

## Pet Gazette

**Mia was born Dec. 7, 1996, the week we moved into our home on Little Hunting Creek. Now over 18 and a half, Mia isn't buying any green bananas but she's hanging in there. She is the mother of five dachshunds and has lost two of her five children. Mia is a wonderful friend and mother who we hope will remain with us awhile longer. More pets photos, pages 10-11.**

— H. JAY SPIEGEL

# AWLA's Got Seoul

## A local response to global issue.

BY ASHLEY CLAIRE SIMPSON  
THE GAZETTE

**I**t is hard to imagine that dogs in some parts of the world are being prepared for brutal deaths to become human food.

In December of last year, the Humane Society International (HSI) contacted the Animal Welfare League of Alexandria (AWLA), in need of a place to send nearly 23 South Korean dogs who would otherwise suffer such a fate. AWLA Deputy Director Abbie Hubbard said there was no question that the

Alexandria non-profit would take in the dogs.

AWLA had about two weeks to prepare its shelter for the mass canine arrival. The dogs ranged in breed, behavior and also in age. It took just until the spring of this year for AWLA to find homes or further rescue programs for all 23 dogs.

"We are an emergency placement partner for the Humane Society of the United States (HSUS)," Hubbard said. "Their affiliate is Humane Society International. Because of our partnership, they contacted us when they knew that they would have 23 dogs that they needed to place somewhere in the United States."

This was the first time that the AWLA worked with

SEE AWLA SUPPORT, PAGE 3

# Not Willing To Wait

## Elected officials and candidates discuss Bus Rapid Transit and Metro expansion timetables.

BY TIM PETERSON  
THE GAZETTE

**W**aiting at least 11 years for implementing a Bus Rapid Transit system along the Route 1 corridor and 25 years to extend the Metrorail Yellow Line to Hybla Valley is too much time. That was the sentiment expressed by four Democrats who met July 21 at the entrance to the Huntington Yellow Line Metrorail stop.

Del. Scott Surovell (D-44) recapped the November 2014 conclusion of a \$2 million Route 1 Multimodal Study that analyzed options for relieving crippling traffic throughout the major roadway. The analysis resulted in a four-phase proposal including widening Route 1 to six lanes, adding a Bus Rapid Transit program and extending the Yellow Line.

The plan "is hampered by the current timetable," said Surovell, who is also a candidate for the 36th District state senate seat.

"This is a quality of life issue for those living in Mount Vernon, Prince William and Stafford,"

Surovell continued. "People waited decades for a blueprint and this recommendation finally provides a vision for the future of our community. We can't afford to wait 25 years to fully implement it."

Paul Krizek, who is currently running unopposed for Surovell's 44th District delegate seat, said of Mount Vernon, "With Fort Belvoir employing more people than the Pentagon and limited transit options, commuters and residents face some of the worst traffic in Northern Virginia."

"We've been patiently waiting for our opportunity here," he added. "We're no longer that sleepy bedroom community."

Mount Vernon School Board member Dan Storck, who won the Democratic primary for Mount Vernon district supervisor, said, "The key part is to get our fair share down here. We need a public commitment now. It simply can't wait. The expansion of our public transit system and widening Route 1 creates jobs and new opportunities for all of Fairfax County, especially our residents

SEE NOT WILLING, PAGE 5

# Human Remains Discovered In Mount Vernon Area Woods

**A** man walking in the woods near Woodlawn Park discovered decomposing human remains and contacted police, according to a July 21 report from Fairfax County Police.

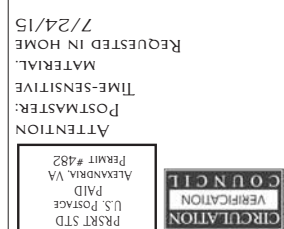
Officers responded to the man's report around 8:30 p.m. on Monday, July 20, near the 4800 block of Manor Drive in the Mount

Vernon area of Alexandria.

Police said the remains seem to be male and have been taken to the Office of the Medical Examiner.

There isn't believed to be a public safety threat, though police are pursuing an investigation.

— TIM PETERSON







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**Mount Vernon \$624,900**

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**Karisue Wyson 703.615.0876**  
MaryAshleyRealEstate.com



**Alexandria South \$799,990**

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**Wellington Heights \$699,000**

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**Jen Walker**  
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# AWLA Support Helps Save Dogs from Korean Meat Farm

FROM PAGE 1

HSI, and Hubbard said the staff and volunteers happily took the 23 dogs into the Vola Lawson Shelter on Eisenhower Avenue, which is operated by the, AWLA.

“This is the first time our shelter has collaborated with HSI, but we work with HSUS usually twice a year or so, as they contact us as one of their Emergency Placement Centers,” Hubbard said. “Seeing an animal get placed into an amazing home is such a great feeling. To be a part of that is so rewarding. It is the thing that drives me.”

Megan Webb, executive director of AWLA, said the organization has worked with HSUS for several years but only became a formal Emergency Placement Partner last year.

“We feel that our work with HSUS is mutual aid,” Webb said. “We help other communities when we can and we know that HSUS will help us if we are ever in a crisis.”

Hubbard, who adopted one of the puppies herself, a shaggy dog named Minnow, said the AWLA’s undertaking with HSI offers a great opportunity to start a local conversation on every country’s animal treatment policies, procedures and outlooks.

“We all struggle with our animal welfare laws,” Hubbard said. “Dog meat farms are part of some Asian cultures, so it is a sensitive topic in some ways. The way that the animals are kept and slaughtered is really inhumane, though. That is something very concerning. The way I came to see it, it is an opportunity to have a discussion about animals all over the world and how we treat them.”

The AWLA received the dogs, who came to the United States on two different flights, on Jan. 5 and 6 of this year. The dogs were taken in and processed with the on-staff veterinarian and with behavioral specialists. After each of their needs were assessed, they were distributed among five additional local shelters.

“We took the 23 dogs and held them at our shelter for a week,” she said. “Our vet on staff did a lot of diagnostics, including testing them for parasites, vaccinating them and making sure all their health records



Hope

were up to date.”

It also gave them time to acclimate after their 14-plus-hour-long flight.

“These dogs had endured a pretty long flight,” Hubbard said. “It must have been long and stressful. These dogs had lived in a cage their whole life and hadn’t had a lot of human interaction so suddenly they find themselves in a smaller cage — and people are handling them — and then they are on an airplane. I can’t even imagine what was going through their heads.”

AWLA kept some of the dogs at Vola Lawson, and the rest were split up between the Animal Welfare League of Arlington, Washington Animal Rescue League, Loudoun County Animal Services, Manassas City Animal Shelter and Fairfax County Animal Shelter.

“We were able to make room in the shelter for the 23 dogs by moving dogs around the shelter and into foster homes,” Webb said. “Our staff all worked together to take in the dogs, provide them with comfortable kennels, food and medical care. We had not anticipated the huge response from the public about the dogs — we received hundreds of phone calls from 21 states and Canada from people interested in adopting the dogs. Our adoption staff jumped in to help with responding to these inquiries.”

The group of dogs included specific Korean breeds as well as other mixed breeds. Some were quite uncomfortably in social



Abi

settings, while some of the dogs were more receptive to human interaction. As a result, each shelter in the area had a different process for getting the dogs into safe places — whether going home with local families or going to American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (ASPCA) rescue programs.

Regardless of where they went, by the end of the spring, each of the 23 dogs had been transferred to adoptive homes or to other places for further support and rehabilitation. Hubbard said she saw a lot of progress made in just a few months: one of the more feral puppies made so much improvement that he was able to be adopted by a local family.

The dog meat operation at the particular farm these dogs came from has been shut down. HSI subsidized the farmer so that he could expand his blueberry farm for complete livelihood.

“Everybody kind of lucked out,” Hubbard said. “We are really proud of our partnerships with HSI and HSUS. Our focus and work is about the animals and the community. But, when we have the opportunity to be involved on a more global scale, it helps animals across the world and in turn makes us better advocates and caretakers.”

With Minnow as a new addition to her family, Hubbard definitely lucked out. She said she had been looking for a terrier for her brood at home, and Minnow had been described as a “shaggy terrier.”

When Hubbard laid eyes on Minnow, it was clear that although shaggy, she was certainly no terrier. Most likely, Minnow is a Korean breed of dog called a sapsaree. Still, Hubbard fell in love and Minnow is now a happy member of the Hubbard household, which includes four parrots and other foster animals.

Another positive turnout for an AWLA employee was for Alex Cooke, an Animal Control officer, who also adopted one of the dogs.

“My fiancé and I adopted Harper on Feb. 12 after fostering her for a few weeks,” she said. “Harper came into the shelter loaded with parasites and severe dandruff. We brought her home as a three to four month old, and she is now nine months. Harper has been social from the beginning which is why we were attracted to her. She is very loving to her ‘brother’ Dexter, a shiba inu, my cat and horse.”

Cooke said she is so happy that Harper maintains such a friendly, happy disposition despite all she seemed to go through back in South Korea.

“It’s amazing to me how healthy and happy she has turned out to be,” Cooke said. “We couldn’t be happier with her personality and how well she fits into our family. I try and use her as a platform to speak about the meat farms in South Korea every time someone stops to tell me how cute she is.”

Webb said the undertaking undoubtedly had a positive impact on the global community, and agreed that the operation certainly benefitted the AWLA’s immediate community in more ways than one.

“We value our strong relationships with the animal shelters in the region and feel that this was a real-world opportunity for us to collaborate,” Webb said. “We are continuing to work together. Also, all of the shelters in the region that we organized to participate in the rescue of these dogs reported an increase in adoptions immediately during and after taking the dogs.”



**Nora and Annie, my two rescues, enjoying a dip in a local creek a couple of years ago. We had to say goodbye to both of them within the past year as they crossed the “Rainbow Bridge.” They are sorely missed. Nora was a Hurricane Katrina orphan, adopted in January 2006 from the Animal Welfare League of Alexandria. Annie came to live with us in 2010 at 9 years of age, when her owner had to find a new home for her. They were the best dogs anyone could ever wish for ... we were blessed. Please consider adoption and rescue if you are looking for a companion animal, rather than buying from a breeder. There are so many wonderful pets in need of a home. I wrote this after Annie died:**

## “Lament for Annie”

The oak floor beneath the window by my side of the bed is uncluttered space.

The box your food bowl once set atop is gone.

You no longer lounge beneath the deck out back, sheltered from the summer heat, waiting for me to come out and play “Run Around the Azalea.”

The postman delivers the mail unannounced; friends and strangers reach the front door in si-

lence.

There is no beautiful black shepherd peeking over the back seat of the car, brown eyes watching as I load just purchased groceries.

It’s been months since you left and empty places remain, leaving eyes and ears wanting, but mostly our hearts.

— GEORGANN MEADOWS



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**Alexandria** **\$1,274,900**  
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## OPEN SUNDAY 1-4



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## OPEN SUNDAY 1-4



**Alexandria** **\$799,000**  
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## COMING SOON



**Alexandria/Rosemont**  
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124 E. Maple St. Ideally located 3 bedroom, 2 bath brick end town house just blocks from 2 METRO stations, shops and restaurants in Old Town and Del Ray! Three finished levels; updated kitchen opens to dining room and family room with skylight and access to the large deck and fenced yard. Upper level with 3 bedrooms and updated bath. Finished lower level with bath and access to the yard. **Christine Garner 703-587-4855**

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**Woodbridge** **\$349,900**  
16919 Cass Brook Lane. Includes 4 spacious BR, 2.5 BA, 2-car garage, eat-in kitchen open to family room w/French doors to deck & green, fenced backyard. Separate formal dining & living room. Master w/cathedral ceiling, separate soaking tub & shower, double vanity, skylights. Desirable River Oaks amenities. **Nadine Wren 703-403-4410**

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From left: Supervisor Gerry Hyland (D), candidate for Mount Vernon supervisor Dan Storck, candidate for 44th District delegate Paul Krizek and candidate for 36th District senate seat and Del. Scott Surovell (D-44) are in favor of speeding up the timeline to bring bus rapid transit and an extension of the Metro Yellow Line in the Route 1 corridor.



PHOTO BY TIM PETERSON/THE GAZETTE

## Not Willing To Wait

FROM PAGE 1  
along the Route 1 corridor.”

Outgoing District Supervisor Gerry Hyland (D-Mount Vernon) momentarily lightened the tone of the press conference, referring to the bicycle racks near where the men were standing. “These are three candidates who don’t soft-pedal on the issues.”

More seriously, Hyland commented on Route 1 traffic that is “completely deadlocked” and that “moving the timetable up is absolutely necessary for the future of Mount Vernon and Lee Districts.”

Surovell believes it would be feasible to implement Bus Rapid Transit throughout the corridor within 10 years and to have Metro in 15 years. This would require rapid work to modify the county’s Comprehensive Plan and, more importantly, getting creative about funding sources.

Some of the delegate’s ideas include pushing the project to the “head of the line” in Virginia’s \$300 million transportation fund, the Virginia Commonwealth Transportation Board, the Federal Transit Administration’s “New Start” program, local government and the United States Army.

Fort Belvoir, Surovell said, “needs to step up and help fund the demand they’re creating.”

Dumfries Mayor Jerry Foreman is a Republican running against Surovell for the 36th District Senate seat.

“Residents and business owners that drive and work along the Route 1 corridor are tired of funding studies and want to see results with construction and congestion relief,” he said in an email. “That’s why I have been a leading voice in support of HB-2 (Funding the Right Transportation Projects), HB-599 (Transportation – Long Range Planning) and HB-2313 (Transportation – Revenues and Appropriations) and of a cohesive, regional approach to improving the Route 1 corridor, and a supporter of high-speed commuter trains to ease traffic congestion. As

a commissioner on both the Northern Virginia Regional Commission and the Northern Virginia Transportation Authority, I understand transportation is a regional matter.”

Jane Gandee is Storck’s Republican opponent for Mount Vernon district supervisor.

In an email, she said, “A business owner said to me today: Just drive to Fairfax and see utilities are underground, intersections and medians are beautifully landscaped and maintained. Why has Mount Vernon District been left behind? Why does our district have the most antiquated-looking road system in the entire county?”

Gandee agreed with the Democrats, that she’s not for “waiting another 10, 20 or 40 years to get us the transportation infrastructure needed for economic development.”

On the topic of bus rapid transit, she added, “It makes more sense to add the bus lanes now and take advantage of the growth of Fort Belvoir to expand economic development for our Mount Vernon business community. We should be planning for hotels, restaurants, tech business and all the support services needed by Fort Belvoir. It makes no sense to me to start construction of Bus Rapid Transit lanes at the Beltway and work south when road construction is happening now in the southern part of Richmond Highway.”

Future action being taken at the county level, Hyland said, is a 14-person transportation task force focused on Route 1 set to meet in August. The task force is made up of citizens, planning commissioners, a representative from the Southeast Fairfax Development Corporation, among others.

“Then the board would have something to base a decision on,” Hyland said.

A summary of the of the Route 1 Multimodal Study is available online at [www.drpt.virginia.gov/media/1556/route-1-executive-brief-february-2015.pdf](http://www.drpt.virginia.gov/media/1556/route-1-executive-brief-february-2015.pdf).

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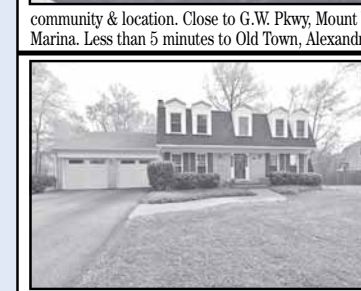
**Alex./Hollin Hall • \$449,500**  
**8009 New Market Rd.**  
Lovely 3 BR, 2 BA home in sought-after Waynewood Elementary school district. Nicely landscaped, newly refinished hardwood floors, interior freshly painted. The kitchen awaits your touch. The addition added a family room, bedroom, 2nd bath and laundry area. Lowest-priced house in 22308! Charming Hollin Hall has its own shopping center and is in a fabulous location close to G.W. Parkway, Potomac River, and 5-10 minutes to Old Town.



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This lovely unit has 2 BRs, 2 BAs, & a sought-after Balcony! The bathrms have been updated, the unit freshly painted & new carpeting. Utilities are included in condo fees. River Towers' amenities include a swimming pool, tennis courts, garden plots, picnic grove with grills, beautifully landscaped grounds, & so much more. River Towers has a Metro connector bus out front that goes to the Huntington Metro Yellow Line. Great community & location. Close to G.W. Pkwy, Mount Vernon Bike Trail, Potomac River, & Belle Haven Marina. Less than 5 minutes to Old Town, Alexandria along G.W. Parkway, 15 minutes to Fort Belvoir.



**Alex./Woodlawn Estates • \$769,900**  
**8896 McNair Drive**  
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**Alex./Olive Park • \$494,900**  
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Lovely 3,000+ sq ft Colonial w/5 BRs/4 BAs on a beautiful .5 acre lot. A 2005 upper level addition offers a true master bedroom/master bath suite, both w/vaulted ceilings along w/2 other bedrooms & a bath. The main level has 2 BRs, 2 BAs plus a large kitchen which opens to a great room, both w/vaulted ceilings. A wood-burning FPL in the living room & wood stove in the great room add to the charm. 5 mins to Fort Belvoir, 25 mins to NTL Airport.



**Alex./Mt. Vernon Woods**  
**\$499,900**  
**4006 Buckman Road**  
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**Dumfries, VA \$327,900**  
**4508 Peppermill Court**  
Stunning 3 BR, 2.5BA Contemporary w/garage & charming front porch located in a cul-de-sac. Meticulously maintained, spacious kit opens to the family rm w/fireplace. Vaulted ceilings & 3 sky lights. Look down on main lvl from upper level balcony. Neutral paint & carpets. Beautiful deck & patio off family rm. Montclair offers recreational activities, private lake access at 3 beaches. Close to Quantico.

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We will present a short play, "Away from the Manger," a humorous look at those who avoided the Nativity!

6510 Fort Hunt Rd., Alexandria, VA 22307  
**703-765-5003**



## NEWS

# Expanding Resiliency

Public schools' mental health program reaches into the broader community.

BY SAMANTHA TKAC  
THE GAZETTE

What is resiliency? It's "the ability to bounce back from adversity," said Debbie Lawall, co-chair of the resiliency committee. The goal is to build emotional strength within our county's youth, so that when they experience or are faced with crisis, they are able to overcome without staying silent, or resorting to self-destructive coping mechanisms.

Lawall lost her son to suicide, and has been working to find ways to support positive mental health ever since. In a perfect world, she said, schools would have "a little less structure and a little more leeway, but we're not going to be able to change that unless colleges back down .... I think through the classes at school the kids will learn [resiliency] but I think that the parents need to learn, [along with] other people who are associated with the students." Lawall teaches relaxation and life skills courses in Fairfax County Public Schools as a way to spread the resilient movement.

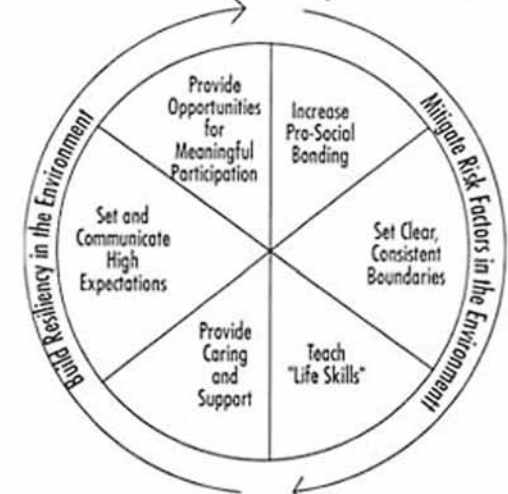
Jesse Ellis, a prevention manager working for Fairfax County government, has a team of 40-50 people working on suicide prevention, a facet of the resiliency program. He talks about the risk and protective factors of suicide prevention: "A risk factor is anything that basically makes you more likely to experience a bad outcome, a protective factor is something that keeps you from that. The most important protective factor when it comes to suicide is the relationships you have with others." This is what the resiliency program aims to achieve — an expansion of the teachings of the program to the mentors and role models within the community.

Ellis argues that by advocating strong relationships between students and mentors, there is an increased likelihood that a warning sign will be noticed. "There's a myth out there that suicides can just come out of nowhere," Ellis said. "But what we've seen when we look at individual cases, is that there are multiple warning signs. And if you have that strong relationship, you're more likely to see it."

The resiliency program has been active within FCPS for only five years. In that time, all middle and high school teachers have learned about the six slices of the resiliency wheel and have taken CrisisLink online training, an online simulator that challenges the participant on what to do when approached by a student with a critical problem. According to Dr. MaryAnn Panarelli, director of Intervention and Prevention Services for FCPS, 9,000 people total in Fairfax County have taken the online simulation, including the teachers.

Panarelli, who has worked with the resiliency program for four years, talks about the positive effects the program has shown within the schools. One

## The Resiliency Wheel



Resiliency Wheel is from the book Resiliency in Schools: Making It Happen for Students and Educators by Nan Henderson and Mike Milstein, published by Corwin Press, Thousand Oaks, CA (2003).

FCPS IMAGE

**"The Resiliency Wheel" on the FCPS website. The six factors of resiliency are considered to be "external protective factors."**

## More

For the crisis link text line: Text 703-940-0888 with any emergency and a responder will reply "within minutes," according to [www.fairfaxcounty.gov](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov).

Email Shirley Clark or Debbie Lawall, co-chairs on the resiliency committee, for ideas and suggestions on how to expand resiliency into the community.

Clark: [sclark@thewomenscenter.org](mailto:sclark@thewomenscenter.org)  
Lawall: [deblawall@aol.com](mailto:deblawall@aol.com)

method of disclosure has increased significantly — students are using a tool called "CrisisLink text line," a 24/7 hotline where a person can text (a more mainstream "younger" method of communication) emergencies to local responders. "The rate of third-party referrals, or, the rate of kids saying, 'I'm worried about my friend' to an adult has gone up," Panarelli said. She adds that youths have begun looking out for each other a little more. "Part of building resiliency builds into being a part of a community," she said, adding that the focus on resiliency in schools is empowering youths to do something when faced with critical situations.

Shirley Clark, co-chair of the resiliency committee, says that right now the group is in the "forming and norming" stage of development, and is working to "take the resiliency tools and communicate them and market them" throughout the community. Clark says that, "There is no shame in helping your brain," a slogan she created with the help of her son. While the expansion of the program is new, Clark says that the committee only has seven members, and is open for public suggestions and participation.

## 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.

### SATURDAY/JULY 25

**Health Fair.** 10-4 p.m. at Gold's Gym, 7770 Richmond Hwy. Get a health assessment at Gold's Gym. Face painting and bounce houses will be available for children. Free. Visit [www.goldsgym.com/alexandriava](http://www.goldsgym.com/alexandriava).

### SATURDAY/AUG. 15

**Community Health Fair.** 10 a.m.-2 p.m. at Neighborhood Health, 6677 Richmond Highway. Learn about medical care and coverage for the family. Email [akrzepicki@neighborhoodhealthva.org](mailto:akrzepicki@neighborhoodhealthva.org).

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## NEWS



PHOTOS CONTRIBUTED



### Fresh Produce

Every Saturday morning, Oliver Keckler wakes up early to load a truck full of fresh fruits and vegetables and bring them to a farm stand located on Fort Hunt Road in the parking lot of St. Luke's Episcopal Church in Alexandria. The farm stand has a variety of fruits, vegetables and berries. Keckler's sister-in-law bakes homemade pies and breads and a large selection of jams and jellies as well. Peaches, cantaloupes and heirloom tomatoes are just several of the fresh, in-season fruits which he brings every week. The farm stand has been open every Saturday 8 a.m.- 1 p.m. since May 2 and will continue until December.

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# OPINION

## What's Special about Mount Vernon?

### Share tips in upcoming Newcomers and Community Guide.

**T**he Gazette's annual Newcomers and Community Guide will publish Aug. 26. A bevy of interns, plus staff writers and editors, are preparing this year's editions, but we need help from our readers.

What tips do you have for someone getting to know the community?

We're hoping to share special places, activi-

ties, events, organizations and volunteer opportunities. What should someone new to your neighborhood know about? Events that should not be missed? Organizations that do a great job? Places to volunteer? Tips for navigating your PTA or your school's front office? A great place to see the sunset? We'd love to have your photos to go along with your suggestions.

Faith organizations, nonprofit organizations, clubs, environmental groups, advocacy groups, youth sports teams and others who offer events open to the public are invited to send a paragraph about the organization and how to get involved.

We will publish a selection of local tips along with a plethora of information use-

ful to newcomers and long-time residents alike, including our award-winning Insiders Guide to the Parks, information on how to vote and more.

See last year's community guides by going to [www.connectionnewspapers.com/PDFs/](http://www.connectionnewspapers.com/PDFs/) and scrolling down to Newcomers.

Email tips and photos to [gazette@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:gazette@connectionnewspapers.com) or send as a letter to the editor via the website at <http://www.connectionnewspapers.com/contact/letter/>. Send in your Insider's Tips by Friday, Aug. 14.

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### EDITORIAL

### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Silence from Morrogh?

To the Editor:

On Feb. 3, 2015, Natasha McKenna, a mentally ill woman, was shot four times with a taser by a guard at the Fairfax County jail. She was removed from life support several days later. Incredibly, the investigation into her death drags on, ostensibly while the police await data to be extracted from the taser, a process that would seem more likely to take minutes than months.

McKenna, a 35-year-old African American, had been handcuffed before she was shot the first time by the jail guard, who then saw fit to shoot her three more times. Four 50,000-volt jolts were administered from the taser's drive-stun mode. The identities of the six jail guards involved in the incident have not been made

public, nor a video of the incident that was recorded by jail personnel.

The question is: "Where is Raymond Morrogh?" — the Fairfax County Commonwealth's Attorney. It is his duty and responsibility to investigate such egregious conduct by law enforcement officers and if criminal charges are applicable. He has not seen fit to investigate the McKenna death so far. How long must we wait for action on this incident?

For Morrogh to remain silent after five months is unacceptable and irresponsible. This would clearly indicate he is not performing his sworn duty and responsibility. This must be considered malfeasance or misconduct by a public official.

The citizens of Fairfax County and the victim's family deserve appropriate and prompt

action by Commonwealth Attorney Morrogh.

**Nicholas R. Beltrante**

Executive Director

Citizens Coalition for

Police Accountability, Inc.

### Violate 5th Amendment?

To the Editor:

I have appreciated the opportunity to share my opinions with Gazette readers in hundreds of letters to the editor. Out of respect for Gazette readers, I make best efforts to ensure that the factual underpinnings of my opinions are accurate, complete and documented. If the Gazette held other frequent contributors to the same standard, perhaps I wouldn't find it necessary to submit so many letters and articles for publication.

This brings me to Martin Tillett's submission published in last week's Gazette concerning "by right" development. Therein, he urges Fairfax County to place restrictions on what can now be developed "by right." A private property owner can build "by right" anything that complies with the current Comprehensive Plan, Zoning Ordinance, Chesapeake Bay Preservation Ordinance, storm water laws and other laws, regulations and ordinances. Any proposed development that doesn't comply with those laws, regulations and ordinances will require a variance, special exception, special permit and/or other approval(s), triggering public hearings before the Board of Zoning Appeals (BZA), Planning Commission and/or Board of Supervisors, as well as the need to negotiate proffers.

The Board of Supervisors proceeds with extreme care when it proposes introducing new restrictions on "by right" development. The reason is quite simple: the 5th Amendment to the Constitution forbids taking private property for public use "without just compensation." When a governmental entity restricts the use of private property, this can comprise such a "taking." Mr. Tillett decries the development of a Wal-Mart by right on the Kings Crossing property, noting that the property owner was not required to enhance the existing storm water controls and suggesting such a requirement should have been imposed. He correctly

SEE LETTERS, PAGE 15



**Rowing for Loyola** Lillian Lane, a 2015 West Potomac High School graduate, committed to row for the Loyola University Maryland crew team next year. One of her coaches there will be Mount Vernon High School alum, Greg Muir. Lane started her rowing career as a freshman at West Potomac and has excelled, going to nationals her sophomore and junior years. She served as the women's captain and has received academic letters each year. Additionally, Lane rowed with Old Dominion Boat Club in Alexandria during the summer and fall seasons, winning several local and national races. Lane received a Presidential Scholarship for her academic achievements. From left are (front row) Debra Lane (mother), Lilly Lane, Bryan Lane (father), (second row) Coach Leslie Shinnars, Rae Eaton (grandmother), Celia Lane (sister), Coach Alan Weatherley, and DSA Aaron Helmick.

PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

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## OPINION

# By Right Development

**Time to reconsider public policy in the area of land use controls.**

BY MARTIN TILLET

**O**ur system of federal, state and local governance all have roles in providing public services for the citizenry. An 1886 court ruling in Iowa created limited county governmental powers. Judge Dillon, a writer on the subject of local governmental operations, distrusted local government due to the power and corruption of political “machines.” The relationship between local autonomy and state supremacy was more clearly defined by this ruling, which has become known as the Dillon Rule. His ruling gave local government only those powers that were specifically given to them by the state constitution or legislative statute. If there were any uncertainty of who had power or jurisdiction, it would be given to the state government and resolved in the judiciary.

Fairfax County operates under the urban county executive form of government and like other Virginia local governments, our county has limited powers.

The Virginia Supreme Court and other Virginia courts apply the Dillon Rule to determine whether or not a local government has the legal authority to undertake a disputed action. Well-established county functions, like planning, zoning, and taxation have a number of statutes that give the county clear direction and authority to act, but in newer areas of concern governing land use such as storm water management and pollution controls in our local watersheds, the Dillon Rule is a constraint to innovative government responses concerning by right development not making public service improvements that can impact the Chesapeake Bay. Fairfax County has limited powers in areas and cannot take certain actions without appropriate action from the state.

Local and state elected officials need to take a comprehensive look at the powers granted to localities to regulate land development and its effects on public service improvements many of which directly impact the Bay and its tributaries. They should reconsider the extent of public policy in the area of land use controls where local government discretion should be broadened not limited.

While Virginia has historically considered land use a local issue, there are significantly limited local controls on by right development to projects that are permitted under their current zoning and do not require any legislative action by the Board of Supervisors or the Board of Zoning Appeals. These administratively approved by right devel-

opments do not require public hearings thereby limiting measures to develop an adequate response to the pressures and costs to the environment under this form of development process.

Does eliminating loopholes that permit developers to keep in place outdated services that pollutes the environment add a financial burden that removes incentives to redevelop within Commercial Revitalization Districts (CRD's) such as Richmond Highway?

One option would be for the county to partner with developers in CRD's and share the burden of costs to upgrade public services to current standards. The Fairfax County Department of Public Works and Environmental Services (DPWES) can only do watershed restoration projects on public land such as county parkland, school properties and other county owned land. They are not permitted to do projects on private land.

In areas undergoing redevelopment like Tysons Corner, the majority of the land use decisions are undergoing public hearings and developers are required and willing to include public service upgrades as development in this area is very profitable and adds to the attractive features that citizens desire in their communities.

The developer builds the upgraded storm water infrastructure later maintained by DPWES and creates open space for park and recreation amenities that are transferred to the Fairfax County Park Authority (FCPA).

One developer in the Richmond Highway CRD proposing a residential project next to Spring Bank argues that his company is making a hundred million dollar investment in this community and that Fairfax County should redirect the enormous impact fees collected from their project straight back into the area they are redeveloping to pay for the community serving infrastructure rather than try and proffer these upgrades as part of the plan approval process. At present, impact fees go into a general fund where there is no vehicle to earmark such fees to be reinvested in the CRD districts where they originate to fix inadequate public service infrastructure.

Clearly, there is a disparity in the public serving infrastructure between designated CRD areas of the county and those areas like Tysons.

I desire to hear candidates for county and state offices during this election season state their ideas and what they will do as representatives of the people to change a dynamic resulting in some areas of the county gaining public services while other areas remain lacking and unable to attain the same level of public services during their redevelopment.

*The author is a Mount Vernon resident since 1981. A retired science educator from Prince George's County Public Schools, he taught K-12 science at the Howard B. Owens Science Center in Greenbelt, Md., as well as community college, university and adult education classes in natural history, physical geology, ecology and environmental science.*



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# PET GAZETTE



Derby is a 5-year-old (black/white) poodle-mix adopted July 2013 from Caring Hearts Rescue in Springfield. He loves meeting people, dogs and playing ball with anyone who will throw his ball. Derby and Mom (Alberta White) vacationed in Ocean City, Md. in April 2015. Derby enjoyed strolling along the boardwalk and eating Thrashers fries during rest breaks. He got lots of compliments from people, sniffs and kisses from other dogs, and some human hugs too. Derby is relaxing with doggie treat at condo, after returning from Ocean City boardwalk.

— ALBERTA WHITE



TopCat and Aramis are bonded stepbrothers in a foster home. Two-year-old TopCat belongs to Animal Allies, and ran away from a troubled home. Aramis is from Washington Humane Society, and was found at 1-day-old without his mom. Their hobbies include chasing each other around their kitty condo, string tug-o-war, being scratched on their shoulders, and eating.

— WENDY KILPATRICK

## Ready for Adoption



PHOTO BY SHELLEY CASTLE PHOTOGRAPHY

Just like the Greek goddess, Athena is strong, courageous, and inspirational. Because Athena has such a big personality (and size) she may not get along well with every dog she meets, but she's more than enough dog for one family. Visit [www.AlexandriaAnimals.org](http://www.AlexandriaAnimals.org).



PHOTO BY ALISON SATINOFF

Dumbledore was found abandoned in a U-Haul truck with seven other cats. After receiving medical attention and plenty of affection, he has blossomed into a wonderful cat who loves to give hugs.

## Summer Tips for Pet Lovers

FROM THE ANIMAL WELFARE LEAGUE OF ALEXANDRIA

❖ Be sure your pets have access to fresh water and shelter from the sun. Fair-skinned dogs or those with light coats and exposed skin should wear sunscreen or be kept inside during peak hours of sun exposure.

❖ Never leave your pet in the car, even for a minute, when temperatures are hot. The inside of a car heats up very quickly and can cause irreversible damage, even death, to the animal in only a few minutes. The Animal Welfare League of Alexandria (AWLA) suggests that before you go out, you check with the shops you plan on visiting to determine if they are dog-friendly. If you do find yourself needing to leave a dog in the car for a few minutes, leave the car running with the air-conditioning on and lock it. (Bring a spare key with you so you are not locked out.) Better yet, leave your dog at home if there is a chance he'd be left in the car. Besides being cruel, leaving a dog inside a car when temperatures are above 70 degrees F is against the law: It is a violation of city law 5-7-58 "Dogs Left in Cars Prohibited." AWLA Animal Services addresses each call received about an animal left inside a vehicle and takes all appropriate actions to ensure the safety of the animals.

### More

The Animal Welfare League of Alexandria, a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization, operates the Vola Lawson Animal Shelter and Animal Services for the City of Alexandria. Residents' financial support is appreciated. Visit at [www.AlexandriaAnimals.org](http://www.AlexandriaAnimals.org).

appropriate actions to ensure the safety of the animals.

❖ Summer is kitten season, and that means a flood of very young kittens at the Vola Lawson Animal Shelter in need of special care. For kittens — and puppies — who are just days old and too young to be put up for adoption, the AWLA often turns to individuals who can take the animals into their homes for a few weeks to help them gain weight and get a healthy start on life. Foster caretakers are needed year round. Besides the youngest creatures, fosterers take in animals with medical conditions, senior animals and those that need a break from the confinement of the shelter. AWLA provides all food, supplies and veterinary care for the fostered animals. Anyone interested in becoming a fosterer should fill out the application on the AWLA website and attend information sessions at the shelter. Go to: [www.AlexandriaAnimals.org/fostering](http://www.AlexandriaAnimals.org/fostering).

❖ This time of year wild animals are having their young and birds are learning to fly. Citizens who encounter baby wild animals should generally leave them alone — chances are their mothers are nearby, likely foraging for food. For example, AWLA recently had a call about a helpless-looking fawn seen in a garden. By morning, the parent had come for the baby. If an animal appears injured or in distress, call the AWLA for help at 703-746-4774.

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--	---

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**Best friends:** Almost-4-year-old Aidan McKay and Vera share some quiet time. Vera, a rescue greyhound from Greyhound Pets of America Northern Virginia, is a happy member of Lee District Supervisor Jeff McKay's family.



This is Cocoa, our Maltipoo and a vital part of the family. In fact, he's in charge and we all know it. A very smart dog, loves catching the frisbee, burying his bone, hanging out watching TV and barking at strangers. Originally, he was named Cocoa Latte because he was going to be one of the dogs that goes to Starbucks with me for a cup of Joe, but he'll have none of that, so now he's The Cokester, Cokemeister, Coaster and My Little Buddy.

— MIKE SALMON

## Humane Society Celebrates 50 Years

By CONNOR ORTMAN  
THE CONNECTION

**T**he highlight of any day is getting an animal adopted," said Gina Lynch, outreach coordinator of the Humane Society of Fairfax County. Luckily, for Lynch, the nonprofit organization has been successfully pairing pets and owners for the past 50 years. "Established in 1965, 2015 will mark 50 great years of providing services to Fairfax," said Lynch, who can barely keep a glowing smile off her face while talking about the animal's lives the Humane Society of Fairfax County has made better.

The group has had such success over the past 50 years by providing extensive care and attention to each animal that it takes in. "We ensure that before we adopt it up, it has all its vaccinations and needed medical care. If an animal comes in with dental problems, we make sure that they are taken care of before he is cleared for adoption," Lynch said.

The Humane Society takes in more animals than just cats and dogs. Bunnies, guinea pigs, and horses are among the many other animals that can be adopted, depending on family circumstance.

The animals that are taken in are treated to a comfortable temporary living situation inside the Humane Society of Fairfax County office building. Instead of being placed in harsh cages, these cats, once cleared of disease and proved healthy, are allowed to roam free inside brightly lit and colorfully painted rooms filled with toys and scratching posts. Each



PHOTO BY CONNOR ORTMAN/THE CONNECTION

**Gina Lynch, outreach coordinator of the Humane Society of Fairfax County, interacts with one of the cats up for adoption.**

room is comprised of anywhere from three to five cats, whom are matched together based on their personality types. Volunteers are invited to come in and play with or read to the cats, helping the animals readjust to human interaction before adoption. When prospective families or individuals come in to interview, the Humane Society goes above and beyond to create a lasting relationship between human and pet. "We really go to extreme measures to make sure that connection is right. It's a very, very extensive interview process, but that's so that we make sure the fit is perfect", says Lynch. "We make sure it's the right fit because it's traumatic for the pet. They have already been given up once, so we really try for the perfect connection. We strive for 100 percent."

The HSFC is always looking for more volunteers to help interact with the animals, and donations are always welcome.

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# ENTERTAINMENT

## LTA Stages Hip-Hop Musical 'In the Heights'

Play, set in Washington Heights, celebrates Hispanic life and heritage.

BY STEVE HIBBARD  
THE GAZETTE

The Little Theatre of Alexandria is staging "In the Heights" from July 25 to Aug. 15. Winner of the 2008 Tony Award for Best Musical, the play tells the story of Washington Heights, a tight-knit New York community where the coffee from the corner bodega is light and sweet, the windows are always open, and the breeze carries the rhythm of three generations of music.

It's a community on the brink of change, full of hopes, dreams, and pressures, where the biggest struggles can be deciding in which traditions you take with you and which ones you leave behind. This modern day musical has salsa, hip hop, and soul in its score.

With music and lyrics by Lin-Manuel Miranda, and a book by Quiara Alegria Hudes, the story is set over the course of three days, involving a cast of characters in the largely Dominican-American neighborhood.

Director Frank D. Shutts II said when he saw the show on Broadway, he called home immediately to say that he had to direct this show for LTA. "It is fresh, something style-wise they haven't seen before, and its impact is stunning," he said.

He said he wanted to share this new type of theater and the incredible people who come "to work and to live" who are not different than us. "We often belittle those who leave their homelands for ours," he said. "Instead we should honor their courage to leave behind all you know so you can better your life and that of your family."

He said finding the Latino cast necessary for this production was a challenge. "We hit all the area colleges promoting auditions," he said. "Luckily the talent came out."

He added: "The show's music is so alive and vibrant; the characters, so memorable. The audience should leave with a smile on their faces, a tune in their toes, and hope in their spirit."

Producer Mary Beth Smith-Toomey, who has produced 16 shows with Shutts, said "In the Heights" tells a beautiful story of blended Latin cultures in Washington

Heights by a very talented and new playwright/composing team. "Frank and I really like to take new works and give our audiences the opportunity to see and experience them first at the Little Theatre of Alexandria," she said.

Christy Fischer plays the role of Nina Rosario, the daughter of Kevin and Camila who own the Rosario's taxi cab service. She said Nina dropped out of Stanford University due to the high cost and feels like she has failed the people in the barrio. "Without her identity as the neighborhood's brightest and biggest success, Nina does not know who she is," she said. "Throughout the show she seeks to find herself and figure out what to do next."

She added: "I hope audiences will leave with the recognition that home is wherever you make it. In this musical we see that home does not have to be physical; home is with the people that love and support you no matter what."

Mary Ayala-Bush plays the role of Abuela Claudia, the "Mother Earth" of the barrio who is always looking out for everyone, either with food or caring for them. "She is the embodiment of the American immigrant story; she came to America with her mother as a child, poor and hungry, no education, and speaking a foreign language (Spanish)," she said. "In spite of this situation, her mantra is Paciencia y Fe (patience and faith), which allows her to cope with all adversity she faces."

She added: "The story of Abuela Claudia mirrors my own family's experience, as both my parents came to New York from Puerto Rico as young adults to work to support their respective families."

She said she hopes, at a deeper level, the audience acknowledges and accepts that all of America is a community of immigrants, unless you are American Indian. "It doesn't matter how long you've been here or what generation you are, we all are the 'masses



Abuela Claudia (Mary Ayala-Bush) shares memories of growing up in Cuba with her neighbor Nina Rosario (Christy Fischer).

PHOTO BY KEITH WATERS

yearning to breathe free."

Matt Stover plays the role of Graffiti Pete, a young man who is all about dance, his boom box, and hitting it off with the ladies. "He enjoys expressing himself through spraying his tag throughout the Bodega," he said. "Although not everyone agrees with his artistic choices, he has his best friend Sonny by his side with much needed positive reinforcement."

He added: "Trying to tap into the cockiness of Graffiti Pete and his 'cool guy' mentality was difficult for me. I'm not the most confident person."

He hopes audiences take away the realization that a different place — a better home — might not be where you think it is. "Home could be right where you are right now, and that's 100 percent OK."

Andres Ponces plays the role of Usnavi De La Vega, a 24-year-old Dominican-American living and working in the Heights. "He loves being at the center of everyone's busy work day hoping that all of his friends and family from the barrio stop by for some of his delicious coffee," he said. "He wishes to see nothing but happiness and success

from those who he cares for and will do anything to give it to them."

As for challenges, he said he had never rapped before this show and wanted to make sure he worked on creating a balance of hip hop and musical theatre that will entice any theater-goer. "Since Usnavi's rap style is heavily influenced by East Coast hip hop, I've been actively listening to Big Pun, Jay-Z, and A\$AP Rocky," he said.

He added: "Representing Latin American culture has never been a priority to Broadway. This show does a glorious job of accurately representing our culture along with the fun and beauty of it. In a world where people are still discriminated by race, gender, sexual preference, and identity, 'In the Heights' shows all audience members that no matter who you are, where you're from, or who you love, you can still belong."

The Little Theatre of Alexandria is staging "In the Heights" from July 25 through Aug. 15. Show times are Wednesdays through Saturdays at 8 p.m., Sunday matinees at 3 p.m. Tickets are \$25 and \$30. The venue is at 600 Wolfe St. Call 703-683-0496 or visit [www.thelittletheatre.com](http://www.thelittletheatre.com).

### 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

**"Borders & Boundaries."** During gallery hours through July 19 at the Target Gallery at the Torpedo Factory, 105 N. Union St. Artists were inspired the "outsider's

perspective" for this exhibit. Free. Visit [www.torpedofactory.org](http://www.torpedofactory.org).

#### "Magical, Mystical Animals."

Through July 27, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. daily at The Potomac Fiber Arts Gallery at the Torpedo Factory, 105 N. Union St. Studio 18. Artists will display art inspired by childhood stories and mythical creatures. Admission is free. Visit [www.potomacfiberartsgallery.com](http://www.potomacfiberartsgallery.com).

**Mt. Vernon Recreation Center Art Class Exhibit.** Through July 28, Monday-Friday 6 a.m.-10 p.m.; Saturday 7 a.m.-10 p.m.; Sunday 7 a.m.-6 p.m. at Saint Elmo's Coffee

Pub, 2300 Mt. Vernon Ave. View drawings and paintings done by the senior art class. Free. Visit [www.stelmoscoffee.pub](http://www.stelmoscoffee.pub).

#### Where's Waldo Scavenger Hunt.

Through Aug. 1, throughout Old Town. Waldo will be hiding out in stores around Alexandria. To participate, pick up a Waldo Passport at the front desk of Hooray for Books!, 1555 King St. Free. Call 703-548-4092.u.

#### Paintings by Stanley Agbontaen.

Through Aug. 28 at The Rachel M. Schlesinger Concert Hall & Arts Center, 4915 E. Campus Drive. The

Maryland-based international artist's depictions of scenes are painted on oil canvas. Free. Visit [www.nvcc.edu/schlesingercenter](http://www.nvcc.edu/schlesingercenter).

#### Journey to Be Free: Alexandria

**Freedmen's Cemetery.** Tuesday-Saturday, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Alexandria Black History Museum, 902 Wythe St. A new exhibit tracing the 150-year history of the long-forgotten Freedmen's Cemetery, its rediscovery and how the new Contrabands and Freedmen's Cemetery Memorial was created at the site. Call 703-746-4356.

#### Their Fates Intertwined: The Lees

#### of Alexandria in the War of 1812.

Wednesday-Saturday, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Sunday, 1-4 p.m. Lee-Fendall House and Gardens, 614 Oronoco St. A new exhibit on the experiences of the Lee family in Alexandria during the War of 1812 examines the contributions of Alexandria's citizens during the conflict that led to the writing of our national anthem through the lives of this iconic Virginia family. Visit [www.leefendallhouse.org](http://www.leefendallhouse.org) or call 703.548.1789.



# ENTERTAINMENT

## JULY 18-27

**“Jon Meadows – A Soldier’s Voice.”** Gallery hours Monday–Saturday, 10 a.m.–6 p.m., Thursday, 10 a.m.–9 p.m., and Sunday, 12–6 p.m. at Torpedo Factory Art Center, 105 N Union St, Studio 12. Veteran Army Staff Sgt. Jon Meadows tells his story, the narrative of his war experience, through visual art. Admission is free. Visit [www.theartleague.com](http://www.theartleague.com) or call 703-683-1780.

## JULY 23-SEPT. 6

**“Fields.”** Gallery hours at The Athenaeum Gallery, 201 Prince St. Abstract Artists David Carlson and Pat Goslee make art based on their interests in spiritual exploration and energy fields. Free. Visit [www.nvfaa.org](http://www.nvfaa.org) for more.

## THURSDAY-SATURDAY/JULY 23-25

**Summer Theatre Program Presents: “Bye Bye Birdie.”** Thursday-Saturday, 7:30 p.m.; Saturday, 2 p.m. at Bishop Ireton High School, 201 Cambridge Road. See a production of the musical theatre classic, “Bye Bye Birdie,” put on by the Summer Theatre Program and directed by Andrew Curtin. Tickets are \$8 for seniors and students, \$10 for adults. Contact Katie Murray at [katiel.murray@gmail.com](mailto:katiel.murray@gmail.com).

## THURSDAY/JULY 23

**Mike Kelly and Friends.** Starting at 4 p.m. at Two Nineteen Restaurant, 219 King St. Live concert. Free. Visit [www.219restaurant.com](http://www.219restaurant.com) to make reservations.

## FRIDAY/JULY 24

**Golf Classic.** All day at Old Hickory Golf Club, 11921 Chanceford Drive, Woodbridge. Alexandria Chamber of Commerce hosts their Annual Golf Classic. Tickets are \$195 per player and \$600 per group. Visit [www.alexchamber.com](http://www.alexchamber.com).

**Beer Barrel Extravaganza.** 6-10 p.m. at the Port City World Headquarters, 3950 Wheeler Ave. Celebrate the opening of the Colossal One barrel aged beer. Small samples of food will be provided. Price to be determined. Register at [www.portcitybrewing.com](http://www.portcitybrewing.com).

**Lisa Lim Band.** Starting at 4 p.m. at Two Nineteen Restaurant, 219 King St. Live concert. Free. Visit [www.219restaurant.com](http://www.219restaurant.com) to make reservations.

**Gin Lane.** 5:30-8:30 p.m. at Gadsby’s Tavern, 134 North Royal St. Chat with the local tavern keeper, try specialty gin cocktails, beer, and wine, and play old-time games. Must be 21 and over. Tickets are \$10. Purchase at [www.shop.alexandriava.gov](http://www.shop.alexandriava.gov) under the events tab.

**King Street Cats Theater Fundraiser.** 6:30-10:30 p.m. at The Little Theater, 600 Wolfe St. Cocktail reception starts at 6:30, which will be followed by musical “In the Heights.” Tickets are \$40 in advance and \$50 at the door. Visit [www.kingstreetcats.rescuegroups.org](http://www.kingstreetcats.rescuegroups.org).

**A Tribute to Earth Wind and Fire and The Emotions.** 8 p.m. at The Carlyle Club, 2050 Ballenger Ave. The Brencore Allstars Band performs hits from Earth Wind and Fire and The Emotions. Tickets start at \$30. There is a \$25 minimum food and beverage purchase required per guest, except for general admission tickets. Visit [www.thecarlyleclub.com](http://www.thecarlyleclub.com).

**Music Performance.** Starts at 8 p.m. at the Athenaeum, 201 Prince St. The Noctonals, a vocal ensemble, will be

performing. Tickets are \$10. Visit [www.nvfaa.org/events-upcoming](http://www.nvfaa.org/events-upcoming).

## JULY 25- AUG. 30

**Leigh Merrill: “Cloud Seeding.”** Gallery hours at Torpedo Factory Art Center, 105 N Union St. Texas-based artist Leigh Merrill shows photography and video in her solo exhibition Cloud Seeding. Merrill’s work examines the construction of desire, fiction and beauty in urban landscapes by digitally compositing thousands of images and videos into imaginary spaces. Admission is free. Visit [www.torpedofactory.org](http://www.torpedofactory.org).

## SATURDAY/JULY 25

**Bike Clinic.** 9 a.m.-12 p.m. at Market Square, 301 King St. VeloCity hosts a bike clinic. Bring your bike to participate. Free. Call 703-746-3200.

## Holmes Run Trail Ride Along.

10 a.m. at Cameron Run Regional Park, 4001 Eisenhower Ave. Take a family friendly, four mile bike ride. Contact Natasha Anderson at [natasha.anderson@gmail.com](mailto:natasha.anderson@gmail.com).

**Friendship Firehouse Museum Tour.** 11 a.m.-12 p.m. at Friendship Firehouse Museum, 107 S Alfred St. Learn about the lives of firefighters. Tour is for ages 10 and up. Tickets are \$5 for adults, \$4 for ages 10-17. Visit [www.friendshipfirehouse.net](http://www.friendshipfirehouse.net) or call 703-746-4994.

**Bike For Good.** 11:45 a.m.-1 p.m. at Market Square, 301 King St. Bring a bike out to the market to take part in the bike for good event. Directly following bike clinic which starts at 9 a.m. Free. Call 703-746-3226.

**Mudlark.** 4 p.m. at Two Nineteen Restaurant, 219 King St. Live concert. Free. Visit [www.219restaurant.com](http://www.219restaurant.com) to make reservations.

**Exhibit Opening Reception.** 6-8 p.m. at Rachel M. Schlesinger Concert Hall & Arts Center, 3001 N. Beauregard St. Celebrate the launch of new exhibit featuring Stanley Agbontaen’s oil paintings. Free. Visit [www.schlesingercenter.com](http://www.schlesingercenter.com).

**Red, White & Beagle.** 6-10 p.m. at River Farm, 7931 E. Boulevard Drive. The Beagle Freedom Project will present their fundraiser. Find dinner, music and the “DC7” Beagles. General admission is \$150, VIP tickets are \$200. Visit [www.redwhiteandbeagle.com](http://www.redwhiteandbeagle.com).

**Album Release Party.** 7:30 p.m. at The Birchmere, 3701 Mt. Vernon Ave. The Bumper Jacksons celebrate the release of “Too Big World.” Tickets \$20. Visit [www.birchmere.com](http://www.birchmere.com).

**Vintage #18.** 8 p.m. at The Carlyle Club, 2050 Ballenger Ave. The high energy soul and blues band performs live. Tickets start at \$20. There is a \$25 minimum food and beverage purchase required per guest, except for general admission tickets. Visit [www.thecarlyleclub.com](http://www.thecarlyleclub.com).



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

**Balalaika musician Peter Omelchenko will perform 7 p.m. at the Lyceum, 201 S Washington St., accompanied by pianist Jonathan Laird. The Balalaika is a Russian stringed instrument with a high pitch. Tickets are \$20 in advance and \$25 at the door. Visit [www.balalaika.org](http://www.balalaika.org).**

## SUNDAY/JULY 26

**“Fields” Opening Reception.** 4-6 p.m. at The Athenaeum, 201 Prince St. David Carlson and Pat Goslee celebrate the launch of their new exhibit, “Fields.” Free. Visit [www.nvfaa.org](http://www.nvfaa.org) for more.

**Along for the Ride.** 4 p.m. at Two Nineteen Restaurant, 219 King St. Live concert. Free. Visit [www.219restaurant.com](http://www.219restaurant.com) to make reservations.

**Big Bad Voodoo Daddy.** 7:30 p.m. at The Birchmere Music Hall, 3701 Mount Vernon Ave. Formed in Los Angeles, Big Bad Voodoo Daddy perform jazz at the Birchmere. Tickets start at \$39.50. Visit [www.birchmere.com/calendar](http://www.birchmere.com/calendar) for more.

## MONDAY/JULY 27

**Capital Blues Ensemble.** Starting at 4 p.m. at Two Nineteen Restaurant, 219 King St. Live concert. Free. Visit [www.219restaurant.com](http://www.219restaurant.com) to make reservations.

**Water as a Sacred and Secular Source in Antiquity.** 7 p.m. at the Athenaeum, 201 Prince St. Come learn how ancient Europe viewed bodies of water, from the sites of violent sacrifices to a source of power for highly effective factories. Children are welcome. Free admission. Visit [www.nvfaa.org](http://www.nvfaa.org).

## TUESDAY/JULY 28

**The Crawstickers.** 4 p.m. at Two Nineteen Restaurant, 219 King St. Live concert. Free. Visit [www.219restaurant.com](http://www.219restaurant.com).

## WEDNESDAY/JULY 29

**Dead Cat Bounce.** 4 p.m. at Two Nineteen Restaurant, 219 King St.



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# ENTERTAINMENT

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## JULY 28-AUG. 30

### Potomac Fiber Arts Gallery Juried

**Show.** 10 a.m.-5 p.m., 10 a.m.-9 p.m. on the second Thursday of each month. Torpedo Factory Art Center, 105 N Union St. Studio 18. View parade-themed artwork. Admission is free. Visit [www.Potomacfiberartsgallery.com](http://www.Potomacfiberartsgallery.com) or call 717-359-7724.

## MONDAY/ JULY 30

**Mike Kelly and Friends.** 4 p.m. at Two Nineteen Restaurant, 219 King St. Live concert. Free. Visit [www.219restaurant.com](http://www.219restaurant.com).

**Jane Austen Dance Class.** 7:30-9:30 p.m. at Gadsby's Tavern Museum, 134 N Royal St. In preparation for the Jane Austen Ball on Aug. 8, learn 18th-century English country dancing from expert dance instructors. \$12 per class. Visit [www.alexandriava.gov](http://www.alexandriava.gov).

## FRIDAY/JULY 31

**“Science Behind Harry Potter.”** 3-10 p.m. at the Stabler-Leadbeater Apothecary Museum, 107 S Fairfax St. Explore the real world of science and medicine behind J.K. Rowling's series Harry Potter. Admission is \$6 per person. Visit [www.alexandriava.gov](http://www.alexandriava.gov).

**219 All Stars.** 4 p.m. at Two Nineteen Restaurant, 219 King St. Live concert. Free. Visit [www.219restaurant.com](http://www.219restaurant.com).

**Unburied: The Secrets We Keep Closing Reception.** 7-10 p.m. at Convergence, 1801 N Quaker Lane. View a collaborative collective of new talent in the art world. spanning various mediums. Visit [ourconvergence.org](http://ourconvergence.org).

**Phil Perry.** 7:30 p.m. at The Birchmere Music Hall, 3701 Mount Vernon Ave. R&B artist Phil Perry performs live. Tickets start at \$39.50. Visit [www.birchmere.com](http://www.birchmere.com).

**BroadSound.** 8 p.m. at The Carlyle Club, 2050 Ballenger Ave. BroadSound performs '90s hip hop,

soul, rock, and latin music. Tickets start at \$20. There is a \$25 minimum food and beverage purchase required per guest, except for general admission tickets. Visit [www.thecarlyleclub.com](http://www.thecarlyleclub.com).

## SATURDAY/AUG. 1

**Yoga at the Market.** 8:15-9 a.m. at Market Square, 301 King St. Morning Yoga featuring live music by Alex Young. Bring yoga mat and water. Free. Call 703-746-3200.

**Sidewalk Sale.** 9 a.m.-5 p.m. at the Market Square Garage, 108 North Fairfax St. More than 50 shops host promotional events and clearance sales. Free. visit [www.visitalexandriava.com/sidewalksale/](http://www.visitalexandriava.com/sidewalksale/).

**Marty Stuart.** 7:30 p.m. at The Birchmere, 3701 Mt. Vernon Ave. Accompanied by His Fabulous Superlatives and the Christian Lopez Band, Marty Stuart performs Tickets are \$35 on Ticketmaster or at the door. Visit [www.birchmere.com](http://www.birchmere.com).

**Big Bad Juju.** 8 p.m. at The Carlyle Club, 2050 Ballenger Ave. The full nine-piece band performs live. Tickets start at \$15. There is a \$25 minimum food and beverage purchase required per guest, except for general admission tickets. Visit [www.thecarlyleclub.com](http://www.thecarlyleclub.com).

## SATURDAY-SUNDAY/AUG. 1-2

### Brides Against Breast Cancer.

Saturday, 5-9 p.m.; Sunday, 11 a.m.-4 p.m. at Belle Haven Country Club, 6023 Fort Hunt Road. Brides Against Breast Cancer will be hosting a charity bridal event and trunk show as part of their “Nationwide Tour of Gowns.” Dresses will be priced from \$75-1,800. Sign up for the Saturday night V.I.P. event and get first choice of the dresses on sale. Proceeds will fund free programs for those affected by cancer nationwide. Tickets for Saturday V.I.P. event are \$40 for bride + guest; \$25 for each additional guest; Sunday general admission is \$5. Visit [www.bridesagainstreastcancer.org](http://www.bridesagainstreastcancer.org).

## SUNDAY/AUG. 2

**Sidewalk Sale.** 9 a.m.-5 p.m. at the Market Square Garage, 108 North Fairfax St. Over 50 shops will host promotional events and clearance sales. Free. visit [www.visitalexandriava.com/sidewalksale/](http://www.visitalexandriava.com/sidewalksale/).

## MONDAY/AUG. 3-6

**Alexandria Library's Science in the Summer Program.** 10-11 a.m. for rising 2nd and 3rd graders, 12-1 p.m. for rising 4th-6th graders at Alexandria Library, 5005 Duke St. A four-day program with the purpose of educating children about science. Registration is free. Visit [www.alexandria.lib.va.us](http://www.alexandria.lib.va.us).

## MONDAY/AUG. 3

**Jorge Drexler** 7:30 p.m. at The Birchmere Musical Hall, 3701 Mount Vernon Ave. Uruguayan musician Jorge Drexler performs. Tickets are \$35. Call 703-549-7500 or visit [www.birchmere.com](http://www.birchmere.com).

## TUESDAY/AUG. 4

**Tuesday Morning Stroll.** 11 a.m.-12 p.m. at the Simpson Park Gardens, 420 E. Monroe St. Residents are invited to visit the garden, receive free seed packets and have their gardening questions answered by experts. Free. Contact [carol\\_kilroy@comcast.net](mailto:carol_kilroy@comcast.net).

## WEDNESDAY/AUG. 5

**Free Film Series.** 6:30-9 p.m. at Duncan Branch Library, 2501 Commonwealth Ave. See the second feature in the Friends of Duncan Library's free film series, “Screwball Comedies of the 30s and 40.” Visit [www.friendsof duncanlibrary.org](http://www.friendsof duncanlibrary.org) or call 703-746-1705.

**An Evening with Graham Nash.** 7:30 p.m. at The Birchmere Musical Hall, 3701 Mount Vernon Ave., Alexandria. Rock and Roll Hall of Fame inductee Graham Nash performs. Tickets are \$90.50. Visit [www.birchmere.com](http://www.birchmere.com).

**Dry Branch Fire Squad and Lou Reid & Carolina.** 7:30 p.m. at The Birchmere Music Hall, 3701 Mount Vernon Ave. Music by Dry Branch Fire Squad and Lou Reid Carolina. Tickets are \$25. Call 703-549-7500 or visit [www.birchmere.com](http://www.birchmere.com).  
**Dixie Boys Melody Concert.** 7:30 p.m. at Mt. Calvary Community Church, 6731 Beulah St. See the Dixie Boys Melody perform. Free. Visit [www.mountcalvary.cc](http://www.mountcalvary.cc) or call 703-971-0165.

## SATURDAY/AUG. 15

**Marine Chamber Orchestra Concert Series.** 7:30 p.m. at The Schlesinger Center, 4915 East Campus Drive. The United States Marine Chamber Orchestra continues its summer concert series. Free. Visit [www.nvcc.edu/schlesingercenter](http://www.nvcc.edu/schlesingercenter).  
**Tank.** 7:30 p.m. at The Birchmere Music Hall, 3701 Mount Vernon Ave., Alexandria. Come enjoy some R&B and soul from the singer, songwriter and producer Tank.

## THURSDAY/

## AUG. 6

**First Thursday.** 6-9 p.m. along Mt. Vernon Ave., Del Ray. Attend a Music and dance festival on Del Ray's main street. Free. Visit [www.visitdelray.com](http://www.visitdelray.com).

**Kasey Chambers.** 7:30 p.m. at The Birchmere Music Hall, 3701 Mount Vernon Ave., Alexandria. Country and country-pop music from Australian-born artist Kasey Chambers. Tickets are \$35. Call 703-549-7500 or visit [www.birchmere.com](http://www.birchmere.com).

## FRIDAY/AUG. 7

### FLY-Summer Performance.

6 p.m. at the Rachel M. Schlesinger Concert Hall and Arts Center, 4915 East Campus Drive. The Metropolitan School of the Arts will be performing. Admission is free. Call 703-339-0444 or visit [www.metrofinearts.com](http://www.metrofinearts.com).

**“Au Naturel” Exhibit Opening Reception.** 7-9 p.m. at Del Ray Artisans Gallery, 2704 Mt. Vernon Ave. Attend the opening ceremony for the “Au Naturel” exhibit. Admission is free. Visit [www.TheDelrayArtisans.org](http://www.TheDelrayArtisans.org).

**Kim Waters.** 7:30 p.m. at The Birchmere Music Hall, 3701 Mount Vernon Ave., Alexandria. Music by Maryland-born saxophonist and jazz performer Kim Waters. Tickets are \$35. Call 703-549-7500 or visit [www.birchmere.com](http://www.birchmere.com).

**Four Mile Summer Movie Festival.** Movies start at dusk and are shown at the Four Mile Conservatory Building, 4109 Mt. Vernon Ave. National Community Church's Inaugural summer movie festival is co-sponsored by the City of Alexandria. Film schedule is as follows: Friday, Aug. 7, “Mcfarland USA” and Friday, Sept. 11, “Cool Runnings.” Bring a blanket or chair. Free. Visit [www.theaterchurch.com](http://www.theaterchurch.com).

## AUG. 7-30

**“Au Naturel” Exhibit.** First Thursdays, 12-9 p.m., Thursdays, 12-6 p.m., Fridays and Saturdays, 12-9 p.m., Sundays, 12-6 p.m. at Del Ray Artisans Gallery, 2704 Mt. Vernon Ave. View artwork made in the “Au Naturel” or minimalist style. Admission is free. Visit [www.TheDelrayArtisans.org](http://www.TheDelrayArtisans.org).

## FRIDAY-SUNDAY/ AUG. 7-9

**Arts on the Horizon presents: “Space-Bop.”** Friday -10:30 a.m.; Saturday – 10 a.m. and 11:30 a.m.; Sunday – 10:30 a.m. at The Athenaeum, 201 Prince St. Join Arts on the Horizon for a sneak peak of their new show “Space-Bop,” set to open in February 2016. “Space-Bop”



## ‘A Soldier’s Voice’ Extended

Veteran Army Staff Sgt. Jon Meadows suffered a brain injury during his tour in Afghanistan in 2013. Upon returning home to the U.S., Meadows found a creative outlet in the visual arts. His first work was mostly sculptural, but Meadows now works in other media as well. His recent exhibit, “A Soldier's Voice,” at The Art League Gallery, 105 N Union St., Studio 12, originally intended to run until July 24, has been extended to July 27. Gallery hours Monday-Saturday, 10 a.m.-6 p.m., Thursday, 10 a.m.-9 p.m., and Sunday, 12-6 p.m. Visit [www.theartleague.com](http://www.theartleague.com) for more.

takes place under the stars and employs hip-hop artist help tell a story that will help children appreciate the beauty of the night sky. The show is geared towards infants and toddlers. Tickets are \$3. Visit [www.ArtsOnTheHorizon.org](http://www.ArtsOnTheHorizon.org)

## SATURDAY/AUG. 8

**Cooking Event.** 10-11:30 a.m. at Old Town Farmers' Market, Market Square, 301 King St. Sample food from Chef Antonio Carluccio, from Carluccio's Restaurant. Free. Visit [www.alexandriava.gov](http://www.alexandriava.gov).

**Canine Cruise.** 11 a.m. at Alexandria City Marina, 1 Cameron St. The family dog is welcome to join in on an hour-long cruise through the Alexandria Seaport. Tickets are \$16 for adults and \$10 for children. Dogs ride free. Visit [www.potomacriverboatco.com](http://www.potomacriverboatco.com).

**Irish Festival.** 11 a.m.-7:30 p.m. at Waterfront Park. The Ballyshaners of Alexandria will host a full day of Irish music, dance, food and more. Visit [www.ballyshaners.org/festival](http://www.ballyshaners.org/festival).

**One Love Festival.** 12-6 p.m. at Braddock Road Field, 400-594 E Braddock Road. This event is held in honor of Lenny Harris. Performers and vendors will be on site. Free. Visit [www.actionalexandria.org](http://www.actionalexandria.org).  
**Jane Austen Ball.** 8 p.m. at Gadsby's Tavern Museum, 134 N Royal St. Listen to live period music and watch or perform a variety of English Country dances. Tickets are \$45 Visit [www.alexandriava.gov/GadsbysTavern](http://www.alexandriava.gov/GadsbysTavern) or call 703-746-4242 for more.

## SUNDAY/AUG. 9

**Performance by Peter Omelchenko.** 7 p.m. at the Lyceum, 201 S Washington St. See Peter Omelchenko perform, accompanied by pianist Jonathan Laird. Tickets are \$20 in advance and \$25 at the door. Visit [www.balalaika.org](http://www.balalaika.org).



## ‘Au Naturel’ Explores the Exposed

The “Au Naturel” exhibit at Del Ray Artisans will display art that seeks to reinterpret the nude or naked with objects or materials that in some sense of the word have been “exposed.” The exhibit will run Aug. 7-30 at 2704 Mount Vernon Ave. Admission is free. Visit [www.thedelrayartisans.org](http://www.thedelrayartisans.org) for more.



# UCM Presents Valencourt Scholarships

United Community Ministries (UCM) has presented its Valencourt Scholarship Fund awards for 2015. Thanks to a bequest from her estate in 2014, UCM's Lois Valencourt Scholarship Fund enables students who have graduated from high schools in the Mount Vernon area to pursue training and career advancement after high school graduation.

Graduating seniors, as well as recent graduates from the previous three years, at Bryant Alternative High School, Mount Vernon High School, and West Potomac High School are eligible to apply for these scholarships. The four Valencourt Fund Scholarship awardees for 2015 are:

❖ **Renas Emmad** is a graduating senior at Bryant Alternative High School. She plans to study art and medicine at Northern Virginia Community College.

❖ **Lesly Maldonado** is a graduating senior at West Potomac High School. She plans to attend Northern Virginia Community College. Her passion for working with children and babies led her to choose Neonatal Nursing as a career.

❖ **Israel Archila** is a graduating senior at Bryant Alternative High School and is



At the recent ceremony to announce UCM's 2015 Lois Valencourt Scholarship Fund awardees are: (from left) Nichelle A. Mitchem, UCM Executive Director, and awardees Tatiana Robles (West Potomac High 2015), Israel Archila (Bryant Alternative High 2015), Lesly Maldonado (West Potomac High 2015), and Renas Emmad (Bryant Alternative High 2015).

currently enrolled at Northern Virginia Community College.

❖ **Tatiana Robles** is a graduating senior at West Potomac High School. She plans to pursue a career in Public Relations and Communications at Northern Virginia Community College, with hopes to work in

the entertainment industry.

The next application period for the Valencourt Scholarship Fund will be in Spring 2016. For more information, contact Evin McFadden, UCM Manager of Education Initiatives, at [evin.mcfadden@ucmagency.org](mailto:evin.mcfadden@ucmagency.org).

PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

FROM PAGE 8

points out that rainwater draining from the property has severely eroded and polluted Quander Brook in the Fairchild property, a property donated by the Fairchild family with the intent of creating a park.

What Mr. Tillett neglects to state is that the developer who wanted to develop the Kings Crossing Town Center had proffered to fully upgrade the storm water controls on its property and spend up to \$500,000 to restore Quander Brook. When the unreasonable demands of Mr. Tillett and others caused inordinate delays in commencement of the town center project, the downturn in the economy caused the developer to pull out. With their departure went the storm water controls and stream restoration paid for by the developer. The very next month, Mr. Tillett asked the MVCCA to pass a resolution in which the Board of Supervisors (translated: taxpayers) was asked to fund what the developer had proffered. In the height of chutzpah, the MVCCA dutifully complied.

When Supervisor Hyland got wind of the proposal to develop a Wal-Mart store on the property, he tried to stop it by convincing the Board of Supervisors to pass a "big box" ordinance requiring property owners to obtain a special exception for any big box store greater than 80,000 square feet in size. The ordinance surprisingly passed the County Attorney's 5th Amendment analysis. That ordinance is why the Wal-Mart store subtends 79,000 square feet.

Mr. Tillett also criticizes the Dillon Rule which restricts localities from enacting laws not expressly authorized by the state legislature. Thank heaven localities are protected by the Dillon Rule from the Martin Tilletts of our Commonwealth. Maryland has no Dillon Rule and every time a county border is crossed, many laws change. The uniformity of laws, county by county, is a blessing. Contrary to Mr. Tillett's assertion, it is not "police power" that localities employ to regulate development activities. Rather, it is enactment and enforcement of local laws, regulations and ordinances as authorized by the state legislature. Elections have consequences. This is one of them.

Mr. Tillett is suffering from the fruits of his own activism. If he and his neighbors and others had not interposed delays in the development process for Kings Crossing through their unreasonable demands, today we would be enjoying a jewel of a town center, Quander Brook would be restored and the community would be recreating at Fairchild Park. Instead, we have a Wal-Mart, an eroded polluted Quander Brook and little hope that the Fairchild property will ever be a park. Moreover, the value of properties in Mr. Tillett's community would likely be enhanced. Perhaps Mr. Tillett should consider more carefully the possible ramifications of his actions before asserting them.

**H. Jay Spiegel**

Mount Vernon

The author has lived in the Mount Vernon District and has owned property there for over 30 years. He holds a Bachelor of Science degree from the Cornell University College of Engineering and a law degree from George Mason University. He was formerly a member of the MVCCA's Environment & Recreation committee and is a past chairman of its Planning & Zoning Committee. He represented the Mount Vernon District on the APR Task Force for BRAC and was a vice-chairman of the land use committee of the 2009 Visioning Task Force.

# Students Receive Battelle-UCM Scholarships

United Community Ministries (UCM) and Battelle awarded their Battelle-UCM Scholars for 2015. Funded by a grant from Battelle, the competitive college scholarships are designed to encourage graduating high school seniors at Mount Vernon and West Potomac High Schools to pursue college studies in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math).

Two students at West Potomac High School were each awarded a scholarship of several thousand dollars at the school's Convocation Ceremony on June 17:

❖ **Dana Briosos**: Notre Dame College, with plans to study psychology.

❖ **Jennifer Jimenez**: Virginia Commonwealth University, with plans to study biology.

On June 18, four students at Mount Vernon High School were each awarded a scholarship of several thousand dollars at the school's Senior Awards and Interna-



UCM Executive Director Nichelle A. Mitchem (far left) and Meg Silva (far right) of Battelle present Battelle-UCM Scholarship awards at West Potomac High School to Jennifer Jimenez (left) and Dana Briosos (right).

tional Baccalaureate Recognition Ceremony:

❖ **Derrick Adjei**: Virginia Commonwealth University, with plans to study computer science on a pre-medical track.

❖ **Mohammed Ali**: Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University.

❖ **Kwasi Darkwah**: Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, with plans to study computer science.

❖ **Agabus Okyere**: Virginia Commonwealth University.

The scholarship program encourages youth to attain higher education, with a focus on STEM studies and its potential for future employment success.

UCM also brings additional resources, such as employment preparation and placement, to the graduates as they move forward in higher education and in seeking employment.

PHOTOS CONTRIBUTED



Battelle's Meg Silva (far right) awards Battelle-UCM Scholarships at Mount Vernon High School to (in alphabetical order) to Derrick Adjei, Mohammed Ali, Kwasi Darkwah, and Agabus Okyere.



# Fort Hunt Team Brings Home District Championship

11 years since the last district title for this age group.

BY JOSH BELANGER  
THE GAZETTE

It's two hours before the District 9 Championship game and Head Coach Terry Trenchard is going for a swim. Overheated and sweaty from throwing batting practice to his 10-year-old Fort Hunt all-star team in the July heat, Trenchard takes a dip to cool off before the big game. It is a pregame ritual he developed coaching his son's all-star team in 2004, the last time a Fort Hunt All-Star team won the district championship for this age group.

Now in 2015, Trenchard has a new group of 10-year-olds, who have steamrolled themselves through the District 9 Little League Baseball Championship and will now travel to Newport News to compete in the state tournament.

The state tournament bid comes after a dominating performance in the district tournament where Fort Hunt outscored their opponents 74-7, concluding with a 7-2 victory against West Springfield National Little League in the championship game on July 10. Fort Hunt showed a rare combination of powerful offense, strong defense and lights out pitching in the tournament. However even after their dominating offensive performance in the district tournament, Trenchard believes the team's strength is its defense.

"All the other coaches said we had the best defense they had ever seen," said Trenchard. "Our team is full of good athletes who have high baseball I.Q. and everyone knows their role."

Trenchard emphasized the way they practice allows them to be best prepared for games.

"There are a lot of repetitions in practice. We work on every scenario so there is no surprises when the games come."

In the championship game Fort Hunt was ready to play from the first pitch — literally as the first six batters all made contact on the first pitch they saw. Jake Gupton,



PHOTO BY DIANA CIAMMARCO

**District 9 champions: Head Coach Terry Trenchard's 10-year-olds Fort Hunt all-star team.**

the team's leading hitter in the tournament, batting a .636, started things off with a single and on a heads-up move, advanced to second on a bad throw back into the in-

field. Kyle Pilc followed him with a single of his own, putting runners on the corners. Gupton would later come around to score

SEE ALL-STARS, PAGE 17



**Mount Vernon Magic Elite members from left: (front) Kara Hoisington; Shi-Anne Campbell; Erin Rockwell; Raven Williams; Briana Harbison; Molly Jeffers; AJ Martin; (back row) Alyssa Dinkins; Emma Klein; Maddy Payne; Sarah Sotelo; Clara Boggs; Stormy Zyzyk; and head coach Karen Walker. Not in photo: Olivia Manous; Madison Nowland; coach Mitch Rockwell; coach Juan Gonzalez; and coach Guy DeZarn.**



PHOTOS CONTRIBUTED

On July 19 the Mount Vernon Magic Travel Softball Organization held its annual "Senior Night" at which the graduating seniors on the 18U Magic Elite squad were honored. This year the 18U Magic Elite is graduating seven seniors. Six of the college bound Magic players will play softball at their respective colleges and one will be on her college cheer team. The honorees are pictured in the front row (from left) with their parents standing behind them: Shi-Anne Campbell (North Carolina A&T softball); Olivia Manous (Stevenson University cheer team); Madison Nowland (Robert Morris University softball); Kara Hoisington (Christopher Newport University softball); Sarah Sotelo (Juniata College softball); Maddy Payne (Radford University softball); and Stormy Zyzyk (Towson University softball).

## Mount Vernon Magic 18U Elite To Play at USSSA World Series

Anyone who has seen the 18U Mount Vernon Magic Elite play of late can attest to the fact that the team is playing outstanding softball. This is evidenced not only by their performance on the field, but also their USSSA in class rankings in both USSSA points and USSSA power rankings.

After this weekend's play, the 18U Elite rose to the No. 2 spot in USSSA points

rankings in the Commonwealth of Virginia and sits at the No. 3 spot in USSSA Power Rankings in Virginia. The team is currently ranked No. 29 in points in their class nationally out of 768 participating USSSA in class teams. Rankings aside, the team continues to improve week by week going into the remainder of their tough summer schedule. At the recent USSSA "Be the Best College Show-

case Tournament" held in Glen Burnie, Md., on July 11-12, the Magic demonstrated again that they can compete with the best teams in the region. In five games, the team lost but a single game and that was by one run. The 18U Elite will finish their summer season at the USSSA World Series National Championship Tournament in Salisbury, Md., which begins July 27. The tournament is open

to teams in the Northeast from Maine to Virginia. The 18U Magic Elite has three players that won MVP honors on their respective high school teams, as well as multiple players that have earned all-conference, all-region, and all-state honors in high school softball this spring. The 18U Magic Elite has six graduating players that have committed to play college softball next year.



## SPORTS

# All-Stars

FROM PAGE 16

on a fielder's choice to give Fort Hunt the early lead.

In the second, Fort Hunt would rally again, and again it was Gupton who did the damage. With Bennett Zippel and Will Sharp on-base, Gupton crushed a triple in the gap, scoring both Zippel and Sharp. Gupton later scored on Pilc's second hit of the game.

Fort Hunt showed the power in the third when Ryan Conmy crushed his second homerun of the tournament. Conmy was the team's leading run producer, driving in 13 runs throughout the tournament, while scoring 10 runs of his own. After the team scored two more runs on a pass ball and error by West Springfield, Fort Hunt now had a commanding 7-0 lead with their ace, Nathan DeWitte on the mound.

DeWitte cruised through the West Springfield lineup with Fort Hunt making great plays behind him. In the fourth inning, West Springfield got their leadoff batter on-base and seemed to be gaining momentum with the home crowd behind them. With the West Springfield side the loudest all game, Gupton quickly silenced them with a stellar double play. Playing up the middle, Gupton snagged a hot ground ball headed for centerfield, stepped on second and threw a strike to first, ending the West Springfield rally.

Fort Hunt would have to evade one more West Springfield rally in the fifth. With the score now 7-2 and the bases loaded, Conmy came into pitch trying to close to door. Conmy got out of the bases loaded jam with a little help from his defense and in the sixth inning, struck out the side to clinch the title.

The last time Fort Hunt had won at this division these youngsters had yet to be born. In 2004, Trenchard coached a 10-year-old all-star team with his son on it that won the district championship for the first time in Fort Hunt history. Trenchard can't help call attention to the similarities of the two teams.

"We have a special group of athletes just like in 2004," said Trenchard. "We don't have any standout players, everybody can play and knows baseball, which is the way we won [in 2004]. I would say that this team's pitching is deeper."

Fort Hunt will look to continue its dominance into the state tournament. With a team batting average of .423 and a team ERA of 1.29, Fort Hunt will be a force to be reckoned with at states.

"It's going to be tough," said Trenchard. "We're in a tough pool, whoever comes out of our pool will have a great shot to win it all. You need to have a lot of pitching to win and I think we have enough pitching."

### UPDATE

In the state tournament, Fort Hunt finished the top seed in its pool after winning two games and winning the tiebreaker with the least amount of runs allowed. In the first game of the single elimination format, Fort Hunt lost to SYA East Little League and was eliminated from the tournament. Fort Hunt finishes in 8<sup>th</sup> place in the state of Virginia.

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**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.

An expert is someone who knows some of the worst mistakes that can be made in his subject and how to avoid them.  
**-Werner Heisenberg**

**21 Announcements**

**21 Announcements**

**ALEXANDRIA CITY PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS NUMBER 15-06-05**

The Alexandria City School Board dba Alexandria City Public Schools is seeking competitive proposals from qualified Offerors to provide Library Materials and Related Services. Sealed Proposals with the notation RFP# 15-06-05 Library Materials and Related Services will be received in the Central Procurement Office, 1340 Braddock Place, Suite 620, Alexandria, Virginia 22314, on or before 3:00 pm, August 7, 2015. The time of receipt shall be determined by the time clock stamp in the Procurement office. Proposals appropriately received will be opened and the names of the firms responding will be read aloud. RFP documents may be obtained at the above Procurement Office or by calling 703-619-8181, or by downloading the RFP from the ACPS website at <http://www.acps.k12.va.us/financial-services/purchasing/bids.php>

ACPS reserves the right to cancel this RFP and/or reject any or all offers and to waive any informalities in any proposal.

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**21 Announcements**

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**Obituary**

**John Henson**

**Murrells Inlet, SC**

John Henson, age 65, died Monday, July 13, 2015 at his residence.

Born in Prince George County, MD, he was a son of the late William H. and Margaret Kerr Henson. He served in the United States Air Force. Mr. Henson worked for 28 years at AT&T before going to Cisco Systems and finished his career at Juniper. He loved reading while smoking cigars, and watching his boys play baseball.

Survivors include his wife of 37 years, Carol; sons, Matthew John and Ryan Patrick Henson; daughters, Kathryn Marie Henson and Meredith Dawn Robbins; grandchildren, Blair, Baylee, Jade, Brayden, Jamison, and Jaxson; brothers, William Henry III and Steven Robert Henson; sister Marcia Elizabeth Holt and 21 nieces and nephews.

The family will receive friends from 2:00-4:00 PM, Saturday, July 18, 2015 at Goldfinch Funeral Home, Beach Chapel.

In lieu of flowers donations may be made to Father Pat's Kitchen, Precious Blood of Christ, 1633 Waverly Rd., Pawleys Island, SC 29585.

Sign an online guestbook at [www.goldfinchfuneralhome.com](http://www.goldfinchfuneralhome.com).

Goldfinch Funeral Home, Beach Chapel, Murrells Inlet, SC is in charge of the arrangements.

**ALEXANDRIA CITY PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
INVITATION TO BID NUMBER 15-07-01**

The Alexandria City School Board dba Alexandria City Public Schools is seeking competitive bids from qualified Bidders to provide laptop equipment.

Sealed Bids with the notation ITB# 15-07-01 Chromebooks will be received in the Central Procurement Office, 1340 Braddock Place, Suite 620, Alexandria, Virginia 22314, on or before 3:00 pm, July 27, 2015. The time of receipt shall be determined by the time clock stamp in the Procurement office. Bids appropriately received will be opened and the names of the firms responding will be read aloud. Bid documents may be obtained at the above Procurement Office or by calling 703-619-8343, or by downloading the ITB from the ACPS website at <http://www.acps.k12.va.us/financial-services/purchasing/bids.php>

No Bid may be withdrawn for a period of sixty (60) days after the opening of bids except as may be set forth in the ITB.

ACPS reserves the right to cancel this ITB and/or reject any or all bids and to waive any informalities in any bid.

Sharon T. Lewis  
Director of Procurement

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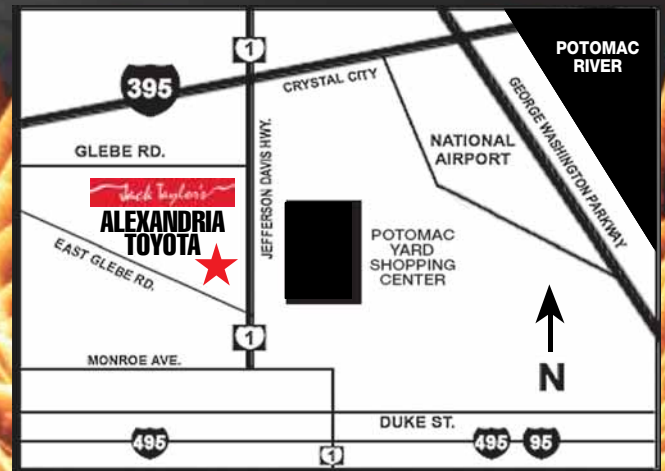
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check all battery cables & connections.

Does not apply to hybrid vehicles.

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TAX AND SHOP SUPPLIES ADDITIONAL.

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**BRAKE SPECIAL**  
**\$99<sup>95</sup>**  
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Includes: Install Genuine Toyota front  
brake pads, inspect front & rear rotors  
& drums, check tire condition and  
inspect all hardware. TCMC pads only.

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**9412 Ferry Landing Ct \$799,500**  
**Beat the Heat in your Own Custom Pool!**  
Uniquely gorgeous property! Custom home in premier setting on quiet cul-de-sac ending at river. Magnificent grounds featuring custom pool, hot tub, expansive decking and large level lawn. Home with numerous features: open floor plan, updated kitchen & baths, fabulous rec room over side load, two car garage. Super value-nothing like it at close to this price! **OPEN SUN 7/26, 1-4! GW Pky S; past Estate; L-Old Mt Vernon Rd; becomes Ferry Landing Rd; L-Ferry Landing Ct.**



**3205 Woodland Lane \$1,550,000**  
**One of a Kind Property—Waterfront!**  
Spacious residence, custom crafted to capitalize on natural beauty of its setting. Soaring cathedral ceilings and expansive glass walls bring light, natural beauty of property and water views to every corner of home. Special features include 3 finished levels, 6 BR including 2 master suites (one on main level), 4 fireplaces, spectacular family room off kitchen, walk-out lower level, fabulous screen porch and open deck. Nearby private boat launch. Magnificent property! Impossible to duplicate! **OPEN SUN 7/26, 1-4! GW Pky S, at Estate 235N; R-Woodland.**



**9408 Brambly Lane \$1,165,000**  
**New Home Feel!**  
Spacious Colonial by Wakefield Homes-the area's leading custom builder! Home has striking open floor plan accentuated by high ceilings and large windows which bring light to every corner of the home. Numerous fabulous features include: 3 luxurious finished levels, open kitchen-family room, spacious master suite and oversize 3 car garage. Deck overlooks private wooded yard. Prime location on quiet cul-de-sac. Impossible to duplicate at close to this price! **OPEN SUN 7/26, 1-4! GW Pky S, past Estate; L-Old Mt Vernon Rd; R-Brambly Ln.**



**8234 West Boulevard Dr \$1,625,000**  
**One of Area's Most Admired Properties!**  
Award winning classic Victorian combines exquisite period detail with dramatic open floor plan. Painstaking attention to detail and its design led to this fabulous home winning the award for being the best custom home in its category for all of Northern VA the year it was built! Loaded with features! 3 car gar.! Screen porch! Walls of windows! Upgraded trim detail! Luxury abounds! **OPEN SUN 7/26, 1-4! GW Pky S; R-Collingwood; immediate R-West Boulevard.**



**6036 Fort Hunt Rd \$799,000**  
**True Belle Haven Gem!**  
Classic Belle Haven Colonial in prime location on gorgeously landscaped grounds overlooking Belle Haven Country Club. Fabulous property carefully updated throughout in a manner which provides a delightful blend of the home's original character with many modern conveniences. Numerous features include 3 finished levels, updated kitchen and baths, hardwood floors, fireplace and garage. Magnificent private grounds with outdoor kitchen and brick patio. A uniquely attractive property!



**8720 Plymouth Road \$1,599,000**  
**Brand New Home!**  
Spectacular Wakefield home loaded with virtually every custom upgrade & amenity in fabulous Plymouth Haven! Three levels of luxury! Fabulous features include striking open floor plan, high ceilings, designer kitchen, luxury baths, hardwood floors, sumptuous master suite, fabulous screen porch and 3 car garage. Prime location on large lot-walk to Waynewood School!



**9312 Heather Glen Dr \$624,900**  
**Classic Colonial-Great Price**  
Classic three level, 4BR Colonial in premier setting at remarkable reasonable price! Spacious home in absolutely pristine condition & offers many special features including 3 finished levels, fab. floor plan, family room with fireplace, eat-in kitchen, spacious master suite & garage pkg. Magnificent grounds with stone walk, patio & gorgeous landscaping. Prime location!



**9315 Ludgate Dr \$1,199,999**  
**Estate Caliber Property-Near River!**

**9100 Old Mt Vernon Rd \$629,900**  
**Wonderful Westgate!**



**9227 Allwood Dr \$548,950**  
**Updated Throughout-Move-In Ready!**



**9357 Mount Vernon Cir \$1,500,000**  
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