



PHOTO BY LOUISE KRAFT/THE GAZETTE

## Celebrating the 4th

Addison Laragi and Lily Kernan added a lot of sparkle to their bike helmets for the annual Waynewood 4th of July parade last Friday morning. More photos, page 6.

## Sherwood Hall On-Street Parking Preserved

**Repaving and restriping began July 7.**

BY JANELLE GERMANOS  
THE GAZETTE

**T**he \$474,000 Sherwood Hall Lane repaving and restriping project from Route 1 to Fort Hunt Road began Monday, and is expected to be completed within a month, according to Virginia Department of Transportation.

Although elimination of on-street parking in some areas of Sherwood Hall Lane was consid-

ered in the beginning phases of the plan, on-street parking will remain between Parkers Lane and Fort Hunt Road, following public opposition to its elimination.

"It's about what the residents need right there, and I'm glad we were able to accommodate what they want," said Joan Morris of VDOT.

Slight adjustments to on-street parking west of Parkers Lane will be made, Morris said.

Additionally, crosswalks are being considered between Parkers and Fort Hunt across Sherwood Hall Lane to appease community interest. This is being considered separate from the current

SEE ON-STREET, PAGE 5

## School Board Decreases Suspension Time

**Student Rights and Responsibilities handbook revised.**

BY JANELLE GERMANOS  
THE GAZETTE

**S**tarting this fall, suspensions for certain student offenses in Fairfax County will decrease, thanks to a revision of the school system's Student Rights and Responsibilities.

The school board voted unanimously at the end of June to change the discipline handbook, which will now focus on in-school suspensions to preserve time in school. Offenses that come with mandatory punishments are decreased under the updated handbook.

Sully District School Board member Kathy Smith said at the meeting that the focus remains to have safe schools, but to ensure that children are kept in school so they can continue to receive their

education.

"The changes to the SR&R were made to better align with best practices, to reduce suspensions, and to include changes that have been made to the Code of Virginia," said School Board Chairman Ilryong Moon in a press release. "The adopted changes emphasize the School Board's desire to keep students in class by promoting alternative forms of discipline and reducing the length of suspension for certain offenses. However, serious infractions will still be dealt with in a manner that protects students and staff."

The Student Rights and Responsibilities provides a guideline of rules for students of Fairfax County Schools and the consequences for breaking those rules. Students are required to sign it

SEE ADDRESSING, PAGE 3

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PHOTOS BY VERONICA BRUNO/THE GAZETTE

Members of the First Virginia Regiment march in front of the mansion on the way to the war military drills performed on the bowling green.

## Celebrating Independence at Mount Vernon

BY VERONICA BRUNO  
THE GAZETTE

George Washington (portrayed by actor Dean Malissa) welcomed guests to Mount Vernon estate the morning of July 4. After Washington inspected the troops from the First Virginia Regiment along the bowling green, tourists heard a reading of the Declaration of Independence.

Celebrations also included a 53rd annual Independence Day laying of the wreath and a ceremony to honor new citizens with a special Independence Day naturalization ceremony on the river side of the mansion. The National Concert Band performed patriotic songs. Guests flooded the bowling green to take in the daytime fireworks that exploded over the mansion. Afterwards, they were treated to cake in the shape of the American flag, Revolutionary War military music and military drills.

Throughout the day tourists had the opportunity to talk with re-enactors from the world of General Washington as they strolled through the estate grounds.

During the Declaration of Independence portion of the program, Washington roused the troops and extolled the importance of independence as he told the crowd, "We raise up a nation for the first time in history, a nation based on ideals ... a free and sovereign nation that we celebrate this day."



George Washington (Dean Malissa) poses with children Audrey Levy (age 9), Jackson (age 4) and Katelyn Jung (age 6) in front of the mansion.



Rifle company members of the 1st Virginia Regiment fire their rifles. The military drills also included cannon fire as well.



Jamie (age 11) and Allie Davis (age 9) pose in colonial costume in the lower gardens of the estate. They were visiting from Richmond. Their grandfather, Steve Davis, is a drummer in the 1st Virginia Regiment and performed throughout the celebrations at the estate.

## Addressing Suspensions

FROM PAGE 1  
each year.

Changes also include adjustments to a marijuana-related punishment. First-time use of marijuana that does not take place on school grounds or during a school-sponsored activity will be extended expedited review, meaning disciplinary actions other than expulsion may be used.

A motion was also approved that requires the collection of data on cases involving first-time possession and use of marijuana cases each semester. Principals are also given more independence in assigning disciplinary decisions.

Superintendent Karen Garza said at the meeting that disproportionality in school suspensions will continue to be examined.

"Are we there yet with the Student Rights and Responsibilities? No. I think we have to keep working on it and keep making it better," Garza said.

Under the updated handbook, the suspension time for many punishments is decreased from 10 to five days.

"We wanted to reduce the number of days students miss school due to disciplinary infractions. We need to hold students accountable, but can we do that in a way that still supports our educational mission, and I think we've made progress there," Garza said.

A requirement that required a 10-day suspension with a referral to the Division Superintendent has also been eliminated.

"Everything we know at the national level of research is, when you pull children out of their school building, when you pull them even out of the classroom, they fall further and further behind," said Lee District School Board member Tamara Derenak Kaufax. "When we look at the things that we as a system can try to control and improve upon for student achievement, it's important that we recognize that this is why getting our discipline practice right is so important, because this is how we will help improve student achievement and narrow the achievement gap."

**FAIRFAX COUNTY'S ADOPTION** of the new Student Rights and Responsibilities will be a model for the rest of Virginia, said Ted Velkoff, member at large.

"School boards are going to be looking at ways to respond positively to students without doing zero tolerance," he said.

Electronic cigarettes and hookah pens were also added to be classified as tobacco products under the updated handbook.

A motion was also approved that requires data to be collected regarding in-school and out-of-school suspension, as well as the number of those students not suspended, out of the total number of referrals to the superintendent for discipline infractions, to be reported each semester.





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## PEOPLE



PHOTO BY SHIRLEY RUHE/THE GAZETTE

**PJ Dunn, naturalist at Huntley Meadows Park, has caught a Great Blue Skimmer dragonfly for a close-up inspection by his group on the June 29 Dragonfly Walk.**

## PJ Dunn: Dragonfly Guide

BY SHIRLEY RUHE  
THE GAZETTE

**P**J Dunn, a naturalist at Huntley Meadows, powers up his presentation on Dragonflies and Damselflies, but "mostly dragonflies." He explains that 36 different species of dragonflies have been identified at Huntley Meadows Park. A new dragonfly, the Common Sanddragon, was just discovered in the back of the park two weeks ago. "I haven't seen it yet," he said.

Dragonflies are insects that spend most of their life under water and then emerge into a completely different world for a few weeks. Dragonfly-like insects first appeared about 300 million years ago and some had wingspans over two feet. Dunn said dragonflies have great engineering, "Hollywood couldn't have made it up. The Air Force studied them because they can fly frontwards and backwards, up and down and can hover while each wing is doing something different." He explained that the wings are made of vessels carrying blood and you can identify each species by the exact pattern of the cells. "It's like a fingerprint." Their eyes have thousands of lenses so they see almost 360 degrees.

"I'm really interested in the behavior or lifestyle more than just identification," Dunn said. For instance, he explains that each male has a territory and guards it from other males. "When a female enters his territory, he scoops down in the wink of an eye and grabs her before anyone else can get her. It's not romantic, dinner and a movie. It's violent but it works." And you can tell a mature male because his wings are usually tattered, and dragonflies don't have the ability to regenerate parts.

Dunn heads down the path to the wetlands trail with his group of 10 who have come for the program. Most of them are repeat visitors who have attended one of



**PJ Dunn holds out a Great Blue Skimmer caught at Huntley Meadows June 29 on his Dragonfly Walk.**

Dunn's other programs on owls, beginning birding, or the evening stroll. Dunn has a day job so he mostly works at Huntley Meadows on weekends, where he currently runs the visitor's center and offers programs.

He became interested in dragonflies because he started as a birder; but when it gets hot in the summer birding gets slow but dragonflies abound.

"You can usually find the Blue Dasher with its white face and metallic green eyes at the beginning of the boardwalk," he said.

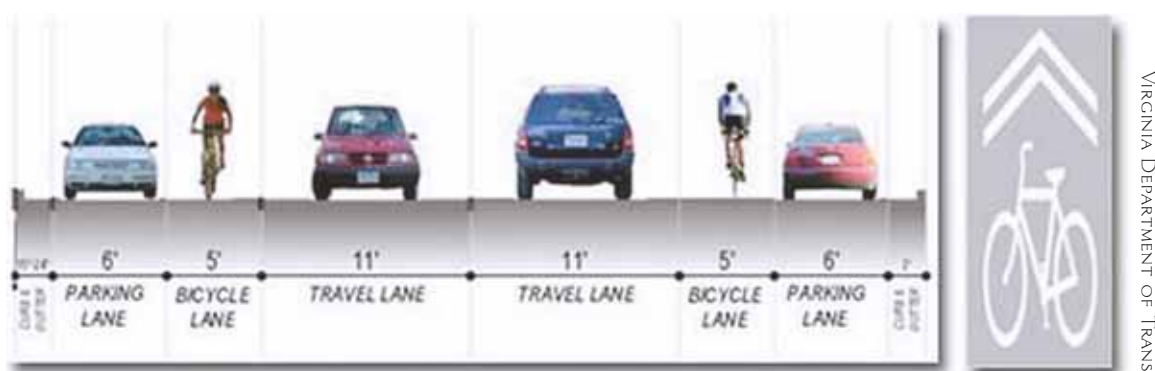
Dragonflies need habitat, space, food and territory; some need clean water and others like the Shadow Darner prefer late afternoon shade. So you will find dragonflies at different places along the boardwalk. "See there is an Amberwing flitting through the lizard tail plants. It is the smallest dragonfly we have here. It flies low to the water and mostly returns to the same perch."

Further along he points to a Great Blue Skimmer and, with a quick scoop of the net, has captured the insect for close viewing by the crowd. It is a large dragonfly with a white face, blue eyes and blue thorax. He

SEE SHARING, PAGE 5

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Typical section showing the new lane configuration. "Sharrow" markings will be added between Holland Road and Parkers Lane.

VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Sherwood Hall Lane repaving and restriping began July 7, and should be completed with a month. On-street parking lanes will remain between Parkers Lane and Fort Hunt Road.

## On-Street Parking Preserved

FROM PAGE 1  
restriping and repaving project.

At a public meeting in March, many residents expressed interest in a crosswalk across from Hollin Meadows Elementary School.

This included Olivia Luby, a student at Hollin Meadows Elementary School, who said it is impossible for her and her classmates to cross Sherwood Hall Lane to get to school.

"Sherwood Hall Lane is a very busy street. Lots of people like to cross it to get to school. That can be difficult for people to cross the street because of all the cars. We were wondering if you could help us get a crosswalk to help my classmates get to school safely and maybe even a speed bump if you're feeling generous," Luby said at the meeting.

Some Sherwood Hall Lane residents at the meet-

ing were opposed to bike lanes, including Jack Pardue, who said the restriping will take away parking space and cause more speeding and traffic.

"I have nothing against bikers," Pardue said. "But this will destroy our property values."

Despite some opposition, repaving will include a parking lane, bike lane and travel lane in each direction.

From Holland Road to Parkers Lane, cyclists and motorists will share the road, which will be marked by "sharrows."

At Sherwood Hall Lane and Fordson Road, left-turn lanes will be added to improve safety and traffic flow. According to VDOT, the intersection will also be configured so a future crosswalk can be added.

Residents are reminded to avoid parking where the "no parking" signs are posted.

## Sharing the World of Dragonflies

FROM PAGE 4

balanced the dragonfly carefully on the hand of one of his visitors. Its six legs grabbed hold — "watch it, sometimes they try to bite." As the group rounded the corner, someone spotted the Swamp Darner perched on a branch over the water. At over three inches long, It is the largest dragonfly in the park. "My favorite is probably the Mocha Emerald, real cool looking metallic brown and what a nice name."

The study of dragonflies is in its infancy with little research money available. In 1998 Dunn, Kathi McNeil and Kevin Munroe published "Dragonflies of Huntley Meadows," the first region-specific guide

ever. "When I started volunteering here 23 ago, there were no official common names for dragonflies." He said it took at least five years for him to get a good level of knowledge about dragonflies because "there was nothing to go on; we did all of the research ourselves. We still don't know ranges very well." He added, "We do know there is one dragonfly, the Wandering Glider, that has been seen on every continent and has the longest migration currently known. Dragonflies are tagged with a spot like Monarch butterflies so we can begin to learn where they go. But we're just at the beginning with so much more to know."



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## PEOPLE



Chester and Kirby (father and son) get ready for a wagon ride in the annual Waynewood 4th of July parade last Friday morning. Pulling the wagon are Kenan Carter and McClain Brooks.



Hundreds of children line up on their decorated bikes, scooters and floats to ride down Waynewood Boulevard.

PHOTOS BY LOUISE KRAFT/THE GAZETTE

# Waynewood Celebrates the Fourth of July



Naval historian David Winkler came in costume to the annual community parade and picnic.



Madison and Casey Maddox ride with Isabell Fornhill.



The Waynewood Scholarship recipient Justin Keightley is driven by Georgia Harlow.



Waynewood Citizen Association President Chip Biddis and his son Matthew.



Mount Vernon School Board representative Dan Storck as Abraham Lincoln waves to the crowd along the parade route.

## BULLETIN BOARD

Email announcements to [gazette@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:gazette@connectionnewspapers.com). Include date, time, location, description and contact for event: phone, email and/or website. Photos and artwork welcome. Deadline is Thursday at noon, at least two weeks before event.

## SUMMER MEALS FOR CHILDREN

Fairfax County Public Schools will participate in the U.S. Department of Agriculture's summer food service program for children who qualify for free and reduced lunches during the school year. Free meals that meet federal nutrition guidelines will be provided to children at approved sites throughout Fairfax County. To find a location, contact the FCPS Office of Food and Nutrition Services

SEE BULLETIN, PAGE 9

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**1109 TRINITY DRIVE**      \$1,195,000  
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**1110 ARCTURUS LANE**      \$995,000  
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## NEWS



### Farewell

Fort Hunt High School Alumni and other Pat's Market fans met in the parking lot of Pat's on June 28 to say farewell to an old friend. Alumni and others have shopped at Pat's for decades, with many alumni going back to the store's opening back in the 1950s. Fort Hunt Alumni will be gathering for its Annual All-Class Reunion at Fort Hunt Park on Sunday, July 27 with all alumni, parents, teachers and administrators invited. The closing of Pat's Market is expected to be a topic of discussion.

### BULLETIN BOARD

FROM PAGE 6  
at 703-813-4800.

#### REUNION INFORMATION

The Groveton High School class of 1964 is looking for contact information for as many classmates

as possible. The planning for the 50th reunion is underway, only a small number of people have been contacted. If a Groveton graduate of '64 is interested in attending next September's reunion email contact information to GHS64@verizon.net.

#### SATURDAY/JULY 12

**Ribbon Cutting.** 10 a.m. at Collingwood Park, 8200 West Boulevard Drive. The new playground replaces an older one that served the community for more than 20 years. Free. Call 703-324-8662.

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Be sure to include your name, address and phone number, and identify all people and pets in photos. Submission deadline is July 17.



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# OPINION

## Hurray for Full Day Mondays

**Hoping that later start times for high schoolers follows quickly.**

For decades, Fairfax County schools have sent elementary school students home after half a day on Mondays. This was never a good idea, and it has been more damaging to family schedules and student learning with the increase over the years of two-income households and greater economic diversity.

### EDITORIALS

That is about to change. Karen Garza, superintendent of Fairfax County Public Schools, has demonstrated in several ways that she understands tackling the challenges of educating all of Fairfax County's students will require deviation from the status quo.

Not only will half day Mondays come to an end, but it will come to an end in two months, in September 2014, a remarkable accomplishment for a bureaucracy the size of Fairfax County Public Schools.

The change will also come with 20 minutes of recess a day. Research shows (and common sense confirms) that recess and physical activity benefit student learning.

It's an important step showing responsiveness to the needs of families and students. Nearly one third of the county's kindergarteners are poor. How do we think those parents are managing the need for child

care on Monday afternoons? FCPS has resisted meeting the needs of the whole child, but cannot expect to successfully educate its 186,785 students without this kind of change.

Programs to identify gifted and talented students among poor and minority students, summer school, year-round modified calendars for some schools, and many other changes will need to be considered and fast tracked for the county school system to succeed.

Consider: About 50,000 of the county's public school students are poor enough to receive subsidized meals. About 30,000 of the county's public school students are receiving specialized instruction to better learn English. More than 25,000 of the county's public schools students are receiving special education services. White students make up 42 percent of the student body; 23 percent are Latino; 19 percent are Asian American; 10 percent are African American.

Fairfax County is by some measures the wealthiest county in the nation, or at least in the top five.

If success educating this population of students is possible anywhere, it should be here, but there is nothing simple about it and will require much more change.

### More Sleep for Teens

Later start times for high school is slated as another top priority for change in FCPS, and we agree.

New research continues to pile up about sleep deprivation and the damage it does to

teens. A rigorous study published in February demonstrates that reduced quantity of sleep in adolescents increases risk for major depression, according to research at the University of Texas School of Public Health.

The Centers for Disease Control: "Sleep is increasingly recognized as important to public health, with sleep insufficiency linked to motor vehicle crashes, industrial disasters, and medical and other occupational errors. ... Persons experiencing sleep insufficiency are also more likely to suffer from chronic diseases such as hypertension, diabetes, depression, and obesity, as well as from cancer, increased mortality, and reduced quality of life and productivity."

According to Judith Owens, M.D., director of Sleep Medicine at Children's National Medical Center: "The scientific evidence is irrefutable: chronic sleep loss and disruption in circadian rhythms associated with early high school start times are associated with negative consequences including poor academic performance, increased sport-related injuries, and potential long-term increases in cardiovascular and metabolic (i.e., type 2 diabetes) health risks. We know that delaying high school start times increases total sleep time and positively impacts academic achievement and school attendance. There are also documented mental and physical health benefits for students that include reductions in rates of depression and fewer drowsy driving crashes."

— MARY KIMM,

MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

### LETTER TO THE EDITOR

## Restore Invasive Management Funds

To the Editor:

I read with interest in a May issue of the Mount Vernon Gazette that the National Park Service is working with volunteers to ad-

dress invasive plant issues along the George Washington Parkway.

Volunteers perform a lot of valuable work for all National Park System units across the country

every year, creating millions of dollars in value for taxpayers and those who enjoy our national parks.

Dealing with invasive species is

a particularly useful form of volunteer service, since invasives are estimated by Professor Pimentel of Cornell University to cost the American economy \$128 billion each year, and the US Fish and Wildlife Service estimates that about 43 percent of all endangered species are endangered at least in part because some invasive species has done something to them. Back in September 2013, the Economist magazine reported that of all the species extinctions since the year 1600, invasive species have been solely responsible for 20 percent of them and contributed to 50 percent. Clearly, anybody who cares about our environment, biodiversity, and quality of life ought to be aware of invasive species.

As your article rightly points out, invasive species are an issue for us in Fairfax County in general, and Mount Vernon as well. English ivy, multiflora rose, bamboo, and many others are threatening our native plants and landscapes, parks and natural areas, and ulti-

SEE LETTERS, PAGE 11



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

### Grant Aids Literacy Program

United Community Ministries received a \$25,000 grant from the Eugene and Agnes E. Meyer Foundation to support the programs of its Progreso Center for Literacy and Citizenship and the UCM Work Center. UCM staff Carmen Carcamo and Cristina Schoendorf (center) celebrate the end of a semester of classes with some of the volunteer teachers at center on May 21. The center is recruiting volunteers to teach or co-teach ESL classes (all levels) in the fall. To volunteer or to learn more, call the center at 703-799-8830 or email Director Cristina Schoendorf at [cristina.schoendorf@ucmagency.org](mailto:cristina.schoendorf@ucmagency.org).

## Mount Vernon Gazette

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

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# LETTERS

FROM PAGE 10

mately our property values. We are lucky to have local volunteers who help remove invasive plants across Fairfax County. The county estimates that in the last eight years 10,000 volunteers have logged 360,000 hours trying to address invasive plants across forty locations in Fairfax County. In fiscal year 2014 alone, these volunteer services were valued at \$124,000.

Given the obvious willingness of our citizens to devote their personal time and attention to this issue, it is therefore especially disappointing that the county government in April zeroed out the county's modest \$150,000 Invasive Management Area

Program in the 2015 budget. That is the same program that leverages all those volunteer hours of public-spirited people who are trying to improve the environmental quality and quality of life in our county. Given that the quite literal sweat equity of our citizens is contributing about as much value to the program as the county budget has provided in the past, it clearly makes sense to restore funding for the Invasive Management Area Program.

Let's encourage our Board of Supervisors to reconsider their funding decision, and restore funding for the program.

**Scott J. Cameron**  
Riverside Estates, Mount Vernon

## SCHOOL NOTES

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

**Harrison Enright Covert** and **Jack Robert Coopersmith** have made the chancellor's honor roll at University of Mississippi.

**Abubakarr Massaquoi** has earned a B.A. in Liberal Studies from Marymount University.

The following students graduated from the Junior Law Cadet program: **Elizabeth Dexter, Daniel Frimpong, Ihsanullah Lodin, Adriana Lopez-Escalante, Carly J. Mandell** and **Gabriel P. Servais. Lodin** was selected for the Jessica J. Cheney Spirit Award from the Junior Law Cadet Program. The program, co-sponsored by the Virginia State Police and The American Legion, gives participants a glimpse into the life and training a Virginia State trooper undergoes.

## 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.  
Send to:

Letters to the Editor  
The Gazette  
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**8428 Old Mount Vernon Rd**  
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**9014 Buckner Rd**  
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**9134 Continental Dr**  
**\$655,000**  
Spacious Colonial! Gorgeous grounds back to park! Exceptionally spacious 3 level Colonial in magnificent setting on large level lot backing to wooded parkland. Home is in excellent condition and has many fabulous features inc: large room sizes, main level family room, large kitchen hwd flrs, and oversize 2 car garage. Huge custom deck overlooks incredible natural wonderland. Super Value!



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**8708 Parry Ln**  
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Stratford Landing Opportunity! Motivated seller has priced for quick sale Classic 4 BR Colonial. Excellent condition with 3 fin. levels, updated baths & kitchen, thermal windows, covered parking, huge covered deck, hardwood floors & hardwood under carpet on both levels. Gorgeous level lot. Owner found H.O.C. and is ready to move. Take advantage of this rare opportunity! **OPEN SUN 7/13, 1-4! GW Pky S; R-Collingwood; L-Fort Hunt; R-Elkins; L-Camden; L-Sword; R-Parry.**



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\*\*\*Classes begin on Saturday, July 12th and end on Saturday, August 9th. They will be held on Tuesday and Thursday evenings from 6:00pm - 10:00pm and on Saturdays, 9:00am - 5:00pm during the day.



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**Randy Bender 703.906.1749**  
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# Mount Vernon REAL ESTATE

PHOTOS BY  
VERONICA BRUNO/  
THE GAZETTE

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Woodcliff Court  
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**4** 6118  
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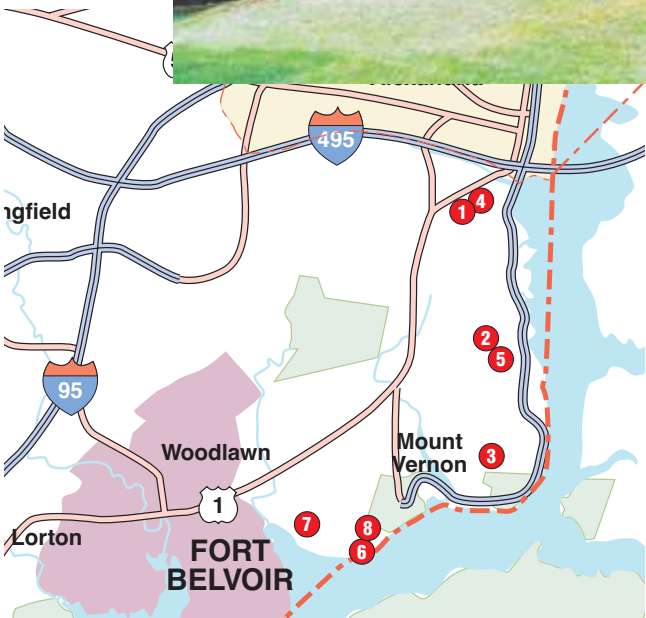


**3** 8700 Plymouth Road — \$1,327,500

**6** 1200 Essex  
Manor Court —  
\$1,029,000



**6** 4008 Belle  
Rive Terrace —  
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This Vienna home office designed by BOWA Builders, Inc. features natural and recessed lighting, custom crown molding and wood flooring.



PHOTO COPYRIGHT GWIN HUNT PHOTOGRAPHY

## A New Work Order

Local designers help create organized and stylish home offices.

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL  
THE GAZETTE

Whether it's a nook, in the kitchen or a designated room, a home office is the place where ideas come to life. Local designers dish about the secrets to creating a workspace that is organized and functional yet stylish.

"You're going to spend a lot of time in it so aesthetics do matter," said Patricia Tetto of BOWA Builders Inc., in McLean.

Thinking about how a space will be used is the first step in the design process. "An office is as unique as a person," said interior designer Julie Sproules of the Art Institute of Washington in Arlington. "Each person has a different way of working and therefore a different set of needs. If you are working from home, you'll be spending a lot more time there than if you are using it to keep the household paperwork in order."

There are a series of questions that one might consider: "How will you use the office? Is it just for you? Do others come in and meet with you? Do you tend to do most of your work on the computer?" asks Tetto. "Do you do things by Skype? If so, the placement of the computer becomes more critical."

Storage and the placement of it is one of the most important home office design decisions. "Where do you want to keep things?" asks Tetto. "When sitting in a chair, do you need to have your entire realm within arm's reach?"

Getting creative with storage supplies is a technique that Sallie Kjos of Grey Hunt Interiors in Chantilly, uses to avoid compromising style for order. "A floating shelf will help to keep a clean look, but have it organized," she said. "You can also get decorative boxes in a variety of colors."

Sproules uses labeled storage bins to create a home office space that has a place for everything. "There are a million different kinds out there, from wood to rattan to linen," she said. "Get a bookshelf that you can fit the bins in. ... Leave some room ... for a filing binder and books, but anything small should go in a bin. This way you can just throw all the markers, yarn, buttons and [other miscellaneous items] into their bin and not have to worry about them being misplaced."

Don't forget to save a space for smart phones and tablets. "You might need charging spaces with electrical outlets that are easily accessible," said Tetto.

To create an orderly appearance, stash files, papers and other office supplies out of sight. "A lot of people use an extra bedroom as a home office. Take the doors off the closet and create a storage area," said Bart Goldstein of Bart Goldstein Interior Design in Potomac, Md. "Add closed storage on the bottom that works as file cabinets, but looks like a piece of furniture" such as a chest or a credenza.

"You can make it look like a built-in," said Goldstein. "Closet companies ... are able to make it look like a real working office with nice furniture."

**GET CREATIVE** when selecting a desk to add interest and express your personal style. "You can use an old writing table, side table or console table to use with a nice parsons chair," said Kjos. "This makes more inviting space that is decorative but functional."

**"An office is as unique as a person. Each person has a different way of working and therefore a different set of needs."**

—Julie Sproules, Art Institute of Washington

SEE CREATING, PAGE 16

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# Creating Organized and Stylish Home Offices

FROM PAGE 15

Choose seating that incorporates style and comfort. “This doesn’t have to mean a task chair,” said Sproules. “Task chairs are great if you’re sitting in them many hours a day, and there are some attractive options, but I prefer ... a small lounge chair to give it more of a homey feel. Just make sure it can be pushed under the desk or table when not in use. ... I have even used small metal side chairs or stools like an old classroom.”

A person’s occupation and work style should be considered. “Stools are especially great if you get up and move a lot as a part of your working routine,” said Sproules. “You can swivel from one side of the table to another and being on a bar-height stool means you’re more likely to get up and walk around routinely. If you do choose a bar-height stool, make sure your desk or table is either height-adjustable or standing-height.”

Proper lighting is another key component of a well-designed home office. “Consider overhead lighting” said Goldstein. “[It] will not take up space like a lamp. You can run an eight-foot [lighting] track though the middle of the room and turn the lights toward the desk.”

Incorporate more than one lighting source into a room’s design.

“This helps you modulate the light for the task that you’re doing,” said Sproules. “You should have one general light: an overhead light or a floor lamp that ... provides general, diffused light and a task light for more focused work,” such as a small, adjustable lamp with dimming capabilities.

When it comes to maintaining a sense of home in a home office, designers suggest getting personal. “You can mix interesting accessories like family pictures and a plant here or there to give the office aesthetic appeal as opposed to just function,” said Goldstein.

**ROOM DESIGN** should reflect one’s profession and personal needs. “Are you dealing with paperwork, mail and working on the computer, or would you be better off with a set up that is more like an artist’s studio, with a clean table for ‘making’ and another area for the ‘office’ side of things [with a] bookshelf, table and storage?” asked Sproules. “How many hours a day or week to you plan on being in that space?”

Sproules believes that one’s occu-



PHOTO COURTESY OF GREY HUNT INTERIORS

**Sallie Kjos of Grey Hunt Interiors created a home office for herself in the corner of her kitchen. She personalized it by adding plants and family photos.**

pation can be a source of design inspiration. “As an interior designer, I have an excessive collection of pens and markers that are organized in small boxes along a wall, like an art store,” she said. “It’s a nice way to personalize the space with your specific type of work without having it get too messy. And there’s always a pen when I need one.”

“In my own home office I have my desk against the wall with floating shelves,” said Goldstein. “As an interior designer, I have a lot of catalogues that I’m always pulling from. I have a seating area in my office because people are always coming in. We can have a conversation while I’m working.”

“There is one accessory that no home office should be without,” said Sproules. “Everyone needs a tack board,” she said. “If you’re more of the artistic type, use cork board tiles. They come in all sorts of colors, and you can paint them too. [You can] cover a whole wall or a large section to use as an inspiration board. If not, you should still tack up images that you find inspiring, or at least peaceful.”

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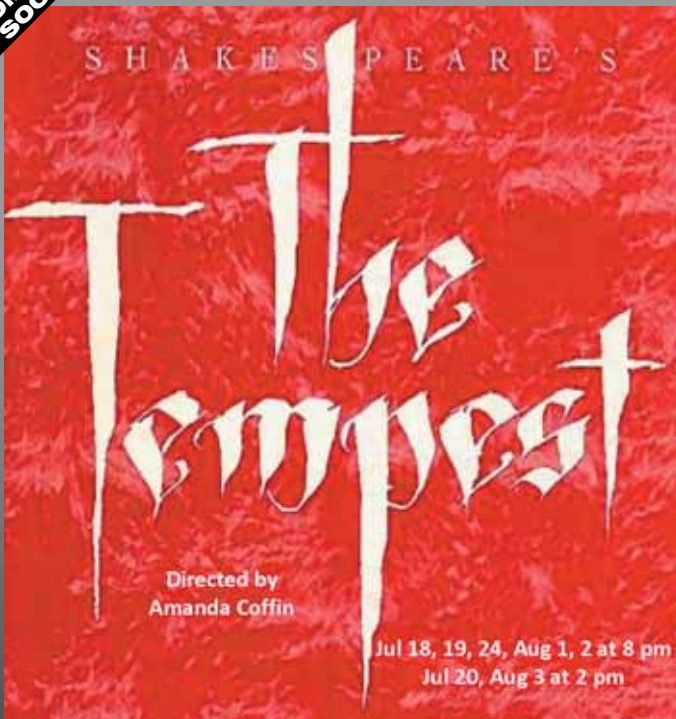
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# ENTERTAINMENT

## ‘About a Girl’ at Capital Fringe Fest

Play got its start and support from Little Theatre of Alexandria.

BY STEVE HIBBARD  
THE GAZETTE

**S**ex, Drugs and Texas 1985 — What’s not to like? A lot if you’re abused, pregnant and still in high school. That pretty much sums up “About a Girl,” which is set in the fictionalized town of Highland, Texas, and dramatizes what happens when everything you have been taught about the world is challenged.

Written and produced by Eddy Roger Parker, the play with a love triangle will be performed as part of the 9th Annual Capital Fringe Festival, which runs from July 10-27. It stars real-life friends Heather Norcross as Jett, Jenni Patton as Justine, Ben Norcross as Ashley, and Matt Williams as Meat.

A synopsis goes something like this: high school senior Ashley Cooper’s life is up-ended after he meets the troubled Justine Courson. He rushes to her rescue but realizes he is in way over his head. When Justine’s father loses his job and her family is forced to move, she lets Ashley go in the hopes that his life will be better without her in it.

Cooper finds solace in Justine’s friend Jett Briggs but their relationship is challenged when Justine reappears pregnant with no one else to turn to but the father of her baby and her best friend. All three are caught in a trap as they are forced to deal with issues in the attempt to determine what is the right thing to do in the Lone Star State.

**PLAYWRIGHT PARKER** grew up near Houston, Texas, and earned both a B.A. and a M.A. in Southern History from Sam Houston State University in Huntsville, Texas. He later worked at The Historic New Orleans Collection in Louisiana, which was home



“About a Girl,” featured in the 9th Annual Capital Fringe Festival, which runs July 10-27, stars real-life friends Heather Norcross as Jett, Jenni Patton as Justine, Ben Norcross as Ashley, and Matt Williams as Meat.

to Tennessee Williams’ papers and works.

He moved to Alexandria in 2010 where he got involved in the Little Theatre of Alexandria. It was at an LTA writing class that “About a Girl” got its start. The play was first read there during LTA’s 10-minute play festival last year, and is directed, acted and crewed by all LTA veterans.

In his author’s notes, Parker writes that “About a Girl” centers on a group of teenagers forced to make choices, usually bad ones, that they are not prepared emotionally or mentally to deal with.

“These characters find themselves surrounded by problems that grown adults would have a hard time resolving with little or no support from anyone else but each other,” Parker wrote.

**IN THE PLAY**, directed by Eddie Paige, Matt Williams plays the role of Meat McKenzie, a lazy, dumb jock character who’s a child of privilege.

“He’s part of the ‘Good Old Boys’ club, and acts with the knowledge that his privi-

lege will get him out of most of life’s major dilemmas,” said Williams. “He’s a little more insecure than he lets on, and you really do see some growth from Meat in later scenes.”

Williams said the biggest challenge in playing the role was “being fair to him early on, knowing that the audience needs to see that he’s a spoiled rich kid, and balance that with genuine humanity and caring.”

He added, “Luckily, he’s given lots of room for growth in the script, so it’s not too tough to show both sides of him during his scenes.”

Because the play deals with dependency and addiction issues, Williams said he hopes people will recognize the fine script writing and the importance of having loyal relationships, as well as knowing when you can’t help a person anymore.

Jenni Patton plays the role of volatile and sweet Justine, the youngest in the group. “She comes from a really terrible home situation and has recently lost her first boyfriend in a motorcycle accident, so she’s got a lot of stuff to deal with,” said Patton.

The challenge was Justine’s emotional gauntlet over the course of the play. She said, “It’s been a challenge to build each of those emotions believably — from giddy drunk to rage to panic.”

Patton said, “In the end, I think the play is about friendship, growing up, and learning to learn from mistakes.” And she wishes that despite everything that happens, the audience will come away hopeful.

Heather Norcross plays the complicated role of Jett Briggs. “She has this creative side that she keeps to herself while projecting her rebel exterior to the world,” she said. “Jett has built this wall around herself for protection — if everyone thinks she is a badass, they won’t hurt her.”

The challenge was playing a drug addict high on amphetamines. “I am probably the most straight-edge person; I never associated with people who did drugs,” she said. To prepare for her role, she did Google searches of “people high on drugs.”

She said the message of this play is that all of our choices have consequences. “Sometimes in high school we don’t realize this completely ... We have to step out of ourselves and realize that it is not always about what makes us happy in a single moment. That moment can affect us, and everyone around us, for years to come.”

Ben Norcross plays the role of Ashley Cooper, a high school football star and son of an evangelist. “He pretty much feels that he can do no wrong and he is in complete control,” said Norcross. “He isn’t exactly prepared for what happens to him in life.”

The challenge was actually playing a person in high school. “I am over 30 and getting back in that mindset of being invincible was a challenge,” he said.

He said the overall message of the play is to “think before you act; a single mistake can have dire consequences and haunt you.”

“About a Girl” will be performed at the Capital Fringe Festival on July 11 at 8:15 p.m., July 15 at 6 p.m., July 20 at 4:45 p.m., July 23 at 8:15 p.m., and July 26 at 4:45 p.m. at the Goethe Institut – Gallery, 812 7th St., N.W., Washington, D.C. Visit [www.capitalfringe.org](http://www.capitalfringe.org) or call 866-811-4111.

### CALENDAR

Email announcements to [gazette@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:gazette@connectionnewspapers.com). Include date, time, location, description and contact for event: phone, email and/or website. Photos and artwork welcome. Deadline is Thursday at noon, at least two weeks before event.

#### ONGOING

**New Shuttle Service.** Through July 13. 10 a.m.-4:30 p.m. on a 30-minute loop. George Washington’s Mount Vernon, 3200 Mount Vernon Memorial Highway. Shuttle between Estate and Distiller/Grist Mill site. Free. Visit [www.mountvernon.org](http://www.mountvernon.org).  
**Marcelo Novo.** Through July 20. Mondays-Fridays, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

Reception July 11, 7-9 p.m. Fisher Art Gallery, 3001 N. Beauregard St. An art show with acrylic paintings on maps and stamps. Free admission, Parking \$2/hr. Visit <http://culturecapital.com/> for more.

**Civil War Sundays.** Sundays through July 27, 1-5 p.m. at Alexandria Archaeology Museum, 105 N. Union St., #327. Explore the Civil War in Alexandria through exhibits and artifacts. Free. Visit [www.alexandriarchaeology.org](http://www.alexandriarchaeology.org) or call 703-746-4388 for more.

**Photography Exhibit.** Daily 11 a.m.-5 p.m., Thursdays 2-9 p.m. through Aug. 3. Multiple Exposures Gallery, Torpedo Factory Art Center #312, 105 N. Union St. “Frozen Music,” a photography exhibit featuring new

works by Alan Sislen. Call 703-838-4565 for more.

**“Water.”** Through Aug. 3., 10 a.m.-5 p.m. at Studio 18 of the Torpedo Factory Art Center, 105 North Union St. Artists derive inspiration from water, the sea, lakes, rivers, taps, clouds, rain, snow, ice, the elemental liquids of life. Free. Call 703-838-4565 or visit [torpedofactory.org](http://torpedofactory.org).

**Francie Hester: Symbolic Spaces.** Through Aug. 3. Thursdays, Fridays and Sundays, 4-6 p.m. Saturdays, noon-4 p.m. Athenaeum, 201 Prince St. Art exhibition, Symbolic Spaces, shifts from a linear, mathematical piecing together of sequences to examine time as infinite, fluid, without discrete beginning or end. Free. Visit [nvfaa.org](http://nvfaa.org) for more.

**Historical Exhibit.** Through August at the Alexandria Black History Museum, 902 Wythe St. “Sit Down and Take a Stand” commemorates the 1939 library sit-in of five African American men and its mastermind, Samuel Tucker. One of the earliest occasions of individuals using the sit-in as an act of civil disobedience in the modern civil rights movement. Tuesdays-Saturdays, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Call 703-746-4356.

**Blue Star Museums.** More than 2,000 museums across America offer free admission to military personnel and their families this summer through Sept. 1. A complete list of museums is available at <http://arts.gov/national/blue-star-museums>. The museums in Alexandria participating

in the program are Gadsby’s Tavern Museum, the Lee-Fendall House Museum and Garden and Stabler-Leadbeater Apothecary Museum.  
**Doggy Happy Hours.** 5-8 p.m. at Jackson 20 and Hotel Monaco Alexandria, 480 King St. Thursdays during the summer. Free, drinks sold separately. Treats and water for dogs, with pet boutique and service vendors. Portions of proceeds benefit People. Animals. Love. Visit [www.Monaco-Alexandria.com/alexandria-hotel/doggy-happy-hour.html](http://www.Monaco-Alexandria.com/alexandria-hotel/doggy-happy-hour.html).

**New Exhibit.** Mount Vernon invites visitors to explore George Washington’s design for the grounds of his estate, through a new exhibition, “Gardens & Groves:



# ENTERTAINMENT

George Washington's Landscape" at Mount Vernon through Jan. 12, 2016. Gardens & Groves is the first museum exhibition to focus specifically on Washington's landmark achievements as a landscape designer combining rarely-seen original documents, artwork, and books with period garden tools, landscape photography, and a scale model of the Mount Vernon estate. Included in admission \$18/adult; \$17/senior citizen; \$9/child age 6-11; children under 5 are free. Visit [www.mountvernon.org](http://www.mountvernon.org) for more.

**Alexandria Cars & Coffee** invites car enthusiasts to meet for coffee at Hollin Hall Shopping Center in front of Roseina's, 1307 Shenandoah Road. Classic cars, hot rods, exotic cars, motorcycles and more meet to share car stories and drink coffee. Group meets the first Sunday of every month. 8:30-11 a.m.

**Songwriter's Showcase.** Every Tuesday at 8 p.m. at The Old Town Theater, 815 1/2 King St. Features a different Songwriter's Association of Washington artist each week. Visit [www.theoldtowntheater.com](http://www.theoldtowntheater.com) for tickets.

**George Washington's Mount Vernon** has joined Thomas Jefferson's Monticello and James Madison's Montpelier to expand the "Presidents Passport," Virginia's premier presidential trail. As an added bonus to this year's program, visitors to the Alexandria Visitors Center at 221 King St. showing or purchasing a ticket to any of the three presidential estates will, upon request, receive for free Alexandria's "Key to the City" pass, which grants access into nine historic sites and museums in Alexandria - a \$26 added value. Visit [www.PresPassport.Monticello.org](http://www.PresPassport.Monticello.org).

**Singing.** 7:30-10 p.m. at Lord of Life Lutheran Church, 13421 Twin Lakes Drive, Clifton. The Fairfax Jubil-Aires rehearse every Wednesday which includes training by an award-winning director. Visit [www.fairfaxjubilaires.org](http://www.fairfaxjubilaires.org) for more.

**Fifty Years of Collecting.** Tuesday-Saturday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Sundays noon to 5 p.m. Fort Ward Museum 4301 West Braddock Road. An anniversary exhibit of objects from the Fort Ward collection. Free. Visit [www.fortward.org](http://www.fortward.org) or call 703-746-4848.

## CAMPS, CLASSES & WORKSHOPS

**Puppet Studio.** 10-11:30 a.m., July 29-31 at Art at the Center, 2804 Sherwood Hall Lane. Students will explore a variety of puppetry techniques to create their own unique characters. Call 703-201-1250 or visit [www.artatthecenter.org](http://www.artatthecenter.org) to register or find other art classes.

**Summer Aquatics Classes.** For youth and adults, including swimming lessons, aqua aerobics, Lifeguard Training, Swim Team Fundamentals and 2013 Gold Division Champions Wahoos Youth Swim Team. Register online at [www.alexandriava.gov/Recreation](http://www.alexandriava.gov/Recreation) or in person at the Registration and Reservations Office, 1108 Jefferson St. Contact Claudia Spencer at 703-74605414 or [claudia.spencer@alexandriava.gov](mailto:claudia.spencer@alexandriava.gov).

**History Camp.** The Lyceum, Alexandria's History Museum, is now registering for a camp for children ages 5-7. The camp runs Tuesday, July 29-Thursday, July 31, 9 a.m.-noon at the Lyceum, 201 S. Washington St. Clio's Kids Mini-Camp engages children in American history and life in historic Alexandria through artifacts, storytelling, singing, crafts, old-fashioned games and visits to nearby historic places. Cost is \$105, which includes snacks and souvenirs. Advance registration is required. Call 703-746-4994 or visit [www.alexandriahistory.org](http://www.alexandriahistory.org).

## Youth Summer Classes.

Metropolitan School of the Arts offers pre-professional summer dance, music theater and acting camps, as well as a wide variety of youth summer camps where students can explore and learn many facets of the performing and visual arts. Visit [www.metropolitanarts.org](http://www.metropolitanarts.org).

**Life Drawing.** Del Ray Artisans offers a range of open life drawing sessions for anyone to develop life-drawing skills further. Just drop-in for the session and bring your supplies to draw or paint our live models. Fee ranges from \$8-\$12. All skill levels are welcome. Del Ray Artisans is located at 2704 Mount Vernon Ave. Visit [www.TheDelRayArtisans.org](http://www.TheDelRayArtisans.org) for a schedule.

**Photography Workshop.** 10:30 a.m.-noon at Multiple Exposures Gallery on 105 N. Union St. Photographers and enthusiasts of all skill levels are invited to share work, ideas, and questions at this free workshop held on the last Sunday of each month, except December. No reservations. Call 703-683-2205.

**Theater Camp.** Mount Vernon Community Children's Theatre will hold sessions through Aug. 22. There are two-week sessions with morning, afternoon or all day sessions, and one-week sessions that go all day. Visit [www.mvccct.org](http://www.mvccct.org) to register.

**Stop Motion Animation and Cartooning.** Aug. 18-21. 10 a.m.-noon and 1-3 p.m. for ages 8-12. Art at the Center, 2804 Sherwood Hall Lane. \$140 for cartooning and \$150 for stop-motion animation taught by Christine Stoddard. Visit [www.artatthecenter.org/classessummer14.htm](http://www.artatthecenter.org/classessummer14.htm) for more.

**Cool Yoga.** Wednesdays, through Aug. 27, 6:30-7:30 p.m. at 1900 Mt. Vernon Ave., Del Ray. Outdoor yoga classes. Free. Call Maureen Clyne at 703-967-8884 or visit [www.prasadayoga.com](http://www.prasadayoga.com) for more.

**Metropolitan School of the Arts Classes.** 5775 Barclay Drive, Suite 4. The Metropolitan School of the Arts will begin classes on Monday, Sept. 8. The studios offer beginner and advanced instruction in a variety of different dance forms, including tap, jazz, ballet, Pointe, Irish dance, contemporary, acting, combination classes, hip-hop or theatre as well as piano and guitar lessons. Register at [www.metropolitanarts.org](http://www.metropolitanarts.org).

**Digital Photography.** July 14, 15 and 17. 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Art at the Center, 2804 Sherwood Hall Lane. Use digital cameras with a focus on point of view, framing and awareness of lighting. \$95. Visit [www.artatthecenter.org/](http://www.artatthecenter.org/) for more.

**Robots: Art With Light and Motion.** July 22-24, 10 a.m.-noon. Art at the Center, 2804 Sherwood Hall Lane. Combine vibrating motors and led lights with a variety of sculpture materials. \$120. Visit [www.artatthecenter.org/](http://www.artatthecenter.org/) for more.

**Art and Mindfulness.** July 23 and 30. 7:30-9 p.m. Art at the Center, 2804 Sherwood Hall Lane. Meditation for adults. \$50 for two meetings. Visit [www.artatthecenter.org/labyrinth.htm](http://www.artatthecenter.org/labyrinth.htm) for more.

## THURSDAY/JULY 10

**Live Music.** 7 p.m. at The Athenaeum, 201 Prince St. NovaZanz performs a variety of standards, swing and bossa nova. \$10. Visit [www.nvfaa.org](http://www.nvfaa.org) or call 703-548-0035 for more.

**Live Music.** 7:30 p.m. in the Music Hall at the Birchmere, 3701 Mount Vernon Ave., Alexandria Pokey Lafarge. \$20. Visit [www.pokeylafarge.net](http://www.pokeylafarge.net) or [www.Birchmere.com](http://www.Birchmere.com) for more.

## THURSDAY/JULY 10-MONDAY/AUG. 4

**The Adventure.** Monday-Saturday, 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Sunday, noon-6 p.m. Opening reception, July 10, 6:30-8



## 'Transient States' at Torpedo Factory

North Carolina-based Artist Steven Walls was selected by jurors as the winner of the Torpedo Factory Art Center's annual Open Exhibition competition. In his solo exhibition "Transient States," Walls explores the collective unconscious. Large-scale figurative paintings depict the states between visual perception, memory, waking life and dreams, while simultaneously describing them for the viewer. Founded in 1974 in an old munitions plant, the Torpedo Factory Art Center is located in the Old Town section of Alexandria at 105 N. Union St. The center is open from 10 a.m.-6 p.m. daily, and 10 a.m.-9 p.m. Thursdays. A public reception will be held on Thursday, August 14 from 6-8 p.m. with an Artist Talk by Steven Walls at 7 p.m. Call 703-838-4565 or visit <http://www.torpedofactory.org/partners/target-gallery/> for more information on the exhibition and the center.

p.m. Torpedo Factory Art Center, 105 N. Union Street, Studio 21. David Alfuth constructs intimate dreamlike worlds and architectural structures with his paper relief and 3D works. Free. Visit [www.theaterleague.org](http://www.theaterleague.org), or call 703-683-1780.

## FRIDAY/JULY 11

**Brass Concert.** 7:30 p.m. at Grist Mill Park, 4710 Mount Vernon Memorial Hwy. "A Slice of Americana" will feature favorite songs from movies, video games, jazz and music to honor the 70th anniversary of D-Day. Free. Visit [www.reunionmusic.org/events.html](http://www.reunionmusic.org/events.html) for more.

## SATURDAY/JULY 12

**Sun-Loving Plants.** 10-11 a.m. at Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road. Take a garden tour and learn about native and non-native plants. \$15 for in county, \$17 for out of county. Visit [www.fairfaxcounty.gov](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov) to register.

**Archaeology Festival.** 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Alexandria Archaeology Museum, Torpedo Factory Art Center, 105 N. Union St., Studio #327. Witness Alexandria Archaeology in action at both the laboratory and at Shuter's Hill excavation site located at the George Washington Masonic National Memorial. Visit [www.alexandriarchaeology.org](http://www.alexandriarchaeology.org) or call 703-746-4399 for more.

**Alexandria Art Market.** 10 a.m.-4 p.m. in Colasanto Park, 2704 Mount Vernon Ave. Local artists will perform. Browse artwork by local artists and more. Visit [www.TheDelRayArtisans.org/ArtMarket](http://www.TheDelRayArtisans.org/ArtMarket) for more.

**Garden Sprouts.** 11 a.m.-noon at Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road. Take the kids on a plant safari and explore diverse garden life. \$6 for in county, \$8 for out of county. Visit [www.fairfaxcounty.gov](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov) to register.

**Family Fun.** 1-2 p.m. at Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road. Walk through the glass house and discover new environments. \$6 for in county, \$8 for out of county. Visit [www.fairfaxcounty.gov](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov) to register.

**Live Music.** 4 p.m. at Peace Lutheran Church, 6362 Lincolnia Road. Peace Lutheran Church will be hosting a

concert by Newberry's Victorian Cornet Band in the sanctuary. Free. Visit [www.sharingpeace.org](http://www.sharingpeace.org) or call 703-354-5233.

**USA & Alexandria Birthday Celebration.** 7:30-10 p.m. at Oronoco Bay Park, 100 Madison St. Enjoy a concert by the Alexandria Symphony Orchestra, birthday cake, food and fireworks. The evening culminates in Tchaikovsky's "1812 Overture." Free. Visit [www.alexandriava.gov](http://www.alexandriava.gov) for more.

## SATURDAY-SUNDAY/JULY 12-13

**Fort Ward Civil War Reenactment.** Saturday 10 a.m.-5 p.m.; Sunday 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Fort Ward Museum and Historic Site, 4301 W. Braddock Road. Reenactment weekend will commemorate the 150th anniversary of the Battle of Fort Stevens, the only battle fought in the Defenses of Washington. Suggested donation \$2 adults, \$5 families. Call 703-746-4848 or visit [www.AlexandriaVA.gov/FortWard](http://www.AlexandriaVA.gov/FortWard) for more.

## SUNDAY/JULY 13

**Lyceum Summer Chamber Series.** 3 p.m. at The Lyceum, 201 S. Washington St. Due to an injury, the quartet Synergy, originally scheduled will be unable to perform. In their stead, young American pianist Thomas Pandolfi will be presenting a program of Chopin and Gershwin. Free, donations accepted at the door. Visit [www.wmpamusic.org](http://www.wmpamusic.org) or call 703-799-8229 for more.

**Live Music.** 7 p.m. at Fort Hunt National Park, 8999 Fort Hunt Road. A performance by the Potomac Harmony Chorus. Free. Visit [www.PotomacHarmony.org](http://www.PotomacHarmony.org) for more.

## TUESDAY/JULY 15

**Forge Brew Works Beer Dinner.** 7-10 p.m. at Union Street Public House, 121 S. Union St. Enjoy a summer beer dinner featuring beers from local Forge Brew Works and a five-course menu. \$49 plus tax and gratuity. Visit <https://usph.webconnex.com/ForgeBeerDinner> for more.

**Live Music.** 7:30 p.m. at the Birchmere, 3701 Mount Vernon Ave. Procol Harum performs live. \$55.

Visit [www.birchmere.com](http://www.birchmere.com) or [www.procolharum.com](http://www.procolharum.com).

## WEDNESDAY/JULY 16

**Live Music.** 7:30 p.m. at the Birchmere, 3701 Mount Vernon Ave. Matthew Sweet, with Tommy Keene opening. \$25. Visit [www.Birchmere.com](http://www.Birchmere.com).

## THURSDAY/JULY 17

**Live Music.** 7:30 p.m. at the Birchmere, 3701 Mount Vernon Ave. Jonah Tolchin & the Lonesome Angels open; Dave Alvin & Phil Alvin & The Guilty Ones perform. \$29.50. Visit [www.jonahtolchin.com](http://www.jonahtolchin.com), [www.birchmere.com](http://www.birchmere.com) or call 703-549-7500.

## FRIDAY/JULY 18

**Rock Concert.** 7 p.m. Alley Cat Restaurant, 2 South Whiting St. Rock band Messenger performs with special guest One Shot Finch. Benefits United Community Ministries Agency. \$10 suggested donation. Visit [www.ucmagency.org](http://www.ucmagency.org).

**Live Music.** 7:30 p.m. in the Music Hall at the Birchmere, 3701 Mount Vernon Ave. Owen Danoff to open for Edwin McCain. \$29.50. Visit [www.owendanoff.com](http://www.owendanoff.com) or [www.Birchmere.com](http://www.Birchmere.com) for more.

**Summer Concert Series.** 7:30 p.m. at Grist Mill Park, 4710 Mt. Vernon Memorial Highway. Mount Vernon Nights at Grist Mill Park presents Lindsay Lou & the Flatbellys. Free. visit [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/performances/](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/performances/) for more.

## SATURDAY/JULY 19

**Music and Dance.** 2 p.m. The Athenaeum, 201 Prince St. Classical guitarist Mark Charles Smith plays an afternoon of music featuring various dance accompaniments. Family friendly. Free. Visit [www.nvfaa.org](http://www.nvfaa.org) or call 703-548-0035 for more.

**Country-Western Dance.** 6:30 p.m. lesson, 7-9:30 p.m. open dancing at Lincolnia Senior Center, 4710 N. Chambliss St. Couples and singles welcome, DJ provides music. No smoking or alcohol, bring your own refreshments. \$5-\$12. Visit [www.nvcwda.org](http://www.nvcwda.org) or call 703-860-4941 for more.

**Washington Balalaika Society.** 7:30 p.m. at The Lyceum, 201 S. Washington St. The Washington Balalaika Society, which performs music of Russia, Ukraine and Eastern Europe will present Peter Omelchenko, domra virtuoso from Moscow. Tickets are \$20 in advance and \$25 at the door. Children admitted free. Visit [www.balalaika.org](http://www.balalaika.org) or call 703 549-0760 for more.

## SATURDAY/JULY 19-SUNDAY/AUG. 31

**Art Exhibition.** Torpedo Factory Art Center, 105 North Union Street. Artist Steven Walls will show "Transient States," a solo exhibition, at the Torpedo Factory Art Center. On Thursday, Aug. 14 there will be a reception from 6-8 p.m. and an artist talk at 7 p.m. Call 703-838-4565 or visit [www.torpedofactory.org/partners/target-gallery/](http://www.torpedofactory.org/partners/target-gallery/) for more.

## SUNDAY/JULY 20

**Cupcakes.** 10 a.m.-8p.m. at Occasionally Cake, 8859 Richmond Highway, Alexandria. The store will be handing out one free cupcake per person, no purchase necessary, and will donate 50 percent of sales that day to Metropolitan School of the Arts youth scholarships. Free. Call 703-647-9638 or visit [www.occasionallycake.com](http://www.occasionallycake.com) for more.

**Lyceum Summer Chamber Series.** 3 p.m. The Lyceum, 201 S.

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# ENTERTAINMENT

Washington St. The Washington Metropolitan Philharmonic Wind Ensemble performs. Free, donations accepted at the door. Visit [www.wmpamusic.org](http://www.wmpamusic.org) or call 703-799-8229 for more.

**Concert and CD Release.** 7:30 p.m. at the Birchmere, 3701 Mount Vernon Ave. Grace Griffith, Marcy Marxer, Al Petteway and more for a Grace Griffith tribute concert. \$25. Visit [www.seamaid.org/grace/index.html](http://www.seamaid.org/grace/index.html), [www.birchmere.com](http://www.birchmere.com) or call 703-549-7500.

## MONDAY/JULY 21

**Ballroom Dancing.** 7-9 p.m. at The Athenaeum, 201 Prince St. Learn the foxtrot, waltz, tango, swing, salsa, merengue, rumba, cha-cha and samba. Come with or without a partner. \$15. Call 703-548-0035 or visit [www.nvfaa.org](http://www.nvfaa.org) for more.

## THURSDAY/JULY 24

**Live Music.** 7:30 p.m. at the Birchmere, 3701 Mount Vernon Ave. Time for Three performs. \$29.50. Visit [www.birchmere.com](http://www.birchmere.com).

## FRIDAY/JULY 25

**Live Music.** 7:30 p.m. in the Music Hall at the Birchmere, 3701 Mount Vernon Ave. Sonny Landreth with special guest Jimmy Thackery. \$29.50. Visit [www.sonnylandreth.com](http://www.sonnylandreth.com), [www.jimmythackery.com](http://www.jimmythackery.com) or [www.birchmere.com](http://www.birchmere.com) for more.

**Happy Hour.** 5:30-8:30 p.m. Gadsby's Tavern Museum, 134 N. Royal St. Historical celebration of John Gadsby's 1808 move from The City Tavern to Baltimore. \$10 for two drink tickets, food available for purchase. Visit [www.gadsbys-tavern.org](http://www.gadsbys-tavern.org) or call 703-746-4242.

## FRIDAY-SUNDAY/JULY 25-27

**Muster the Militia Weekend.** Alexandria Gadsby's Tavern Museum, Stabler-Leadbeater Apothecary Museum, the Lyceum and the Carlyle House. The weekend will include museum tours and War of 1812 exhibits for free and a one-day-only Alexandria War of 1812 walking tour offered by Boy Scout Troop 1865. Tours will leave from Market Square, corner of King and Fairfax streets, every half hour and last 30 minutes. The City of Alexandria and community partners are commemorating Alexandria's role in the war through lectures, concerts and specialty tours. Visit [www.dcowarof1812.org](http://www.dcowarof1812.org) or [www.visitalexandriava.com/1812](http://www.visitalexandriava.com/1812).

## SATURDAY/JULY 26

**Christmas in July.** 10 a.m.-3 p.m. at The Christmas Attic, 125 S. Union St., and Union Street Public House, 121 S. Union St. Santa and Mrs. Claus are coming to Union Street for Christmas in July. There will be storytelling, cookies, photos, facepainting, sales at The Christmas Attic and drink specials at Union Street Public House. Free. Visit [www.unionstreetpublichouse.com](http://www.unionstreetpublichouse.com).

## SUNDAY/JULY 27

**Lyceum Summer Chamber Series.** 3 p.m. The Lyceum, 201 S. Washington St. Pianists Sylvia Hong and Michael Rector perform Chopin piano concertos. Free, donations accepted at the door. Visit [www.wmpamusic.org](http://www.wmpamusic.org) or call 703-799-8229 for more.

**Live Music.** 7:30 p.m. at the Birchmere, 3701 Mount Vernon Ave. HAPA performs. \$29.50. Visit [www.hapa.com](http://www.hapa.com), [www.birchmere.com](http://www.birchmere.com) or call 703-549-7500.

## AT THE LIBRARY

**Martha Washington Library,** 6614 Fort Hunt Road. Call 703-768-6700.  
**Kingstowne Library,** 6500 Landsdowne Centre. Call 703-339-4610.  
**John Marshall Library,** 6209 Rose Hill Drive. Call 703-971-0010.  
**Sherwood Library,** 2501 Sherwood Hall Lane. Call 703-765-3645.

### ONGOING

**Guess the Books.** Try to identify the book by looking at pages in a jar and win a prize. In two-week rounds through Aug. 30, in the young adult fiction area at Sherwood Library.

**Teen Scavenger Hunt.** Search for clues and test library knowledge, through Aug. 30 at Sherwood Library.

### Nanowriyer Writers Group.

Inspired by National Novel Writing Month, a group meets to explore new avenues of writing fiction and non-fiction. 1 p.m. the first and third Saturday of the month at Sherwood Library.

**Genealogy Tutoring.** One-on-one session with a genealogy volunteer using library online resources at Kingstowne Library. Call for an appointment, 703-768-6700.

### Internet and Computer

**Training.** One-on-one session with a technology volunteer at Kingstowne Library. Call for an appointment, 703-768-6700.

## THURSDAY/JULY 10

**Reptiles Alive.** 10:30 a.m. at Sherwood Library. See how reptiles cling, climb and chase in the wild. For ages 6-12.

**English Conversation.** 2 p.m. at John Marshall Library, 7 p.m. at Kingstowne Library. A conversation group for adults learning English to practice together.

### Internet and Computer

**Training.** 6 p.m. at Martha Washington Library. Thirty-minute session with a technology volunteer for help with basic computer skills, and navigating the Internet. Call for an appointment, 703-768-6700.

**English Conversation.** 7 p.m. at Kingstowne Library. A conversation group for adults learning English to practice together.

**Night-Time Tales.** 7 p.m. at John Marshall Library. Stories and activities for ages 3-5 with adult.

## FRIDAY/JULY 11

**Just Stories.** 10:30 a.m. at Sherwood Library. Stories for children of all ages.

## SATURDAY/JULY 12

**Book Sale.** 10 a.m.-3 p.m. at Kingstowne Library.

**English Conversation.** 10:30 a.m. at Sherwood Library. A conversation group for adults learning English to practice together.

**Retro Saturday.** 10:30 a.m. at Mary Washington Library. Enjoy classic cartoons from TV's golden age. Call 703-768-6700 or visit for film titles. Refreshments provided. Register each child and adult separately.

**Wag a Tale.** 10:30-11:30 a.m. at Kingstowne Library. Register to read aloud to Bella, a reading therapy dog. Ages 5-12.

**Read to the Dog.** 12:30-1:30 p.m. at John Marshall Library. Register to read aloud to one of our reading therapy dogs. For readers ages 5 and up.

**eBook Workshop.** 1 p.m. at John Marshall Library. Get eBook questions answered; bring your eBook reader and library card.

## MONDAY/JULY 14

**Read Yourself Silly with Flow Circus.** 10:30 a.m. at John Marshall Library. Juggling, magic and more. For ages 6-12.

**Cliffhanger Book Club.** 7 p.m. at Martha Washington Library. A read-aloud event full of suspense. Bring a library card.

**Books and Ideas.** 7:30 p.m. at Sherwood Library. Book discussion; "The Kitchen House" by Kathleen Grissom.

## TUESDAY/JULY 15

**Read Yourself Silly with Flow Circus.** 2:30 p.m. at Kingstowne Library. Juggling, magic and more. For ages 6-12.

**Friends Quarterly Meeting.** 7 p.m. at Kingstowne Library. Friends of the Kingstowne Library quarterly meeting.

**Harambee Readers.** 7 p.m. at Sherwood Library. Book discussion; "Ebony and Ivy" by Craig Steven Wilder.

**Robotics Challenge.** 7 p.m. at Sherwood Library. Instructors from Digital Kidz show teens how to build, test and program an autonomous robot using Lego Mindstorms. Door prize drawing.

### Internet and Computer

**Training.** 8 p.m. at Martha Washington Library. One-hour session with a technology volunteer for help with basic computer skills, and navigating the Internet. Call for an appointment, 703-768-6700.

## WEDNESDAY/JULY 16

**English Conversation.** 10:15 a.m. at Kingstowne Library. A conversation group for adults learning English to practice together.

**Rubber Band Bracelet Class.** 2 p.m. at John Marshall Library. Learn to make rubber band bracelets. Bring supplies or come and learn new techniques with 50 loops and looms available. Age 6-12.

## THURSDAY/JULY 17

**English Conversation.** 2 p.m. at John Marshall Library, 7 p.m. at Kingstowne Library. A conversation group for adults learning English to practice together.

**Storytime and Rhyme.** 2:30 p.m. at Martha Washington Library. Storytelling, music and movement with Wolf Trap teaching artist Kofi Dennis. All ages; register each child and adult separately.

### Internet and Computer

**Training.** 6 p.m. at Martha Washington Library. Thirty-minute session with a technology volunteer for help with basic computer skills, and navigating the Internet. Call for an appointment, 703-768-6700.

**English Conversation.** 7 p.m. at Kingstowne Library. A conversation group for adults learning English to practice together.

**Evening Storytime.** 7 p.m. at Sherwood Library. Stories, songs and fingerplays. Pajamas and stuffed animals welcome.

**Martha's Poetry Discussion.** 7 p.m. at Martha Washington Library. The poetry of Eavan Boland.

## Good Shepherd Catholic Church

### Mass Schedule

**Saturday Evening**  
 5:00 pm Vigil Mass  
 6:30 pm Vigil Mass (en Español)

**Sunday**  
 7:30 am; 9:00 am (with Sign Language Interpreter & Children's Liturgy of the Word);  
 10:30 am; 12:00 Noon; 2:00 pm (en Español); 6:30 pm

**Weekday & Saturday Mornings:** 9:00 am Mass, followed by Rosary (on First Friday, Mass followed by Eucharistic Adoration)  
**Thursday & First Friday of the Month:** 7:30 pm Mass en Español

8710 Mount Vernon Highway, Alexandria VA, 22309  
 Tel: 703-780-4055 Fax: 703-360-5385 [www.gs-cc.org](http://www.gs-cc.org)

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## United Community Ministries

*Fighting poverty, hunger and homelessness since 1969*

UCM provides food to more than 100 hungry families every day—and we need your help to do it. Our food pantry always needs:

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- Cereal
- Oatmeal
- Macaroni and cheese
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- Jelly

UCM's food pantry is located at **7511 Fordson Road, Alexandria, VA, 22306**, and accepts food donations Monday through Friday, 9 am to 5 pm and the first Sunday of every month, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

UCM is thankful for the generous support of the Mount Vernon Gazette.

*Mount Vernon Gazette*

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## Wolverine Athletic Booster Club Fort Hunt Sportsmen's Association Annual Golf Tournament & Raffle



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The Wolverine Athletic Booster Club and the Fort Hunt Sportsmen's Association wish to thank our Sponsors, Donors, Participants, Volunteers, and Laurel Hill Golf Club for this year's WABC Golf Tournament.

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## Winners of the 8th Annual Event – June 12, 2014



**1st Low Gross**  
Robert Blackman, Andy Walker  
Whitney Sullivan, Carlos Castro  
(not shown)



**1st Net**  
Aaron Engley, Aaron Helmick,  
Andrew Croce, Kyle Morrissey  
(not shown)



**2nd Net**  
Frank Leyden, Eric Vasquez,  
Tracy Vasquez, Susan Leyden



**Closest to the Pin #4**  
Rick Genuario 8'-8 1/2"



**Closest to the Pin #11**  
Rick Genuario 3'-0"



**Putting Contest**  
Todd Vecchio



**Longest Drive, Women**  
Susan Leyden



**Longest Drive, Men**  
Aaron Engley

**Closest to the Pin #14**  
Jerry Vernon 10'-11"  
(not shown)

### Volunteers & Committee

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Aaron Helmick, Vernon Lee,  
Kyle Morrissey, Abby Gwartney,  
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**See you next year, Thursday, June 11, 2015!**

Special thanks to Mount Vernon Gazette





# World Cup Fever

Area soccer coaches, players share  
2014 World Cup viewing experiences.

BY JON ROETMAN  
THE GAZETTE

Even on his wedding day, Robinson boys' soccer coach Robert Garza couldn't escape World Cup fever. Garza married his wife, Jennifer, on June 21 at the Hendry House at Fort C.F. Smith in Arlington. During that Saturday in Northern Virginia, Garza and a group that included his best man, West Potomac boys' soccer coach Andrew Peck, watched the Ghana-Germany match in the groom's suite. Later, when the group was taking pictures, Peck had the match streaming on his cell phone.

What was Jennifer's reaction?

"She laughed when she found out," Garza wrote in a Twitter message. "She married a soccer coach."

Garza is among the local residents who have closely followed the 2014 World Cup in Brazil. As the competition nears an end, soccer coaches and players from Northern Virginia shared their memorable experiences from the month-long event, and their predictions on who would emerge victorious from the tournament's final four teams: Brazil, Germany, Argentina, and the Netherlands.

Garza wasn't the only one making an effort to watch the World Cup. Oakton boys' coach Todd Spitalny, who owns a kitchen and bath company in Manassas, said he had DirecTV installed in his office specifically to watch the World Cup. South Lakes girls' coach Mike Astudillo took in some of the action at Reston Town Center, and Lucas Belanger, a 2013 Mount Vernon High School graduate and rising sophomore goalkeeper at American University, watched the United States matches at National Harbor in Washington. T.C. Williams rising senior Eryk Williamson downloaded an app on his phone to receive live updates if he wasn't able to watch.

Laila Gray, a 2014 Chantilly High School graduate and rising freshman on the Virginia Tech women's soccer team, said watching others on the pitch can help improve one's ability.

"Watching soccer is so important if you want to become a better soccer player," Gray wrote in an email. "It builds your soccer IQ, creativity and love for the game."

Along with following the action at home — and on a cell phone during his wedding day — Garza, a 1991 Hayfield graduate, has watched the World Cup at the Bungalow and Lucky's Sports Theatre in Kingstowne.

"The atmosphere has been phenomenal," Garza wrote, "with so many fans coming out to watch."

Much excitement centered around the performance of the United States men's national team, which competed against Ghana, Portugal, and Germany in Group G, nicknamed the "Group of Death." The U.S. emerged from group play with a 1-1-1 record, including a 2-1 victory over Ghana on June 16, and advanced by virtue of a goal-differential tiebreaker over Portugal. The United States' World Cup appearance



PHOTO BY LOUISE KRAFFT/THE GAZETTE

**T.C. Williams rising senior Eryk Williamson, left, has followed the action closely during the 2014 World Cup. He is a fan of Brazil, France, and the U.S.**

ended on July 1 with a 2-1 loss to Belgium in extra time in the round of 16.

"Like we all should, I've been supporting the U.S.," Joe McCreary, a 2014 Yorktown graduate and rising freshman on the James Madison University men's soccer team, wrote in an email. "I think soccer in America the next four years is on the rise after team USA advanced from the group of death."

In four matches, the U.S. produced some memorable — and forgettable — moments. Against Ghana, Clint Dempsey scored the United States' first goal in the opening minute. John Brooks scored the winner in the 86th minute.

In the United States' second group match, an early defensive miscue led to a 1-0 deficit in the fifth minute against Portugal. The U.S. battled back to take a 2-1 lead, only to allow the tying goal in the final minute of stoppage time.

The USMNT lost to Germany 1-0 in its final group match, but advanced via tiebreaker.

While the USMNT fell short against Belgium in the round of 16, goalkeeper Tim Howard produced a record 16 saves, holding Belgium scoreless until the 93rd minute.

Garza, who has coached at Robinson for two seasons after spending nine years at Mount Vernon, said while the performance of the USMNT gives fans hope for the future, he wishes the team had taken a more aggressive approach.

"I wish [head coach] Jurgen Klinsmann would have taken a more attacking approach this World Cup," Garza wrote. "I was a little disappointed that he changed his philosophy after [forward Jozy] Altidore went down [with an injury]. It looked like he had no substitute for him and his decision to sit back a lot was very disappointing — especially against Belgium when he started with three forwards. He did however, give us hope for 2018."

"One thing I really did enjoy was seeing so many US fans coming together — letting the world know soccer is here to stay in the U.S."

It wasn't just the USMNT or its players generating interest, however.

Washington-Lee rising junior Maycol Nunez scored 37 goals in 2014 and helped the Generals advance to the Group 6A Virginia state final. Nunez lived in Honduras before moving to the United States four years ago at the age of 12. He cheers for his native country during the World Cup, along with Belgium and Argentina.

Honduras finished last in Group E with a 0-3 record, scoring its lone goal in a 2-1 loss to Ecuador on June 20, but that hasn't stopped Nunez from enjoying the experience.

"Honduras is probably one of worst teams in the World Cup, but the fact that they are there means a lot," Nunez wrote. "... Honduras [scoring] their first and only goal in the World Cup against Ecuador has been definitely one of my favorite moments in this World Cup so far. ... Words cannot describe what watching Honduras in the World Cup means to me. It's just such an amazing feeling that I can't even describe."

Astudillo, who has coached the South Lakes girls' team the last two seasons and used to coach at Chantilly, has extended family from Colombia. Along with cheering for the U.S., Astudillo followed the Colombian team that won Group C with a 3-0 record, and defeated Uruguay 2-0 in the round of 16 before falling to Brazil 2-1 in the quarterfinals.

"Best tournament in our history," Astudillo wrote. "[I'm] so proud and we have so many young players. Look out Russia 2018!"

Williamson, who led T.C. Williams to the 2014 Group 6A Virginia state championship, said he is a passionate supporter of

host Brazil, though he also cheers for the U.S. "I'm a huge Brazil fan," Williamson wrote. "I just love the way they play. However, growing up I always used to cheer for France. Now that they've been knocked out, I've been all about Brazil. ... Both of my parents are American so, at heart, I cheer for the U.S."

Belanger was a goalkeeper on Mount Vernon's 2013 state championship team. He made a pair of key saves during the Majors' penalty-kick shootout victory against Cosby in the state final. Belanger said he has enjoyed watching goalkeepers perform during the World Cup.

"I have always been a huge U.S. fan, even though they have been disappointing up until this World Cup, but I've also been rooting for a few individual players (mostly goalkeepers) such as Gianluigi Buffon for Italy and Thibaut Courtois for Belgium," Belanger wrote. "Being a goalkeeper myself, I have learned to appreciate the difficulty [of] some of the saves they make, and I always enjoy watching a goalkeeper have a great game."

"... I always love watching penalty-kick shootouts, but I have enjoyed watching all the games where the goalkeepers performed well, like Costa Rica, Nigeria, and especially the United States."

The semifinals had yet to be played when coaches and players were interviewed. The first semifinal match, Germany versus Brazil, was played Tuesday. The Netherlands and Argentina faced one another Wednesday. The majority said Germany would win it all. Williamson said Brazil would have a tough time getting past Germany in the semifinals without star forward Neymar (back injury) and captain Thiago Silva (cards).

Nunez picked Argentina to win "because they have Messi and the other teams don't."

Astudillo had far less praise for the Argentine star.

"I know I sound like a hater, but I'm not a Lionel Messi fan," Astudillo wrote. "I grew up watching Diego Armando Maradona single-handedly carry [Argentina] to a World Cup championship in Mexico in 1986. Teams would triple team him because he had zero help on that squad, but it didn't matter. He always found a way to make those around him better. If Lio can't deliver a World Cup to his native Argentina, I think we should hold off on considering him one of the greatest ever."

The championship match is scheduled for Sunday, July 13, providing the final opportunity for a memorable World Cup viewing experience.

"This World Cup, we saw so many come together — friends, family, strangers — all to see the world play," Garza wrote. "Compared to previous years, this World Cup has been huge. Every U.S. game I have watched with family and friends and fellow coaching colleagues from the high school ranks. Each time, we easily took up quite a few tables, getting to the pubs quite early to secure space."



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The Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation seeks a qualified individual for the following part-time position: Outreach Education Instructor-Northern Virginia (Position# OI000). Closes on July 21, 2014 @ 5:00 PM. For full job description and to apply visit <http://jobs.agencies.virginia.gov>. Applicants must complete an online Commonwealth of Virginia employment application. Background check & E-Verify Required. EEO/AA/ADA

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The reward of a thing well done, is to have done it.  
- Ralph Waldo Emerson

## 21 Announcements

## 21 Announcements

### LEGAL NOTICE

Sealed proposals for the City of Alexandria per specifications will be received in the Office of the Purchasing Division until the date and time designated as follows:

Title: RFP NO. 00000448, Construction Management and Inspection Services for the Four Mile Run Tidal Restoration Plan B - Site 3 Project

RFP Closing Date and Time: August 12, 2014, 4:00 p.m., prevailing local time For general inquiries contact Darryl Jackson, Contract Specialist at 703.746.4298.

The City of Alexandria reserves the right to reject any and all proposals, cancel this solicitation, and to waive any informalities or irregularities in procedure. THE CITY REQUIRES ITS CONTRACTORS TO BE EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYERS.

## 21 Announcements

## 21 Announcements

### OBITUARY

**John Phillips Waller, 90** of Winchester, passed away Sunday, July 6 2014 after a long illness

Mr. Waller was born June 2, 1924, at Alexandria Hospital, Alexandria, VA. The child of the late Charles Page Waller and Mary Wallace Phillips; John graduated from George Washington High School in 1941 and attended Virginia Polytechnic Institute until 1943 when he was drafted into the U.S. Army. Mr. Waller served as a member of The Tank Corps with tours of duty in France and Germany. After the war, Mr. Waller took many courses from the American Institute of Banking and graduated from the Rutgers University Graduate School of Banking. His long career in banking started at Riggs Bank (1947-1952) before moving on to Alexandria National Bank (1952-1963) and finally Peoples National Bank in Leesburg, VA where he was President of the bank for 18 years. (1963-1986).

Mr. Waller's many community activities included 16 years as President or member of the Board of Loudoun Memorial Hospital, 30 years as Treasurer, SR. Warden; or as Vestry Member of St. James Episcopal Church, Leesburg. Active Member of Christ Episcopal Church, Winchester, for the past fifteen years. Mr. Waller served as Past Master of Alexandria-Washington Masonic Lodge 22 in Alexandria, VA and many other civic activities.

Mr. Waller is survived by his beloved wife of 55 years, Janet Pierce Waller; one son, John Phillips Waller, Jr. (Lisa Pridmore) of Alexandria, VA; one daughter, Ellen Waller Chambers (Geoffrey) of Bluemont, VA; and one grandchild, Pierce Bailey Waller.

In 1996, John and Janet moved to Westminster-Canterbury, Shenandoah Valley, and have greatly enjoyed the past eighteen years in Winchester.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Christ Episcopal Church, 114 W. Boscawen St. Winchester, VA 22603 or Shenandoah Valley Westminster-Canterbury Fellowship Fund, 300 Westminster-Canterbury Dr. Winchester, VA 22603. Donations may also be made to a charity of your choice.

Services will be held at Christ Episcopal Church, Winchester VA at 2:00 pm on Thursday, July 10 2014.

Interment will be at Ivy Hill Cemetery, Alexandria, VA at 1:00 pm on Friday, July 11, 2014.

Online condolences may be made to [www.jonesfuneralhomes.com](http://www.jonesfuneralhomes.com)

## Lisa Witte Perichino



Lisa Witte Perichino, 58, of Alexandria, Virginia, died Monday, June 30th. She was born to Dr. E. Thompson Witte DDS and Janet Sywassink Witte, on December 20, 1955, in Iowa City, Iowa. Lisa graduated from Richard Montgomery High School in 1972 and received a BS in Dental Hygiene/Health Education from the University of Maryland in 1978. She married Alan Perichino in 2001 and they lived in Alexandria, Virginia.

Lisa was a dental hygienist who had worked at the Virginia Hospital Center and for several private dental practices in the Alexandria and Crystal City areas. She was passionate about making a difference in the lives of others.

Lisa is survived by her husband Alan; her mother, Janet Witte of Rockville, Maryland; her father, Dr. E.T. Witte of Virginia Beach, Virginia; her brother, Dr. Scott Witte DVM Ph.D. of Lafayette, New Jersey; and her sister, Lorayne Witte Burley of San Diego, California. Lisa is also survived by many extended family members and friends.

A memorial service is planned for 11 a.m. on Friday, July 18 at the Everly-Wheatley Funeral Home on 1500 W. Braddock Road, Alexandria, Virginia 22302.

Do not wish to be anything but what you are, and try to be that perfectly.  
-St. Francis de Sales

## Legal Notices

### 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

## 21 Announcements

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## LETTERS



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**West Potomac Crew may suffer more than storm damage; the club needs a nearby river site to continue.**

## West Potomac Crew In Jeopardy

To the Editor:

Over the past few years, the West Potomac High School Crew Club has seen the theft of outboard motors, damage to its large workout "tent" caused by strong spring winds, and with June 19's powerful storms, the boat trailer was picked up and tossed on its side causing irreparable damage to a number of these very expensive boats.

The team has weathered these challenges and even thrived, going on to win several important regattas, sending three boats to nationals and garnering full college scholarships for several seniors. However, the future of West Potomac Crew is in jeopardy because the greatest uncertainty now facing the team is having a landing site to call home.

West Potomac Crew Club's origins go back to the Fort Hunt Crew team that began in 1968 and this year's team has more than 70 high school athletes. The team is entirely self-supported, receiving no financial help from the school or Fairfax County. And most Crew team members say years after they've graduated that Crew defined their high school experience and helped create lifelong friendships.

For the last several years, a stretch of land at National Harbor has been available for the team's use — thanks to the generosity of its owners. But that area is to soon become a construction holding area for the casino that will be built nearby. What this means is the team may not only have no home base from which to meet and practice during three months of Spring, but that West Potomac Crew's future may be at stake.

Several concerned West Potomac Crew parent volunteers looked for potential nearby sites along the Potomac River — which are owned by the National Park Service. The group requested (even temporary) use of the two nearby locations that would seem to make good sense — Belle Haven Marina and the Washington Sailing Marina at Daingerfield Island. In a formal letter back to West Potomac Crew, the NPS' response for Belle Haven Marina was that there is simply no room. This still leaves

Washington Sailing Marina — which has a very large area, a good portion of which is unused — that can easily fit the team's boats and launches.

West Potomac Crew needs the support of the community and its elected officials to work with the National Park Service to help find a landing site for our team. Without this — a team with a very long proud history — may well not have a next season.

**Danny Selnick**

Alexandria

West Potomac Crew Parent

## Conflicts of Interest

To the Editor:

In the Fairfax County website, over 80 boards, authorities and commissions are listed, most of which are constituted by appointments from the Board of Supervisors. One exception is the Board of Zoning Appeals whose members are chosen by the Circuit Court. Community apathy often makes it difficult to find volunteers to populate these organizations. This is no excuse for making inappropriate appointments — sometimes a seat is better left unfilled.

Sometimes supervisors appoint citizens to reward them for political activity to a supervisor's liking, whether through political activism or financial support. The one place political considerations should not come into play is for appointments to technical boards, authorities and commissions where private property rights are potentially impacted. Among those are the Planning Commission, the Chesapeake Bay Preservation Ordinance Exception Review Committee, the Board of Equalization, the Park Authority, the Architectural Review Board, the Wetlands Board, and others. Technical expertise, ability to put aside personal agendas and demonstrated ability to recognize and avoid conflicts should be absolute requirements for such appointments.

The slightest consideration of political issues in deciding who will be appointed to technical boards, authorities and commissions potentially affecting private property rights is inappropriate.

**H. Jay Spiegel**

Mount Vernon



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