

Mount Vernon Gazette

MOUNT VERNON'S HOMETOWN NEWSPAPER • A CONNECTION NEWSPAPER

JUNE 6, 2013



Prom Royalty

Mount Vernon High School principal Nardos King crowns John Victoria as Prom King. The school's prom was held Friday, May 31, at the Sheraton National Hotel in Arlington.



Mount Vernon High School principal Nardos King crowns Sabrina Evan as Prom Queen. More prom photos, page 18.

PHOTOS BY
LOUISE KRAFFT
THE GAZETTE

Cox Narrows Digital Divide

New program offers low cost internet service to disadvantaged families.

BY GERALD A. FILL
THE GAZETTE

At a ribbon-cutting ceremony attended by about 100 people on Monday, June 3, at the Murraygate Village Community Center located near the Hybla Valley Shopping Center off of Richmond Highway, Cox Cable executives from Fairfax County, Northern Virginia, and their national offices, announced the launch of Connect2Compete Virginia, a national non-profit program to provide broadband internet access in their homes to families with children (K-12) who participate in the

national free school lunch program by offering discounted high speed internet service.

They were joined by local and state elected and appointed officials, including: Chairwoman of the Board of Supervisors, Sharon Bulova, state Sen. Toddy Puller, and Delegates Scott Surovell, Jim Scott, Vivian Watts, Kaye Kory, Acting Chairwoman of the Federal Communication Commission Mignon Clyburn, Wonhee Kang, regional director, Fairfax County Region, Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Washington, with participating children from the Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Washington, SEE COX ACTS, PAGE 7

Does Mount Vernon Need Two Farmers Markets?

Survey to consider potential for another weekly event.

BY MICHAEL LEE POPE
THE GAZETTE

Despite a vocal faction of supporters who were pushing to move the Mount Vernon Farmers Market from the Sherwood Regional Library to the Belle View Shopping Center or the Mount Vernon RECenter, the Fairfax County Park Authority has determined that the 30-year-old market will stay put. Now members of the Mount Vernon Council of Citizens Association Consumer Affairs Committee is conducting a survey to see if the community can support a second farmers market on a different day.

"If there's a lot of interest in doing that, then I think the next step would be to approach the Park Authority to see if they want a similar type of operation we have

at the library," said Mount Vernon Supervisor Gerry Hyland. "Then they would reach out to see if there are farmers who are able to support it."

Back in March, the council approved a resolution to move the

"It could be that somebody from the private sector could come in and do this rather than having the government being involved and running the market."

— Mount Vernon Supervisor Gerry Hyland

farmers market from the Sherwood Regional Library to the Mount Vernon RECenter. Supporters viewed the move as a way to deal with changing circumstances. Members of the Consumer Affairs Committee cast the issue as a way to deal with a growing concern about safety.

"With the limited number of parking spaces and the increase of vehicles entering and exiting the library parking lot along with the numerous pedestrians in the parking lot, accidents have become the norm," explained the committee report. "Actual incidents are more frequent than previously thought."

THE MARKET DATES back about 30 years, and has now grown to include a mix of local growers from the region. Now the future of the market has been called into question, various interests across the community are vying for dominance. Members of the Belle View Merchants Association say that the shopping center proves a perfect venue for the market, especially because several of the restaurants could use fresh produce from the vendors.

"I would have really liked to have seen the market moved here to the shopping center," said Naresh Bhatt, co-owner of Dishes of India at Belle View Shopping Center. "I'm not really sure that

having a second farmers market would work."

The shopping center parking lot has been used in the past for community use such as selling Christmas trees and wreaths.

Supporters say the spot offers great visibility for the market because it's along two major roads, Fort Hunt Road and Belle View Boulevard. It has ample parking because it's one of the largest lots in the area.

And supporters could bring potential customers for other businesses and restaurants to the shopping center. "Another option would be to have some private organization come in and run a new market," said Hyland. "It could be that somebody from the private sector could come in and do this rather than having the government being involved and running the mar-

ket."

THE SURVEY is currently being conducted, and it's expected to last three or four weeks. The results will determine whether or not enough interest and support is available to launch a new farmers market at a different location. If organizers decide to pull the trigger, the new farmers market would likely be conducted on a different day than the existing market to avoid creating competition for vendors and customers.

"The one at the current location has a number of issues dealing with parking and timing and the potential for an accident," said Christopher Low, co-chairman of the council.

"So what we are looking at is an alternative location for a second farmers market."

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Members of the Alexandria Division of the U.S. Sea Cadet Corps present the colors at the special citizenship ceremony at Gunston Hall on May 25. Pictured are: Alexander Bello (Key Middle School), Michael Wohl (Madison High School), Nikolas van Leer (Forest Park High School) and Samuel Wohl (Madison High School).

PHOTOS BY LOUISE KRAFFT/THE GAZETTE



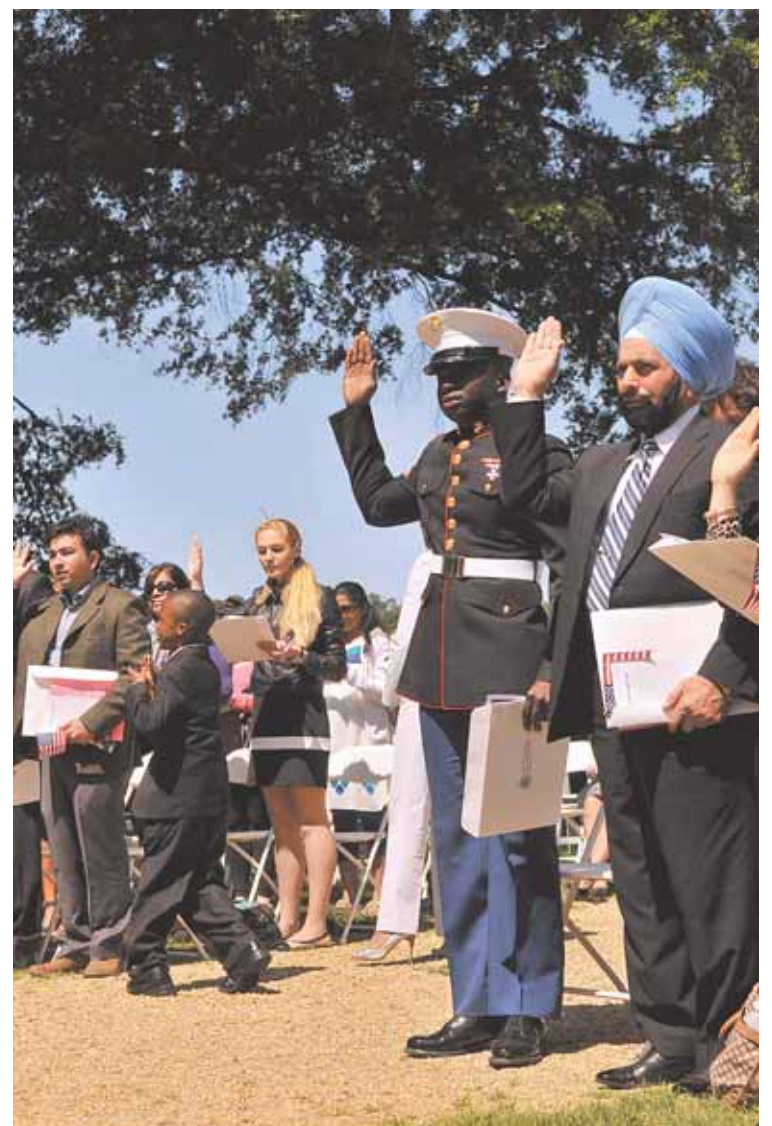
The 51 candidates stand and recite the Oath of Allegiance to the U.S.

Gunston Hall Celebrates 51 New Citizens



Members of National Society of the Colonial Dames of America-DC stand to sing "America the Beautiful" as the Mount Vernon Brass perform.

“**H**oan nghênh, Ahlan'wa sahla, Bienvenido ...and welcome” said First Regent of Gunston Hall Wylie Raab in her closing remarks on May 25 at Gunston Hall. Raab welcomed the 51 new U.S. citizens in a special citizenship ceremony held at George Mason’s home. The citizens represent 28 countries from four continents.



U.S. Marine Kofi Amponsah Boateng and Jager Singh Bathla recite the Oath of Allegiance.



National Society of the Colonial Dames of America-DC patriotic services committee chair Carolyn Abshire leads the new citizens in the pledge of allegiance.



Agnieszka Paulina Pawelkowska displays her certificate of citizenship.



Rosemary Hibbitts joins other family and friends taking photos of the new citizens.

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Alexandria 8014 West Boulevard Drive \$699,000
Exquisitely maintained and updated 1939 home designed for modern living in a premium GW Pkwy location. Professionally appointed details throughout combined with traditional features, wood floors, beautiful moldings, plantation shutters, upgraded kitchen with cherry cabinetry, SS appliances. Exterior features screened porch professional landscaping, copper gutters, stone driveway and more.
Marcy Bates 703-606-7605



Reston 1516 North Point Drive #301 \$285,000
Gorgeous top floor unit. 2BR, 1 BA in secure building w/1 reserved space by front door. Gourmet kitchen w/granite, SS appliances, ceramic tile. Lr w/gas FP Lrge master BR w/WIC. Elfa shelving in closets. Covered balcony area off LR. Walk to shops & restaurants in North Point or RTC. Close to future Metro. Low condo fees. Neutral carpeting & decor throughout!
Meg Olympia 703-475-1552



Alexandria 3456 Martha Custis Drive #312 \$249,900
Freshly painted, bright and sunny, end unit. 605 sq ft top unit with replaced vinyl windows, newer heaters and ac's. Updated kitchen. Washer/dryer. Refinished parquet flooring. Upgraded electrical panel. Attic storage.
Rita Tassa 703-629-8624



Alexandria 6618 Kelsey Point Circle \$440,000
Beautiful end unit townhouse in Kingstowne! Nestled on a quiet cul-de-sac & backing to trees. 3 BR, 2 full & 2 half baths, WBFP fam rm. New carpet & paint throughout. Kitchen has granite, new sink, travertine tile floor. Newer fridge, stove, hot water heater.
The Gillette Team 703-307-5698



Gainesville, VA 14285 Ladderback Drive \$394,500
Beautiful like-new home in pristine condition. Light & bright with lots of upgrades! Gleaming hardwood floors & Berber style carpeting. Gorgeous kitchen with abundance of 42" cabinets, beautiful granite counters with tile backsplash & large island. Mice family room with FPL off kitchen. Spacious master bedroom with sitting area & luxury bath. Recreation room & full bath on LL. Nice fenced yard.
Becky Berning 703-930-3400



Herndon, VA 953 Centre Park Circle #414 \$315,000
Rare 4th floor unit available with vaulted ceilings. Great condo living with all the amenities! 2 BR, 2 full bath! Kitchen has granite counters and stainless steel appliances. View of trees & park. Two pools, billiard room available for rent. Exercise facility & after hours concierge service. Two parking spaces! Minutes to Reston Town Center and 1/2 mile to new Silver Metro Line.
Ally Gillette 703-307-5698



Alexandria 5934 Dorothy Bolton Court \$879,500
Stunning Stone Front Colonial, 3 Fin. Lvl.s, 5 Br., 4.5 Ba, Tuscan Style Kit, Limestone Flr., Granite Ctrs., Lrg. Eat-In Area, Mn. Lvl. FR W/ FP, 2 Story Ceiling, Mn. Lvl. Library, Wood Flrs. Dramatic Entry, Exceptional Mstr. Br & Mstr. Ba., Fully Fin. Lvl. W/ 2nd. Kit, Rec. Rm., Media Rm. & More, Side Load 2 Car Gar., Lrg. Lot Bks. To Trees., Cul-De-Sac Location.
Allan Price 703-861-2424



Woodbridge 13305 Kenny Road \$275,000
Charming Cape Cod with remodeled kitchen with separate entrance, new appliances, skylights, new windows & sliding glass doors, walk-out basement, huge deck, large fenced backyard with shed, updated bathrooms, crown molding, hardwood floors, freshly painted + so much more!
Rich Primrose 703-229-2352



Alexandria 3912 Spect Court \$419,900
Brick Rambler. Freshly Painted Throughout. Hardwood Floors On The Main Level. Kitchen Opens To Large Addition Which Can Be A Family Room, Dining Room Or Combination. Middle Bedroom On The Main Level Can Also Be Used As A Dining Room. Lower Level Rec Room With Gas Fireplace. Home Backs To Open Area. No Through Traffic. Convenient Location - Minutes To Shopping, Commuter Routes And Park.
Paul Petefish 703-244-6220



Alexandria 8229 Stacey Road \$679,900
A hidden sanctuary in Alexandria! Gorgeous center hall Colonial on a cul-de-sac minutes from GW Pky. Large private back yard includes a basketball court. Gleaming hardwood floors throughout the main level. New granite and S/S appliances. Sun room addition for large family gatherings or quiet time. 2-car garage bumped out with extra storage space. Nothing compares! Surrounded by bike and walking paths.
Ally Gillette 703-307-5698



Fairfax Station VA 9326 Hallston Court \$779,900
A Barrington beauty! Recently renovated kitchen has all the bells and whistles! This home has been meticulously decorated throughout and landscaped to the 9s! 2 story family room off the kitchen. New carpet throughout. Lovely patio in very private backyard. One of the largest lots. Barrington has been showcased in the Washington Post as the neighborhood to live in! Cul-de-sac.
Ally Gillette 703-307-5698



Alexandria 6935 Mary Caroline Circle #E \$249,900
Nice 2 bdrm, 2 bath 2nd floor condo, wood fireplace in living room. Newer appliances, granite counters in kitchen. Excellent location, next to Kingstowne Shopping Center, convenient to 1495, 1395. Lots of community amenities, metro shuttle, pool, play ground, volleyball, tennis, community center. Condo will be painted & cleaned professionally, all carpets replaced with same kind.
Maridol Garcia-Joy 703-655-0777



Springfield VA 8556 Groveland Drive \$399,000
A beautiful single family home for the price of townhouse in heart of Springfield. It is four bedrooms, two full baths and one half bath.
Fawzia Noori 571-276-1336



Centreville VA 5612 Oakham Place \$350,000
A gorgeous end unit townhouse in the heart of Centreville. It has three bedrooms, three full baths, and one half bath. Master bathroom has double sink and it has a good size walk-in closet. The living room is very bright and has a beautiful view. The location is perfect, it is walking distance to shopping center and CVS. Very close to major highways (1-66).
Fawzia Noori 571-276-1336



Springfield VA 5310 Weyouth Drive \$460,000
Designer styled 3 level colonial in Kings Pk. Lrg. country kitchen w/ beamed ceilings and built-in shelving. Priced to allow you to upgrade your way. Hardwoods throughout the main & upper lvl. Gorgeous den with a cozy, raised-heapth fireplace. Fully finished bsmt has new carpet, a wet bar + workout. Beautiful backyard with shed and patio. Great FCPS schools.
Lenny Marsh 703-282-6511



Alexandria 6628 Hunter Creek Lane \$539,000
PRICE REDUCTION Beautiful 2 car garage end unit town home with bump outs on all three level for extra space. One of the largest in the development with 2 fireplaces.
Rick Smith 703-297-1558



Ashburn VA 43029 Chesterton Street \$489,995
Former model with many upgrades. Wood Floors in LR, DR, Foyer, and kitchen. Two Story Foyer. Granite in kitchen, tile backslashes, upgraded cabinets. Two MBR suites with BA, one on main level. Finished LL w/full bath and movie room. Deck and brick walkway. Wraparound front porch. Alarm system. Detached 2 car garage. Project counter with stools in RR. Fire pit. Lots of extras!
Bob Roop 571-455-3187



Alexandria 6250 Edsall Road #102 \$170,000
Lovely terrace level unit with patio and grassy area await your bistro table and grill. Enjoy the Master bedroom with walk-in closet and full bath. Cook your favorite dishes in the kitchen with ample counter space. Entertain friends in the open living and dining room. In unit laundry, separate storage unit, free parking, second bedroom, hall bath and pool for summer fun.
Julie Tennant 703-795-8418



Kingstowne 6001 Liverpool Lane \$355,000
Light-filled end unit townhouse. San Francisco style bump out windows creates a feeling of openness. Beautiful deck & patio looking out on mature trees. Gleaming hardwood floors on main. Mstr Bedroom on lower level has its own full bath - makes great "in-law" suite. Easy access to Kingstowne amenities.
Lenny Marsh 703-282-6511



Alexandria 3725 Lyons Lane \$317,900
Quaint Parkfairfax sunny and bright end unit. 2 bedroom, 1 bath Madison model. Remodeled kitchen w/granite counters, new electrical panel, replaced windows, beautiful hardwoods, updated bath. Washer/dryer. Owner needs HOC contingency. Enjoy Parkfairfax amenities close to Pentagon and D.C. Walk to Shirlington.
Rita Tassa 703-629-8624



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Encouraging Volunteers

The Mount Vernon Democrats held an event on May 15 at Pane e Vino Ristorante in Lorton to get their volunteers focused on this year's elections. It also gave the volunteers a chance to meet Democratic Gubernatorial candidate Terry McAuliffe and the two candidates seeking the Democratic nod on June 11 for Attorney General, Justin Fairfax and Mark Herring. At left, Del. Scott Surovell addresses the crowd of about 85 people.

Reflecting on Recent Legislation

Surovell cites roads money and Medicaid expansion.

BY GERALD A. FILL
THE GAZETTE

Reflecting back on this past General Assembly's actions Del. Scott Surovell (D-44) believes the most important legislative accomplishments in the last session of the General Assembly were:

- ❖ Passing a transportation money bill.
- ❖ Advancing Medicaid expansion by creating a special committee to approve Medicaid expansion if several conditions are met, including establishing cost controls and flexibility in managing Medicaid overall. The state Senate Finance Committee projects 33,381 jobs will be created by Fiscal Year 2021 due to the additional money brought into the health care delivery system.
- ❖ Legislation making texting while driving a primary offense and clarifying that it also can be charged as reckless driving.

Surovell said the most significant accomplishment in the last session was working to pass a House of Delegates Budget Amendment that helped to secure \$2 million of funding for the U.S. Route 1 Multimodal Alternative Analysis.

The plan which emerges from this analysis, according to Surovell, "will lay the necessary legal groundwork for all road and transit improvements for the next 20-30 years."

Ironically, his biggest legislative disappointment was in what the transportation legislation did not accomplish, despite its unquestionable importance after years of delay. Surovell said, "The bill only funds

20 percent of our long-term needs, and makes us the only state in the USA cutting gas taxes; finances roads with highly regressive levies that have no relationship to transportation; codifies regional funding mechanisms into our laws and regulations that will prove to be bad precedents in future years, and once again fails to address Northern Virginia's inadequate representation on the Commonwealth Transportation Board."

Surovell's current attention during the recess period includes the following two measures that were introduced by him in the last session and referred for additional study. They are:

- ❖ Legislation which would prohibit public school systems from implementing online learning programs without first ensuring that all public school students have their own computers and broadband access. Surovell said, "Many of my constituents living on or near Richmond Highway do not have computers or broadband; this is also a problem across Virginia. It is wrong for any public school system to make any learning tool available that cannot be equally accessed by lower income families." The bill was referred to the Joint Commission on Science and Technology.

❖ Legislation to amend the Virginia Freedom of Information Act to clarify and establish that the State Corporation Commission is subject to the FOIA. If enacted this would have the effect of reversing a Virginia Supreme Court opinion that the SCC is not subjected to the provisions of FOIA. Surovell said, "The SCC determines how much you pay for electricity, phone, gas, and water service ... regulates banks, securities, and corporations ... they should be subject to sunshine and transparency laws just like the rest of the government of Virginia." The bill was referred to the Commission on the Freedom of Information Act.

BUSINESS NOTES

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

The American Horticultural Society has received a 2013 Award of Excellence from National Garden

Clubs Inc. American Horticultural Society Executive Director Tom Underwood accepted the award at the National Garden Clubs' annual convention. The Award of Excellence, National Garden Clubs' highest honor, is awarded to an individual, organization, or institution that has made a significant contribution

toward the advancement of goals and purposes of National Garden Clubs Inc.

The American Horticultural Society was selected to receive the award because of its long-running national outreach and education programs.



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Alex./Mt. Vernon \$462,000
8620 Curtis Avenue

Lovely, spacious 4 BR/3 BA 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 backyard. 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./Riverwood \$799,900
3709 Carriage House Ct

Large, Stunning & Updated Brick Colonial w/Anthony in-ground pool surrounded by a beautiful, professionally landscaped yard. Prestigious Riverwood's larger model. Main level offers both a family room & library/office w/2 FPLs. Hdw floors on main & upper level w/4 large spacious BRs.

Lower level w/huge rec room & large unfinished utility room w/plenty of storage. Luxury living - Only 5minutes to Ft. Belvoir, 30/35 to Pentagon/D.C.



Alex./Hollin Hall \$469,900
7926 New Market Road

Absolutely lovely home w/over \$130k in recent improvements in great location! Stunning front porch and Family Room addition in 2009 by custom builder. Slate floor on front porch and back patio. Replacement windows. New in 2012 & '09: large shed, cedar fence, driveway, roof, dishwasher,

hot water, stove, humidifier. Beautiful backyard. It's a gem! Wayneswood Elementary, close to G.W. Parkway, Potomac River and minutes to Old Town.



Alex./Stratford Landing \$579,900
2409 Wittington Blvd.

Beautiful 4 BR, 3 BA 2-garage contemporary home w/lovely WATER view from master bedroom balcony of Little Hunting Creek. Why pay \$1,000,000+ for water views when you have it across the street from your quiet corner location? Open floor plan, soaring cathedral ceiling w/skylights in living & dining rms. Expansive, replacement windows allowing

for lots of light. Huge master bedroom suite on upper lvl. Lovely remodeled eat-in kitchen w/42" cabinets & granite. Wall of windows in breakfast area overlooking backyard, as well as deck off of kitchen. Hardwood floors throughout. This one is a Gem!



Alex./Hollin Hall Village \$549,900
1505 Dare Court

Beautiful Brick Front-to-Back Split w/4 BRs, 3 BAs, 2 gas FPLs, located on a quiet cul-de-sac. Major ticket items replaced/updated: roof, furnace, A/C, hot water heater, hdwd floors refinished, baths, windows, kit appliances and painting. It's a Cream Puff! Wayneswood Elementary, 10 minutes to Ft. Belvoir (S), 10 minutes to Old Town (N).

for lots of light. Huge master bedroom suite on upper lvl. Lovely remodeled eat-in kitchen w/42" cabinets & granite. Wall of windows in breakfast area overlooking backyard, as well as deck off of kitchen. Hardwood floors throughout. This one is a Gem!



Alex./Riverwood \$784,900
3713 Riverwood Road

Fabulous 6 BR, 3.5 BA Colonial in prestigious riverfront community of Riverwood. 3 finished levels, updated & expanded kitchen w/plenty of storage - large sunroom addition w/wrap-around deck overlooking a beautiful, fenced back yard. 425 SF of storage below sunroom - remodeled baths - finished walkout lower level w/2 BRs, rec room, den and full bath. 5 minutes

to Ft. Belvoir, 15 mins to Old Town, Alex, 25/30 mins to Pentagon/D.C.



Alex./Riverside Est. \$799,900
8312 Wagon Wheel Road

Stunningly updated 4 BR, 2.5 BA WATERFRONT Colonial w/3 fin lvls backing to Little Hunting Creek offers amazingly beautiful views of nature, teeming w/wildlife. Rec rm opens to a large deck & patio, perfect for entertaining. A paradise in your own home. Also, remodeled baths, & kitchen

w/granite counters. Refinished hdwd floors. 5 mins to Ft. Belvoir, 15 mins to Old Town/Huntington Metro. This is a spectacular value for waterfront!

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Alexandria \$425,000
8789 Mill Towns Ct. Why watch HGTV? Come see this beauty! Brick townhome with garage, built in 2004 with 37K+ in upgrades in the last year! Spacious & bright, featuring renovated kitchen and new wood & carpet. Private, tranquil view of trees from both the deck and the Georgetown-inspired brick, fenced patio. Mins. to Ft. Belvoir, future Wegmans! www.8789MillTownsCourt.com.
Cindy 703-593-1418 • Leslie 703-400-3010



UNDER CONTRACT

Alexandria \$709,000
711 Norfolk Lane. Shows like a Model Home. Close to 2,600 sq. ft. 4 Levels Including Optional 4th Level Loft, 19 x 16 Kitchen with Fireplace, Wood Floors, Deck for Grilling. 2 Large Master Suites each with Private Bath, Jacuzzi Jets And Walk-in Closets. Master has Vaulted Ceilings and a Beautiful Loft. 1st Level has an Office or Den, French Doors and Full Bath, Guest Room. 2-Car Garage...
Gary W. Chute 703-371-9926



Belle Haven \$1,799,000
2106 Wakefield Court. Fabulous 6 bedroom, 3.5+.5 bath center hall Colonial with 5 fireplaces, 4 finished levels and attached 2-car garage. Ideal for entertaining with elegant foyer, exquisite moldings & architectural details throughout. Amazing Chef's kitchen with breakfast room & adjoining family room. Spacious Owner's Suite with New luxurious bath. Walk-out lower level recreation room & game room. Lovely yard with deck & patio. *Christine Garner 703-587-4855*



OPEN SUNDAY

Del Ray \$1,295,000
309 E. Raymond Avenue. Dream Home! Stunning 5 Bed/ 2.5 Bath, Detached Family Home Just Steps to Del Ray's Mount Vernon Avenue Boasts an Open Gourmet Kitchen, Finished Attic, Wine Cellar, Expansive Fully Fenced Backyard, Great Porch & Patio - Perfect for Entertaining! Two-Car Garage & Private Driveway for Off-Street Parking. More Info: www.HomesofAlexandria.com
Bobi Bomar 703-927-2213



OPEN SUNDAY

Stratford Landing \$490,000
8603 Camden Street. Charming 3 BR/3 BA 3-level Colonial on large well-maintained corner lot. Has a large 4th not-to-code bedroom in the basement. Formal living room with fireplace and built-in bookshelves.
Hosted by Mary Hurlbut 703-980-9595



OPEN SUNDAY

Alexandria \$850,000
6915 Andover Drive. Stunning 2-level Rambler—4 bedrooms on main level and guest suite on lower level. Formal living room, dining room, & kitchen with SS and granite. Glass-enclosed sunroom will be your favorite room! LL spacious family room with French doors to patios, pool, hot tub, and pergola for easy entertaining. *Susan Fitzgerald 703-402-3298*



FIRST OPEN SUNDAY 1-4

Springfield \$465,000
6336 Demme Place. Private, large, bright end town house with open floor plan & garage that backs to trees. Free shuttle to Metro. New windows, appliances, lights, fresh paint and new carpet. www.6337DemmePl.com
Cindy 703-593-1418 • Leslie 703-400-3010



OPEN SUNDAY

Alexandria \$371,900
1023 N. Royal #109. Stylish and sophisticated 1 BR/ 1 BA condo. Built in 2007. Private street entrance with charming front yard. TWO garage parking spaces. Low condo fee. Perfect location!
Sue Feintheil 703-819-1964



Alexandria/Mount Vernon \$435,000
1704 Shenandoah Rd. HOLLIN HALL VILLAGE CHARM, UP-DATED! One-level convenience with large addition! Beautifully renovated kitchen, warm wood floors, fireplace. Treed, fenced yard with patio. Minutes to shops, restaurants, G.W. Parkway. Details at: www.1704ShenandoahRd.com
Cindy Baggett 703-593-1418 Leslie Rodriguez 703-400-3010



OPEN SUNDAY

Alexandria
229 Adams Avenue. 4 Bed/2 Bath, Detached Family Home Just Steps to Del Ray's Mt Vernon Ave Boasts a Gourmet Kitchen, Finished Attic, Partially Finished Lower Level, Fully Fenced Backyard, Screened-in Porch—Perfect for Entertaining! Private Driveway for Off-Street Parking. More Info: www.HomesofAlexandria.com
Bobi Bomar 703-927-2213



COMING SOON

Alexandria \$649,900
27 E. Walnut Street. 3 Bed/2 Bath, Detached Del Ray Bungalow Features Welcoming Front Porch, Hardwood Floors, Finished Lower Level and Spacious Fully Fenced Backyard. Steps to Braddock Road Metro. More Info: www.HomesofAlexandria.com
Bobi Bomar 703-927-2213



3 LEVELS

UNDER CONTRACT

Old Town Greens \$845,000
1673 Hunting Creek Dr. One light to D.C., Stunning NV Home Randolph Model, 3 bdrms, 3.5 baths, beautiful wood floors, extensive molding, Berber carpet, gourmet kitchen, granite counters, new Jenn-Air floating glass appliances, fireplace w/granite surround deck & lower lvl. professionally designed patio, 2-car garage.
Gary Chute 703-371-9926

Interested in a Career in Real Estate? Pre-licensing courses are available starting soon. Call 800-544-3000 to enroll.

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NEWS



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

At the official launch of Cox Cable's Connect2Compete discount program: Front row, Wonhee Kang, regional director, Fairfax County Region, Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Washington; Chairman Sharon Bulova, Fairfax County Board of Supervisors; Maribeth Luftglass, assistant superintendent for information technology and chief information officer, Fairfax County Public Schools; Mignon Clyburn, acting chairwoman, Federal Communications Commission; state Sen. Toddy Puller; Gary McCollum, senior vice president and general manager, Cox Communications Virginia; Del. Vivian Watts; Del. Kaye Kory; back row, Kathryn Falk, vice president public & government affairs, Cox Communications Virginia; J.D. Myers II, market vice president, Northern Virginia Operations, Cox Communications Virginia; Brent Wilkes, national executive director, LULAC; Jim Duffey, secretary of technology, Commonwealth of Virginia; Zach Leverenz, CEO, Connect2Compete; Del. Scott Surovell and Del. Jim Scott.

Cox Acts To Narrow Digital Divide

FROM PAGE 1

and Brent Wilkes, of the League of United Latin American Citizens, among other dignitaries and community leaders.

"Cox has a strong history of supporting broadband adoption programs that connects the most vulnerable members of our society — our children — so they can compete and have a greater chance of success in the digital world that awaits them," said Cox Virginia Senior Vice President and General Manager, Gary McCollum. "We are in a race to extend internet access to our most needy children so they will not fall behind in their education and can successfully compete in the digital world."

Former School Board member and founder of the Coalition of the Silence, Tina Hone, said, "This announcement is wonderful; it is a tribute to the forward thinking and commitment of Cox and Gary McCollum that this is happening in Virginia ... the leadership is important here because the digital divide exists even in affluent Fairfax County."

Mount Vernon-area Del. Scott Surovell has introduced legislation that, if enacted, would prevent a public school system "digital divide" by prohibiting the use of innovative information technology in all Virginia public school systems unless the local school districts could verify that the technology devices, e-books and other innovative technology was available to all students. The bill has been referred for study to the Joint Commission on Technology and Science.

The Fairfax County school system has been supportive and was represented at the Cox announcement event by Assistant Superintendent for Information Marybeth Luftglass. Describing the scope of the affected families and children, John Torre, public information officer for the public school system said, "There are 47,188 children currently enrolled in the Fairfax county public schools who are eligible for the free and reduced lunch program. That is 26 percent of the total public school student body in

Discount Program

Cox2Compete offers the following for Virginia families with children receiving free school lunches:

- ❖ Internet service for \$9.95 a month plus tax
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Registration is now open until the end of the year. Visit Connect2Compete.org/Cox or call toll free: 1-855-222-3252

Connect2Compete

❖ The Connect2Compete Cox initiative was developed in conjunction with the partnership with the Federal Communications Commission and the National Cable & Telecommunications Association.

❖ Cox Communications was the first cable company in the nation to conduct a pilot test of the Connect2Compete program in San Diego, in the spring of 2012.

❖ Beginning April 2013, Cox launched the C2C program nationwide.

Importance of student access to technology at home, according to Cox Cable:

- ❖ 50 percent of today's jobs require technology skills; this will increase to 77 percent in the next decade.
- ❖ 76 percent of K-12 teachers assign internet-based homework that students without broadband and digital skills are struggling to complete.
- ❖ 30 percent of all Americans—approximately 100 million people — risk becoming increasingly isolated from contemporary life because they lack the internet service and digital skills necessary to use it effectively.

Fairfax County."

In response to the inequalities inherent in the access to technology by low income families and their children, the public school system has formed an Information Technology Committee which is consulting with parents and community leaders and studying ways in which digital learning systems can be fully integrated into the school system's planning, budgeting, and curricula. Later this year the school system staff will prepare a report with recommendations for fully integrating digital learning and forward it to the School Board for their consideration.

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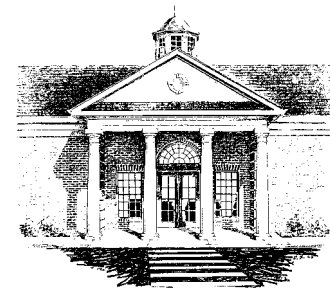


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Two Races, Four Candidates

Competition in June 11 Democratic primary for lieutenant governor and attorney general.

BY MICHAEL LEE POPE
THE GAZETTE

Northern Virginia will dominate the choices for statewide office when Democrats head to the polls on June 11 for a statewide primary to select candidates for lieutenant governor and attorney general. Former Democratic National Committee chairman Terry McAuliffe will be unopposed as the party's choice for governor, leaving the longtime McLean resident to face Republican Attorney General Ken Cuccinelli this fall.

"Terry McAuliffe is not the most highly regarded Democrat, and a lot of Democrats are frustrated by that choice," said University of Mary Washington political science professor Stephen Farnsworth. "But he will have some material to paint the Republican ticket as too conservative for Virginia."

Republicans were going to use a statewide primary to select their candidates until Tea Party supporters backing Cuccinelli seized control of the executive committee last year and changed the rules. The party decided to ditch the primary in favor of a convention to determine candidates, a decision that prompted Lt. Gov. Bill Bolling to drop out of the race and condemn the direction of the party as too extreme. When Republicans gathered in Richmond earlier this month to nominate Cuccinelli, they also selected a virtually unknown candidate for lieutenant governor — conservative black pastor E.W. Jackson, who has compared Planned Parenthood to the Ku Klux Klan and called gays "sexually twisted."

"This is further evidence that making decisions like that can have unintended consequences," said University of Virginia Center for Politics analyst Geoff Skelley. "If Jackson proves to be a liability for the ticket, Republicans will probably look back on the decision to shift to a convention with some remorse."

Democrats have two contenders for the lieutenant governor spot, state Sen. Ralph Northam (D-6) and former U.S. Chief Technology Officer Aneesh Chopra. In the race for attorney general, Democrats will select between state Sen. Mark Herring (D-33) and former federal prosecutor Justin Fairfax.

RALPH NORTHAM is a Virginia Military Institute graduate and U.S. Army veteran who is currently a pediatric neurologist. Northam is currently an assistant professor of neurology at Eastern Virginia Medical School and father of two. One of his major legislative accomplishments during his time in the state Senate was championing legislation to ban smoking in restaurants. When



Ralph Northam



Aneesh Chopra



Mark Herring



Justin Fairfax

he launched his campaign back in December, he indicated his campaign would focus on the social issues that dominated the controversial 2012 session, which put Virginia in the national news media spotlight as well as the late-night comedy shows.

"Republicans used their majority to launch an all-out assault on women, working families and the LGBT community," he said in an e-mail to party steering committee members to launch his campaign. "As I spoke on the floor of the Virginia Senate to defend a most basic right of women — the right to control their own bodies and personal health — I was struck by how far Virginia's government had strayed from its most fundamental mission of improving the lives of all Virginians."

"Terry McAuliffe is not the most highly regarded Democrat, and a lot of Democrats are frustrated by that choice. But he will have some material to paint the Republican ticket as too conservative for Virginia."

— University of Mary Washington political science professor Stephen Farnsworth

On the campaign trail, Northam has called for a ban on assault weapons and a requirement for universal background checks on all firearm purchases in Virginia. He has also suggested that elected officials should be required to report of gifts to family members, which would have required the governor's daughter to report the \$15,000 tab for catering and flowers she received from Star Scientific CEO Jonnie Williams — who also contributed money to the attorney general's campaign that went unreported at first. Northam's proposal would also lower the threshold of personal investments that must be disclosed from \$10,000 to \$5,000 as well as create an independent ethics panel with subpoena powers.

"The people of this commonwealth deserve better than Governor McDonnell and Attorney General Cuccinelli's recent improprieties," Northam said in a statement issued in April.

ANEESH CHOPRA is an Arlington resi-

dent, a graduate of the Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University and the father of two girls. He served as Virginia's Secretary of Technology under Democratic Gov. Tim Kaine until 2009, when President Barack Obama tapped Chopra to be the nation's first chief technology officer. When he formally launched his campaign back in March, he tried to re-appropriate his reputation as a high-tech innovator in a political context.

"I decided to run for the post as I firmly believe our state government can be smarter, faster, better, and fairer for all Virginians," he said in a written statement.

Earlier this month, Chopra became the first down-ticket candidate to start airing a television commercial. The 33-second spot titled "Escalator" shows Chopra staying in place as he climbs up a down elevator. The image is supposed to act as a metaphor for the economic plight of middle class Virginians, women seeking to rise in their careers, and the rise of college tuition costs.

"The Richmond Republicans want us to give up," he says as he begins to ride backward down the escalator. "But we can't let that happen."

THE RACE FOR LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR is normally a sleeper because the role is the least visible of all the statewide offices. But this year is different for two reasons. One is the split in the Virginia state Senate, which is evenly divided between 20 Republicans and 20 Democrats. That means that the next lieutenant governor will have a tie-breaking vote determining the balance of power in the Senate. Another reason this year is different is because winner of the Democratic primary for lieutenant governor will go head to head with Jackson. Northam and Chopra wasted no time in issuing statements about the Republican candidate.

"E.W. Jackson is fighting tooth and nail with Ken Cuccinelli to move Virginia backwards by imposing an extreme social agenda onto the Commonwealth," said Northam in a press release.

"Jackson's extreme views are far to the right of Virginia voters. In fact, Jackson is far more extreme than Ken Cuccinelli —

which is quite a feat," said Chopra in a press release.

The selection of Jackson as the Republican standard bearer has changed the dynamics of the race, which has suddenly become much higher profile than it would otherwise be. Democrats are eager to campaign against Jackson, using his past statements as a template to portray the Republican ticket as a party against choice for women and civil rights for gays. That means the choice facing Democrats is which of the two candidates on the Democratic side would be the best person to face Jackson.

"I think it helps Chopra," said former state Democratic Party chairman Brian Moran. "Northam would have been a choice for Democrats who were concerned about electability. Now that's less of a concern, so people will be more willing to go with what their hearts and minds are telling them."

THE RACE FOR ATTORNEY GENERAL is traditionally difficult for Democrats, who must battle the perception that Republicans are the law-and-order party that has candidates who are tough on crime. The last Democrat to hold the office was Mary Sue Terry, who was first elected to the position in 1985 and then reelected in 1989. That means Republicans have held the position since 1990.

"Democrats know this is an uphill climb," said Moran. "That's why it's so important to for primary voters to pick the right person to be on the ticket."

The winner of the Democratic primary for attorney general will face state Sen. Mark Obenshain (R-26), who won his party's nomination during a convention fight against Del. Rob Bell (R-58). Although Obenshain's nomination as the Republican choice for attorney general did not generate as much press as the lieutenant governor candidate, Obenshain's speech to delegates sounded many of the same themes — opposing a woman's right to choose, supporting the Second Amendment and going after Democratic President Barack Obama at every opportunity.

"President Obama, the next time your rogue IRS targets the Virginia Tea Party, you going to have to deal with me," Obenshain said to thunderous applause.

MARK HERRING is a Leesburg resident and graduate of the University of Richmond School of Law who runs a private practice. A former member of the Loudoun County Board of Supervisors, Herring was first elected to the state Senate in a 2006 special election. He has a bachelor's degree and master's degrees from the University of Virginia, and he is the father of two. He launched his campaign for attorney general almost a year ago, saying it's time to "get politics out" of the attorney general's office.

"Over the last three years, we've watched

Residents Learn about Immigration Reform

Forum provides information about a national debate.

BY ROSS SYLVESTRI
THE GAZETTE

Before the Senate Judiciary Committee approved an immigration bill on Tuesday, May 21, several dozen residents of the Eighth Congressional District attended a forum at Kenmore Middle School in Arlington a week earlier to learn about the various and complex parts of immigration reform.

U.S. Rep. Jim Moran (D-8) started the forum off by speaking of one area of common ground between both sides of the immigration reform debate.

"To most objective observers, from across the political spectrum, it's clear that our current [immigration] system is outdated, is flawed, is inefficient, and, I believe, is unfair," said Moran, speaking at the forum he sponsored titled "Building a Stronger Nation: Reforming Our Broken Immigration System."

Moran sought to explain how this debate is pertinent to his district, which he describes as "a diverse microcosm of the world" due to the fact that over 27 percent of its population is foreign-born.

The audience also heard from Gabrielle Jackson of Alexandria, who came to the U.S. as an undocumented immigrant from Trinidad and Tobago when she was 9 years old. She recently received a two-year work authorization permit through the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals executive order signed by President Barack Obama last year, which applies to undocumented immigrants like her who came to the country as children.



U.S. Rep. Jim Moran, far right, speaks at a forum on immigration reform with members of the panel to his right.

Jackson told of how she grew up living a typical life in the U.S. attending school, from elementary school to college, and experiencing major life events such as birthdays, Christmases, and her wedding.

"The main difference was that I grew up undocumented, I grew up living in fear that all I have, all that I'm learning, all that I am would be taken away because I don't have a piece of paper," said Jackson.

Jackson spoke of how growing up undocumented she "lived in hiding," despite the fact that the U.S. is a country where "you're taught to shine and to be the best you can be."

Members of the panel each gave arguments in favor of comprehensive immigration reform as well as explaining the bill that is currently being debated by the Senate Judiciary Committee.

Patrick Oakford, a researcher at the Center for American Progress, a liberal think-tank, said that immigration reform is also tied to several other issues such as the economy and job growth.

"Our economy is the strongest when every individual is able to reach the greatest economic potential that they have as an individual," said Oakford.

He said just giving legal status to the estimated 11 million undocumented immigrants in the U.S. would create on average 121,000 jobs annually over a 10-year period. He said it would raise the incomes of the undocumented workers who would spend more of their money on consumer goods. "That's going to send out a huge ripple effect throughout the whole economy" because businesses will see increases in sales and will lead to more people being hired.

Oakford, however, said that one of the costs of giving legal status and citizenship to the immigrants that are currently documented would be able to access government social programs such as Social Security. However, he said the Congressional Budget Office had found that the amount of taxes paid by these immigrants would be larger than the amount of benefits that they

would receive by two to one.

One of the parts of the proposed immigration that is currently being worked out in the Senate deals with providing the 11 million undocumented immigrants in the U.S. pathway permanent residency and citizenship. While some critics have labeled the bill as giving "amnesty" to these immigrants, Don Lyster, director of the National Immigration Law Center's Washington office, said that there are many requirements that those who fall under this category must meet in order to apply for permanent residency.

Under the proposed Senate bill, undocumented immigrants would be able to apply for a program called Registered Provisional Immigrant (RPI) status. Some of the things required by applicants include being in the country, before Dec. 31, 2011, maintain continuous presence in the U.S. until the day of application, have a job or be in school, settle any unpaid taxes, and can't have committed a felony, and pay a \$500 fine. After six years, they would be able to reapply for RPI once they meet certain requirements. Once 10 years have passed, they would be able to apply for permanent residency once they have met another set of requirements.

Another aspect that the bill deals with is border security and enforcement. According to a summary of the bill provided by Moran's office, the Secretary of Homeland Security must develop a plan to achieve a "90 percent effectiveness rate for apprehensions" of those trying to enter the country illegally through the southwestern border. Also, immigrants would not be able to apply for RPI status until such a plan has been put into action.

However, according to Kristian Ramos, the policy director of the 21st Century Border Initiative at NDN, a center-left think tank, says that much progress has already been made in securing the U.S. border with Mexico and some parts of it are already at a apprehension rate of 90 percent.

Voters Head to Polls for Democratic Primary June 11

FROM PAGE 8

Attorney General Cuccinelli pursue an ideological crusade that is out of step with the mainstream," Herring said in his campaign announcement. "Time after time, the attorney general has abused the powers of his office and twisted the law to advance his personal political agenda, which has been costly to taxpayers and costly to the credibility of the office."

Herring said he was inspired to run when Cuccinelli issued a legal opinion early in his term that said the boards of visitors at the state's universities and colleges could not include sexual orientation as a part of their nondiscrimination policies. Herring said it was part of a pattern that Cuccinelli developed dur-

ing his time in office, from going after a climate change scientist at the University of Virginia to suing the federal Environmental Protection Agency and taking on the federal Affordable Care Act in court. Last month, Herring sent a letter to the public integrity section of the Department of Justice seeking an inquiry into financial dealings between Virginia supplement maker Star Scientific, McDonnell and Cuccinelli.

"The gifts and the cozy relationship between these individuals and this company have raised serious concerns in Virginians' minds, especially because Star Scientific has business before the state," said Herring in a written statement. "Governor McDonnell and Attorney General Cuccinelli have crossed a line."

JUSTIN FAIRFAX is a resident of

Annandale, a graduate of Columbia Law School and the father of two. He served as an assistant U.S. attorney before deciding to run for elected office. Back in 2000, he worked on Vice President Al Gore's presidential campaign. Then, in 2004, he was assistant to vice presidential candidate John Edwards during John Kerry's presidential campaign. Although this is Fairfax's first campaign for elected office, he said his experience as a law clerk and prosecutor makes him suited for office.

"It's not something I would have to learn to do on the job," said Fairfax during a candidates' forum in March. "I know how to win in that court. I know how to be successful in the court. We need an attorney general who has those tools, has that experience and has those skills."

When Fairfax formally announced his can-

didacy in September, Herring was already a candidate and House Minority Leader Ward Armstrong was considering a bid for the office himself. Armstrong decided against a campaign, leaving the race between Herring and Fairfax. Since that time Fairfax has won a number of straw polls, gaining momentum in a race that has now become more competitive than many had anticipated.

"It is a shame that Ken Cuccinelli has repeatedly misused the powers of the office for partisan gains, and failed to make the protection of Virginia's families and businesses his number one priority," said Fairfax when he launched his campaign last year. "That must, and will, change. As the only federal prosecutor in the race, I have the skills, experience, and energy to bring about that change."

OPINION

Respecting Parents' Roles

Parental notice is key to school discipline reform.

By CAROLINE G. HEMENWAY
FAIRFAX ZERO TOLERANCE REFORM

Most Fairfax County parents assume that they will be called before their child is questioned for something that could ruin their academic career, just as they are when their kid is sick or injured. That is not the case.

On June 6, at its 7 p.m. meeting, the school board is taking up several measures that would improve the school system's disciplinary process, among them an amendment that would require school administrators to contact parents before their child is interrogated or told to make or sign statements for behavior that could lead to a suspension or expulsion. There are clear exceptions for cases of immediate danger and schools would remain safe and secure.

Parental primacy — our right to determine the fate of our own children — is on the docket and it is up to us to claim it.

Today, children across the county are pulled into administrator's offices or school police offices and questioned, sometimes for hours, for incidents they're implicated in or witness to. Large authority figures loom over them, they report, and they are told things will go better for them if they cooperate, especially if they spill the beans on schoolmates. They are supposed to know they can leave or refuse to answer, but all their lives, they've been told if they leave the school building without permission they will be punished. All their lives they've been told to trust these school authority figures. Children comply. They say what they feel they must just to get out of that intimidating situation, sometimes providing false confessions, as history shows.

One year ago, after years of community advocacy and two student suicides, the school

board addressed appeals to reform our discipline process to be less punitive and more humane and effective. It formed a special community committee of 40 members, about half FCPS staff, and many others with expertise in child behavior and development. The board thus acknowledged that discipline and its effects on our kids and their families was of keen interest to their constituents.

The committee met weekly for five months beginning last October, held five community forums, and sought input from experts, spending hundreds of hours of work. In March, it delivered 52 solid recommendations for change, agreed to unanimously or by large majorities. The final report and recommendation are located here: <http://www.fcps.edu/dss/ips/srr/committee/index.shtml>.

COMMENTARY

The code of student behavior (Student Rights and Responsibilities) only requires that "the principal will make a reasonable effort to notify parents or guardians at the earliest opportunity regarding student disciplinary actions." Too often, this happens only after school officials have gathered enough so-called evidence to "convict" students of incidents as minor as classroom disruption or "defiance." Meantime, there is nobody there to advocate for the child, tell her she has a right to remain silent, or otherwise have her back. Worse, a shamefully disproportionate number of black, Latino, poor, and disabled students are suspended or recommended for expulsion.

A critical committee recommendation asks the board to make it policy that parents be notified before questioning to make sure they are part of the process from the very start. While schools act "in loco parentis," this only applies when parents are not there. By delaying notification, administrators deliberately interfere with parents' rights to raise and protect their own children.

Principals are the main opponents of parent notification. For the last year, many have told their staff and PTAs that schools would become imperiled if parents were notified. They claim parents would make their children lie. That

stolen property would never be recovered if they didn't jump on the kids to confess. That children would collude on false stories.

They claim "justice" would be delayed because we give them bad contact information, but the school nurse typically is able to reach parents using information from the emergency contact form we carefully fill out each fall. A form like this can be used for discipline issues.

They argue parents should just trust principals to have their kids' best interests at heart. Where, in all this, do principals trust parents?

The cases keep rolling into us: Kids who witnessed a fight now being charged with involvement and suspended for as many as 10 days. Kids caught under the influence of marijuana now being recommended for expulsion and out of school for months. Children as young as 10 being charged with sexual assault for saying something about underwear. Children with Down Syndrome being coerced into signing things they don't understand. After the committee presented its recommendations to the board at a March 20 work session, staff delivered their version. Many items were similar, but key ones were omitted or opposed, like parent notification. Many principals then fanned out to their schools arguing against it. They also lobbied against a recommendation to institute a proven intervention program called Second Chance for first-time drug users like the successful one in Arlington County. (The majority of discipline hearings cases that keep kids out of school for weeks are for first-time pot use.) The board is officially taking up the staff recommendations at the June 6 meeting. School Board members Sandy Evans (Masson) and Elizabeth Schultz (Springfield) have amendments supporting the committee's parent notification recommendations. If we care about being partners with schools, we must make sure they get our support.

We must contact all our elected school board members (at the www.FCPS.edu website) or show up on June 6 to remind them just for whom they works. Us. Parents and guardians. Not principals. Us. The people most important to the lives of our own children.



PHOTOS BY LOUISE KRAFFT/THE GAZETTE

Leslie and Mario Aleixo greet shoppers in their front yard during the community yard sale.

Yard Sale Season

Dozens of families participated in a multi-family yard sale on Saturday, May 4, in Mount Vernon. From Waynewood to Collingwood Road, signs blossomed on light poles directing shoppers to the next sale.



Margaret, Patrick and Maureen Rita worked together to sell off the remaining houseware items at the family home.

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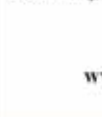


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 703.864.5050
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OPINION

Welcoming New Citizens

By LINDA T. "TODDY" PULLER
STATE SENATOR (D-36)

Saturday, May 25, was a beautiful, albeit windy day on Mason Neck, and I had the honor of participating in a very moving ceremony conducted by the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services and hosted by Gunston Hall, home of George Mason. The special citizenship ceremony included 51 new Americans, formerly of 28 different countries.

COMMENTARY The program began with Mrs. Wylie Raab, First Regent of Gunston Hall, reminding the new citizens that, "democracy is not a spectator sport."

The presentation of colors was by local high school students, who are part of the U.S. Sea Cadet Corps, Alexandria Division, and then the national anthem was performed by the Mount Vernon Brass with everyone joining in to sing.

Sarah Taylor, District Director of the USCIS, led the new citizens in the Oath of Allegiance. There are few moments that make one feel as patriotic as hearing dozens of people recite that simple pledge to cut their previous ties and loyalties and declare fidelity to the U.S. One shining example was a young man, formerly of Ghana, who has already been serving the U.S. as a Marine Lance Corporal. When asked during his interview what it will be like to become an American citizen, he remarked "Just like being a Marine — awesome!"

David Mercer, a George Mason descendent and Alexandria lawyer, was the ceremony's keynote speaker. Mercer is a direct descendent of John Mercer, the uncle and guardian of George Mason. David gave a moving and patriotic speech. He did a great job of telling the new citizens the importance of participation in democracy, quoting Supreme Court Justice Louis Brandeis, "The only title in our democracy superior to that of President is the title of citizen."

He went on to say that the process of democracy in order to succeed depends on all of us. "To protect freedoms and liberty — we as citizens must participate in the democratic process and in our communities. How else will our elected officials hear us unless we actively engage in our federal, state and lo-



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

State Sen. Puller was one of the speakers at the citizenship ceremony at Gunston Hall on Saturday, May 25.

cal elections?" he asked.

After walking the audience through the responsibilities placed upon the citizen, he ended with a quote from President Obama, "For more than two centuries, this nation has been a beacon of hope and opportunity ... generation after generation of immigrants have come to these shores because they believe that in America all things are possible."

After David, I had the honor of speaking and shared a little Memorial Day history with everyone. Three years after the Civil War ended, on May 5, 1868, the Grand Army of the Republic established Decoration Day. General John A. Logan declared Decoration Day should be observed on May 30. The first large observation was held that year at Arlington Cemetery. General and Mrs. Grant presided over the ceremonies. Members of Grand Army of the Republic meandered through the cemetery placing flowers on the graves of both Union and Confederate soldiers. Memorial Day was finally declared a national holiday in 1971, designated to be the last Monday in May.

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Complimentary Refreshments



At Ribbon-Cutting

Military Child Education Coalition board member Patricia Shinseki distributes MCEC coins to Mount Vernon High School students. The U.S. Department of Education celebrated the opening of an art and writing exhibit of works by military-connected students in April at its headquarters in



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Washington, D.C. Following a presentation by the Marine Corps JROTC Color Guard from Mount Vernon High School, students from the school performed vocals, bagpipes and original poetry.

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Alexandria \$799,500
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NEW LISTING

Alexandria \$599,000
8020 Candlewood Drive, Alexandria, VA 22306
Split level perfection on 1/3 acre with fully fenced manicured back yard. 4BR/2.5BA, eat in chef's kitchen and garage. Just off Collingwood Rd-ready for move in!
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OPEN SUN 1-4PM

Mason Hill \$799,900
1911 Mason Hill Drive, Alexandria, VA 22307
Terrific colonial with 2-c garage, 5BR's on the upper level. Main level has family rm, FP, hardwood floors & den on main lvl. Deck overlooks expansive, level fenced backyard.
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Wellington Heights \$1,495,000
1219 Woodcliff Court, Alexandria, VA 22308
One of a kind custom home to be built on large 3/4 acre cul de sac lot. 4-5BR/4.5BA, high end amenities and finishes throughout. Waynewood School District.
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Riverside Gardens \$729,500
8427 Sulky Court, Alexandria, VA 22308
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Alexandria \$299,000
1100 Quaker Hill Drive 301, Alexandria, VA 22314
Much awaited Ellery model has been renovated with new appliances, cabinets, carpet. Gas fireplace, washer/dryer, balcony overlooks pond and pool. Easy access to Old Town.
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Alexandria \$809,000
414 Gibbon Street, Alexandria, VA 22314
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LETTERS

Act of Goodwill

To the Editor:

When I was driving to work this morning (Thursday, May 30) around 8:15 a.m., three young adults had stopped traffic in both directions on the George Washington Parkway just north of the Shell Station and south of Old Town. Sitting in this back-up, all I could see were the three persons walking across the parkway in front of lines of stationary cars. My initial thought was a jogger trying to cross the parkway had been hit. Slowly, as the line of cars crept forward, I saw the real cause of the back-up.

A beaver wanted to get to the other side of the George Washington Parkway and the three young adults must have been jogging on the bicycle path and stopped the traffic, saving this beaver's life. By the time I drove by the beaver, he/she had nearly reached the country club side of the parkway.

I don't know the identities of the three persons.

Seeing this act of goodwill made my day complete, and it was still not 8:30 a.m.

The National Park Service may want to consider adding a new sign at this location alerting drivers to the potential of a beaver crossing the road.

Paul Cooksey
Mount Vernon

Candidacy Offered

To the Editor:

Del. Scott Surovell (D-44) is expected to be re-elected in November, and rumor has it, the Republicans do not intend to oppose.

The following excerpt — a snapshot of my opinion on the subject — comes from a letter, delivered earlier this week, to Chairman Jay McConville, Fairfax GOP:

"Virginia is teetering on the edge of a moral crisis. We are under attack on all fronts, by those intending to corrupt and forever alter the conscience, character, and destiny of our Commonwealth.

"We cannot simply stand by and do nothing ... If there are no other takers, I urge you to consider the possibility of listing me as your nominee. The deadline is 7 p.m.,

June 11, 2013 ..."

The voters of House District 44 deserve a good, godly, moral choice. If we do not give it to them, who will?

To review my offer in its entirety, visit www.mountvernonstatesman.com.

Joseph A. Glean

Prospective candidate for the
Virginia House of Delegates,
District 44.

Who Speaks For Majority?

To the Editor:

Mary Jo Detweiler's letter ["Nothing Secret about Friends Group"] in last week's Gazette characterized my letters as "rants." Since my letters typically provide documented facts, they are hardly "rants." Notably Ms. Detweiler's letter disagreed with my allegation that the so-called "Friends of Westgrove Park" (FOWP) is a secret organization and, in so doing, provided an e-mail address permitting readers to be added to a list of those who receive their "occasional communications." I am unaware of this information being previously offered the general public. Apparently, my "rant" served a useful purpose. If you are just curious and want to do nothing more than sign up to monitor FOWP's activities, you should specify in your e-mail that FOWP should not count you as a supporter.

Ms. Detweiler speculated that her advocacy against the Off-Leash Dog Area (OLDA) "annoy[s]" me. I defend Ms. Detweiler's right to state her personal opinion. What does annoy me and others is her persistent effort to convey the false impression that her views are shared by a significant percentage of Mount Vernon residents. The FOWP name was clearly chosen to suggest an affiliation with Westgrove Park. The Fairfax County Park Authority (FCPA) does not recognize such affiliation. This is true even though FCPA has no specific criteria to so recognize an organization. A FCPA official informed me that they apply "common sense" to such determinations. Common sense has led them to conclude (correctly) that FOWP should not be so recognized.

Ms. Detweiler also took issue

with my report on my use of a sound meter at the OLDA. Ms. Detweiler stated that "the sound [from dogs in the OLDA] flows down the hill and across the property line." What hill? The elevation of Westgrove Park closest to River Towers is about the same as that of the River Towers property. Moreover, while sound does radiate outwardly from its source, sound intensity diminishes as the square of the distance. Imagine you are within a building next to the end zone of a football field. You look to the opposite end zone which abuts the end zone of another football field. At the far end zone of the second football field, a dog is barking. Is this a disturbance worth complaining about? This is the distance from the OLDA to the nearest River Towers building. My prior letter pointed out, with photographic evidence, that only 14 windows of one River Towers building are visible from the OLDA. The allegation of a significant sound disturbance requiring remediation is pure fiction.

Each of us in the Mount Vernon community lives with unwanted disturbances. I live across the street from my community's pool and tennis courts. I often hear the sounds of tennis balls being hit late into the evening. I wouldn't think to complain and demand that the courts be closed at dusk, particularly since they were there when my house was built. Ms. Detweiler's solution at Westgrove Park? In the same letter, she inconsistently (1) expresses the desire to "maintain" the alleged "wildlife corridor between Mt. Vernon District Park and Dyke Marsh," and (2) requests installation of "sound barriers." If there were, in fact, the "wildlife corridor" Ms. Detweiler claims exists, wouldn't "sound barriers" block it? In fact, as pointed out in previous letters, there is no such wildlife corridor. Between Mount Vernon District Park and Dyke Marsh the following barriers to such a wildlife corridor exist: The Mount Vernon District Park bike path, Fort Hunt Road, the fence surrounding Westgrove Park, the four-lane George Washington Parkway and its bike path. The parkway and Fort Hunt Road aren't part of a "wildlife corridor." Rather, they are animal "killing fields" as evidenced by numerous dead animal carcasses frequently found there.

The Master Plan for Westgrove Park should include the OLDA as a permanent feature. This is what the vast majority of Mount Vernon residents want.

H. Jay Spiegel
Mount Vernon

Write

The Gazette welcomes views on any public issue. The deadline for all material is noon Friday. Letters must be signed. Include home address and home and business numbers. Letters are routinely edited for libel, grammar, good taste and factual errors.
Email gazette@connectionnewspapers.com

PEOPLE

SFDC Names New Marketing Manager

Southeast Fairfax Development Corporation has named Lindsey A. Doane as its new marketing and communications manager. Lindsey's experience in Fairfax County includes serving as an intern for Chairman Sharon Bulova of the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors, as well as working as a camp director for the Fairfax County Park Authority.

A lifelong resident of Oakton, Lindsey attended Fairfax County Public Schools and graduated from Thomas Jefferson High School for Science & Technology.

Lindsey graduated magna cum laude with honors in political science from Muhlenberg College in Allentown, Pa., where she worked with Envision Lehigh Valley and the Lehigh Valley Economic Development Corporation as a focus group leader for community meetings concerning the future direction of the region.

SFDC is a non-profit organization established to revitalize the Richmond Highway corridor from the Capital Beltway to Fort Belvoir. Visit www.sfdc.org.



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OPEN SUN

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 Spacious home with 4 bedrooms features open floor plan, high ceilings, updated kitchen with light oak cabinets, 3 full baths, hwd flrs, and full walk-out lower level with family room and gas fireplace. Fabulous screen porch overlooks fenced backyard. Prime Stratford location on quiet cul-de-sac. Excellent value! **OPEN SUN 6/9, 1-4! GW Pky S, R-Collingwood; L-Fort Hunt; R-Elkins; L-Linton; L-Sword to Parry.**

OPEN SUN

4004 Belle Rive Terrace
\$1,299,000
Master Piece-Near River!
 Must see-one of area's most spectacular properties! Top quality renovation resulting in almost 8000 sqft of updated elegance. Features: grand room sizes, high ceilings, custom trim detail, refinished hwd flrs, updated kit and baths, 5BR, 4.5BA. Multi-tiered decks with hot tub capitalize on privacy of grounds. Prime location on quiet cul-de-sac near river in prestigious Belle Rive. **OPEN SUN 6/9, 1-4! GW Pky S, past Estate; L-Old Mt Vernon Rd; L-Rive; R-Belle Rive.**

OPEN SUN

9443 Mount Vernon Cir
\$969,000
Williamsburg Classic!
 Custom home by master builder Gene Cullinane captures the ambiance of Colonial Williamsburg and Old Town Alex. Spacious 4149 sq ft home in prime location in area's premier water front community. Special features include: imposing entry, high ceilings, hwd flrs, elegant trim detail, 4BRs, 3.5BAs & oversize 2 car garage. Gorgeous grounds enhanced by distinctive courtyard entry. Rare opportunity to own a Cullinane original. **OPEN SUN 6/9, 1-4! GW Pky S, past Estate; L-Ferry Landing; R-Mount Vernon Cir.**

OPEN SUN

9322 Old Mansion Rd
\$1,650,000
Stunning River Views!
 Large classic Colonial in prime location on quiet cul-de-sac near Mt. Vernon Estate. Magnificent setting on high bluff overlooking river provides the most amazing water view in area. Executive home features three finished levels, large room sizes, Colonial trim detail, walk-out lower level with 3 sets of glass doors facing water. Massive exterior deck and screen porch capitalize on views. **OPEN SUN 6/9, 1-4. GW Pky S, past Estate; L-Old Mt Vernon Rd; L-Riverwood; R-Old Mansion.**

JUST LISTED

9416 Mount Vernon Cir
\$595,000
Unique Mount Vernon on the Potomac Opportunity!
 Stunningly low price provides opportunity for maximum customization. The bones are there and the location is unbeatable. Spacious 4-5 bedroom home provides large room sizes and open floor plan. Enjoy fabulous amenities of the area's premier water front community at entry level price. Price obviously reflects need for your custom touches.

4721 Tarpon Ln
\$879,000
Unbelievable Waterfront Price!
 Just in time for Summer Fun! *Your own waterfront with private dock-just mins from Old Town! *Recently dredged canal provides easy access to open waters of Potomac-a privilege typically reserved for \$1,000,000+ homeowner! *3 Fin levels! *Exceptionally bright, open fir plan! *Stunning sunroom addition! *5 BRs including water view master suite! *Gourmet kitchen!

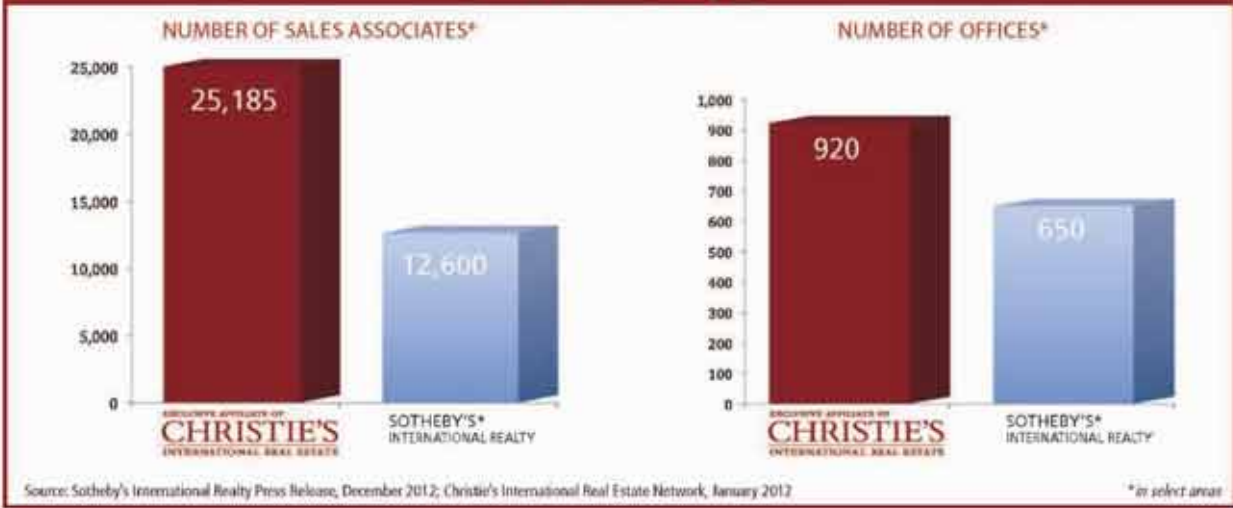
NEW HOME

8313 Mount Vernon Hwy
\$699,000
Brand New Home at Used Home Price!
 Be the first to call this property home. Special features include: high ceilings, open floor plan, gourmet eat-in kitchen with gas cooktop, custom cabinets and granite, family room with fireplace open to kitchen. Stunning master suite with huge walk-in closet and luxury bath. Thermal windows & upgraded insulation. 2 car garage. No detail has been overlooked.

NEW HOME

1205 Cedar Dale Ln
\$1,395,000
Grand Opening! Brand New - Near Old Town!
 Striking craftsman style architecture. Gracious front porch with stunning bright, open interior. Top quality construction with numerous upgrades & options. Fabulous features include high ceilings, open family room, amazing top of the line gourmet kitchen, upgraded trim detail, stained hwd flrs, 3.5 baths, gas heat, hot water & cooking, luxurious master suite. Gorgeous setting on 1/2 acre level lot.

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Ruth Guirard 703.609.3343

\$ 1,450,000
Janneys Lane "3/4 ACRE LOT"
 Beautiful, large, one owner Cape Cod sited on .77 acres has been lovingly cared for and updated. Highlights: formal LR/DR, eat-in kitchen, Florida room addition, paneled den, large bedrooms and walk-in closets, finished rec room, refinished hardwoods, fresh paint, new roof, 2-car side load garage and more!

Dayna Blumel / Kerry Adams 703.587.7841

\$ 999,000
Alex. / Quaker Hill "LOCATION"
 Beautiful 5BR/3.5BA colonial sited on cul-de-sac. Large open ML with hardwoods, living, dining and family rooms, study and kitchen opening onto deck, patio and yard. Amazing UL master suite with walk-in closet. LL has huge rec room with custom built-ins and storage. Easy living in the City with a community pool for summer fun.

Dayna Blumel / Kerry Adams 703.587.7841

\$ 1,099,000
Arlington "CRAFTSMAN STYLE"
 Gorgeous home featuring 4 sunny well-appointed levels, 4BR/5.5BA with master suite, gourmet kitchen with custom cabinetry, tile backsplash, granite, SSA.

Stylish 2-sided fireplace. Exterior boasts professional landscaping, screened porch, newer deck, porch and flagstone patio, and sprinkler system. Close to all - playground, biking trails, Ballston, Metro and 7 Corners.

Laura Biederman 202.309.1350

\$ 695,000
Alexandria South "JUST RENOVATED"
 This wonderful Dutch Colonial is ready for a new owner! Recent upgrades include a new eat-in kitchen, new cabinets, appliances and granite; hardwoods; new windows; all new bathrooms; freshly painted thru-out. LL rec room with half bath - plus a very nice room flow including 5BR/2.55BA. Close to GW Pkwy, Old Town, shops & more.

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OPEN SUNDAY 1 - 4! \$ 624,900
Alexandria South 7820 FRANCES DR
 Top/Bottom renovation of this classic 2L rambler sited on quiet street and private .77 acre. Beautiful screened porch overlooks treed backyard, patio and deck. 2 master suites with full BAs. Oversized 1-car garage with storage. 5BR/3BA

Elke Kohler, Liz Bessel and Anita Vida D'Antonio 202.460.1809

\$ 578,000
Woodbridge "AN OASIS"
 Charming 5BR/3.5BA Colonial, with walk-out basement. Amazing 2 level deck. Gourmet kitchen with island, SSA, double ovens, 2 gas fireplaces, spacious rooms and beautiful wood floors. Sited in a premiere neighborhood with lake, trails, pools, tennis, club house and playgrounds. Close to shopping and Interstate.

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Cindy Nelson 703.965.7562

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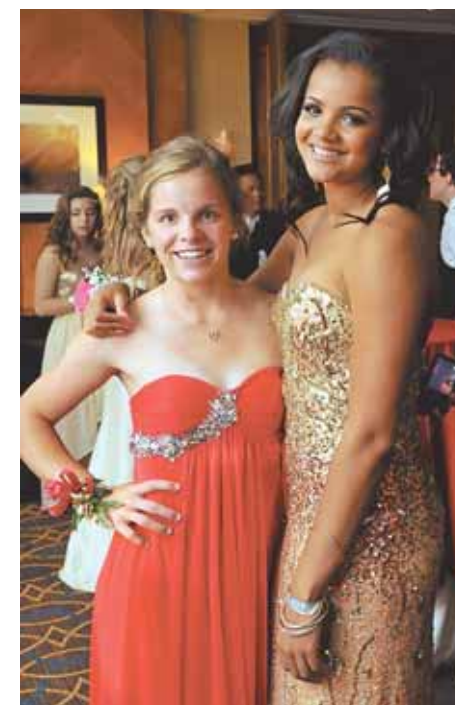
PEOPLE



Prom court princesses Jane Heller and Emily Whitworth.



Esther Mann, Prom court prince Robert Decarei-Nelson, Prom court princess Sabrina Evans and Mount Vernon High School principal Nardos King.



Kelly Loftus and Tamara Warren

Hollywood Nights at Mount Vernon Prom



Raven Woody, Jennifer Amuiaw and Gabbi Jones relax with sodas outside the Sheraton National Hotel ballroom at the May 31 prom.



Edna Conteh samples a chocolate covered strawberry.



Keyana Dunn

PHOTOS BY
LOUISE KRAFFT/
THE GAZETTE



Chandria De Lilly, Antoinette Hagood and Daryl Newton

BULLETIN BOARD

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

THURSDAY/JUNE 6

Do More in 24. 4-6 p.m. at St. Aidan's Episcopal Church, 8531 Riverside Road. Good Shepherd Housing and Family Services is hosting a free event to raise awareness and funds for homeless families. Will include chalk drawing, door prizes, music and more. Donations of books encouraged. 703-768-9404.

FRIDAY/JUNE 7

Documentary Showing. 7 p.m. at MVUC Hollin Hall Fireplace Room. Watch "12th and Delaware," where the two sides of the abortion debate literally face one another in Fort Pierce, Fla. Free. 703-721-0595.

MONDAY/JUNE 10

Open House. 3-5 p.m. at Stratford Landing Elementary. Celebrate the years of service to the school and community by retiring principal and four teachers. Free.

TUESDAY/JUNE 11

Basic Home Maintenance To-Dos. 1 p.m. at Hollin Hall Senior Center, 1500 Shenandoah Road. Learn how to fix typical household problems. Free, reservations required, 703-765-4573.

SATURDAY/JUNE 15

Workshop: DIY Plant Markers. 9:30-11:30 a.m. at Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road. Look at creative ideas for plant labels from frugal to decorative and then use your creativity to make some to take home. \$35/person. Register at www.greenspring.org or call 703-642-5173.

Community Day. 1-5 p.m. at Martin Luther King Jr. Community Park, 8115 Fordson Road. Enjoy food, moonbounce, train, finger printing services, music and more to celebrate Gum Springs 180-years.

TUESDAY/JUNE 18

Mount Vernon Genealogical Society Meeting. 1 p.m. at Hollin Hall Senior Center, 1500

Shenandoah Road. Features a presentation by John Philip Colletta entitled "Hacks and Hookers and Putting Up Pickles: Snares of Yesteryear's English." Free. Visit www.MVGenealogy.org or 703-866-2478.

WEDNESDAY/JUNE 19

County Forum. 7-9 p.m. at South County Center, 8350 Richmond Highway, Conference Room 221. Share ideas on ensuring the county continues to be a liveable, lifelong community for its growing older population. Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/olderadults or 703-324-5411 to register.

FRIDAY/JUNE 21

Golf Tournament. 2 p.m. at Ft. Belvoir Golf Course. Register for the Fairfax County NAACP Inaugural Golf Tournament. \$100/golfer. Rental clubs available. Includes dinner. Visit fairfaxnaacp.org for more.

THURSDAY/JUNE 27

Colonial Republican Women Meeting. 6:30-9 p.m. at Virginia Hills Administration Center, 6520 Diana Lane. Refreshments will be served. E-mail colonialrepublicanwomen@gmail.com or 703-624-3252.

FRIDAY-SUNDAY/JULY 26-28

Fort Hunt High School 50th Anniversary. Celebrate the school's 50th anniversary with events every day. To have access to all the information and events, register at www.fhhs-alum.org. There will be gatherings at local restaurants, dinner and dancing, music and more. There will be a cook-out on Sunday at Fort Hunt Park, vintage car show, live entertainment by local bands including alumni of the school. For a list of hotels and full event listings, visit www.fhhs-alum.org.

SATURDAY/JULY 29

Enchanted Miniature Dish Garden Workshop. 9:30-11:30 a.m. at Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road. Create a little mini garden to take home. \$45/person

plus \$20 for supplies. Register at www.greenspring.org or call 703-642-5173.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

The Mount Vernon Adult Day Health Care Program needs a volunteer to greet people and answer phones one day per week from 10:30 a.m. - noon to start as soon as possible. Contact Fairfax County's Volunteer Solutions at 703-324-5406, TTY 703-449-1186, VolunteerSolutions@fairfaxcounty.gov, or visit Volunteer Solutions at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dfs/olderadultservices and click on volunteers.

Correction

In last week's "West Potomac Choral Department To Present 'Playlist,'" the list of participating schools should have included Belle View Elementary School.

ENTERTAINMENT



PHOTO BY CHRIS BANKS

Playwright Michael Hollinger, second from left, joins actors Susan Lynskey, Paul Morella and Helen Hedman for a talk back following the June 1 performance of "Ghost writer" at MetroStage.

Playwright Visits for Talk Back

'Ghost-Writer' extended to June 16.

Michael Hollinger, the playwright behind "Ghost-Writer," paid a visit to Alexandria to see the MetroStage production of his play and participate in a Talk Back following the June 1 performance.

"It is very exciting to have a playwright attend a production of his play on your stage," said MetroStage artistic director Carolyn Griffin. "The Talk Back was quite riveting as he and the actors talked about what influenced his work and the actors spoke of favorite moments in the play and provided insights into each of their characters."

Hollinger and his wife, actress Megan Bellwoar, currently reside in Philadelphia and had not seen a production of the play for several years. Bellwoar originated the role of Myra at the Arden Theatre in 2010.

"For an actor to actually get to discuss a play, a role, an experience with the playwright is really a gift," Griffin said. "I am just sorry our director John Vreeke, who lives in Seattle, was not here to experience the interest, the enthusiasm and the deep respect the playwright, the actors and the audience all had for the work on our stage."

"Ghost-Writer" has been extended through June 16. For tickets or more information call 703-548-9044 or visit www.metrostage.org.

— JEANNE THEISMANN

CALENDAR

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

ONGOING

Summer Classes. Art at the Center, 2804 Sherwood Hall Lane. Children ages 6-10 can participate. Register at www.artatthecenter.org or 703-201-1250.

Theater Performance. MetroStage, 1201 N. Royal St., presents "Ghost-Writer." Performances are Thursday and Friday at 8 p.m.; Saturday at 5 p.m. and 8 p.m. and Sunday at 3 p.m. and 7 p.m. through Sunday, June 16. Tickets are \$45-\$55; \$25/student. Visit www.metrostage.org or 703-548-9044 for tickets.

Art Exhibit. Through Sunday, June 16, see artwork by Sandy LeBrun-Evans and Danny Conant at Multiple Exposures Gallery in the Torpedo Factory Art Center, 105 N. Union St. Free. Hours are Thursdays from noon-9 p.m., all other days from 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Visit www.torpedofactory.org for more.

Student Design Competition. Come see Woodlawn transformed from a historic house museum into a comfortable and stylish home for 21st century living. Through Sunday, June 16. \$20. Call 703-780-4000.

Watercolor Exhibit. Through Sunday, June 23, see "Paintings of the Potomac Valley Watercolorist" at Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road. Hours at the Historic House are Wednesday-Sunday, noon-

4:30 p.m. and at the Horticulture Center are Monday-Saturday, 9 a.m.-4:30 p.m. and Sunday, noon-4:30 p.m. Visit potomacvalleywatercolorists.org for more.

Art Exhibit. Through Tuesday, June 25, 10 a.m.-12 p.m. at River Farm Gardens, East Blvd. Come see "Elegance of Spring."

Art Exhibit. Eight painters, including Alexandria artist Christine Gray, have been selected as finalists for the Bethesda Painting Awards. Their works will be on display through June 29 at Gallery B, 7700 Wisconsin Ave., Suite E, Bethesda. Free. Gallery hours are from noon-6 p.m. Wednesday through Saturday. **Art Exhibit.** Through Sunday, June 30, the artists of Studio 4, Old Town,

218 N. Lee St., Suite 101, have created 2D and 3D artworks on the themes of pride and equality. Hours are Wednesday through Saturday 11 a.m.-7 p.m. and Sunday from noon-5 p.m. Visit www.facebook.com/WorkhouseStudio4 for more.

Art Exhibit. "Music In Art" art exhibit June 7 through June 30 at Del Ray Artisans gallery, 2704 Mount Vernon Ave. Artists explore how songs, music genres influences their art in various/mixed media. Visit www.TheDelRayArtisans.org for more.

Art Exhibit. Through Sunday, July 14, see "Hair Apparent" in the Athenaeum Gallery, 201 Prince St. It is a multimedia exhibit featuring sculpture, photography, performance and assemblage. Free.

Art Exhibit. Open through Aug. 3, "Living Legends of Alexandria: African American Activists" is on display at the Alexandria Black History Museum, 601 Wythe St. Free. Hours are Tuesday-Saturday 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Visit www.alexblackhistory.org or 703-746-4356.

Distillery Open. George Washington's Distillery and Gristmill open through Oct. 1. \$17/adult, \$8/child, 5 and under are free.

Occupied City: Life in Civil War Alexandria Exhibition. At The Lyceum, Alexandria's History Museum, 201 South Washington Street. Open daily through September, this exhibit traces life in Alexandria following Virginia's decision to secede from the Union in May 1861. See how Robert E. Lee's hometown was transformed literally overnight from a prosperous commercial port into a supply, hospital, and transportation center for the Union Army, and find out why Alexandria became a destination for African Americans seeking freedom. Explore the experiences of Alexandrians and others who lived here during this time, as well as period photographs and collections items. Open Monday through Saturday, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sunday, from 1-5 p.m. Admission \$2. Visit www.alexandriahistory.org or call 703-746-4994.

Life Drawing. Del Ray Artisans offers a range of open life drawing sessions to hone figure drawing skills. Drop-in with your supplies to draw our live models. Fee: \$8-12. View the calendar at www.TheDelRayArtisans.org.

The **West End Farmers Market** will run Sundays from 8:30 a.m.-1 p.m. through November. Located at Ben Brenman Park, browse food, crafts and more. Visit www.westendfarmersmarket.org for more.

SUMMER CAMPS

Mt. Vernon Community Children's Theatre Summer Camp. Children can participate in either a one-week all-day session July 22-26 or a two-week session, with the option of either morning, afternoon or all day from July 1-12 (no 4th) or July 29-Aug. 9. Children will learn about all aspects of theatre through games, rehearsals and a final showcase. Visit www.mvcc.org/camps.php or 703-360-0686.

The **American Backstage Company** is offering a variety of summer classes and workshops, many which are free. Located at 5380 Eisenhower Ave. Visit www.americanbackstage.com for a full listing.

SATURDAYS THROUGH JUNE 29

Walking Tour Devoted to Dogs. 10 a.m. at Mount Vernon Estate. All dogs on a leash can enjoy a 1.25 mile

walk around the estate, and learn about canine life at Mount Vernon. \$5/for the tour plus the general admission for owners. Dogs are free. Visit www.mountvernon.org or 703-780-2000.

THURSDAY/JUNE 6

Garden Stroll and Tea. 1-3 p.m. at Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road. Tour some of the gardens with a master gardener docent who will tell stories of Green Spring past and present. Afterwards, enjoy a traditional English afternoon tea served in the 1784 historic house. \$28. Call 703-914-7987 to register.

Do More in 24. 4-6 p.m. at St. Aidan's Episcopal Church, 8531 Riverside Road. Good Shepherd Housing and Family Services is hosting a free event to raise awareness and funds for homeless families. Will include chalk drawing, door prizes, music and more. Local author Alexis Conti will read from her new book. Donations of books encouraged. 703-768-9404.

D-Day Remembrance. 6-8 p.m. at Market Square. Memorabilia from World War II will be on display. Free. 703-489-7717.

Story Time. 10:30 a.m. or 3 p.m. at Beatley Library, 5005 Duke St. Children ages 3-5 can enjoy stories, activities and more. Free. Registration required, 703-746-1702 ext. 5.

Little One-Ders. 11:15 a.m. at Beatley Library, 5005 Duke St. Children ages 12-23 months can enjoy stories and more. Registration required, 703-746-1702 ext. 5.

Friends' Book Sale. 1:15 p.m. at Burke Library, 4701 Seminary Road. Buy books and help support the library. 703-746-1704.

Paws to Read. 5:30 p.m. at Beatley Library, 5005 Duke St. Children in grades 1-6 can read to friendly dogs. Registration required, 703-746-1702 x5.

Writing Triage. 6:30 p.m. at Beatley Library, 5005 Duke St. Get a resume or writing project reviewed and get suggestions on how to improve it. Free. 703-746-1742 to register.

Pajama Party. 7 p.m. at Burke Branch Library, 4701 Seminary Road. Children ages 3-7 can come dressed in their favorite outfit/pajamas and listen to stories. Free. 703-746-1704.

Garden Stroll & Tea. 1-3 p.m., at Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road. Tour demonstration gardens with a master gardener docent; afterwards, enjoy a traditional English afternoon tea served in a 1784 historic house. Ages 13 and older. \$28. 703-914-7987 or www.greenspring.org.

Twilight Concert. 7:30-8:30 p.m. at John Carlyle Park, 300 John Carlyle St. Concert by the Alexandria Singers and others. Free. 703-746-5592.

FRIDAY/JUNE 7

Friends' Book Sale. 10:15 a.m. at Burke Library, 4701 Seminary Road. Buy books and help support the library. 703-746-1704.

Basic Gardening: Herb Gardening. 1:30-2:30 p.m. at Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road. This overview of herbs will cover the basics of herb gardening including site selection, planning, preparation and plant selection. \$10/person. Register at www.greenspring.org or call 703-642-5173. Code: 290 282 2701.

Comedy. 8 p.m. or midnight at Old Town Theater, 815 King St. Jonathan Kite performs. Buy tickets at www.oldtowntheater1914.com/home.html or 703-544-5313.

Music Performance. 9:30 p.m. at Old

SEE CALENDAR, PAGE 20

Fun Dog Fitness

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ENTERTAINMENT

FROM PAGE 19

Town Theater, 815 King St. Hear Blue Dogs. Buy tickets at www.oldtowntheater1914.com/home.html or 703-544-5313.

Opening Reception. 7-10 p.m. see the "Music In Art" art exhibit at Del Ray Artisans gallery, 2704 Mount Vernon Ave. Artists explore how songs, music genres influences their art in various/mixed media. Visit www.TheDelRayArtisans.org for more.

Music Performance. Fuse Box will perform 4-6 p.m. at the Virginia Florist at Hollin Hall Shopping Center, 7908 Fort Hunt Road. Free. 703-765-0701.

SATURDAY/JUNE 8

Program. Mount Calvary Baptist Church, located at 2221 Emmett Drive. Come to a community/health day program. Rain date June 29. www.mountcalvarybaptist.com.

Mrs. Madison's Ball. 8-11 p.m. at Gadsby's Tavern Museum, 134 N. Royal St. Enjoy live music, special dessert collation and a cash bar. \$45/advance; \$50/door if available. Visit www.gadsbystavern.org or 703-746-4242.

Civil War Fort Day. 10 a.m.-4 p.m. at Fort Ward Museum & Historic Site, 4301 W. Braddock Road. Watch reenactors set up camp, lead drills and more. Tours will be at 11 a.m. or 2 p.m. \$2/person or \$5/family. Visit www.fortward.org or 703-746-4848.

Friends' Book Sale. 10:15 a.m. at Burke Library, 4701 Seminary Road. Buy books and help support the library. 703-746-1704.

Saturday Stories. 11 a.m. at Beatley Library, 5005 Duke St. All ages can enjoy stories and songs. Free. 703-746-1702.

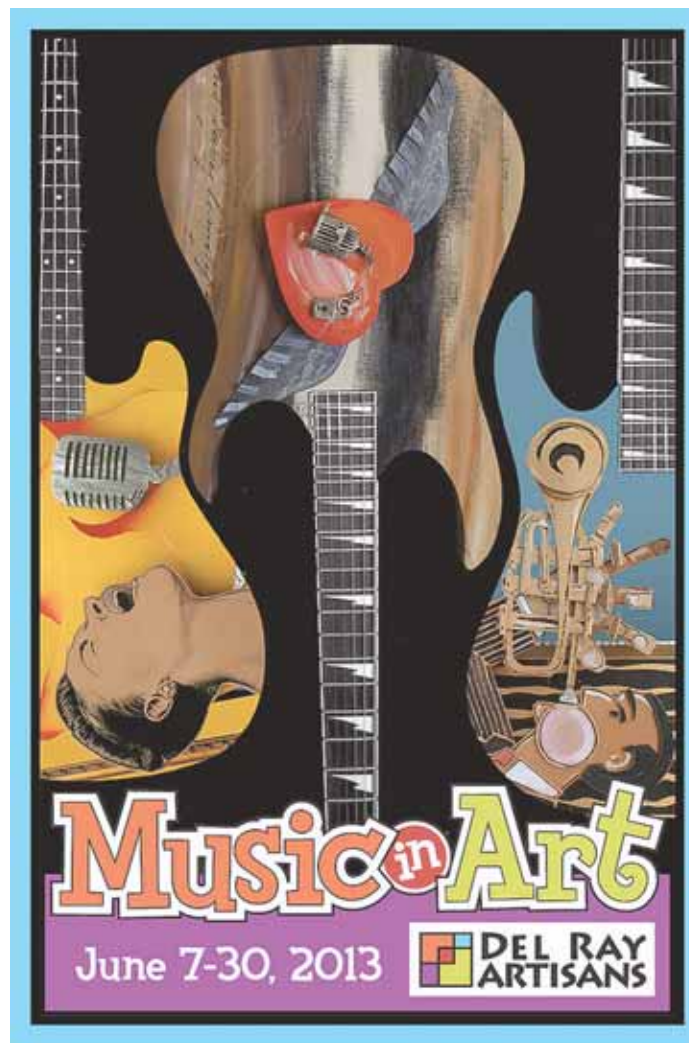
Saturday Matinee. 1:30 p.m. at Duncan Library, 2501 Commonwealth Ave. Watch a family friendly movie. Free. 703-746-1783.

Watercolor Workshop:

Backgrounds. 9:30-3:30 p.m. at Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road. A demonstration by watercolor artist Carolyn Grosse Gawarecki followed by a workshop session in painting gray-background florals for intermediate and experienced beginners; bring a bag lunch. \$72/person. Register at www.greenspring.org or call 703-642-5173. Code: 290 230 4901.

Comedy. 8 p.m. or midnight at Old Town Theater, 815 King St. Jonathan Kite performs. Buy tickets at www.oldtowntheater1914.com/home.html or 703-544-5313.

Grand Opening and Free Classes. Free yoga classes start at 8:30 a.m. at Radiance Yoga, 701 Prince St. Walk-ins welcome. Visit www.radiance-yoga.net or 703-535-8282.



'Music In Art'

Exhibit runs June 7-30 at Del Ray Artisans gallery. Opening reception scheduled for Friday, June 7, 7-10 p.m. This all-member exhibit explores the relationship between music and art by showcasing artists' interpretations of music in art in a variety of media. Celebrate Music In Art and find out what songs, musical artists, and musical genres have influenced Del Ray Artisans members' artwork. Visit www.TheDelRayArtisans.org.

Book Signing. 2 p.m. at Barnes and Noble Potomac Yard, 3561 Jeff Davis Highway. Stephen Harding will discuss and then sign copies of his book "The Last Battle: When U.S. and German Soldiers Joined Forces in the Waning Hours of World War II in Europe."

Book Sale. 10 a.m. at Kingstowne Library, 6500 Landsdowne Center. Find items for all ages. 703-339-4610.

Wag A Tale. 10:30-11:30 a.m. at Kingstowne Library, 6500 Landsdowne Center. Children ages 5-

12 can register to read aloud to a reading therapy dog. Registration required, 703-339-4610.

Hear at Martha's. 2 p.m. at Martha Washington Library, 6614 Fort Hunt Road. Ages 13 and up can hear local poets read and discuss their work. Free. 703-768-6700.

JUNE 8-17

JFK Presidential Yacht Tours. Take a free tour of Honey Fitz, located at

SEE CALENDAR. PAGE 22

SUMMER IN THE CITY

For the shortest roadtrip you'll take all summer, visit our artists every day of the week!



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6-9PM Every 2nd Thursday in Old Town Alexandria

6/13 Parlez Vous Jazz?
7/11 Emerald City
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Happy Father's Day!

ENTERTAINMENT

FROM PAGE 20

Alexandria City Marina adjacent to Founders Park, 351 N. Union St. Visit www.visitalexandriava.com/honeyfitz or 703-746-3301.

JUNE 8-29

Theater Performance. See "Twentieth Century" at the Little Theatre of Alexandria, 600 Wolfe St. Performances Wednesdays through Saturdays at 8 p.m. and Sundays at 3 p.m. Visit www.thelittletheatre.com or 703-683-0496 for tickets or information.

SATURDAY-SUNDAY/JUNE 8-30

Art Exhibit. See the exhibit "Food: Friend or Foe," which examines the complex relationship we have with food. Showcases 19 works by artists from all over the country. Free. Located at Target Gallery, Torpedo Factory, 105 N. Union St. Visit www.torpedofactory.org/target.

SUNDAY/JUNE 9

Sunday Film Fest. 2 p.m. at Central Library, 5005 Duke St. Free. Watch "Calendar Girls." Visit www.alexandria.lib.va.us or 703-746-1702.

Bike Day. 8:30 a.m.-1 p.m. during the West End Farmers Market at Ben Brenman Park. Local Motion and Arlington Rides will be at the market giving out biking maps and goodies. Used bikes will be for sale, and repairs will be offered by Phoenix Bikes. Visit www.westendfarmersmarket.org for more.

All the Fair Ladies: Civil War Fundraisers. 1-3 p.m. at Green

Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road. Hear about how women in the North and South leapt into the war effort by raising funds through charity fairs and how fundraising empowered the women who organized them. \$28. Call 703-941-7987 for reservations.

Performance. Marc Cohn performs with Rebecca Pidgeon at 7:30 p.m. at The Birchmere Music Hall, 3701 Mount Vernon Ave. \$45. Visit www.Birchmere.com or 703-549-7500.

Watershed Friendly Garden Tour.

1-5 p.m. around Mount Vernon, including Mount Vernon Unitarian Church, two schools, a community garden and several homes. The tour highlights facilities that feature rain gardens, native plants, solar panels and more. Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/nsvwcd/gardentour.htm for a list of locations. Free, and can be started at any location on the list.

Civil War Sunday. 1-5 p.m. at Alexandria Archaeology Museum, 105 N. Union St., #327. See an original May 26, 1861, edition of "The New-York Tribune" detailing Colonel Elmer Ellsworth's death in Alexandria, a Peeps diorama illustrating Ellsworth's death, a cocked and loaded Wickham musket discarded in a privy during the 1860s, and more. Free. Visit www.alexandriaarchaeology.org or call 703.746.4399.

MONDAY/JUNE 10

Meet the Artists. 10 a.m.-noon at River Farm. Meet the artists of "The Elegance of Spring." For more information, call 703-768-5700 or visit www.ahs.org.

Little One-Ders. 10:30 a.m. at Beatley Library, 5005 Duke St. Children ages



Family Fun

Good Shepherd Housing & Family Services is hosting a free event to raise awareness and funds for homeless families Thursday, June 6, 4-6 p.m. Art at the Center will be hosting chalk drawing as part of the festivities. Local author, Alexis Conti will read from her new book "One Blue Shoe" and will donate 30 percent of the proceeds of the book sales from that day to Good Shepherd Housing.

A family-friendly event including chalk drawing, door prizes, music, a visit from the fire department and more. Books will also be collected to be given to children in need. All the money raised stays in the community. This event will be held at St. Aidan's Episcopal Church, 8531 Riverside Road. Call 703-768-9404.

12-23 months can enjoy stories and more. Registration required, 703-746-1702 ext. 5.

Baby Rhyme Time. 11:30 a.m. at Beatley Central Library, 5005 Duke St. Children up to 11 months with adult. Free. 703-746-1702.

Read, Sing & Play Baby. 4 p.m. at Barrett Branch Library, 717 Queen St. Children up to 11 months can enjoy stories and more. Free. 703-746-1703.

Interfaith Book Club. 7 p.m. at Beatley Library, 5005 Duke St. Read nonfiction works that strive to find common ground through recognizing and celebrating common values. Free. Call 703-746-1743 for title.

Let's Talk Books. 7 p.m. at Barrett Branch Library, 717 Queen St. Discuss "Bossy Pants" by Tina Fey. Free. 703-746-1703.

Summer Cooking. 7 p.m. at Burke Library, 4701 Seminary Road. Learn how to use produce bought at local

farmers' markets. Free. 703-746-1704.

Child and Me Yoga. 10:30 a.m. at Kingstowne Library, 6500 Landsdowne Centre. Children ages 1-3 can use yoga poses to imitate animals and more. Bring a yoga mat or beach towel. Free. Registration required, 703-339-4610.

Books and Ideas. 7:30 p.m. at Sherwood Library, 2501 Sherwood Hall Lane. Call for title. Free. 703-765-3645.

TUESDAY/JUNE 11

Second Tuesday Book Group. 7 p.m. at Kingstowne Library, 6500 Landsdowne Centre. Discuss "Ladies of Liberty" by Cokie Roberts. Free. Visit secondtuesdaybookgroup.blogspot.com or 703-339-4610.

Evening Book Group. 7 p.m. at Martha Washington Library, 6614

Fort Hunt Road. Adults can discuss "The Known World" by Edward P. Jones. Free. 703-768-6700.

Mother Goose Time. 10:15 a.m. at Barrett Branch Library, 717 Queen St. Children ages 12-24 months can enjoy games, rhymes and more. Free. 703-746-1703.

Time For 2s. 10:30 a.m. at Beatley Library, 5005 Duke St. Children age 24-36 months can enjoy stories and more. Free. Registration required, 703-746-1702 ext. 5.

Tuesday Tots. 11 a.m. at Burke Branch Library, 4701 Seminary Road. Children ages 2-3 can enjoy stories and more. Free. 703-746-1704.

Stories to Grow On. 11 a.m. at Barrett Branch Library, 717 Queen St. Children age 2 and up can enjoy stories and more. Free. 703-746-1703.

Baby Rhyme Time. 11:30 a.m. at

SEE CALENDAR, PAGE 23

Michael M. Skinner Mount Vernon Community Day Tournament at Mount Vernon Country Club June 24, 2013

Hilltop Golf Club And
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MVHS Athletic Booster Club and



Mount Vernon Country Club

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ENTERTAINMENT

FROM PAGE 24

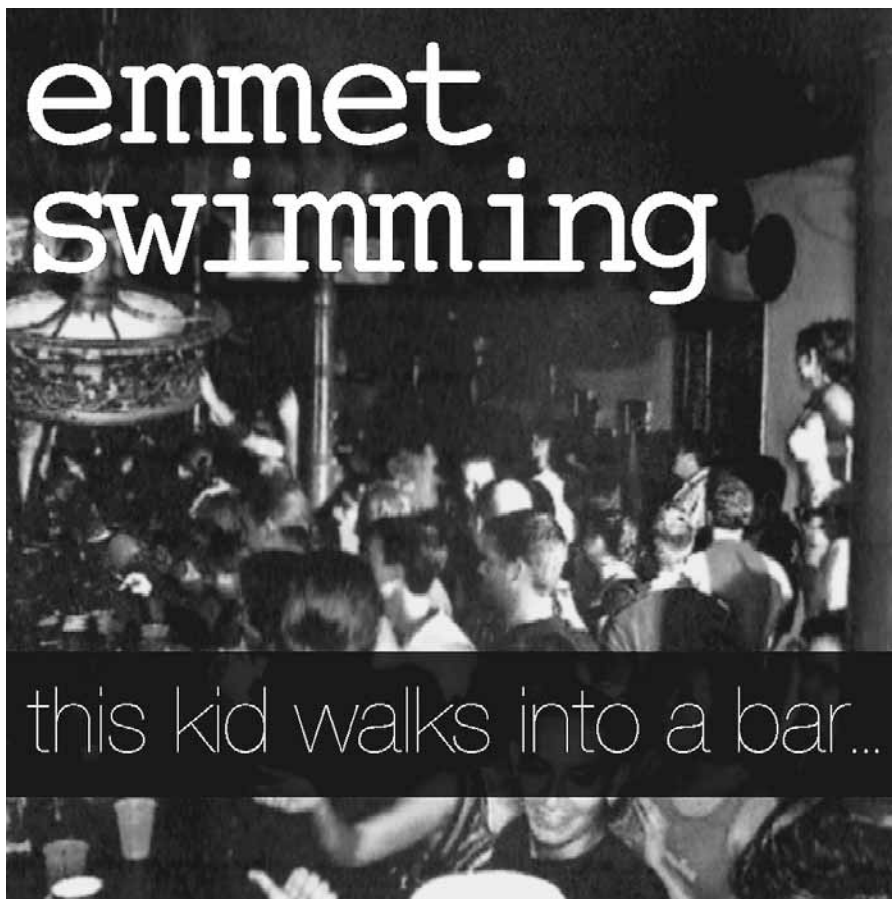
Beatley Central Library, 5005 Duke St. Children up to 11 months with adult. Free. 703-746-1702.
Paws to Read. 5:30 p.m. at Duncan Library, 2501 Commonwealth Ave. Children in grades 1-6 can read to friendly dogs. Registration required, 703-746-1705.
Game Night. 7 p.m. at Beatley Library, 5005 Duke St. Children ages 8-12 can play with their friends. Free. 703-746-1702.

WEDNESDAY/JUNE 12

Rising Words, Rising Images. 10:30 a.m. at Sherwood Library, 2501 Sherwood Hall Lane. Discuss "Night" by Elie Wiesel. For children ages 12-17. Free. 703-76-3645.
Older Adults Book Group. 2 p.m. at Kingstowne Center for Active Adults, 6500 Landsdowne Centre. Discuss "Years of Wonder" by Geraldine Brooks. Free. 703-339-4610.
Mother Goose Time. 10:15 a.m. at Barrett Branch Library, 717 Queen St. Children ages 12-24 months can enjoy games, rhymes and more. Free. 703-746-1703.
Time For 2s. 10:30 a.m. at Beatley Library, 5005 Duke St. Children age 24-36 months can enjoy stories and more. Free. Registration required, 703-746-1702 ext. 5.
Stories to Grow On. 11 a.m. at Barrett Branch Library, 717 Queen St. Children age 2 and up can enjoy stories and more. Free. 703-746-1703.
Spanish Story Time. 1 p.m. at Beatley Library, 5005 Duke St. All abilities and all levels can join in for stories. Free. 703-746-1702.
Matinee Series. 4 p.m. at Burke Branch Library, 4701 Seminary Road. Watch "The Hobbit." Free. 703-746-1704.
Lego Family Night. 7 p.m. at Beatley Library, 5005 Duke St. The whole family can enjoy an evening of creative play. Free. 703-746-1702.

THURSDAY/JUNE 13

Lecture. 7:30-9 p.m. at Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road. The Potomack chapter of the Virginia Native Plant Society will discuss "Celebrating the Natural Communities of VA," including plant roots and their fungal partners. Free. 703-642-5173.
Reception. 6-8 p.m. enjoy a juror talk with April Wood and see the exhibit "Food: Friend or Foe," which examines the complex relationship we have with food. Showcases 19 works by artists from all over the country. Free. Located at Target Gallery, Torpedo Factory, 105 N. Union St. Visit www.torpedofactory.org/target for more.
Second Thursday Music. 7 p.m. at Athenaeum, 201 Prince St. Tom Dews performs with Henry Cross and Ron Goad. \$10. Visit nvfaa.org or 703-548-0035.
Music Performance. 8 p.m. at Old Town Theater, 815 King St. Hear Live Jazz. Buy tickets at www.oldtowntheater1914.com/home.html or 703-544-5313.
Jazz Evening. 6-9 p.m. at locations on King Street near the waterfront. There will be interactive art activities, live music and art receptions. Some locations are free, but some have a charge. Visit secondthursdayoldtown.com.
Story Time. 10:30 a.m. or 3 p.m. at Beatley Library, 5005 Duke St. Children ages 3-5 can enjoy stories, activities and more. Free. Registration required, 703-746-1702 ext. 5.
Little One-Ders. 11:15 a.m. at Beatley Library, 5005 Duke St. Children ages 12-23 months can enjoy stories and more. Registration required, 703-



Emmet Swimming Album Debut

Fairfax's emmet swimming is celebrating the release of "This Kid Walks Into A Bar...", their first studio album release in more than a decade. The album features five new songs along with two previously unreleased tracks from emmet's earlier years.
 The new songs were recorded and produced by emmet's longtime producer, mentor and friend, Washington Area Music Hall of Fame Producer, Marco Delmar. The result is vintage emmet swimming, seven songs that cross genres, themes and styles and refuse to be put into a conventional box of style or chronology. The band will celebrate the release of "This Kid Walks Into a Bar..." by playing an album release party on Saturday, June 15 at the Birchmere at 3701 Mt. Vernon Ave. Showtime is 7:30 p.m., all ages, tickets are \$20. Visit www.birchmere.com.

746-1702 ext. 5.
Crime Prevention Tips. 5 p.m. at Burke Library, 4701 Seminary Road. The ACPD Crime Prevention Officer will give tips on how to stay safe at home, on vacation and even around the city. Free. 703-746-1704.
Library Speed Dating. 7 p.m. at Beatley Library, 5005 Duke St. Book lovers can share love of books to find a literary better half. Prizes will be awarded. Free. 703-746-1751 to reserve a spot.
Pajama Party. 7 p.m. at Burke Branch Library, 4701 Seminary Road. Children ages 3-6 can come dressed in their favorite outfit/pajamas and listen to stories. Free. 703-746-1704.

FRIDAY/JUNE 14

Concert. 7:30 p.m. at the Birchmere Music Hall, 3701 Mount Vernon Ave. Come see HEM perform. \$25. Visit www.hemmusic.com.
Opening Reception. 6-9 p.m. eight painters, including Alexandria Christine Gray, have been selected as finalists for the Bethesda Painting Awards. Their works will be on display at Gallery B, 7700 Wisconsin Ave., Suite E, Bethesda. Free.
Performance. 7 p.m. at Athenaeum, 201 Prince St. Ellouise Schoettler will perform a one-woman piece about Arlington National Cemetery. A coffee and dessert reception will follow. \$10. Visit nvfaa.org or 703-548-0035.
Comedy. 7 p.m. or 10 p.m. at Old Town Theater, 815 King St. Chris Barnes performs. Buy tickets at www.oldtowntheater1914.com/home.html or 703-544-5313.
Opening Reception. 7-9 p.m., see

"Conscious Evolution" by Denise Philipbar at Margaret W. and Joseph L. Fisher Art Gallery, located in the Rachel M. Schlesinger Concert Hall & Arts Center, 3001 N. Beauregard St. The exhibit blends nature with science and technology. Visit www.nvcc.edu/schlesingercenter.
Tango Performance. 7 p.m. at Minnie Howard Auditorium, 3801 W. Braddock Road. QuinTango will perform with student performers. Free. Visit www.quintango.com or 703-548-6811.

FRIDAY/JUNE 14

PBS Documentary Screening. 2 p.m. at Beatley Library, 5005 Duke St. Watch "Guilty Pleasures," which takes a look at why romance novels are so popular and "Biblioburro: The Donkey Library," which showcases a Columbian library. Free. 703-746-1702.

JUNE 14 THROUGH JULY 21

Art Exhibit. See "Conscious Evolution" by Denise Philipbar at Margaret W. and Joseph L. Fisher Art Gallery, located in the Rachel M. Schlesinger Concert Hall & Arts Center, 3001 N. Beauregard St. The exhibit blends nature with science and technology. Visit www.nvcc.edu/schlesingercenter/ for more.

SATURDAY/JUNE 15

Workshop. 11 a.m.-1 p.m. at The Alexandria Black History Museum, 902 Wythe St. Adults and children work together to choose a "legend" in their family, write their story, and

make it into a handmade storybook to take home.
Pride Party Reception. 6-9 p.m. the artists of Studio 4, Old Town, 218 N. Lee St., Suite 101, have created 2D and 3D artworks on the themes of pride and equality. Hours are Wednesday through Saturday 11 a.m.-7 p.m. and Sunday from noon-5 p.m. Visit www.facebook.com/WorkhouseStudio4 for more.
Book Signing and Discussion. 4 p.m. at The Gallery at Convergence. Mike Stavlund will sign and discuss his book "The Reshaping of Faith in a Year of Grief." Free.
Workshop: DIY Plant Markers. 9:30-11:30 a.m. at Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road. Look at creative ideas for plant labels from frugal to decorative and then use your creativity to make some to take home. \$35/person. Register at www.greenspring.org or call 703-642-5173.
Tasting Party: Coffee Cupping. 10 a.m.-noon at Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road. Taste a selection of specialty brews to discern the nuances that give each a signature flavor and hear the story of coffee's transformation from bean to beverage.
Performance. Margot MacDonald opens for Emmet Swimming at 7:30 p.m. at The Birchmere Music Hall, 3701 Mount Vernon Ave. Visit www.Birchmere.com or 703-549-7500.
Music Performance. 8 p.m. or 11 p.m. at Old Town Theater, 815 King St. Hear Dana Fuchs. Buy tickets at www.oldtowntheater1914.com/home.html or 703-544-5313.
Music Performance. See Emmet Swimming at 7:30 p.m. at Birchmere, 3701 Mt. Vernon Ave. All ages welcome. \$20. Visit www.birchmere.com for tickets.
Saturday Stories. 11 a.m. at Beatley Library, 5005 Duke St. All ages can enjoy stories and songs. Free. 703-746-1702.
Summer Reading Open House. 10:30 a.m. at Martha Washington Library, 6614 Fort Hunt Road. Learn all about the 2013 Summer Reading Program for children ages -15. Free. Door prizes and refreshments provided. 703-768-6700.
Wag A Tale. 10:30-11:30 a.m. at Kingstowne Library, 6500 Landsdowne Centre. Children ages 5-12 can register to read aloud to Chester, a reading therapy dog. Registration required, 703-339-4610.

SUNDAY/JUNE 16

Carlyle House Tours. Noon-4 p.m.

Free tours on Father's Day for all fathers and grandfathers at the Carlyle House Historic Park, 121 N. Fairfax St. \$5/adults; \$3/children ages 5-12. Contact carlyle@nvrpa.org or call 703-549-2997.
Hair-Centric Events. Noon-4 p.m. at Athenaeum, 201 Prince St. Holly Bass will perform "Come Clean," a ritualized performance in which strangers are invited to wash the artist's hair and engage in structured dialogue. Poet and performance artist Shelly Bell will become a touchable art exhibit, allowing others to explore her hair and identity. Amber Robles Gordon will invite attendees to participate in her elaborate Hair Shrine. Free. Visit nvfaa.org or 703-548-0035.
Sunday Film Fest. 2 p.m. at Central Library, 5005 Duke St. Free. Watch "The Bucket List." Visit www.alexandria.lib.va.us or 703-746-1702.
Father's Day Celebration. 8:30 a.m.-1 p.m. during the West End Farmers Market at Ben Brenman Park. Fathers can get their picture taken with a throne, a crown and robe. Visit www.westendfarmersmarket.org.
Film. 2 p.m. at Beatley Library, 5005 Duke St. Watch "Bucket List." Free. 703-746-1702.

THROUGH JUNE 16

Art Exhibit. See "Under the Microscope" at Potomac Fiber Arts Gallery, Torpedo Factory Art Center, 105 N. Union St. In the exhibit, artists draw inspiration from small life forms, sub-atomic particles and other items we cannot see with the naked eye. Hours are 10 a.m.-6 p.m. except Thursdays when it is open 1-9 p.m. Visit www.potomacfiberartsgallery.com for more.

MONDAY/JUNE 17

Music Performance. See Tommy Emmanuel with Anthony Snape at 7:30 p.m. at The Birchmere Music Hall, 3701 Mount Vernon Ave. \$45. Visit www.Birchmere.com or 703-549-7500.
Evening Storytime. 7 p.m. at Martha Washington Library, 6614 Fort Hunt Road. Children ages 1-5 can wear pajamas and enjoy stories and activities about bedtime. Free. Registration required, 703-768-6700.

TUESDAY/JUNE 18

Swing Dance. 9-10:30 p.m. at The Carlyle Club, 411 John Carlyle St. TK the DJ provides the music. Free. Visit www.gottaswing.com or 703-35-9882.
Partners in Art. 7 p.m. at Little Theatre of Alexandria, 600 Wolfe St. Support Carlyle House Historic Park while enjoying a night at the theatre. \$30. Enjoy a reception at 7 p.m. and at 8 p.m. watch "Twentieth Century." Tickets must be purchased in advance by calling 703-549-2997.

WEDNESDAY/JUNE 19

Performance. 7:30 p.m. at Lee District Park. Robin & Linda Williams will perform. Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/performance.
Concert. Noon-1 p.m. at Canal Center Plaza, 44 Canal Center Plaza. Music by Cathy Ponton King. Free. 703-746-5592.
Swing Dance. 9-11 p.m. at Nick's Nightclub, 642 S. Pickett St. The Hula Monsters provide the music. \$10. Visit www.gottaswing.com.

THURSDAY/JUNE 20

Garden Stroll & Tea. 1-3 p.m. at Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road. Enjoy traditional English afternoon tea. \$28. Call 703-914-7987 to register.

Legal Notices **21 Announcements** **26 Antiques** **21 Announcements** **21 Announcements** **21 Announcements** **21 Announcements** **21 Announcements** **21 Announcements**

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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Availability of Environmental Assessment (EA) and Draft Finding of No Significant Impact (FNSI) for Water and Wastewater Utility Upgrade
U.S. Army Garrison Fort Belvoir, Virginia

The Army has prepared an EA that analyzes and documents environmental impacts associated with the proposed action to implement a number of projects to upgrade the installation's water and wastewater system infrastructure through a utilities privatization contract. These projects include replacement of water storage tanks, replacement of force mains, maintenance of gravity sewer mains, reinstallation of aerial stream crossings with streambank repair, and implementation of additional projects identified in Fort Belvoir's 2012 Annual System Deficiency Corrections, Upgrades and Renewal & Replacement Plan for fiscal years 13 through 17. The EA considered the impacts of the projects on land use; air quality; noise; geology, topography, and soils; water resources; biological resources; cultural resources; socioeconomic resources; traffic and transportation; utilities and infrastructure; and hazardous materials and waste and concluded that the project is not expected to result in significant adverse environmental impacts.


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Therefore, in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act, preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement is not required. The EA and FNSI may be viewed online at: www.belvoir.army.mil/envirodocssection2.asp. Paper copies of the EA and draft FNSI are available for review and comment at the Fort Belvoir Van Noy Library and the following Fairfax County, Virginia libraries: Kingstowne Branch, Lorton Branch, and Sherwood Regional Branch. Comments on the EA and draft FNSI should be submitted to: Commander, U.S. Army Garrison Fort Belvoir, ATTN: Public Works, 9430 Jackson Loop, Suite 100, Fort Belvoir, VA 22060-5116; or by e-mail to: imcom.fortbelvoir.dpw.environmental@us.army.mil. Comments must be received no later than 30 days after publication of this Notice of Availability.

Subject to review and consideration of comments submitted by individuals, organizations, or agencies during the comment period, the Army intends to issue the final FNSI at the conclusion of the comment period and to proceed with the proposed action.

21 Announcements **21 Announcements**

SEMENIUK



MADISON/ALEXANDRIA, VA
George M. Semeniuk, age 67, passed away on Friday, May 24, 2013 at Coventry Village in Madison, WI after a valiant fight with cancer.
George was born on May 24, 1946 in Ames, IA to George and Alexandra Semeniuk. He was a 1964 graduate of Brookings High School, Brookings, SD, University of Kansas and Duke University, where he received a PhD in Physical Chemistry. His lifetime career was in the Chemical Control Division of the Environmental Protection Agency in Washington, DC where he passionately believed in the control of toxic substances.
He enjoyed getting out of the city into the horse country of Northern Virginia where he was a long time member of the Loudoun Hunt of Leesburg, VA. The many photographs he took reflect the joy he had in the sport of horsemanship and in the love of his family.
As a young man, George showed athletic prowess and was the 1964 South Dakota state champion in the track events of 100 and 220 yard dashes.
He was a devoted son, brother and uncle to many nieces and nephews and was loved for his kind and generous heart and his eagerness to be part of their lives.
George was pre-deceased by his father and is survived by his mother in Madison, two sisters, Sandy Keating (Oak Harbor, WA) and Shirley (Don) Wallace of Madison. He is also survived by five loving nieces and nephews and their families and by many extended family and friends.
A family gathering celebrating George's life will be held at a later date in Brookings, SD.
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Army Cadet **John T. Rice** has received the George C. Marshall Award from the Virginia Military Institute in Lexington, Va. The Vanderbilt University student is the son of Julia Rice of Alexandria, and William Thomas Rice of Annapolis. He graduated in 2009 from West Potomac High School.

Fairfax County Public Schools students won awards at the Family Career and Community Leaders of America state conference held recently in Virginia Beach. Ten of the winners will

represent Virginia at the national competition in Nashville in May.

The following students also received awards at the state conference: Mount Vernon High School: **Beatrice Asuaa** and **Eva Asumadu**, silver in advocacy; **Jessica Montoya** and **Angelica Santiago**, silver in applied technology; **Isaac Castro-Aranda**, **Carlos Rice**, and **Estevan Vega**, bronze in culinary arts; **Danielle Allen**, gold in job interview; **Brianna Ragland** and **Franqui Pierce**, silver in illustrated talk; **Karla Vasquez**, bronze in focus on children; **Lexi Halstead**, silver in recycle and redesign; and **Anika Arviso**, **Shahara Simmons** and **Natalie Allen**, bronze in life event planning.

Mickayla Noel of Alexandria will attend Interlochen Arts Academy, a fine arts boarding high school. The daughter of Ronald and Evette Noel will study creative writing.

Previously, she was a student at Bishop Denis J. O'Connell.

Julia Larsen, a junior at Connecticut College, took part in "Into The Woods," a Theater and Music Department production, held April 25-28 in Tansill Theater at Connecticut College. Larsen played the part of Voice of the Giant and served as props designer for the production. Larsen is a 2010 graduate of Oakcrest School, and is the daughter of Cynthia and Kenyon Larsen

of Alexandria.

Edmund Hammond and **Caleb Williams** have been admitted to Saint Augustine's University for the fall semester.

Colin Chaddock graduated from Emory & Henry College.

The following students graduated from Hampden-Sydney College: **Carlos Alberto Galicia** graduated with a B.A. in psychology and Spanish. A graduate of Annandale High School, he is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Federico Galicia of Alexandria.

Zachary Tyler Hellmuth graduated with a B.A. in economics. A graduate of Bishop Ireton High School, he is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Everett A. Hellmuth III of Alexandria.

Erykah Mooror of Mount Vernon High and **Aaron Mooror** of Whitman Middle built the winning car in the 2013 Science Museum of Virginia Junior Solar Sprint competition. They entered the competition as members of the South County Youth Network, an organization that promotes STEAM (science, technology, engineering, the arts, and math) to students and offers quality programs and activities that empower young people.

Suzanne K. Parrish, from Hybla Valley Elementary School was awarded a Certificate of Study for her participation in the Kennedy Center's Changing Education Through the Arts program.

At Final Convocation on April 25, Hampden-Sydney College senior **George Forrest Allen** received the James Madison Award, given to a political science major for outstanding scholastic achievement.

A Venable Scholar, he serves as a Resident Advisor. He is a member of the honor society Phi Beta Kappa (academics), the College Republicans, the Fly Fishing Club, and the Beta Theta Pi social fraternity. He recently received the James Madison Public Service Certificate from the Wilson Center for Leadership.

A foreign affairs major, Forrest graduated from West Potomac High School and is the son of George and Susan Allen of Alexandria.

The following students graduated from Coastal Carolina University: **Constance Darlington**, graduated Magna Cum Laude with a bachelor of science in exercise and sport science. **Jesse Jarvis** graduated with a bachelor of arts in graphic design. **Blake LeBlanc** graduated Cum Laude with a bachelor of science business administration in management.

Andrew Huerta graduated from Bob Jones University with a bachelor of science degree in biology.

Reza Hemayati was recently awarded a Ph.D in computer science from the Harpur College of Arts and Sciences at Binghamton University.

Michael R. Hull graduated from Lebanon Valley College, Annville, Pa.

Andrew Garden made the president's list both fall and spring semesters at Clemson University for 2012-13. He is a freshman and a 2012 graduate of West Potomac High School.

Linda McCargo is a May graduate of Lycoming College. McCargo graduated magna cum laude with a bachelor's degree in German.

Andrew Huerta, a senior biology

major, was named to the spring 2013 dean's list.

Lily Noguchi has been named to the dean's list at Randolph College.

Kathleen Taylor has been named to the dean's list at Randolph College.

Daniel Christopher Alexander earned a bachelor of science in business administration: marketing from Bryant University.

Lisa Bryan received a bachelor of arts degree in sociology from University of Northern Colorado.

Tyler Kimbel received a doctorate of philosophy, counselor education and supervision from University of Northern Colorado.

William Staples received a bachelor of general studies in liberal arts and sciences from University of Kansas.

Kate Schneider from West Potomac High School is a recipient of a 2013 Celebrate Fairfax Community Spirit Scholarship.

Kevin Sumner Stewart has been named to the dean's list at The Citadel, The Military College of South Carolina, for academic achievement during the spring semester of the 2012-2013 academic year.

Sarah Conrad was inducted into Kappa Delta Pi, an international honor society in education that is dedicated to scholarship and excellence in education. The Alpha Gamma Delta Chapter at Mary Baldwin College encourages members to take active roles in promoting worthy educational ideas and practices.

John Stehl, a sophomore communication major; **Megan Von Kolnitz**, a sophomore marine science major; and **Blake LeBlanc** a senior management major, all earned dean's list status for the spring 2013 semester at Coastal Carolina University.

Bethlehem Ramet graduated with a bachelor of arts in political science from Quinnipiac University.

Caroline T. Kelly received a bachelor of arts in French from Clark University.

Anson Lee received a masters degree in public administration from Marist College.

Emily Laubach was awarded dean's list honors for academic achievement during the spring 2013 semester at St. Mary's College of Maryland.

Marissa Manderfield received a bachelor of arts degree from Curry College.

Liana Pardini graduated from the University of San Diego with a bachelor's degree in political science.

The following area students were named to Clemson University's dean's list at Clemson University for spring 2013: **Jacob Thomas Alexander**, a general engineering major; **Melissa Christine Beaty**, a political science major; **William Dill Rogers III**, an industrial engineering major; **Amanda Michelle Smith**, a philosophy major; and **Emily Anne Smoot**, who is majoring in pre-business.

Allison Cappelletti graduated from Chatham University with a bachelor of arts in English.

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SCHOOLS



Nominees for Lead Actor in a Musical: Jack Gereski (South County's "The Music Man"), Jeffrey Warren (Washington-Lee's "Guys and Dolls"), Ben Roberts (West Potomac's "Young Frankenstein the Musical"), Alex Stone (McLean's "Rent"). Not pictured: Elgin Martin (Thomas S. Wootton's "Ragtime").



Musical Nominees: Jack Ladd (Bishop Ireton's "Something's Afoot"), Michelle Huey (Walt Whitman's "Anything Goes"), Alex Poirier (Loudoun Valley's "Urinetown"), Anna Barr (Robinson's "Hairspray"), Ben Roberts (West Potomac's "Young Frankenstein the Musical").

PHOTOS BY ANDREA (ANDY) MAVS

And the Winners Are . . . **Cappies Gala on Sunday, June 9, at Kennedy Center.**

The 14th Annual Cappies Gala will take place at 7 p.m. on Sunday, June 9, in the 2,400-seat Concert Hall at the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts.

Performers, critics and tech crews from 56 high schools in Northern Virginia, Maryland and Washington, D.C., will receive 37 "Cappie" awards, in a glamorous atmosphere that Cappies (Critics and Awards program) co-founder and Capitol Steps co-founder Bill Strauss used to call "part Tonys, part Final Four." Casts of nominated shows and the performers of nominated songs will present musical numbers as well as sketches

from the nominated plays. The entire show will be aired on Cox Cable "Red Apple" Channel 21 later in the summer.

Throughout the year, the Cappies program is driven by over 380 area high school theater student critics who attend each other's shows, write reviews for newspapers and TV, and serve as "Cappies" awards judges. On May 11, approximately 300 student critics voted for Cappie awards, through a digital, student-designed voting process. Launched in Northern Virginia in 1999, by Bill Strauss and Judy Bowns, Cappies programs are now underway in 11 U.S. cities, including Cincinnati, Kansas City

and Orlando, and three in Canada, with more cities who are preparing to start up in the fall. Strauss, who died in 2007, said: "High school theater is the real youth culture in America, and someday, these kids are going to revitalize Broadway. They're the next great theater generation."

Tickets to the gala are only available only through Cappies high school theater departments.

Local nominees include:

❖ Featured Actor: Eddie Perez, "Young Frankenstein the Musical," West Potomac High School

❖ Male Dancer: Bryan Azucena, "The

Wiz," Mount Vernon High School

❖ Female Vocalist: Katie Carbone, "Young Frankenstein the Musical," West Potomac High School

❖ Supporting Actor in a Musical: David Jarzen, "Young Frankenstein the Musical," West Potomac High School

❖ Lead Actor in a Musical: Ben Roberts, "Young Frankenstein the Musical," West Potomac High School

❖ Song: "Together Again," "Young Frankenstein the Musical," West Potomac High School

❖ Musical: "Young Frankenstein the Musical," West Potomac High School.

'The Wiz' at MVHS

BY SOPHY MEUDT
HERITAGE HIGH SCHOOL

Take a look through your emerald colored glasses and see a parade of mischievous munchkins, some soulful singing, and a truly heart-filled production of "The Wiz" by Mount Vernon High School.

This high-energy exceptionally amusing show first struck the stage in Baltimore on Oct. 21, 1974. It was soon after introduced to Broadway, where it won seven Tony Awards, including best musical. "The Wiz" was destined for success, with music and lyrics by Charlie Smalls and book by William F. Brown. It's a remixed version of the classic tale of sweet little Dorothy and her dog Toto swept into the mystical Land of Oz, accentuated with powerful vocal riffs and much more attitude.

Headlining this dedicated cast was Courtney Kramer in the role of Dorothy. She was adorable to watch on stage and adequately carried the role. Each actor in the foursome of friends easing their way down the road to Oz had strengths and weaknesses, but

brought different talents to the table. The Lion (Justin Atkinson) was easily a crowd favorite with his comedic delivery of lines and the immense personality he brought to the role. The Tin Man (Logan Beveridge) showed

CAPPIES REVIEW

strength in dancing as he was featured with a tap solo in his song "Slide Some Oil to Me." Lastly the Scarecrow deserves high praise for his utter commitment and effective stage presence. He proved to not only be vocally skilled but also developed a strong character, including the way he walked and moved about the stage.

The tech elements of this show were decent. The lighting was well executed, specifically the angelic green lights of Oz. The sound had a few issues, but the actors were able to overcome them. The pit band was extremely small, but also very talented. They never had any problems and balanced well with the actors, never overshadowing.

The best aspect of this show, overall was that it was clear the actors were having fun on stage. Despite a low budget and other limitations, the cast prevailed to put on an entertaining show.

'Young Frankenstein the Musical' at WPHS

BY KATIE HALVERSON
ROBERT E. LEE HIGH SCHOOL

If you're blue and you don't know where to go to, go to West Potomac High School's production of Mel Brooks' "Young Frankenstein the Musical." The musical comedy is full of laughs about the classic horror story, from the mad scientist and his monster to a short visit from Dracula, too.

The musical is based on Brooks and Gene Wilder's 1974 film, similarly titled "Young Frankenstein." The show opened on Broadway in late 2007 and closed after 484 performances, with a national tour beginning in September of 2009. The show opens with Transylvanian villagers celebrating the death of Doctor Victor von Frankenstein, but then worrying that they are still in danger due to his one living relative, grandson Frederick Frankenstein. Frederick is ashamed of his family name, but after being alerted that he must settle his grandfather's estate, he heads to Transylvania, eventually falling into the footsteps of his ancestors among musical numbers and highly suggestive hilarity.

The cast was led strongly by Ben Roberts and Katie Carbone in the roles of Frederick Frankenstein and his assistant, Inga. The two showed congenial romantic chemistry, which intensified the comedy of their explicitly suggestive moments. Carbone was able to strongly support the musical numbers with a strong, controlled voice, which

could perform musical feats from yodeling to belting out other songs.

The role of the hilarious Igor, whose grandfather worked for Frankenstein's grandfather, and who wished to do the same, was filled by David Jarzen. The young actor had comedic timing that perfected many jokes of the show, and seemed to deliver great physical and surreal comedic actions with ease.

A standout performer among the smaller, featured roles was Eddie Perez in the role of the blind hermit. He sweetly delivered a short song about wanting someone to talk to, and suddenly receiving a visit from the monster himself, played by Dan Evans.

Acting blind as a bat, Perez was able to implement great physical comedy in pouring hot soup all over the monster, smashing a glass in his hand, and burning him in attempts to light a cigar. The pair was able to create a well-working visual juxtaposition, with Evans' panicked flailing about and Perez' calm as day actions.

The show's pit orchestra performed the music of the show commendably, sounding as one unit and maintaining a very smooth sound throughout the production.

The cast of West Potomac High School's show put on a hilarious production with great timing, and was able to handle certain mature themes very well. Their rendition of "Young Frankenstein the Musical" proved that anyone can be a lovable comic, even those who might seem like monsters.

CAPPIES REVIEW

PEOPLE



PHOTOS BY LASHAWN AVERY-SIMON/THE GAZETTE

Bike to Work Day

Local residents enjoy riding their bikes on the Mt. Vernon bike trail on Bike to Work Day.



Mark R. Baldwin repairs a bike for local bikers on their way to work on May 17.



Ryan Perry also repairs a bike for those on their ride to work.



Tour on Phone

Hollin Meadows Elementary School was recently awarded the Judges Award for creating an application for smart phones of a tour of the school garden. Hollin Meadows participated in the 2013 NOVA outside, an environmental action showcase event that focused on what schools are exploring and participating in outdoor learning. Schools from Fairfax County, Arlington, and Alexandria City showcased their entries at the event which was held at George Mason University. Hollin Meadows participants included Jason Pittman, science teacher; Jennifer Finnegan, outdoor education teacher and students Patrick McKaig, Adam Neulight and Kiki McDonnell.

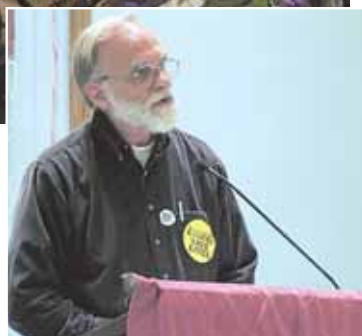


'Statement of Conscience'

Membership of the Mount Vernon Unitarian Church voted overwhelmingly to support a "statement of conscience" on legislation to require background checks and other restrictions on gun sales at its annual meeting May 5.



MVUC Minister, the Rev. Kate Walker addresses the annual meeting.



Bill Alsmeyer-Johnson of the MVUC Social Justice Council proposed the statement of conscience on gun legislation to the congregation.



Fatima Sajjad is undecided between her love of the color of sea green and the jeweled bodice line of two dresses.

A Thousand Dresses

Princess for a Night got underway at West Potomac High School last month with gifts and donations of at least a thousand gowns, dresses, shoes, clutch bags and cosmetics for the prom season.

The community rallied and major support came from donations at Top It Off, Gold's Gym, Heritage Presbyterian Church, Hollin Hall Dry Cleaners, 4Everly After Bridal & Formal, Good Shepherd Catholic Church, Aldersgate United Methodist Church and Sew Perfect Windows.

Leslie Basinsky of Mount Vernon High School helped coordinate the event at West Potomac High School. Basinsky is also coordinating with Alfred Street Baptist Church and

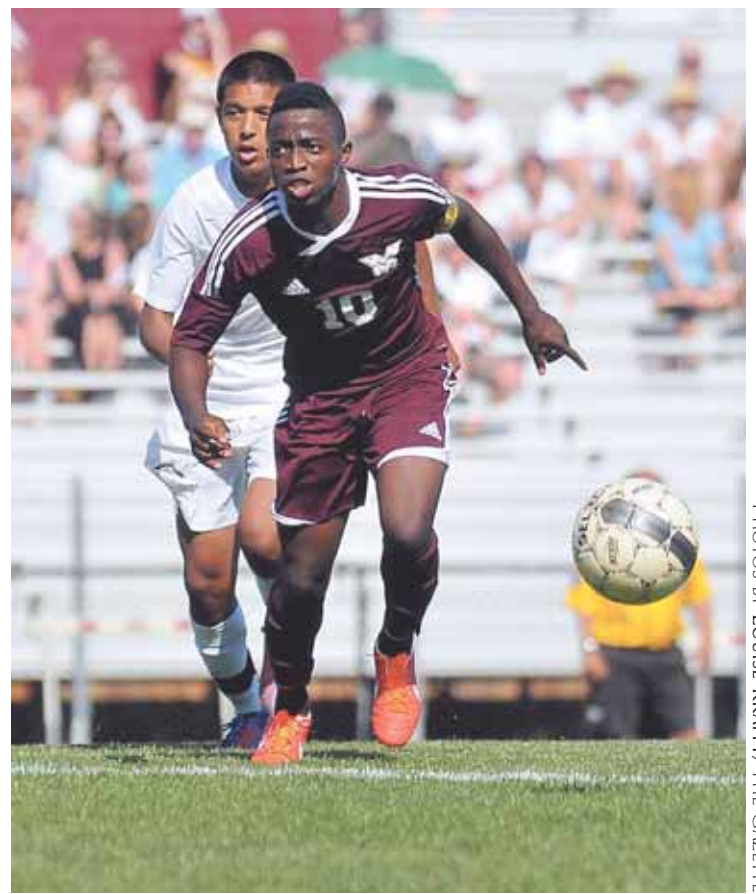


Betty Glaze plays personal shopper for one of the students in the dressing rooms.

Edison High School for next year. 4Everly After donated 5 new gowns that were given to students selected by the senior advisors.



Mount Vernon goalkeeper Lucas Belanger jumps to catch the ball against Oakton in the Northern Region championship game on May 31.



Senior forward Simond Kargbo, seen against Oakton on May 31, and the Mount Vernon boys' soccer team advanced to the state semifinals by beating Forest Park on Tuesday.

PHOTOS BY LOUISE KRAFT/THE GAZETTE

Mount Vernon Boys' Soccer Advances to State Semifinals

Winning in penalty kicks.

The Mount Vernon boys' soccer team held a 4-1 lead over Forest Park with 14 minutes remaining in their Virginia AAA state quarterfinal match on Tuesday.

Then things got interesting.

Forest Park scored three goals in the final 14 minutes to force overtime, but Mount Vernon pulled out the win in penalty kicks, advancing to the state semifinals.

Simond Kargbo, Emmanuel Nolasco, Rahim Costa-Dorsey and Miguel Luna each scored a goal for Mount Vernon. Kargbo, Erik Rodriguez, Costa-Dorsey and Daniel Obour converted their penalty kicks, and goalkeeper Lucas Belanger made three saves during the shootout.

"We came in ready to play, focused on what we had to do," Mount Vernon head coach Tony Garza wrote in a text message. "We knew Forest Park was going to be tough. When we went up 4-1, we became complacent with our lead and became too relaxed, hence the reason we had to go to PK's." Mount Vernon will face Central Region runner-up Midlothian at 8 p.m. on Friday, June 7 at Westfield High School. The winner advances to the state championship game at 3 p.m. on Saturday at Westfield.

"I'm proud of what the boys have done by coming together as a team," Garza wrote. "It's a tough battle and we need to make sure we answer the call when the whistle blows."

Mount Vernon lost to Oakton 3-1 in the Northern Region championship game on May 31. The Majors have won nine of 10 since losing to Hayfield during the regular season on May 2.



Mount Vernon senior Erik Rodriguez slides in against an Oakton player on May 31.

MILITARY NOTES

Army Master Sgt. Stephen A. Burnley graduated from the U.S. Army Sergeants Major Academy at Fort Bliss, El Paso, Texas. Burnley is an air defense artillery senior sergeant and has served in the military for 18 years. He is the son of Stephen and Lucretia Burnley of Alexandria. The master sergeant graduated in 1989 from Bishop Ireton High School, Alexandria.

Navy Ensign Megan E. McGarry, daughter of retired Air Force Col. Brian J. and Elizabeth N. McGarry of Alexandria, was recently commissioned upon graduation from Reserve Officer Training Corps Program with Naval Reserve Officers Training Corps Unit, University of Notre Dame. She is a 2011 graduate of Notre Dame with a BBA degree.

Coast Guard Seaman Christopher J. Graves, son of John S. Graves

of Alexandria, recently graduated from the U.S. Coast Guard Recruit Training Center in Cape May, N.J.

Air Force Airman Cameron P. Piontek graduated from basic military training at Lackland Air Force Base, San Antonio, Texas. Piontek earned distinction as an honor graduate. He is the son of Alice Piontek of Clifton Farm Court, Alexandria. The airman graduated in 2008 from West Potomac High School, Alexandria.

Air Force Airman Angel L. Bush graduated from basic military training at Lackland Air Force Base, San Antonio, Texas. He is the son of Dale Collier of Alexandria, and nephew of Debbie Forbes of Kissimmee, Fla.

Sara Mathewson of Alexandria was among the 13 members of The Uni-

versity of Scranton's Class of 2011 who were commissioned as second lieutenants in the U.S. Army during commencement exercises on campus. Mathewson has been assigned to the Transportation Corps.

Julianne Tortoano has been commissioned as a second lieutenant in the U.S. Army after successfully completing the Army Reserve Officers' Training Corps program. She is the daughter of William T. and Mary Ann Tortolano of Alexandria. Tortolano graduated in 2007 from Bishop Ireton High School Alexandria.

Marine Corps Lance Cpl. Theodore J. Kent, son of Gretchen Rhedmon of Alexandria and Thomas Kent of Richmond, recently participated in Exercise African Lion held in Morocco, Africa, with members of his

battalion, Bravo Company, 4th Combat Engineer Battalion based out of Roanoke. This exercise is one of many Joint Theater Security Cooperation Programs the U.S. Military participates in to foster good relations with allies while building cross-military joint efforts.

Air Force Airman 1st Class Jessa R. Gatchalian graduated from basic military training at Lackland Air Force Base, San Antonio, Texas. She is the daughter of Marivel Reyes of Alexandria.

Army Pvt. Vanessa Y. Alvarado has graduated from One Station Unit Training at Fort Leonard Wood, Waynesville, Mo., which included basic military training and advanced individual training. Alvarado is the daughter of Rafael A. and Dina E. Alvarado of Alexandria.

Army Pvt. Savana R. Scroggins has graduated from One Station Unit Training at Fort Leonard Wood, Waynesville, Mo., which included basic military training and advanced individual training. Scroggins is the daughter of Christina Lawrence of Alexandria, and niece of Kebbie Banks of Fredericksburg.

Navy Seaman Robert P. Hankinson, nephew of Joseph E. Garr of Alexandria, recently completed U.S. Navy basic training at Recruit Training Command, Great Lakes, Ill.

Navy Midshipman Anton C. Ekman, son of Catherine J. and Craig R. Ekman of Alexandria, completed Plebe Summer at the United States Naval Academy. Ekman is a 2011 graduate of

SEE MILITARY, PAGE 30

SPORTS



COURTESY PHOTO

At AAA State Championships

The West Potomac track and field team competed in the AAA state track and field championships at Todd Stadium in Newport News this weekend, with Lozie Goolsby competing in the high jump, Mychael Gyamfi competing in the discus and Ke'Shaun Davis competing in the 100-meter dash. The women's distance team was represented by Katie Genuario in the 3200 and 4x800, and in the 4x800 Lauren Price, Sophie Passacantando, Katie Murray, Meredith Barber, Melanie Bomberg. Jenn Dietz, Jack Coffey, Dena McCraith, Chris Faircloth and Caitlin Keen coached the West Potomac state participants. Katie Genuario placed second in her section and 13th in the state overall. Pictured: freshman Meredith Barber, junior Katie Genuario, senior Sophie Passacantando, sophomore Lozie Goolsby, senior Lauren Price, sophomore Melanie Bomberg and junior Katie Murray.

MILITARY NOTES

FROM PAGE 29

Bishop Ireton High School.

Navy Midshipman Emma G. Ferris, a 2010 graduate of Thomas Jefferson High School, recently completed Plebe Summer while attending the United States Naval Academy.

Navy Midshipman Philip J. Song, a 2011 graduate of Thomas Jefferson High School, Alexandria, recently completed Plebe Summer while attending the United States Naval Academy.

Navy Midshipman Anthony D. Juren, a 2010 graduate of Episcopal High School, Alexandria, completed Plebe Summer while attending the United States Naval Academy.

Navy Midshipman Robert S. Beydler, a 2011 graduate of Bishop Ireton High School, completed Plebe Summer while attending the United States Naval Academy.

Navy Midshipman Jake Dang, son of Ngoc-Anh Pham of Alexandria and Tom Dang of Annandale, completed Plebe Summer while attending the United States Naval Academy. Dang is a 2011 graduate of Annandale High School.

Navy Petty Officer 2nd Class Brian P. Krivonak, son of Leanne Krivonak of Alexandria, participated in detainee handling training while conducting a certification exercise off Southern California. She is a 1998

graduate of West Potomac High School, and joined the Navy in April 2007.

Navy Seaman Ronald J. Pieper, a 2009 graduate of Mount Vernon High School, Alexandria, recently completed U.S. Navy basic training at Recruit Training Command, Great Lakes, Ill. Pieper completed classroom study and practical instruction on naval customs, first aid, firefighting, water safety and survival, and shipboard and aircraft safety.

Air Force Airman Cody A. Ferguson graduated from basic military training at Lackland Air Force Base, San Antonio, Texas. Ferguson is the son of Stephanie Hardwick of Madison Heights, and Jeffrey Ferguson of Alexandria.

Justin Pelletier from Alexandria, serving with the Headquarters and Headquarters Detachment, 102nd Military Police Battalion, was promoted to the rank of Captain in the New York Army National Guard.

Army Pvt. Yohance J. Austrie has graduated from basic combat training at Fort Jackson, Columbia, S.C. Austrie is the son of Nuella and Jerome Austrie of Alexandria. He is a 2007 graduate of Mount Vernon High School.

Air Force Airman Ryan T. Russell graduated from basic military training at Lackland Air Force Base, San Antonio, Texas. Russell is the son of Catherine McDonald of Alexandria, and John Russell of Churchton, Md.

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Senior Living

JUNE 2013

Mount Vernon Gazette

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Senior Living

Happiness and Fulfillment in Golden Years

Mental health experts share factors that contribute to contentment.

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL
THE CONNECTION

On most evenings, 96-year-old Dorothy “Dot” Brown can be found playing Scrabble or a game of bridge. A retired nurse who relocated to Virginia from Pennsylvania 11 years ago, Brown makes it a point to walk at least one mile each day and takes two Zumba or low-impact aerobics classes each week. She attends services regularly at St. Matthews United Methodist Church in Annandale, volunteers her time for projects like cooking and serving meals for others, and says her wide circle of friends and close-knit family are her greatest sources of strength.

“You have to keep busy and active and you have to persevere. I am glad to be 96 years old and still able to walk without any help.”
— Dot Brown

“I moved here to be closer to my

daughters in Annandale, who are 68 and 71,” said Brown, who also has five grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren. “My family is so important to me. We have so much fun together and now we all live within a half-hour of each other. There isn’t a week that goes by that we don’t get together.”

While Brown partly attributes her well-preserved mental and physical fitness to genetics, she says her lifestyle and attitude also play a role. “You have to keep busy and active and you have to persevere,” she said. “There are days when I don’t feel like getting out, but I have to push myself. I am glad to be 96 years old and still able to walk without any help.”

Mental health professionals say the keys to happiness as one gets older include involvement in social activities or community and religious groups, maintaining a network of friends and regular exercise. Lisa Jackson-Cherry, Ph.D., a professor of psychology and chair of the department of counseling at Marymount University in Arlington, suggests “taking up a new hobby or seeking out a career change that brings a sense of meaning.”

In fact, experts say many of Brown’s daily activities are common among seniors who

report contentment with their lives. “Everybody is unique, but overall happiness comes if people continue to do things that they have done over their lifetime that have

brought them joy and strength,” said Ioana Boie, Ph.D., an assistant professor of coun

SEE HAPPINESS, PAGE 6



Dot Brown, 96, holds two of her great-grandchildren, Harper and Eamon. Mental health experts say that strong familial relationships contribute to one’s overall sense of well-being.

PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Senior Center Enriches Mount Vernon Life

Fairfax County is rich with senior living centers, according to Julie Ellis, Director of the Mount Vernon Center. The Mount Vernon Center, Hollin Hall Senior Center for Creative Retirement, just celebrated its 30th anniversary in January.

Ellis, who has been the director for 12 years, said the Health Awareness and physical fitness programs are what bring most senior citizens to the center for their initial visit.

“One thing that brings people through the doors, I know it is scary for some people, is our Health Awareness programs and the exercise-physical activities,” Ellis said. All 13 “senior centers [in Fairfax County] are required to have certain programming, some have more than others. One center may have Thai chi, one may not. Some might have low impact yoga where others do not.”

She said there are also popular activities for people who are not looking for exercise opportunities. There are activities at all the centers for the mind and the body.

“The second most popular activity is

bridge,” Ellis said. “Bridge is supposed to be great for the mind. Some people have been playing for years — people live for bridge.”

Being so close to the District, travel opportunities are easy for Fairfax County senior centers to coordinate, especially for the Alexandria centers like Mount Vernon.

“The local trips are very popular,” Ellis said. “We get a certain amount per year. We are so fortunate to be so close to D.C. There are museums, the theater and ball games.”

Ellis said the Hollin Hall Senior Center for Creative Retirement would not be what it is without the volunteers. Ninety-nine percent of the programs are volunteer run, which she said “really adds to the quality of the programming.”

“The local trips are very popular. We are so fortunate to be so close to D.C. There are museums, the theater and ball games.”

— Julie Ellis, Director of the Mount Vernon Center

Participants in the programs have a big say in what is offered at the center, as there

is a 12-person Advisory Board with elections every November.

Where there used to not be a cost to gain access to senior centers like Hollin Hall, now there is a \$48 annual fee for Fairfax County residents and a \$100 annual fee if

you live outside the County.

If there is anything she could change about Fairfax County’s senior centers, Ellis said she would lower the age definition of “senior” so more people could benefit from all centers have to offer.

“My cohorts and I would like to lower the age to 50,” Ellis said.

She said that summer activities are consistent with the rest of the year’s offerings.

She encourages seniors to get involved by visiting the Hollin Hall Senior Center for Creative Retirement in person or by checking out the programs at www.hollinhallseniorcenter.org.

—ASHLEY SIMPSON

Mount Vernon Gazette

Senior Living

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Active and Prepared

Aging-in-place solutions aid senior's decision to stay put.

BY JOHN BYRD

“My mother spent the last two years of her life in a nursing home,” said northern Virginia native Connie Sorrentino, who recently turned 70. “You never know what’s ahead. I spent a couple of years looking at retirement homes, then decided that the immediate problem was adapting my current house so it’s easier to use.”

Sorrentino, who lives alone, practices yoga and observes a strict vegetarian and fish diet, said she has “no stiffness” and is quite active in local church and civic groups.

“Still, since I’ve decided to stay put, I’m making changes that will make it easier for me to sustain myself happily for years to come,” she said.

Along these lines, the retired economist has been working with Mindy Mitchell, certified aging-in-place specialist at Burke-based Sun Design Remodeling, planning out the future of a home in Arlington she’s occupied for more than 30 years. Recently, the design-build firm remodeled several rooms in Sorrentino’s four-bedroom ranch; she was pleased with the outcome, and gratified to



PHOTOS BY BETH WALTERS

Counter high drawers instead of overhead cabinets; cabinets pulls and sharper more focused lighted are among the simple but effective aging-in-place solutions that have made it easier for Sorrentino to use her kitchen.

learn that the firm’s expertise includes re-designing homes to meet aging-in-place requirements.

“We’re seeing many more seniors exploring ideas that will help them continue to live independently in their own homes,” said Mitchell. “Sometimes we’re called in when mobility issues have become inescapable. But it’s always easier when you plan ahead.”

Mitchell said that an aging-in-place design is far more economical and practical when it’s rolled into an already planned remodeling project — which is the course Sorrentino is following in the current makeover of her kitchen, several bathrooms and other parts of the circa-1950s rambler.

“I’m remodeling several high-use spaces; it’s a plan that makes it easier for me to do



More

Sun Design Remodeling frequently sponsors workshops on Aging-In-Place solutions. Call 703-425-5588 or visit www.SunDesignInc.com.

Connie Sorrentino, 70, (center) re-interviews plans to introduce aging-in-place innovations into her kitchen and several bathrooms with Sun Design Remodeling’s Mindy Mitchell (left) and designer Kim Kruskamp.

everything I need with minimal challenge,” said Sorrentino.

Mitchell said that the changes can seem discrete to outsiders, but they “make all the difference in reducing the ergonomic exertions of daily life.”

In place of overhead kitchen shelves, for instance, Mitchell is recommending counter-

high pull-out drawers for regularly-used items, reducing the need for out-of-reach overhead cabinetry. Small hard to grasp knobs will be replaced with cabinet pulls. Sharper, more concentrated lighting in key locations provides the visual support needed to move about confidently.

In two bathrooms, plans call for precisely located vertical and horizontal grab bars. The shower will have

a lower curve for easier access. Traditional and hand-held shower faucets simplify bathing. The faucets themselves feature adjustable levers rather than knobs. The floor will be surfaced in non-slip tile.

“Working out the details is fascinating,” Sorrentino said. “The best part, though, is interior design that perfectly integrates all these new features. I don’t want the house to look ‘senior-friendly’—just pretty.”

More

Staff at Foster Remodeling Solutions periodically offer workshops on home remodeling topics. Call 703-550-1371 or visit www.FosterRemodeling.com.

blacked-out large sections of Fairfax County for five memorably hot and humid days.

“We were actually out of town when the power failed,”

said Rogers. “But when I walked through my front door two days into the outage, my generator was on, the house was cool, and all the electrical systems were working just fine.”

The rest of the neighborhood was another story. “My neighbor’s basement flooded when his sump pump stopped,” said Rogers. “People were dealing with spoiled food, no lights, no phone — and no air conditioning during some of the hottest temperatures in years.”

Ever the good neighbor, Rogers organized a relief effort at once, supplying power support where needed, even clearing refrigerator space so nearby friends could preserve their frozen foods.

“We’d invite neighbors to sit in the air conditioning, and watch the news or check their emails. We were like a local community center,” he said.

The larger satisfaction to Rogers, though, is that his computer, internet and security systems continued to perform as usual. “It’s a relief to know that you’re connected to the outside world — especially in an area-wide emergency. Five days is a long time to be cut off.”

Older Residents Reflect on Decades

BY KEN MOORE
THE ALMANAC

Ellen Breen turned 95 on May 5, 2013. Her granddaughter plans to be married in September.

“If I am alive, I am going,” Breen said.

Her grandchildren call her Rah Rah. “I love it. It’s one of my favorite sounds. When they say it it really means something.”

Dennis Lewis is 75. He had a stroke 15 days before his 70th birthday.

“If I had it to do over again, I’d drink twice as much water and half as much soda, I think it would have made a difference in triggering the stroke,” Lewis said.

Lewis, of Potomac, says he’s grateful he had made plans to see a friend that Saturday afternoon five years ago.

“I had the stroke at 4 in the morning. I tried for 45 minutes to move nine inches,” Lewis said.

His friend came over to meet at the agreed-to time hours later, and found Lewis incapacitated. His friend saved his life, Lewis said.

More than one in five Americans will be 65 or older by 2050, according to Spencer A. Rathus.

“Those who are in late adulthood are the most rapidly growing segment of the American population,” according to Rathus’ textbook on Human Growth and Development.

Lewis, a journalist, worked 16 years for the Washington Star as a radio columnist, then the Washington Times as a television critic, and finished his career with the Bureau of National Affairs.

Lewis loves politics and musicals, acting and journalism. He still writes local theater reviews and sends news pegs via email to friends and family about current events more than 20 times a day.

“My life was changed when I was a teenager, I learned to debate in high school,” Lewis said. “I learned how to debate, how to make arguments for or against any point of view.”

Successful agers form emotional goals that bring them satisfaction, according to Rathus. “Successful agers may no longer compete in certain athletic or business activities. ... Instead, they focus on matters that allow them to maintain a sense of control over their own lives.”

Ellen Breen, of Potomac, used to read a book every week, but can’t read now because of vision problems.

“Oh, I miss reading the headlines,” she said. So she turns to the television to keep up with current news.

“We lived in historic times,” Breen said. There were so many things that happened.”

A big memory from her childhood, she said, was Lindbergh crossing the Atlantic, and seeing Lindbergh in person at Dupont Circle.

“I was 9 years old. I had a cousin who was 19,” she said. “She took me by the hand and we ran from her mother’s house on N Street, and got there just in time to see Lindbergh greet the crowd.”

When the Lindbergh baby was kidnapped, “that was a horrible thing. That made a big impression on me.”

Breen worked as a secretary to one of the United States Supreme Court Justices, Harold Hitz Burton.

Her work with the Child Welfare League was her greatest passion. She helped investigate the treatment of adopted children and potential adoptive parents.

“You could not believe the things we found, horrible, terrible things,” she said. “It opened my eyes, I was a little girl out of convent school. There were also good stories, very good stories, but it opened my eyes to life. I had no idea such things existed. ... It gave me perspective on my own life, with my children.”

Religion is critical in Breen’s life. “That I think is the most important thing,” Breen said. “We don’t know what’s in store for us. It’s very frightening, I think so, and it is also exciting.”

According to Rathus, “successful agers tend to be optimistic. Retaining social contacts and building new ones also contributes to a positive outlook, as does continuing with one’s athletic activities, when possible, and one’s artistic and cultural activities.”

“Develop your level of confidence to where you will be an impact player,” he said. “You have to believe in yourself.”

DENNIS LEWIS HAS ADVICE for younger generations.

“Find what you’re good at, find what is important to you, find what matters, what are your talents,” he said.

“Develop your level of confidence to where you will be an impact player,” he said. “You have to believe in yourself.”

Rogers’ Retirement Dream

Aging-in-place remodel required a generator, much to relief of their neighbors.

BY JOHN BYRD

Ted Rogers, 73, recently completed a senior-friendly makeover to his home, with the help of a master builder to meet his often challenging technical requirements.

Rogers, a former Navy pilot, had lived in 18 houses all over the world before settling in a circa 1960s ranch in Vienna with his wife and children in the early 1980s. The traditional brick rambler had previously been owned by a local farmer whose family had worked a nearby spread for generations.

The house was conventional, but solidly constructed. Still, as Rogers and his wife, Wanda, settled into their 70s they recognized several aspects of the home that wouldn’t be ideal in retirement.

“We were looking for long term comfort and security,” said Rogers. “That meant the usual wish-list — upgraded kitchen, larger

master bedroom suite.”

Then, too, the master shower would be a “roll-in” design, suitable for a wheelchair if needed.

Doors and hallways would be wider, in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act specifications. There would be convenient grab bars near the tub.

“But I also insisted on a way to keep our systems operating in the event of a power failure,” said Rogers. “We’re a bit off the main road and have been through long outages. You want to avoid this kind of thing as you get older.”

Complicating matters were several technical questions. For instance: what was the appropriate size and performance capability of a home generator adequate for powering the substantially enlarged home the Rogers now envisioned?

“The more I looked into it, the more I realized that there are a lot of issues with home

generators that have to be worked out between the contractor and the gas company,” Rogers recalled.

“I was aware of plans like mine that hadn’t worked well for the homeowner. I wanted enough power to keep the house running for days at a time, but the technology is still evolving and relatively few contractors have mastered it.”

Then Rogers met David Foster, president of Foster Remodeling Solutions in Lorton, a veteran builder with a track record in home generator solutions.

“David came highly recommended, but it was meeting him that proved decisive,” said Rogers. “His love of building impressed me. As we started walking through the house together, I could see that he understood my vision.”

THE STARTING POINT: a 2,553 square-foot, three-bedroom ranch on two acres, and a conversation regarding the best options for accommodating a master bedroom suite, a spacious gourmet kitchen, a two-car garage with a second floor studio and a home generator adequate for powering everything for



Wanda and Ted Rogers in front of their remodeled home.

days a time without need for refueling.

“The call for a generator in a retirement dream home struck a chord with me” said Foster. “We have a sizable seniors clientele, so I’ve been steadily servicing the growing demand for this type of application — absorbing the learning curve just as the problems with the power grid have become ap-

parent to everyone.”

In Rogers’ case, Foster specified a state-of-the-art unit, one powerful enough to run all of his client’s electrical needs for about a week without changing gas or oil.

And the timing couldn’t have been more perfect. Shortly after the project’s completion in spring 2012, the now-infamous derecho in early July

Happiness and Fulfillment in Golden Years

FROM PAGE 3

selling at Marymount University. “Find out what brings you joy and happiness and takes you out of your routine.”

STRONG FAMILIAL RELATIONSHIPS such as Brown’s are another factor in one’s overall sense of well-being. “Reconnecting with family members can bring happiness,” said Boie. “That’s also sometimes tricky because it can bring up unresolved issues in the family. Long-lasting tension in the family can lead to sadness in the sense of premature loss. Try and work out unresolved tensions and issues with family members.”

When frequent and meaningful contact with family members is not possible, Boie says that even family memorabilia can offer inspiration. “Create an album of memories and insights to share with future generations,” she said.

Intimacy is also important. “If a person has lost their spouse and sex was part of their life, that is a big part of who they are and will impact happiness,” said Boie. “Just because a person is older doesn’t mean that they don’t need to experience intimacy, although they might not experience it in the way a person who is 25 would. We should alleviate some of the tension around talking about this issue.”



Dot Brown, 96, helps assemble oral rehydration kits for a World Health Organization and UNICEF project. The Springfield resident credits her active lifestyle and genetics for her well-preserved mental and physical health.

In addition to human social connections, relationships with furry friends can also provide gratification. “Pets can bring a lot

of joy,” said Boie. “It is a very rewarding relationship. I know people that are connected to a parrot or cat or dog. Animals can be warm, reassuring parts of an elderly person’s life.”


FINDING A DEEPER MEANING in life and having a sense of purpose can also affect one’s outlook. “Seniors are dealing with multiple issues like their own spirituality and what that might be,” said Frederic Bemak, Ed.D, a professor of counseling and development at George Mason University in Fairfax. “One might ask: ‘Who am I at this moment?’ Have I done things that are in-line with my own value system and beliefs?”

Discovering new outlets for self-expression can lead to a sense of accomplishment and satisfaction as well. “What someone does with their own creativity can be rich and fulfilling,” said Bemak who lives in Fairfax Station. “Through physical activity and creative arts, seniors extend a sense of their creative selves that they might not have had time to do in their younger years.”

Meanwhile, Brown is making plans for a weeklong summer vacation with her family. “There will be 22 of us in one house at the beach,” she said. “I know we’re going to have a great time.”



Dot Brown (pictured with great-grandchildren Clara, Blake and Becca) celebrated her 96th birthday recently with her children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren. She says spending time with her family brings her joy.



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Image courtesy of The Butler Institute of American Art, Youngstown, Ohio

‘Age in Place’ to Satisfy Evolving Needs

BY JOSH BAKER
FOUNDER, BOWA BUILDERS

Your family may be approaching a transitional time in home ownership. Perhaps the kids have already moved out, or your “nest” is nearly empty as your last child contemplates going off to college. Or maybe you’re craving a living space that is more comfortable and



Baker

convenient as it becomes more difficult to move around. There are many reasons couples choose to “age in place,” or modify their home to meet changing needs rather than purchase a new property.

WHERE THE HEART IS

Many people have spent years making memories in their home and have grown to be

SEE NEEDS, PAGE 7



The addition of a main-level master suite with easy access to outdoor living space paves the way for aging in place and family entertaining.

Crafting a Wheelchair Friendly Master Bath

Accessibility designer inspired by personal experiences.

BY JOHN BYRD

“We are seeing more seniors choosing to stay in their homes than ever before,” says aging-in-place specialist Russ Glickman.

“This is partly a function of the fact aging-in-place solutions are improving, but we’re also learning — as a society — that good universal design well-integrated into the home can work for the entire family.”

Glickman points to ramps and walkways perfectly integrated into porches and veranda; wheelchair friendly dining counters that double as serving stations and clean-up stations when needed; wider doorways and grab bars that prove convenient for everyone.

Of course, there can also be challenging technical considerations. In an assignment completed just last month, the remodeler collaborated with an occupational therapist



PHOTOS BY WAYNE JACKSON

Russ Glickman recently completed a “wet room” for a senior who is now mostly in a wheelchair. The solution includes a curbless shower, wheelchair accessible counter surfaces and a pull down arm that facilitates access to the toilet.

in designing a master bathroom for a Lorton-based senior who had recently transitioned to a wheelchair.

“Here we have an individual who has lived in the same house for 25 years,” Glickman said. “His son occupies the same residence, so there was really no thought of moving into a nursing facility. My goal was to execute a plan that enables a capable mature male — who happens to be in a

wheelchair — to live a fully independent life in his own home.”

Glickman, who has operated Glickman Design/Build for 30 years, understands such household challenges first-hand. When his son, Michael, was diagnosed with cerebral palsy almost two decades ago, Glickman set about acquiring several certifications in universal design specialties; after 15 years of enabling seniors and people with

disabilities, his projects are frequent award-winners in an increasingly high-profile accessible living category.

A critical component to the just-completed Lorton assignment was designing a wheelchair friendly master bath that allows the homeowner to perform all his bathing and toiletry routines without assistance.

The result is what is known in the industry as a “wet room”—a completely waterproofed space that includes a curbless level-access shower, conveniently located grab-bars, and counter space designed for easy wheel chair maneuverability.

The key to a curbless shower design is floor grading and tile layout, Glickman says. The floor is framed to support a very gentle slope that keeps water flowing towards the drain.

A weight-tested, pull-down metal arm assists the owner in moving back and forth between the wheelchair and the toilet.

The wet-room’s finishwork features skid-proof ceramic tile, an ADA-compliant doorway, a sink with a wheel-chair friendly L-shaped counter surface and plenty of barrier-free room to move about.

‘Age in Place’ to Satisfy Evolving Needs

FROM PAGE 6

deeply connected to their neighbors and the property’s ideal location. So instead of uprooting and leaving their home’s rich history for a new property, couples are seizing the opportunity to transform their beloved home into a space that fits their specific short- and long-term needs. Sometimes this decision involves revamping existing space or incorporating a user-friendly residential elevator into the home. In many cases couples opt to add ground-level space in a way that complements the home.

A ‘SUITE’ ADDITION

The most common “aging in place” transition involves adding a more accessible second master suite to the first floor. This convenient change allows a couple to go about their day-to-day lifestyle

without navigating stairs, yet still have ample space upstairs for visiting children and guests. This type of remodeling project is ideal because it is often unobtrusive, allowing homeowners to remain living in their home during construction with minimal disturbance.

DETAILS THAT MATTER

When making renovation plans, especially for a person using a wheelchair or walker, ensure there is enough space. Wider doorways and hallways, as well as large curb-less showers with grab bars and handheld shower heads are common features even for families without a disabled member. Other popular requests with noted value include appliances with lever doors, varied countertop heights, and minimal steps through passageways. Creating a five-foot

turning radius can greatly improve maneuverability for someone with limitations, but also feels spacious for the active family.

It’s a reality that many people will endure some kind of temporary mobility challenge in their life, perhaps from surgery rehabilitation or an accident, so it makes sense to design your home in a practical, universal way to accommodate such unpredictable circumstances. If needed, first-floor laundry facilities and outdoor ramps also add convenience to the new space. With all of these changes, it is important to maintain the current look and feel of your home as much as possible, so consider choosing materials and colors that match the style of the rest of your home.

OVERCOMING BARRIERS

In instances when a small lot or zoning

restrictions hamper the ability to add on square footage for a master suite or other area, there are alternative options to help a family stay in their home. There may be seldom-used space on the first floor that can be reconfigured into a cozy master suite with the expert eye of a design-build team.

Regardless of emotional attachment to the family home, homeowners being involved in the remodeling process allows them to create a space that best mirrors their individual needs to age gracefully and with less stress.

Transforming a home to accommodate the later years in life creates a place that is easier to manage without giving up the opportunity to reminisce, or surrendering the cherished role of hosting distant family and friends.

lost (adj): 1. unable to find the way. 2. not appreciated or understood. 3. no longer owned or known

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Directions From I-66, exit at Route 28 North. Follow Route 28 North to Route 50 West. Continue approximately 6 miles. Just past Gum Spring Road, turn left into Stone Springs Blvd. Left on Millstream Drive and left on Amber Spring Court, veer left onto Byrne Meadow Square. Turn left on Lynette Springs Terrace for Model Parking Lot. Follow signs to Model. **24664 Byrne Meadow Square, Stone Ridge, Virginia 20105**

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Take Route 66 to exit 40 (15) Haymarket/Leesburg and turn right onto Route 15 North. Turn left onto Bull Run Estates Drive and Continue through intersection. Make a Left onto Tanyard Lane. Model will be directly on your Left. **3701 Tanyard Lane, Haymarket, Virginia 20169**

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703-764-5470

Directions To Model: Take the Dulles Toll Road (Route 627) West to the Dulles Greenway. Take Exit 1B, Route 15 North. Follow Route 15 North 4.7 miles to a left on Raspberry Drive. Take first right onto Levade Drive and left onto Briarberry Place to Model at: **41975 Briarberry Place, Leesburg, VA 20176.**

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*Prices subject to change without notice. See Sales Manager for details. 6/13.

