

Mount Vernon Gazette

25 CENTS

VOL. XX, No. 13

MOUNT VERNON'S HOMETOWN NEWSPAPER • A CONNECTION PAPER

APRIL 2, 2009



PHOTOS BY LOUISE KRAFFT/GAZETTE

A painted butterfly adorns her face before the hunt.



Anna Katharine Bozard raises the Golden Egg prize for all the little children to see before her dad starts the first hunt.



Easter egg hunters look long and closely at the roped off fields before the hunt is called.

Waynewood Hosts Easter Egg Hunt

The residents of Waynewood held an Easter Egg Hunt in the park surrounding the Swim Club last Saturday morning, March 28. The park was sprinkled with brightly colored plastic eggs and wrapped toys for the neighborhood children. A special area in the tennis court was set aside for children three and under. In each area, a golden egg was hidden among the others. The child who discovered the golden egg would receive a special prize. As the children arrived with their parents and friends, volunteers set up crafts, face painting and a cupcake-decorating table.



Slowly the eggs start to be lifted from the blacktop of the court.

MORE PHOTOS AT WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

Warning Signs

New pedestrian signage could improve pedestrian safety along Richmond Highway.

BY MICHAEL LEE POPE
GAZETTE

According to a recent analysis conducted by the Virginia Department of Transportation, the most dangerous stretch of road along Richmond Highway is a segment between Highland Lane and Buckman Road. Over the last few years, according to the analysis, the area has logged eight pedestrian crash injuries and five pedestrian fatalities. Supervisor Gerry Hyland cited the analysis in a board matter this week calling for construction of an overhead mounted pedestrian warning signs for the area between Highland and Buckman. The overhead signs, scheduled for installation this fall, are slated to have con-

tinuously flashing beacons at unmarked crossings.

"This innovative approach to improve pedestrian safety is new to Fairfax County, and will alert drivers that extra awareness of pedestrians is required," Hyland

SEE SAFETY, PAGE 3

"It's going to be difficult for our businesses to get people into their doors if people can't walk across the street."

— Debi Sandlin,
executive director, Southeast Fairfax Development Corporation

Hyland and Storck Offer Budget Sessions

Supervisor Gerry Hyland (Mt. Vernon District) and School Board Chairman Dan Storck (Mt. Vernon District) will hold two informational meetings about the County Government and Fairfax County Public Schools FY 2010 budget on Wednesday, April 15, at 7 p.m. in the Lorton Station Elementary School cafeteria and on Thursday, April 16, at 7 p.m. in the Whitman Middle School lecture hall.

Budget staff members will present highlights of the budget,

examine budget issues facing the county and the schools, outline the budget process and calendar, and discuss how individual schools and services will be affected. Residents will be able to ask questions and to learn how citizens can affect the budget process.

Lorton Station Elementary School is located at 9238 Lewis Chapel Road in Lorton, and Whitman Middle School is located at 2500 Parkers Lane in Alexandria. For more information, call 571-423-1069.

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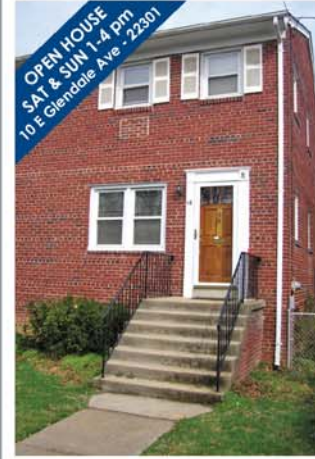
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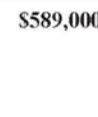
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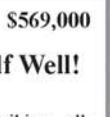
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Residents Evacuated from High-Rise Condo Fire

Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Department units responded to a high-rise structure fire at approximately 2 p.m., Thursday, March 26, at the 16-story condominium, The Montebello, located at 5902 Mount Eagle Drive.

A building security guard called 911 to report fire on the seventh floor of the building. Firefighters encountered heavy smoke in the hallways of the seventh and eighth floors and fire in unit 705. Second and third alarms were struck by the incident commander, bringing more than 90 emergency personnel to the scene. The seventh and eighth floors were evacuated, and several dozen occupants from other floors sheltered in place.

Firefighters brought the fire under control in approximately 15 minutes. Red Cross is assisting the one adult who was displaced. Damage is estimated at \$25,000.

According to fire investigators, the fire was accidental. An unattended candle caused the fire.

Leads Sought in Gun Incident

Police are investigating the report that someone confronted a pizza deliveryman in the 4600 block of Deming Avenue in Alexandria. Shortly before 9 p.m. on Sunday, March 29, a 37-year-old Springfield man parked in the driveway of the home and got out of his car to carry a pizza to the house. A man appeared at the rear of the car, produced a gun and demanded that the victim go with him. The victim ran to the front of the home and knocked on the door. The suspect fled toward Lincolnia Road. There were no injuries.

The suspect was described as a male of unknown race, about 5 feet 5 inches tall, weighing approximately 140 pounds. He was wearing a black ski mask, a black shirt and black pants.

Anyone with information is asked to contact Crime Solvers by phone at 1-866-411-TIPS/8477, e-mail at www.fairfaxcrimesolvers.org or text "TIP187" plus a message to CRIMES/274637 or call Fairfax County Police at 703-691-2131.

Low-cost Rabies Clinic Travels to South County

The Fairfax County Animal Shelter will host a low-cost rabies vaccination clinic for pets on Sunday, April 5, from 2 – 4 p.m. at the Mount Vernon RECenter located at 2017 Belle View Boulevard.

The cost of the rabies vaccine is \$12 per pet and vaccines will be provided for dogs, cats and ferrets. To receive a three-year vaccination, pet owners should bring proof of their pet's current rabies vaccination. All other pets will receive a rabies vaccine valid for one year. No rabies tags will be issued at the clinic; however, 2009 dog licenses will be sold at the clinic for an additional \$10 per dog.

All dogs must be on leashes and cats and ferrets must be in carriers. The reduced-cost rabies clinic is sponsored by the Fairfax County Animal Shelter and Deepwood Veterinary Clinic.

Police Make One Arrest In Alcohol Sales Sting

Officers of the Mount Vernon District Station, with a member of the Traffic Safety Services Unit, conducted business compliance checks Wednesday, March 25 at several locations in the Alexandria and Mount Vernon areas of Fairfax County. This sting is part of the ongoing youth alcohol/business compliance enforcement campaign in which a Fairfax County police cadet, dressed in plain clothes, attempts to purchase alcohol from various locations.

If the sale or service of alcohol transpires, a plain-clothes police officer, along with the assistance of a uniformed officer, will take possession of the alcohol from the cadet and charge the seller with the appropriate violations.

Twenty-four locations were entered with one arrest made for illegal sale of alcohol to a minor; that was at Bottom Dollar, 8750 Richmond Highway. The sting was conducted using one team consisting of one plain-clothed officer, two uniformed officers, and one cadet.



PHOTO BY LOUISE KRAFT/THE GAZETTE

VDOT analysis recommended pedestrian safety signs just before Wyngate Manor townhomes and the Engleside Post Office and in an area just north of the intersection of Richmond Highway and Skyview.

Signs To Aid Pedestrian Safety

FROM PAGE 1

wrote in the March 30 board matter. "The installation of these signs is expected to improve pedestrian safety for those crossing Richmond Highway to access homes, businesses and bus stops."

Funding for the \$235,000 project is expected to come from a state transportation safety fund. Hyland said that if the new warning signs are successful, he hopes continued state funding could be expanded to other locations throughout Fairfax County. Earlier this week, the Board of Supervisors endorsed the installation of the pedestrian warning signage and directed staff to coordinate and expedite permitting and installation of the new signs.

"This is an investment in the continuing improvement to Richmond Highway and demonstrates the partnership between county and state agencies to effectuate positive change," Hyland wrote.

FOR MANY YEARS, Richmond Highway has had a reputation for being hostile to pedestrians. In his document outlining the need for new signage, the supervisor called the road "the number one roadway in Fairfax County." The recent analysis, issued in January, identified that the northbound sign should be located between Highland Lane and Wyngate Manor Court and that the southbound sign should be located between Skyview Drive and Frye Road.

"The combination of housing and commercial developments along this section of Route 1 results in pedestrians crossing without crosswalks," wrote Parsons Brinckerhoff, the VDOT engineer who conducted the analysis.

According to a report by the Washington-based Transportation Research Board's Transit Cooperative Research Program about improving pedestrian safety at non-signalized intersections, the use of beacons that flash when activated are more successful than continuously flashing beacons. Because the beacons do not flash constantly, the study found, motorists can be reasonably sure that a pedestrian is crossing

the street when they see flashing lights. The report also concluded that overhead flashing beacons have the best visibility to motorists.

"Documentation on the successful usage of overhead pedestrian warning signs with continuously flashing beacons at unmarked crossings could not be found," Brinckerhoff wrote in the analysis.

STATE OFFICIALS conducted a field visit to document existing conditions and identify potential conflicts or visibility issues with the proposed signs. Although the officials who conducted the visit did not observe any vertical or horizontal curves that could cause sight distance problems, they did note the existence of several tree branches that might need to be trimmed or removed before the signs are installed.

At the northbound location, the VDOT analysis recommended a new sign be installed just before Wyngate Manor townhomes and the Engleside Post Office. Although the officials did not conduct a "pedestrian-origin" destination analysis in the area, they assumed the residential neighborhood, community center and post office would generate a significant amount of pedestrian traffic.

At the southbound location, an area just north of the intersection of Richmond Highway and Skyview Drive adjacent to a Jiffy Lube was identified as an ideal spot for a new pedestrian safety sign. Although the VDOT officials considered another location adjacent to a nearby Shell Oil property, the analysis determined that the pedestrian warning sign would be more effective at a location further away from the intersection. They also were concerned that a pole at Frye Road would obstruct motorists' view of the proposed warning sign.

"It's going to be difficult for our businesses to get people into their doors if people can't walk across the street," said Debi Sandlin, executive director of the Southeast Fairfax Development Corporation. "If we to encourage people to shop in our stores, it will be critical for us to do everything we can to increase pedestrian safety."

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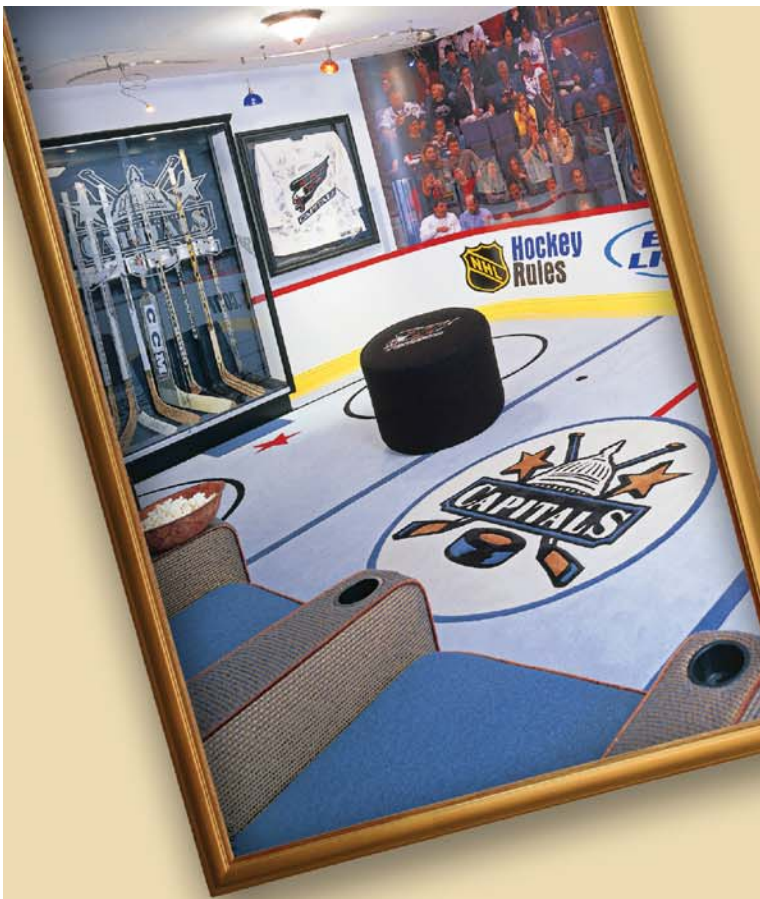
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PHOTOS BY LOUISE KRAFFT/CAZETTE

Nearly 100 children line up on their bikes and scooters to follow the fire engine to the park. The idea was quickly changed and the fire engine followed the children to the park as the police cars took the lead.

Easter Parade in Stratford Landing

Stratford Landing held its annual Easter Parade and Egg Hunt on Saturday morning, March 28. Teen volunteers who helped set up the Easter Egg Hunt in the park included Jack Wilson, Allie and Tess Mackey, Peter Stebbins and Christina Hancock. Kingstowne Regal Theatre donated popcorn. Robert Atanda, a Stratford resident and the head trainer for Stratford Youth Soccer, donated money to help defray the cost of the children's treats.



Juliana, Lilia and Noah are all set for the Easter Egg Hunt following the parade in the park at Stratford Landing.



Brian waits with his scooter on the corner of Camden and Cavendish for the start of the annual Easter Parade last Saturday morning.



The parade begins.



The children watch as the police stop traffic on the intersecting roads.



PHOTO BY ARTURO SORIANO, JR.

This sedan drove through the bedroom wall of an apartment Tuesday, March 31, on Jon Paul Drive. No one was reported injured.

Car's Entry Wakes Family

At about 7 a.m., Tuesday, March 31, the family living at 7262 Jon Paul Dr. was surprised when a two-door sedan crashed through a bedroom wall.

Michael Woods, his sister, niece and grandfather where on the lower level of the garden-style apartment when Woods heard what sounded like a bomb had gone off. He went running to his grandfather's bedroom and found a bed full of bricks and concrete and the front end of a car halfway through the out-

side wall.

Woods' grandfather was taking a shower so he was not in bed at that time.

The accident was attributed to the driver's foot slipping down to the gas pedal until the car's wheels were in the air through the wall.

Woods said Tuesday his family has no place to stay. Anyone willing to help the displaced family can call his cell phone at 716-361-3589.

— ARTURO SORIANO, JR.

MVCCA To Honor Williams and UCM

Virginia Williams and United Community Ministries have been selected by the Mount Vernon Council of Citizens Associations as Citizen and Organization of the Year respectively.

Williams was chosen as Citizen of the Year for her years of service to the Mount Vernon community. After 30 years with the school system, she retired to become a champion of children's needs — writing skills workshops, legislation to improve the quality of education, church workshops, and work with George Mason University. Her civic involvement also includes New Hope Housing, Urban League, Fairfax County Commission for Women, to name a few.

For the past 40 years, United Community Ministries has been providing emergency assistance to the homeless, to victims of domestic violence, and to the physically and mentally challenged in the Mount Vernon area. Their services have expanded to include job training, employment services, leadership development, and childhood programs.

Williams and UCM will be honored at the annual MVCCA Gala, to be held at the Mount Vernon Country Club on May 2, from 6 – 9 p.m. Tickets cost \$40 per person. A reservation form is available at www.mvcca.org, at Supervisor Gerald Hyland's office, and at Lorton, Martha Washington, and Sherwood Hall Libraries.

Golf Scramble To Benefit Grad Party

The Mt. Vernon High School Class of 2010 will be hosting a Golf Scramble on Friday, April 24 to benefit the All-Night Grad Party. All playing levels welcome. Prizes and raffles, including a 2009 GMC Acadia for a Hole-in-One, will be part of the fund-raising event at Fort Belvoir Gunston Golf Course.

Check in at 1 p.m. for a 2 p.m. start. Cost is \$100 per person, which includes 18 holes, golf cart, and dinner. Registration Form can be found at: http://www.fcps.edu/MtVernonHS/announcements/forms/golf_tournament.pdf.



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Great Falls \$875,000
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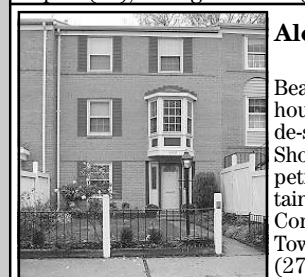
Alex/Riverwood \$775,000
9301 Old Mansion
Stunning Southern Colonial on quiet wooded cul-de-sac backing to historical Mt. Vernon Estate! Coveted waterfront community, Riverwood is bordered by Mt. Vernon Estate, Potomac River & prestigious Washington Woods. Meticulous, single family home offers 4BRs, 2.5BAs, family rm w/FPL off lg eat-in kitchen, spacious 2 car garage & lg bsmt. Just completed –refinishing hwd floors and repainting interior. You won't find a better lot & location. Easy commutes to Ft. Belvoir, Reagan National Airport, D.C. & the Pentagon.



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OPINION



2008 VPA AWARD WINNING PHOTOS BY LOUISE KRAFFT/GAZETTE

Mount Vernon Gazette Wins Awards

The Connection Newspapers and sister papers Alexandria Gazette Packet, Mount Vernon Gazette and Centre View, won more than 40 editorial awards for all aspects of its coverage in 2008.

The awards, including 17 first place awards, were announced at the annual Virginia Press Association editorial conference in Norfolk on Saturday, March 21. Connection writers won in categories including investigative reporting, government writing, education, health, science and environmental writing, public safety writing, features, sports, business and financial writing, and editorial writing. Our papers also won multiple awards for lifestyle/entertainment pages, page design, and photography.

The Alexandria Gazette Packet garnered 16 Virginia Press Awards, including eight first place awards in the 2008 Editorial contest. The awards were announced at the annual Virginia Press Association editorial conference in Norfolk on Saturday, March 21.

Michael Lee Pope won eight awards, including five first place awards in government writing, in-depth or investigative reporting, health, science and environmental writing and education writing.

In awarding one of Pope's first place awards, the judges commented: "You are clearly the class of this division. ... Nice variety, good command of the language and attention to detail."

On Pope's coverage of the ethanol transfer station issue: "This reporter demonstrates te-

The Awards

Here are some of the awards won by the Alexandria Gazette Packet and Mount Vernon Gazette:

- ❖ Michael Lee Pope, First Place, Government Writing
- ❖ Michael Lee Pope, First Place, In-depth or Investigative Reporting
- ❖ Michael Lee Pope, First Place, Health, Science and Environmental Writing
- ❖ Michael Lee Pope, First Place, Education Writing
- ❖ Mark Giannotto, First Place, Sports Writing Portfolio
- ❖ Rebecca Halik, Greg Wyshynski, Louise Krafft, Michael Lee Pope, Mary Anne Weber, Chuck Hagee; First Place, Lifestyle/Entertainment pages, Alexandria Gazette



Mark Giannotto

- Packet
- ❖ Louise Krafft, First Place, Pictorial Photo
- ❖ Louise Krafft, First Place, Picture Story/Essay
- ❖ Julia O'Donoghue, First Place, Mount Vernon Gazette, In-depth or Investigative Reporting
- ❖ Michael Lee Pope, Second Place, Public Safety Writing
- ❖ Michael Lee Pope, Second Place, Feature series or continuing story
- ❖ Louise Krafft, Second Place, General News Photo
- ❖ Louise Krafft, Second Place,



Louise Krafft



Michael Lee Pope

- Feature Photo
- ❖ Louise Krafft, Second Place, Personality or Portrait Photo
- ❖ Louise Krafft, Third Place, General News Photo
- ❖ Kenneth Lourie, Third Place, Column Writing
- ❖ Chuck Hagee, Third Place, Feature Writing Portfolio
- ❖ Rebecca Halik, Louise Krafft, Greg Wyshynski, Mary Anne Weber, Chuck Hagee, Michael Lee Pope, Third Place, Lifestyle/Entertainment pages, Mount Vernon Gazette

nacity in his craft at public service writing."

Mark Giannotto won two first place awards, one in the Alexandria Gazette and one in the Arlington Connection for sports writing portfolio.

The Alexandria Gazette Packet's entertainment pages won first place, with judges commenting: "The Alexandria Gazette Packet's Arts and Entertainment section is delightful. Compact and easy to navigate."

Julia O'Donoghue won first place in depth/

investigative reporting for her three part series on different categories of voters, which appeared in the Mount Vernon Gazette. She also won first place for government writing.

Connection photographer Robbie Hammer won eight awards while Louise Krafft won nine awards in all.

Mirza Kurspahic won first place for general news writing for his coverage of immigration issues in Herndon.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Who Speaks for Mount Vernon?

To the Editor:

Last Wednesday 22 civic association presidents from the Mount Vernon Council of Citizens Associations (MVCCA) presumed to speak for over 115,000 Mount Vernon residents when they voted to support dramatically raising your taxes. The actions taken by 22 association presidents do not truly reflect the will of the

large and diverse population living and working in the Mount Vernon District.

The MVCCA passed three resolutions urging the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors (BOS) to raise every conceivable tax imposed on residents and business owners in our community to fund restoration of proposed cuts in the Fiscal Year 2010 County Budget.

These resolutions request that the BOS reinstate the car sticker tax, raise the real estate tax rate to the maximum amount authorized (\$1.05) from the prior 2009 fiscal year rate

(\$0.92), institute a meals tax on restaurants, raise the business tax rate and "take full advantage of all available revenue sources authorized by the Virginia General Assembly." In other words, raise every tax one can imagine during a severe recession.

We respectfully disagree with the statement that the MVCCA represents the entire community and believe that if residents were aware of the resolutions proposed and passed by the MVCCA last Wednesday, they would be greatly

SEE LETTERS, PAGE 8

Mount Vernon Gazette

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Newspaper of Mount Vernon

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OBITUARIES

Virginia Corey Edgell

Virginia Corey Edgell of Alexandria, died on Sunday, March 29, 2009 at Capital Hospice, Arlington, Va. She was born on June 8, 1930 and is survived by a daughter, Margaret Edgell Core; a son, John Edgell; a son-in-law, Lyndell Core; a daughter-in-law, Bradley Edgell; a granddaughter Eleonore Edgell, and grandsons Michael Edgell, James Core, and Joseph Core.



A memorial service will be held at 10:30 a.m., Friday, April 3, 2009, at Christ Church, 118 N. Washington Street, Alexandria, followed by a reception. In lieu of flowers, the family requests contributions be made in Virginia's name to the Lombardi Comprehensive Cancer Center, Attn: Office of Development, Harris Building, Suite 4000

3300 Whitehaven Street, NW, Washington, DC 20007. The family would like to express their appreciation to the staff at Georgetown Hospital, Alexandria Hospital, and Capital Hospice for the care, compassion and love provided to Virginia in her final days.

Norman Allen Hicks

Retired U.S. Army Col. Norman Allen Hicks, 67, died in the comfort of his family on March 26, at his residence in Wayland, Mass. following a battle with ALS.

Hicks was born in Albany, Calif. on March 23, 1942 the son of the late Norman Guy Hicks and Sylvia Irene (Larson) Hicks.

Hicks is survived by his wife of 46 years, Marilyn J. (Rehman) Hicks of Wayland. He was the father of Susan M. Memoli and her husband Christopher C. Memoli and their children Madeline R. and Nicholas A. Memoli, all of Wayland, and Heather L. DeMasi and her husband Michael T. DeMasi and their children Jessica L. and Miranda G. DeMasi, all of Wayland.

Hicks has resided in Wayland for the past year and a half and previously resided in Springfield. He was a graduate of Warden High School in Washington. He received his B.A. in business administration from Eastern Washington University and his M.B.A. from Indiana University. He graduated from Command and Military Staff College in 1981 and Army War College in 1986. He served with the United States Army during the Vietnam War and retired as the comptroller of the Army Reserves, after a 30-year career as an Army Finance Officer. His military awards include the Vietnam Service Medal, Bronze Star, Meritorious Service Medals and National Defense Service Medals.

Upon his retirement from the United States Army, he was a licensed Fraternal Insurance Counselor (FIC) with Thrivent Financial in Alexandria. He served as the president of the Virginia Fraternal Congress and was awarded the 2007 Richard M. Douglas Memorial Award



Norman Allen Hicks

and Virginia FIC of the Year Award. He was a lay minister at St. John's Lutheran Church in Alexandria, before moving to Wayland. He enjoyed traveling, photography, swimming, running in road races with his daughter Heather and skeet shooting with friends. He was a loving and devoted husband, father and grandfather to his family who were the center of his life.

Funeral services for Hicks took place on Saturday, March 28, at St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church in Sudbury, Mass.

A Memorial Service will take place on May 5, at 7:30 p.m., at St John's Lutheran Church, 5952 Franconia Road, Alexandria. Interment with full military honors will be conducted Wednesday, May 6, at 9 a.m. at Arlington National Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in Hicks' name to the ALS Assoc., 27001 Agoura Road, Suite 250, Calabasas Hills, CA 91301 or online at www.alsa.org/donate.

Arrangements entrusted to the care of the John C. Bryant Funeral Home of Wayland.

Louise Roth terHorst

Louise Roth terHorst died from complications of Alzheimer's disease on Saturday morning, March 21, 2009 at her residence in the Givens Estates retirement community in Asheville, N.C. She was 88.

Born Louise Jeffers Roth on Aug. 24, 1920

SEE OBITUARIES, PAGE 9

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LETTERS

FROM PAGE 6

concerned and would question the proposed tax increases made on their behalf to Supervisor Hyland and the BOS.

It is quite likely you live in a community that has a civic or homeowners' association - 49 associations belong to the MVCCA. The representatives of associations are supposed to vote the will of their community. We are concerned that the current process utilized by the MVCCA provided little to no advance notice to the community at large of the tax related resolutions they passed last week. This should be an issue of concern for all residents of the Mount Vernon district as well as businesses that may be affected. None of us were asked either as residents or business owners to provide input prior to the vote and those few of us attending the meeting did not see the proposed tax increases until three days before the meeting. Without adequate input or notice, how can these resolutions speak for the residents of Mount Vernon District?

The signatories to this letter, at least equal in number to those who voted for the resolutions in question, are all residents of the Mount Vernon District, own small businesses here, are active in civic activities in our community, and we believe that raising people's taxes in a recession is not the right way to pull ourselves out of it. Although painful to some, the only viable solution is to cut the fat out of the budget and perhaps some of the meat as well so that the budget is in balance as required by law.

The "business" of the MVCCA is reported in their "Record" publication. Those wishing to review the Record need merely visit the MVCCA Web site at www.mvcca.org and click on the box for "Record" and then click on the link for "March 2009." Reviewing the Record, one finds the Minutes of the Committees and Resolutions they passed that were on the monthly agenda for vote by the MVCCA Council of Community Association presidents last week. The Record reports that three Resolutions were on that agenda and that no more than 11 people were involved in creating them. These resolutions were all passed last Wednesday by overwhelming votes in favor, at least 90 percent of those present and eligible to vote voting in favor. However, in each case, that vote in favor included no more than 22 voters. Thus, about 30 people in the MVCCA purport to speak for the 115,000-plus people living in the Mount Vernon District.

The resolution of the Education Committee requested more funding than was requested by the Board of Education. All resolutions request raising everyone's taxes, describing these tax increases as "revenue enhancements." One Resolution asks the BOS to raise everyone's taxes to "preserve hope for the future." Increasing taxes in a recession destroys hope. One Resolution refers to the "expressed will of citizens in the budget dialogue process." Recall that those people drafting the Resolutions include no more than 11 people and no more

than 22 voted for them.

Thus, the MVCCA has enacted three resolutions related to the 2010 Fiscal Year County Budget, each of which recommends that the Board of Supervisors maintain, as much as possible, the status quo of budget items while dramatically increasing taxes on county taxpayers, using any conceivable legal means to do so including increasing the business tax, enacting a meals tax, increasing the real estate tax rate to the maximum allowed by law, and using any other means legally defined by the Virginia Legislature. As much as we would like it to be the case, the county cannot be all things to all people. Just like individual families and small businesses in the Mount Vernon District and elsewhere in the county, the

county must also live within its means. Those means have suffered a dramatic reduction as a result of current economic conditions. While people in the county are suffering from one of the most severe recessions in memory, now is not the time to raise people's taxes.

Now is not the time to raise taxes on businesses which will be forced to pass those increased expenses onto the citizens who patronize those businesses. A successful small business is like a family and as owners we care deeply for the welfare of our employees and their families. Many businesses have instituted pay cuts and other measures to keep people employed. Those increased "revenue enhancements" will necessitate lay-offs of employees, exacerbating the economic distress of our district. Those proposed "revenue enhancements" on businesses will cause those businesses to have to rethink their charitable contributions, thereby causing distress for groups and organizations that rely upon charitable contributions to enable them to serve their constituencies.

We are optimistic that the current economic conditions will not be long-lived and prosperity will return to Fairfax County and the Mount Vernon District. While this letter is published too late for people to register for and testify at the Fairfax County Budget Hearings, the hearing record will be maintained open until the Board of Supervisors votes on the Budget on April 25. We urge all citizens concerned about the tax increases supported by the MVCCA on their behalf, to write Supervisor Hyland and Board of Supervisors Chairman Bulova, and share their own view on whether it is appropriate to dramatically raise taxes in this deep recession.

C. S. Taylor Burke, III; Steve Chaconas, National Bass Guide Services; Dr. Tom Cleary, doctor (retired); Scott Crabtree, Pohanka Automotive Group; Rick Dobson, Build with Dobson; Carl Edmunds, Edmunds Nursery; Suzanne D. Floyd, Master Roofing & Siding, Inc.; Michael C. Gailliot, Hilltop Sand and Gravel Co., Inc.; Hilltop Golf Club, Inc.; Louis Genuario, The

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Correction

To the Editor:

The recent article, "Thriving Along Route 1" was an enlightening glimpse on our local businesses. Thank you for letting the community know how local businesses contribute to the quality of life we all enjoy.

Alexandria Chevy is a recent addition to the Richmond Highway business corridor. The owner is Steve Niswander, a prominent local businessman who recently moved the corporate headquarters of Alexandria Buick Pontiac GMC Saturn to the location just outside the Beltway. John Herrity is the director of business development for Alexandria Chevy and sits on the board of directors of the Mount Vernon - Lee Chamber of Commerce, not the owner as report in the article.

We hope the community will support quality businesses with the Chamber of Commerce label. These business owners live here and build the community. Let's support them.

Holly Dougherty
Executive Director
Mount Vernon-Lee
Chamber of Commerce

Protect Charity Deduction

To the Editor:

I don't support the administration's plan to indirectly tax charities by reducing the income tax deduction for charitable giving. This is bad policy that punishes America's charities by taking away desperately needed financial resources in a time of economic uncertainty.

As someone whose life has been touched by cancer, I beg you to reconsider an action that would result in the immediate reduction of services provided by charities to people living with cancer.

Please do not support any effort aimed at reducing the income tax deduction for charitable giving by U.S. taxpayers. To do so would result in a needless increase in suffering by our most vulnerable citizens.

Louise H. Massoud
Alexandria

ENGAGEMENT

O'Hara McQueen, Wilkerson Engaged

The engagement is announced of Miss Christine Kiely O'Hara McQueen, of Alexandria, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Bernard O'Hara and Mr. and Mrs. Randall McQueen, all of Alexandria, to Scott Geter Wilkerson, of Alexandria, son of Mr. and Mrs. T.R. Wilkerson Jr., of Bluffton, formerly of Warner Robins, Ga.

Miss O'Hara McQueen is the granddaughter of the late Mr. and Mrs. Allan Robert O'Brien, Mrs. Thomas Joseph O'Hara and the late Mr. O'Hara, of McLean, and the late Mr. Verden McQueen and Mrs. Frona Cravens McLaughlin.

Mr. Wilkerson is the grandson of Mrs. T. R. Wilkerson and the late Mr. Wilkerson, of Athens, Ga., and the late Mr. and Mrs. Obie Geter, of La Grange, Ga.

Miss O'Hara McQueen is a graduate of Mount Vernon High School and Virginia Tech. She is employed by Airborne Technologies in Arlington.

Mr. Wilkerson is a graduate of Warner Robins High School in Warner Robins, Ga., and served in the United States Air Force for six years. He is employed by the Department of Defense in Arlington.

An April 18, 2009 wedding is planned at Good Shepherd Catholic Church with a reception to follow at George Washington's River Farm in Alexandria. After a honeymoon in Fiji and New Zealand, the couple will reside in Alexandria.

PEOPLE NOTES

The Fairfax County Public Library Board of Trustees will honor 23 volunteers and two community partners at a special awards ceremony at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, April 7 at the George Mason Regional Library, located at 7001 Little River Turnpike in Annandale. The ceremony is in honor of National Volunteer Week April 19-25. Local honorees are: John Marshall Library **Carol Dickerson** for exceptional service; Kingstowne Library **Mary Bogdan** for 1,000 service hours and **Almetha Powell** for 1,000 service hours; Sherwood Regional Library **Emma Montgomery** for 1,000 service hours, **Albert Opp** for 1,000 service hours and **Justin Panuski** for exceptional service.

Lafayette Frederick ('52) of Alexandria, received the Washington State University Alumni Association (WSUAA) Alumni Achievement Award. The award is the highest honor bestowed by the WSUAA and recognizes Frederick for his outstanding teaching, research, mentoring and contributions to the fields of botany and mycology.

OBITUARIES

FROM PAGE 7

to Joseph Nathaniel Roth and May Howell Roth of Germantown, Penn., she was the oldest of four children (siblings Margaret, Charles and John). Louise spent her childhood and early teen years in Arlington Heights, Ill., where her father worked as an engineer for Montgomery Ward. His work took the family to Belding, Mich., where Louise finished high school.

During the Depression era, Louise and her family provided a home for her grandmothers, as well as relatives who had lost jobs.

Louise attended Albion College for one year, and then transferred to Michigan State University (MSU) where she earned a BS in Food Science, completing the last of her classes after her marriage and the birth of her first child in 1948. At MSU she met her future husband, Jerald "Jerry" Franklin terHorst, while both were working for the Michigan State News.

From 1942 to 1944, Louise worked as a reporter at the Grand Rapids Herald in Grand Rapids Mich. She married Jerry on Jan. 20, 1945, while he was on leave from the U.S. Marines Corps during World War II. She subsequently moved to San Diego, Calif., where Jerry was based. The couple moved back to Michigan after the war, where Jerry found work as a Grand Rapids Press reporter.

Louise bore four children between 1948 and 1957, and the family moved frequently in their early years of marriage. When Jerry went to work as a reporter for the Detroit News, the family moved to Lansing, Mich., then to Detroit, and finally to Alexandria, Va. in 1957.

With four children under the age of 10, Louise managed a busy household as well as her children's extracurricular activities. She also became an active

member of the Northern Virginia Democratic Party. Because her husband's career elevated him to the post of White House correspondent, Louise led an active social life among the city's national news reporters, politicians and lobbyists, and the couple received regular invitations to attend functions at the White House during several administrations.

In 1974, Louise returned to work as her husband's assistant when he became a syndicated columnist and public speaker following his resignation as Press Secretary to President Ford.

Louise was a passionate supporter of the local arts, as well as the artists of the Southern Handicrafts Guild Association in the southern Appalachian Mountains. She and Jerry took yearly trips to the south to visit their four children and eight grandchildren, attend craft fairs, and purchase arts and crafts from many up-and-coming artisans.

In November 2006, Louise and Jerry moved to the Givens Estates retirement community Asheville, N.C. Louise was soon diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease, and she lived in the Starnes assisted living unit during the final two years of her life.

Louise is survived by her husband Jerry of 64 years; her sister, Margaret Mirti of Las Vegas, Nev.; her four children, Karen Morris of Decatur, Ga.; Margaret "Peggy" Robinson of Alexandria, Va.; Peter terHorst of Asheville, N.C.; Martha Lubin of St. Petersburg Fla.; and her eight grandchildren.

A memorial service will be held in Alexandria, Va. in June; details will be provided a future date.

Donations in Louise's memory may be sent to: Friends School of Atlanta, 862 Columbia Dr., Decatur, GA 30030; MemoryCare, 100 Far Horizons Ln., Asheville, NC 28803; United Community Ministries, 7511 Fordson Rd., Alexandria, VA 22306.

BULLETIN BOARD

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Watershed Cleanup. 9 a.m.-noon at Four Mile Run Park. Free. Visit www.fergusonfoundation.org or 703-519-3400 ext. 166.

Health Talk. 9 a.m. at Inova Mount Vernon Hospital. Community members who have had a stroke and their family members are welcome to attend this free class. To register to attend, call Inova HealthSource at 703-750-8800.

SUNDAY/APRIL 5

Palm Sunday Event. 4 p.m. at Westminster Presbyterian Alexandria. Hear music and more. Free. Visit www.wpc-alex.org for more.

WEDNESDAY/APRIL 8

Presentation. 7:30 p.m. at First Christian Church, 2723 King St. Learn about the Crisis Intervention Program. Free. 571-451-0773.

SUNDAY/APRIL 12

Sunrise Service. 6:30 a.m. at Riverside Park. Free, refreshments served. Sponsored by Good News Baptist Church. 703-329-2990.

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No 'Doubt' About It

Port City's production of 'Doubt' is superb.

BY BRAD HATHAWAY
GAZETTE

John Patrick Shanley's Pulitzer and Tony Award winning play can be an intriguing, absorbing and satisfying experience, whether performed by world-famous talents on Broadway, regionally known talents in professional theaters or volunteers in a local community theater. Proof of the latter is provided by the new production at The Port City Playhouse which runs at the Lee Center through April 11.

"Doubt, A Parable" is a play that puts many questions before the audience but refuses to provide simple answers. Instead, it leaves them open for discussion and debate after the curtain falls on the ninety minute, one act production. The show may well be brief, but with the fine performances of this four-member cast, the audience leaves with their need for theatrical satisfaction fully met.

The performance of Adriana Hardy is at the center of the piece and she carries the load with grace and intelligence.

She plays a nun who is the principal of a Catholic school in Boston in the early 1960s, a woman who came to the calling late in life after the death of her husband, and thus, a somewhat more worldly woman than some who wear the habit. She develops a suspicion that a young and extremely popular priest in the parish has made inappropriate advances on one of the young boys in the school.

Her sense of duty and responsibility compel her to take some action but she doesn't have proof – only doubt. What should she do? What should the student's teacher, a young sister new to the classroom be ex

SEE DOUBT, PAGE 16



The governors and General Braddock sit around the table discussing funding the invasion.

An Invasion that Failed

British General killed after failing to achieve a stimulus package of colonial money.

BY MICHAEL LEE POPE
GAZETTE

For British General Edward Braddock, invading the French-controlled "Ohio Country" was serious business. It was not something to be hastily thrown together or — even worse — underfunded. So when he arrived in Alexandria to meet with several colonial governors at the Carlyle House in the spring of 1755, the 35-year military veteran argued that the colonists should be charged for the services provided by his army. But the colonial governors hated the idea and vetoed the plan in Carlyle's dining room, insisting that only Parliament could issue taxes.

"I guess we'll never know if Braddock was right," said Jim Bartlinski, director of the Carlyle House Museum. "Maybe the invasion would have been more successful if it had been better funded. It's just one of those things we'll have to wonder about."

After alienating the colonial governors of Virginia, Maryland and Pennsylvania, Braddock met with a delegation of Indian chiefs to explain their historic claims to land in the Ohio Valley were worthless and that the mighty British army had no use for savage. This prompted most of the tribes in the region to side with the French, further contributing to the impending disaster. By the time the general found himself in a pitched battle in modern-day Pittsburg, he had cre-

ated a no-win situation.

"As Braddock saw it, he commanded the largest and best equipped military force ever assembled on the North American continent, making victory inevitable," wrote historian Joseph Ellis in "His Excellency." "In fact, the campaign was doomed from the start."

THE ARGUMENTS THAT unfolded in the dining room of the Carlyle House would have dramatic influence in the events of what is now known as the "French and Indian War" — a misleading name considering the British and the French were the opponents with Indian allies fighting on both sides. Understanding the conflict can be difficult because the complex motives involved from the various participants. But a visit to the Carlyle House on April 14 will bring the arguments of that era into vivid relief.

Since 2005, the museum has been conducting reenactments of the famous meeting John Carlyle referred to as "the Grandest Congress held at my home ever known on this Continent." The event features reenactors in period costume portraying the governors arguing with Braddock about money and strategy. Outside the house, visitors can experience soldiers drilling on the lawn with firearms, rifles and cannon. A number of female "camp followers" will also be on hand.

"There was always a good number of

"Maybe the invasion would have been more successful if it had been better funded. It's just one of those things we'll have to wonder about."

— Jim Bartlinski, director of the Carlyle House Museum

women who followed the men around," said Sarah Coster, curator at the museum. "They did the cooking and the laundry and a number of other chores."

THIS YEAR, unlike previous reenactments, the museum is planning an "after-action report" to conclude the day's events. Unfortunately, it's kind of an anti-climatic ending. After Braddock's men crossed the Monongahela, a force of fewer than 900 French and Indians met them. Braddock was killed when he rode into a friendly fire zone in an attempt to prevent the British regulars from firing at the Virginia militia. The star of the after-action report is sure to be 23-year-old George Washington, who rode into the hail of bullets to stop the British from firing at the Virginians before leading the retreat.

"We're hoping the after-action report will put the whole event in context," said Bartlinski. "It'll certainly make the discussion between Braddock and the governors more poignant."

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open floor plan, 5BR, 3.5BA, updated eat-in kitchen, replacement thermal windows, oversized two car carport and major updated items. Stunning sunroom built in 2006 overlooks landscaped grounds in prime location just off GW Pkwy. Priced \$40,000 below tax assessment!



9304
Allwood Drive
\$698,000
"Green" House!

Expanded and updated, this spectacular home features uniquely bright, open floor

plan, soaring cathedral ceilings and updated kitchen and baths. Expansion was done with carefully selected natural materials to minimize environmental impact. Prime location on large lot in the heart of Mount Vernon's nicest neighborhoods. "One of a kind" home!



4003
Belle Rive Terr
\$4,800,000
Riverfront!

Prime Mt Vernon location with the most breathtaking river views you have ever seen!

Over 11,000 sq ft with five bedrooms including main level river view master suite with enormous luxury bath and huge closets. Extensive balconies, deck and roof deck capitalize on the majestic setting high above the Potomac River.



8304
Riverton Ln
\$825,000
Stunning!

Victorian home combines farm house exterior with stunning open interior. 3 fin

levels, 4BR, 3.5BA, hardwood floors and spectacular kitchen with custom wood cabinets, granite counters & center island. Prime location on quiet cul-de-sac within walking distance to highly regarded Stratford Landing and Sandburg schools.



4307
Sheridan's Point
\$879,000
Georgian Colonial!

Large Price Reduction! Classic updated Colonial in prime Mt

Vernon location. Home has a combination of location, size and features typically only available in \$1,000,000+ homes! Three finished levels, open kitchen/family room, stunning master suite, two bonus rooms on lower level and dramatic sun room overlooking private fenced yard. Just off the GW Pkwy – easy commute to DC!



8826
Camden Street
\$899,500
Gorgeous Setting!

There's nothing like it on the market today – fabulous new

Wakefield Home custom designed for this half acre lot overlooking acres of natural conservation land. Bright and open floor plan, high ceilings, granite countertops and two car garage. Pre-construction sale allows for maximum customization.



Brambly Lane
\$969,900
FREE FINISHED BASEMENT FOR FIRST CONTRACT IN APRIL –\$50,000 VALUE! Pre-construction special makes this

new luxury home available at a price that is simply incomprehensible! Same model sold a few months ago for over \$1,600,000! High ceilings, open floor plan, 4BR, 3.5BA, energy conserving features, oversize garage & more! (Picture of same model for illustration purposes only.)



4203 Adrienne Dr
\$459,000



4212 Dandridge Ter
\$575,000



4300 Neptune Dr
\$425,000



9305 Mt V Circle
\$985,900

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OPEN SUN. 1-4

1111 NEAL DRIVE
Collingwood on the Potomac - \$659,900

Spacious 5lvl split (over 3,000sf) w/5Br/4FBa & a landscaped garden overlooked by a screened porch. Au-pair/in-law suite, rec room & walk-up fin attic. Refinished hwd. Off GW Pkwy & minutes from OT, Ft Belvoir & shopping.

The Kohler Team
Elke 202.967.7633 or Heidi 703.609.7367



OPEN SUN. 1-4

8061 FAIRFAX ROAD
Alexandria - \$1,169,000

MOVE IN READY! One of 4 new homes by GCM Inc in the new Hollin Hall. Stunning light-filled home features large front porch, hardwoods, gourmet kitchen w/Wolf, Sub-Zero, SS appliances, granite, 9" ceiling in w-out base w/eustom gym. Walk to pool, shopping, restaurants.

**Other models & lots available!
AMAZING VALUE, MUST SEE!**

Jill DiPasquale 571.436.8699



6621 WAKEFIELD DRIVE #605
Alexandria / River Towers - \$177,000

LOCATION, LOCATION! Lovely & immaculate 1Br/1Ba apt w/kit & bath upgrades! New lighting, new carpet, new appliances, lg walk-in closet. ALL UTILITIES included in condo fee! Parking, pool, tennis, & more plus mins to shopping, bike path, OT & public transport.

Franki Roberts 703.898.0840



OPEN SUN. 1-4

8015 BAINBRIDGE ROAD
Alexandria - \$419,000

HUGE PRICE REDUCTION on this fabulous new Wakefield Home. Hardwood floors, custom molding, archways, gourmet kitchen, screened porch, many options to personalize and customize your living space.

Mary Rice Prosser 703.625.4461



OPEN SUN. 1-4

1819 DUFFIELD LANE
Alexandria / Belle Haven - \$585,000

BELLE HAVEN ON THE GREEN. Turn key 3 lvl TH w/ garage on prime lot backing to woods. 3-4BR, 3.5BA, open floor plan, new granite & SS, Kit opens to DR & LR w/FP, rec room & spacious tiered patio. Updated thru-out. \$40K in extras NOT INCLUDED in price. Only one light to Old Town & GW Parkway. Owner / Agent.

Francena Alvarez 804.690.1618



3614 OLD VERNON COURT
Alexandria / Mt Vernon - \$999,000

BETTER THAN NEW! Just Listed, over 5,000sf. 6Br/4.5Ba, center hall Colonial built by Wakefield Homes w/hwd, crown, bay & Palladian windows & updated w/granite, custom closets, surround sound, fully fin LL w/2Br, full bath media rm, & SO, SO MUCH MORE!

Ruth Guirard 703.609.3343



7957 BOLLING DRIVE
Wellington - \$1,069,900

CUSTOMED DESIGNED & BUILT! Grand 2 story foyer, 4BR/3.5BA, gourmet kit w/wine cooler, den + office, custom closets. Prof landscaping w/ fenced yd, brick patio. 2 car garage. Walk to the Potomac & bike trails.

www.homesfromanita.com
Anita D'Antonio 202.460.1809



823 EMPRESS COURT
Wayneood - \$699,900

BEAUTIFUL CENTER HALL COLONIAL, hardwood floors, renovated kitchen w/silestone & SS appliances. New windows/siding. Main level family room. Lower level au-pair/in-law suite.

www.WayneoodRealtors.com
Anita D'Antonio 202-460-1809
Elke Kohler 703-967-7633



400 MADISON STREET #2104
Old Town - \$650,000

"MILLION DOLLAR VIEWS" Great panoramic views of DC & the Potomac River are from this 2Br/2Ba condo in sought after Alexandria House. This spacious unit features a wrap around balcony with floor to ceiling windows/doors, ample closets, kitchen with eat-in space and 2 covered parking spaces. For more information call...

Ann Kavaljian 703.626.9171



250 SOUTH REYNOLDS STREET #1411
Alexandria - \$215,000

Pristine condition with dramatic views of the City! Large one-bedroom with reserved parking and storage. Renovated kitchen. Washer/Dryer and lots of closets! Minutes to DC, METRO and Alexandria! To arrange a preview, call...

George Myers 703.585.8301



8015 BAINBRIDGE ROAD
Alexandria - \$419,000

WONDERFUL HOLLIN HALL VILLAGE! 3Br/1Ba Beautifully updated, lots of sun, third bedroom opened up to create larger dining area and great open floor plan. Fresh paint, hardwoods, new deck. Absolutely turn-key ready! Minutes to OT, Ft. Belvoir. Wayneood ES.

Laura Biederman 202.309.1350



8801 THOMAS STOCKTON PARKWAY
Mt Vernon / Alexandria - \$850,000

This beautifully expanded & totally renovated Colonial sits on over 1/3 acre across from Little Hunting Creek. 20x18 MstrBr w/17x11 sitting rm/office w/French doors. Gorgeous eat-in Kit w/granite & SS opens to Family room. DIR: from Alex/OT: S/GW Pkwy, R Stratford, L Camden, L Thomas Stockton

Leah Chapla 703.929.4875



JUST LISTED!

911 DRESDEN COURT
Wayneood - \$649,900

Spacious 2-car garage home with unique two family room additions and huge Florida sunroom. Great cul-de-sac location.

www.WayneoodRealtors.com
Anita D'Antonio 202-460-1809
Elke Kohler 703-967-7633



OPEN SUN. 1-4

8402 FELTON LANE
Collingwood - \$689,900

Renovated 3 level home on quiet street with garage. 4BR, large fenced lot, beautiful deck, gourmet kitchen.

www.WayneoodRealtors.com
Anita D'Antonio 202-460-1809
Elke Kohler 703-967-7633



8315 Mount Vernon Highway
Alexandria - \$1,020,000

Don't miss this pre-construction price on another fabulous Wakefield Home. Other models available. Don't wait, call today and see what your new home can be.

Mary Rice Prosser 703.625.4461



8313 MOUNT VERNON HIGHWAY
Alexandria - \$935,000

Don't miss this pre-construction price on another fabulous Wakefield Home. Other models available. Call soon and see what your new home can be.

Mary Rice Prosser 703.625.4461



18-A EAST MASONIC VIEW AVENUE
Alexandria - \$469,000

ROSE MONT CHARMER! Solid stone front duplex is the perfect home to update to your own taste! Open LR/DR, loads of light, hardwood floors on 2 levels, storm windows plus a large unfinished LL. The pretty rear yard/garden is fenced for pet lovers and you'll love the easy walk to Del Ray shops/restaurants, Old Town & 2 METROS.

Pat Tierney 703.850.5630



1915 DUFFIELD LANE
Alexandria - \$589,900

LUXURY & CONVENIENCE! Light & bright brick garage TH in Belle Haven on the Green, featuring 3 luxurious levels of living space. 3Br/2.5Ba, new gourmet Kit, updated baths. Spa like Mstr bath, hwd flrs, 2FP, private rear patio & more. Enjoy proximity to OT, METRO & Potomac.

Kim Muffler 703.282.7739





RESIDENTIAL BROKERAGE

COLDWELL BANKER RESIDENTIAL BROKERAGE



OPEN SUNDAY 1-4

4500 Neptune Drive
\$550,000 | Yacht Haven
Charming 4 bedroom, 2.5 bath rambler with beautiful hardwood floors, updated doors, bathrooms, kitchen and more! In sought after Yacht Haven; just minutes from Washington, DC, Old Town Alexandria and more. Fully fenced backyard on 1/2 acre lot. See more at www.NeptuneDr.com.

Rachel Carter | 703.851.4207



OPEN SUNDAY 1-4

2410 Brentwood Place
\$559,000 | Alexandria S / Hollin Hills
Modern home with floor to ceiling windows and striking views of the outdoors. Vaulted ceilings, updated kitchen with stainless steel appliances, custom counters, large dining area/family room, updated baths, 3 bedrooms. GW Parkway to Morningside, Right on Davenport, Left on Elba, Right on Brentwood.

Mary Cay Harris | 703.518.2804



JUST LISTED OPEN SUNDAY 1-4

1703 Maple Hill Place
\$899,900 | Alexandria
Just completed total renovation with chef's kitchen, travertine floors, master retreat on main level, open soaring ceilings, 4 bedrooms, 3.5 baths, hobby room, rec room, 2 car garage, private deck & patio Dir: King St Metro, West on King, Left Janneys, Right Francis Hammond to Maple Hill. More photos at www.phyllispatterson.com.

Phyllis Patterson | 703.518.6158



JUST LISTED OPEN SUNDAY 1-4

5685 Tower Hill Circle
\$710,000 | Kingstowne
Gorgeous 5,000 sq ft professionally decorated detached home. 5 bedrooms, office, 4.5 baths, 2 car garage, chef's kitchen with granite, island, breakfast room, family room, recreation room, hardwood floors, fireplace, deck. Dir: 495 to Van Dorn cross Franconia, Left on Tower Hill Circle. More photos at www.phyllispatterson.com.

Phyllis Patterson | 703.518.6158



NEW LISTING OPEN SUNDAY 1-4

170 Martin Lane
\$574,950 | Cameron Station
Light-Filled 4-level end unit townhouse. 3 bedroom, 2.5 bath, master suite floor with luxury bath, sun-filled kitchen with granite & breakfast bar, deck, 1 car garage, carport & driveway. Large windows, high ceilings, gas fireplace. Dir: Duke St W, Left on Cameron Station Blvd, Right on Donovan, Left on Martin Lane.

Greg Doherty | 703.408.5068



JUST LISTED OPEN SUNDAY 1-4

7008 Colgate Drive
\$360,000 | Bucknell Manor
Charming Cape Cod with 3 Bedrooms and 1.5 Baths, 2 levels, hardwood floors, replacement windows throughout, remodeled kitchen and bath. The brick surround fireplace and detached garage are rare finds in this neighborhood. Dir: South on GW Parkway, Right Belle View, Left Fort Hunt Rd, Right Rollins Dr, Right Colgate Dr.

Cindie Fish | 703.201.4451



OPEN SUNDAY 1-4

2121 Jamieson Avenue #1603
\$729,000 | Carlyle Towers Old Town
Bright, sunny 180 degree view from east to west. Two bedrooms with den, 2.5 baths, curved enclosed balcony with custom glass doors and view of Masonic Temple. Customized kitchen with loads of storage. Garage parking, high floor. Photos and information at: www.CarlyleTowers1-1603.com. MLM1606@aol.com

Marie Louise Meyer | 703.836.2080



LARGE, BRIGHT & OPEN!

2151 Jamieson Avenue #606-607
\$825,000 | Carlyle Towers
Large, bright and open. 3 bedrooms, 3 baths, large 38' glass enclosed balcony. Sunny view of fountain park. Wood floors! Large eat in kitchen, expanded master bedroom with extra closet, garage parking. Dir: Duke St to Lion statues on Delaney, Right Jamieson to 2151. Photos and information at: www.CarlyleTowers2-607.com. MLM1606@aol.com

Marie Louise Meyer | 703.836.2080



CONVENIENT TO METRO

2237 Farrington Avenue #201
\$145,000 | Alexandria South
One bedroom condo near Huntington Metro offers great convenience. Condo has washer/dryer in the unit, low condo fee that includes everything except electricity, extra storage and plenty of parking. Farrington Place is close to Old Town, just a short walk to Metro and is convenient to major commuter routes.

Yvonne S. Croft | 703.973.1540



COMING SOON!

2217 Lakeshire Drive
Call for Pricing | Alexandria South
Victorian front porch embraces a slower lifestyle. Flowing rooms with newly refinished hardwood floors, new carpet, granite, stainless steel appliances and many more upgrades complete this home. Featuring 4 bedrooms, 2.5 baths, 3 finished levels and sunlight streaming in.

Bonnie Rivkin | 703.598.7788



OPEN SUNDAY 1-4

409 North Columbus Street
\$775,000 | Old Town
Historic home built in 1890 with 12 foot ceilings, 2 fireplaces, wood floors, 3 bedrooms, 1.5 baths, updated kitchen and fenced-in patio; this brick end townhome has great room sizes and tons of sun! Enjoy a great Old Town location close to shopping, dining and more! www.VirginiaRealEstate4u.com.

Bonnie Rivkin | 703.598.7788



NEW LISTING

2101 Shenandoah Road
\$459,000 | Alexandria
Nestled among mature trees, this 3 bedroom home features neutral colors, an open family room with dramatic cathedral ceiling, beautiful skylights and built in bookcases. Enjoy a large corner lot with a level, fenced yard. Great location for an easy commute to Old Town Alexandria or Washington, DC. MRIS # FX7009455.

Ann Lockwood | 703.299.8643

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PREVIEWS INTERNATIONAL - LUXURY HOMES

Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage is proud to present these luxury listings. With innovative technology, targeted marketing and a strong national presence, we know your neighborhood and reach the world.



OPEN SUNDAY 1-4

5116 Kenwood Drive
\$1,399,000 | Annandale
 Nantucket Estate with wrap porches and cupolas on nearly 1 acre, boasts heated stone floors, see-thru fireplace, copper roof, gourmet kitchen, exercise/media rooms, private patio and deck. Private yard and quiet street. Additional photos at www.phyllispatterson.com. Dir: 495 West, exit on Braddock Road, Left on Kenwood.

Phyllis Patterson | 703.518.6158



RIVER VIEWS

8307 East Boulevard Drive
\$2,100,000 | Alexandria South
 Featured in the Washington Post and on the House and Garden Show. Classic brick Georgian colonial boasts grand room sizes, fine moldings, hardwood floors, two fireplaces, abundant storage, oversized two car garage. Five bedrooms, five full baths, three half baths. Fabulous artist studio, finished basement with huge game room.

Donnan C. Wintermute | 703.518.6156



FRESHLY REFURBISHED

504 Canterbury Lane
\$1,125,000 | Alexandria
 Just repainted and in lovely move-in condition, this stately four bedroom plus three and a half bath brick colonial is available for immediate occupancy. This classic center hall colonial boasts grand room sizes, sparkling hardwoods, three fireplaces, a delightful screened porch, garage plus swimming pool! Reasonably priced at \$1,125,000.

Donnan C. Wintermute | 703.518.6156



CUSTOM HOME WITH A NEW PRICE

Evenstar Lane
\$1,298,000
 Custom built estate on five wooded acres. All brick, 3 car garage, rooms of grand proportion. Over 7,500 square feet, 5/6 bedrooms, 5.5 baths, separate office, sunroom, master bedroom sitting room. Elegant formal curved stairs and back staircase, 10 foot ceilings, 6 fireplaces, built-ins, moldings, lower level au-pair suite!

Sue Dickerson | 703.299.5614



NEW LISTING

2219 Lakeshire Drive
\$974,000 | South Alexandria
 Center Hall Colonial complete with 2 car garage, and great flow for entertaining and today's living. 4 bedrooms, 4.5 baths, numerous upgrades, 3 finished levels, sprinkler system, and so much more. Sunlight streams through every room because of its southern exposure.

Bonnie Rivkin | 703.598.7788



OPEN SUNDAY 2-5

610 S Washington Street
\$1,899,000 | Old Town
 Everything on your wish list! Brick end unit townhouse, two years old. Amazing attention to detail, four finished levels, reclaimed pine wood floors, two car garage, gourmet kitchen, four gas fireplaces, 3 bedrooms, 4.5 baths 3,400 + square feet.

Bonnie Rivkin | 703.598.7788



OLD TOWN LIVING

1737 Potomac Greens
\$998,000 | Old Town
 One of Potomac Greens largest models shows "just like new." This lovely 4 level town home offers gorgeous hardwood floors, gourmet kitchen with center island, granite, stainless steel appliances 2 sided fireplace, 4th level loft and roof top deck. 3 bedrooms, 2 full baths and 2 half baths, 2 car garage. This home is also offered for rent at \$4,000 per month.

Karen Leonard | 703.328.7041



CLASSIC COLONIAL - REDUCED PRICE!

5009 Mt. Vernon Memorial Highway
\$849,900 | Alexandria South
 Extremely well priced! An amazing value for this stunning 5 bedroom, 4.5 bath custom built Colonial with granite counters, hardwood floors, 42 inch cherry kitchen cabinets, gracious master bedroom suite and beautiful architectural details throughout. Fully finished basement and beautiful half acre lot. Water access, too! Make this your next home. See more at www.5009MtVernon.com.

Rachel Carter | 703.851.4207



NEW LISTING OPEN SUNDAY 1-4

8025 Washington Road
\$1,249,750 | Alexandria South
 Model home for new Hollin Hall community of 22 new homes offering old world charm with an open floor plan. Features include 10 foot ceilings, walk ins, 2,3 or 4 finished levels, two toned kitchen with Wolfe and SubZero appliances, wine chiller, master bath spa shower, main level library. Dir: Fort Hunt Rd, Right on Wellington, Left on Yorktown, Right on Washington Rd.

Sherry York | 703.625.3377

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THEATER

'Doubt' Comes to Port City

FROM PAGE 10

pected to do? That young sister is played with a nice combination of youthful sincerity and insecurity by Corrine Brush.

So, what of the priest in all this? Blakeman Brophy plays this young priest who is charming, enthusiastic, committed to the "new openness" of the Catholic Church under the Second Vatican Council with a freshness that is appealing. Then, when confronted with the Sister's doubts, he responds with strength. His reaction is crucial to Shanley's entire

point - is his denial genuine? Is his reaction based on fear of the consequences of the Sister's accusations, being insulted by the very thought that she could harbor such suspicions, or is there guilt underlying the reaction?

Brophy follows the script carefully, leaving enough ambiguity in his portrayal to let audience members make up their own minds. That is precisely what Shanley wanted from the actor playing this part, for the play isn't about pedophilia in the church, it is about what its title says it is: doubt. Had Brophy

played the part as either clearly guilty or clearly innocent, the essence of the play would have been violated.

Director Frank Pasqualino draws superb performances out of all three of the principal players, and the production is also well served by Anissa Parekh, who has a single but memorable scene as the mother of the young boy.

The production is but more proof, if any were needed, of the ability of quality community theater companies such as Port City Playhouse, to present superb performances. This has been a particularly strong season for the company, with fine productions of "An American Daughter" by Wendy Wasserstein and Ira Levin's "Veronica's Room" thus far. "Doubt" will be followed later this spring by John Patrick's "The Curious Savage." Serious fare being given seriously satisfying treatments.

Brad Hathaway reviews theater in Virginia, Washington and Maryland as well as Broadway, and edits Potomac Stages, (www.PotomacStages.com). He can be reached at Brad@PotomacStages.com.

Where and When

The Port City Playhouse production of "Doubt, A Parable" plays Friday - Saturday at 8 p.m. through April 11 with a Tuesday evening performance on April 7 and a 2 p.m. Sunday matinee on April 5 at The Lee Center, 1108 Jefferson St. Tickets are \$14 - \$16. Call 703-838-2880 or visit www.telgo.com/pcp/.

Alexandria's Award-Winning Theatre Company!

Port City Playhouse Presents

Doubt, A Parable

By John Patrick Shanley
Directed by Frank Pasqualino

"Doubt is a lean, potent drama . . . passionate, exquisite, important and engrossing." - *Newsday*

Performances: Fri & Sat 3/27 & 3/28, 4/3 & 4/4, 4/10 & 4/11 plus Tue 4/7, all at 8pm. Sunday Matinee 4/5 at 2pm
Lee Center for the Performing Arts
1108 Jefferson Street, Alexandria 22314
Plenty of Free Parking and Handicapped Accessible

Reservations - Call: (703) 838-2880 or visit PortCityPlayhouse.com



Tickets: \$16 Adults, \$14 Seniors & Juniors
\$12 Groups of 10 or More
Bring This Ad and Get \$2 Off Your Ticket Price!



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"What's for Dinner?!"

You don't have to think too hard, let us solve this classic question.

In addition to our award winning menu, we have added some popular specials that add variety for everybody taste.

Real food, for real people at reasonable prices.

Monday - Kids Night

Burger Night (Kids eat 1/2 price) Each child must be accompanied by adult having entree.

Tuesday - Greek Night

Lamb Marinated and Roasted for 3 hours, Athenian Roast Chicken, Moussaka!

Wednesday - All American Night

Meatloaf, Chicken Fried Chicken. Va. Ham

Thursday - Italian Night

Lasagna, Chicken Alfredo, Calamari

Friday - Fish Night

Crab Cakes, Shrimp & Scallops over penne pasta with white sauce

Saturday - Steak and Chop Night

Prime Rib, Lamb, Surf and Turf, Pork Chops, and Moussaka

Sunday

Brunch served 7am - 2pm

Dine in or call ahead and your dinner will be ready for pick up.

Dinner hours 2:30-9:30pm
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Alexandria, VA 22314
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CALENDAR

E-mail calendar announcements to the Mount Gazette, gazette@connectionnewspapers.com. Photos and artwork are encouraged. Deadline is Thursday at noon for the following week's paper. Call Rebecca Halik at 703-917-6407 with questions.

ONGOING

On **Sundays** from noon-5 p.m., visit the Waterfront and see **history-inspired performances** near the Torpedo Factory; do a "meet and greet" of early Alexandria residents and travelers near the Waterfront and lower King Street. Free. Visit www.historicalexandria.org for more.

Fairfax County Department of Community and Recreation Services present free **dance workshops** at Hollin Hall Senior Center, 1500 Shenandoah Road, from 3:30-5 p.m. on April 10, 24 and May 8. To register, 703-324-4386.

Beginning Feb. 25, the **T.C. Williams High School Planetarium** will welcome the Alexandria community one night each month during the school year for a free hour-long show. Doors will open at 7 p.m. for "A Night With the Stars," which will run from 7:30 to 8:30 p.m. Advance registration, required, may be completed online at <http://www.acps.k12.va.us/tcw/planetarium/> or by calling the planetarium at 703-824-6805, extension 6300.

Children enter a world of fantasy and fables when costumed interpreters weave three tales together during Mount Vernon's storytelling session, **"Once Upon a Time at Mount Vernon,"** held every Saturday and Sunday at **11 and 11:30 a.m.** Beginning April 11, storytelling sessions will move from the Hands-On History Room in the Donald W. Reynolds Education Center to the George Washington: Pioneer Farmer site. The storytelling program is recommended for children ages three to eight. Parental supervision is

required. "Once Upon a Time at Mount Vernon" is included in regular Estate admission: adults, \$15; youth ages 6-11, \$7; and children under 5 are admitted free.

Spectacular gardens are in bloom as Mount Vernon hosts its annual **outdoor garden and gift sale beginning April 11 through May 10** from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. This annual sale includes ornamentals, perennials and annuals, garden items, books, and heirloom plants propagated from historic cuttings. No admission required to shop. Visit MountVernon.org or 703-780-2000.

FRIDAY/APRIL 3

Musical. 7 p.m. at Convergence, A Creative Community of Faith, 1801 N. Quaker Lane. Watch "The Gospel of Mary." Suggested donation of \$10. Visit www.convergenceccf.net or 703-461-6785.

Theater Performance. 1 p.m. at George Washington Memorial Theatre, 101 Callahan Drive. Watch "Standing up for Shakespeare." Free. 703-360-0033.

Music Performance. 8 p.m. at Masonic Memorial, 101 Callahan Drive. Hear music for the trumpet and horn. Free. Visit www.usafband.af.mil or 202-767-5658.

Stand Up for Shakespeare. 1 p.m. at the GW Memorial Theatre. All ages can enjoy activities and an abridged version of "As You Like It." Free. Visit www.stageplay.tv or 703-360-0033.

Sing Along with Mr. Skip. 12:30 p.m. at Spill the Beans Coffee House, 1900 Elkin St., Suite 4. Enjoy singing and dancing with Mr. Skip. \$5 per child. More at spillthebeansva.com.

Lunch Bunch. Noon at John Marshall Library, 6209 Rose Hill Drive. Children up to age 5 can bring lunch and enjoy stories. Free. Registration required, 703-971-0010.

SATURDAY/APRIL 4

Musical. 7 p.m. at Convergence, A Creative Community of Faith, 1801

N. Quaker Lane. Watch "The Gospel of Mary." Suggested donation of \$10. Visit www.convergenceccf.net or 703-461-6785.

Great Rum Punch. 7 p.m. at Gadsby's Tavern, 134 N. Royal St. Enjoy six different treats and vote for favorite. Enjoy food, auction and more. \$50/person or special \$100/person VIP. Visit www.gadsbystavern.org or 703-838-4242 for reservations.

Learn How To Search. 9 a.m.-1 p.m. at Special Collections in the library, 717 Queen St. RSVP to 703-838-4577 ext. 213.

Barbecue and Bluegrass Fundraiser. 7 p.m. at Old Dominion Boat Club. Benefits T.C. Williams Crew. \$40/person and must be purchased in advance. Enjoy food, dancing, drinks, auction and more. E-mail jpwwhite28@comcast.net for more.

SUNDAY/APRIL 5

Music Performance. 3:30 p.m. at Bishop Ireton High School, 201 Cambridge Road. Hear the NOVA Community Chorus. Free, donations accepted. 703-845-6097.

Music Performance. 3:30 p.m. at Masonic Memorial, 101 Callahan Drive. Hear the John Adams Orff Ensemble perform with the National Symphony Orchestra Brass Quintet. \$30/adult; \$10/child. 703-824-6970.

Palm Sunday Worship Event. 4 p.m. The Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom; ancient liturgy set to music by Sergei Rachmaninoff, sung in English by Westminster Choir. Reception following worship featuring Russian food. Westminster Presbyterian Alexandria, www.wpc-alex.org.

Music Performance. 4 p.m. at the Lyceum, 201 S. Washington St. Hear the Alexandria Symphony Orchestra. Free. Visit www.alexsym.org for more.

Music Performance. 3 p.m. at Mount Vernon Unitarian Church, 1909 Windmill Lane. Hear Yee Von Ng, Alexis Tantau, Ethan Watermeier and Jenny Wu. Free will offering taken.

Opening Reception. 2-4 p.m. at

SEE CALENDAR, PAGE 17

CALENDAR

FROM PAGE 16

Huntley Meadows see "Ado About Nature," an exhibit and sale of nature photographs by Jorja and Bob Feldman. Free. 703-768-2525.

Rabies Vaccination Clinic. 2-4 p.m. at Mount Vernon RECenter, 2017 Belle View Blvd. Held by the Fairfax County Animal Shelter. \$12/pet. 703-830-1100.

Bridge Club. 4 p.m. at Sherwood Library, 2501 Sherwood Hall Lane. Adults and teens can learn how to play. Free. 703-765-3645.

MONDAY/APRIL 6

Tavern Toddlers. 10:30 a.m.-noon at Gadsby's Tavern, 134 N. Royal St. Toddlers up to 36 months can enjoy games and more. \$7/group of three, one adult and 2 children; \$3/ additional person. Visit www.gadsbystavern.org or 703-838-4242.

Yoga for Gardeners. 9:30 a.m. at Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road. Features the Vinyasa method. \$66/six-class session. To register, 703-642-5173.

Benefit Concert. 8 p.m. at Schlesinger Concert Hall, 3001 N. Beauregard St. Hear James Jelasic and Jon Lackey. \$25/person. Visit WatersEdgeRecords.com for tickets.

TUESDAY/APRIL 7

Read-Along. 10:30 a.m. at Spill the Beans Coffee House, 1900 Elkin St., Suite 4. Bring the children to Spill the Beans for some read along fun with StagePlay's own Heather Sanderson. Free. Visit spillthebeansva.com or 703-780-3561.

WEDNESDAY/APRIL 8

Stay at Home Gala. The National Council For Adoption is trading the glamour and glitz for a low-cost celebration at home with loved ones at the 2009 Stay at Home Gala. Visit www.adoptioncouncil.org or contact Lauren Ridenour at 703-299-6633.

Lecture. 9:30 a.m. at Mount Vernon District Gov. Center, 2511 Parkers Lane. Talk about the Middle East. Free. 703-360-6561.

StoryTime with Colleen! 10:30 a.m. at Spill the Beans Coffee House, 1900 Elkin St., Suite 4. Free. Visit spillthebeansva.com or 703-780-3561.

Rising Words, Rising Images. 11 a.m. at Sherwood Hall Library, 2501 Sherwood Hall Lane. Discuss "The Breadwinner" by Deborah Ellis. Children ages 9-12. Free. Registration required, 703-765-3645.

THURSDAY/APRIL 9

Reception. 6-8 p.m., see "1968 in America" at Alexandria Black History Museum, 902 Wythe St. Exhibit showcases some of the tumultuous events. Visit www.alexblackhistory.org for more.

Music Performance. 7 p.m. at The Athenaeum, 201 Prince St. Hear Patty Reese. \$10/person. Visit www.nvfaa.org or 703-548-0035.

Reception. 6-8 p.m., see an exhibit made of entirely recycled materials at Target Gallery in the Torpedo Factory, 105 N. Union St. Free. Visit www.torpedofactory.org for more.

FRIDAY/APRIL 10

Sing Along with Mr. Skip. 12:30 p.m. at Spill the Beans Coffee House, 1900 Elkin St., Suite 4. Enjoy singing and dancing with Mr. Skip. \$5 per child. More at spillthebeansva.com.

Lunch Bunch. Noon at John Marshall Library, 6209 Rose Hill Drive. Children up to age 5 can bring lunch and enjoy stories. Free. Registration required, 703-971-0010.

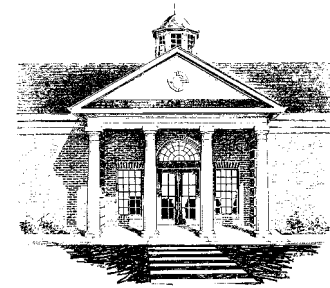
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Wishing You a Blessed Holy Week and Happy Easter

April 5 - Palm Sunday
8:00 a.m. Reading of the Passion
10:15 a.m. Blessing of the Palms & Procession*

April 9 - Maundy Thursday
6:00 p.m. Upper Room Seder Supper (please RSVP)
7:30 p.m. Solemn Communion with Foot Washing & Stripping of the Altar
9:00 p.m. Vigil in Garden of Repose until Noon on Good Friday

April 10 - Good Friday
Noon Vigil Concludes with Communion & Stations of the Cross in the Wooded Gardens
6:30 p.m. Stations of the Cross in the Gardens for Children & Families
7:30 p.m. Good Friday Liturgy with Special Cantata

April 12 - Easter Sunday
8:00 a.m. Easter Communion with Special Music
9:00 a.m. Easter Breakfast*
10:15 a.m. Children's Service with Communion & Special Music*
11:30 a.m. Easter Picnic, Egg Hunt and Games on the Lawn

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Mass Schedule

Saturday Evening
5:00 pm; 6:30 pm (en Español)

Sunday
7:30; 9:00; 10:30 am; 12:00 Noon
2:00 pm (en Español)
6:30 pm Mass (Starts Sept. 7)

Weekdays
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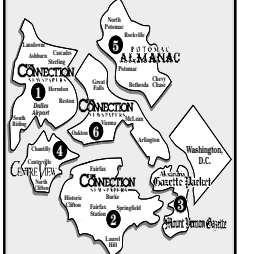
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Shot in the Dark Saves Majors

Last-minute goal by Doyle caps off Mount Vernon's dramatic comeback win over Yorktown.

BY MARK GIANNOTTO
THE GAZETTE

The Mount Vernon boys' lacrosse team only led Monday's showdown with district rival Yorktown for 38 seconds. Lucky for the Majors, it happened to be the 38 seconds that matter most in the standings.

With the score tied and under 50 seconds remaining, the Majors' Brett Kitchen curled around the Patriot goal, surveying the scene for an open teammate. An instant later, a sliver of daylight emerged and Kitchen delivered a pass to junior Brendan Doyle, who was streaking towards the net.

"Once I got it, I knew I would finish it."

— Mount Vernon junior Brendan Doyle on his game-winning goal

"It felt like the ball was in the air for five seconds," said Doyle of the pass. "But once I got it, I knew I would finish it."

The ensuing goal at the 38-second mark capped off a furious comeback, giving Mount Vernon an 8-7 victory in a game it trailed by three goals with just six minutes remaining in the fourth quarter.

But what happened after Doyle's game-winning tally might be what those in attendance remember most. With possession of the ball for one final charge at the net, Yorktown coach Greg Beer called a timeout to set up a play. As players jogged over to the



Mount Vernon senior Brandon O'Clisham tries to elude a Yorktown defender during the Majors' 8-7 victory. Mount Vernon led for just 38 seconds of the contest.

PHOTOS BY LOUISE KRAFT/THE GAZETTE

sideline, the stadium lights at Yorktown suddenly went off, leaving a pitch-black playing surface.

The stadium lights were on a timer and set to go off promptly at 9 p.m. But after a 15-minute delay, the lights came back on and the final 25 seconds of the game were completed. Once Patriot sophomore Michael Crow's last-ditch effort fell short when he lost possession, the Majors rushed the field in celebration of a comeback victory over the team that had ended their season in the National District semifinals a year ago.

ALTHOUGH THE MAJORS were down at halftime for the third time in four games, they couldn't help but be happy emerging victorious in a contest between two teams that have accounted for eight of the past nine National District championships.

"It was props to the team for showing heart and fighting back when we were down," said Kitchen afterwards.

"We dug ourselves into another hole ... but we stuck with it and pulled it out against a really awesome team."

Overlooked during all the fourth-quarter drama was a decision made by Majors coach Dale Nalls following an apparent Yorktown goal with just under 11 minutes left in the game. After the Patriots' Nick DuBose fired a bouncing shot past Mount Vernon goalie George Ksenics, Nalls asked the officials to check DuBose's stick since coaches are permitted one stick challenge per half. This time the officials determined the pocket of DuBose's stick to be too deep according to high school rules and the goal was wiped out.

And while Kitchen and Doyle may have provided the late heroics, it was an all-around team effort that got Mount Vernon (4-1) back on top against a Yorktown team that has struggled in the early going after losing 19 seniors from last season.

Senior Brandon O'Clisham, Austin Myhre, and Cesar Nativi chipped in a goal apiece, while senior James Lamm had a goal and an assist.

Doyle added two goals and an assist, while senior Brian Green had two goals — including the game-tying score in which his initial attempt was blocked by Yorktown goalie Sam Ridgely, yet Green somehow managed to push the ball along the ground past the keeper.

"It was probably the ugliest goal I've ever scored," joked Green.

Ugly works just fine with these Majors, especially if they keep racking up wins. "We just never give up," said Nalls. "We keep playing until the clock says zero or the lights go out."



Mount Vernon's Brian Green (left) and Habib Balde (right) go after a ground ball during Monday night's lacrosse game against Yorktown.

Wolverines Hit Their Stride

BY MARK GIANNOTTO
THE GAZETTE

Perhaps the best sign for the West Potomac baseball team's fortunes this season is that five games into the 2009 campaign, players and coaches alike already have a handle on what their limitations are.

Heading into Tuesday's game against Hayfield, West Potomac had scored only one run in its previous three games — all losses — and had just six all season.

"Unless some miracle occurs and we somehow find a hitting potion, we're gonna have to rely on our pitching and defense because we haven't done much hitting," said coach Jim Sullivan after his team scrapped its way to a 4-1 victory over Hayfield.

Leading the way against the Hawks was West Potomac's ace pitcher Danny Peterson, who tossed a complete game and gave up just six hits, while not allowing an earned run. At the plate, the senior also had two of West Potomac's hits, an RBI and a run.

The Wolverines got their first two runs of the game in the bottom of the second inning when senior Grady O'Hagen scored on Peterson's RBI single. Then center fielder Andy Lutz scored on a Hayfield error.

In the fourth inning, West Potomac (2-3) padded its lead when junior Mitchell Piontek scored on a double steal from third after senior Sam Montieth successfully stole second. In the fifth, the Wolverines scored their fourth and final run of the night when third baseman Art Genuario got on base after the Hayfield center fielder misplayed a routine fly ball. After advancing to third, Genuario then scored when the Hawks' pitcher overthrew the first baseman on a botched pickoff move.

Essentially, Hayfield only gave up one unearned run. But West Potomac will take the scoring any way it can get it, especially after going scoreless over the course of 13 days following a five-run outburst in its season opener.

"We just have to try and make more contact," said O'Hagen, who made a nice stab on a line drive at first base with the tying run at the plate to seal the victory in the seventh inning. "Guys are striking out too much. When we hit the ball and hit it hard at somebody, they're bound to make a mistake. Tonight, that's what happened, they made some mistakes."

"This win actually really helped our spirits," said shortstop Tyler Lord. "We were kind of down."

The victory over Hayfield provided a template for how West Potomac will have to eke out wins this season. Sullivan is counting on his three pitchers — Peterson, O'Hagen, and Genuario — to carry the load while the rest of the Wolverines get their bearings at the plate and hopefully heat up once the weather gets nicer.

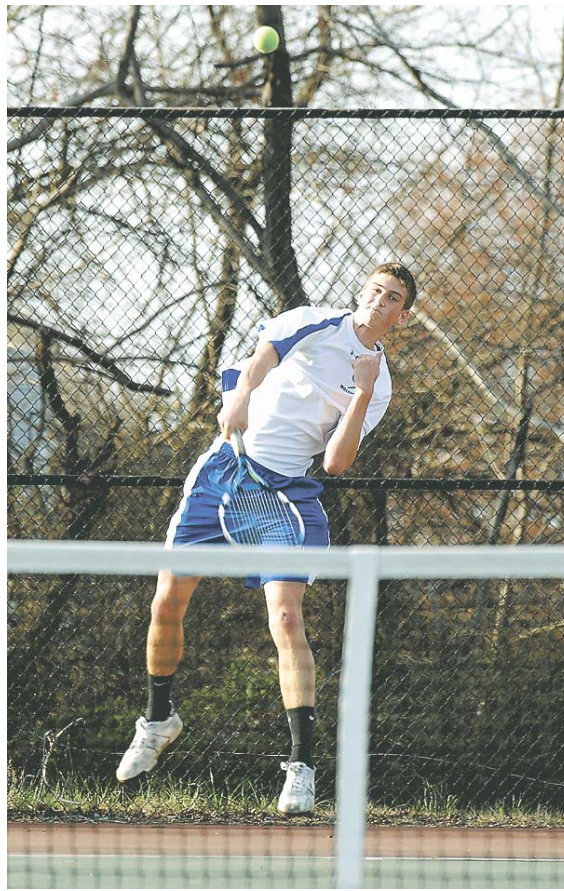
After three straight seasons of fifth-place finishes in the Patriot District, Sullivan is realistic with his goals for this team. He knows the top of the division will continue to consist of West Springfield, Lake Braddock, and South County. If the bats allow it, though, the coach thinks his Wolverines can more than easily finish fourth.

"We're trying to move up and play with the big boys," said Sullivan. "We just have to learn how to hit the ball."

SPORTS



West Potomac junior Alex Gheesling won both his No. 2 singles and No. 2 doubles matches in a 5-4 loss to T.C. Williams Tuesday.



West Potomac senior Forrest Allen smashes a serve during his No. 3 singles match against T.C. Williams.

PHOTOS BY LOUISE KRAFFT/THE GAZETTE

West Potomac Loses to T.C.

Wolverines fall just short in final doubles match.

BY MARK GIANNOTTO
THE GAZETTE

The small crowd of parents and teammates had moved steadily towards the far side of the tennis courts Tuesday evening at West Potomac, as the No. 1 doubles teams of T.C. Williams and West Potomac went head-to-head with the results of eight other matches riding solely on the outcome of one final contest.

With the team score deadlocked at four apiece, the pressure was squarely on the shoulders of the Titans' duo of seniors Max Rickett and Evan Hulehan and the Wolverines' top doubles pairing of senior Forrest Allen and sophomore Alex Cheng to break the stalemate.

Cheng had been in this position before. Last year against Annandale, the then-freshman had prevailed in a doubles match that proved to be the deciding victory of a West Potomac win.

"But I didn't know it was the deciding match until it was over," recalled Cheng. "I like being ahead from the get go, that way there's less pressure."

On this day, the tension didn't get to Cheng or his partner Allen in their 10-8 loss to Rickett and Hulehan — a defeat that ultimately gave T.C. Williams a 5-4 team victory. Neither played particularly poorly, rather it was Rickett and Hulehan (the lone undefeated doubles' pairing in the Patriot District) who seemed to embrace the moment, connecting on several key winners down the stretch.

That didn't mean all the Wolverines were unsuccessful when the pressure was ratcheted up. West Potomac's Drew Sanders battled junior Fedel Estafanos of T.C. Williams to a 10-10 tie in the No. 6

singles match, forcing a tiebreaker. With both teams cheering every point and both coaches rubbing their heads with worry, Sanders clawed his way to a 7-5 tiebreaker win, leaving the team score at three apiece with just three doubles matches remaining.

WHAT MADE the No. 1 doubles match so exciting was the performance of West Potomac's No. 2 doubles tandem featuring senior Jesse Schiffres and junior Alex Gheesling. The duo defeated the Titans' Kyle Hairston and Tarik Rottir, 10-7, in an intense affair where several calls were challenged.

Trailing 7-6, Schiffres and Gheesling caught fire late, winning the last four games of the match. The loss was Hairston and Rottir's first this season.

"You play each ball and try to forget about anything that has happened before," said Schiffres of how he internalizes pressure-filled situations like Tuesday. "You gotta almost tunnel vision that stuff out. It's all a game of momentum, so once we started getting some shots in, we just started rolling with it."

Gheesling and Cheng both also won their singles matches. Cheng took the No. 1 singles with a dominating 10-0 victory over Hulehan to up his record to 6-1 this season. Gheesling also improved to 6-1 in singles play by defeating Hairston in the No. 2 slot. One of the team's captains, Forrest Allen, also played well in a 10-7 singles loss to Rickett.

WITH THE TEAM LOSS, West Potomac drops to 5-2 on the season, but afterwards their coach was more than pleased with the way his team dealt with the adverse mental conditions.

"They played their hearts out," said Ranney. "I'm just so impressed with their spirit. They played really well and just fell short."

The Wolverines return to the court Thursday to take on West Springfield, after the Gazette's deadline.

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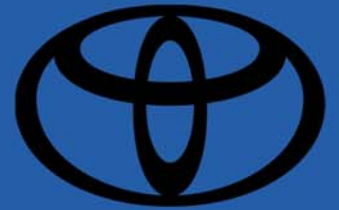
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