



Girls participating in the summer program at the community center gather together for a group dance from First Lady Michele Obama's "Move Your Body" initiative.

Celebrating National Night Out

PHOTOS BY LOUISE KRAFFT/THE GAZETTE



Khadijah Addy and Meredith Harris join friends at the annual National Night Out party on Tuesday, Aug. 7, at the Gum Springs Community Center.



Anne and Makijah Lucas add colors to the small purses in the crafts tent.



Emcee L. Joyce Brown introduces Daikiah Dickerson and Aijiana Carr who led those gathered in the Pledge of Allegiance.



Jonathan Brownlee and his daughter Dani'Marie arrive for the evening celebration.



Kemoni Ware dances to the music at the evening festivities.

Collingwood for Sale

Entire 8.7-acre estate with river frontage is on the market for \$5.9 million.

BY MICHAEL LEE POPE
THE GAZETTE

The dream of a museum dedicated to Americana may be dead, and an important community center may be privatized. That's what's at stake for Collingwood, the picturesque riverside estate that was once home to one of George Washington's overseers. In March the property went on the market for \$5.9 million, an indication that the library and museum may soon become a private estate with a dazzling view of the Potomac River.

"I want to do anything I can do to prevent it from being sold and developed," said Mount Vernon District Supervisor Gerry Hyland. "So I've been talking to a number of people to see what's possible."

So far, that effort hasn't worked. The Fairfax County Park Authority considered purchasing the site or creating some kind of partnership with the museum, but that didn't succeed. This week, Hyland is scheduled to meet with officials at Mount Vernon Estate about incorporating the property into their campus — a prospect that Hyland said might be problematic considering the time and attention currently devoted to creating a new George Washington library.

"We would pull it off the market today if we could find some kind of donor who was willing to continue the mission of the museum," said Paul Frank, executive director of the Foundation for the Collingwood Library and Museum of Americana. "And we would be

SEE ESTATE, PAGE 4

Backpacks Urgently Needed at Rising Hope

Aug. 30 and 31 are planned distribution days.

BY ED SIMMONS, JR.
THE GAZETTE

A spunky New Yorker, Sula Tyler won't admit to panic but it's fair to say that as minister of children and youth at Rising Hope Mission she's facing a mountain of concern.

That mountain is a list of 210 youngsters signed up to receive school backpacks as well as class

supplies at no cost Aug. 30 and 31, but so far Tyler has only 10 backpacks — and doesn't know where the rest will be coming from.

"I'm in the ministry and that means I believe in hope," she says about staying calm.

She describes a tough situation for many families along the Route 1 corridor. "The poverty out there is just terrible. Families are struggling. School is coming and the children need shoes and clothes, and having a cool backback boosts the kids' self-esteem and helps them achieve."

New clothes and backpacks help

SEE DONATIONS, PAGE 5

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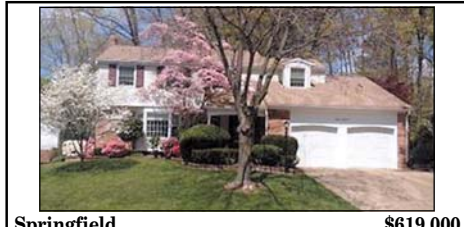
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Realizing a Dream and More

BY BONNIE HOBBS
THE GAZETTE

Since he was a boy, William Garrett knew he'd grow up to be a firefighter. Although he and his family have lived in Centreville six-and-a-half years, he was born and raised in Alexandria's Gum Springs community — and that's where the spark was ignited.

"Four generations of my family lived there," he said. "When I was a kid, my friends and I would play basketball with some of the firefighters at the Mount Vernon Fire Station. I told them I'd be a firefighter someday, but they told me to go to college and get a good education first."

Garrett followed their advice and has now been with the Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Department for 23 years. And he hasn't just done the job — he's excelled. In 2009, he was named the county's Firefighter of the Year. In June, he was promoted to deputy fire chief; and on July 28, he began supervising 37 fire stations and 350 personnel throughout the county.

"I'm very humbled by it," he said. "Sometimes we don't see our own potential; but every step of the way, someone did. They offered me some type of advice or guidance — and I've taken hold of it."

That realization made Garrett see the direct connection between the Fire Department and the community. "It's still there today, and it gave me a different perspective on community outreach," he said. "I know it's not just about delivery of service. It's also about giving sound advice, mentoring and communicating with a young audience."

After graduating from West Potomac High, Garrett joined the Franconia Volunteer Fire Department. Nine months later, he was hired as a county firefighter. Attending NOVA part time, he eventually received an associate's degree in administration of justice. Next came a bachelor's from GMU in foreign language with a concentration in Spanish — and with good reason.

"About 10 or 15 years ago, as a firefighter,



PHOTO BY BONNIE HOBBS/THE GAZETTE

William Garrett's first day as deputy fire chief was July 28.

there was an unconscious Hispanic child and a frantic mother trying to communicate with us," said Garrett. "We had to go through a language line to understand her, and it pained me that we couldn't speak with her directly."

He began his professional career at the Dunn Loring station in 1989, riding on fire engines. He also became a paramedic and has been one for 22 years. And, he added, "It's even more important now as the population ages and increases."

Garrett was a paramedic at the Reston station and became an EMS sergeant at the Lorton station. (That title was later changed to EMS lieutenant). Afterward, he became a fire investigator. "It was something different, and I thought it would be cool to try to figure out why someone would start a fire," he said. "That helped me with fire suppression because you've got to know how and where fires start so you can put them out."

That job also set the foundation for Garrett moving up the ranks and later becoming a fire lieutenant. "I loved it; it was a typical 'whodunit,'" he said. "Sometimes, an anomaly in a piece of equipment causes a fire. But we also see a lot where caution, intervention or education could have

changed the outcome dramatically."

It taught him, said Garrett, the importance of "maintaining a situational awareness of what's going on and how things work. That's why I'm big into community outreach and fire prevention — taking the time to educate folks about safety. It's something subtle, but it speaks volumes."

He said it can be something as simple, yet vitally significant, as advising residents to move hot barbecue grills on balconies and decks away from the house — or reminding them to keep space heaters away from combustibles. So, said Garrett, "Every time we have a citizen contact, we use it as an opportunity to educate."

Then, promoted to fire lieutenant, he moved to the Woodlawn station on Richmond Highway. "It was a dream-come-true because it's where I grew up," he said. "Then I returned to Franconia — where I'd volunteered." This time, though, he was an officer.

Afterward, a position became available for a captain in the Hazardous Materials and Investigative Services section and, following another promotion, the job was Garrett's. He later opened the Crosspointe station and, in March 2007, he said, "I got my dream job as commander of the Penn Daw station in Alexandria."

There, he was thrilled to turn that station into the focal point of that area's community outreach. Furthermore, he said, "It was great serving along the Route 1 area — a place I had a stake in and was involved with." Then in January 2010, Garrett was promoted to battalion chief of the Fairfax Station/Clifton/Burke/Crosspointe/Pohick area. He supervised 40-50 people providing emergency services out of six stations.

"It's a whole different look at emergency services," he said. "It required me to think more strategically. Instead of just being focused on the task or on firefighting tactics, I had to consider the impact to the community. I had to make sure our personnel were well-trained and the equipment well-placed so that, when calls came in, we were ready to go." Garrett also monitored the radio to

William Garrett begins job of deputy fire chief.

ensure that, when one station was out on a call or away training, another unit was covering its service area.

In October 2010, he was assigned to work on a special project to modernize Fairfax County government's finance and human-resource systems. His participation resulted in the final product taking into consideration the Fire Department's special needs as a 24/7 service.

Then on June 28, Chief Ronald Mastin promoted Garrett to deputy fire chief, placing him in charge of C-Shift operations for the entire Fire Department. He's become a senior staff member and an integral part of the department's core leadership. And as always, he takes his duties seriously.

"I'm responsible for the overall, day-to-day operations and management of 350-plus firefighters," he said. "And I'm now in charge of the seven battalion chiefs."

Garrett will visit all the stations under his command and plans to "continue the chief's objectives and motivate the shift to do that, as well. And because firefighters influenced me at the start, I want to support the community's needs — whether by collecting backpacks or coats or doing a food drive. I want to support the residents."

And he's not the only one in his family who feels that way. His wife Lauretta is a police MPO with the Sully District Station and, in January, she was honored as Officer of the Quarter. During the ceremony, her station commander, Capt. Purvis Dawson, told her, "You've set a standard for others to emulate. Each day you pin on your badge, you make Fairfax County a better place."

The Garretts have been married 15 years and have two children, 13 and 11. Dad's also an assistant SYA basketball coach for their children's team. Serving the community is important to the couple, and that's why the new deputy fire chief is so excited about his new position.

"I love it because we're such an integral part of society — what we do makes a difference," said Garrett. "It's a meaningful job, and I know that what I do makes a direct impact."

Six Tons of Produce Arrive at Rising Hope Mission Church

Distribution is free fourth Fridays.

"Get your cabbage! Get your eggplant!" a Rising Hope volunteer called out.

In the shady parking lot at Rising Hope Mission Church on Russell Road just off Route 1, scores gathered Friday, July 27, for free fresh vegetables provided by the Capital Area Food Bank. Unloaded by forklift, heaped-on pallets contained six tons of potatoes, tomatoes, carrots, cabbages, potatoes, eggplant and watermelons waiting to be carried home.

"It's been a fantastic turnout," said Linda Surridge, who directs

Rising Hope's food pantry. The church is devoted to helping the needy along the Route 1 corridor, assisting 8,000 yearly.

"It's great to see so many people taken care of," said Johnnie Dunlap, outreach coordinator for the Capital Area Food Bank. He said the vegetables, provided at no cost to Rising Hope, are from Canada, Pennsylvania and Delaware.

The food bank truck will return to the church each fourth Friday throughout the year, with free produce available from 1-4 p.m.

— ED SIMMONS, JR.



Rising Hope intern Drew Colby passes out potatoes and eggplants.



Venisa McCormick serves up the carrots, which arrived at Rising Hope in 50-pound sacks.

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NEWS

Estate on the Market for \$5.9 Million

FROM PAGE 1

happy to set up some kind of benefits package."

THE HISTORY of Collingwood dates back to 1760, when Washington purchased the property and built a house for Tobias Lear, his personal secretary. The property later became a dairy farm and a restaurant. During World War II, the federal government housed military personnel here and carried out covert operations of the Office of Strategic Services, the predecessor to the Central Intelligence Agency. In the late 1970s, a group of retired officers purchased the property and opened a museum. Today, visitors can see a gold-plated copy of the Constitution, a replica of Paul Revere's lantern and a chip of wood from Abraham Lincoln's house.

"Collingwood is a real asset to the community," said Katherine Ward, who lives in the nearby Wellington neighborhood. "The community would certainly be opposed to a developer coming in and building a new development here."

The property has a conservation easement and a scenic easement, which would make development a challenge. The property also has a newly constructed \$2 million American Legacy Center, a structure resembling a barn that the museum hoped would bring



View of the Potomac River from the Collingwood estate.

in revenue. But even when all the weddings and holiday parties were booked, the board of directors for the museum came to the conclusion that the operation was not going to be able to stay afloat.

"The revenue stream is less than we need to meet our obligations to the bank," said Frank. "Revenue from weddings is never going to be enough."

THE FUTURE of Collingwood is unknown, but a number of scenarios could play out over the coming months. One is that pieces of the property could be

sold to different buyers, allowing for the museum to continue in some fashion even if part of the estate is privatized. Another would be that Mount Vernon might have some kind of involvement with saving the property, an idea that Hyland says he'll be pushing in the coming weeks. Another scenario is that a wealthy individual will purchase the entire property and transform it into a private riverside estate.

"I think the most likely scenario is that it will become the home of a very wealthy person who wants a commanding view of the Potomac River," said businessman Kahan Dhillon. "That's a shame because Collingwood is more than just a museum. It's a real gathering place for this community."

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Rising Hope Seeks Backpack Donations

FROM PAGE 1

youngsters start off the year with a fresh, optimistic start, she said. And for many who are children of new immigrants, backpacks are “a symbol of the American dream” and “an icon of self-esteem,” she said.

“Without a new backpack, they don’t want to go to school.” Though not a problem for affluent classmates, a sturdy backpack costs \$30 and up, an amount out of reach for many families along the Route 1 corridor.

Individuals, churches and civic organizations can help by bringing backpacks, school supplies and donations to Rising Hope Mission located at 8220



By Ed SIMMONS, JR./THE GAZETTE

Sula Tyler, Minister of Children and Youth at Rising Hope Mission, reviews her lengthy list of children needing backpacks.

Russell Road, Alexandria, just off Route 1. The most needed school supplies are 3-ring binders, composition books, and colored felt-tip pens. Clothing too is needed, particularly new underwear and socks.

Tyler says she will begin organizing the school supplies according to teachers’ lists and stuffing the book bags Aug. 20.

It would be a much-needed reassurance, she says, if she knew when churches and organizations

plan to bring their donations. She can be contacted at 703-360-1976 and styler@risinghopeumc.org.

“I don’t know what the churches are going to do this year,” she said.

OBITUARY

Ruth Delones Seaton

Ruth Delones Seaton, 82, of Stuart, Fla. died on Thursday, Aug. 2, 2012 at Treasure Coast Hospice in Stuart.

Ms. Seaton was born in Florence, Ala. and had been a resident of Stuart, Fla. coming from Alexandria. Prior to retirement she had been a medical assistant for over 15 years in Alexandria.

She is survived by two sons, Donnie Seaton of Maryville, Tenn. and Keith Seaton of Spring City, Tenn.; one daughter, Rhonda Keeling of Upper Marlboro, Md.;



two grandchildren and two great-grandchildren. She is preceded in death by her husband, Bill M. Seaton, and one brother Lowell Delones.

The family will hold a private memorial service at a later date.

Memorial Contributions may be made to the local humane society.

Arrangements are entrusted to Treasure Coast Seawinds Funeral Home & Crematory, Stuart, Fla. Condolences maybe expressed at: www.treasurecoastseawinds.com.

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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 G.W. Pkwy and Potomac into D.C. This house is a gem!

Alex./Riverside Estates \$444,900
8406 Wagon Wheel Road
This is a lovely home, beautifully renovated, on a large landscaped lot, in a sweet neighborhood, AND...at a great price! Open floor plan, easy flow, gorgeous hwd flrs main & upper lvls, replacement windows. Beautiful kitchen w/Corian counters & cherry cabinetry. Remodeled baths. Lots of light. Carport. It's a Gem! Minutes to Fort Belvoir, 15 to Metro and Old Town.

OPEN SUNDAY

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.

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OPINION

Mindless Slashing

Automatic cuts set to start in January would harm Northern Virginia more than any other region.

While reducing the federal deficit is critical to the nation's economic health in the long run, the knee jerk, slash and burn method based only on cuts that is coming at us like a freight train will do immense damage to the economy nationally. But no place would feel the pain more intensely than Northern Virginia. Last week, hundreds of technology workers gathered in Arlington, waving stop-sign shaped pickets that said "stop sequestration." Self-serving? Perhaps, but the mindless and catastrophically timed cuts would hurt everyone in Northern Virginia.

"The risk posed by these cuts taking effect is not a gamble that Virginians can take," said U.S. Rep. Gerry Connolly, who addressed the group along with Gov. Bob McDonnell, U.S. Reps. Jim Moran and Frank Wolf, Northrop Grumman CEO Wes Bush, SAIC CEO John Jumper, Northern Virginia Technology Council Chair Brad Antle, Aerospace Industries Association CEO Marion Blakey and Fairfax Chamber of Commerce CEO Jim Corcoran and others.

"A third of our economy here in Northern Virginia and in the National Capital Region is dependent directly on federal investment and spending, Connolly said, calling for compro-

mise in Congress.

The Budget Control Act of 2011 sets the stage for automatic spending reductions over the next 10 years beginning Jan. 2, 2013 resulting in Pentagon spending cuts of \$800 billion, \$700 billion in cuts from other agencies with a \$200 billion reduction, mostly from Medicare, in mandatory programs. This is according to Steve Fuller and the GMU Center for Regional Analysis.

According to the analysis, Virginia would be second after California in job losses to the states in the next two years, with a potential loss of

more than 200,000 jobs (136,191 defense-related jobs lost and 71,380 non-defense jobs).

It's important to note that the vast majority of these job losses would be in Northern Virginia, and the looming problem is one reason Fairfax County is asking all departments to prepare for a possible five percent reduction in each of the next two years.

There are hundreds, possibly thousands, of ways to begin to fix the deficit; this is not one.

You can read the George Mason analysis at http://www.aia-aerospace.org/assets/Fuller_II_Final_Report.pdf

— MARY KIMM.
MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

EDITORIALS

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Natural Doesn't Require Pristine

To the Editor:

I would like to present an alternate view to the claim by Mr. Spiegel that Westgrove Park does not represent a viable wildlife corridor to the Dyke Marsh Wildlife Preserve and the Potomac River. While I don't claim to be an expert on wildlife corridors and connectivity, I have spent many hours in and around Dyke Marsh, leading bird walks, participating in Breeding Bird Surveys, canoeing and hiking. I got involved with Westgrove Park many years ago when a proposal was put forth to construct a soccer field on the site. So, if you will ...

1. Fort Hunt Road. — Yes, roads may be a barrier to some wildlife, but they are not impassable. Anyone who drives on Fort Hunt Road regularly basis has probably seen roadkill — more often a raccoon than the occasional fox. Many more make it across. Birds, insects, bats and seeds move easily across these human-made obstacles.

2. The chain link fence surrounding Westgrove is far from impenetrable. A pedestrian gate on the Fort Hunt Road side makes entry simple. On the opposite side, it took me less than five minutes to find a "scrape", a tunnel of sorts, under the fence — big enough to allow a fox or other animal to pass easily. (If there are no liability issues, I believe FCPA should consider removing this fence.)

3. The "intervening" lands of River Towers

are largely lawns, gardens and trees.

4. Once in the Big Gut of Dyke Marsh, it's an easy stroll though a marshy area to the George Washington Memorial Parkway and the bike path. Another obstacle? Hardly. Anyone who has hiked or biked across the boardwalk south of Belleview Boulevard has probably seen the "tunnel" — (a.k.a. culverts) that carries water underneath the roadway. When the tide is right, not too high or low, I have canoed through this tunnel as cars passed overhead. At low tide, a fox or coyote may not even get their paws wet. The point being, it is a passageway (and they don't even charge a toll!)

No one has ever argued that this area is pristine, but the potential exists for it to be returned to a more natural state and become a significant natural corridor in a heavily developed part of Fairfax County where only six percent of undeveloped land remains. Restoring Westgrove Park and allowing the two-acre grassy field to become a meadow presents a rare opportunity to create more natural connectivity that will enrich our surroundings and our lives.

I believe the world needs wild places — areas that are left undisturbed and are not subject to the desires of some who

say "It needs to be used." It is being used! Just because much of that use goes unseen by our eyes does not mean it has no value and needs to be developed.

Westgrove Park is an opportunity for Fairfax County to provide over 20 acres of wild space that will connect the forested tract of Mount Vernon District Park with the Potomac River —

which was recently given the dubious distinction of being named the nations' "most endangered river."

Rich Rieger
Alexandria

Check Spending Line by Line

To the Editor:

I disagree with Scott Surovell's call for increased taxes as a solution to our road problems. Putting the solution on the back of the tax payers in a weak economy will make the local economy worse and ignores the real problems as I see. There is no guarantee that this money would be slated for road improvements as we may envision them, Virginia already generates the 10th highest amount of state and local motor fuel tax revenues, and the volume of traffic going through this area has increased demand for fuel to where we have among the highest prices at the pump in a 50-mile radius.

Over the last 15 years, I have seen my property taxes more than double. Let's assume that we didn't have the housing bubble. I don't think that the county would have doubled the property tax rate over this period. Therefore, the annual budgets would have had to reflect more modest tax increases which would have

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Published by
Local Media Connection LLC

1606 King Street
Alexandria, Virginia 22314

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LETTERS

FROM PAGE 6

meant less spending. So what happened to all this money? It certainly didn't go to improving our roads and other infrastructure. Also, Fairfax County has one of the highest property tax rates in the state. Why would I assume the same officials would be any more careful with a gas tax revenue increase?

According to a U.S. Census Bureau annual survey, Virginia generates the 10th highest state and local fuel tax revenue dollars in comparison to other states. The volume of this revenue has steadily increased over the last several years. If you take out Florida and Washington State which have no state income tax, Virginia is 8th.

In addition, Northern Virginia counties also charge an additional 2.1 percent sales tax on top of the 17.5 cents. To say that we should increase this tax because we haven't had an increase since Scott Surovell was in high school is a non-reason and ignores the big picture. Which is, how is the money being spent?

Finally, Interstate 95 is the only practical route North to South vis-à-vis on the east coast. As a result, residents of this area pay premium prices for gasoline due to demand. The price for gas in many places in Maryland is lower than the price in Fairfax County even though Maryland has a higher gas tax rate. I commuted to Bowie up until last year and I paid at least 10 cents per gallon less. I've gotten gas in Fredericksburg at the same Virginia tax rate (perhaps less the 2.1 percent sales tax) and paid much less than Fairfax County. In an already sluggish economy where disposable income is less or non-existent, paying even more at the pump isn't going to improve the lives of our citizens.

I think our elected officials in their capacities need to live within the revenues that we have rather

than adding to the burden of the people they are elected to serve. I suggest going line by line through the budget and eliminate waste. Many of our citizens have had to do this in their households in this economy, so why can't our elected officials do the same?

W. Munkacsy

Beyond Schools' And TJ's Control

To the Editor:

I'm writing in response to the op-ed regarding the lawsuit against Thomas Jefferson High School. This lawsuit is deeply flawed and is not a serious attempt to address the socioeconomic causes of inequality.

You come close to acknowledging this in the editorial. You write that "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." You point out that "TJ has made a variety of attempts to address the exclusive nature of admissions," and that "The problem runs much deeper than freshman admission to Thomas Jefferson."

Then why not come out and say this lawsuit is a mistake? It's an attempt to scapegoat what by all accounts is an excellent educational facility for the inequities of life.

Using population numbers to make a case for discrimination is also intellectually dishonest. Most people know that just because A happened before B, that doesn't mean that A caused B. There is no question that by these numbers Black students (1.4%) and Latino students (3.8%) are underrepresented at Thomas Jefferson, based on overall school population. As a reader of yours has already pointed out, White students (26.2%) are also

underrepresented, while Asian students are vastly overrepresented (64%).

What should we do about this? Expel enough Asian students to bring the numbers in line? Accept more White, Black and Latino students, whether they meet the high admission qualifications or not?

Absurd of course, but that's the danger of identifying students as representatives of ethnic groups rather than as individuals. And the danger of focusing on outcomes, not inputs.

My wife and I have no children. We have no first hand experience of the staff at Thomas Jefferson, though a neighbor's son went there and did well. However, I'm willing to bet that the staff there works very hard to avoid discriminating against any student, and would very much like to admit more disadvantaged students if they could. This suit attempts to make them (and the broader school system) responsible for socioeconomic factors totally beyond their control.

Perhaps the goal of this lawsuit is publicity, to bring more attention to the topic of educational inequality. It may do that, but I think not the right kind of attention for the reasons mentioned above. Plus, lawsuits usually harden positions and sow discord, not accommodation.

We enjoy reading the Gazette and appreciate the recurring focus on those less fortunate in our area. That topic needs to be addressed, as does improving the prospects of every student in Fairfax County. But all students would be better served by more honesty in this debate, and perhaps more realism regarding how completely the public school system can counter-balance economic disparities.

Christopher Parente
Collingwood Springs

SEE LETTERS, PAGE 8

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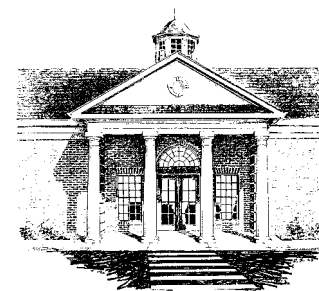
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LETTERS

FROM PAGE 7

Inhibiting Progress

To the Editor:

In last week's Gazette, an article by Gerald A. Fill concerning the master planning of Westgrove Park referred to opponents of the off-leash dog area (OLDA) as "environmental protection advocates." Another article on the same subject in another publication referred

to these same people as "environmentalists." In each case, they were referring to those who support keeping the park in its natural state, namely Friends of Dyke Marsh (FODM) President and chief lobbyist Glenda Booth and other FODM members, among others.

I found myself asking "What is an environmentalist?" Why is Glenda Booth and why are her FODM colleagues referred to as "environmentalists?" Do reporters

just make the assumption that they are environmentalists or is there some justification for bestowing that honorable description on these community members? From my perspective, I don't believe the evidence supports that lofty designation.

Being against property development doesn't make one an environmentalist. Most developments are environmentally friendly — county staff and our state and local ordinances make that the case even for by-right developments. Seeking to interpose unreasonable conditions on development doesn't make one an environmentalist. Fairfax County requires developments on sensitive lands to demonstrate no net loss of water quality. I recall frequent battles, while a member of the MVCCA's environment and recreation committee, with other members who wanted developers to exceed the county requirements to obtain approval from the committee. My perception was that these zealots were trying to interpose unreasonable conditions on development to stop development. This is wrong.

Turning back to the Westgrove OLDA, every scientific expert says that the OLDA is a best management practice. Moreover, the biggest known environmental hazard in our area is the proliferation of geese and the infiltration of their feces into our bodies of water. The presence of dogs at Westgrove Park will surely reduce the presence of geese. In my opinion, anyone who opposes a best management practice that simultaneously addresses the goose feces issue can't possibly be considered to be an "environmentalist."

The same goes for people (Ms. Booth, FODM and others) who advocate a restoration plan for Dyke Marsh that would destroy a significant fish habitat. The National Park Service's (NPS) outside expert said that filling in that habitat does nothing to enhance Dyke Marsh. Moreover, those people are apparently unconcerned that NPS has not provided cost estimates for the proposed restoration options. Do "environmentalists" advocate unreasonable government actions without regard to their potential costs? Not in my book.

Are those who tried to extract, from the proposed developers of Kings Crossing, all manner of land restoration concessions on neighboring properties, "environmentalists?" No. Based upon the presence of the Wal-Mart that resulted from their actions and the actions of others, they don't earn that designation in my opinion.

I've been told by numerous county officials and developers

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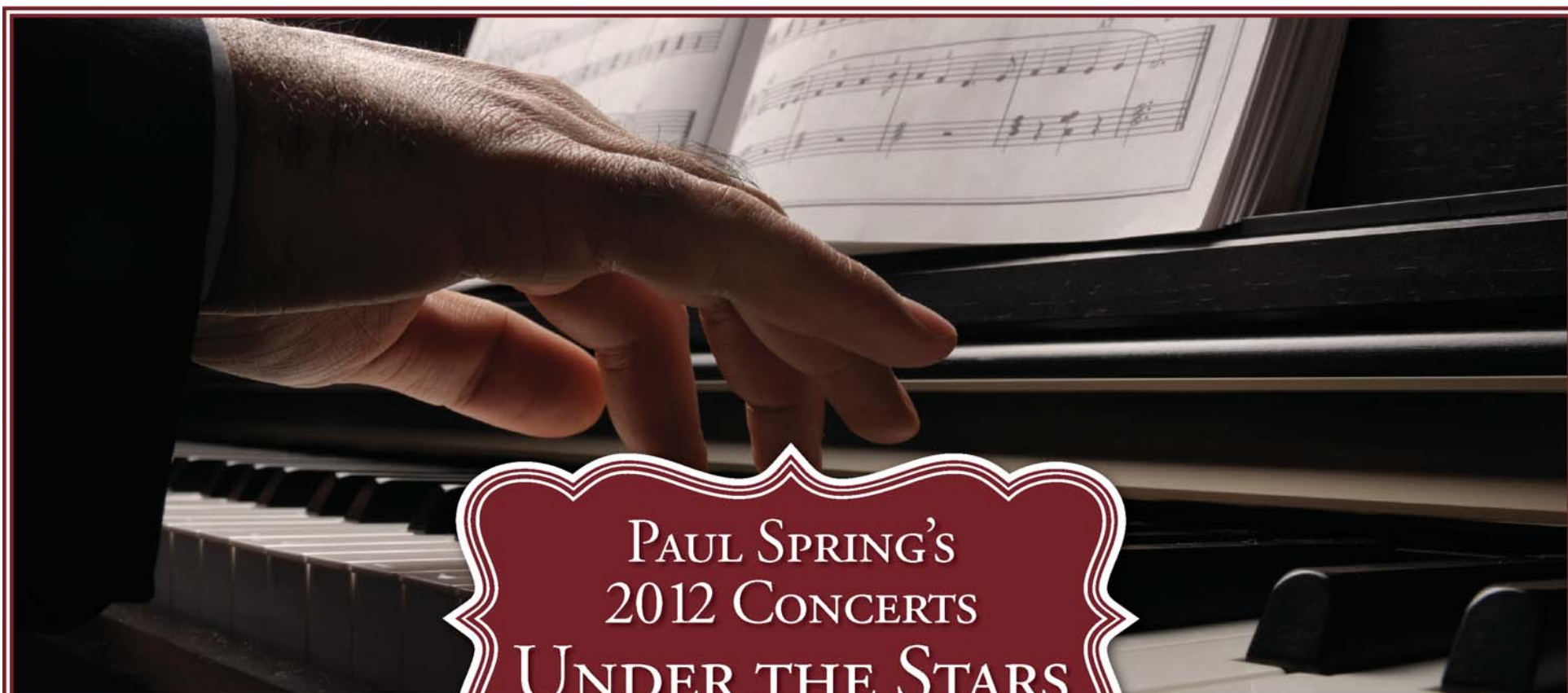
FROM PAGE 8
that Mount Vernon is the most difficult magisterial district within which to obtain approval of a development project that is not “by-right.” They tell me the reason is a handful of local residents. These “activists,” from my experience, fancy themselves “environmentalists,” but are in truth, are mostly people who have discovered that most residents are apathetic and don’t participate in the civic arena. If they just show up at meetings,

study development plans and visit with county officials who are required to politely meet with them, they can find ways to throw monkey wrenches into reasonable development proposals and wield significant power. I see them at all the meetings — they rarely succeed in thwarting development proposals, but they always succeed in delaying those proposals and costing the developers more money. They also “succeed” in delaying the date on which property

owners can begin earning income from their properties. Those increased costs are just passed along to the rest of us in the form of higher rents, and greater cost of goods sold by renting businesses.

No, these people are not “environmentalists.” They are just people with too much spare time who seem to delight in throwing sand into the gears of progress.

H. Jay Spiegel
Mount Vernon



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\$619,900
Updated Charming Colonial!
The home you have been waiting for! Classic 3 level Colonial in prime Stratford Landing location. Features include: updated gourmet kitchen, 4 large BRs, "Andersen" thermal windows, updated baths, screened porch and side load 1 car garage. Walk to neighborhood pool! Unique opportunity! **SUN 8/12, 1-4! GW Pkwy S, R-Stratford; L-Camden; R-Wittington.**



9516 Ferry Harbour Ct
\$650,000
Unique Opportunity!
Estate sale of home in prime location adjoining multi-million dollar river front estate. Home custom built. Features include: expansive main level master suite, large room sizes, 4BRs, fin LL, 3.5 baths, and kit-family room combo. Extensive windows and glass doors capitalizes on natural beauty. Entry level opportunity to premier community. **SUN 8/12, 1-4! GW Pkwy S, past Estate; L-Old Mt Vernon; L-Ferry Harbour.**



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.



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!



2011 Rampart Dr
\$565,000
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.

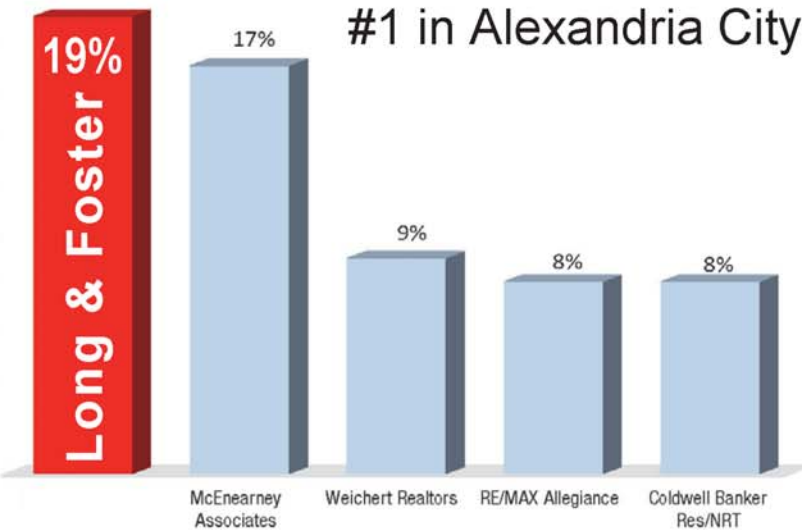


7913 Candlewood Dr
\$529,850
Backs to Park!
Super Value! Fabulous expanded home. Special features: 5BR, spacious eat-in kitchen, hardwood floors, and 2 fireplaces. Stunning glass-walled addition and custom screened porch overlook wooded park. Prime location just minutes from Old Town on gorgeous lot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



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www.chrisandpeggywhite.com - chris.white@longandfoster.com

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\$ 1,295,000
4720 Neptune Dr
"WATERFRONT - PRIVATE DOCK"
Stunning custom home designed to capitalize on gorgeous 1/2 acre setting. Large exterior deck overlooks private waterfront

paradise. Dramatic open interior with floor to ceiling glass walls, water views, upgraded gourmet kitchen, luxury master suite and 2 car garage.

Chris & Peggy White
703.283.9028



OPEN SUNDAY 1 - 4!
\$ 950,000
Alex / Mt Vernon
4207 KIMBRELEE CT
Elegant brick Colonial with circular drive is ideal for formal and informal entertaining. 3 finished floors above ground, and a

veranda overlooking landscaped gardens with a view of the river.

www.marylousage.com
Mary Lou Sage 703.851.5441



\$ 850,000
Alex. / Mt Vernon
"WYCLIFFE"
Great opportunity to own in popular Wycliffe. Main level boasts formal and informal rooms, library and deck off kitchen. Upper level has owner's suite and 3

additional BRs. Lower level is ideal for entertaining with access to patio and landscaped gardens. Extensive mouldings and built-ins throughout.

www.marylousage.com
Mary Lou Sage 703.851.5441



OPEN SUNDAY 1 - 4!
\$ 649,900
Alex. / Wilton Woods
4207 WILTON WOODS LN
A New Price for this lovely 2 level Colonial with 2 car garage, 4BR/2.5BA and

family room. Lots of amenities; kitchen is updated. Close to neighborhood swim club, Lee District Rec Center, library, Metro plus the Pentagon, Fort Belvoir and DC.

Catherine.Foltz@longandfoster.com
Catherine Foltz 703.626.6914



OPEN SUNDAY 1 - 4!
\$ 509,900
Ft. Belvoir
9202 PT. REPLETE DR

Simply Reduced... Location is the place for military access. Beautiful turnkey spacious townhouse with 2 car garage, fireplace, Trek deck and patio. Open main level with hardwoods thru-out, gourmet kitchen, luxury master BA... And so much more.

Call "The Hat Lady"...
Janice Allen 703.509.0906



OPEN SUNDAY 1 - 4!
\$ 550,000
Alexandria South
2107 PRICES LN

Wonderful, well-priced property in most beautiful section of Stratford-on-the-Potomac. On over 1/3 acre, with 4 large BR, formal dining & living rooms plus a full waterproofed basement, this well-built home offers tons of possibilities. Come take a look at specific ideas at the Open House. DIR: from Alex/Old Town: S on Washington St (GW Parkway), R on Vernon View, L on Prices Lane to 2107 on L.

Leah Chapla 703.929.4875



OPEN SUNDAY 1 - 4!
\$ 509,000
Alexandria / Old Town
400 MADISON ST #707

Beautifully renovated 2BR/2BA condo in desirable Alexandria House. Features include wood floors, marble and tile baths, floor to ceiling windows, gourmet kitchen with open extension to dining room and garage space for 2 cars. Quiet enjoyment of a rooftop pool with vistas of Old Town and National Harbor.

Ann.Kavaljian@longandfoster.com
Ann Kavaljian 703.626.9171



\$ 254,000
Alexandria / Belle View
"LOVELY VIEW"

Enjoy the flowering trees and quiet green space from your porch in one of the best locations in Belle View. This 2BR/1BA condo has great light, lovely hardwoods, and nice updates. Easy bike, bus or Metro commute also.

Call for more information:
Margaret Keagle 571.332.5264



OPEN SUNDAY 1 - 4!
\$ 615,000
Alex. / Olde Balhaven Towne
6332 GOLF COURSE SQ

Terrific 3-level brick TH facing courtyard and Belle Haven golf course! Perfectly located! Lots of light, open kitchen, separate dining room, living room bay window and many upgrades. Fenced in, landscaped backyard with slate patio, fountain pond and shed. 2 parking spaces. Baths renovated - ceramic tile in family room with fireplace, built-in shelving and walkout to patio.

Franki Roberts 703.898.0840



\$ 299,900
Alex. / Midtown
"LUXURY LIVING"

Awesome 1BR plus Den - across from Metro! Easy access to Old Town & I-95. Massive garage parking space. Chef's kitchen with Italian cabinets, granite counters, gas and stainless steel appliances, 24 hour concierge, pool, fitness center, Internet café & club room. THE BEST!

www.McCormickandLusk.com
Daniel Lusk 202.412.8885
Michael McCormick 202.412.8884



\$ 420,000
Alex. / Montebello
"J UNIT"

Summer trees and winter river views from the enclosed balcony of this beautiful and spacious 3BR/2BA unit. Light bright kitchen with front load W/D. Large Master has 2nd enclosed balcony. Hardwoods thru-out. 1 garage plus storage. Resort living with Montebello amenities.

www.susanmovesyou.com
Susan Haughton 703.470.4545
Mindy Brubaker 571.242.9913



OPEN SUNDAY 1 - 4!
\$ 647,000
Alex. / Stratford-on-the-Potomac
8424 PORTER LN

Remodeled 3 level brick Wmsburg Colonial - 3,500 sq ft on .34 acres - 40' deck overlooking woods - 5/6BR, 4FBA - country kitchen, granite counters, skylight, stainless steel, breakfast room - hardwoods - new carpet - lower level walkout to patio - large family/rec room with bar, library, exercise room - workshop and storage - carport. Beautiful and Move-in Ready!

Franki Roberts 703.898.0840



Source: Information based on data supplied by MRIS and its member Association(s) of REALTORS, who are not responsible for its accuracy. Does not reflect all activity in the marketplace. April 1, 2011 - March 31, 2012. Information contained in this report is deemed reliable but not guaranteed, should be independently verified, and does not constitute an opinion of MRIS or Long and Foster Real Estate Inc. ©2012 All rights reserved.

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Mount Vernon REAL ESTATE



IN JUNE 2012, 141 HOMES SOLD BETWEEN \$2,230,000-\$73,000 IN THE MOUNT VERNON AREA.

Top Sales in June 2012

2 4712 Neptune Drive, Mount Vernon — \$937,500

4 9423 Mount Vernon Circle, Mount Vernon — \$879,000



3 8103 Yorktown Drive, Mount Vernon — \$879,000



9 6906 Baylor Drive, Mount Vernon — \$712,000

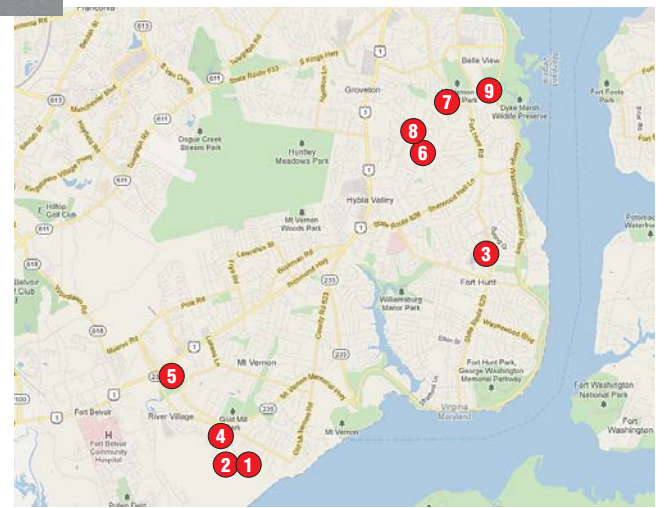


5 5418 Grist Mill Woods Way, Mount Vernon — \$800,000



7 7019 Jube Court, Mount Vernon — \$755,000

Address	BR	FB	HB	Postal	City	Sold Price	Type	Lot AC	PostalCode	Subdivision	Date Sold
1 4511 CARLBY LN	6	8	2	ALEXANDRIA	\$2,230,000	Detached	2.37	22309	FERRY LANDING		06/01/12
2 4712 NEPTUNE DR	6	4	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$937,500	Detached	0.51	22309	YACHT HAVEN EST		06/15/12
3 8103 YORKTOWN DR	4	3	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$879,000	Detached	0.34	22308	HOLLIN HALL VILLAGE		06/29/12
4 9423 MOUNT VERNON CIR	4	3	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$800,000	Detached	0.42	22309	MT VERNON ON THE POTOMAC		06/13/12
5 5418 GRIST MILL WOODS WAY	4	4	2	ALEXANDRIA	\$800,000	Detached	0.37	22309	GRIST MILL WOODS		06/19/12
6 7216 LUDWOOD CT	5	3	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$799,000	Detached	0.26	22306	POPKINS FARM ESTATES		06/29/12
7 7019 JUBE CT	4	3	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$755,000	Detached	0.27	22307	RANDALL		06/15/12
8 2301 POPKINS LN	5	3	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$739,900	Detached	0.31	22306	POPKINS FARM ESTATES		06/22/12
9 6906 BAYLOR DR	3	3	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$712,000	Detached	0.27	22307	WESTGROVE		06/15/12



© Google Map data

Home Life Style

Remodeling and Renovating

Local designers design a home that is compatible with one's lifestyle.

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL
THE GAZETTE

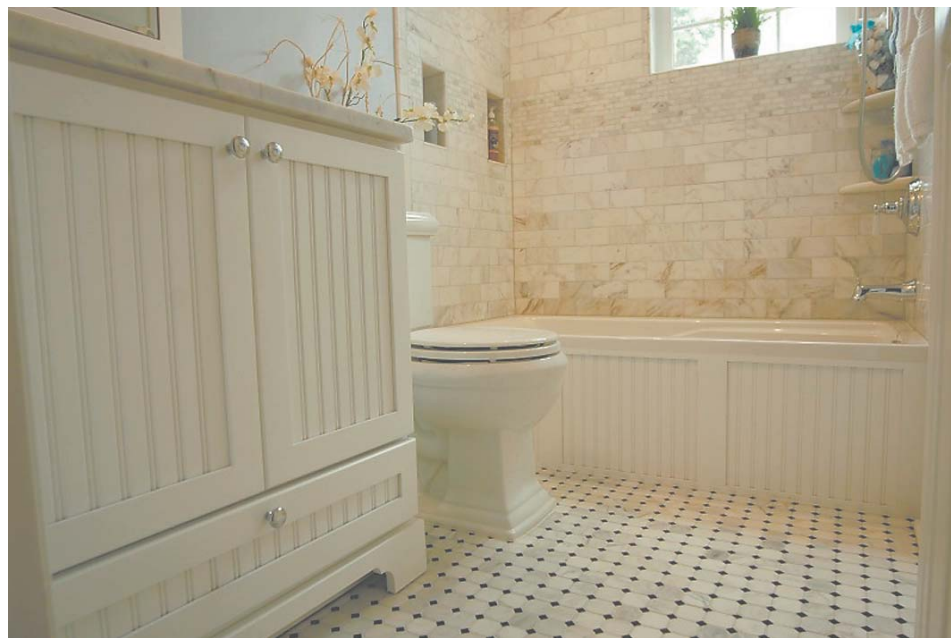
Lifestyle and social considerations are as important as design and aesthetic decisions when remodeling or renovating a home, say some local designers. From bathrooms with a water closet to second floor laundry areas and kitchens that flow freely into the family room, homeowners should determine how the space will be used before beginning a remodeling project.

"I try to figure out how the family lives," said George Hodges-Fulton of BOWA. "If I know who is doing what where and when I can design around it. If something drives you up a wall and you're ready to go see Dr. Phil with your spouse, let's just design around it."

Hodges-Fulton restructured the dated kitchen of a McLean home to add more space for an active family that includes three teenage boys. An addition extending from the rear wall of the kitchen expanded the footprint of the home. The plan included a butler's pantry, family dining area, sitting room and screened porch. The addition of windows allowed natural light to stream into the space.

"The specific reason that the addition was put on was to provide the husband with a place to read the Sunday paper and still be engaged with the family," said Hodges-Fulton. "He travels quite a bit, but the idea would be that the family would have a Sunday morning gathering space. The addition definitely changed the dynamic and improved family time."

Guy Semmes of Hopkins and Porter Con-



Designers at RJK Construction created a warm, inviting space in this Old Town Alexandria guest bathroom.

struction in Potomac, Md. transformed the cramped, dark interior of a Damascus, Md., home into a haven of light and nature. Floor to ceiling windows make up the entire rear wall of the addition, which also unified the kitchen, family room and living room, creating an open, flowing space with a panoramic view of the tree-filled backyard.

"We wanted to take advantage of all the southern light from the backyard and to make the home feel more expansive," said Semmes. "We integrated the outdoors with the interior spaces. It made everything flow so much nicer."

HUSBAND AND WIFE DESIGN team Suzanne and Robert Kalmin of RJK Construction in Fairfax created a space in the bathroom of a Reston home to make laundry less laborious. "The homeowner had an active family," said Suzanne Kalmin. "She had to do laundry for three kids and two adults. The washer and dryer were in the basement. She wanted a laundry area that didn't require her to run up and down the stairs constantly."

The Kalmins remodeled the large second floor master bathroom to include a space for the washer and dryer. "All of the bed-

rooms are on the top level, so it made more sense," said Robert Kalmin. "Instead of walking up and down the stairs she could just go straight across the hall. She could do laundry at night while relaxing in her bedroom."

Potomac, Md.-based designer Susan Matus of Case Design/Remodeling transformed an outdated Bethesda home, creating a space that would feel inviting to the homeowners' daughter, son-in-law and three grandchildren. The design included a ground level office and family room, and a renovated basement with room for a pool table and bar. Even the walls were stripped of the existing wood paneling.

"The family room walks out to the backyard where there is a very beautiful pool," said Matus. "Before the renovation, the family room did not have a clear exit out to the pool area. We added French doors that open to the patio."

When renovating a kitchen, an Alexandria homeowner wanted the warm look of a slate floor, but not the high-maintenance that comes with a natural stone surface in a high-traffic area. Designers Allie Mann and Jim Wrenn of Case Design/Remodeling suggested a porcelain slate with high variation to provide the look and feel of slate without the tiresome upkeep.

From free-flowing rooms to low-maintenance spaces, designers say that are able to incorporate most homeowner requests into a remodel or renovation. "Every homeowner has their own style," said Robert Kalmin. "When it comes to construction, we're able to accomplish everyone's style."

Enlarging a Living Space — Without Adding On

The Kourils increased usable space of their circa-1950s ranch, while staying within walls of original structure.

BY JOHN BYRD

Nineteen years may seem like a long time to wait for an interior custom-suited to your lifestyle, but Gail and Doug Kouril are satisfied that everything has come together perfectly, and at just the right time in their lives.

"We moved into this house in 1992," Gail Kouril said, referring to their circa-1955 ranch house quietly situated on a tree-shaded Arlington cul-de-sac. "Our main pre-occupation, though, was raising and educating three sons — who have now finished college and moved on."

Gail Kouril is quick to add that the couple's decision to makeover the entire house wasn't simply "empty nest" syndrome, but finds it timely that they were introduced to a top design/build remodel-

ing firm at exactly that point when moving forward on long forestalled plans made sense economically and personally.

"The house is in a neighborhood that has really appreciated," Gail Kouril said. "So we attended a workshop sponsored by Sun Design Remodeling, and were surprised at how quickly the outlines of a working plan came together."

FOR STARTERS, the solution called for converting a first floor 2,000-square-foot primary living area into a more spacious, bright and better rationalized interior without ever breaching the envelop of the original structure.

Among key problems with the existing house: the master bathroom was tiny; the kitchen cramped and dated. There was no place to have a meal save the dining room.



Sun Design Remodeling removed a rear bearing wall in a circa 1955 ranch, co-opting a seldom-used rear porch into an expanded new kitchen. The dining counter is a de facto space divider and a convenient serving station.

The rear porch was of minimal use. Traffic patterns were constricted. The interior was too dark. There wasn't even an organized place to store beach chairs and Christmas decorations.

Moreover, the ever-promising lower level — which featured windows at-grade and a rear walk-out — was only half finished, and

SEE ENLARGING, PAGE 16

HOME SALES

In June 2012, 141 homes sold between \$2,230,000-\$73,000 in the Mount Vernon area. This week's list represents those homes sold in the \$525,000-\$337,000 range. For the complete list, visit www.ConnectionNewspapers.com

Home Life Style

Enlarging a Living Space

FROM PAGE 15

the accessing stairway was too steep and out-of-code.

"We were pretty aware of the shortcomings," Doug Kouril said. "We just weren't sure what was feasible within our budget."

So it was a revelation when planners at Sun Design proposed a spatial reconfiguration — which made the home's existing footprint seem vastly enlarged, without adding an inch of new enclosed square footage.

"It's now a kitchen-centric plan," said Roger Lataille, the remodeling firm's design consultant. "We rotated the kitchen into the north corner of the house, switching places with the dining room, then converted part of the seldom-used back porch into a breakfast room with a two-stool dining counter facing into the kitchen."

Results: the kitchen now easily serves the living room, the new dining room and a back patio where the family spends a lot of warm weather time.

Better yet, with several interior walls deleted (including a section of rear elevation bearing wall), the

new layout yields a significant increase in natural light.

Convenient serving stations are integrated into well-equipped food preparation zones. As Doug Kouril, the household's preferred chef, explains: "when you're cooking and entertaining ... this plan that makes it really easy to multi-task."

Aesthetically, the new kitchen presents a warmly textured ambience. Maple built-ins, floor-to-ceiling glass-facing cabinets and marble surfaces are set off by newly-refinished hardwood flooring. A stovetop backsplash comprised of Santa Cecilia granite and glass-accented ceramic tile makes a particularly fine interior design statement.

"The designer helped us to make informed choices," Gail Kouril said. "They pre-selected finishwork options in our budget range, and their guidance was spot-on."

Converting the original electric range to a five-burner gas cooktop has been a creative windfall for Doug Kouril who now has both a convection oven and a traditional baking oven at his fingertips.

EXPANDING THE MASTER SUITE was a separate challenge, inspired by Gail Kouril's interest in retaining all four bedrooms while adding a large master bath and two walk-in closets.

"The designer immediately identified the bedroom adjacent to the existing master suite as the appropriate spot for the master bath," Gail Kouril said. "In fact, the arrangement actually creates an extra bedroom window and space for sizeable his and her closets."

The 12' x 11' master bath features a glass-encased walk-in shower; each partner now has a basin of their own; and Gail gains a generously-sized vanity and bench.

Eliminating the former back corner bedroom also deletes an end-of-the-hall foyer, gaining 20 square feet for the re-made hall bath.

So, where's the fourth bedroom? In the thoroughly mainstreamed lower level — which now includes a beautifully-appointed guest bath and a home office as well as a newly carpeted and upgraded family room complete with working fireplace.

Doug Kouril said that the lower level, with its ample available light, was always a pleasant gathering place. But Sun Design's better-rationalized stairway has made this part of the house as functional as any other — one of the reason the makeover has really worked for everyone.

Address	BR	FB	HB	Postal City	Sold Price	Type	Lot AC	Postal Code	Subdivision
1106 CROTON DR	3	2	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$525,000	Detached	0.25	22308	WAYNEWOOD
8319 CHERRY VALLEY LN	4	3	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$522,000	Detached	0.24	22309	RIVERSIDE ESTATES
8526 WAGON WHEEL RD	5	2	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$519,000	Detached	0.36	22309	RIVERSIDE ESTATES
8342 BOUND BROOK LN	4	2	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$517,000	Detached	0.24	22309	RIVERSIDE ESTATES
6708 WOODSTONE PL	3	3	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$515,000	Detached	0.16	22306	WOODSTONE
3415 WESSYNTON WAY	5	2	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$505,000	Detached	0.35	22309	WESSYNTON
4502 PHYLLISS ST	5	3	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$500,000	Detached	0.39	22309	MT VERNON MANOR
8523 BOUND BROOK LN	5	3	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$500,000	Detached	0.25	22309	RIVERSIDE ESTATES
2230 WITTINGTON BLVD	5	3	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$495,000	Detached	0.33	22308	STRATFORD LANDING
1612 LAFAYETTE DR	3	2	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$495,000	Detached	0.19	22308	HOLLIN HALL VILLAGE
2209 SHERWOOD HALL LN	4	2	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$494,000	Detached	0.24	22306	HOLLIN BROOK PARK
5709 NORTON RD	5	3	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$475,000	Detached	0.28	22303	HICKORY KNOLL
9003 PATTON BLVD	4	2	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$472,500	Detached	0.50	22309	WOODLAWN MANOR
8116 ORVILLE ST	4	3	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$464,900	Detached	0.29	22309	TIMOTHY PARK
4205 ADRIENNE DR	3	3	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$460,000	Detached	0.84	22309	SULGRAVE MANOR
1505 BALTIMORE RD	3	2	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$450,000	Detached	0.23	22308	HOLLIN HALL VILLAGE
921 CROTON DR	3	2	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$442,000	Detached	0.25	22308	WAYNEWOOD
8011 CANDLEWOOD DR	4	2	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$440,000	Detached	0.31	22306	KIRK
7581 GREY GOOSE WAY	3	3	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$420,000	Townhouse	0.04	22306	GROVE AT HUNTLEY MEADOWS
8401 LEAF RD	4	4	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$417,000	Detached	0.38	22309	MT VERNON
3017 BATTERSEA LN	4	2	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$410,000	Detached	0.28	22309	RIVERSIDE ESTATES
2301 STOKES LN	3	2	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$405,000	Detached	1.00	22307	STOKES JERAMIAH
5903 MOUNT EAGLE DR #604	2	2	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$400,000	Hi-Rise 9+ Floors		22303	MONTEBELLO
7623 AUDUBON MEADOW WAY	3	2	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$400,000	Townhouse	0.03	22306	GROVE AT HUNTLEY MEADOWS
8311 RAMSGATE CT	4	3	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$395,000	Detached	0.25	22309	RIVERSIDE TERRACE
8750 MILL TOWNS CT	3	2	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$393,000	Townhouse	0.05	22309	OLDE MILL TOWNS
2606 PHILLIPS DR	6	2	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$391,000	Detached	0.25	22306	GREGORY HEIGHTS
3639 RANSOM PL	3	3	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$390,000	Townhouse	0.03	22306	HUNTLEY MEADOWS
7009 VANDERBILT DR	4	2	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$385,000	Detached	0.18	22307	BUCKNELL MANOR
8231 DOCTOR CRAIK CT	3	2	2	ALEXANDRIA	\$378,000	Townhouse	0.04	22306	BRIARY FARMS TOWNHOMES
7912 BAYBERRY DR	5	2	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$377,000	Detached	0.25	22306	SHERWOOD HALL
2451 MIDTOWN AVE #1523	2	2	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$376,000	Hi-Rise 9+ Floors		22303	MIDTOWN ALEXANDRIA STA
2906 SCHOOL ST	3	3	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$375,900	Detached	0.19	22303	PENN DAW VILLAGE
7927 FITZROY ST	4	2	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$375,000	Detached	0.20	22309	MT VERNON VALLEY
2818 FORT DR	3	2	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$370,000	Duplex	0.09	22303	JEFFERSON MANOR
8208 CEDAR LANDING CT	3	3	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$370,000	Townhouse	0.04	22306	HUNTINGTON AT MT VERNON
5606 ELEANOR CT	3	2	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$369,900	Detached	0.17	22303	BURGUNDY VILLAGE
6612 BEDDOO ST	4	2	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$369,500	Detached	0.23	22306	BEDDOO HEIGHTS
5920 EDGEHILL CT	2	2	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$362,490	Duplex	0.08	22303	JEFFERSON MANOR
8808 OAK LEAF DR	4	1	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$360,000	Detached	0.50	22309	MARY LEA PARK
1503 BALTIMORE RD	3	1	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$353,000	Detached	0.23	22308	HOLLIN HALL VILLAGE
5853 MOUNT VERNON DR	3	1	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$350,000	Duplex	0.08	22303	ANNALANE TERRACE
5914 WILLIAMSBURG RD	2	2	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$349,000	Semi-Detached	0.12	22303	JEFFERSON MANOR
7127 HUNTLEY CREEK PL #51	3	2	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$345,000	Back-to-Back		22306	GROVETON WOODS
4323 ROLLING STONE WAY	4	2	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$345,000	Detached	0.22	22306	STONEBROOKE
6820 DUKE DR	3	1	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$345,000	Detached	0.20	22307	BUCKNELL MANOR
3553 HUNTLEY MANOR LN	3	2	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$340,000	Townhouse		22306	GROVETON WOODS
7023 RIDGE DR	3	1	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$337,000	Detached	0.24	22306	VALLEY VIEW

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Your Guide through Every Step

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

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21 Announcements

OBITUARY
Lucille Toombs Duling, a lifelong resident of Alexandria, passed away on August 5 at her home in Alexandria at the age of 91. She was preceded in death by her husband, Roland Duling; and three sisters. She is survived by her daughter, Sharon Edwards; son, Roland L. Duling Jr.; grandchildren, Melanie Lavery, Christopher Duling, Shaun Duling, and Denyse Reynolds; and three great grandchildren. She was a 60 year member of Baptist Temple Church, the Dorkas Sunday school class, as well as the church choir; retired from the Alexandria School Board. She volunteered at many civic organizations to include the Ramsey House and Lyceum in Old Town Alexandria. Family and friends may gather on Thursday, August 9, 2012 from 2-4 & 6-8 p.m. at Everly-Wheatley Funeral Home, 1500 W. Braddock Rd., Alexandria, VA 22302 where funeral services will be held on Friday, August 10, 2012 at 11 a.m. Interment will follow at Mount Comfort Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the Alzheimer's Association via their website www.alz.org, select Donate, Tribute/Memorial Donation and then please enter BAE Network Systems (Arlington, VA) for the employer matching program. Flowers, gifts and a guest registry may be found at www.everlyfuneralhomes.com

28 Yard Sales

Community Yard Sale sponsored by Woodlawn Faith United Methodist Church
Location: Faith Campus 7010 Harrison Lane, Alexandria, VA 22306
Time: Sat August 11 8:00am-1:00pm
Rental space still available. Come shop, sell your stuff—good bargains. Call 703-628-9205 or 703-360-9450 for info

Downsizing Sale
Antiques, furniture, dishes, glassware, flatware, jewelry, decorative items, rugs, electronics, 1930's 16 mm movie camera & projector. 9-4, Sat-Sun, Aug 11-12, 923 Priscilla Lane, Alex. Va., 22308

I Never think of the future. It comes soon enough.
-Albert Einstein

21 Announcements

21 Announcements 21 Announcements 21 Announcements

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Fairfax Water
FAIRFAX COUNTY WATER AUTHORITY
Notice of Public Hearing
Resolution Authorizing Acquisition of Property Necessary for Public Purposes by Eminent Domain or Other Means
September 6, 2012 at 6:30 p.m.
The Fairfax County Water Authority will hold a public hearing pursuant to Va. Code Ann. § 15.2-1903 on at **6:30 p.m. on Thursday, September 6, 2012**, to receive public comments on a proposed Resolution authorizing the acquisition of easements necessary for the improvement and expansion of Fairfax Water's water system infrastructure adjacent to sections of the Lee Jackson Memorial Highway (U.S. Route 50) in Fairfax County. The improvement and expansion is required to provide adequate capacity to serve existing and future customers. The necessary easements are to be located across several parcels of land adjacent to U.S. Route 50, more particularly described as Fairfax County Tax Map Parcels 0332-01-0004, 0332-01-0005B2, 0332-01-0005D, 0332-01-0005E, 0341-03-B4, 0341-03-B5, 0341-03-0001, 0343-01-0041A, and 0343-13-0001. Following the public hearing, the Water Authority Board may vote on or after September 6, 2012, to adopt the proposed Resolution.
The proposed Resolution and other related information can be viewed at Fairfax Water's Website at <http://www.fairfaxwater.org>.
The public hearing will be held in Fairfax Water's offices at 8570 Executive Park Avenue, Fairfax, VA. Those wishing to speak at this hearing or desiring a copy of the proposed resolution should call Eva Catlin at (703) 289-6017. Interested parties also may submit written comments to PublicHearingComments@fairfaxwater.org or mail written comments to:
Fairfax Water
Public Hearing Comments
8570 Executive Park Avenue
Fairfax, VA 22031
All written comments must be received by close of business on Wednesday, September 5, 2012 to be included in the record of the public hearing.

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PEOPLE



PHOTO BY CONNOR STUDIOS

Laura Marie Howell and Lt. Brian Michael Harrington

Howell and Harrington Engaged

Mr. and Mrs. Walter A. Howell of Clifton announce the engagement of their daughter, Laura Marie Howell of Arlington, to Brian Michael Harrington of Alexandria, son of Mr. and Mrs. Michael J. Harrington of Alexandria.

The bride-to-be is the granddaughter of the late Mr. and Mrs. Samuel A. Sullivan, formerly of Falls Church and the late Mr. and Mrs. W. Frank Howell, formerly of Ozark, Ala. The groom-to-be is the grandson of Mrs. Marie Harrington of

San Francisco, Calif. and the late Mr. John F. Harrington Jr. of San Francisco, Calif. and the late Mr. and Mrs. Francis E. Briggs of Long Branch, N.J.

Laura is a graduate of James W. Robinson Secondary School and Clemson University. Laura, a Zeta Tau Alpha, received her B.S. degree in business management. She is employed by DRT Strategies, Inc. in Arlington as an IT program manager.

Brian is a graduate of Mount Vernon High School and the University of Virginia where he was captain of the Atlantic Coast Conference Champion swim team. Brian received a commission in the U.S. Navy in 2006 and has deployed to Iraq and the Horn of Africa. He is currently stationed in Washington, D.C.

A September 2012 wedding in Alexandria is planned.

Church To Host Homecoming Worship Service

The Rev. Dr. Darrell K. White and congregation of Bethlehem Baptist Church will celebrate their Annual Homecoming Worship Service on Sunday, Aug. 12, at 12 p.m.

The guest evangelist, the Rev. F. Lamont Gooding — a 1991 graduate of West Potomac High School — is pastor of the Pleasant Grove Baptist Church, Prince George, Va.

The public is invited to attend. The church is located at 7836 Fordson Road, Alexandria (Gum Springs).

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NVSL Season Concludes with Individual All-Star Meet

Waynewood's Dona sisters win at home pool.

BY JON ROETMAN
THE GAZETTE

Eight-year-old Hanani Dona jumped up and down in support of her older sister, 17-year-old Reanna, during a medal ceremony at the Northern Virginia Swim League Individual All-Stars meet on Aug. 4. Hanani's involvement in the day's events wasn't limited to cheerleading, however, as the younger sibling received her own recognition.

Reanna won the 15-18 girls' 50-meter butterfly and finished second in the backstroke, and Hanani finished third in the 8U 25-meter butterfly and first in the backstroke at their home pool: Waynewood Recreation Association in Alexandria. Reanna, a 2012 graduate of West Potomac High School and rising freshman at Ohio State University, finished with an NVSL season-best time of 28.55 seconds in the fly. In the backstroke, she was one of two swimmers to break 30 seconds. Her time of 29.66 was bested only by Janet Hu's NVSL record time of 28.21.

Hanani swam 18.81 in the fly and 19.94 in the backstroke.

"I actually made it a point to watch [Hanani]," Reanna said. "... We have such a huge age difference between us, I wasn't sure whether she'd like swimming or not. At her age, I was not making it to all-stars as an 8-and-under. I didn't know what all-stars was. The fact that she knows what's going on is just really great for her."

While the Dona sisters shined in their home pool, Hu rewrote the NVSL record book. A member of the Mosby Woods Raiders (Fairfax) and a rising junior at Oakton High School, Hu broke her own record in the 15-18 50 freestyle with a time of 28.21. Hu set the previous record of 28.52 one week earlier at divisionals, according to the NVSL Web site.

"It's pretty exciting," Hu said, "to know



PHOTOS BY CRAIG STERNUTZEL/THE GAZETTE

Reanna Dona, a 2012 West Potomac graduate, finished first in the girls' 15-18 50-meter butterfly and second in the backstroke during the NVSL Individual All-Stars meet on Aug. 4. The meet was held in Dona's home pool: Waynewood Recreation Association.

"I'm still improving."

Hu also won the 50 free with a time of 26.5. She set the NVSL record in the event one week prior with a time of 26.27.

Laura Schwartz, a member of the Camelot Community Club Knights (Annandale) and rising senior at Falls Church High School, entered the 15-18 girls' 100 IM as the No. 1 seed and didn't disappoint. She finished with an NVSL season-best time of 1:06.5.

"I try not to think about it," Schwartz said of being an event's top seed. "I guess it kind of gets me a little bit excited because I think, 'I have to make sure I get first place since I'm seeded first.'"

Schwartz had to come from behind to capture the win.

"I actually had no idea where I was until I came off the breaststroke turn," she said. "... I breathed to my left and I saw the other girl and I was right at her hip. I was like, 'Oh gosh, I'm seeded first, I need to win this,' so I had to kick it into another gear to out-touch."

While Schwartz fulfilled her duty as a favorite, Ben Lambert's victory in the 15-18 boys' 50 fly was an upset. Lambert, a member of Hayfield Farm Seahawks (Alexandria) and rising sophomore at Hayfield Secondary School, won the event with a time of 26.3 despite being seeded outside of the

top three.

"It was all mindset," Lambert said. "My coach from a while ago told me that if you believe you're the best one out there and you swim like it, then you can be and that's what happened today. ... I actually kind of like having people ahead of me because it inspires me to go faster and it gets me more hyped."

Paul O'Hara, a member of the Hollin Meadows Barracudas (Alexandria) and a rising senior at Gonzaga College High School in Washington, D.C., finished first in two events. After finishing in a first-place tie in the 15-18 boys' 100 IM (1:00.65), O'Hara won outright the 100 freestyle with a time of 23.74.

"I was kind of amped up for the second event," O'Hara said, "because after the tie, it was kind of disappointing."

Zachary Fountain, a 2011 West Springfield High School graduate and rising sophomore at Indiana University of Pennsylvania, tied with O'Hara in the 100 IM and won outright the 100 breaststroke (30.82). Fountain represented the Orange Hunt Sharks (Springfield).

In boys' butterfly action, winners included: Sleepy Hollow's Liam Redman (8U, Falls Church); Highlands Swim's Ben Charles (9-10, McLean); Chesterbrook's

Jaya Kambhampaty (11-12, McLean) and McLean's Christopher Murphy (13-14). In girls' butterfly action, winners included: Hunter Mill's Alexandra Dicks (8U, Vienna); Little Rocky Run's Emily Drakopoulos (9-10, Clifton); Greenbriar's Jacqueline Clabeaux (11-12, Fairfax) and Orange Hunt's Robyn Dryer (13-14, Springfield).

In boys' IM competition, winners included: Highlands Swim's Charles (10U); Dunn Loring's John McClorey (11-12, Vienna) and Lee-Graham's Miller Surette (13-14, Falls Church). In girls' IM action, winners included: Wakefield Chapel's Madelyn Donohoe (10U, Annandale); McLean's Isabella Rongione (11-12) and Commonwealth's Hannah Baker (13-14, Fairfax).

In boys' freestyle action, winners included: Fox Mill Woods' Tomasz Kleczek (8U, Reston); Lee-Graham's William Jackson (9-10, Falls Church); Little Rocky Run's Myles Brown (11-12, Clifton) and Village West's Aidan Pastel (13-14, Springfield). In girls' freestyle competition, winners included: Ravensworth Farm's Emily Suris (8U, Springfield); Little Rocky Run's Drakopoulos (9-10); Greenbriar's Clabeaux (11-12) and Commonwealth's Baker (13-14).

In boys' backstroke competition, winners included: Tuckahoe's James Ewing (8U, McLean); Lee-Graham's William Jackson (9-10, Falls Church); Overlee's Jonathan Day (11-12, Arlington); Overlee's Ryan Baker (13-14, Arlington) and Annandale's Kyle Tyrrell (15-18). In girls' backstroke action, winners included: Sully Station SS's Elise Mozeleski (9-10, Chantilly); Hamlet's Grace Gent (11-12, McLean) and Orange Hunt's Dryer (13-14).

In boys' breaststroke competition, winners included: Donaldson Run's Drew Harker (8U, Arlington); Sully Station SS's Brian Patten (9-10, Chantilly); Chesterbrook's Sam Gollob (11-12, McLean) and South Run's Christopher Stankiewicz (13-14, Springfield). In girls' breaststroke action, winners included: Ravensworth's Suris (8U); Hunt Valley's Carrie Morrison (9-10, Springfield); Mount Vernon Park's Holly Jansen (11-12, Alexandria); Little Hunting Park's Sarah Cahill (13-14, Alexandria) and Crosspointe's Brooke Malone (15-18, Fairfax Station).



Overlee's Jonathan D. Day finished second in the 11-12 boys' 100-meter IM and won the backstroke at the NVSL Individual All-Stars meet on Aug. 4.



Hayfield Farm's Ben Lambert won the 15-18 boys' 50-meter butterfly at the NVSL Individual All-Stars meet on Aug. 4.



Highlands Swim's Ben Charles of McLean won the 9-10 boys' 25-meter butterfly and 10U 100 IM during the NVSL Individual All-Stars meet on Aug. 4.

ENTERTAINMENT

55 Restaurants Offer \$35 Menus

For 10 days this summer, restaurants throughout Alexandria will offer a \$35 prix-fixe three-course dinner or \$35 dinner for two. Foodies can savor the flavors of Alexandria's distinctive collection of eateries, from fine dining to casual neighborhood gems. Alexandria is known for its independently owned and chef-driven restaurants.

For 10 days, including two weekends, diners can treat themselves to the culinary creations of Alexandria's distinctive collection of eateries, from fine dining to neighborhood gems.

Chef Cathal Armstrong's newest Alexandria venture, Society Fair, makes its Restaurant Week debut – joining two of his other establishments, The Majestic and Virtue Feed & Grain. Layla's Lebanese Restaurant is also new to the event. Diners can sample menus by the new executive chef at The Grille at Morrison House and Jackson 20, Brian McPherson.

Restaurant Week menus and online reservations are available on VisitAlexandriaVA.com. Foodies can peruse the list of participants, which includes Washingtonian's "100 Very Best Restaurants" pick The Majestic plus OpenTable Diners' Choice Winners La Bergerie, A la Lucia, Tempo, Geranio, and Monroe's - An American Trattoria. Other favorites include Bastille, Cheesetique, Columbia Firehouse, Fontaine Caffe & Creperie, The Warehouse, and Delia's Mediterranean Grill.

Alexandria is known for its independently owned and chef-driven restaurants. This bi-annual event enables residents and visitors to experience Alexandria's diversity of restaurant choices and taste the culinary inventiveness of local chefs. The August 2012 event is the third time Alexandria Restaurant Week has been offered in the summer. Alexandria Restaurant Week was launched in 2009 and has been popular with patrons and restaurateurs ever since. The Alexandria Convention & Visitors Association coordinates and markets the event, which is free for participating restaurants. In addition to serving as an economic driver for Alexandria restaurants, Alexandria Restaurant

Week builds the Alexandria brand as it helps the city to become known as a culinary destination.

Participating Restaurants

\$35 Three-Course Prix Fixe Dinner

A la Lucia
Bastille
Bilbo Baggins
Carlyle Club
Chart House Alexandria
Columbia Firehouse
Delia's Mediterranean Grill
Dutch's Grill
Finn and Porter
Gadsby's Tavern Restaurant
Geranio
GRAPE + BEAN Old Town
The Grille at Morrison House
Il Porto
Jackson 20
Joe Theismann's Restaurant
La Bergerie
La Tasca
Laporta's Restaurant
Layla's Lebanese Restaurant
Light Horse
The Majestic
Medieval Madness
Mount Vernon Inn
Nina's Dandy
RT's Restaurant
Savio's Restaurant
Society Fair
Tempo Restaurant
Two Nineteen Restaurant
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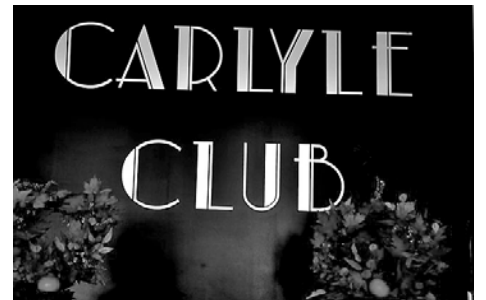
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Bugsy's Pizza Restaurant and Sports Bar
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Faccia Luna
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Fontaine Caffe & Creperie
Hard Times Cafe
King Street Blues
Monroe's - An American Trattoria
Murphy's Irish Pub
Overwood
Pizzeria Paradiso
Ramparts Tavern & Grill
RedRocks Pizza Napoletana
Shooter McGees
Southside 815
T.J. Stone's
Thailand On Royal Street
Union Street Public House
Villa di Este
Virtue Feed & Grain

Details

Alexandria Summer Restaurant Week

Aug. 17-26, 2012
Restaurants in neighborhoods throughout Alexandria, including Old Town, Del Ray, and the West End offering \$35 prix-fixe three-course dinner or \$35 dinner for two.

Restaurants, menus, and online reservations at VisitAlexandriaVA.com or call 703-746-3301.



CALENDAR

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

THURSDAY/AUG. 9

Dance Classes. Gadsby's Tavern Museum, 134 North Royal St. In preparation for the Jane Austen Ball on Aug. 11, learn English country dancing from expert dance instructors. \$12 per class, or \$30 for the series of three. 7-9:30 p.m. Reservations recommended. Visit www.gadsbystavern.org or call 703-746-4242.

Untitled Me Exhibit and Reception.

6-9 p.m. ART Options partners with the Torpedo Factory to bring you Untitled Me, a collection of self portraits and celebrated icons created by diverse talented artists from the DC region. Visitors are encouraged to bring broken or constant items to be attached to human frames made of wire. At Torpedo Factory Arts Center, 105 N. Union St., Sites 2 and 3 (second floor).

Bingo Night. 6:30-8:30 p.m. Back 2 School Bingo Night at Gum Springs Community Center. The Gum Springs Community Center is located at 8100

Fordson Road. Call 703-360-6088.

FRIDAY/AUG. 10

Friday Night Live featuring Gerald Scott & CO. 7 p.m. Free. Special guest William McMillan with songs from his new album "Incredible." Shiloh Baptist Church Worship Center. 1401 Jamieson Ave.

Hooray for Books! Children's Bookstore. 10:30-11 a.m. Join our Wee Ones Storytime as we explore the exciting world around us with our favorite stories and songs. Ages 2 and under free. At 1555 King St. Call 703-548-4092 or visit

hooray4books.com.

SATURDAY/AUG. 11

Summer Trees of Park Fairfax. 9-10:30 a.m. Free. Join us for a summer morning walk at amongst the trees at Park Fairfax. Education chair Scott Knudsen will review the keys to summer tree identification techniques. He will discuss the native habitat of each tree and good uses for the tree in the landscape. RSVP required. Email sknudsen@earthlink.com to register.

Debi Smith. 7 p.m. A folk/pop singer, Smith has recorded more than 20

albums and compilations. Performing at St. Aidan's Episcopal Church at 8531 Riverside Rd., between Fort Hunt Road and Route 1. Visit www.debismith.com.

Jane Austen Ball. Gadsby's Tavern Museum, 134 North Royal St. Step back to the time of Jane Austen at this late 1790's-era ball. The evening will feature a variety of English country dances in the historic ballroom, live music, and "iced refreshments." Period costume optional, "after-five" attire encouraged. \$45 in advance, reservations are required. 8-11 p.m.

SEE CALENDAR, PAGE 21

ENTERTAINMENT

Summer Sidewalk Sale Returns to Old Town

The streets of Alexandria will be buzzing with shoppers on Saturday, Aug. 11 at The Third Annual Old Town Summer Sidewalk Sale.

Participating merchants and restaurants will be showcasing their products in the third City-wide sale event. This year, many stores will be open early, at 9 a.m., making it easy to stop by after the farmers market.

Each participating business will host a different event or promotion—some retailers will be offering deeply-discounted summer merchandise, some will be holding demonstrations of their product lines, and others will have special events. Visit www.alexandriasidewalksale.com/ for participants and their hours.

Event sponsors are the Potomac Riverboat Company and the Alexandria Convention and Visitors Association.

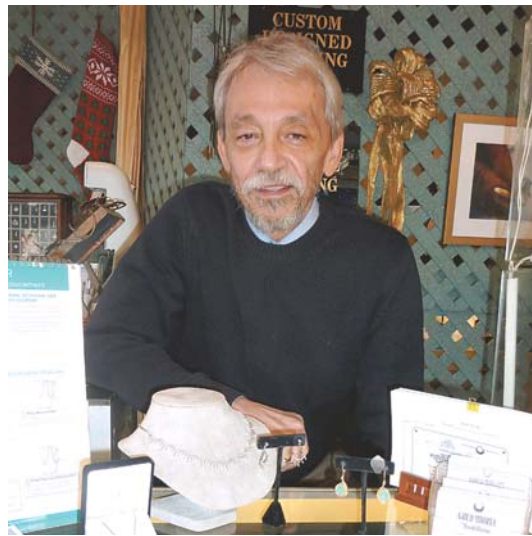


PHOTO BY JEANNE THEISMANN/THE GAZETTE

David Martin of Goldworks will participate in the 3rd Annual Old Town Summer Sidewalk Sale on Saturday, Aug. 11, 2012.

CALENDAR

FROM PAGE 20

Visit www.gadsbystavern.org or call 703-746-4242.

Hooray for Books! Children's Bookstore. 10:30-11 a.m. Join our Wee Ones Storytime as we explore the exciting world around us with our favorite stories and songs. Ages 2 and under free. At 1555 King St. Call 703-548-4092 or visit hooray4books.com.

THROUGH AUG. 12

"The Wizard of Oz" presented by the Port Tobacco Players. Come see the family musical adapted for the stage from the classic movie version. Fridays and Saturdays at 8 p.m. and Sundays at 3 p.m. Tickets for adults are \$17 and tickets for students, seniors, and military are \$14.

SUNDAY/AUG. 12

Civil War Sunday. Alexandria Archaeology Museum, 105 North Union St., #327. Explore the Civil War in Alexandria. Free. 1-5 p.m. Visit www.alexandriaarchaeology.org or call 703-746-4399.

MONDAY/AUG. 13

Music. An Intimate Duo Evening with LUCINDA WILLIAMS featuring Doug Pettibone at the Birchmere. \$49.50. Visit www.Birchmere.com.

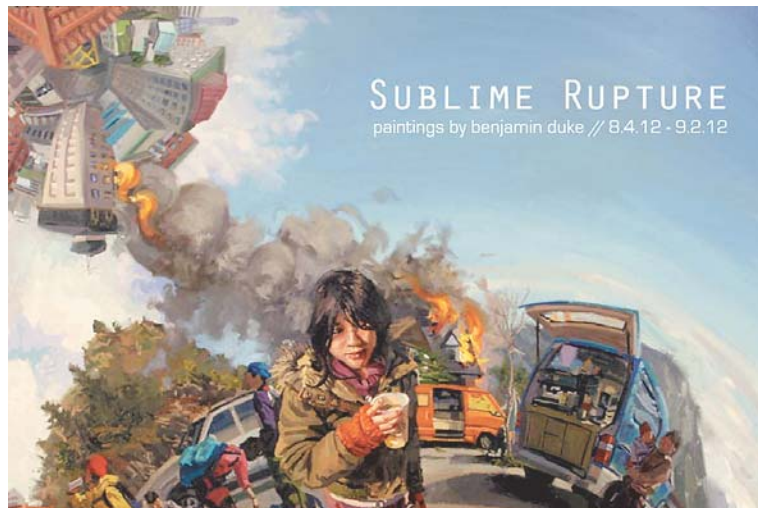
TUESDAY/AUG. 14

Music. An Intimate Duo Evening with LUCINDA WILLIAMS featuring Doug Pettibone at the Birchmere. \$49.50. Visit www.Birchmere.com.

FRIDAY/AUG. 17

Alexandria Harmonizers Concert.

Focus Music in Mount Vernon presents folk/pop singer Debi Smith in concert 7 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 11, at St. Aidan's Episcopal Church. Tickets are \$18 general, \$15 in advance at FocusMusic.org. St. Aidan's is located at 8531 Riverside Rd., between Fort Hunt Road and Route 1. Visit debismith.com.



The Torpedo Factory Art Center's Target Gallery presents the exhibition Sublime Rupture, featuring a series of large paintings by artist Benjamin Duke, winner of the gallery's 2012 Open Exhibition competition. There will be a reception Thursday, Aug. 9, 6-8 p.m., including a gallery talk with Benjamin Duke at 7 p.m. 105 N. Union St. Visit www.torpedofactory.org/target.

7:30-8:30 p.m. The Alexandria Harmonizers, men's barbershop group, perform a variety of musical harmony. Sit around Market Square on bench seating, or bring a folding chair to enjoy the music. Market Square, 301 King St. Call 703-746-5592.

Mount Vernon Swing Band. 7:30-9:30 p.m. \$4 at the door. Owen Hammett will conduct the live band. Light refreshments will be provided by Mount Vernon Nursing and Rehabilitation Center. Hollin Hall Senior Center, 1500 Shenandoah Rd. Call 703-765-4573.

Sierra Hull and Highway 11. 7:30 p.m. Free. Part of the Mount Vernon Concert Series. Performing at Grist Mill Park, 4710 Mt. Vernon Hwy.

Cirque du Soleil. 8 p.m. The Campagna Center will benefit from this performance of TOTEM at the Plateau at National Harbor. Ticket sales through the center benefits the programs of The Campagna Center. Visit www.campagnacenter.org or email Lee Stenberg at lstenberg@campagnacenter.org. Tickets: \$115.

SATURDAY/AUG. 18

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

Nature Walk. 10 a.m. Join a nature walk led by Dr. Elizabeth Wells, Associate Professor Emerita of Botany at the George Washington University. Emphasis will be on native plants and identification of "pollinator syndromes" — flower characteristics that may appeal to a particular type of pollinator. At the Dyke Marsh



PHOTO BY TERRY JORDAN

SEE CALENDAR, PAGE 22

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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ENTERTAINMENT

FROM PAGE 21

Wildlife Preserve.

Alexandria and the War of 1812: A Town Occupied. Come to Carlyle House Historic Park to learn about the burning of Washington and surrender of Alexandria in August 1814. Lectures will take place in Virginia's oldest bank building, the former home of the Bank of Alexandria, 10 a.m.-1 p.m. and tours of the museum 10 a.m.-4 p.m. \$10 for adults and \$5 for children ages 5-12. Children's activities included in price of admission. At 121 N. Fairfax Street. Call 703-549-2997.

SUNDAY/AUG. 19

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

Silent Auction. St. Joseph Catholic Church, 711 N. Columbus St. Following both Masses in the Church Hall until 3 p.m. Jewelry, paintings, crystal, silver, china, personal services and more.

The Committee for Jazz will feature Vaughn Ambrose for its concert. At Meade Church, 322 N. Alfred St. Donation is \$15. Light refreshments will be served, and parking is available in the church's lot and on the street.

TUESDAY/AUG. 21

"Postal Routes and Our Ancestors" will be presented by Leslie Bouvier and the Mount Vernon Genealogical Society (MVGS) in room 112 of the Hollin Hall Senior Center, starting at 1 p.m. Free, open to the public. The program will focus on the who, what, where, when, and



Cirque du Soleil returns to The Plateau at National Harbor with TOTEM. Tickets purchased through The Campagna Center for Friday, Aug. 17, 8 p.m. will benefit programs at The Campagna Center. \$115. Visit www.compagnacenter.org.

how of mail from before the Revolution into the 19th century. The Hollin Hall Senior Center is located at 1500 Shenandoah Rd. Contact Phyllis Kelley at 703-660-6969 or publicity@mvgenealogy.org.

THURSDAY/AUG. 23

Elephant Day. All day, all elephant items will be 20 percent off, customers can sample elephant themed snacks and read fun facts

Oregon Wine Tasting with Biggio Hamina Winery

On Monday Aug. 13, from 6-8 p.m., The Butcher's Block will host an Oregon wine tasting with Biggio Hamina Winery winemaker and proprietor, Todd Hamina.

Hamina founded Biggio Hamina winery in September 2007 with a focus on Pinot Noirs. The winery practices whole cluster fermentation, and prefers grapes from volcanic soil. The store will offer a 10 percent discount on all half cases and 15 percent on a whole case. The tasting is complimentary, and open to the public, and below is a list of the wines that will be poured:

❖ Biggio Hamina 2009 Cougars Mark Vineyard Willamette Valley Pinot Grigio - Light straw color, provides tropical notes of melon and pineapple combined with mineral scents of wet stone.

❖ Biggio Hamina 2009 Willamette Valley Pinot Noir - Fresh red raspberry fruit prevails, with hints of white pepper and earth. A crisp, food-friendly wine.

❖ Biggio Hamina 2007 Momtazi Vineyard Pinot Noir - Red raspberries, red cherries, and sweet cinnamon intermingle in the glass. Silky smooth tannins finish this biodynamic Pinot noir.

❖ Biggio Hamina 2007 Deux Vert Vineyard Pinot Noir - Big, earthy blackberry and black currant flavors finish with structured firm tannins. This is a wine to cellar or decant before serving now.

The Butcher's Block is located at 1600 King Street. Visit www.braborestaurant.com or www.facebook.com/braborestaurant.

about elephants at Ten Thousand Villages. In addition, 15 percent of the day's sales will be donated to the International Elephant Foundation, which works to protect elephants and their dwindling habitats in Africa and Asia. Visit www.elephantconservation.org. Call 703-684-1435 or visit www.alexandria.tenthousandvillages.com.

FRIDAY/AUG. 24

Concert by National Community Church. A local church is performing songs written by award-winning singer-songwriters, from its first worship CD, "The God Anthology" at the Birchmere Music Hall, 3701 Mount Vernon Ave. Visit www.godanthology.com or www.Birchmere.com.



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