheduled for July 22-27.

Alexander Slippen of Alexandria made the dean's list at Muhlenberg College for the fall 2011 semester. He is a member of the class of 2012 and is a Media & Communication major and Political Science minor. He is the child of Richard I. Slippen and a graduate of West Potomac High School.

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-Albert Einstein

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ENTERTAINMENT

Lights, Camera, Action!

Alexandria is location of choice for young directors.

BY MONTIE MARTIN
THE GAZETTE

There's something about Alexandria that sets the scene for moviemakers. From the ambient sound of birds to distinctive locations, Alexandria is a city that offers much for small budget films.

Claire Ensslin, an Alexandria native and budding director, recently completed a professional level project called "Pedestrian." The seven-minute short focuses on a disturbed young man with a weakness for young girls.

"I had a version of the script for New York City, but it felt stale. I was in Alexandria for winter break, and the more I explored the more thrilled I became with the location," said Ensslin. "The city is unique, it has a lot to offer."

Ensslin is one of hundreds of young moviemakers who select Alexandria as a fitting location for film projects every year. According to the Merrie Morris, director of public affairs with the Alexandria Convention and Visitors Center, the vast majority of films set in Alexandria are small documentaries and student projects.

"We have a pretty friendly film policy in Alexandria, as long as there are no police needed to block streets or parking reservations, it is absolutely free," said Morris. "I reach out to the person to get a sense of what the project is about, and 85 percent of the time it gets approved. We do get some pretty wacky inquiries, a reality TV show wanted to throw a rope ladder off the Wilson Bridge and climb it as a fitness example, we said absolutely no, I thought that was absurd."

Although major productions like "J. Edgar" were filmed in part in Alexandria, the city does not actively engage Hollywood. The quintessential Alexandria movie, "Remember the Titans," was filmed almost exclusively in Georgia.

Nonetheless, small budget filmmakers eager to use the city as a location can expect a relatively painless process. There is no fee for the online application. Prospective filmmakers indicate date, time, and location of the shoot, as well as the number of people involved. The ACVC office then consults with relevant city officials if there are necessary special permits needed, and if the film is slated to use a neighborhood setting, filmmakers are asked to alert residents. Filmmakers must also have insurance to protect the city from liability.

Although historic Old Town is the most desirable location, nearly 50 percent of all applicants choose the area, if film produc-

tion is set on private property there is no need for permitting.

The economic benefits of filmmaking are significant. Even small budget projects have a positive economic impact.

"No producer can be a penny pincher. I put the actors up at the Mark Center, and used catering from local restaurants to keep morale up," said Ensslin. "If everyone is inspired, it makes the movie better."

The three-day shoot in Alexandria cost Ensslin \$25,000, but she estimates the true cost would have been more than twice as much had she not elicited help from volunteers. Extras for her short came in the form of friends, and sound management was available from her former production teacher at T.C. Williams high School, Ben Jordan.

"I really enjoy the opportunity to see my students go out and do creative things on a professional level. We have had students go on with the TV and film industry, but Claire was the first who had completed

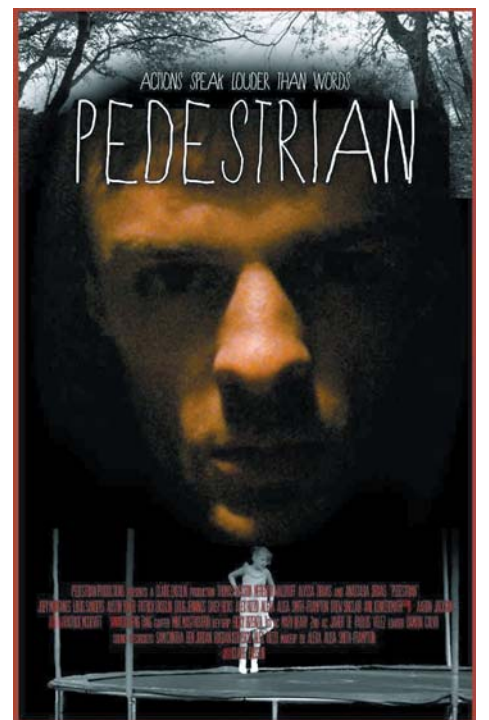


PHOTOS COURTESY OF CLAIRE ENSSLIN

Director and Alexandria native Claire Ensslin on the set of her seven-minute short, "Pedestrian," filmed in Alexandria.

On Location

Filming in Alexandria requires an application and a brief interview with the Alexandria Convention and Visitors Center. To fill out the online application go to: visitalexandria.com/media-pr/film-office/.



"Pedestrian," a seven-minute short, cost director Claire Ensslin \$25,000.

an independent project," said Jordan. "She's possibly the most talented student I had."

About 100 students take part in the T.C. Williams TV production department, now in its 12th year, and contribute to the local news on Comcast channel 71. Advanced

students produce a daily morning show.

After graduating from T.C. Williams in 2008, Ensslin attended the School of Visual Arts in New

York City, a film trade school where she gained immediate access to high-end production equipment.

Ensslin filmed in 35-millimeter, using the same camera for her Alexandria shoot as films like "Napoleon Dynamite" and "Requiem for a Dream."

"I could have shot the movie with an iPhone, but the story is what matters and I wanted a particular look. There's a flicker to 35-millimeter, and wanted to elicit an emotional response with the film," said Ensslin. "I'd like to work on feature films in the long term, and I want film in Alexandria again."

So You Want To Act? Tips from local actors.

BY SANDY MARTINEZ
THE GAZETTE

One of the hardest things about starting any career is getting that first job. It's no different with acting. However, moving to Los Angeles or New York to get an acting job isn't necessary. Mainstream television shows and movies are filmed nationwide. The chance to work as an actor living in Alexandria doesn't have to be difficult.

Where to start? There's no one sure way to become a successful actor. Acting success happens through luck, connections and perseverance.

The one thing all actors need is a picture. To act in theater or film, you have to have a headshot. How much you want to pay and how you want the picture to look varies.

"I paid \$450 for 150 digital shots and two separate looks. The hair and makeup was an extra \$95. And choosing and retouching my two favorite photos from the 150 shots was an extra \$55 each," said Alexandria resident, Gladys Fabian. "I also dished out another \$200 for printing. It adds up. Do the math."

However, sometimes you don't have to spend any money at all for a photo to be

in a Hollywood movie as was the case with Alexandria native Quinn Hynes who was an extra in the movie "The Hunger Games."

"I didn't have anything professional. I took my own snapshot and sent it in. They called me in two weeks," said Hynes.

If you are really lucky, you can be discovered at a Starbucks.

Alexandria film director Jennifer Schwed and Arlington Associate Producer Doug Bradshaw discovered the star of their film "The Upside of Iris" while scouting for locations.

"Long story short — Jen said, 'Oh my God. That girl ... She's Iris!' So, after some discussion, I had to run down after her and follow her into the Starbucks. Then I introduced myself to this beautiful young woman by saying, 'Hi, my name is Doug. And I'm not hitting on you ...,'" said Bradshaw.

If you want to audition for a play, The Little Theater of Alexandria is holding auditions this Saturday from 2-4:30 p.m. and Sunday from 7-9 p.m., for their fall performance of "Funny Money," a British farce. LTA holds auditions several times a year.

"Gaining experience with a community theater will really benefit you as an actor," said Katie Tannehil, an Alexandria resident who plans to audition this weekend. "It's a great place to start your career, give you

the opportunity to learn many aspects of the theater and to help you build your resume."

Despite the different approaches of getting into acting Fabian, Hynes and Tannehil agree that it's better not to have a talent agent so early in their career. Especially since the majority of the jobs asking for talent can be found in association websites or in a city's film commission without the help of an agent.

"I read the book, I heard the film rights were sold, I followed the production news, I filled out a form, answered a couple of questions and I got a call in two weeks," Hynes said, acknowledging he didn't have an agent.

"Agents are tricky" Fabian said. "I was in the process of getting one until he said he would also take a fee from anything I found on my own. I would use one in LA or NY but not in this area."

Becoming an actor in the area is a little harder than in bigger cities but not impossible. The region has a large and thriving theatre and film community. To make a living solely as an actor it can be done, but just like anywhere else, it is not easy. As with any other market, an actor will thrive in the area as long as he or she is skilled, focused, and a self-starter.

ENTERTAINMENT

Christmas Spirit Returns to Union Street

Santa Claus is coming to town...a bit early! This time, old Saint Nick has hung up his red suit and opted for a pair of sunglasses and swim shorts as he prepares to spread holiday cheer on the streets of Old Town when the third annual Christmas in July Celebration returns to Union Street on Saturday, July 21, 2012.

The event is co-presented by The Christmas Attic and the businesses of Union Street. Approximately 15 retailers and community organizations will host activities either inside stores or on Union Street ranging from pictures with "summer" Santa & Mrs. Claus, fashion trunk shows, food and wine tastings, cookie decorating, story time for tots, paint your own snowman, ornament making, ice cream social, carnival fun, musical entertainment and much more. The day will be filled with store activities, raffle drawings, shopping/ dining deals and holiday delights for all ages. There will be musical entertainment on Union Street from noon to 4 p.m.

Each year, the Union Street businesses pick a charity organization to support during the event week-



end. This year, all proceeds from Wish Star sales will benefit Make-A-Wish® Mid-Atlantic which grants the wishes of children with life-threatening medical conditions to enrich the human experience with hope, strength and joy.

A complete schedule of the weekend's events and musical entertainment is listed on www.christmasattic.com and on the event's Facebook page.

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

THROUGH JULY 29

Peace Paper Project - Workshop & Exhibition. July 12 - 29. Reception July 12, 6 - 8 p.m.; during 2nd

Thursday Art Night. This workshop and exhibition are designed as a collaborative project between the Torpedo

Factory Art Center's TargetGallery and Peace Paper. Participants will be comprised of Torpedo Factory artists and survivors of trauma. They will use a portable paper making studio and fibers that hold significance (such as articles of clothing that one might have worn during chemo treatment, or part of a military uniform) to create hand made paper, and then create artwork onto this paper. Torpedo Factory Art Center, 105 N. Union Street, Alexandria. www.torpedofactory.org/galleries/APS/PeacePaper.htm

THURSDAY/JULY 12

Story Time Children's Program. Charles E. Beatley, Jr. Central Library, 5005 Duke Street. 10:30 a.m. or 3 p.m., for ages 3 to 5 (children only). Sign-up required: call 703-746-1702x5 or visit children's desk.

Opening Reception. 6-8 p.m. The Torpedo Factory Art Center's Target Gallery presents Masks, which runs through July 29. This solo exhibition features paintings and sketches by Susan Makara, winner of the Friends of the Torpedo Factory Art Center's

annual Artist of the Year award.

FRIDAY/JULY 13

Mt. Vernon Nights. 7:30 p.m. Little Red & The Renegades performs a variety of American music, emphasizing Zydeco and Cajun. Mt. Vernon Nights at Grist Mill Park. 4710 Mt. Vernon Memorial Highway Alexandria. Visit www.littleredandtherenegades.com.

Alexandria Citizens Band Concerts. 7:30-8:30 p.m. The Alexandria Citizens Band, the City's Oldest Performing Arts Organization, is celebrating 100 years. Join them in front of City Hall and enjoy the wide variety of music including marches, jazz, classical, patriotic and others. Market Square, 301 King St. Call 703-746-5592

Wee Ones Storytime at Hooray for Books! Children's Bookstore. Join us from 10:30 - 11 a.m. as we explore the world around us with some stories and songs. Ages 2 and under. Free. Hooray for Books! is located at 1555 King Street Alexandria.

SATURDAY/JULY 14

The United States Marine Chamber Orchestra: Summer Concert Series II. 7:30 p.m. Free. The Schlesinger Center, 3001 N. Beauregard St., Alexandria. Visit www.marineband.usmc.mil.

Banjo Festival. 7:30 p.m. Mike Seeger Commemorative 6th Annual Old Time Banjo Festival. Artists include Bill Evans, Adam Hurt, The Old 78's, Evie Laden, and Cathy Fink & Marcy Marner. Advance tickets are highly recommended. Birchmere Music Hall, 3701 Mt. Vernon Ave., Alexandria.

SEE CALENDAR, PAGE 23

City Gallery 'Call for Artists' Deadline Extended

The Office of the Arts, in partnership with the Alexandria Commission for the Arts is putting out a "call for artists" for area visual artists to submit their work for display in the City's galleries. Individual artists, groups of artists, and organizations who live and work in the city of Alexandria are eligible.

Each exhibition will run for six months. There is no exhibition theme. Visit www.alexandriava.gov/arts for more information, submission requirements and application forms. Entries will be accepted electronically and by U.S. Mail. E-

mailed entries are to be sent to aca@alexandriava.gov with "Call for Artists" in the subject line. Mailed entries are to be mailed to Office of the Arts, Attn: Call for Entries 2012-2015, 1605 Cameron St., Alexandria, VA 22314. Deadline for submission has been extended to Monday, July 16, 2012 at 5 p.m. Finalists will be notified by e-mail by Monday, July 23.

For more information on other Arts Commission programs or services, visit www.alexandriava.gov/arts, or call the Office of the Arts at 703-746-5588.

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ENTERTAINMENT

FROM PAGE 22
Call 202-397-SEAT.

Wee Ones Storytime at Hooray for Books! Children's Bookstore. Join us from 10:30 - 11 a.m. as we explore the world around us with some stories and songs. Ages 2 and under. Free. Hooray for Books! is located at 1555 King St., Alexandria.

SUNDAY/JULY 15

Chamber Music. 3 p.m. Washington Metropolitan Philharmonic Association 2012 (22nd) Annual Chamber Music Series. Performance by The Edwin Trio: violinist Rachele Sills, cellist Ryan Bridgland, and pianist Stefanie Watson; with Guest Artists: violinist Winnie Nham and Erin Terwilliger. The

CALENDAR

Lyceum, 201 S. Washington St., Alexandria. Visit www.wmpamusic.org, email wmpa@earthlink.net or call 703-799-8229

Jazz at Meade. 4 p.m. \$15 donation. Featuring Nasar Abadey. Light refreshments will be served. Parking available in the church's lot and on the street. Meade Memorial Episcopal Church. 322 N Alfred St., Alexandria. Call 703-549-1334

Banjo Workshops. noon-2 p.m. and 2:30-4:30p.m. Artists include Bill Evans, Adam Hurt, The Old 78's, Evie Laden, and Cathy Fink. House of Musical Traditions, 7010 Westmoreland Ave. Takoma Park, Md. Call 301-270-9090.

Family Day. 1p.m.-4p.m. Gadsby's Tavern Museum is welcoming families with special tours hosted by its Junior Docents. Visit www.gadsbystavern.org.

City of Alexandria Hosts 9th Annual Comcast Outdoor Film Festival

The City of Alexandria will host the ninth Annual Comcast Outdoor Film Festival on Friday, July 13 (Mission Impossible: Ghost Protocol) and Saturday, July 14 (We Bought a Zoo) at Waterfront Park, 1A Prince St. Movies begin at approximately 8:30 p.m. (at dusk). Admission is free.

Popcorn, homemade lemonade, and other food items will be available for sale. A portion of the proceeds earned will benefit Boys & Girls Club of Greater Washington, Alexandria Chapter. Participants may bring blankets or lawn chairs to sit on, and coolers and outside food items are welcome. No grilling allowed.

Call the Special Events Hotline at 703-746-5592 for weather related cancellations. The free King Street Trolley will operate between the waterfront and the King Street Metro until midnight. The Outdoor Film Festival is cosponsored by the City of Alexandria and Comcast.

MONDAY/JULY 16

Summerquest: KayDee Puppets, James M. Duncan, Jr. Branch Library, 2501 Commonwealth Avenue. 10 or 11 a.m., ages 2-5 with an adult. 703-746-1705.

Summerquest: Reptile World, James M. Duncan, Jr. Branch Library, 2501 Commonwealth Avenue. 3:30 p.m., ages 6-12. 703-746-1705.

Little One-Ders Children's Program, Charles E. Beatley, Jr. Central Library, 5005 Duke Street. 10:30 or 11:15 a.m., ages 12 to 23 months, with an adult. Sign-up required: call 703-746-1702x5 or visit children's desk.

TUESDAY/JULY 17

Sarah Jaffe to open for Blitz Trapper. 7:30 p.m. The Music Hall. Tickets are on sale now at <http://sarahjaffe.com>

Jazz. Bohemian Caverns Jazz Orchestra will play The Carlyle Club, 411 John

Carlyle Street, Alexandria from 9-11 p.m. Cost is \$10.

New Hope Housing's Young Professional Board for Happy Hour at The Green Turtle's Funds for Friends. 5p.m.- 9p.m.

\$2 Domestic, \$2 Rails and \$2 Yuenglings. Food and drink proceeds benefit New Hope Housing homeless shelter programs. Donations of new pillows, diapers, toothbrushes, and toothpaste will be collected. The Green Turtle. 900 N. Glebe Road, Arlington.

Summerquest:Amazing Animals, Ellen Coolidge Burke Branch Library, 4701 Seminary Road. 11 a.m. All ages. 703-746-1704.

Summerquest:Bob Brown Puppets, Kate Waller Barrett Branch Library, 717 Queen Street. 3:30 p.m. Ages 2 and up. 703-746-1703.

Summerquest:KayDee Puppets, Kate Waller Barrett Branch Library, 717 Queen Street. 10 or 11 a.m., ages 0-5 with an adult. 703-746-1703.

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McFarlane, Questad Perform at the White House

FROM PAGE 1

their colleagues will share space with leaders of the free world.

"We're often in the background as history is being made," Questad relates and then delivers this descriptor: "we're like furniture."

Despite the comparison and their combined 38 years length of service to the band, both admit they're not too jaded to experience "the wow" moments at work. The most recent was during the May 7, 2007 state dinner for Queen Elizabeth II during the George W. Bush administration.

"Nothing quite compares to being in the same room with her," McFarlane said. "She was wearing the most spectacular dress. That moment was the wow moment."

McFarlane attributes his fondness for the royal family based on his heritage: third generation American from Scottish ancestry with about 25 percent English blood.

Questad is the opposite: despite being a certified non-royal watcher, "I was impressed," he said.

Each has served the last three American presidents, but Questad has one up on McFarlane, having also served President George H.W. Bush, but they both agree the one president that dazzled and excited was Bill Clinton.

"I have to say that the Clintons were the



Mark Questad has played the French horn in the U.S. Marine Corp Band for 20 years, having served four presidents. Questad is pictured here with former President George W. Bush and Mrs. Bush.

most interesting to work for because they had the biggest star power at events in terms of celebrities — people that you would recognize," McFarlane said.

Questad agrees.

"With Clinton there was a level of unpredictability. And with that comes a level of excitement. For example, George W. Bush ran on a very reliable and predictable schedule as far as our expectations when to start



Bassoonist Chris McFarlane (second to the left of President Obama) has served presidents Clinton, Bush, and Obama.

and finish a job. The Clintons were the opposite. When things would be scheduled we would be there in enough time but nothing ever started on time, everything went long and went late," Questad said.

But which president was the best to work for? Well, they were all very nice. "They all were complimentary of our work," Questad said.

"President Obama has never missed the

opportunity to say thank you," McFarlane said. But both agree that it was Clinton who frequently would recognize a movement from a classical piece and talk about it with some of the band members.

When they're not performing at the White House, the twosome and their colleagues can be found performing on the steps of the U.S. Capitol, Wolf Trap, and on a tour throughout the U.S.

Route 1 Widening: Wait for County Transit Study?

FROM PAGE 1

with decisions on what strategy to pursue for the Route 1 widening through the Woodlawn Historical District." Flanagan, who participates on a FHWA advisory committee, conveyed these views to Jack Van Dop, FHWA regional manager, and urged others to consider his views on this before moving ahead on a modified proposal.

His proposal, and the comments from the various public and private parties affected by the Route 1 widening project in the Fort Belvoir and Woodlawn Historical District will be the subject of continuing debate and consideration as the FHWA continues to study community comments and those of the elected federal, state and local officials to formulate the best course of action to follow.

At the same time the Fairfax County Department of Transportation's long-awaited Countywide Transit Network study begins next week, and will analyze transit options in the Route 1 corridor in addition to other major transit networks throughout the county.

At the present time U.S. Rep. James Moran, who arranged for \$180 million federal highway money to be made available for the 3.5 mile Route 1 area near Fort Belvoir, and Mount Vernon District Supervisor Gerald Hyland, were joined in their support for the widening in place option by several elected state officials. A letter sent by state Sen. Linda Puller to Victor Mendez, director of the Federal Highway Administration, supporting the "Widening in Place" option was co-signed by Del. Scott Surovell, Del. David Albo, Del. Mark Sickles and state Sen. Adam Ebbin.

The proposal by Flanagan to detach and temporarily delay the design considerations in the Route 1 area encompassing the Woodlawn Historical District until the Fairfax Transit study is completed has elicited the following reactions:

Moran: "My views are in line with Supervisor Hyland's that the widening-in-place option is currently the best way forward. Widening Route 1 is vitally important for southeast Fairfax's future. It's our only shot to make this long overdue, much needed project a reality."

Puller: "The county-wide transit study which you refer to was funded by legislation I sponsored in the General Assembly. The purpose of the transit study is to come up with alternatives for transit improvements. However, I do not support any action which would delay moving ahead on the Route 1 widening project. I have been working for many years to move forward on Route 1 improvements and to determine the alternative transit needs of the Route 1 corridor. I am confident, having met personally with the Federal Highway Administration staff that they are working to come up with the most compatible strategy for all concerned. I wish to note that the initial FHWA options preserved the right-of-way in both options. It's time to move ahead without further delay."

Surovell: "I don't think it's realistic to delay decisions given how far the planning process is down the road at this point. ... I think we should be focusing on a widening-in-place option that avoids the Woodlawn Baptist cemetery and pushes

slightly further into the north Woodlawn parcel."

Hyland: "I support the widening-in-place option that would preserve the historic Woodlawn Plantation and the community asset that is Woodlawn stables. The onus is on the National Trust for Historic Preservation to decide whether they want to extend their lease agreement with Woodlawn stables which will expire in 2016. The Trust needs to make that decision soon. If the lease is extended and the environmental analysis' preferred alternative encroaches on the Woodlawn Stables site, the project team needs to find a way to relocate the stables and its facilities so equestrian uses can continue."

Lee District Supervisor Jeff McKay: "I don't support a delay of a FHWA plan for widening Route 1, including in the Woodlawn Historic District. ... This is a situation where no one is going to be completely satisfied and everyone will have to compromise to move ahead. ... I don't want to delay bringing relief to the gridlock which the residents have been facing on a daily basis. Also, as for waiting until the Fairfax County Transit Study is completed; it is not necessary. ... The reason is because what the FHWA is doing in its plans is laying the groundwork for accommodating to whatever option the transit study comes up with for Route 1."

Holly Dougherty, executive director, Mount Vernon-Lee Chamber, does not support any delays: "The Chamber supports Alternative C, or the option to widening the road within the existing right-of-way ... and

to preserve the Woodlawn Stables and the equestrian facilities ... it is not only a business (40-plus years) but a wonderful community resource."

Shelly Castle, Save Woodlawn Stables: "While Save Woodlawn Stables supports the widening in place proposal, we would support temporarily removing the Woodlawn Historic District from the FHWA project until the Transit Study is completed. ... We are disappointed to learn that Fairfax County and the FHWA planned this controversial road without doing the proper transit studies needed for its design. The size of this road section is one of the factors that makes it so destructive to all the historic properties. At the very least FHWA and Fairfax County should present the data to justify the need for such an excessive design through the historic district. While we support the politicians' wishes for finding expedient solutions and funding for current and future traffic problems, officials shouldn't necessarily sacrifice our national and community treasures through shortcuts and haste. ... Mr. Flanagan offers some real and viable solutions that would save the historic properties, Woodlawn Stables, satisfy the National Trust for Historic Preservation's concerns, while allowing the elected officials to still have Metro serving Ft. Belvoir. We hope our local elected officials would urge Fairfax County planners to explore these solutions before allowing FHWA to move forward with an Environmental Analysis that will destroy the integrity of the Woodlawn Historic District as a whole forever."

Mansion House Falls Short Against Cardinal Hill

Despite a strong showing by the girls' relay teams, the Mansion House swim team lost to Cardinal Hill, 228-192, on July 7 during an NVSL Division 5 meet in Vienna.

Mansion House won four of six girls' relays, but it wasn't enough. The Piranhas took first in the girls' 200 mixed age freestyle (Susannah Anderson, Annie Hood, Rose Meyers, Hellen Moffitt, 2:10.89), the 9-10 100 medley (Hood, Katherine Revers, Jacqueline Meyers, Dulciana Davis, 1:25.03), the 11-12 100 medley (Margaret Virostek, Katherine Hutchinson, Morgan Frueh, Anderson, 1:11.13) and the 15-18 200 medley (Megan Gray, Molly Graves, Moffitt, Maddie Zeigler, 2:11.15).

Individual winners were: Winifred Mikulski (8U 25 free, breast); Anderson (11-12 50 free); Graves (15-18 free, breast); Hood (9-10 back, fly); Moffitt (15-18 back, fly) and Frueh (11-12 fly).

In boys' action, Mansion House individual winners were: Andrew Revers (11-12 50 free, breast); Joseph Hood (13-14 free, fly); Michael Hood (11-12 back, fly) and Ian Thompson (13-14 back, breast).

Mansion House won the 9-10 boys' medley relay (Gordon Finucan, William Bailey, Thomas Lee, Harrison Mikulski, 1:39.89); the 11-12 100 medley (Winston Leslie, Christopher Jacobsen, Michael Hood, Revers, 1:12.64) and the 13-14 100 medley (Thompson, Riley Holt, Joseph Hood, William Revers, 58.38).

MVP's Bayer Breaks Own Record

Mount Vernon Park swimmer Cassidy Bayer set an NVSL record with a time of



The Mansion House swim team, seen earlier this season, lost to Cardinal Hill on July 7.

28.74 seconds in the 11-12 girls' 50-meter butterfly on July 7 against Pinecrest, according to the NVSL Website. Bayer set the record last season with a time of 29.71 and has already broken it twice this season. Bayer also holds the record for 9-10 girls' 25 fly, posting a time of 14.74 on June 31, 2010.

MVP Remains Undefeated

The Mount Vernon Park swim team improved to 3-0 with a 253-167 victory against Pinecrest during an NVSL Division 4 meet on July 7 in Alexandria.

In girls' action, MVP individual winners were: Cage Theriot (8U 25 free); Holly

Jansen (11-12 50 free, breast); Jessie Bricker (13-14 free); Sara Bertram (15-18 free, fly); Michaela Brotherton (9-10 back); Cassidy Bayer (11-12 back, fly); Torie Bolger (13-14 back); Anna Fracasso (15-18 back); Juliette Fore (8U breast); Sarah Jones (13-14 breast); Jayne Orleans (15-18 breast) and Emily Makin (8U fly).

Mount Vernon Park won four of six relay events: the 200 mixed age freestyle (Bayer, Sheridan Phalen, Jessie Bricker, Bertram, 2:06.39); 11-12 100 medley (Bayer, Jansen, Jones, Elaina Phalen, 1:02.83); 13-14 100 medley (Torie Bolger, Sarah Jones, Anna Fracasso, Bricker, 1:03.99) and 15-18 200 medley (Bertram, Orleans, Mollie Passacantando, Leigh Orleans, 2:19.27).

In boys' action, MVP individual winners were: James Piland (8U 25 free); Nicholas

Dupuis (9-10 50 free, fly); Cameron Morey (11-12 free, back); Kevin Adams-Mardi (13-14 free); Kenneth Krogh (8U back); Andrei Zaitsev (9-10 back); Charlie Ruppe (8U breast); Parker Blondin (9-10 breast) and Connor Dunn (8U fly).

MVP won four of six relay events: 8U 100 free (Piland, Krogh, Dunn, Ruppe, 1:22.76); 200 mixed age free (Morey, Dupuis, Kevin Adams-Mardi, Cyrus Adams-Mardi, 2:01.74); 9-10 100 medley (Zaitsev, Dupuis, Blondin, Clark Bayer, 1:17.99) and 11-12 100 medley (Morey, Jansen, Dom Heratsch, Samuel McBroom, 1:08.6).

Waynewood Falls to Langley

The Waynewood swim team lost to Langley, 221-199, on July 7 during an NVSL Division 5 meet in Alexandria.

In girls' action, individual winners were: Hanani Dona (8U 25 free, back); Maxine Clifford (15-18 50 free); Reanna Dona (15-18 back, fly); Katharine Niles (9-10 breast, fly) and Jessica Niles (13-14 breast).

Waynewood won three relays: 200 mixed age free (Jenna Martin, Niles, Claire Woods, Reanna Dona); 13-14 100 medley (Woods, Corrie Michell, Kate Woods, Niles) and 15-18 200 medley (Clifford, Brittany Alderman, Reanna Dona, Kaelin Jackson).

In boys' action, Waynewood winners were: Jacob Mazzocoli (11-12 free, breast); Thomas Corridon (15-18 free); Aidan Lansburgh (9-10 back); George Heidkamp (11-12 back); Trevor Jenne (15-18 back, fly); Rowan Gilmartin (8U breast); Andre Michell (15-18 breast) and Reid Horton (9-10 fly).

Waynewood won two relay events: 11-12 100 medley (Finn Gilmartin, Mazzocoli, Heidkamp, Elliott Ortel) and 15-18 200 medley (Jenne, Dylan Keightley, Michell, Thomas Corridon).

SPORTS BRIEFS

Soccer League Looking for Players

Tryouts are being held on an individual basis by a newly formed Gunston Soccer Club U-19 boys' team that is looking for a few quality travel players to join the team for the fall 2012 season. The team is interested in strong defenders, especially center backs, as well as skilled midfielders. Contact coach William Boger at Brunom31995@aol.com or 703-619-1044 for more information.

Inaugural Basketball Event

The inaugural July Jamboree, a basketball event hosted by Marvin's Barber & Beauty and The Gum Springs Shooterz Athletic Club, will take place July 21 and 22 at West Potomac High School. There will be tournaments for students and adults. The cost for AAU and youth teams to enter is \$200. For more information, contact Gavin Palmore at 202-486-7344.

West Potomac Football Schedule

The West Potomac football team, led by first-year head coach Jeremiah Davis, will host a scrimmage against Potomac High School on Aug. 16, and travel for a scrimmage against Madison on Aug. 23. The Wolverines' non-district opponents will be Mount Vernon (away, Aug. 30), Centreville (home, Sept. 7) and Westfield (home, Oct. 12). In Patriot District action, West Potomac will host Lake Braddock (Sept. 21), Woodson (Oct. 19) and T.C. Williams (Nov. 2), and travel to face South County (Sept. 14), Annandale (Sept. 28), Lee (Oct. 5) and West Springfield (Oct. 26).

Register Early for Senior Olympics

Registration is open for the 2012 Northern Virginia Senior Olympics, to be held Sept. 15-26. Participants can register online by going to www.nvso.us and signing up to compete in more than 40 events that will take place at 18

different venues throughout Northern Virginia. Registration forms are also available at senior centers, community centers and senior residences or by calling 703-228-4721.

NVSO is celebrating its 30th anniversary. Senior adults 50 years of age by Dec. 30, 2012 residing in a sponsoring jurisdiction are eligible to compete. Deadline to register is Sept. 1. The fee is \$12, which covers multiple events. There are additional facility fees for golf and bowling. Most events are divided into age categories and some by gender. Winners will be awarded gold, silver and bronze medals after each event.

Events include badminton, volleyball, cycling, track and field, swimming, diving, tennis, table tennis, golf, miniature golf, 10-pin bowling, Wii bowling, pickleball, bocce, racquetball, scrabble, cribbage, duplicate bridge, bunco, horseshoes, men's 3-on-3 basketball, men's and women's basketball free throw, team line dancing, yo-yo tricks, eight ball pool, Frisbee throw, softball hit and throw, football throw and Mexican Train dominos.

NVSO is sponsored by the cities of Alexandria, Fairfax and Falls Church, and the counties of Arlington, Fairfax, Fauquier, Loudoun and Prince William.

LETTERS

FROM PAGE 12

receipt of the application, it is automatically approved. The PC originally received the application on Janu. 23, meaning it had to act by March 23. At least one extension was granted, and the pending extension expires on July 23. As such, although the PC has approved plural deferrals of the decision, given the expiration of the current extension four days after the July 19, PC meeting, the PC will be unable to defer the decision again and will have to vote up or down. I am optimistic that the vote will be in favor but if the vote is against, FCPA will have 10 days to appeal the adverse decision to the Board of Supervisors (BOS). Supervisor Hyland has long been on record favoring the OLDA. As such, should it become necessary for the BOS to act, I am confident Supervisor Hyland will support approval.

Meanwhile, by the time this letter is published, the FCPA Board will have voted on July 11, pursuant to Fairfax County Code Section 41.1-2-4 (authorizing FCPA to create OLDAs by voting on a resolution) and their own internal policy number 103.1-3 (authorizing FCPA to approve interim uses) to approve or deny the OLDA as an

interim use until such time as the master planning process is completed. Despite the best efforts of the handful of opponents who believe a County Park paid for with our tax funds should be off limits to humans and canines, I believe the FCPA Board will approve the interim use OLDA.

On July 30, FCPA has scheduled a public information meeting to be held beginning at 7 p.m. in the cafeteria at Belle View Elementary School so that public input can be provided concerning the features the public wants to have included in the Master Plan for Westgrove Park. Those who support the OLDA at Westgrove Park are encouraged to attend. With a little luck and the culmination of a lot of hard work, I am hopeful the Master Plan for Westgrove Park will include the OLDA as well as other features allowing visitation to the park for the betterment of our community.

H. Jay Spiegel
Mount Vernon

Health Law's Cost in Taxes

To the Editor:

The Obamacare law imposes 20

new or higher taxes on American families and small businesses. These taxes are mostly phased in from 2010 through 2014 and one tax takes effect in 2018. The total amount of taxes is estimate to be \$500 billion over the next 10 years. The following are some of the taxes by year imposed:

In 2010, taxes include a 10 percent excise tax on indoor tanning services, deduction restrictions for Blue Cross/Blue Shield companies, increase tax on bio fuel and \$50,00 excise tax per charitable hospital if they fail to meet HHS rules. In 2011, a medicine cabinet tax that prohibits the use of health savings accounts (HSA), flexible spending accounts (FSA), or health reimbursement accounts (HRA) pretax dollars to purchase over the counter non prescription medicine except insulin. Also, tax is increased for early non medical withdrawals from an HSA from 10 to 20 percent. In 2012, tax on certain health benefits for individuals. In 2013, taxes on capital gains increase from 15 percent to 23.8 percent and for dividends from 15 percent to 43.4 percent. Medicare payroll tax increases for all who make over \$200,000 (single) and \$250,000

(married), medical device excise tax of 2.3 percent, special needs kids tax, and eliminates the tax deduction for employer provided retirement prescription drugs coverage in coordination with Medicare Part D. If you itemize tax deductions at tax time, eligible medical deductions are allowed only above 10 percent of your adjusted gross income or an increase of 2.5 percent over prior years of 7.5 percent. This increase is waived for 65 plus taxpayers in 2013-2016 only. In 2014, tax on people who don't buy health insurance for 1 adult it ranges from \$95 in 2014 to \$695 by 2016. In 2018 an excise tax is imposed on certain comprehensive health insurance plans.

You can obtain a copy of all the health care taxes on web page <http://atr.org/print/printpage.php> The 20 taxes are described on three pages including the bill reference and page numbers where more details can be found if you so desire. These three pages can be used as reference as needed and to calculate the tax affect on your total income and tax burden. Any views you may have from your review should be made known to your U.S. senators and con-

gressman on this very important issue.

Frank Medico
Mount Vernon

Appreciates Surovell's Updates

To the Editor:

As president of Mount Vernon At Home, I wish to express gratitude to Del. Scott Surovell for providing continual and specific information about power restoration progress in our neighborhoods in the aftermath of the devastating June 29 storms.

On behalf of the 120 families of senior citizens who have joined our non-profit, aging in place organization, we thank you Delegate Surovell. Your updated information, continued contact with Dominion and safety tips provided a valuable public service and a communication avenue to access throughout the long recovery period.

Virginia Hodgkinson
President
Mount Vernon At Home

These neighborhood businesses generously supported the West Potomac All-Night Graduation Celebration



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¹INCLUDES TAX, TAGS, FREIGHT, \$399 PROCESSING FEE, ACQUISITION FEE AND \$0 SECURITY DEPOSIT. 36-MONTH LEASE W/12K MILES PER YEAR. EXAMPLE CAMRY L. ²BASED ON KELLEY BLUE BOOK FAIR TRADE VALUE MINUS EXCESS MILEAGE AND RECONDITIONING. ³0% APR FOR A LIMITED TIME ON SELECT NEW TOYOTAS WITH APPROVED TIER1+ CREDIT THROUGH TFS. EXCLUDES \$399 DEALER DOC FEE. ⁴WHICHEVER COMES FIRST FROM DATE OF TCUV PURCHASE. ⁵FROM DATE OF TCUV PURCHASE. ⁶WITH APPROVED CREDIT ON SELECT MODELS THRU TFS. SEE DEALER FOR COMPLETE FINANCING DETAILS. ⁷WITH PURCHASE OF A NEW VEHICLE. COVERS NORMAL FACTORY SCHEDULED SERVICE. PLAN IS FOR 2 YEARS OR 25K MILES, WHICHEVER COMES FIRST. THE NEW TOYOTA VEHICLE CANNOT BE PART OF A RENTAL OR COMMERCIAL FLEET, OR A DELIVERY OR TAXI VEHICLE. SEE PARTICIPATING TOYOTA DEALER FOR DETAILS. VALID ONLY IN THE CONTINENTAL UNITED STATES AND ALASKA. ⁸TOYOTA FINANCIAL SERVICES 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. ⁹REBATE 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. ¹⁰BONUS CASH FROM TOYOTA MOTOR SALES USA, INC ON QUALIFIED TFS LEASE CONTRACTS ONLY. MUST BE APPLIED TO THE TRANSACTION. NO CASH PAYMENT WILL BE MADE TO CONSUMER. ¹¹ELIGIBLE CUSTOMERS MUST BE IN CURRENT ACTIVE DUTY STATUS IN THE U.S. MILITARY. VERIFIABLE PROOF OF MILITARY STATUS OR PROOF OF ACTIVE SERVICE IS REQUIRED AT TIME OF PURCHASE. CANNOT BE COMBINED WITH OTHER REBATES. ALL OFFERS EXPIRE 7/31/12.

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OLD TOWN ALEXANDRIA

\$884,500

Historic Townhome

Welcome to this surprisingly spacious historic townhome, situated in the heart of charming Old Town Alexandria. Beautifully renovated throughout offering three bedrooms, two and a half baths. Granite counters in the kitchen and stainless steel appliances are just some of the highlights of today's updates. Excellent location right in the center of Old Town.



Jen Walker
703.675.1566
www.JenWalker.com
MLS ID# AX7869728



OLD TOWN ALEXANDRIA

\$945,000

Pitt & Royal Streets



are easily accessed through the mews or by the rear gate of this four/five-bedroom, brick end townhouse that includes handsome formal rooms with polished wood floors, two wood-burning fireplaces, a wet bar and terrific storage throughout. With three full and two half baths as well as an updated kitchen with eating area, this home offers an easy life style.

Carol Cleary
703.625.6829
www.CarolCleary.com
MLS ID# AX7792503



ALEXANDRIA

\$1,499,000

Beautiful on the Inside and Out



Charleston in Alexandria! Gracious home in Plymouth Haven (Waynewood School); five bedrooms on four finished levels – up-to-the-minute perfect with outdoor kitchen and stone fireplace – .50-acre lot.

Janet Price
703.960.5858
www.janetpricehomes.com
MLS ID# FX7798202



OLD TOWN ALEXANDRIA

\$533,000

Renovated Open Floor Plan

Kitchen has center island, cherry cabinetry, granite countertops, gas stove with hood and opens to deep back yard, landscaped with gardens and pond. Private parking space! Hardwood floors on two levels. Finished lower level boasts heated stone floors, style galore and full bath.



Susan Craft
703.216.4501
www.SusanCraft.com
MLS ID# AX7858335

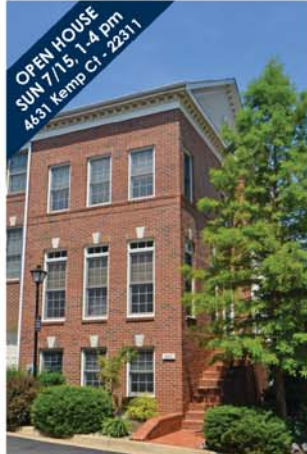


ALEXANDRIA

\$589,900

Stonegate Beauty!

This beautiful, light-filled, end unit townhouse has many upgrades! Three bedrooms, three and a half baths, hardwood floors on the main level, gas fireplace in the living room, gourmet kitchen with eat-in space, new stainless steel appliances and granite counters, rec room and a two-car garage. Dual zoned heating and air conditioning. Close to I-395, Pentagon, Mark Center, and Washington, DC.



Jo Erkiletian
703.862.6870
www.mceneaney.com
MLS ID# AX7878472



ALEXANDRIA CITY

\$665,000

Pristine Condition!

French doors off dining room invite you to extend your entertaining to the patio and the landscaped yard beyond. Cozy den with gas fireplace off kitchen has a bay window and custom shelving. Remodeled kitchen has cherry cabinets. Carport with expanded driveway can hold three-plus cars. Light and bright interior and a cul-de-sac location!



Debbie Miller
703.241.0223
www.DebMiller.com



ALEXANDRIA

\$999,000

Premier New Construction

Beautiful home located on 3/4-acre lot – with bonus recreation room and full bath on lower level. Four bedrooms, three and a half baths, and a two-car garage – the quality is outstanding!



Janet Price
703.960.5858
www.janetpricehomes.com
MLS ID# FX7717505



OLD TOWN ALEXANDRIA



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