

# Mount Vernon Gazette

MOUNT VERNON'S HOMETOWN NEWSPAPER • A CONNECTION NEWSPAPER

JULY 26, 2012

## In Search of a 'Forever Home'

**Humane Society of Fairfax working for animal and human welfare.**

BY ANDREA WORKER  
THE GAZETTE

Look up Petfinder.com on your Internet browser page. It's a site where animal welfare groups can promote animals they have available for adoption. Type in a town or zip code. Let's use Alexandria as an example. Check "Cat" for "Type of Animal." Hit "Search." Unless you specified a particular breed, be prepared to look through 293 pages of cats, about 25 per page. OK. How about "Dog - Any Breed?" That will get you 3 more pages - 296 total - or a staggering 7,500 dogs all vying for your attention as a potential adopter. The numbers won't change much if you start your search with Chantilly, Reston, Springfield, Vienna, or anywhere else in the county.

Those pages mention dozens of worthy welfare and rescue groups. One name that will come up on quite a few of them, whether you are searching for a dog, a cat, a rabbit, a guinea pig, or even a horse, will be the Humane Society of Fairfax County, with President Vicki Kirby at the helm.

Established in 1965 by a few concerned citizens, the HSFC is one of the area's oldest animal protection organizations. Thanks to the generosity of an anonymous donor who gifted the group with two office buildings in Fairfax City, a major milestone was achieved in 1995 when HSFC opened the doors to its new administrative offices, no-kill animal shelter and thrift shop at 4057 Chain Bridge Road. One of the first to cross the newly renovated threshold was Merry, a longhaired, wide-faced, cancer-surviving feline Diva, who still holds court there, mostly from her cozy cat bed. Merry kindly allows Office Manager Janice Adams to think she is in charge of day-to-day operations.

ON A RECENT TOUR of the facility, the first thing noticeable is the smell — fresh and clean.



PHOTO BY ANDREA WORKER/THE GAZETTE

**Humane Society of Fairfax County Office Manager Janice Adams gets help from Jamie who is thrilled to escape from his recent confinement. He is recovering from a leg sprain and can't wait to get back to his playmates.**

Are there really 60 plus cats and kittens in residence here, not to mention a room full of rabbits and a collection of guinea pigs?

"It's got to be clean," said Adams. "That's the only way to keep a healthy and comfortable environment. In addition to our faithful volunteers who spend time playing with and socializing the animals, we have several part-time caregivers who look after the cats and their accommodations."

There are large, sunny rooms throughout the building. Cats and kittens are carefully arranged in compatible groupings, with separate spaces for newcomers in quarantine awaiting the vet's all clear, or those overcoming illness or injury. Many of the rooms have wide-ledged windows perfect for sun bathing and people and bird watching. Since no dogs are housed at this location, most of the tenants are visibly relaxed in the quiet atmosphere.

SEE FOREVER HOME, PAGE 22

PET GAZETTE

## Community Mourns Loss of Joan Mitchell

**Owner of Woodlawn Stables dies.**

BY GERALD A. FILL  
THE GAZETTE

Joan Mitchell died one week ago after a long battle with breast cancer. Friends and family who gathered at her beloved stables described her as possessing "an unparalleled gift with animals," "a mother figure and mentor," and a "devoted custodian of Woodlawn Stables." The tribute to her this past week at the Woodlawn Stables was attended by approximately 150 people and an almost equal number attended a memorial service at Good Shepherd Catholic Church this past Saturday.

Mitchell was born in 1941, in Ft. Lewis, Washington. She was the daughter of Robert and Virginia

Clirehugh. It was at an early age traveling with her parents to U.S. Army posts that Mitchell acquired her love of horses and competing in equestrian events. This included the experience of riding at the Royal Baghdad Hunt (Iraq) and various rodeos throughout the U.S. While living in Virginia she met and married her husband Richard F. Mitchell, and together they raised four children. Years later they divorced but remained friends. She leaves her children: Richard R., John F., Timothy A. and Cynthia; her brother Mark A., and two grandchildren, McKenna and Avery Mitchell.

A visit to the Woodlawn Stables located on Route 1 immediately north of Fort Belvoir is like going

SEE MITCHELL, PAGE 7

## Public Interest Vs. Absolute Discretion

**Lack of transparency forces some to consider lawsuits just to get information.**

BY MICHAEL LEE POPE  
THE GAZETTE

Brook Besha is at his wit's end. It's been almost four years since the Fairfax County Police Department shot and killed his son. But even today, he still does not have access to the investigation conducted by the Arlington County Police Department. Like people across Virginia, Besha has to make a difficult choice — should he file a lawsuit just to find out what happened to his son? For now, he says, the answer to that question is no.

"We don't have the money or the resources," said Besha, who had to move away from Northern Vir-

ginia after the death of his son because the emotions were too raw. "Given the county's record, many lawyers were hesitant or reluctant to pick up the case."

That means that Besha may never have access to the document that outlines what happened that day in December 2008, when Fairfax Police officials say his son robbed a bank in McLean before driving across the border into Arlington. Unlike court cases, which are governed by the rules of discovery, public availability of documents is guided by the Virginia Freedom of Information Act. One part of that law provides unlimited discretion for police agencies

SEE PUBLIC INTEREST, PAGE 7

7/27/12  
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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

## New Price 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. ~ \$824,000



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

## The "Light Horse Harry" Lee House



Stately brick townhouse built in 1780 was



once the residence of Henry Lee and his family which included son Robert E Lee. Tall ceilings, some original features including plaster moldings, heart pine floors, horsehair ceiling medallion, and front staircase. Currently used as an office and residence, it could be used for either or both and offers

seven off street parking spaces! ~ \$1,695,000

611 Cameron St Alexandria, VA 22314

## New Price 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.~ \$1,497,000

900 Clifton Drive Alexandria, VA 22308

## 4 Season Water Views!



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

## Just Listed! Open Sunday!



Pristine stone cottage from the country side of France. Fully Renovated and modernized while maintaining all the original charm. Sited on 1/2 acre this home features a gorgeous new chef's kitchen, luxury master retreat



with stone bath. Wood and stone floors throughout. Enjoy the lush landscaped exterior, breezeway to new cedar 2 car carport, and flagstone terrace. 3 bedrooms, 2.5 baths. ~\$925,000

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# PET GAZETTE

## 'Better Be Ready'

### Animal Control in action in Fairfax County.

BY DEB COBB  
THE GAZETTE

**W**hen the call came from dispatch late in the Tuesday July 17 shift, Animal Control Officer Kim England turned her truck towards Centreville, to respond to a suspected "hot" or rabid skunk. A woman was behind her townhouse, returning a garbage can to her rear door and she came upon a skunk. The skunk chased her, the woman shrieked, the skunk stopped running and turned away. The woman ran into her home and called the police.

While the perception that Animal Control officers are "just" dogcatchers persists, their scope of work and their qualifications are much broader. Animal Control officers must meet the same standards as police officers, and must graduate from the police academy. In addition, they receive special training and certification from the state of Virginia.

The 24 Animal Control officers in Fairfax County and their supervisors are responsible for patrolling 399 square miles of Fairfax County, enforcing county and state animal-related laws, dealing with sick and seriously injured wildlife, including euthanizing those too seriously injured to survive, investigating animal cruelty complaints, investigating dog attacks or bites to residents or animals, capturing unconfined or loose domestic animals, and remove wildlife that have snuck in to residents' living spaces. Animal Control offic

SEE ANIMAL CONTROL, PAGE 4



PHOTOS BY DEB COBB/THE GAZETTE

**On July 12, Animal Control Officer Henley Thomas prepares a quarantine document for a dog owner whose dog bit an animal technician at its veterinarian during a checkup. Thomas has verified that the dog's rabies shot is up to date. The dog is required to stay in quarantine for 10 days. That means that the dog must not come in contact with any people or animals during the 10 days and the dog must not leave the owner's property. When the dog is outside, it must be leashed. After the papers are served and signed, Thomas calls the bite victim to update her on the dog's rabies status, reassuring her that she does not need to undergo rabies treatments.**



**The interior of an animal control van holds several cages and cases for equipment and is lined with stainless steel to facilitate the sanitization of the vehicle. On July 12, a found dog that bit a youth rides in the back of the van until it can be transported to the Fairfax County Animal Shelter. When the dog is transferred, the animal control officer will sanitize the area the dog touched to minimize the risk of disease transfer to other animals.**

### READERS' PETS



**Lynne Fill's favorite kitties: Snowflake and Buster.**



**Pepper enjoys her first Christmas tree. Pepper was adopted from the Alexandria Animal Shelter about two years ago.**



**Rodney, from West Virginia, was adopted from the Alexandria Animal Shelter one year ago and is happily lounging in his new home.**

PHOTOS COURTESY OF MEI LEE STROM



# Animal Control Officers Help Homeowners, Wildlife

FROM PAGE 3

ers deal with a variety of wildlife on a regular basis, including poisonous and non-poisonous snakes, bats, skunks, opossum, foxes, raccoon, groundhogs, rabbits, deer, squirrels, birds, horses, emu and the occasional iguana.

**AS ENGLAND** pulls up to the address and parks her van, she gets her .22 rifle out, “Better be ready,” she said, anticipating that the skunk is rabid and in the furious stage of the virus — attacking anything in its path. She interviews the woman who called in, the “witness,” and proceeds to walk around the back of the townhouse block to search for the skunk. It is about 9:45 p.m., and England relies on the flashlight in her left hand to search. In her right hand is her .22 rifle. If she finds the skunk and it exhibits rabid behavior, England will use the .22 to euthanize the skunk on the spot.

When England finds the skunk it is foraging at the back of an adjacent townhouse. The skunk looks up, as England approaches it stops and raises its tail. England stops. The skunk waits a bit, then moves on to forage in another spot. England follows and observes the animal for about 15 minutes. “It’s nice to see a healthy one for a change,”



PHOTO BY DEB COBB/THE GAZETTE

said England. She leaves the skunk to its foraging. No action is needed because the skunk is healthy, exhibiting no signs of rabies (inability to eat, “drunkenness,” continuous spraying, rage). “We’re not in the business to kill healthy wildlife ... or to remove healthy wildlife from the population,” said England’s supervisor, Sergeant Elizabeth A. Williamson, who arrived on scene

**Amity is a Beagle-mix that was found wandering Braddock Road on July 7. A concerned person captured the dog, put her on a tether in their front yard and called Animal Control. Fortunately, Amity was wearing a Fairfax County Dog license. When Animal Control Officer Henley Thomas arrived on the scene, he got a description of what happened and took possession of the dog. He was able to look up the owner’s address based on the license number, and return the dog. The owner received a citation for a leash law violation.**

to support England. Being able to distinguish between a sick and healthy animal is a critical skill for Animal Control officers, “There’s no reason to kill a healthy critter,” said Williamson.

**EARLIER IN THE SHIFT** England drove to Centreville to help a groundhog stuck in a chain link fence. The homeowners

couldn’t get it out and they didn’t want to cut the fence fearing that it would become a gateway for other wildlife into their yard. England assessed the groundhog’s health, was concerned that its neck appeared to be swelling but did not detect any major injuries and asked the homeowner for some Pam — kitchen oil spray. She pulled on her gloves, held the groundhog firmly and sprayed the animal’s neck and the fence liberally. She gave a gentle pull and the groundhog came right out. It was a little dazed, almost got itself stuck in the fence again, but then found another way out of the yard and raced off. Had her arrival been delayed because of another case, it is likely that the groundhog would have been too swollen to extract from the fence. To England, the best part of the job is when she can help animals like this groundhog: “They’re helpless, like children, they don’t have a voice.”

England says that the flip side of urban sprawl is that we have infringed on the native species in this area. The laws the county and state have implemented, that Animal Control officers enforce, were created to provide protection to both wild and domestic animals and to mitigate the risk of disease transfer among animals and to humans.



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3811 Stonebridge Road — \$475,000  
Oozing curb appeal with new windows, kit, baths, siding and more in this 4BR, 3BA home with open floor plan.

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**UNDER CONTRACT**



8317 Cedardale Drive — \$579,900  
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8618 Camden Street — \$449,500  
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8728 Plymouth Road — \$1.4M  
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# PEOPLE

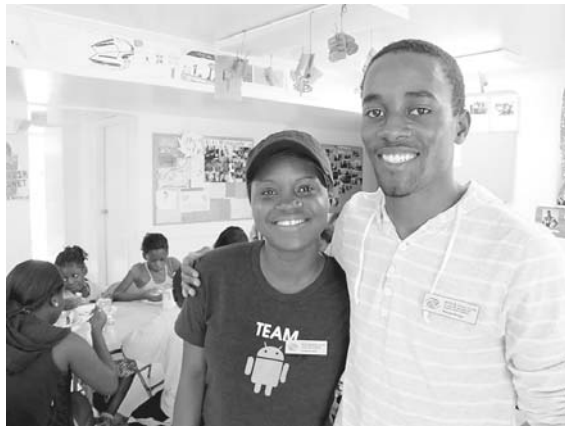


## Summer Day Camp

The Boys and Girls Clubs of Great Washington, Fairfax County operates summer day camp in several locations, including Murraygate Village in Mount Vernon. With 90 members, the club serves children from age 5-18 in their neighborhood. Partnerships with Fairfax County, Inova and others allow for a variety of educational activities including swimming, computer center, dance and art.



Cora Rhodes, music teacher; Wonhee Kang, executive director; Michael Bruins, site director, and Elizabeth Nath, program aide.



Murraygate site director Michael Bruins and program aide Elizabeth Nath. Bruins says that the Murraygate Club serves children from immigrant families from West Africa, including Ghana, Sierra Leone and Liberia, as well as families from El Salvador, and more at summer camp.



Executive Director of the Boys and Girls Club, Fairfax County area Wonhee Kang knows the children by name.



Counselors in Training Judy, Abria, Freva and Abigail help with all aspects of camp.

PHOTOS BY MARY KIMM/THE GAZETTE



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**Alex./Riverwood \$792,500**  
**9301 Ludgate Drive**

Beautiful, brick 3-level colonial in prestigious waterfront community of Riverwood, with Potomac water views in the back. One of Riverwood's largest models, this stately home has over 3500 finished sq. ft. 5BR, 3.5 Ba, 2 fireplaces, fully finished basement, 2 car garage. Beautiful hwd floors main and upper level. 2-tier deck overlooks spectacular backyard. 5 min to Ft. Belvoir, 15 to Old Town, 25 to Reagan Nat'l Airport, and scenic commute along GW Pkwy and Potomac into D.C. This house is a gem!



**Alex/Wessynton \$669,900**  
**3210 Wessynton Way**

One of Wessynton's most exquisite remodeled homes just down from the community pool and boat ramp. Totally renovated: kitchen (granite, SS, tile, custom cabinets), all 3 baths, 3 gas fpls, family room w/wet bar & stone/gas fpl. Remodeling & extensive landscaping w/an asian flair. 2nd LL finished w/closets, cabinets, & home office. There is nothing like this on the market! Quality workmanship, beautiful wooded setting-just 5 minutes to Ft. Belvoir. Call Rex.



**Alex./Wessynton \$649,900**  
**8802 Four Seasons**

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



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

Lovely, spacious 4BR/3BA Split in the heart of Mt. Vernon - Hardwood floors throughout main level, eat-in kitchen with ceramic tiled floor. Walkout lower level offers a family room w/wood FPL, new carpet and new sliding glass door to a large, fenced back yard. Also, a 4th BR, 3rd bath and den. 5 minutes to Ft. Belvoir, 15 mins to Old Town, 25 to NTL Airport and 30 to D.C./Pentagon. Priced for a quick sale.



**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 bkdy 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./Collingwood Est. \$515,000**  
**8401 Morey Lane**

Lovely 4 BR/3 BA Split in prestigious Collingwood on the Potomac. Beautifully staged home sits on a large professionally landscaped corner lot. Just a stone's throw from the G.W. Parkway and Potomac River. 7 minutes to Old Town, 17 mins to National Airport, 30 mins to Pentagon/D.C. and last but not least...Waynewood Elementary.

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# OPINION

## Separate and Unequal?

If we don't believe that poor students are less innately talented, then the disparities in Northern Virginia are truly unfair.

The numbers are eye-popping. Latino students are 22 percent of Fairfax County Public Schools students, but 2.7 percent of the incoming Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology freshman class, the class of 2016. Of the 480 students, seven are black. That's 1.4 percent, while black students are 10 percent of the county school system.

The class of 2016 includes 480 students: 126 white students (26 percent), 308 Asian students (64 percent), 13 Hispanic students (2.7 percent), seven black students (1.4 percent) and 27 other.

Almost all of the students accepted to TJ come from eight middle schools with advanced gifted-and-talented programs.

The disparities and lack of diversity at Northern Virginia's stellar magnet school, ranked the top high school in the nation, is a symptom of a much more pervasive problem in Fairfax County.

This week, two groups, the Coalition of The Silence led by former school board member Tina Hone, and the Fairfax County Branch of the NAACP filed a formal complaint with the U.S. Department of Education's Office of Civil Rights. The complaint argues that the current policies regarding admission to Thomas Jefferson and policies regarding identification of students for eligibility for gifted services within FCPS "disparately impact Black and Latino students in violation of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1965, which prohibits discrimination based on race,

color and national origin."

For well over a decade, FCPS has made a variety of attempts to address the exclusive nature of admissions to TJ, but with little effect and intense controversy.

The problem runs much deeper than freshman admission to Thomas Jefferson. Of 12,044 elementary and middle school students identified for "level 4" gifted-and-talented programs last year, only 455 were black, 3.8 percent, while 10 percent of FCPS students are black. Just 752 were Hispanic, about 6 percent, although 22 percent of FCPS students are Hispanic.

**GETTING ACCEPTED** to TJ, in general, is not an easy task for anyone, reported Julia O'Donoghue in 2010 in the Connection. The school admitted only 15.3 percent of the 3,119 students who applied to be part of the class of 2014. That means TJ had a lower acceptance rate for its incoming freshman class than either Cornell University or Swarthmore College that year.

Fairfax students also compete with children from around the region for slots at the Northern Virginia magnet school. About 80 percent of TJ's student body comes from Fairfax but residents from Arlington, Loudoun, Prince William and Fauquier counties and the City of Falls Church can also apply. (The City of Alexandria does not allow its students to apply to

TJ, and should reconsider its choice to opt out.)

While it may be difficult for all children, students who are black, Hispanic or poor have a particularly hard time getting admitted to TJ.

Out of 480 students admitted to the class of 2014, only nine were considered poor enough to qualify for free-or-reduced-priced lunch.

Across all four grades at TJ in 2009-10 school year, approximately 1.78 percent of students were black, 2.84 percent of students were Hispanic and 1.74 percent were poor.

Fully 25 percent of students in Fairfax County are poor enough to qualify for free-or-reduced-priced meals. Do we believe that poor students are less talented than students from wealthier families?

The complaint asserts that FCPS "has evolved into a system that essentially operates a network of separate and unequal schools."

Many if not most poor students lack access to quality enrichment programs and after-school activities, lack access to expensive and highly specific test preparation classes for the admissions test for TJ. And the complaint cites FCPS retreated from outreach programs for poor and minority students.

Addressing these issues from Kindergarten up would have many benefits beyond increasing diversity at one school. This could also decrease the achievement gap, increase the graduation rate for minority and poor students, and reduce disparities in the suspension and expulsion rate.

These are hot issues with many perspectives. We welcome letters and comments suggesting solutions and with different points of view.

— MARY KIMM,

MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

## Common Sense And Reason

To the Editor:

I think most Americans agree that our second amendment right is not being curtailed, nor our freedoms limited when we as a people dictate reason. Why is it reasonable to allow any person the right to purchase 6,000 rounds of ammunition and four guns in a two-month period over the internet, when that person never owned a firearm before. However our politicians believe it is reasonable to not allow people the right to purchase, say a flame thrower or surface to air missile. Why? Because it is obvious what the intention is with these types of weapons. But isn't it also reasonable to assume any person buying an AK-47-like semi automatic rifle and 6,000 rounds, is planning something nefarious; it certainly isn't for their protection or for hunting. Common sense dictates otherwise.

Most Americans can agree their

right to bear arms was intended for their own personal protection, and for hunting, even for those gun aficionados who like to collection guns. Who really needs a semi automatic for protection or for hunting though? But to allow a purchase of this sort in such a short period of time and to allow this to go unfettered, with no background check or concern for how these weapons will be used, and with no required training; well that lacks common sense.

Common sense also dictates that these mass and senseless killings will continue until politicians "man up" and face what they know is wrong. What is wrong is all the loop holes that exist in the current regulations. [New York City] Mayor Bloomberg is correct, close those loop holes, make the laws that we do have effective or there is no point, or we might as well dive into a world of anarchy.

To solve this problem, we as a nation have to demand more from our politicians and ourselves. Clos

SEE LETTERS, PAGE 8



### Helping UCM

Elaine Kolish and David Fitzgerald enjoy dinner during Restaurant Night at Dishes of India in Alexandria. As they have done in the past, Dishes of India donated 10 percent of meal sales to United Community Ministries. The restaurant hosted this event to support UCM and raise awareness of their programs. UCM praised the ongoing support of Executive Chef and Owner Ramanand Bhatt for hosting a UCM Benefit Night again this year.

## Mount Vernon Gazette

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# Family, Friends Mourn Loss of Joan Mitchell

FROM PAGE 1

back in time. A first-time visitor can be surprised by the images: grazing horses, the aging barns, the barnyard pathways, the smell of hay and straw and manure, and the central office give the appearance of a horse farm that could have existed some 30 or 40 years ago. Mitchell infused those who frequented the stables with her love of horses, and her infectious personality,

**“Generations of children have benefited from Joan Mitchell’s love and devotion to the horses and her riding programs”**  
— Christie Scanlin-Dobson



PHOTO BY SCOTT SHEPHERD

**The late Joan Mitchell, owner of the Woodlawn Stables, kissing her show horse, Eli, which was nicknamed “Momma’s Boy” because it was her horse.**

according to friends who gathered in mourning and tribute.

One longstanding family friend described the Woodlawn Stables as “an oasis” amid the hustle and bustle of a high tech fast-paced Washington metro area lifestyle.

Michele Krause, a self-described early years “barn rat” who began

taking riding lessons at age 10, is now a licensed vet technician and 30 years later continues to help and support the stables. She said, “This is a place for children to have a once in a lifetime experience that builds character and responsibility in them. ... Joan never turned away anyone who wanted to learn

to ride. ... If they couldn’t afford the fees she would find a way to defray the cost of riding lessons by assigning the student rider work such as cleaning stables or answering the phone at the office.”

“Generations of children have benefited from Joan Mitchell’s love and devotion to the horses and her riding programs,” according to Christie Scanlin-Dobson. She reminisced about her early childhood years learning how to ride, working on the farm, and her close personal relationship with Mitchell and her daughter Cindy. “Joan always told the truth; she was a mother figure and mentor to me and the generations of children who grew up loving the stable and who, because of Joan’s energy and enthusiasm, helped to shape our values,” Scanlin-Dobson said. “She taught by her example to love riding and caring for the horses. ... Joan loved life, horses, family, travel, music ... Joan was the lead mare for 20 years; the heart and soul of the stable.”

Mitchell’s son John said, “She was a guiding light for me; she put structure and discipline in my life.

## More

Woodlawn Stables was first incorporated under the name Scanlin Farms, Inc. in 1978, and purchased by the Mitchell family in 1992. The Woodlawn Stables property is part of the Woodlawn Historic District, and is leased to Woodlawn Stables by the National Trust for Historic Preservation

... I believe she would want to be remembered as a devoted custodian of Woodlawn Stables and mentor to horse lovers.”

Daughter Cynthia, who has helped her mother manage the stables these past many years, and is committed to carrying on her mother’s legacy of caring for the horses and management of the Stables, said, “My mother never met a stranger and was a warm individual who had a gift with animals that was unparalleled. ... I will miss her smile, her quirky sense of humor and her wicked intellect. ... I only hope to be half the person that she was to me, my family, and all who came in touch with her ... I am very proud to have been her daughter.”

## Public Interest Vs. Absolute Discretion

FROM PAGE 1

to shield “documents, memoranda, correspondence, case files or reports, witness statements and evidence.”

“As a lawyer, if someone doesn’t show me documents when I ask for them, I am going to assume that the reason is that those documents are damning to their position,” said Simon Sandoval-Moshenberg, an attorney at the Legal Aid Justice Center. “And as a community member, I want to know that my police aren’t going around shooting people when it’s not necessary to do so.”

**RECENT YEARS** have seen a number of high-profile police-involved shootings, many of which remain under a cloud of secrecy as a result of the broad exemption powers given to police agencies under the Virginia Freedom of Information Act. One example of a case in which documents were finally released to the public is the case of Salvatore Culosi, the 27-year-old optometrist who was shot and killed by Fairfax officers in January 2006. Those documents were only released after the Culosi family filed a wrongful death lawsuit, which eventually led to a \$2 million settlement.

“I’m sorry for what happened,” Fairfax Police Chief David Rohrer told Culosi’s parents last year on a cable public access show known as “Reston Impact.” “I wish I could go back and undo that.”

But what happens if nobody ever files a lawsuit? In case after case in Northern Virginia, that means that the public may never know if police engaged in misconduct or not. From the burglaries and assaults to car thefts and murder, police agencies enjoy broad discretion to prevent public access in all cases, regardless of whether the case is open or closed. Po-

lice officials argue that secrecy is an important part of their work.

“A promise of confidentiality doesn’t necessarily die with the death of the victim or the informant,” said Dana Schrad, executive director of the Virginia Association of Chiefs of Police. “It’s not only to protect the integrity of an investigation but also to protect a promise of anonymity.”

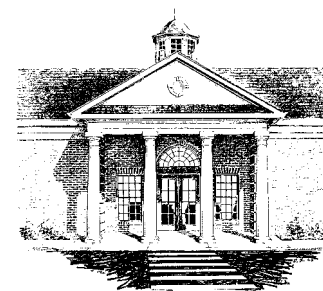
**EVERY YEAR** in Richmond, members of the General Assembly consider a number of potential changes to the Virginia Freedom of Information Act. But any time the broad exemption powers enjoyed by police agencies are questioned, police chiefs and prosecutors object. A good example of this is the 2010 bill introduced by state Sen. John Edwards (D-21), which would have opened access to documents in cases that are closed.

“Once a case is closed, there’s no legitimate policy reason to keep it from the public,” said Edwards, who took an interest in the issue when he couldn’t get documents in the 2007 Virginia Tech massacre.

So far, that bill has yet to gain any traction. A subcommittee of the Freedom of Information Advisory Council has considered the bill a few times, although its members have not taken any action to recommend any action of the General Assembly. But that doesn’t mean that the lingering questions about officer involved shootings haven’t made an impact on elected leaders.

“In my opinion, officer-involved shootings are in a different category,” said Del. David Albo (R-42), adding that he would support legislation that provides more transparency for these documents. “This is an area where the public has a right to know what happened.”

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PHOTO BY H. JAY SPIEGEL

The freshwater marsh on the Potomac River at Mason Neck.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

FROM PAGE 6

ing the loopholes is only part of the problem however. People need to be more proactive everywhere, we all need to be vigilant and take notice of troubled individuals and weird scenarios, if something seems out of the ordinary, report it. What is appropriate to expect from everyone, starting with our politicians, is to do the right thing, use common sense. Nothing about what led up to this weekend's tragedy in Colorado seemed reasonable. What turned into senseless violence lacked common sense.

**Allan Wiley**  
Mount Vernon

## The Messenger Behind the Message

To the Editor:

Last Thursday, the Planning Commission approved the interim use off-leash dog area (OLDA) at Westgrove Park by a vote of 7-2-2. The opposition of a handful of community activists was overcome, mainly by the truth and logic. Most inappropriate was Martin Tillett's insinuation in a letter to the Planning Commission and in testimony that approving the OLDA was tantamount to rewarding "bad behavior." Most incredible was Glenda Booth's talking point that Westgrove Park is part of a wildlife corridor from Mount Vernon District Park to Dyke Marsh, this despite the existence of (1) Fort Hunt Road, (2) a high chain link fence completely surrounding Westgrove Park, (3) the intervening land of River Towers, (4) the four-lane George Washington Parkway, and (5) its bike path.

Last week, I explained my notion of the way civic activity should be conducted. The other notion of civic involvement in our community goes like this:

(1) Create an organization having a name that makes it sound like the organization represents a large group of people or an entity such as a park. Examples include "Friends of Quander Brook" and "Friends of Westgrove Park." Don't incorporate the entity and hold all

meetings in secret.

(2) Wait until the last minute and then surface to assert your views (Friends of Westgrove Park), acting as if you represent the greater community when, in fact, you only represent a handful of citizens.

(3) At public hearings, demand the longer speaker time reserved for official organizations representing large groups even though the designated speaker only represents themselves or a handful of people.

(4) If an organization has actually been incorporated, discourage participation at meetings by non-members by refusing to let them speak. If the leaders of the organization disagree with the bylaws, don't amend them, just ignore them.

(5) Remain unconcerned that community representatives to the organization typically represent their own personal views and not the views of the communities they have been appointed to serve. Do nothing to establish accountability.

(6) Arrange secret meetings with politicians and government officials to privately lobby them to support your position without notifying those having opposing views.

The portion of the vision described in paragraphs (4) and (5) above is a good description of the way the MVCCA now operates and paragraphs (1), (2), (3) and (6) the way certain civic activists typically operate in the civic arena. The MVCCA typically ignores by-law provisions its current leaders don't like including, among others, (1) the provision requiring that notice be given to its members prior to election of committee chairs, and (2) the conflict of interest provision of Article VI, paragraph 6, that precludes committee chairs from also being candidates for or serving in policy determining positions in the county.

Martin Tillett of the unincorporated "Friends of Quander Brook" and Glenda Booth and Mary Jo Detwiler of the unincorporated "Friends of Westgrove Park" privately lobbied several members of the Park Authority Board seeking

to derail the proposed off-leash dog area (OLDA) at Westgrove Park. This tactic was rewarded when the Park Authority Board unanimously voted to support the OLDA. I wonder if these community activists have learned a lesson from this episode.

Presumably, caring members of our community prefer my notion of civic involvement over that which is described above. The key to ensuring that the first version prevails lies in the office of Mount Vernon Supervisor Gerry Hyland. If he refuses to lend credence to organizations and individuals who operate in the manner described above, the latter version will wither up and die on the vine.

I urge Supervisor Hyland to more closely scrutinize the messenger when considering the message. Organizations that are unincorporated, meet in secret, and don't involve members of the public in their deliberations should be accorded absolutely zero credibility. Umbrella organizations such as the MVCCA that don't abide by their own bylaws, don't require accountability to member associations, and limit non-member input into their deliberations should have their influence limited accordingly. Unless Supervisor Hyland takes these steps, the loudest, most persistent, most extreme voices, not the most reasonable, representative voices, will continue to have influence out of proportion to the way it should be.

Enjoy the accompanying photo of the freshwater marsh on the Potomac River at Mason Neck.

**H. Jay Spiegel**  
Mount Vernon

## A River Farm Adventure

To the Editor:

We decided to visit River Farm on a perfect sunny summer day with low humidity and a cooling breeze. River Farm, an entrancing feature of our neighborhood, is nearly unknown to tourists and even to many locals. Originally part of George Washington's property along the Potomac River, it is now home to the American Horticultural Society thanks to a gen-

erous gift from Ms. Enid A. Haupt in 1973.

As we walked from the parking lot, we paused to gather an information sheet from a gaily painted mailbox. A sign welcomes picnickers and we had brought a picnic. Next to the mailbox is a bird sculpture made of bright red, yellow and blue garden tools. Across from the sculpture is the garden shop, open Tuesday through Thursday from 11 until 2. On the bulletin board outside is a display of photographs of volunteers working at River Farm, a subtle invitation to join them. We entered the garden shop and looked around at an attractive collection of books, tools, seeds, stationery, ceramics, all garden-related. A colored glass panel saying "The Earth Laughs in Flowers" caught our notice. We picnicked near the garden shop under a magnolia tree at a round table surrounded by green chairs.

After lunch we proceeded up the driveway toward the house and gardens. We took a brick path into the Garden Calm, where a venerable Osage orange tree shades the garden. It is 200 years old and the largest in the United States. In its shade is a fountain bubbling over a millstone, a soothing sound competing with the whir of an air conditioner.

Hydrangeas and hostas border the way to the children's garden. Some mothers and children were picnicking in the shade, taking a break from playing there, with metal butterflies and wooden structures to climb up on or down into.

Moving on, we passed a statue of Pan playing his pipes and the Green Garage with plants for a roof. Above the ha-ha wall is a sod sofa facing out toward the Potomac. The Andre Bluemel meadow below is filled with native plants, flowers and grasses and a large black walnut tree dating back to George Washington's time.

We walked up to the house and enjoyed the view of the river from rockers on its broad porch. Plein air painters too appreciate River Farm, its gardens and vistas. We have encountered them setting up their easels to capture the

meadow, the black walnut tree, the river beyond, as well as the gardens and the house itself. A large stone patio beside the house was tented, ready of one of many events held there.

Indoors, the living room facing the river featured paintings of magnolias by Salon 8. Elsewhere in the house, the walls were hung with the bounty of summer: paintings of hydrangeas, peppers, fruits, vegetables, berries, and flowers of all sorts, also all by Salon 8. Art shows at River Farm tend naturally to botanicals, still lifes and landscapes.

Back outside, we wound our way around to the west side through the White House gates. They were fabricated about 1819 in New York by Paulus Hoban, an Austrian smith and foundry man. The gates were part of the reconstruction of the White House following the damage done by British forces during the War of 1812. They were removed during a 1937 renovation and were stored and lost at River Farm for 50 years. Now a garden path leads visitors through these ornate iron gates. From there, we walked back to the parking lot to drive home refreshed. River Farm is a favorite place to visit in all seasons.

**Peter and Alison Lattu**

## War Against Women

To the Editor:

And they say there is no war against women! The willingness of Virginia to leave millions of health care funding on the table is one more assault on us.

Most of the 144,000-plus Fairfax residents are poor women and their children. Probably the proportion is the same in Alexandria.

The present state government has repeatedly made it clear that we are as disposable as Kleenex. All women, but especially those who didn't vote in the past, need to go to the polls in November and do a little disposing of our own.

Kudos to [Del.] Scott Surovell for his efforts to protect his constituents.

**Lee Perkins**  
Alexandria NOW



## NEWS

# Allen Address Business Owners

## Chamber hosts small business roundtable.

BY GERALD A. FILL  
THE GAZETTE

**U**.S. Senate candidate George Allen met last week with small business owners and community leaders at the Mount Vernon-Lee Chamber of Commerce Small Business Roundtable.

Allen is the Republican candidate for the U.S. Senate seat being vacated by Sen. James Webb, who is not seeking reelection. He is vying to regain the seat he lost to Webb and is in a closely contested race against the Democratic candidate, former Gov. Timothy Kaine.

Allen told chamber members: "Susan and I and our family live in the Mount Vernon area, and all our children are in or attended Fairfax County Public Schools, so we are acutely aware of the challenges facing small businesses and families in the community. We know that taxes, regulations, fuel prices, congested roads and schools are what families talk most about at their kitchen tables in Fairfax County. ... Small businesses are the key to more jobs in our community, and they should have a government working with them, not against them.

"I am ready to bring to the U.S. Senate my proven record of bipartisan leadership for more fair tax laws, reasonable regulations, productive energy freedom and empowering education policies to help create



PHOTO BY GERALD A. FILL/THE GAZETTE

**U.S. Senate candidate George Allen meets with Mount Vernon-area small business owners at the Mount Vernon-Lee Chamber of Commerce Small Business Roundtable.**

"This was a great opportunity for chamber members to interact with Governor Allen in an intimate setting and share their perspectives on issues affecting their business."

Holly Dougherty, executive director of the chamber, said, "Business owners are very interested in the upcoming 2012 elections and want to meet the candidates and know about their positions on taxes, regulations, and health care. The chamber provides this type of opportunity for its members."

the jobs our communities need."

Barbara Doyle, Chamber president and CEO of Inova Mount Vernon Hospital, said, "This was an excellent opportunity for our chamber members to share their concerns and hear his position on the various issues."

Michael Galillot, Chamber chairman, and Century 21 Realtor, agreed:

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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.

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## HOME SALES

In June 2012, 141 homes sold between \$2,230,000-\$73,000  
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This week's list represents those homes sold in the \$2,230,000-\$525,000 range.  
For the complete list, visit [www.ConnectionNewspapers.com](http://www.ConnectionNewspapers.com)

Address .....	BR .	FB .	HB ...	Postal	City ....	Sold Price ...	Type .....	Lot AC	PostalCode .....	Subdivision
4511 CARLBY LN .....	6	8	2	ALEXANDRIA	.....	\$2,230,000	Detached	2.37	22309	FERRY LANDING
4712 NEPTUNE DR .....	6	4	1	ALEXANDRIA	.....	\$937,500	Detached	0.51	22309	YACHT HAVEN EST
8103 YORKTOWN DR .....	4	3	1	ALEXANDRIA	.....	\$879,000	Detached	0.34	22308	HOLLIN HALL VILLAGE
9423 MOUNT VERNON CIR .....	4	3	1	ALEXANDRIA	.....	\$800,000	Detached	0.42	22309	MT VERNON ON THE POTOMAC
5418 GRIST MILL WOODS WAY .....	4	4	2	ALEXANDRIA	.....	\$800,000	Detached	0.37	22309	GRIST MILL WOODS
7216 LUDWOOD CT .....	5	3	1	ALEXANDRIA	.....	\$799,000	Detached	0.26	22306	POPKINS FARM ESTATES
7019 JUBE CT .....	4	3	1	ALEXANDRIA	.....	\$755,000	Detached	0.27	22307	RANDALL
2301 POPKINS LN .....	5	3	1	ALEXANDRIA	.....	\$739,900	Detached	0.31	22306	POPKINS FARM ESTATES
6906 BAYLOR DR .....	3	3	0	ALEXANDRIA	.....	\$712,000	Detached	0.27	22307	WESTGROVE
6426 PRINCETON DR .....	4	3	0	ALEXANDRIA	.....	\$699,000	Detached	0.21	22307	BELLE HAVEN TERRACE
1912 MARTHAS RD .....	3	2	0	ALEXANDRIA	.....	\$659,900	Detached	0.35	22307	HOLLIN HILLS
7211 MARLAN DR .....	3	2	0	ALEXANDRIA	.....	\$659,000	Detached	0.29	22307	MARLAN FOREST
1900 OLD STAGE RD .....	4	2	1	ALEXANDRIA	.....	\$650,000	Detached	0.26	22308	RIVERSIDE GARDENS
7524 LINDBERG DR .....	5	4	1	ALEXANDRIA	.....	\$640,000	Detached	0.12	22306	GROVE AT HUNTLEY MEADOWS
8210 COLLINGWOOD CT .....	4	2	1	ALEXANDRIA	.....	\$640,000	Detached	0.25	22308	COLLINGWOOD SPRINGS KHOR
4309 SHERIDANS POINT CT .....	4	4	1	ALEXANDRIA	.....	\$640,000	Detached	0.30	22309	UNION FARM
2409 BELLE HAVEN MEADOWS CT ..	4	2	1	ALEXANDRIA	.....	\$637,000	Detached	0.39	22306	BELLE HAVEN MEADOWS
8422 MASTERS CT .....	4	3	0	ALEXANDRIA	.....	\$636,000	Detached	0.25	22308	RIVERSIDE GARDENS
2104 PRICES LN .....	4	2	1	ALEXANDRIA	.....	\$635,000	Detached	0.35	22308	STRATFORD
3120 MCGEORGE TER .....	5	4	0	ALEXANDRIA	.....	\$635,000	Detached	0.25	22309	RIVERSIDE ESTATES
9020 OLD MOUNT VERNON RD .....	6	3	0	ALEXANDRIA	.....	\$630,000	Detached	0.46	22309	WESTGATE
2403 ELBA CT .....	3	2	0	ALEXANDRIA	.....	\$625,000	Detached	0.35	22306	HOLLIN HILLS
7846 SOUTHDOWN RD .....	4	2	1	ALEXANDRIA	.....	\$625,000	Detached	0.24	22308	WELLINGTON
921 DARTON DR .....	4	2	1	ALEXANDRIA	.....	\$619,000	Other	0.38	22308	WAYNEWOOD
8418 STABLE DR .....	4	3	0	ALEXANDRIA	.....	\$615,000	Detached	0.37	22308	RIVERSIDE GARDENS
5502 TEAK CT .....	5	3	1	ALEXANDRIA	.....	\$615,000	Detached	0.24	22309	WOODMILL ESTATES
2202 FORDHAM DR .....	3	2	0	ALEXANDRIA	.....	\$610,000	Detached	0.25	22307	FORDHAM VILLAGE
7581 LINDBERG DR .....	4	2	1	ALEXANDRIA	.....	\$602,000	Detached	0.12	22306	GROVE AT HUNTLEY MEADOWS
7616 MIDDAY LN .....	4	2	1	ALEXANDRIA	.....	\$601,000	Detached	0.35	22306	KIRKSIDE
9104 VOLUNTEER DR .....	3	2	0	ALEXANDRIA	.....	\$595,000	Detached	0.46	22309	WESTGATE
7513 LINDBERG DR .....	4	3	1	ALEXANDRIA	.....	\$594,000	Detached	0.10	22306	GROVE AT HUNTLEY MEADOWS
2495 DAWN DR .....	5	3	1	ALEXANDRIA	.....	\$590,000	Detached	0.22	22306	BELLE HAVEN MEADOWS
8700 PARRY LN .....	4	2	2	ALEXANDRIA	.....	\$589,900	Detached	0.25	22308	STRATFORD ON THE POTOMAC
1008 CROTON DR .....	3	2	0	ALEXANDRIA	.....	\$575,000	Detached	0.25	22308	WAYNEWOOD
9115 MCNAIR DR .....	4	2	1	ALEXANDRIA	.....	\$570,000	Detached	0.50	22309	WOODLAWN MANOR
3105 SPRING DR .....	4	2	1	ALEXANDRIA	.....	\$562,500	Detached	0.27	22306	VALLEY VIEW
2304 LORY CT .....	4	3	0	ALEXANDRIA	.....	\$553,000	Detached	0.64	22306	SHERWOOD HALL
1805 COURTLAND RD .....	4	2	1	ALEXANDRIA	.....	\$550,000	Detached	0.25	22306	HOLLINDALE
6421 15TH ST .....	3	1	2	ALEXANDRIA	.....	\$550,000	Detached	0.46	22307	NEW ALEXANDRIA
8618 BRADGATE RD .....	5	3	0	ALEXANDRIA	.....	\$550,000	Detached	0.26	22308	STRATFORD LANDING
8838 CAMFIELD CT .....	4	3	0	ALEXANDRIA	.....	\$549,000	Detached	0.30	22308	POTOMAC VALLEY
3796 ELMWOOD TOWNE WAY .....	3	3	1	ALEXANDRIA	.....	\$545,000	Townhouse	0.05	22303	ELMWOOD
2413 CAVDENISH DR .....	4	2	0	ALEXANDRIA	.....	\$541,000	Detached	0.24	22308	STRATFORD LANDING
2216 LIDA CT .....	5	3	0	ALEXANDRIA	.....	\$535,000	Detached	0.43	22306	KIRKSIDE
3205 CUNNINGHAM DR .....	4	3	0	ALEXANDRIA	.....	\$535,000	Detached	0.37	22309	WESSYNTON
8415 ALYCE PL .....	4	2	1	ALEXANDRIA	.....	\$532,000	Detached	0.32	22308	COLLINGWOOD ON POTOMAC
7015 COVENTRY RD .....	5	3	0	ALEXANDRIA	.....	\$525,000	Detached	0.37	22306	WHITE OAKS
8105 KANE CT .....	4	2	0	ALEXANDRIA	.....	\$525,000	Detached	0.25	22308	KIRK

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**NEW LISTING**



**Belle Haven** \$695,000  
6011 Grove Drive, Alexandria, VA 22307  
Beautifully renovated 3BR+ 2BA brick cape cod with charm galore! Hdwd fls, fp, sunroom + finished lower lvl. This is your opportunity to live in Belle Haven at an affordable price!  
Donnan C. Wintermute 703-518-6156



**Old Town** \$849,950  
311 Queen Street, Alexandria, VA 22314  
Totally renovated 1880 brick end rowhouse. 3BR 2full BA, enclosed rear garden, basement storage. Sparkling stainless/granite, gleaming wd flrs. On one of the best streets in town!  
Jolee Rubin 703-548-0697



**OPEN SUN 1-4PM**



**4201A Dandridge Terrace, Alexandria, VA 22309** \$925,000  
Great new price for gorgeous 6BR/4.5BA, 5600 sq. ft. home. Custom built in 2007, superior craftsmanship thru-out, 2 car garage, top shelf fixtures, chef's kitchen, open floor plan  
Lyssa Seward 703-298-0562



**Oakcrest** \$595,000  
1703 Dogwood Drive, Alexandria, VA 22302  
Conveniently located to 395 & downtown Shirlington, spacious 3 level in city home, 1 car garage, amazing 2 level deck/patio perfect for entertaining. [www.sherryork.com](http://www.sherryork.com)  
Sherry York 703.625.3377



**Wilton Woods** \$750,000  
6104 Beech Tree Drive, Alexandria, VA 22310  
New Central A/C just installed! Charming country house on half-acre lot, 4BR/2.5BA, 2-car garage. Photos at [www.RitaRealtor.com](http://www.RitaRealtor.com)  
Rita McCauley-Redmond 703.447.9114



**Bucknell Manor** \$412,000  
6905 Quander Road, Alexandria, VA 22307  
Charming 3BR/2BA home w/deck overlooking parkland. Sun-filled living room, hardwoods, main level master, FR/DR addition, garage, 2BR up w/ hardwoods and dormer windows.  
Cathy D'Antuono 703-819-3077



**UNDER CONTRACT**



**Mt Daniel** \$699,500  
6720 Walnut Street, Falls Church, VA 22046  
Beautifully Maintained 4LVL, 3BR, 3BA, brick home w/2 FPS, hrdwd flrs, formal DR, screened porch, vintage 50'S kit, gar. Lrg prvt lot. Mins to all major routes & WFC metro.  
Edward Pagett 703-518-6161



**NEW LISTING**



**The Manors At Stonegate** \$354,000  
4673 Longstreet Lane 104, Alexandria, VA 22311  
Unique Contemp Split, 2BR, 2BA, 2 lvl condo w/gas FP, hrdwd entry foyer, lrg MBR w/walk-in closet, private balcony off din area, in much sought after close-in, Manors at Stonegate.  
Edward Pagett 703-518-6161



**UNDER CONTRACT**



**Sulgrave Village** \$1,050,000  
1912 Prices Lane, Alexandria, VA 22308  
Built-in generator! No need to worry about power outages! 4BR, 4.5BA, 3 LVL, 3car gar, 9' ceilings, Gourmet Kit, 61" TV & Sound System, brk circular drive. \$150K price reduction.  
Edward Pagett 703-518-6161



**OPEN SUN 1-4PM**



**Cameron Station** \$1,099,000  
353 Cameron Station Boulevard, Alexandria, VA 22304  
Stately 4 level/4BR/4.5BA Carlyle SFH w/ 4500+SqFt features exquisite; homeowner's dream floorplans; lots of room for entertainment & comfortable living. [www.353CameronStation.com](http://www.353CameronStation.com)  
Chris Upham 202-359-1308



**OPEN SUN 1-4PM**



**Eddington Terrace** \$1,125,000  
2917 Eddington Terrace, Alexandria, VA 22302  
New price! Beautiful, light-filled 5BR/3.5BA/3FP Colonial in priv enclave. Elegant details thruout 3 lvls w/ recent imprvmnts. MBR Suite & Lux Bath. Gar & DW. [www.2917Eddington.com](http://www.2917Eddington.com)  
Chris Upham 202-359-1308



**OPEN SUN 1-4PM**



**Historic Old Town** \$1,875,000  
608 Oronoco Street, Alexandria, VA 22314  
Located across from Lee's boyhood home, exquisite 3,000+ sqft, 4BR, 4.5BA. Landscaped backyard retreat, garage & 4+ car pkg. Spectacular addition, kit renovation & MBR Suite.  
Chris Upham 202-359-1308



## Old Town Alexandria

310 King Street | Alexandria, VA 22314 | 703.518.8300

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## OLD TOWN HISTORIC DISTRICT OFFICE



# ALEXANDRIA

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Managing Broker  
Bill Jourdan



**2406 Wittington Blvd**  
\$625,000  
**Updated Charming Colonial!**  
The home you have been waiting for! Classic 3 level Colonial in prime Stratford Landing location. Numerous features include: updated gourmet kitchen, 4 large BRs, "Andersen" thermal windows, updated baths, screened porch and side load 2 car garage. Walk to neighborhood pool! Unique opportunity! OPEN SUN 7/29, 1-4! GW Pky S; R-Stratford; L-Camden; L-Stockton Pky; R-Wittington.



**2011 Rampart Dr**  
\$665,000  
**Prime Location!**  
Five level split at bargain price! One of Collingwood Springs largest and most popular models! Bright & open floor plan, gorgeous hardwood floors, 5BR including MBR suite with private bath, new designer kitchen. Prime location on gorgeous fenced lot with easy walk to nearby highly rated Stratford Landing and Carl Sandburg Schools. OPEN SUN 7/29, 1-4! GW Pky S; R-Collingwood; L-Riverside; L-Rampart.



**4720 Neptune Dr**  
\$1,295,000  
**Waterfront-Private Dock!**  
Unique waterfront opportunity! Stunning custom home designed to capitalize on gorgeous 1/2 acre setting. Dramatic open interior with floor to ceiling glass walls bring water views to every major room of house. Features include: upgraded gourmet kitchen, water view master suite, two car garage, large exterior deck overlooks private waterfront paradise. Super value!



**\$ 650,000**  
**Dunn Loring**  
**"ELEGANT"**  
End unit Colonial TH w/2 car garage beautifully maintained & upgraded. Open floor plan incl LR, sep DR & gourmet kit w/brkfst rm. Spacious master w/new luxury BA w/over-sized Jacuzzi tub, sep glass shower & skylight. LL rec rm has w/out to priv & beautifully landscaped brick patio. Close to commuter rtes & Tysons.

Gary Ansley 202.288.7946



**\$ 950,000**  
**Wilton Woods**  
**"RARE OFFER"**  
Stately brick mansion-over 5,800 square feet on over an acre of land in close-in Wilton Woods. Wooded lot, 5+ bedrooms, 5.5 baths, sport court, 4 fireplaces, lots of amenities. Short sale. For information about this property contact...

Bonnie.clark@longandfoster.com  
Bonnie Clark 703.725.9449



**\$ 559,000**  
**Arlington / Balston**  
**"VIEWS GALORE"**  
Reside in a signature address w/fantastic views of Arlington/DC from bedroom, LR & balcony! All upgraded, gourmet kit w/high-end SSA, hwdws, new carpet, granite countertops, Italian cabinetry, Elfa closets, 2 indoor garage spaces. Building has roof-top pool & gym, 24hr front desk, Metro, shops & eateries.

Randy Bender 703.906.1749



**9516 Ferry Harbour Ct**  
\$650,000  
**Unique Opportunity!**  
Estate sale of home in prime location on quiet cul-de-sac adjoining multi-million dollar river front estate. Home was custom built. Many features include: expansive main level master suite, large room sizes, 4BRs, fin LL, 3.5 baths, and kitchen-family room combo. Extensive use of windows and glass doors capitalizes on natural beauty. Price provides entry level opportunity to premier community and the ability to customize to suite your taste!



**7913 Candlewood Dr**  
\$529,850  
**Expanded Home!**  
**Backs to Park!**  
Super Value! Fabulous expanded home at a remarkably reasonable price! Special features include: 5BR, spacious eat-in kitchen, hardwood floors, and 2 fireplaces. Stunning glass-walled addition and custom screened porch overlook wooded park. Prime location just minutes from Old Town on gorgeous lot bordering acres of county parkland.



**8313 Mt. Vernon Hwy**  
\$775,000  
**New Home-Under Construction!**  
Brand new home opportunity in prime Mt. Vernon location by Wakefield Homes. Custom building with many modern amenities and upgrades. Features include: expanded master bedroom suite, front porch, gourmet kitchen, high ceilings, 2 car garage. Buy during construction and personalize the interior to suit your taste. Fabulous new home amenities combined with convenience of a prime Mt. Vernon location.



**OPEN SUNDAY 1-4!**  
**\$ 349,900**  
**Alex / Cameron Knolls**  
**81 FENDALL AVE**  
• 1,700sqft of living space  
• 2 spacious BR/2.5BA  
• Hardwoods on main level  
• Finished bsmt w/rec rm, den, laundry & storage  
• 2 fireplaces / Custom deck & covered patio  
• 1 assigned parking

Martine Imer & Alexander Imer  
703.346.7283 or 703.403.2465



**OPEN SUNDAY 1-4!**  
**\$ 660,000**  
**Stratford on the Potomac**  
**8424 PORTER LN**  
Renovated 3-lvl Gramercy model - 5/6BR, 4BA, carport - refin HW - country kit w/new SSA, granite - freshly painted thru-out - 2 FP - lg walkout family/rec rm/library w/new carpet - sep rm for hobbies/exer/BR - BAs renovated. 1g deck across back - bird/wildlife sanctuary - private & serene.

Franki Roberts 703.898.0840



**\$ 340,000**  
**Alexandria / Montebello**  
**"GREAT VIEWS - BIG SPACE"**  
This H unit is ready for its new owner. Bring your decorating skills and enjoy making it your own. 2BR/2BA, den with built-ins, garage parking. Enclosed balcony opens to both bedrooms & living room.

Katherine Ward 703.627.8782  
Stephen Kindrick 703.518.8709



**4003 Belle Rive Ter**  
\$1,600,000  
**River Front Opportunity!**  
Owner wants immediate sale and has priced home accordingly. Previously listed at almost \$2 million! Spacious custom home designed to capitalize on breathtaking river views from every corner of the home. Open floor plan with app. 11,000 sq ft of luxury. Extensive balconies, patio & roof deck embrace the majestic setting of this elevated lot overlooking the Potomac River! OFFERS INVITED!



**9313 Heather Glen Dr**  
\$599,500  
**Gorgeous Home!**  
Updated with top quality materials and craftsmanship-\$160K in updates and renovations! Exceptionally bright, open, floor plan, spacious family room off kitchen, gorgeous hardwood floors, Pella replacement windows, expanded master & large deck overlooks fenced rear yard. Best commute in the DC area!



**9403 Ferry Landing Ct**  
\$735,000  
**Large Colonial-Custom Pool!!!**  
Fabulous Colonia in prime location on one of area's most attractive streets. Home features unique courtyard effect with "L" shaped two car garage. Exceptionally well maintained home with bright floor plan and spacious rooms. Open kit and family room. Gorgeous professionally manicured half acre grounds with custom pool.



**\$ 679,000**  
**Hollin Hills**  
**"BUTTERFLY HOUSE"**  
Charles Goodwin design sited beautifully on an elevated lot offering sweeping views of woods. Complete kit renovation opens to FR w/brick frpl, 3 full updated BA, huge UL LR w/ frpl, large windows, 2 patios perfect for outdoor entertaining. 3BR.

Virtual Tour: www.bobsinnerhomes.org  
Bob Skinner 703.585.6683



**\$ 544,900**  
**Alex / Mt Vernon**  
**"SO MUCH HOUSE FOR THE MONEY"**  
This new listing has it all. Convenience of Mount Vernon location, choice quiet neighborhood, almost half-acre corner lot, circular driveway, stately, spacious home w/5BRs & 3BAs, low low price, ability to add your own touches. For showing, call...

reneesellsalexandria.com  
Renee Reymond 703.507.5330



**\$ 874,900**  
**Alex/Mt Vernon**  
**"WYCLIFFE"**  
This fine residence is beautifully executed with quality moldings, handsome built-ins, wood floors, 3 fireplaces & light-filled rooms. A MBR w/ sitting rm & 3 additional BRs. LL offers rec room, BR + full BA w/patio to private landscaped yard. Swim/Tennis Club membership conveys to new buyer!

www.marylousage.com  
Mary Lou Sage 703.851.5441



**4118 Robertson Blvd**  
\$575,000  
**Three Level Colonial!**  
**Reasonable Price!**  
Classic four bedroom Colonial in prime Mt. Vernon location. Numerous features include updated kitchen with stainless appliances, light wood cabinets and gas cooking. Family room with FP and built-ins off kitchen. Hardwood floors on two levels. 3.5 baths. Garage parking and large deck overlooking level grounds. Price reflects need for a little TLC. Super value!



**9319 Fairfax St**  
**\$589,900**  
**Unique Opportunity!**  
Classic 4-5BR Colonial in prime location on quiet cul-de-sac. Remarkably reasonable price! This beautifully



**9405 Ludgwick Dr**  
**\$1,890,000**  
**Magnificent colonial custom designed**  
t o capitalize on views from elevated site overlooking river. Home has approx 10,000



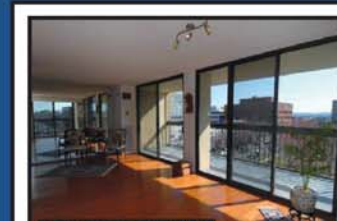
**\$ 950,000**  
**Alex / Mt Vernon**  
**"ELEGANT"**  
This gracious all brick 4BR/4.5BA Colonial has a wonderful veranda w/ view of the Potomac River & professional landscaped gardens. 2-story foyer, updated kitchen & BAs, library plus 3 finished levels above ground.

www.marylousage.com  
Mary Lou Sage 703.851.5441



**\$ 425,000**  
**Montebello**  
**"J UNIT"**  
Summer trees & winter river views from the enclosed balcony of this beautiful & spacious 3BR/2BA unit. Light bright kit w/front load W/D. Lge Master w/2nd enclosed balcony. Hardwoods thru-out. 1 gar prkg + storage. Resort living w/Montebello's amenities.

www.susanmovesyou.com  
susanells@longandfoster.com  
Mindy Brubaker 571.242.9913



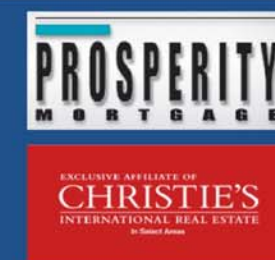
**OPEN SUNDAY 1-4!**  
**\$ 499,999**  
**OT/Alex. House**  
**400 MADISON ST**  
**#409**  
Huge price reduction! Preferred SE corner unit - elegant 2BR w/wall of windows, open spacious flrpl, wood flrs, huge balc, updated kit/BA.

Pat Tierney 703.850.5630  
Mary Taylor 703.785.5619



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www.OldTownAlexandria.com





# ENTERTAINMENT

## AIDS Memorial Quilt Exhibition at Torpedo Factory

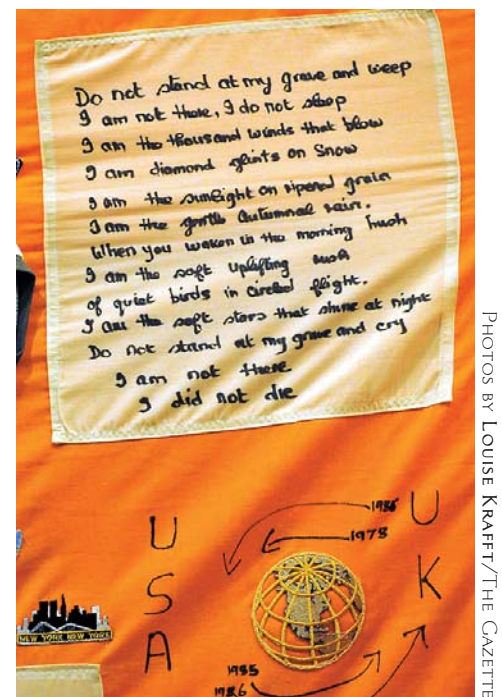
**T**wenty-five years in the making, the AIDS Memorial Quilt is the largest community art project in the world. On July 20, select panels were displayed in the main hall and back dock of the Torpedo Factory. The quilt marks 30 years of AIDS.

The exhibit was open to the public from the July 20-25. Sections of the Quilt were also displayed on the National Mall and in approximately 40 other venues in the area.

**Kevin Nance pauses at the panel for Max Robinson (May 1, 1939 – Dec. 20, 1988). Robinson was the first African-American broadcast news anchor in the United States. He was co-anchor of ABC News World News Tonight.**



Tom Suydam of the Alexandria Commission on HIV/AIDS ponders the life and death represented in the panels of the special exhibit July 20.



PHOTOS BY LOUISE KRAFT/THE GAZETTE

Details from a selection of panels of the AIDS Memorial Quilt on display at the Torpedo Factory.

### CALENDAR

E-mail announcements to [gazette@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:gazette@connectionnewspapers.com). Photos and artwork are encouraged. Deadline is Thursday at noon.

#### THURSDAY/JULY 26

**Story Time.** 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.

**Music At Twilight Concert-John Carlyle Square Park.** 7:30-8:30 p.m. New Location. Musical performance by the Alexandria Harmonizers, featuring men's barbershop. John Carlyle Park, 300 John Carlyle St. Call 703-746-5418

**Discussion Group.** Ellen Coolidge Burke Branch Library, 4701 Seminary Road. 7 p.m. Discussing stories from

the book *Other Voices, Other Vistas* edited by Barbara Solomon. Call the adult services/reference desk, 703-746-1704 for stories.

**SummerQuest Oh Susannah Concert.** Kate Waller Barrett Branch Library, 717 Queen Street. 3:30 p.m. Ages 2 and up. 703-746-1708.

#### FRIDAY/JULY 27

**Swing Music.** The ATOMIC Swing Club delivers a high energy program of vintage swing, jump blues, big band and rockabilly swing. 7:30 p.m. Mt. Vernon Nights at Grist Mill Park. 4710 Mt. Vernon Memorial Highway. Visit <http://www.kennedy-center.org/explorer/artists/>.

**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!! You are

invited to 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

#### SATURDAY/JULY 28

**Benefit.** Gold's Gym will host a Help the Homeless (HTH) event to benefit New Hope Housing. 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.). 7770 Richmond Highway (Route 1). 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](mailto:mjannazo@newhopehousing.org).

#### THROUGH JULY 29

**Solo Exhibition.** The Torpedo Factory Art Center's Target Gallery presents Masks, which features paintings and sketches by Susan Makara, winner of the Friends of the Torpedo Factory Art Center's annual Artist of the Year award.

**"Spice it Up!"** At the Torpedo Factory's Scope Gallery featuring experimental ceramic art, vibrant glazes and whimsical forms for all things saucy and spicy. Monday through Sunday from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., Thursdays until 9 p.m. The gallery is located at 105 North Union Street, ground floor Studio 19, Alexandria, VA. 22314. Call Scope Gallery at 703-548-6288 or visit [www.torpedofactory.org/galleries/scope](http://www.torpedofactory.org/galleries/scope).

**Peace Paper Project - Workshop &**

**Exhibition.** Participants 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. Visit [www.torpedofactory.org/galleries/APS/PeacePaper.htm](http://www.torpedofactory.org/galleries/APS/PeacePaper.htm).

**Musical.** Encore Stage & Studio presents The Pirates of Penzance at Thomas Jefferson Community Theater. Visit [www.encorestage.org](http://www.encorestage.org).

#### SUNDAY/JULY 29

**Washington Metropolitan Philharmonic Association 2012 (22nd) Annual Chamber**

SEE CALENDAR, PAGE 15



# ENTERTAINMENT

## Tail-wagging Treasures Come to the Torpedo Factory

For those who give a whisker about all things furry, clay artists have dedicated handmade wares to the animal kingdom at the Torpedo Factory Art Center.

Through Aug. 26, Scope Gallery features Kiln Club's "Ode to Animals," a show featuring fuzz-friendly statuettes, chow crocks, water dishes and more. Potters welcome all friends feathery, wooly, wild, domestic and doggy, elevating them to high, functional art.

Artisan piggy banks, handpainted hen tableware and kitty dishes have come out of Kiln Club workshops. Potters have created ceramic birdhouses with natural construction and an organic bamboo front perch. For those who like the wild side, adopt a wolf plate, moose vase or fish platter. Other pieces of functional art include a squirrel food dish or a rabbit appetizer tray, teapot or statuette. Embrace insects with dragonfly and butterfly plates and cups.

Whether it be for birds or bees, Scope Gallery's high-fire tableware is food-safe and can be used in the microwave, dishwasher and oven.

"Ode to Animals," runs from July 30 to Aug. 26. Scope Gallery hours are Monday through Sunday from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., Thursdays until 9 p.m. The gallery is located at 105 North Union Street, ground floor Studio 19. Call the Scope Gallery at 703-548-



**Sculpted piggy bank by Thien Nguyen of Alexandria.**

6288, visit [www.torpedofactory.org/galleries/scope.htm](http://www.torpedofactory.org/galleries/scope.htm).

Kiln Club is an organization of more than 90 Washington, D.C. area artists working in the clay medium. Juried members exhibit themed shows every other month at the cooperative artist-run Scope Gallery in Alexandria's Torpedo Factory Art Center. Visit [www.kilnclubwdc.com](http://www.kilnclubwdc.com)



**Stone-ware handpainted siamese cat tea cups by Tracie Griffith Tso of Reston.**

## CALENDAR

FROM PAGE 14

**Music Series.** 3p.m. An instrumental master class. Details to be announced at [www.wmpamusic.org](http://www.wmpamusic.org). The Lyceum, 201 S. Washington St., Alexandria. Visit [www.wmpamusic.org](http://www.wmpamusic.org), email [wmpa@earthlink.net](mailto:wmpa@earthlink.net) or call 703-799-8229.

**Rug Event Preview.** 6:30-7:30 p.m. People interested in fair trade rugs can get a sneak peek of Ten Thousand Villages' September 4-day rug sale. Guests can sample fair trade wines and artisanal cheeses as they view samples of the rugs coming in September, learn about the different types of oriental rugs, how they are made, how fair trade rugs differ from other rugs, and what to consider when choosing a rug. Free, but reservations strongly advised. 915 King Street, Alexandria. Call 703-684-1435.

### MONDAY/JULY 30

**SummerQuest Carolyn Christensen Theater Games and Activities.** James M. Duncan, Jr. Branch Library, 2501 Commonwealth Avenue. Monday, July 30 at 3:30 p.m., ages 6-9. At 4:30 ages 10-12. 703-746-1705.

**SummerQuest Green Craft Night.** Ellen Coolidge Burke Branch Library, 4701 Seminary Road. Monday, July 30 at 7 p.m., ages 9-17. 703-746-1704.

**Little One-ers.** 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



**The Torpedo Factory Art Center's Target Gallery presents Masks, a solo exhibit featuring paintings and sketches by Susan Makara, through July 29.**

required: call 703-746-1702x5 or visit children's desk.

### THROUGH JULY 31

**Where's Waldo Scavenger Hunt** presented by Hooray for Books! Children's Bookstore. Look in many business across Old Town, Alexandria to find Waldo. All ages welcome. Free.

### TUESDAY/JULY 31

**Time for 2's.** Charles E. Beatley, Jr. Central Library, 5005 Duke Street. 10:30 a.m., ages 24-36 mos. with an adult. Sign-up required: call 703-746-1702x5 or visit children's desk.

**Baby Rhyme Time.** Charles E. Beatley, Jr. Central Library, 5005 Duke Street. 11:30 a.m., for ages 0 to 11 months, with an adult. Sign-up required: call 703-746-1702x5 or

visit children's desk.

**Theater Night Fundraiser.** 7 p.m. Local cat orphanage King Street Cats will host its 6th annual Theater Night at the Little Theatre of Alexandria, featuring "Sweeney Todd," and an evening of theater, hors d'oeuvres, and a silent auction. Tickets for the event are \$40 in advance or \$50 at the door (if available). All ticket purchases and donations are tax deductible. Visit [www.kingstreetcats.org](http://www.kingstreetcats.org).

**All Wheel Jive at The Carlyle Club.** 9-11 p.m.

Blues and blues-flavored vocals, guitar and harmonica, as well as the addition of Aussie Angus Mackay on standup bass to bring a hint of Rockabilly and Rock and Roll. Admission is \$10. 411 John Carlyle Street.

**SummerQuest Jr. C Shells Musical Duo.** James M. Duncan, Jr. Branch Library, 2501 Commonwealth Avenue. 10 or 11 a.m., ages 0-5. 703-746-1705.

### THROUGH JULY 31

**Scavenger Hunt.** Kate Waller Barrett Branch Library, 717 Queen Street. Sunday July 1 - July 31 Can you solve the clues? Pick up a copy of the Scavenger Hunt at Barrett Branch Library, correctly solve the puzzles, and return it by July 31st to be

SEE CALENDAR, PAGE 17



## Put Us to The Test

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- ♥ Service
- ♥ Price

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

# Thanks

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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of Northern Virginia  
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7770 Richmond Hwy

CHANTILLY  
703-953-3747  
4262 Entre Court

[restorenova.org](http://restorenova.org)  
[habitatnova.org](http://habitatnova.org)



## ENTERTAINMENT

# Summer Camp Fun at Little Theatre of Alexandria

The Little Theatre of Alexandria presented a Shakespeare workshop, the week of July 16-20, as part of their ongoing summer programs for children. The workshop was directed by Mount Vernon resident Heather Sanderson. According to LTA's website, Sanderson studied at the Royal Academy of Dramatic Arts in London, England and "is known locally for instilling a love of Shakespeare into the hearts of children."

The workshop revolved around William Shakespeare's Macbeth. Friday morning the fifth through eighth graders wrote and presented a local news update on the Scottish King Duncan's murder at the castle. Cassie Cope and Danielle Murphy anchored the show as local reporter Siobhan Thompson interviewed villagers and guests at the castle. Lydia Greenwood as Willow Weather To Be gave the local weather reports and Okan Sinirlioglu brought in a sports report.

For more information on classes, visit [www.thelittletheatre.com](http://www.thelittletheatre.com)

— LOUISE KRAFFT



Heather Sanderson with her workshop students: Lydia Greenwood, Okan Sinirlioglu, Camila Cardwell, Sydney Turbeville, Molly Schulwolf, Siobhan Thompson, Grace Fredericks, Stephanie Celest, Cassie Cope and Danielle Murphy.



Lady Macbeth (Camila Cardwell) waits to be interviewed by the reporter.



Ross, a visiting Lord, talks candidly to the reporter.



The doctor (Molly Schulwolf) explains losing eyeglasses and not seeing much at the crime scene.



Weather reporter Willow Weather To Be (Lydia Greenwood).



News reporter Siobhan Thompson interviews Banquo (Stephanie Celest).



TV anchors Cassie Cope and Danielle Murphy.

PHOTOS BY LOUISE KRAFFT/THE GAZETTE

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# ENTERTAINMENT

## Art Project Coming To a Door Near You?

Alexandria artist, Linda Hesh, is hanging 3,000 white paper doorknob hangers on homes and businesses in the Del Ray and Potomac West areas of Alexandria. On several days leading up to Aug. 2, 2012, Hesh will have a crew of art enthusiasts help her to install her artwork titled "Art is..." The doorknob hangers might at first glance seem like your typical advertising vehicle promoting a restaurant or dry cleaner, but each piece of 4.25"x 11" piece of white card stock will display one of four short poetic phrases: Art is to See; Art is to Feel; Art is to Do; or Art is to Know.

The bold, black type is large enough that you can read the words from across the street, making each home one part of a 3,000 house installation. It's an artwork constructed of many small pieces that add up in size to an area of more than 100 blocks.

Anyone who finds one of Hesh's small artworks on their door is invited to photograph it where they like and upload the image to an online website maintained by the Alexandria Commission for the Arts. The back

of the doorknob hanger will contain a website address and QR code to encourage people to make Hesh's art into their own work of art.

This temporary interactive public art project is sponsored by the Alexandria Commission for the Arts. The installation is timed to coincide with the Aug. 2 "First Thursday" evening event held in the business district of Del Ray. The theme of the night will be art and fashion.

Linda Hesh lives and maintains a studio in Alexandria. Her artwork is in collections including the National Museum of Women in the Arts, the Los Angeles County Museum of Art and the Library of Congress. Last year she received an award in Recognition for Community Engagement in Public Art from the Americans for the Art for a similar project of doorknob hangers. Her upcoming projects include traveling to St. Petersburg, Russia to participate in a temporary public art festival.



## CALENDAR

FROM PAGE 14

entered in a prize drawing. Call 703-746-1714 or email [hmartyn@alexandria.lib.va.us](mailto:hmartyn@alexandria.lib.va.us).

### WEDNESDAY/AUG. 1

**"The Postman Always Rings Twice"** with Lana Turner and John Garfield. 7 p.m. Free. Part of the monthly Film Noir Series at Duncan Library, 2501 Commonwealth Ave., in Del Ray. After the movie, viewers are invited to discuss the film at St. Elmo's Coffee Pub at 2300 Mt. Vernon Ave., Alexandria. Call 703-746-1705.

**DJ Dance Party with TK the DJ.** The event is from 9-11 p.m. at Nick's Nightclub and costs \$6. The nightclub is located at 642 South Pickett St.

### THURSDAY/AUG. 2

**Music At Twilight Concert-John Carlyle Square Park.** 7:30-8:30 p.m. Musical performance by The Hot Society Orchestra of Washington, featuring 1920s-1940s Jazz. John Carlyle Park, 300 John Carlyle St. Call 703-746-5418.

### AUG. 3 THROUGH SEPT. 2

**Boarderlines.** Thursday-Sunday. Free. This exhibit is an individual and group journey across "boarders" and features a silent auction, 2-D and 3-D gallery artwork, and take-away art. At the Nicholas A. Colasanto Center,

## The Four Mile Run Farmers & Artisans Market Seeks Performers

The Office of the Arts, in partnership with the Alexandria Commission for the Arts, is inviting performing artists to participate in the "Call for performing artists." Artists selected will have an opportunity to perform at the Four Mile Run Farmers & Artisans Market held on Sundays from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. through October.

Family-friendly entertainment is appreciated. Artists must be self-contained and provide their own microphones, sound equipment, chairs, tents, etc. Parking is available.

The Four Mile Run Farmers & Artisans Market is located near the Four Mile Run on Mt. Vernon Avenue in the Arlandria neighborhood of Alexandria near the border with Arlington. Visit [www.4mrmarket.org](http://www.4mrmarket.org) or [www.alexandriava.gov/arts](http://www.alexandriava.gov/arts), or call the Office of the Arts at 703-746-5588.

2704 Mount Vernon Avenue. Visit [www.theDelReyArtisans.org](http://www.theDelReyArtisans.org).

### FRIDAY/AUG. 3

**Concert By The U. S. Navy Band Sea Chanters.** noon - 1:15 p.m. The U. S. Navy Band "Sea Chanters" chorus is the official chorus of the United States Navy. The ensemble performs a variety of music ranging from traditional choral music, including the sea chantey, to Broadway musicals. Market Square, 301 King St. Call 703-746-5420 or email [maureen.sturgill@alexandriava.gov](mailto:maureen.sturgill@alexandriava.gov).

### 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.

**Open House.** 6:30-9:30 p.m. The Gentleman Distiller: Dinner and Whiskey Tasting event begins with a reception at the Distillery & Gristmill, and continues at the Estate with a brief lecture by Mount Vernon's resident whiskey expert, Dr. Dennis Pogue, followed by a whiskey tasting and seated dinner at the Mount Vernon Inn. Tickets are \$150 per person, including tax and gratuity. Visit [MountVernon.org](http://MountVernon.org).

### SUNDAY/AUG. 5

**Health Fair.** 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Health screenings, cooking demonstrations, health food vendors, fitness demonstrations, seminars, holistic practitioners, and activities for everyone. At the Community Praise Center SDA Church, 1400 Russell Road.

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**Riverside Gardens' Tsunami swim team became NVSL Division Six champions on July 21.**

## Tsunami Earns Division Championship

Despite a persistent rainfall and a near 30-degree drop in temperature Saturday morning July 21, Riverside Gardens' Tsunami swim team defeated the host team from High Point Pool by a score of 269-151. With the win, Riverside Gardens became NVSL Division Six champions. The Tsunamis ended the season undefeated: 5-0. On July 11, the team also became co-champions in the Division 6 relay carnival.

In the final dual meet on Saturday, six Tsunami swimmers took first place in two separate events.

Shannon Artman, 8, finished first with a time of 19.87 seconds in the 8&under girls' 25-meter freestyle and 26.79 in the 8&under girls' 25-meter backstroke.

Elizabeth Dexter, 14, finished first with a time of 31.94 seconds in the 13-14 girls' 50-meter freestyle and 39.45 in the 13-14 girls' 50-meter backstroke.

Jack Garland, 10, finished first with a time of 36.06 seconds in the 9-10 boys' 50-meter freestyle and 18.25 in the 9-10 boys' 25-meter butterfly.

Gloriya Mavrova, 16, finished first with a time of 39.94 seconds in the 15-18 girls' 50-meter breaststroke and 29.57 in the 15-18 girls' 50-meter freestyle.

Carolyn Murphy, 16, finished first in the 15-18 girls' backstroke with a time of 34.50, and 34.62 in the 15-18 girls' 50-meter butterfly.

Graduating senior Sean Sullivan, 18, capped a perfect season in which he won every individual event he swam, finishing first with a time of 25.43 seconds in the 15-18 boys' 50-meter freestyle and 28.07 in the

15-18 boys' 50-meter butterfly.

Other individual winners for Riverside Gardens included Jack Lohrer (8&under boys' freestyle), Dax Campbell (8&under boys' backstroke), Michael Ghattas (9-10 boys' backstroke), Morgan Long (9-10 girls' backstroke), Johnathan Letai (11-12 boys' backstroke), Marley Gilliam (11-12 girls' backstroke), Patrick Murphy (15-18 boys' backstroke), Sean Finn (8&under boys' breaststroke), Anne Feighery (8&under girls' breaststroke), Teddy Feighery (9-10 boys' breaststroke), Olivia Scheidt (11-12 girls' breaststroke), Paul Dubois (13-14 boys' breaststroke), Michael Ryan Clark (15-18 boys' breaststroke), and Kelsey Anderson (13-14 girls' butterfly). Riverside Gardens won nine out of the 12 relays competed on Saturday.

On their way to their Division 6 championship, the Tsunami have seen five team records broken this season. Teddy Feighery set a new team record of 44.49 in the 9-10 boys' breaststroke. At the All-Star Relay carnival on July 18, the team of Patrick Murphy, Michael Ryan Clark, Sean Sullivan, and Kevin Grant set a new team record of 1:53.32 in the 15-18 boys' 200 meter medley relay, and a team record of 1:40.32 in the 200 meter freestyle relay. Carolyn Murphy, Gabrielle Bomberg, Gloriya Mavrova, and Melanie Bomberg set two team records of their own this season, with a time of 2:13.54 in the 15-18 girls' 200 meter medley relay, and a time of 1:57.28 in the 200 meter freestyle relay.

On Saturday, July 28, Riverside Gardens swimmers will go to Mantua to compete at the individual divisional championships.

## SCHOOL NOTES

Email announcements to [gazette@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:gazette@connectionnewspapers.com). Deadline is Thursday at noon. Photos are welcome.

The following students attending Hampden-Sydney College were named to the Dean's List for the Spring semester of the 2011-2012 academic year:

❖ **Nicholas Lawrence Leggieri** is a graduate of West Potomac High School and is the son of Carl and Charlene Leggieri of Alexandria.

❖ **Kevin Komson Sidney** is a graduate of West Potomac High School and is the son of Mr.

and Mrs. Louis E. Sidney of Alexandria.

**Erin Kleiber** is one of more than 65 orientation leaders selected to welcome incoming freshmen to the University of Dallas before the fall semester begins. These upperclassmen will start arriving on campus as early as Aug. 21, 2012.

Restaurant Association Metropolitan Washington announced recipients of the 2012 Educated Eats Scholarship Awards. **Abby Kitchen**, a 2012 graduate of Mount Vernon HS, will be attending the Culinary Institute of America, Hyde Park, NY.

**Obituary**

**Marion Saunders Montgomery** passed away on July 10, 2012, at The Johnson Center at Falcons Landing, in Potomac Falls, VA. She was born on October 1, 1922, in Norfolk, VA, of Newfoundlander parents. She graduated from Sweet Briar College with a degree in Psychology in 1944, and worked for the Department of the Navy during WWII. Her love of art led to further study at the University of Florida, the Corcoran College of Art and Design, and The Art League School.

As President of The Art League in Alexandria, Virginia, she helped start the Torpedo Factory Art Center and was one of the "Dirty Dozen" artist founders who reclaimed the building. She was active in garden clubs in Norfolk, VA, Annapolis, MD, Charleston, SC, and Alexandria, VA, and gave generously of her time to volunteer work, particularly for the Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society and the Smithsonian Institution.

Marion is predeceased by her husband, Capt. William M. Montgomery, USN (Ret.), and is survived by her son, William M. Montgomery, Jr. and wife Patricia M. Montgomery of Fairfax, VA; granddaughter, Jacqueline M. Montgomery of Fairfax, VA; her daughter, Marion M. "Marnie" Montgomery and husband David L. Barton of Leesburg, VA.

A memorial service will be held at 2:30 p.m., Tuesday, July 31, at Falcons Landing Chapel, 20522 Falcons Landing Circle, Potomac Falls, VA 20165. Inurnment will take place 2:00 p.m. Tuesday, August 28, at the U.S. Naval Academy Columbarium in Annapolis.

Memorial contributions in her name may be made to The Art League, 105 North Union Street, Alexandria, VA 22314; Falcons Landing Benevolent Fund, 20522 Falcons Landing Circle, Potomac Falls, VA 20165; or Sweet Briar College, Development Office, P.O. Box 1057, Sweet Briar, VA 24595. Condolences may be left at [www.adamsgreen.com](http://www.adamsgreen.com)



**Clifford L. Freeman**, age 89, a Retired Navy Chief, who had a second career with the Naval Air Systems Command, died at home in Alexandria, Virginia from Parkinson's Disease complications on June 30, 2012.

Chief Freeman served on active duty in the South Pacific during World War II, served in the Korean War, and in the Ready Reserves during the Vietnam War. Educated by the Navy, Cliff Freeman became an Electronic Engineer, licensed by the University of Maryland. He had several patents in his name and was involved in the development, deployment, and operation of the E2C plane's avionics.

He was an avid golfer, with a Hole In One at Belle Haven Country Club, which much to his chagrin didn't count as it happened in the off-season. He served on the Belle Haven Country Club Executive Board, was a member of St. James' Episcopal Church, a Mason, Scottish Rite, and Shriner. He was an Episcopal lay-preacher, lay-reader and vestry member. He also belonged to the Association of Scientists and Engineers. Cliff was a magician with membership in the Society of Magicians.

Cliff was a gifted needlepoint artist and made 29 tapestries for his children and 12 grand-children.

While living in Maryland, he and his wife, Muriel, were the recipients of the State of Maryland's Governor's Award for their Outstanding Service to the Children of Maryland.

He is preceded in death by an infant son. He is survived by his beloved wife Muriel of 69 years, his children, Muriel Sue, Gregory, George (Donna), Anna, and Gordon (Joan), 9 grandchildren, and 12 great-grandchildren.

A Resurrection Eucharist service and cremation burial was held July 5 at St. James' Episcopal Church, Old Mill Road, Alexandria, VA



# Mount Vernon Magic 12U Goes 3-2 at USSSA World Series

**T**he 12U Mount Vernon Magic, a tournament softball team sponsored by the Mount Vernon Youth Athletic Association and composed of girls from two local recreational softball leagues, MVYAA and FHYAA, made an appearance at the 2012 USSSA Softball World Series. The team, coached by Mitch Rockwell and Phil Klein, participated in the Softball World Series, East Region, in Salisbury, Md., from July 18-22.

The 12U "Black Magic," as they are known, won their two pool play games on Thursday against two tough World Series teams and finished 3-2 after tacking on another bracket win in the playoffs.

In their first pool game, the "Black Magic" defeated the Delaware Storm, 5-4, after seven lead changes in the hard-fought battle. Erin Rockwell, the Magic pitcher in the game and the workhorse for the series in the circle, went all the way, earning the win with a three-hit effort. Rockwell struck out seven and allowed three walks in the game. Battery mate Emma Klein caught back-to-back games and was a wall behind the plate all tournament. The Magic defense, anchored on the left side by Caroline Bowman and Micaela Neulight, and in center field by Avery O'Connor, played extremely well in the come-from-behind victory.

"This was an extraordinary team effort on the part of every player on this team," Rockwell said. "Every Magic player on the roster participated offensively and in putouts in the effort." Susannah Anderson led the Magic offense against the Storm with two hits and was torrid all week with eight hits. Klein, Rockwell, Emilie Becker, Katie Hutchinson and Ramey Marciniak (who batted .667 on the week) all hit safely in the game. Dominique Gil of the Magic pro-



**"Black Magic" 12U players from left: Natalie Lerner, Micaela Neulight, Caroline Bowman, Ramey Marciniak, Emma Klein, Avery O'Connor, Dominique Gil, Emilie Becker and Erin Rockwell.**

vided the team with two RBIs while Rockwell, Bowman and Susannah Anderson each had one RBI in the win. The game was decided in the bottom of the final inning. With the Delaware Storm leading 4-3, the Magic was at bat with one out and runners on second and third. Gil drove in the tying run with a groundball RBI. Rockwell then drove in the winning run with a line drive to left field, clinching the 5-4 Magic victory. The Magic squad then went undefeated in pool play by beating the Frostburg Mountain Thunder, 12-6. After the Thunder tied the game in the fifth inning, the Magic scored six runs in the top of the sixth inning.

The Thunder could not respond, as strong pitching by Rockwell and flawless defense retired the Thunder in order in the bottom of the inning. Klein, Anderson, Marciniak, and Rockwell each had two hits in the win. Bowman, Becker and Natalie Lerner each tallied hits as, well, with Becker and Lerner belting doubles. Lerner led the Magic with two RBIs on a two-out double to left field in the top of the third inning. Neulight, Rockwell, Bowman, Marciniak and Becker each had an RBI.

In their third game of the Series, also against the Frostburg Mountain Thunder, the "Black Magic" battled the team that would eventually win it all to a 2-2 tie in regulation (seven full innings). The elimination game went into international tie breaker play. The Thunder came out the winner this time. Having been pushed to the elimination bracket, the "Black Magic" then beat the Delaware Diamonds, 9-5, in seven innings.

Then, in what would be their last game of the Series, the Magic fought hard against the Delaware Blue Hens, keeping the game close at 3-1 with tough defense through 5 1/2 innings, but eventually lost the game.

The Magic defense gave up few extra base hits all tournament, due in large part to the outstanding defense of veteran Hutchinson, who came back from a midseason broken wrist, and fellow outfielders Gill, O'Connor,

with four hits and an RBI. Every Magic player made it on base during the series multiple times with hits and/or walks. Catcher Klein was a workhorse, playing every inning of the Series at that position.

"We worked hard all season to prepare ourselves for this World Series appearance," Rockwell said. "Although we are a 12U team, in the second half of our season we played a 14U schedule in order to get ready for this World Series. It was clear that every player on this team came to the 2012 Softball World Series to play. Every player

on the team played their best, giving 100 percent.

"I am extremely proud of each and every one of the players on this fine team. All the players on this team made important contributions to our success in this World Series, and all season long. Although we did eventually get eliminated, these girls played their hearts out against some of the best teams on the East Coast and completed their play

in the Softball World Series with a winning record of 3-2."

In the end, it was the Frostburg Mountain Thunder that was crowned the 12U "C" World Series champions for 2012. The Mount Vernon 12U "Black Magic" earned the distinction of being the only team in 2012 World Series 12U "C" tournament play to have defeated the 12U "C" World Series champions.



## At All-Star Relay Carnival

**The Stratford Recreation Association 9-10 girls' freestyle relay team competed in the NVSL All-Star Relay Carnival on July 18 at Lincolnia Park Recreational Club in Alexandria. From left are Hannah Perine, Emily Mang, Grace Frerichs and Kelly Bodner.**



# PET GAZETTE

## READERS' PETS



**Stan Brown and his recently adopted lab mix rescue. He is about 15 weeks old and is named Rubicon.**



**Mei Lee Strom with her horse Saham this summer — ready for a post ride bath.**

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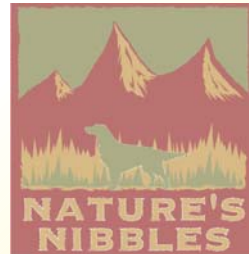
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# PET GAZETTE

## In Search of a 'Forever Home'

FROM PAGE 1

sphere, free to play or lounge. HSFC also supports about 80 cats in foster homes, funding general care and medical expenses, and as part of their ongoing battle to curb the number of unwanted cats, HSFC sponsors a spay/neuter and return program. Recognized feral cat colony caregivers around the Northern Virginia area are assisted in feeding these un-adoptable cats, and HSFC picks up the cost of the spay/neuter, vaccinations, and any other medical requirements. "Feral cat maintenance is sometimes a controversial issue," said Kirby. "But if someone has a better answer, we're all ears." Many feral cats can never adjust to an indoor existence, especially since many can never learn to accept human handling. "This way, we are true to our mission to behave humanely to all animals. These cats receive much-needed treatment. They are fed. They don't add to the already unmanageable number of cats without permanent homes. And neutered, there is less fighting among them, less painful injury and death," Kirby added.

With such emphasis on population control by so many animal protection groups, why all those pages on Petfinder.com? "Several factors," says Kirby. "No matter how much we all preach spay and neuter, there are still so many people out there who resist it. There are even vets who tell owners it's not necessary, or to wait until the female comes into heat for the first time. Others think neutering makes a male animal less masculine. That's just not true."

HSFC has a good relationship with the Fairfax County Animal Shelter, as well as with several rural shelters. When there is room, they take animals from these locations to give them a better chance at adoption.

And then there is the economy. Both Kirby and Office Manager Janice Adams note that more animals are coming in when families can no longer care for them. Adams pointed out several cats whose owners had been forced to move. "These were much-loved feline family members," she said. "These owners were in tears, but they didn't have a place to keep them. Couldn't find pet-friendly living or afford the pet deposits."

HSFC keeps trying to help keep pets and humans together. They run the Ani-Meals program, just like a human food pantry. Owners struggling to care for their pets can pick up donated food and supplies at the HSFC offices. But for some, that just isn't enough, and another often-distressed adult cat joins the HSFC waiting hopeful.

So where are the dogs? In 2002, HSFC realized another dream when they were able to purchase a farm in Centreville that now houses the horses and dogs in their care. Lisa Schroeder started as a volunteer and is now the fulltime farm manager. "My friends kid me," she said. "It can be pretty difficult to get time away with all the animals in our care, so they say I do all my grocery shopping at the 7-11 next to the vet's office while I wait for one of our canine friends to be seen to."

**JUST LIKE THE CAT ROOMS** in Fairfax, the dog enclosures and the horse stalls at the Farm are clean. "It's our volunteers," Schroeder is quick to credit. "They're here first thing every day, cleaning and feeding."

Lisa Zimmer travels from Lorton every Wednes-



**Merry, the first resident of the Fairfax facility having joined the staff in 1995, rules the roost from the comfort of her cat bed. Merry is a breast cancer survivor and paid no attention to her grim prognosis.**



**The "J" sisters, Jillian, Julie and June are 3-month-old puppy bundles of joy and they know how cute they are. All the volunteers enjoy playing with them but hope they find their real homes soon.**

day to volunteer. "There's lots of hard work," she said. "But when the work is done, we can spend time cuddling and playing. I get my dog fix, since I can't have my own right now."

Kirby also praises the efforts of the volunteers. "None of this is possible without them," she said. In addition to animal care duties, volunteers foster. They run educational programs and staff the original Thrift Shop and the second, larger store in Falls Church. They work fundraising events. They transport animals from other shelters and to vet appointments. There are even volunteer trainers who provide the free training sessions available to those who adopt pups and dogs.

The services provided by the Human Society of Fairfax to animals and to their human friends is an expensive undertaking. Even with the small army of volunteers, significant time is dedicated to fundraising and recruiting even more assistance and donations of time, materials, and items to sell in the thrift shops. But everyone you ask who is touched by this group – new owners, people having to surrender animals, people who keep their beloved pets because of assistance from HSFC, people who learn from the educational outreach, volunteers and staff – all agree that the hard work and the occasional heartbreak is a small price to pay when they are greeted by that wagging tail or that contented purr.

The Fairfax facility accepts visitors. The Farm is by appointment only, after consultation and approval by HSFC staff. If you are looking for a new friend, be prepared. The adoption process is serious business. As Kirby said, "We are dedicated to doing whatever it takes to find the right home, the right match between animal and human, to make everyone happy. It really is supposed to be a 'forever home.'"

### More Information

More information about HSFC services, how to donate or volunteer, and the adoption process is available on their website at [www.hsfc.org](http://www.hsfc.org).



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