Neighboring Agreement

Arlington and Alexandria agree to move in different directions on transit corridor.

By Michael Lee Pope
Gazette Packet

Some say time heals all wounds. For leaders in Arlington and Alexandria, it may also be the solution to a disagreement about how to move forward with a regional transit system.

Last year, Arlington and Alexandria entered into an agreement to study converting a bus-rapid transit line stretching from Crystal City into Potomac Yard into a streetcar system. But when Arlington decided against participating in an alternatives analysis to get federal funding last month, Alexandria officials had to come up with a new strategy. Last weekend, members

See Agreeing, Page 24

Mapping the Past

Library acquires 1796 map and ledger of land owned by the Alexander family.

By Michael Lee Pope
Gazette Packet

Long before there was a city known as Alexandria, there was the Alexander family. Its members owned much of what’s now considered Northern Virginia, a vast landholding documented in land transactions from the earliest days of the city’s history. This week, the history of the Alexander family and the early days of Alexandria came into sharper focus as the Alexandria Library acquired a 1792 map detailing some of the Alexander family holdings and a ledger documenting land transactions from the era.

“In the end, we may not do the streetcar.”
— Alexandria Mayor
Bill Euille

See Library, Page 31

Stepping Into the Future

T.C. Williams High School held the graduation of its Class of 2012 in the Gerry Bertier Memorial Gymnasium on June 16.

More photos, Page 3.

Jose Andres Urrutia walks to the stage to receive the second of two principal’s awards for the Class of 2012.

The audience breaks into applause at the conclusion of the National Anthem to welcome the graduating class.

Class Valedictorian Joseph Powers leads his classmates into the gym for the commencement ceremony on Saturday morning.

The gym seating was filled to capacity as overflow viewing rooms opened in the cafeteria and the auditorium.
Charming Del Ray End Unit  
This sunny, three-bedroom, two-bath, and unit townhouse is a true gem. Hardwood floors on the main and upper levels, updated kitchen with granite and pass through, spacious renovated basement. Large fenced in backyard with deck is great for outdoor entertaining. Trime Del Ray location just two blocks to Metro!

Sue Goodhart  
703.362.3221  
www.SueGoodhart.com  
MLS ID: AX7864298  
$495,000

OLD TOWN ALEXANDRIA  
SOHO Meets WDC  
Don’t miss out on this very cool and sophisticated residence in Duddlesworth. Three bedroom, three full and two half baths. Every bedroom is en-suite. Great home office/fitness/entertainment studio. Exposed brick, huge custom granite island in kitchen with stainless appliances. Custom built-ins above gas fireplace. Sunny and bright with large windows. Two heating and cooling systems. Relax in the rooftop deck that feels like your own private garden, complete with wet bar, two-car garage, two blocks to Metro completes this total urban package!

Pam Cornelio  
571.236.4398  
www.PamCornelio.com  
MLS ID: AX7864463  
$869,000

ALEXANDRIA  
Commuter’s Dream!  
If you commute, you can’t beat this location or price! Situated next to the Van Dam Metro, this three-bedroom, two-and-a-half-bath townhouse is perfect for anyone who likes convenience nearby. Sharing isn’t so bad in this huge master suite with walk-in closets and dual sinks. Lower level could be office or den. Great community amenities including pool and HOA events.

Elizabeth Lucchesi  
703.808.5676  
www.lizlake.com  
$481,000

ARLINGTON/AURORA HILLS  
Stately Federal-style Residence in Aurora Hills  
Four or five bedrooms, five full baths and three gas fireplaces are just the beginning. Features include a cherry two-story library, formal living and dining rooms, an eat-in chef’s kitchen with breakfast bar and island. This property boasts a sun room which opens to rear deck, step down to lower patio or enjoy upper level terrace with Washington Monument views.

Betsy Leavitt 703.395.4605  
Sussan Leavitt 703.955.2267  
www.SussanLeavitt.com  
MLS ID: AR7867323  
$1,925,000

ALEXANDRIA  
No Condo Fees or HOA!  
This end unit townhouse has an open living/dining area and three bedrooms, one bath on upper level. Recent installation of central air, double pane windows, and replacement of main panel box. Stroll to the shops and restaurants of Farrington and Whittington. Easy commuting to DC, Pentagon. Small town feel, big city convenience.

Betty Mallon 702.989.8548  
www.BettyMallon.com  
MLS ID: AX7865741  
$334,900

ALEXANDRIA  
Beverly Hills Retreat  
Cottage-style home perfectly situated on a wooded lot near popular Del Ray. Located in the Garfield school district and only minutes away from The DASH bus, take time to visit Monticello Park, which is adjacent to this home, and experience first-hand what the mantra location, location, location, really means. See the virtual tour and judge for yourself.

Richard McGuire 703.627.1985  
MLS ID: AX7848752  
$774,000

OLD TOWN ALEXANDRIA  
Harborside  
Gorgeous, four-level, two-bedroom, three-and-a-half-bath townhouse with river views from patio. Large, spacious rooms for flexible living and entertaining, sitting areas in both bedrooms, hardwood floors, luxury millwork, plantation shutters, two fireplaces and gourmet kitchen with new appliances. Two parking spaces and extensive storage.

Annette Hinman 571.216.4411  
www.AnnetteHinman.com  
MLS ID: AX7836083  
$1,095,000

OLD TOWN ALEXANDRIA  
Vintage Charmer  
Virginia Village Enclave within walking distance to all things Old Town...and now New Town is well... and the proposed Potomac Yards Metro. Totally redone top to bottom with new windows, new hardwoods, new kitchen, new terrace level family room... more. Built-ins, extensive trim work, two fireplaces, sunroom addition, and patio for all fresco dining.

Jeffery McGlothlin 703.798.0137  
jmw@alexandria-homes.com  
MLS ID: AX7854240  
$574,500

ALEXANDRIA/DEL RAY  
Timeless Single Family Home  
Four bedrooms, three baths, a classic floor plan with open spaces and grand-scaled rooms. Large kitchen with granite counters, stainless steel appliances and breakfast bar. Living room with separate sitting alcove feature a fireplace and built-in bookcases. Hardwood flooring in living area and bedrooms. Large, flat rear yard with patio. Minutes from "The Avenue."

Jen Walker 703.675.1566  
www.jenwalker.com  
MLS ID: AX7821852  
$799,000

703.549.9292  
109 South Pim Street  
Alexandria, VA 22314  
www.McEneearney.com
TC Seniors Celebrate Their Graduation

The Class of 2012 receive their diplomas in the Gerry Bertier Memorial Gymnasium on June 16.

As the processional begins, family and friends maneuver to capture an image of the graduates entering the gymnasium.

Ellen Broetzmann sings the National Anthem.

Three candles are lit in memory of three students who died: Ian Daughtrey, Albert Kenney and Carelle Macon. The graduating class gift is a tree planted on the school yard in the memory of the deceased classmates.

Douglas Boatwright poses for a photo with school principal Suzanne Maxey after receiving his diploma.

Pierrette Hall presents the faculty award to Shakia Renee Taylor.

T.C. Williams principal Suzanne Maxey introduces her pick for one of the principal’s awards, senior class president Phuongnhi Tran.

Students search in the bleachers for family and friends as the enter the gym.
Police Chief Graduates From FBI Academy

Chief of Police Earl L. Cook is the most recent member of the Alexandria Police Department to graduate from the FBI National Academy Program at Quantico.

Cook graduated Friday, June 8, from the 249th Session and was one of 264 law enforcement officers who graduated from the 10-week program. The session started on April 12, and included men and women from 48 states, the District of Columbia and 24 other countries.

Cook is the 15th member of the Police Department’s command staff to graduate from the FBI National Academy since 1990 and is one of 12 graduates currently serving with the Alexandria Police Department.

The National Academy Program, held at the FBI Academy in Quantico, offers 10 weeks of instruction in law, behavioral science, forensic science, understanding terrorism and terrorist mindsets, leadership development, communication, and health and fitness. Training for the program is provided by the FBI Academy instructional staff, Special Agents and other staff members holding advanced degrees.

The academy was created in 1935 with 23 students in the first class. It has grown over the years to the current enrollment of more than 1,000 students a year. The FBI National Academy is one of the premier law enforcement academies in the world.
Alexandria Seaport Foundation Executive Director Kent Barnekov, center, and Apprentice Dearndrey Mobley, right, accept a $50,000 grant from The Economic Club of Washington, D.C. during its 25th Anniversary celebration June 5 at the Marriott Wardman Park.

**Setting Sail for Success**

Seaport Foundation receives $50,000 grant.

By Jeanne Theismann

With financial and philanthropic superstar Warren Buffett in attendance, the Alexandria Seaport Foundation was awarded a $50,000 grant from the Economic Club of Washington D.C. at its 25th anniversary celebration June 5 at the Marriott Wardman Park.

“We are thrilled to have been selected by the Economic Club of Washington as one of 10 area nonprofits to receive this generous award,” said ASF Executive Director Kent Barnekov. “The Economic Club’s recognition of the importance of programs serving this population is extremely gratifying.”

Barnekov was joined on stage by ASF apprentice Dearndrey Mobley, an Alexandria native whose brother graduated from the program years ago and who went on to serve in the Marine Corps and is currently enrolled in college.

The Alexandria Seaport Foundation offers disadvantaged youth and young adults ages 18-22 a paid, work-based apprentice program in boat building that prepares participants for careers in the building trades. Additionally, ASF provides apprentices the opportunity to earn a GED if needed.

“At a time when state and local funding for GED programs is at risk, this grant from The Economic Club will help ASF continue to include in its Apprentice Program this crucial ingredient for success in the workplace,” Barnekov added.

Economic Club member Andrew Blair, president and CEO of Colonial Parking, nominated ASF for the grant, which sought to recognize organizations that prepare underserved youth in the D.C. area for success in school, the workplace and life.

The highlight of the evening was the dialogue between Economic Club President David Rubenstein and Buffett, who discussed the economy and Buffett’s rise to billionaire status as well as his philanthropic efforts. “My surplus wealth has no utility to me,” Buffett said.

A total of 138 different nonprofits were considered as possible recipients of the prestigious awards. The nine additional organizations that received $50,000 grants were: KIPP DC, Maya Angelou Schools, Brainfood, BUILD DC, E.L. Haynes Public Charter School, Jubilee JumpStart/Jubilee Housing, Latin American Youth Center, Urban Alliance and Year Up National Capital Region.

For more information on the Alexandria Seaport Foundation or to volunteer, visit www.alexandriaseaport.org.

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**News Briefs**

**Burns Send Resident to Hospital**

The Alexandria Fire Department responded to a residence in the 300 block of North Fayette Street on Saturday, June 16, 9:09 p.m. for a gas leak. The suspect, a man, fled the scene and was later arrested in a nearby McDonald’s. The resident was transported to the hospital with minor injuries.

**Gas Leak Forces Evacuation**

The Alexandria Fire Department responded to a natural gas leak at the 600 block of King Street on Monday, June 18, 11:42 a.m. The fire department was on the scene. Washington Gas Company was able to remove cash from an office safe before fleeing. The resident was transported to MedStar Burn Center in Washington D.C.

**SoberRide Returns for July 4**

In response to Independence Day being a U.S. holiday when nearly 40 percent of all traffic deaths are alcohol-related, a nonprofit group will be offering free cab rides to would-be drunk drivers this Fourth of July. Offered by the nonprofit Washington Regional Alcohol Program (WRAP), the Independence Day SoberRide program will be in operation beginning at 10 p.m. on Wednesday, July 4 and continue until 4 a.m. During this six-hour period, area residents celebrating with alcohol may call the toll-free SoberRide number 1-800-200-TAXI and be afforded a no-cost (up to a $30 fare), safe way home. For more information, www.soberride.com.
On the Leash

City Council members have taken a bite out of crime. After receiving a number of complaints about canines gone wild, council members took action earlier this year to stipulate that electronic dog collars do not meet the city code requiring restraint of Man's Best Friend. But then the elected leaders were hounded by businesses that used the devices for training as well as a pack of electronic collar enthusiasts. So they buried the bone and rescinded the ordinance.

Now, City Council members are barking up the same tree again — passing an ordinance that restricts the use of electronic collars to those engaged in a supervised, formal obedience training class or during formally sanctioned field trials. It also allows use of the collars in dog parks. Council members say the ordinance is a matter of public safety, one that also exists in Arlington County.

"Have you ever seen a man gone mad?" asked Councilwoman Alicia Hughes. "It’s the same thing with an animal and you’re shocking them."

In the last 18 months, city officials have received 853 complaints of dogs running at large, 823 complaints of dog bites and 17 dangerous dog cases. Almost as if on cue, another attack happened the night before the public hearing. As a result, council members decided to take action before entering the dog days of summer.

"Having confidence that every dog is exceptionally well trained is just not a good standard," said Councilman Rob Krupicka. "It puts too many people at risk."

Council members approved the revised ordinance, although it won’t go into effect until September — giving users of electronic collars an opportunity to learn of the new restrictions.

An App for Everything

These days, it seems like smart phones are invading every aspect of life. From finding out where the latest car thefts have happened on your block to locating the nearest cup of coffee, mobile computing seems to be remaking the world one pixel at a time — even for children.

This week, members of the Alexandria City Council considered a special-use permit for Teeter Toddlers, which city documents refer to the operation as an “entertainment enterprise.” As the elected leaders were considering the application, which offers mothers an opportunity to enjoy games and music with their children, chief of operations Roscoe Chambers explained that the operation even has an app.

"Wait a minute," interjected Vice Mayor Kerry Donley. "You mean there’s an app for that?"

Donley, a former mayor, paused for a moment to marvel at modern technology.

"I’m feeling sort of left out," said Donley. "I don’t have an app for anything."

Rowdy in Rosemont?

Rosemont is not really known for its raucous all-night parties. That's why some neighbors are concerned about specialty shop Grape + Bean adding a restaurant to its establishment at the intersection of Commonwealth Avenue and Walnut Street.

"It’ll totally ruin my lifestyle because I go to bed early," said Mary Ruth Calhoun, who lives nearby. "It’s gone from a small market where people who owned it used to live above it to a restaurant with outdoor seating serving alcohol, and we’re having huge parking battles on Walnut now."

The two-story commercial building has existed at the site since 1945, and has been occupied by a retail market for about 65 years. In March, Old Town retailer Grape + Bean opened a new location at the market in Rosemont. Alexandria Mayor Bill Euille, who also lives nearby, says he doesn’t expect parking to be a challenge because he feels most customers will be neighborhood residents who will walk to the establishment.

"I think the type of product and the type of service is not going to lend itself to a rowdy crowd by any stretch," said Councilman Paul Smedberg. "And I personally think that this will really be something that will be a real enhancement for this area."

— Michael Lee Pope

NEWS

Fostering the Future cruise raises $30,000.

More than 200 people donned their finest Derby attire aboard the Cherry Blossom riverboat for the 9th annual Fostering the Future cruise June 8 to benefit the Fund for Alexandria’s Child.

With a theme of “A Night at the Races,” the event raised more than $30,000 to support programs for foster children and children at risk of abuse and neglect. ABC-7 reporter Autria Godfrey and Give Back’s Jane Hess Collins acted as hosts for the evening, which also served to honor Alexandria Foster Parents of the Year Tom and Debbie Matthews and Stacey and Fulvio Padova.

The Fund for Alexandria’s Child, a division of the Alexandria Department of Community and Human Services, works to enhance the quality of life of foster and at-risk children by promoting community awareness, involvement and resource development and providing activities such as dance, art, karate lessons, summer camping, school field trips, scouting and team sports.

For more information, visit www.alexandriava.gov/TheFundForAlexChild.

— JEANNE THEISMANN

A Night at the Races

Burke and Herbert’s Shannon Catlett and Walter Clarke with City Councilman Frank Fannon.

Deborah Warren and Suzanne Kratzok in their finest Derby attire.

Foster care students (clockwise from left) Cordelia Cranshaw, Onelio Aguilar, Alexandria Clark and Farheena Mustafa sell raffle tickets at the Fostering the Future “Night at the Races” cruise June 8 on the Cherry Blossom.
**DMV Mobile Offices Visit Beatley Library**

City considers other locations for visits.

The DMV partnered with the City of Alexandria to introduce its mobile offices, DMV 2 Go, at Charles E. Beatley Jr. Library on Friday, June 15.

The DMV 2 Go mobile offices are recreational vehicles outfitted to provide all the services of a regular DMV location would. Mahnoor Zahid, who has worked in one of the mobile offices for about 8 months, said that one of the biggest advantages of the mobile offices is that there’s no line and no wait.

“And the best thing is, I mean, the gas prices are so high, so we bring the DMV to you instead of you coming to the DMV,” she said.

The visit to Beatley Library was intended to measure the demand for the mobile offices in Alexandria. The city hopes to determine locations for expansion within the next couple of weeks.

“The DMV and the City of Alexandria understand that people who work might have a hard time getting to a DMV location during the day,” said Nathan Carrick, a public information specialist for the City, “so this location comes to where they are.”

The mobile offices are also environmentally friendly in that they run on a generator with their engines off while parked.

There are five mobile offices in the state of Virginia, and their hours of operation are Monday-Friday from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

The mobile offices visit businesses, university and college campuses, assisted living facilities and retirement communities, military bases, and government centers as long as there is space reserved for the 32-foot RV and room for customer parking.

To schedule a visit, email DMV2GORichmond@dmv.virginia.gov.

— Edison Russ

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**Shillelaghs Travel Club**

**BARBOURSVILLE VINEYARD LUNCHEON, TOUR & TASTING, Wed., Oct. 3,..................................................................$132**
Includes Motorcoach from Vienna or Rockville, Tour & Tasting at Barboursville in Charlottesville. 3-Course Meal with Wine Pairings. Tax & Gratuity on Meal

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Includes Motorcoach from Vienna or Rockville, 6-Nights Hotels with Daily Breakfast & Dinner. Sighseeing—Call for detailed itinerary.

**ALBUQUERQUE BALLOON FIESTA, Oct. 5-10,.................$1874**
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News

The DMV 2 Go mobile offices are recreational vehicles that have been outfitted to provide all the services of a regular DMV office.

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**Celebrate Summer Block Party at the Workhouse**
Saturday, June 23
3pm - 7pm

Food, Lawn Games, Archery Demonstrations, Face Painting, Community Resource Tent, Art and More!!

7pm
FREE Mt. Vernon Nights Concert
“Ruthie and the Wranglers”

8pm
Cinema Under the Stars
“Grease” (sing-a-long version) Film is only $5 per person!

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**I’m Phillip Norris - Your Alexandria Neighbor**

...for probably as long as you’ve lived in Alexandria. My wife and I grew up here. I’m a finish carpenter with 30 yrs. experience.

My work is meticulous, and I take great pride in completing jobs on time, and on budget. Let me give you a quote on that home project you’ve been thinking about and check it off your list! My prices are reflective of the times.

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The DMV 2 Go mobile offices are recreational vehicles that have been outfitted to provide all the services of a regular DMV office.
Standing Room Only

Seating is now on the menu at Del Ray Pizzeria, where customers can order thin-crust pizza in a restaurant with thick selection of chairs. Last weekend, members of the Alexandria City Council approved an amended special-use permit that increased the number of seats from 32 indoor seats and 12 outdoor seats to 82 indoor seats, 20 outdoor seats and 30 special-event seats.

“Out of full public disclosure, I would like to make mention that I have no ownership in this restaurant but I did have dinner there last night,” said Mayor Bill Euille during Saturday’s public hearing. “I had to stand because there weren’t enough chairs to sit in.”

Earlier this year, city officials discovered that the Mount Vernon Avenue pizza joint was packing in about twice as many patrons as their special-use permit allowed. The city decided to work with the restaurant rather than shutting it down. And during last weekend’s public hearing, the owner of the restaurant appeared before elected officials to plead for mercy.

“There weren’t any excuses for those violations,” said Erik Dorn, owner of Del Ray Pizzeria. “And we do have steps in place to make sure there are no more violations.”

Del Ray Pizzeria got its extra seating, and the mayor got his pizza.

Bringing Home the Oysters

Speaking of food, everybody has a favorite restaurant. For Councilman Rob Krupicka, it’s Hank’s Oyster Bar. Or, perhaps more specifically, that’s the choice of his daughters. So when the King Street restaurant was asking council members to approve expanding seating from 60 to 89 seats, Krupicka was more than happy to make the motion.

“Is this a conflict of interest?” asked Councilwoman Del Pepper. “I asked the city attorney,” responded Krupicka. “He said because I pay them money as opposed to getting money from them, it’s not a conflict.”

Roasting the Beans

Who was M.E. Swing? City Council members learned last weekend that he was a businessman from the early 20th century whose business will occupy the old Gold Crust Bakery building—a business that shuttered after a double murder in which the Alexandria Police Department refused to hand over documents to the family member of a murder victim.

These days, there’s a bit more sunshine on the building. The police department’s lack of transparency in the murder case did not extend to the public hearing process for the coffee shop. Speaking of transparency, the Alexandria Police Department refused to hand over documents to the family member of a murder victim. The city decided to work with the restaurant rather than shutting it down. And during last weekend’s public hearing, the owner of the restaurant appeared before elected officials to plead for mercy.
McDonald’s Celebrates Redesign with Grand Reopening

Event features food and giveaways.

The McDonald’s at 1000 North Henry Street had a grand reopening June 15 to celebrate its redesign. The event featured appearances by Ronald McDonald and a DJ from 93.9 WKYS from 10 a.m. to noon, and one from 95.5 WPGC from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. City Council member Frank Fannon also attended. There were also giveaway opportunities for two iPads and a bike, and the first 25 people in line received a coupon for a free large sandwich for a year. Franchisee Carlos Mateos cited change in several places in the neighborhood as the impetus for the redesign. “The building that was here has been here for over 20 years,” he said, “So, I think, you know, it was about time it needed a new look.”

The redesign includes a double-lane drive-thru, and new lighting and seating, including booths, chairs, community tables where people can sit together. The community tables will also be used for McTeacher’s nights, where McDonald’s partners up with local schools for fundraising projects. “It’s just a night to appreciate all the teachers, the students, where the teachers and students can mingle outside of school,” said Jillian Mateos, daughter of Carlos Mateos, “and the students can really show their appreciation for their teachers.”

— Edison Russ

The grand reopening featured appearances by Ronald McDonald and team members from 93.9 WKYS in the morning, as well as from 95.5 WPGC in the afternoon.

A ribbon-cutting ceremony was held to celebrate the grand reopening. Front: Carlos Mateos Jr., Jenille Mateos, McDonald’s franchisee Carlos Mateos, prospective McDonald’s franchisee Jillian Mateos, Maribel Mateos and director of operations for Carlos Mateos, Hachem Abdellaoui. Back: Alexandria City Council member Frank Fannon and Ronald McDonald.

414 Duke Street, Alexandria

Offered at $3,495,000

Circa 1855, this stately brick colonial is a treasure located in the heart of Old Town featuring five bedrooms, six full baths, and two half baths. The home opens to a breathtaking double parlor with two fireplaces and twelve-foot ceilings with sunlight drifting through floor-to-ceiling windows. Recently remodeled, the fabulously detailed kitchen maintains continuity with the period of the home. The master suite offers all one would expect in a stately and modern residence with sitting room, cozy fireplace, adjacent study with custom bookshelves, floor-to-ceiling windows, and access to the upper balcony. Rarely found in Old Town, a long inviting side porch opens to the garden lot featuring a beautiful swimming pool and off-street parking.

Babs Beckwith
703.836.1297
BabsBeckwith@aol.com
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www.ConnectionNewspapers.com
Getting Books into Homes

Cora Kelly School for Math, Science and Technology kindergarten students’ selection of a new book to take home for their own personal library served as the “kick off” for the new “Books in Alexandria Kids’ Homes” initiative. This collaboration of the Alexandria Tutoring Consortium, Wright to Read, Alexandria City Public Schools, ACPS parents and members of the Alexandria business community hopes to transform the way Alexandria’s children engage with reading by providing them with books for their own libraries. The sponsors for the books given to students at Cora Kelly, William Ramsay and Patrick Henry Elementary Schools are the Alexandria Rotary Club, ARTI and AAJV.

John Woods, president of the Alexandria Rotary Club, helps launch the Books in Alexandria Kids’ Homes book program by reading to kindergarten students at Cora Kelly School for Math, Science and Technology. The program aims to provide books for the personal libraries of young students, to encourage reading at home.
Interested in a career in Real Estate? Classes only $99.00 now! Call Kim Farina at the Alexandria/Old Town Office.
Alexandria's Hunting Creek Garden Club, a nonprofit organization dedicated to fostering a love and knowledge of gardening, encouraging restoration and conservation, as well as promoting education and civic beautification, is providing funding and gardening expertise for two beautification and gardening education projects that are already benefiting those served by Community Lodgings, a nonprofit organization that provides transitional housing for homeless and low income families.

Phase One of Hunting Creek's project, which got underway this spring, involves provision of "Kitchen Garden" plants for eight existing 4'x4' raised garden beds on the grounds of the Fifer Family Learning Center on Notabene Drive in Arlandria.

Members of Hunting Creek Garden Club met with those involved in Community Lodgings' Middle School Boys Mentoring Program to provide gardening education and enrichment. The project also impacts children enrolled in Community Lodgings after-school program, which currently serves 24 elementary school children, 24 middle school and eight high school youth. Club members taught the boys and their FBI mentors the importance of enriching the soil and garden beds with organic matter in order to provide fertile ground in which the plantings can grow.

After surveying the boys to discern the types of vegetables, fruits and herbs they would like to grow, Garden Club members purchased a myriad of plants including, tomatoes, onions, peppers, cilantro, strawberries, watermelon, squash, potatoes and pumpkin plants.

EACH YOUTH, in conjunction with Community Lodgings Learning Center, has been assigned a bed and is responsible for keeping the beds watered and weeded during the summer months. As the plants bear fruit, the youth will harvest and take the produce home for a "farm to table" experience. HCGC members are providing volunteer assistance for summer care and maintenance as needed.

The Kitchen Gardens will teach youth how to grow their own food and provide insight into the value of healthy eating. Part of the educational component includes the value of organic gardening. The project is also being supplemented by an $800 Mini-Grant Program for Community Gardens and Nutrition Classes coordinated by the Alexandria Health Department in association with the Alexandria Childhood Obesity Action Network to emphasize the importance of healthy eating and nutrition.

Phase Two of Hunting Creek's project will provide a landscape design plan for the front of the Community Lodgings Learning Center building. The plan will be implemented this fall in stages with HCGC supplying the plantings and assisting with oversight of the project. Community Lodgings will provide installation support. A majority of the specified plantings will be native plants, which will allow the community to experience the chain of nature from insects such as bees and butterflies to birds and other fauna and flora.

Community Lodgings' current buildings have little exterior landscaping enhancement. This project will provide a useable, appropriate green space that will allow residents to enjoy the space more fully. The design as currently envisioned, would include space for bicycles, circulation through the garden, outdoor seating, additional shade and native plantings.

The beautification of the Notabene building will impact the 14 homeless families in transitional housing, as well as the entire community, especially those living in Arlandria who benefit from Community Lodgings' services. Community Lodgings' mission is to lift families from homelessness and instability to independence and self-sufficiency through Transitional and Affordable Housing, and Youth & Adult Education Programs held at its Fifer Family Learning Center.
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Open Sunday in Belle Haven!
Exceptionally Charming! Beautiful 5 bedroom, 3 1/2 bath brick and stone cape cod in the heart of Belle Haven. 3rd level den/office with fireplace. Updated bathrooms, family room with fireplace, new kitchen. ~$2,695,000
6111 Vernon Terrace Alexandria, VA 22307

Fabulous Penthouse!
Just Listed! Panoramic views of the Potomac River and Washington from this 2 bedrooms, 2 full and 2 half bath penthouse offering tall ceilings, exquisite moldings, hardwood floors, gourmet chef’s kitchen with adjoining great room, living room with fireplace and adjoining dining room, wrap-around balcony, 3 garage spaces, outdoor pool, sauna, and party room. Two units combined into one home—$1,400,000
400 Madison St Unit 2203 Alexandria, VA 22314

The “Light Horse Harry” Lee House
Sately brick townhouse built in 1780 with the residence of Henry Lee and his family which overlooked Robert E. Lee. Tall ceilings, some original features including plaster moldings, heart pine floors, horsehair ceiling moldings, and front staircase. Currently used as an office and residence, it could be used for either or both and offers seven off-street parking spaces!—$1,695,000
611 Cameron St Alexandria, VA 22314

Gorgeous in Belle Haven!
Elegant custom built colonial in the heart of Belle Haven. 3 bedrooms, 4 1/2 baths on over 4,000 finished square feet. Tall ceilings, exquisite moldings, hardwood floors, elegant formal rooms, 4 fireplaces, 2 car garage. Updated kitchen with stainless steel appliances, large master suite, and fabulous deck for entertaining. ~$1,695,000
2202 Woodmont Road Alexandria, VA 22307

Stunning in Fort Hunt
Stunning like-new colonial situated on almost half acre in quiet cul-de-sac! Over 4,300 finished square feet, 5 bedrooms, 4 1/2 baths, 2 car attached garage, hardwood floors throughout main level, formal living and dining rooms. Sunny eat-in kitchen opens to large family room with vaulted ceilings. Updated bathrooms, large fully finished lower level and huge rear patio! Walk to swim and tennis club. ~$899,000
2717 Woodlawn Trail Alexandria, VA 22306

Open Sunday in Wellington
Country living on over half an acre just off East Boulevard Drive. In sought after Wellington. 5 bedrooms, 4 1/2 baths, on 3 fully finished levels spanning almost 6,000 finished square feet. Large rooms, great flow, stunning kitchen renovations, overlooking huge family room and quiet back yard. Situated on a private cul-de-sac. ~$1,895,000
900 Clifton Drive Alexandria, VA 22308

Four Season Water Views
Four season water views backing to bike trail on almost 1/3 acre! State of the art kitchen, 4 bedrooms, 3 1/2 baths, on 2 fully finished levels with 2 car attached garage. Welcoming foyer, formal dining room, living room with fireplace, 3 season room off kitchen opens to large patio. ~$999,000
8503 West Boulevard Drive Alexandria, VA 22308

Price Reduction in Potomac Greens
Truly one of a kind. 5 bedrooms, 4 1/2 baths on nearly 3,200 finished square feet. Only home with screened in porch and a patio. Steps to the pool. Custom cherry built in desks, large open kitchen with center island, spacious master bedroom with vaulted ceilings and his/her walk in closets. Recently replaced AC units, hot water heater, washer/dryer, and garage door. ~$824,900
1647 Hunting Creek Drive Alexandria, VA 22314

Live Life on the Water
Resort Living on a bluff overlooking the Potomac River from every room! Only 30 minutes to the Washington DC, but with a remote feeling and renovations just completed! Idyllic for relaxation with all the luxuries modern touches. Grand entertainment areas inside and outside w/ pool and cabana. Impressive bedroom suites, Sun filled morning room and spa inspired lower level. 5 bedrooms, 5 1/2 baths. ~$2,650,000. Adjacent parcel of .34 acres also available for $1,050,000.
9326 Old Mansion Drive Alexandria, VA

With a combined volume of $47 Million in 2011, why turn anywhere else? We are your Alexandria Real Estate Experts.

The Market is Moving... Are You?
**Summer Projects**

By counterexample, the Gazette Packet with many interns and staff members focused on some light and some more serious summer projects. At the end of July, we'll print our summer "Pet Gazette," and we invite readers to send in stories and photos of your pets, and any story ideas you might have.

We love to have photos of you or other family members with your pets. Please include your name, pet’s name, town name and contact phone number, and identify the people in any photos.

Email gazette@connectionnewspapers.com.

Through July we will be working on our annual Insider’s Edition: Newcomers and Community Guide, which will publish Aug. 22. We need input from our readers on many aspects of this guide.

Through narrative, tips from readers, listings, viewpoints and photographs, we endeavor to capture what it means to live here.

We’ll compile highlights of places to visit and things to do, a snapshot of local history, help finding community resources and tips on lesser known wonders in our communities.

As a local, weekly newspaper, the Gazette Packet’s mission is to bring the news you need about your community, to give you the information you need to enjoy the best things in and near your community, to advocate for community good, to provide a forum for dialogue on local concerns, and to celebrate and record milestones and events in community and people’s lives.

We invite newcomers to the area and long-time residents alike to be a part of providing more reader input.

We appreciate readers’ ideas. If you see something that you think might be a story, or something you have a question about, give us a call, or drop us a line. If you know of a person or an organization doing important work, something that might make a good feature story, let us know.

For our Insider’s Guide, we are looking for your tips. What is one place you think is a "must see" for newcomers? What’s your suggestion for ways to get involved in the community?

What are you most concerned about in your community? What do you think the top news stories will be in the coming months?

We also need input from community organizations to update listings and upcoming events. Send information by Aug. 1 to gazette@connectionnewspapers.com.

**EDITORIAL**

**Letters to the Editor**

**To the Editor:**

With our neighborhood school, Jefferson-Houston Elementary School, becoming a new building in a couple of years, it is interesting to see how many teachers are now leaving the school. They have just implemented the International Baccalaureate (IB) program and have boasted how well the students are doing.

We have both the 2nd grade teacher and have boasted how well the students are doing. In a couple of years, it is interesting to us to find out how well the students are doing.

To the Editor:

Losing a teacher is not the end of the world. It is, however, a matter of concern. With the new building bring us, if the teachers and the schools need to be gotten and keeping faculty, we are still having so many problems with the teachers and the schools need to be gotten and keeping faculty.

As a grandparent, I feel that I can do the nurturing they need, the teachers and the schools need to do their jobs and educate our students. My grandson is passing the 3rd grade, if his education does not/cannot improve in this school there is no point of him attending, and what will a new building bring us, if the teachers and education in this building are not top notch?

Our children need a good education, I am a full time working person, I have raised four children, and am now raising two more, plus trying to stay connected to my community by attending lots of neighborhood meetings.

I am not a teacher, but know that our children deserve the best education they can get. Dr. Sherman has stated many times how our schools are improving, well, maybe he needs to look a little harder at Jefferson-Houston, maybe instead of him dancing and playing with the students in their videos, he should be promoting stronger support to the teachers that need to be educating our children.

Education must come first for our children.

Bea Porter
Alexandria

**Regulate Political Signs**

To the Editor:

Am I the only person in Alexandria who believes that yard signs belong in “yards” and not on public property?

I am so angry that I am almost tempted to run for office on a platform that my signs will only be in the yards of people who support me.

The number of candidates in this year’s Democratic primary only exacerbated a problem we have during each election cycle. Aside from being ugly, the signs that remain up are preventing maintenance of public space.

The city council should pass an ordinance restricting signs to personal property or restricting how long they can be up (i.e. 7 days)

**Scouts Adopt a Block**

Boy Scout Troop 301, chartered by St. Mary’s Catholic Church, kicked off its participation in the City of Alexandria’s Adopt-a-Block Litter Program on June 11. The Adopt-a-Block Program is designed to enhance the overall cleanliness of the city’s streets and neighborhoods through the efforts of volunteer groups. Herb Holmes, City of Alexandria, Superintendent, Street Cleaning and Solid Waste Division, briefed the Scouts on the program and unveiled the Adopt-a-Block sign that recognizes their involvement as a participating organization.

Troop 301’s adopted neighborhood runs south from Saint Asaph Street and along Green Street. Following Holmes’ remarks, the Scouts performed their first clean up with more than 20 Scouts participating.

**Opinion**

**Editorial**

**Letters to the Editor**

**Regulate Political Signs**

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**Coldwell Banker**

*Find Your Next Home – CBMove.com/Alexandria*

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**Oakland**

607 Braddock Road W, Alexandria, VA 22302

$1,395,000

Wonderfully charming & distinctive 1920 colonial w/ wide front porch, gracious entrance foyer, pine floors & beautiful 1st Fl Fr. This SFR + SBA home will steal your heart away!

Donna M. Wintermute 703.318.6136

OPEN SUN 1-4PM

---

**Cameron Station**

353 Cameron Station Boulevard, Alexandria, VA 22304

$1,099,000

Sentry 4 level SFR, 5BA. Gourmet w/SS & wine fridge. Expansive master suite w/ private balcony. Beautifully landscaped yard w/ in-ground pool. Great location! Call today!

Chris Upham 202.593.1108

NEW LISTING

---

**Old Town**

625 South Royal Street, Alexandria, VA 22314

$849,000

Expanded townhome in Old Town Alexandria. Main level, 1BR, 1.5BT. Family room, LR, BR, BT, many closets, washer & dryer included. Call for more info.

Heather Corey 703.989.1183

OPEN SUN 1-4PM

---

**Beverly Hills**

709 Chalfonte Drive, Alexandria, VA 22305

$499,000

Reduced $60,000! Amazing value. Renovated 3 br, 2.5 ba, 2 story, great room, kitchen w/ SS appliances, 1 car garage, and deck. Close to Old Town, DT, hospitals. This won't last. Call today!

Ronnie Rinkin 703.598.7788, Jane Cole 703.598.6798

NEW LISTING

---

**Waynewood**

8701 Eaglebrook Court, Alexandria, VA 22308

$1,200,000

Fantastic SFR. 5.5BA. Cul-de-sac. NICE S/N & 2 car detached garage. Front & back yard are a huge plus. This is a real find!

Edward Paget 703.318.8161

OPEN SUN 1-4PM

---

**Suicide Village**

1932 Price Lane, Alexandria, VA 22308

$1,050,000

Screened porch, 3BR, 2.5BT. Central A/C, FNG, 1 car garage, private cul-de-sac lot, pond, and ocean view. Great neighborhood. Call today to see!

Edward Paget 703.318.8161

OPEN SUN 1-4PM

---

**Wilton Woods**

615 Holly Tree Drive, Alexandria, VA 22310

$665,000

Spacious and sunny colonial is move-in ready. SFR, 2.5BA, 2 car garage, charming front porch, sun deck overlooking yard. Photos at www.redfin.com.

Rita McCuskey-Rudmon 703.447.9714

NEW LISTING

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**Braddock Heights**

2406 Page Terrace, Alexandria, VA 22302

$599,000

Charming home with many updates. Estate sale - sold "as is." Ready for moves in. 3BR, 1BA, detached garage, FR addition, deck. See photos at www.realest.com.

Rita McCuskey-Rudmon 703.447.9714

OPEN SUN 1-4PM

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**Oakcrest**

1703 Dogwood Drive, Alexandria, VA 22302

$595,000

Conveniently located next to 395. DT views, 3 level townhome in private cul-de-sac with 2 car garage, 2 level deck perfect for entertaining. www.sherry York.com.

Sherry York 703.623.3177

OPEN SUN 1-4PM

---

**Waynewood**

6819 Florence Place, Alexandria, VA 22308

$799,000

Rm to grow! 6s bed, 3 bath colonial on quiet tree-lined street. Spacious eat-in kitchen w/ fireplace, remodeled kitchen & baths. hardwood floors and updates throughout!

Jane Cole & Lynn Stewart 703.598.6118

OPEN SUN 1-4PM

---

**Spring Meadow**

2220 Francia Road S, Alexandria, VA 22310

$524,990

Spacious 5BR, 3.5BA split level home, FR w/ elevator. Perfect for entertaining. Hardwood floors on main level & upper level. Brand new carpet. Yard is perfect! Call today!

Nora Parfow 703.847.8071

NEW LISTING

---

**Huntington At Mt Vernon**

2722 Carter Farm Court, Alexandria, VA 22306

$390,000

Beautifully updated 2BR/2.5BA townhome. Tranquil setting with convenient close-in location with water access for boating fun! Much to offer and move in gorgeous.

Karen Leonard 703.324.7641

OPEN SUN 1-4PM

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**Old Town Alexandria**

310 King Street | Alexandria, VA 22314 | 703.518.8300

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Members of the Historic Alexandria Foundation gathered Sunday, June 17 in the garden at the home of Leslie Ariail for the annual HAF meeting and garden party. HAF president Dr. D. Morgan Delaney announced and presented the 2012 grants. The four recipients are: The City of Alexandria - $4,000 to purchase software for a digital survey of the Old and Historic District; The Alexandria Library Company - $8,000 for the purchase of a 1796 map of the City of Alexandria and a ledger; The Lee-Fendall House Museum and Garden - $5,000 for an archaeological excavation and garden redesign project and Stabler-Leadbeater Apothecary Shop - $5,000 for an exterior paint analysis.
Diocese of Arlington
Victim Assistance Coordinators
For Sexually Abused Minors
703-841-2530 • 703-841-2537

The Diocese of Arlington provides comprehensive assistance to anyone who as a minor was sexually abused by a priest, deacon, teacher, employee or representative of the diocese. Parents, guardians, children and survivors of sexual abuse are invited and encouraged to contact the diocesan Victim Assistance Coordinators, experienced social workers, who will provide a confidential consultation.

The Diocese of Arlington is committed to assisting victims/survivors throughout the healing process.

For further information, see www.arlingtondiocese.org
**Home Sales**

In May 2012, 213 Alexandria homes sold between $2,300,000-$94,000. This week's list represents those homes sold in the $2,300,000-$599,900 range. For the complete list, visit www.ConnectionNewspapers.com

**Home Sales**

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<th>IB</th>
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<th>Sold Price</th>
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Jimmie McClellan worked to improve himself — and the lives of others.

Living Legends: The Project
Living Legends of Alexandria is an ongoing 501(c)(3) photo-documentary project to identify, honor and chronicle Alexandria's Living Legends. The project was conceived by artist-photographer Nina Tisara to create an enduring artistic record of the people whose vision and dedication make a positive, tangible difference to the quality of life in Alexandria. Platinum and Gold sponsors this year are the Alexandria Commission for the Arts, Club Managers Association of America, Dominion Foundation, Eklektik Real Estate Development, John McEnaney, Renner & Company, CPA, P.C. and the Rotary Club of Alexandria.

This is one of a series of profiles that will appear this year. For information, to volunteer, become a sponsor or nominate a Legend for 2013, visit www.AlexandriaLegends.com or contact Nina Tisara, AlexandriaLegends@ninatisara.com.

Speaking with Living Legends

Two of Alexandria's Living Legends, Carolyn Griffin (2007-08), and Jon Liss (2010) were interviewed last month by students in the Alexandria Speaks class led by T.C. Williams High School teacher Todd Koren. The assembly program was facilitated by Shawn Thorpe, Academic Principal on Assignment, Center for the Arts K-12 and Sydney-Chanele Davkins, filmmaker and commissioner, Alexandria Commission of the Arts. For information on internship opportunities, contact AlexandriaLegends@ninatisara.com.

Jimmie McClellan

Jimmie Rex McClellan can knowledgably discuss minnow fishing on the Brazos River, lemurls in Madagascar, and the Ku Klux Klan in Texas. He's an author, an educator, and a recipient of the Distinguished Alumni Award from the University of Texas, the highest honor given by the University to any graduate, a seven-term member of Alexandria's Human Rights Commission, and a world-class kayaker. McClellan is a smart, dedicated "Energizer Bunny," who just keeps going and going and ...

A hard worker throughout his life, McClellan grew up in East Texas and at age 15 he was trapping minnows in the Brazos River and selling them to bait camps for a penny a piece. His parents ran a small grocery, which catered to poor whites and poor blacks. McClellan says they dispensed credit liberally. "My parents were generous people. My father fished on weekends and gave his catch away." To attract fish Jimmie and his father filled bags with unsold produce and drove 80 miles to make bait drops in the river. When he wasn't trapping, McClellan read through a stack of books that he also carried to the river.

To earn the money for his BA in political science at the University of Texas, Jimmie worked four years after school as a dairy hand. While getting his master's degree in history, he worked at a cardboard box factory in Arlington, Texas. On looking back he says, "The factory was over 100 degrees and had no cooling system. I was the only Anglo working with a crew of Chicanos. The front office was air conditioned and staffed entirely by Anglos." During his freshman year, the UT enrolled a small percentage of black students. McClellan says, "You could almost cut the racism with a knife. Many institutions preach the same racism, and I became interested in the problem." He and about 10 friends became the civil rights and the peace faction. McClellan says, "You could almost cut the racism with a knife. Many institutions preach the same racism, and I became interested in the problem." He and about 10 friends became the civil rights and the peace faction.

In 1972, McClellan managed the presidential campaign of Dr. Benjamin Spock. He says, "The campaign was intended to assure that issues of war and peace, civil rights, universal medical care, and the environment were not ignored during the election year." One of Spock's biographers (Thomas Maier) wrote that Spock asked McClellan to run his maverick campaign for president, even though McClellan had no national experience. "What he lacked on traditional political sophistication, McClellan tried to make up with ideality and a willingness to try anything." This willingness shone brightly when McClellan took a job at 7-11. He clerked on a midnight to dawn shift, which included picking up cigarette butts and beer can pop tops in the parking lot, an endeavor that he says finally convinced him to move into a new profession.

By 1975 he had a master of philosophy from George Washington University and joined the faculty of Northern Virginia Community College. He earned his Ph.D. from The Union Institute of Cincinnati and his doctoral studies were conducted at the Institute for Policy Studies in Washington. McClellan also did post-grad work in political science at Georgetown and George Washington universities.

McClellan began teaching history at NVCC's Alexandria Campus a few years after its founding. In 2009, he became dean of Liberal Arts and oversaw the merger of two academic divisions, which resulted in supervision over 14 departments, 320 faculty members, and a writing center. During his career he also taught political science and served four terms as chair of the Alexandria Campus Council, four terms as chair of the College Senate, and one term as president of the Virginia Community Colleges Association. In a total divergence of disciplines, McClellan also taught beginning, intermediate, and advanced unicycle at a local dance school from 1985-90.

He has written numerous articles, a two-volume examination of American History, and for 14 years produced a weekly newspaper column on current events. When Benjamin Spock died in 1998, McClellan wrote and delivered a eulogy praising Spock's fearlessness and courage on a civil rights march in Louisiana. "If he felt any fear, he did not show it. I admire him for that."

In his home community of Alexandria, McClellan served seven terms as a commissioner of Human Rights during which he chaired the Alexandria Commission and was president of the Virginia Association of Human Rights Commissioners. In 1990, McClellan obtained agreements from 114 local dry cleaners to stop pricing practices discriminating against women customers. He secured a process for civilian review of police conduct and composed two bronze markers: One commemorates the five courageous citizens who integrated the Alexandria Library and the second remembers the 1971 Titans football team who helped integrate and unite T.C. Williams High School.

McClellan's academic division is currently working on a documentary about Gabriel Prosser, a slave who tried to overthrow slavery in 1800 and had to be legally purchased before he could be hanged. McClellan and his wife Catherine have a daughter Shannon and three granddaughters: seven, five, and three months. Shannon and her husband met in the Peace Corps and have lived in Madagascar for the past 14 years, which accounts for McClellan'slemur lore.

The McClellans keep up with Madagascar and the rest of the world by watching early morning world news from BBC, Aljazeera English, France 24, and other international TV stations. He's an avid reader, enjoys films, and favors Downton Abbey on TV. Even an Energizer Bunny needs down time.

Jimmie McClellan
Author, educator, and recipient of the Distinguished Alumni Award from the University of Texas.
Military Matters

Republican Senate candidate George Allen held a Veterans Issues Forum June 14 at American Legion Post 24, where he met with Alexandria veterans to discuss issues affecting military service members and their families.

"America enjoys her freedom today because of you," Allen said to the veterans gathered in the American Legion ballroom in Old Town. "You are the ones willing to give your lives for our country and your community."

Concerns raised by those in attendance included the high unemployment rate among veterans, the need for adequate disability claims processing, and the high unemployment rate among veterans. "I waited 14 months to get my disability claim processed," said Iraq War veteran Jared McMullen. "And despite my advanced education degrees, I am still unable to find a job."

Making the appearance on Flag Day, Allen was asked if he would support an amendment to the Constitution banning the burning or desecration of the American flag. "I am absolutely in favor of it," Allen said. "I think the Supreme Court was wrong in their decision. Desecrating the American flag is not expression, it's conduct."

Virginia is home to more than 340,000 active duty and reserve military members and their families. Additionally, over 823,000 veterans and military retirees reside in the Commonwealth. "This was a great opportunity to be here today," said Staff Sergeant Jerome Schor. "It speaks a lot of the candidate that he took advantage of an opportunity like this. It shows his focus is in the right place."

Republican candidate for Senate George Allen speaks at American Legion Post 24 in Alexandria June 14 during a roundtable discussion of veterans affairs issues.
2012 Contest Winners Announced

“What can you do to improve your local watershed?”

Thank you to all the students, teachers and partners who participated this year! Hundreds of area sixth- and seventh-graders competed to develop solutions to watershed issues. Classroom teams presented their proposals at the annual Earth Force Youth Summit on June 12 at George Mason University in Arlington.

This program empowers students to imagine, develop and create solutions in their local watersheds, as they develop research, problem-solving, budgeting, community-involvement and presentation skills.

Nearly $17,000 was awarded in cash prizes plus school awards. Agrium is also providing $10,000 to help implement student ideas.

Turning ideas into realistic solutions is the key to improving our local watersheds.

Alexandria/Arlington Finalists, Grades 6-7

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H-B Woodlawn Secondary Program won top honors for a project to build bat boxes to provide Big Brown Bat habitat.
Chris and Peggy White

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Agreeing To Move in Different Directions on Corridor

From Page 1

of the Arlington County Board and the Alexandria City Council approved a new agreement — delaying the alternative analysis until the location of the new Potomac Yard Metro station has been determined.

“It was unfortunate that somehow, through staff-to-staff working dialogues that we got off track a little bit in terms of communication,” said Alexandria Mayor Bill Euille during Saturday’s public hearing. “But that was easily resolved when we went to have a meeting with them, and now we are back on track.”

Under terms of the new agreement, Alexandria will wait until 2014 when the environmental impact process has been completed and the status of the new Metro station is known. At that time, Alexandria officials will begin an alternative analysis to apply to the federal government for funding. Meanwhile, Arlington plans to have the new streetcar system up and running by 2019. If Alexandria decides to join the Arlington streetcar system, city officials estimate, the upgrade would happen about two years later.

“This is a terrific place to end up, and it shows how well we work together even if some people want to suggest we don’t,” said Arlington County Board member Jay Fisette during Saturday’s regular meeting. “We work very well together. It’s just that we’re on some different timelines.”

ALTHOUGH THE ARLINGTON County Board unanimously approved the agreement and most of the members of the Alexandria City Council approved it, Councilman Alicia Hughes voted against it. When Arlington decided against moving forward with the optional alternatives analysis, Hughes accused the Arlington County Board of acting “in bad faith.”

Now, she says, moving forward with the amended agreement would be a mistake because it could become a financial burden on the city.

“To make a determination of whether we need to expend resources on a project that is going to cost $100 million per mile to put a streetcar down without having a very firm conversation about it,” said Hughes, “that’s not something I can realistically support.”

Alexandria has already created a special tax district for Potomac Yard to help fund the new Metro station at Potomac Yard, which is estimated to cost about $210 million. As a result, Alexandria does not have the same ability to forgo the alternative analysis because that could potentially imperil tens of millions of dollars of federal funding. Arlington County Board Chairwoman Mary Hynes said that the previous agreement between the two jurisdictions included an option for the two to share the cost of the alternatives analysis, which the county decided against.

“It was an option. It was always an option,” said Arlington County Board Chairwoman Mary Hynes. “And we all knew that we were going to have to kind of pause at a point in time and look at the question again, and that’s really where we are.”

SINCE 2011, the two neighboring jurisdictions have been working together to document the impact of converting the bus rapid transit corridor into a streetcar system. Critics point to potential logistical problems such as the location of a car barn and where the electrical substations would be located. They also have raised questions about Alexandria potentially having problems getting federal money in the future to connect to an existing system that did not have to meet all the requirements of the Federal Transit Administration. Then there’s the issue of how fares will be collected between the streetcar and bus system.

“There are many, many questions that deserve to be answered,” said Robert Adkins during the Arlington hearing last weekend. “Please do so, and if not at least come up with some credible excuses.”

Under the new approach, Arlington County will proceed directly to the environmental assessment study of the Arlington segment of the streetcar project. Meanwhile, the City of Alexandria will focus on completing the Potomac Yard Metrorail Station Environmental Impact Statement study. When that’s completed, city officials could initiate studies of potentially converting the bus system to a streetcar. This new approach allows the Alexandria segment of the streetcar project to be studied after the city knows the location of the new Potomac Yard Metro station.

“There’s some irony in this process,” said Jinks. “A smaller amount of money connecting a two-rail system comes very high on the priority ranking — it’s a competitive process to get Small Starts and New Starts funding — and so it actually may enhance our chances of getting federal funding.”

CRITICS OF STREETCARS say the system is costly and may be repetitive. Alexandria City Councilman Frank Fannon has indicated he may be unwilling to support conversion to a streetcar system, especially considering the financial spot the city will be in after borrowing vast amounts of money to construct the new Metro station. During Saturday’s public hearing on the issue, Fannon suggested that adding a streetcar system would be overkill.

“We are going to have the BRT line out there to get through Potomac Yard. You can drive your car, you can take a taxi, you can bike, you can walk, you can take the Metro — so that’s already six modes of transportation,” said Councilman Frank Fannon. “Do we really need a seventh mode of transportation?”

“There may be a tenth option out there. We don’t know,” responded Euille. “In the end, we may not do the streetcar.”

Scholarships for JROTC Cadets

At the May 16 Dinner Meeting of the Mount Vernon Chapter, Military Officers Association of America held at Fort Belvoir, five JROTC cadets of local high schools each received a $2,000 scholarship. They were awarded to the following cadets (from left): Cadet Major Ronald Harrell of Quantico H.S., Cadet Lt. Colonel E.J. Coleman of Mount Vernon H.S., Cadet Lt. Colonel Zachary Crews of West Potomac H.S., Cadet Aelecia Stephens of T.C. Williams H.S. Not pictured is Cadet Wuddy Zhan of Thomas Edison H.S.
17 Year Old’s Political Career Shows Persistence

Evan Draim’s efforts allowed him to win a delegate position in this year’s Republican National Convention.

By Erik Heaney
Gazette Packet

While most 17-year-olds were getting ready for prom or playing a varsity sport, Evan Draim was making phone calls, shaking hands, and giving speeches. That was because throughout spring, Draim was campaigning to win one of the three delegate positions in Virginia’s 8th congressional district.

“I wanted to show that the Republican party is interested in younger voters and is interested in the issues that they care about,” said Draim about his interest in Republican politics.

For a rising high school senior, Draim already had experience in political activism. As a sophomore, he created the Coalition for a Conservative Future at St. Stephen’s and St. Agnes Upper School. The student group serves to interest students in politics and educate them about conservative principles.

Draim says that he was motivated to create this group because of the political apathy he noticed among some of his classmates. “I saw that a lot of these issues were affecting people my age,” said Draim, “and a lot of young people either don’t understand these issues or are apathetic, so what I want to do with this movement is to promote an ideology that serves younger voters.”

But Draim has not only reached out to his fellow teenagers. While he has spoken mainly about political issues affecting the youth, he has not been afraid to engage his older peers. He has attended the Conservative Political Action Conference, or CPAC, for the past three years, and spoke at CPAC in 2011.

On Feb. 24, it seemed natural for Draim to file to become a delegate candidate for the RNC in Tampa, Fla.

The delegate election process is different from a primary election. Each congressional district’s Republican convention has a delegate election; Virginia has 49 delegates, and the 8th district has three delegate positions. Only individuals who register can vote to select delegates. About 500 registered voters attended the convention on May 12, about double the amount in the 8th district’s Republican convention in 2008.

Between February and the election on May 12, Draim was on his feet. “We had three months to campaign,” said Marta Saltus, an alternate delegate for the RNC and Draim’s campaign partner, “we would go to an event every day of the week.”

Along with near daily event appearances, Draim called every single registered voter, or more than 700 individuals, in order to win voters. Draim and his supporters point to his hard work as the source of his success.

“There were other people that I was thinking of supporting that I didn’t support because they were not working for it,” said Ron Wilcox, the lead organizer of the Tea Party in northern Virginia. “It’s not just a popularity contest, and I saw Evan working.”

Along with his work ethic, Wilcox attributed Draim’s success to his maturity and astuteness, both of which are beyond the normal of a teenage candidate, Draim’s persistence, maturity, and dedication towards conservative principles attracted voters.

“Overall, people welcomed my perspective with open arms,” said Draim, “I didn’t know how receptive people would be to a younger candidate, and really the Republican party was very supportive.”

Indeed, Draim’s hard work paid off. With 205 votes, he won the most weighted votes out of the seven candidates.

Now, Draim is one of 2,286 delegates that must help formulate the Republican platform and kickoff the 2012 presidential campaign in August. He says he hopes to represent the youth voice that is oftentimes missing in national politics.

“I want my candidacy to be a watershed, that other young people can see this and want to do it,” said Draim.

Draim has high hopes for his future career in politics. Others agree. “Anyone who underestimates him should do so at his peril,” said Wilcox, “because this kid is very sharp.”
PEOPLE

‘Reset Rally’
Wood kicks off City Council campaign.

By Jeanne Theismann
Gazette Packet

Billed as “The Rally to Reset City Hall,” Republican candidate John R. “Bob” Wood formally launched his campaign for City Council June 14 with a kick-off reception for more than 120 supporters in the courtyard of Gadsby’s Tavern.

“I am most thrilled by the make-up of the group that was there to support me,” said Wood, a graduate of the U.S. Military Academy at West Point with a degree in economics. “Democrats, Republicans and independents were all there. While I am running to be part of the solution, it’s important to me to do it as part of a team.”

A retired U.S. Army Lt. General, Wood is an anti-terrorism expert and served as the U.S. Army’s strategic planner for combating terrorism in the wake of the 9/11 attacks on the United States.

Currently the managing partner of Old Town consulting firm Star Strategies Group, he was a member of the Alexandria Waterfront Plan Work Group appointed by Mayor Bill Euille.

In his campaign kick-off remarks, Wood recalled the leadership advice he was given when he first attained the rank of general.

“General [Dennis] Reimer, Army Chief of Staff at that time, told me my job as a general was to listen carefully, think deeply and when necessary ask the right questions,” Wood said.

Wood’s decision to run for City Council stemmed from his disillusionment in the direction he sees the city going.

“The city I live in and love is on the wrong path,” Wood said. “Mistakes were made in the planning process of the Waterfront and the Beauregard Plans and the city attitude towards me personally and other citizens made me decide to run so that I can be part of the solution. RESET is not just an empty slogan. It is a statement of principles that I believe should guide the actions of our city government.”

Former TC Administrators Transfer to Elementary Schools
Balas, Eisenhour show Sherman’s focus.

By Iva Quint
Gazette Packet

A sign from Mount Vernon Community School’s office door states: “Mount Vernon is like a hockey game ... we all work overtime!” Looking at it, the school’s new principal laughed. “The staff here has been very warm, very welcoming,” he said.

Balas is a former T.C. Williams High School administrator who recently transferred to Mount Vernon, along with Mark Eisenhour, a T.C. Williams Pathways principal. Eisenhour is splitting his time between Mount Vernon Community School, Jefferson-Houston Elementary School and T.C. Williams High School as a Principal on Assignment.

Balas first began working with Alexandria City Public Schools in 2001 as a social studies teacher at Minnie Howard, then moved to the T.C. Williams King Street campus as the Executive Associate Principal in Curriculum and Instruction in 2007. Eisenhour began teaching at the Minnie Howard-T.C. Williams campus in 1994, then came to T.C. as an administrator in 2008.

“It was very cool first coming to T.C. because I got to see kids I had taught years before,” Balas said. “And as an administrator, I got to see things through a different lens; I was supporting both teachers and students, as opposed to just students.”

Originally scheduled to come to Mount Vernon on July 1, Balas found himself saying goodbye to T.C. on May 2 when the school’s former principal, Tina Radomsky, left earlier than expected.

“What resonated with me most during this process was the lack of constructive dialogue the city had with the citizens,” Wood said. “Analysis was outdated or absent, public input was dismissed, financial analysis abbreviated and debate stilled. That’s a rush to failure on the part of city planning.”

Wood explained that his campaign slogan, “RESET City Hall,” stands for Respect, Excellence, Service, Economy and Trust, a message that resonated with Alexandria resident Kevin Petit.

“While not normally a ‘joiner’ or ‘get off the couch supporter,’ I was disappointed by the parochialism and deafness of council members during the waterfront meetings,” Petit said. “Bob Wood was a measured, balanced moderator during that process, so when I learned he got fired up enough to run to ‘Reset the Council,’ I got fired up for him.”

In his campaign kick-off remarks, Wood recalled the leadership advice he was given when he first attained the rank of general.

“General [Dennis] Reimer, Army Chief of Staff at that time, told me my job as a general was to listen carefully, think deeply and when necessary ask the right questions,” Wood said.

“It wasn’t to lord over my troops but instead to listen carefully,” Wood said. “By listening carefully, the superintendent hopes to turn Mount Vernon’s academic record around before the federal government has to intervene.

“In addition to raising SOL scores and increasing competence in literacy and mathematics, Balas is determined to strengthen and structure Mount Vernon’s approach to its dual language program. The immersion program has students taking some classes that are taught entirely in Spanish.

“While the dual language program has gotten a lot of support over the years, we’ve also heard parents say that it isn’t structured enough,” said Balas. “So something we’re working on is strengthening that program.”

Eisenhour’s main goals for each school he is currently serving vary widely. “I am the project lead for the Jefferson-Houston School of the Future,” he said, referring to the new Jefferson-Houston building which is in the works with the city. “At T.C., I am the head of the Pathways program, which is actually ending at the end of this year.”

The Pathways program will be replaced with new satellite campuses around the city. And at Mount Vernon, Eisenhour’s main task is to support Balas and the rest of the staff in their task to turn around the school academically.

“Right now as a staff, we’re determining where we want to be as a school,” Balas said. “We’re planning with the end in mind.”

Balas, Eisenhour show Sherman’s focus.

“I thought that it would be hard coming from high schoolers to elementary school kids. But it hasn’t been at all. All of these kids are great.”

— Peter Balas

“I thought that it would be hard coming from high schoolers to elementary school kids, but it wasn’t enough,” said Balas. “So something we’re working on is strengthening that program.”

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People

Alexandria resident Sandi Mara has been re-elected to the Board of Directors at the Appalachian Trail Conservancy. The Board of Directors is made up of 15 elected volunteers who are elected to serve two-year terms. A volunteer to the A.T. for 25 years, she has served in a variety of positions, including three terms with the former Appalachian Trail Conference Board of Managers, where she played an active role in the ATC’s reorganization process, one term on the Stewardship Council, and currently chairs the Development Committee. She also served two terms as President of the Potomac Appalachian Trail Club (PATC). She is a Life Member of the ATC; an Honorary Life Member of the PATC; member of the Benton MacKaye Society and the Appalachian Trail Legacy Society. As a board member, Sandi brings professional skills in nonprofit management and human resources to the organization.

People Notes

Email announcements to gazette@connectionnewspapers.com. Deadline is Thursday at noon for the following week’s paper. Photos welcome.

Alexandria resident Oscar Estrada with his two daughters Mariana (15) and Marcela Estrada (10) celebrating a very happy Father’s Day (2011).
Congratulations to the Alexandria Country Day School Class of 2012


We are pleased to announce that members of the ACDS graduating class of 2012 will be attending the following high schools: Bishop Ireton, Bishop O’Connell, Elizabeth Seton, Episcopal, Field School, Georgetown Day, Georgetown Visitation, Gonzaga, J.E.B. Stuart, Madeira, Robinson Secondary, St. John’s, St. Stephen’s & St. Agnes, T.C. Williams, West Potomac, Washington-Lee, and Westover.

About Alexandria Country Day School:
Alexandria Country Day School is an independent K-8 school serving the metropolitan Washington, DC area. Founded in 1983, the community school serves 240 students in one building, promoting interaction among the grade levels and fostering leadership principles. For more information, visit the school’s website at www.acdsnet.org. Stop by over the summer to see our new gymnasium, dining hall, and performing arts center! We are proud of our growth and continued support of the ACDS community.
Making the Most of Summer

Advice for planning warm weather activities for children.

By Marilyn Campbell
Gazette Packet

"I'm bored, there's nothing to do," is a phrase often uttered by children during the summer. The end of the school year leaves many parents scrambling for activities to keep their young ones active and stimulated.

Experts say it is important to plan activities to keep children safe and out of trouble. "Adult supervision is important, especially for the younger age groups. Make sure there is a good balance between fun and learning in the activities chosen," said Chantilly resident Maria Londono, a mental health therapist for Fairfax County Community Health Care Network and Molina Health Care in Falls Church, Alexandria and Reston.

"Children should also have some down time, so don't kill yourself trying to fill every minute of the day with activities."

WHEN IT COMES TO CAMPS, think outside the box. While traditional day camps often fill as soon as registration opens, specialty camps such as cooking camps, yoga camps, sports camps and art camps frequently offer more availability.

"With specialty camps you can have a clear idea of what your child will be doing and your child will know what to expect," said Linda Feldman, director of Budding Yogis camp. "Like traditional camps, specialty camps usually include crafts and outdoor activities."

"Specialty camps provide an opportunity for campers to explore particular areas of interest and foster discovery, adventure and learning," said Jim Supple, director of summer programs at St. Stephen's & St. Agnes School in Alexandria.

George Mason University's Summer Camps and Youth Programs 2012 offers a variety of activities ranging from sports to academics.

"Each of [our] camps is run individually and all of the camps are listed on our website," said Angelique LeBlanc, an event coordinator at the school's office of University Information. "One of the most popular of our camps is the George Mason University Forensics Camp. Also popular are all of the camps that are held at the aquatic center, and our performing arts and music camps."

KEEP LEARNING IN THE MIX. The National Summer Learning Association reports that most students fall more than two months behind in math skills during the summer.

Susan Goldberg, principal of Potomac Elementary School in Potomac, says that educational tools are all around. "Make math a part of everyday experiences. There are interesting and fun websites, games and problem solving activities that can insure that your child continues their love of learning," she said.

Don't forget literature. Experts say that children should read every day. "If you take time to read alongside or to your children, they will make it a life-long habit, and they'll enrich their lives at the same time," said Goldberg.

Take advantage of summer programs at local libraries. "Check your local libraries for story times and arts-and-crafts-related activities. Most libraries and community recreational centers have programs full of stimulating and age-appropriate activities for children and their families during the summer," said Londono.

LEAVE TIME FOR FAMILY ACTIVITIES. "Keep in mind that summer is a time for fun and a break from the routine. Whatever activities parents plan for their children, they should be enjoyable and stress-free."

— Susan DeLaurentis

Instructor Linda Feldman leads a group of yoga campers in a downward dog tunnel at Budding Yogis. Specialty camps could be an option for parents still searching for summer activities for their children.

School Notes

Send announcements to the Alexandria Gazette Packet, by e-mail to gazette@connectionnewspapers.com. Deadline is Thursday at noon for the following week's paper. Photos are encouraged.

Bianca Velez of Alexandria has earned a degree in electrical engineering from the Georgia Institute of Technology in Atlanta.

Claremont University students Drew Dismuke and Quintas McCorkle of Alexandria were both named to the dean's list for the spring 2012 semester.

Colin Chadduck of Alexandria has been named to the Emory and Henry College Dean's List for the spring semester.

Washington and Lee University awarded degrees to the following Alexandria students on May 24: Meredith Elizabeth Mitchell, Vanessa Joan Ndege, Natalie Elizabeth Stier and Lee Carey Tackett.

Emily Coda, daughter of Karen Coda and the late Michael Coda of Alexandria, received a bachelor's degree cum laude from Smith College on May 20. A 2008 graduate of TC Williams High School, Emily double majored in German Studies and Medieval Studies.

Ann Gannett of Alexandria, received a masters degree in public administration from Marist College.

Claremont University students Drew Dismuke and Quintas McCorkle of Alexandria were both named to the dean's list for the spring 2012 semester.

Ashley Pratt of Alexandria, a senior interdisciplinary studies major, was named to the Lycoming College's Dean's List for the spring semester.

Colin Chadduck of Alexandria has been named to the E&H Dean's List for the spring semester.

Hellen Tafesse of Alexandria has been named to Fisher College's Dean's List for the Fall 2011 semester.

Abigail T. M. Martin, daughter of Curtiss Martin and Virginia Drewry of Alexandria, received a B.A. in The Built Environment, a contract major from Williams College on June 5. Martin, during college, participated in the following activities: Vice President and Naturalist of the Williams Outing Club (fall 2010-spring 2011), Treasurer and Vice President of W.O.C. (fall 2009-spring 2010) student co-chair (fall 2010-spring 2011) and committee member (fall 2009-spring 2010) of Campus Environmental Advisory Committee. Hopkins Memorial Forest student caretaker (spring 2009-spring 2011); Williams-Myhn Maritime Studies Program (fall 2008); Women's Varsity Crew (fall 2007-spring 2009). Honors and prizes include: 1966 Scholar in Environmental Studies (spring 2009-spring 2011); Theorist Fellow (sustain- able design fellowship, spring 2009).

Audrey Mackey, a resident of Alexandria, was named to the Dean's List for the spring 2011 semester at The College of Saint Rose in Albany, N.Y.

The following students were recognized as members of the dean's list for the spring semester at Eastern Mennonite University, Harrisonburg, Va.: Stephanie Rheinheimer, a junior social work major; Caitlin Butler, a senior nursing major from Alexandria.

The following local students from Alexandria graduated from the University of Kansas on May 13: Eyob Alemayahu, a senior in Business Administration and Doctor of Pharmacy.

See Schools, Page 42
CONGRATULATIONS TO THE CLASS OF 2012!

Graduates of the Class of 2012 were accepted to the following high schools:

- Bishop Ireton High School
- Commonwealth Academy
- Edmund Burke School
- Episcopal High School
- The Field School
- Flint Hill School
- Gonzaga College High School
- The Howard Gardner School
- Maret School
- The Potomac School
- St. Stephen’s & St. Agnes School

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5917 Telegraph Road Alexandria, VA 22310 • 703.960.3000 • www.browneacademy.org
Fortunately for the Alexandria Library, the map and ledger were donated at no cost to the city. The acquisition, which was recently purchased for $30,000, was donated to the library by a coalition of local history enthusiasts who joined forces to purchase the items and give them to the city. The group includes the Alexandria Library Company, the Alexandria Forum, the Alexandria Historical Society, the Friendship Veterans Fire Engine Association and the Historic Alexandria Foundation. Library leaders say the historic documents are an important tie to the city’s early history.

“As we move forward into a new period in which electronic books and electronic databases are the direction in which things are going, the printed word should always remain a strong part of our history,” said Rose Dawson, director of the Alexandria Library. “These documents allow us to see how far we’ve come, and that we don’t need to take for granted the accomplishments we’ve made moving from the written word to an e-book, that there is still value in being able to see something like this.”

THE ORIGINS OF ALEXANDRIA read like something out of Roman mythology. At the center of the story is the Alexander family, which has two feuding brothers. One of the brothers did not want to sell the property to create a new city on the Potomac River. The other brother did. In the end, it was the influence of another family — the Fairfax clan — that carried the day. The House of Burgesses eventually passed a bill creating the city at West’s Point, the modern-day location of Robinson North terminal, and the city of Alexandria was created.

“As possibly as a sop to Phillip Alexander, it was called Alexandria,” wrote historian Ted Pulliam in the new book “Historic Alexandria.”

Half a century later, Alexandria was on its way out of the commonwealth of Virginia. The seat of the federal government was being created in a newly formed District of Columbia, and Alexandria was within the border of the district, thanks to some behind the scenes negotiation of George Washington. This is the era in which the 1796 map was created, a time when Alexandria residents felt they were about to become part of a thriving capital that would initiate a period of unprecedented commerce.

“It was a pivotal time in Alexandria’s history, and there were a lot of people that thought Alexandria was going to become the next Baltimore,” said Ellen Donald, president of Friends of Local History Special Collections. “Of course, we know that’s not how things turned out now. But they didn’t know that then.”

THE MAP will be on display in the Barrett Branch Library before September, which is the 75th anniversary of the city’s public library system. Beyond that, the 200-page ledger is sure to provide a much more detailed account of the late 18th century in Alexandria.

“This is not just a map, but a history of Alexandria dating back to the 1650s,” said Gary Eyler, who sold the map and ledger to the coalition. “There’s nothing like it. Alexandria should be proud to have it.”

Until it was presented to the Alexandria Library this week, the 1796 map was the only map of Alexandria in the 18th century that was in private hands. Now that it’s owned by the city, the map will take its place in the library’s collection as the oldest Alexandria map that the city owns. Earlier maps exist, but they are owned by the Library of Congress. Experts in the city’s history are particularly interested in shedding some light on the Alexander family, which played such a crucial role in the creation of the city.

“There is so little about the Alexander family that we know from this period,” said City Archeologist Pam Cressey. “So anything we can do to bring back some of that history is significant.”

The 1796 map was drawn on paper dating to 1794.
Del Ray Celebrates Local Music

One of Del Ray’s own to perform in music festival.

By Ross Sylvestri
Gazette Packet

Del Ray Music Week will be held June 18-22. Along with Music Week, the Del Ray Music Festival will be held on Saturday, June 23. Alexandria’s Kate Moran, lead singer in the Kate Moran Band and also the festival’s chair, will perform. Moran also helped create the festival.

The festival was created in 2006 to have “an event that was just a music festival for Del Ray,” said Moran, unlike other festivals which had music as one part. She also says that it’s a chance to highlight the musicians in the area.

Del Ray Music Week, which was started in 2011, features several bands at different locations in Del Ray. Moran said that Music Week started with the idea of trying to get people to explore the community since the festival is only one day. It also allows new acts to perform each year at the festival, while still bringing back popular choices.

Moran said that both events are made possible with the support of the local business community. “It’s fully sponsored by Del Ray businesses,” said Moran. In addition to the support from businesses, Moran said that the festival wouldn’t be possible without volunteers, like the food vendors and the event coordinator.

Moran always had an interest in performing from a young age, starting with putting on plays for her family. She also had an interest in being in her own band. “It was kind of a dream that I had in my head, ‘It would be awesome to have my own rock band,’” she said.

In 2006, Moran created the Kate Moran Band and became its lead singer. She continues to sing in the band today, in addition to her full-time job at the Department of Education and pursuing her doctorate at George Mason University.

Moran never expected that she would be the lead singer in a band. She said that she was always someone who would just sing in the background for plays. “I had always dreamt about being a singer in a band, but I never really thought of myself as a front person for a band.”

Del Ray Music Festival

Schedule

MONDAY/JUNE 18
Chad Christian at Kikadee, 5-6 p.m.
Rick Libby at Kikadee at Show of Hands, 6-7 p.m.
Addiesville at Vital, 6:30-7:30 p.m.
CallingMary at Eclectic Nature, 7-8:30 p.m.
The Weathervanes at Farmers Market, 7-9 p.m.
Oklahoma Car Crash and Mary Mary Quite Contrary at Labels Exchange, 7-9 p.m.
Ellia Sophia at Artfully Chocolate, 7-8:30 p.m.
The Highballers at St. Elmo’s Coffee Pub, 8-10 p.m.
Brenda Jean at Evening Star, 8-10 p.m.

TUESDAY/JUNE 19
Del Ray Performing Arts Center at Bellies and Babies, 5-6 p.m.
Alex Sussman at Kikadee, 5-6 p.m.
Brian Pagels at Show of Hands, 6-7 p.m.
The Walkaways at Vital, 6:30-7:30 p.m.
Mars Rodeo at Eclectic Nature, 7-8:30 p.m.
Dr. Tim Parks at Farmers Market, 7-9 p.m.
Emy Tseng at Cheesetique, 7-9 p.m.
Anthony Pirog (of Janel and Anthony) and Insect Factory at Labels Exchange, 7-9 p.m.
Kristina Furey at Artfully Chocolate, 7-8:30 p.m.
Dear Creek at St. Elmo’s Coffee Pub, 8-10 p.m.
The NRIs at Evening Star, 8-10 p.m.

WEDNESDAY/JUNE 20
Harris Face at Kikadee, 5-6 p.m.
Rainbow Lady & Princess Fiddlesticks at Bellies and Babies, 5-6 p.m.
The Fiddle Pines at Show of Hands, 6-7 p.m.
The Mercy Alliance at Vital, 6-7:30 p.m.
Black Muddy River Band at Eclectic Nature, 7-8:30 p.m.
Lethal Peanut at Farmers Market, 7-9 p.m.
Thirteen Towers and Four Mile Run at Labels Exchange, 7-9 p.m.
Herb & Hanson at Artfully Chocolate, 7-8:30 p.m.
Andrew Pais at St. Elmo’s Coffee Pub, 8-10 p.m.
The Beanstalk Libary at Evening Star, 8-10 p.m.

THURSDAY/JUNE 21
Evyan Bliss and the Welcher at Farmers Market, 7-9 p.m.
Mike Bowers at Kikadee, 5-6 p.m.
Groovy Nate at Bellies and Babies, 5-6 p.m.
Jassna Auday at Show of Hands, 6-7 p.m.
Rodger French Trio at Vital, 6:30-7:30 p.m.
Vico Cycle at Eclectic Nature, 7-8:30 p.m.
Talk It and Harness Flux (John Masters of the Cheniers/ Metropolitan), 7-9 p.m.
Beveva and Melissa Stoltz at Artfully Chocolate, 7-7:30-8:30 p.m.
Not So Modern Jazz Band at St. Elmo’s Coffee Pub, 8-10 p.m.
Tiffany Thompson at Fireflies, 8-10 p.m.
Adrian Krygowski at Evening Star, 8-10 p.m.

Schedule (con’t.)

FRIDAY/JUNE 22
Amber Dutton at Bellies and Babies, 5-6 p.m.
Owen Danoff at Show of Hands, 6-7 p.m.
Velvet Undertone at Del Ray Artsians, 6-8 p.m.
50 Man Machine at Vital, 6:30-7:30 p.m.
Andrew Acosta and the New Old-Time String Band at Eclectic Nature, 7-8:30 p.m.
Wynold at Cheesetique, 7-9 p.m.
1&1 Riddim at Farmers Market, 7-9 p.m.
Orchard Wall at Labels Exchange, 7-9 p.m.
Art Hildebrand at Artfully Chocolate, 7-9:30-8:30 p.m.
Tiffany Thompson at St. Elmo’s Coffee Pub, 8-10 p.m.

Del Ray Music Festival

Adam Muhlendorf and Allison de la Torre dance to the music of the Harley String Band at the 5th annual Del Ray Music Festival in 2011.

Del Ray Music Week

The 6th Annual Del Ray Music Festival kicks off with Del Ray Music Week, Monday, June 18 through Friday, June 22. Each evening between 5-10 p.m., local bands will perform at indoor and outdoor venues leading up to the festival on Saturday, June 23.

Fifty bands from the D.C. metro area are set to perform, including the WeatherVanes, The NRIs, Adrian Krygowski, Wynold, Dear Creek, Herb & Hanson, Velvet Undertone, Lethal Peanut, Talk It, Tiffany Thompson, and Owen Danoff. Fans of folk, rock, indie, soul, country, jazz, world music, children’s music, punk, pop, reggae, experimental, bossa nova, and classical should come out and see the shows.

Venues are located in the 1500 to 2700 blocks of Mount Vernon Ave., Alexandria. All venues are Metro accessible via Yellow and Blue lines at Braddock Road (10 to 15 min walk). DASH and Metro Bus also serve the neighborhood.

Del Ray Music Festival

The Del Ray Music Festival will be on Saturday, June 23, at the Mount Vernon Recreation Center fields at 2701 Commonwealth Avenue, Alexandria from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. Visit www.delraymusicfestival.com.
Carlyle Hosts Food, Wine Festival

Foodies and grape lovers can gather to enjoy fine cuisines and Virginia wines at the 1st Annual Alexandria’s Food & Wine Festival on Saturday, June 23.

This inaugural signature event will transform Old Town’s Carlyle District into a lively festival with live entertainment, a children’s corner, food and wine tasting, a food demonstration show area and a VIP networking reception for sponsors. Local restaurants will compete for the best appetizer, the best main course and the best dessert.

Attendees will be able to sample food and wine from a variety of local restaurants and Virginia wineries.

Alexandria’s Food and Wine Festival 2012 participating restaurants include: The Chart House, Delia’s Mediterranean Grill, San Antonio Bar & Grill, Walker’s Grille, Clydes at Mark Center, Rita’s Ice, Indigo Landing, Alexandria Cupcake, La Walker’s Grille, Clydes at Mark Center, Rita’s Ice Mediterranean Grill, San Antonio Bar & Grill, patting restaurants include: The Chart House, Delia’s Mediterranean Grill, San Antonio Bar & Grill.

The judging panel consists of Lisa Shapiro, dining advertising, George Washington University and Inova Alexandria’s Food and Wine Festival 2012 participating restaurants include: The Chart House, Delia’s Mediterranean Grill, San Antonio Bar & Grill, Walker’s Grille, Clydes at Mark Center, Rita’s Ice Mediterranean Grill, San Antonio Bar & Grill.

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In the Company of James Madison, June 1812
Discuss the Outbreak of War at Presidential Salon

The date is June 24, 1812 and the nation is now at war with England. President James Madison with his cabinet and Mrs. Madison will discuss the nation’s recent declaration of war against England and commencing hostilities. Talks will allude to the war plans and other matters pertaining to this change in the nation’s events.

Join this conversation with the fourth President of the United States, in the context of his own time, and be a witness to the events of this year of 1812 as the events unfold. Be a party to the public debate in the company of James Madison, as presented by John Douglas Hall, at Gadsby’s Tavern Museum in this on-going series of presidential salons which continues through 2014.

Since 1985, John Douglas Hall has been following the life of James Madison on a day-by-day basis. He offers an opportunity for today’s audiences to engage James Madison in conversation in the context of Madison’s own time. In appearance, in content, syntax, and with a remarkable command of the period and the man, John Douglas Hall has presented James Madison in numerous, academic, governmental, public and private forums for more than 25 years.

In the late 18th and early 19th centuries, Gadsby’s Tavern was the center of social and political life in Alexandria and the newly created City of Washington. The tavern served as the premier gathering place for residents — including George Washington — and visitors to eat, drink, learn, and influence history.

The salon, held in the Main Dining Room of Gadsby’s Tavern Restaurant, Sunday, June 24, 3-4:30 p.m.; check-in will be at Gadsby’s Tavern Museum, 134 N. Washington St. Reservations are recommended and tickets to each event are $15 per person and $10 for high school/college students. Madeira, Port and other libations will be available for purchase at the event. To purchase tickets, visit www.gadsbytavern.org or call 703-746-4242. The next salon with President Madison is scheduled for July 22, 2012.

Alexandria Voted in Top Arts Destinations

A new reader poll conducted by AmericanStyle magazine ranks Alexandria fourth among the nation’s best arts destinations.

Rising from an 8th place ranking last year, Alexandria beat the 2011 mid-size cities winner, New Orleans, as well as perennial favorites Savannah, Miami and Charleston. The top three spots went to St. Petersburg, Dayton and Tampa. Alexandria has had a top 10 ranking since 2010. Alexandria is home to the internationally renowned Torpedo Factory Art Center, as well as an eclectic collection of art galleries, a public art collection of more than 40 works of art and the Art League, one of the nation’s largest and oldest multi-service organizations for artists. The city’s Fall Arts Jubilee features a spectrum of signature events throughout the city, from outdoor art festivals to indoor performances, exhibitions and films.

To see the complete list of the Top 25 Art Destinations, Mid-Size Cities, visit www.americanstyle.com.

ENTERTAINMENT
ENTERTAINMENT

Flavors to Savor in Clay

As temperatures tip toward toasty, potters are trending to the wild side of summer seasonings in a “Spice it Up!” show at the Torpedo Factory’s Scope Gallery.

Displays are peppered with experimental ceramic art, vibrant glazes and whimsical forms for all things saucy and spicy. A dash of inspiration comes with sculpted salt cellars. Handled double dishes hold condiments, nuts and sweets. Dispensers serve savory olive oil, vinegar, soy sauce and other dressings. Embrace zesty seasonings with artisan garlic pots, sauce and syrup pitchers and dishes for every detail of the tablescape. Organically-formed salt and pepper shaker sets add playful spunk. A porcelain butter dish shows geometric flare with its folded lid and saucer. Squared pitchers and dishes for every detail of the tablescape. Ceramics are peppered with experimental ceramic art, vibrant glazes and whimsical forms for all things saucy and spicy. Find a sweet honey pot or a tangy relish tray. A quickly textured cream and sugar set adds flavor to morning Joe or afternoon tea. Hand-painted lidded jars hold jam, mustard or olives. The Ceramic Guild is an organization of more than 40 Juried Washington, D.C. area artists. Organization members exhibit themed shows every other month at the artist-run cooperative Scope Gallery in Alexandria’s Torpedo Factory Art Center.

Visit These Houses of Worship

Join a Club, Make New Friends, or Expand Your Horizons…

Details
The Ceramic Guild show runs June 24 to July 29, 10 a.m.-6 p.m. daily, Thursdays until 9 p.m., 105 North Union Street, ground floor Studio 19, Alexandria. Call Scope Gallery at 703-548-6288 or visit www.torpedofactory.org/galleries/scope

Porcelain eggplant and pear salt cellars/condiment dishes by Suan Ying of Vienna.

Textured cream pitcher and sugar bowl set by Rebecca Zweibel of Alexandria.

From Page 34

reference desk, 703-746-1704 for stories. Ellen Coolidge Burke Branch Library, 4701 Seminary Road, Story Time, 10:30 a.m. or 3 p.m. Children’s program, ages 3-5 (children only). Sign-up required. Call 703-746-1702x5 or visit children’s desk. Charles E. Beatty, Jr. Central Library, 5005 Duke Street, J. Hayden. Opening for En Vogue, 7:30 p.m. The Music Hall. Tickets are on sale now at www.jworldtickets.com.

FRIDAY/JUNE 29

Serenade Festival. 7:30 p.m. “Opening Celebration” with a welcome address by Alexandria’s Mayor W. D. Fife. Take a trip around the world with this opening festival concert that will feature exciting and unique performances presented by choirs from Canada (Countermeasure and Cantare Children’s Choir), Colombia (Venezuela e Liber), Australia (Young Adelaide Voices) and the USA (Boston City Singers). At St. Paul’s Episcopal Church, 228 South Pitt Street, Old Town Alexandria.

Serenade Festival. 12 noon Free. Lunch time treat at Alexandria’s Market Square, 301 King Street.

FRIDAY/JUNE 29

Concert By 2012 Serenade! Noon-1 p.m. Concert by 2012 Serenade! Washington, D.C. Choral Festival. Hear music presented by choirs from Colombia, Australia and the United States. Market Square, 301 King St., call 703-746-5592.

Anthony James Band (Southern Serenade Festival’s “African Evening.” 6 p.m. Free. In partnership with Alfred Street Baptist Church in Alexandria, Classical Movements will present two exhilarating choirs from Africa (Isimoloe) and Ghana. At Alfred Street Baptist Church, 301 South Alfred Street, Alexandria.

How to Get To Wonderful: 5-15-6-45 p.m. Ronona Webb, Reiki Master, leads this 90-minute class on creating the life you want. Cost is $47. At Alexandria Massage Therapy 1217 Prince St., Alexandria, 703-546-0310.

The Clan MacLeod North American Gathering at the Alexandria Crowne Plaza Hotel will have the Stanley R. Milford Memorial Lecture, open to the public, by Australian John MacLeod at 7 p.m.

Nature-Based Preschool Open House. 9-11 a.m. Free. Come see this mini-farm located on two acres adjoining Huntley Meadows Park. This year round, non-profit preschool serves children 18 months to pre-kindergarten. Frog Pond Early Learning Center, 7204 Harrison Lane, Alexandria. Call 703-765-7663 or visit www.frogp olmad.org.

The Best in Family Dining

A fit for a king on a family budget

An Alexandria community fixture for more than 100 years, the Royal Restaurant offers the best in Greek, Italian and American cuisine. Enjoy burgers, steaks, prime rib, chicken, seafood, pasta and full salad bar complete with special children’s menu items.

734 North Saint Asaph Street, Alexandria, Virginia 22314 703-546-1616 • www.theroyalrestaurant.com

Award-winning wine menu • Major credit cards accepted.
SSSAS Celebrates Class of ‘12

The St. Stephen's & St. Agnes School Commencement for the Class of 2012 was held on Saturday, June 9.

Class of 2012 Valedictorian Sarah Pariser gives her address.

Eileen Sullivan, SSSAS Class of 1995, Commencement Speaker and 2012 Pulitzer Prize winner.

SSSAS Administration (from left): Clay Perfall, chair of the SSSAS Board of Governors; Joan Holden, Head of School; The Rev. Sean Cavanaugh, Chaplain; Eileen Sullivan ’95, Commencement Speaker; Bob Weiman, Director of Lower School; Bud Garikes, Director of Upper School.

Commonwealth’s Graduates

The Class of 2012 graduated from Commonwealth Academy at the George Washington Masonic Memorial on Friday, June 8. The head of the school, Dr. Susan J. Johnson, announced that all 16 of this year’s graduates were moving on to four-year colleges in the fall. Along with a commencement address from Tom Fitzgerald, a reporter for Fox News, the graduating class presented a video of their senior year.

Commonwealth Academy, at 1321 Leslie Avenue, Alexandria, is a coeducational college preparatory day school for average to superior 3rd-12th grade students who benefit from small classes and instruction designed to address various learning styles, including those students who have organizational, attention, or learning differences.

— Kelly Witowsky

Military Notes

Navy Seaman Recruit Joyce K. Sowa, a 2004 graduate of T.C. Williams High School, Alexandria, recently completed U.S. Navy basic training at Recruit Training Command, Great Lakes, Ill.

1st Lieutenant Eugene Finkle from Alexandria completed the Aircraft Maintenance Officer course at Sheppard Air Force Base, Texas.

Navy Lt. j. g. Michael M. Webb of Alexandria was recently designated a Naval Aviator while serving with Training Squadron 22, Naval Air Station, Kingsville, Texas.

Webb was presented with the coveted “Wings of Gold, marking the culmination of months of flight training.

Navy Lt. Christopher W. Wolff of Alexandria recently reported for duty with Commander, Naval Surface Force Atlantic Fleet, Norfolk, Va.

Marine Corps Pfc. Shaniece S. Stevenson, a 2010 graduate of Mount Vernon High School, Alexandria, Va., recently completed 12 weeks of basic training at Marine Corps Recruit Depot, Parris Island, S.C.
Betsy Ross and Free Speech

By Harry Covert

It’s important to honor and revere Old Glory and not just on the day set aside as Flag Day. The official observance was yesterday, June 14. It didn’t have to be a federal holiday, a day off, to be a proud flag waver. I don’t give any credence to those who take pleasure besmirching the Betsy Ross creation which has stood the test of time, honoring the nation and Americans of all stripes.

I’m one of those who wears a flag lapel pin. I often rotate between a dual decoration that includes a state or Commonwealth flag or another combination of the U.S.-United Kingdom. On Sundays it’s unusual to see such adornments as The Flag with the Christian flag. It’s a rather dazzling combination and often draws attention and comments.

Once during an impromptu visit to Washington, some friends and I happened upon a demonstration. A bunch of unkempt (gnaromuses) were attempting some disruption in front of the Department of Education. They were whooping and hollering, just being nuisances. The reason for this early morning bellowing was not evident. Suddenly one of the crowd pulled out a cigarette lighter and a flag attempting to burn it.

Among my colleagues was a burly former college football player. Before the fellow could get the flame started, he was knocked to the cement and someone landed a big fist to his nose. Shortly blood was streaming down his face and the sidewalk emblazoned with red splotches.

There was no media around that day, no video recording nor still photography and no risk of an internet appearance. In those days there was no such thing as telephones with cameras or the web. Organizers apparently didn’t know anything about media contact.

Yes, free speech may have been curtailed a bit that day. I don’t think so. It was fun to see someone come to the defense of good versus evil, the symbol of America, preserving honor. No police were on the scene.

After some slobbering the group dispersed, afraid of any more pugilistic activities. No criminal case here either.

Not wearing a suit or sports jacket? A flag pin can adorn shirt pockets or collars.

On occasion, just to be different, I wear a silverfly. That’s right, a fly. During May, it’s not unusual that such events can occur as the gold Confederate States of America adornment. I also have a tiny pin symbolizing a shock of wheat.

The interesting thing is no one ever comments or asks their meanings.

Let me explain. The fly pin arrived on my desk in 1958. Producers of the Vincent Price movie “The Fly” sent the symbol to newspapers all over the country. A friend provided the CSA ornament and the wheat shock was a gift from “gleaners” who collect food for the world’s hungry.

I’ve never been one to wear t-shirts with names of products or companies nor do I have the names of car-dealers on vehicles I drive. I draw the line at free advertising. The exception is for Betsy Ross’ creation.

Even when I’m traveling abroad it’s always with me. Once in a coffee shop near London’s Trafalgar Square, there was a nice welcoming smile, and this, “Hello Yank!”

I hope you will join me this year in honoring Old Glory. Let’s try to emulate.

Beth Craig Jones
Alexandria

On Right Side For Public Health

To the Editor:

This week, Mayor Euille took a decisive stand in support of public health. He joined with 90 other mayors, together representing more than 33 million Americans, and submitted a letter to the Environmental Protection Agency in support of the Agency’s recently-finalized Mercury and Air Toxics Standards.

The new air quality standards call for nation-wide standards to reduce mercury pollution: coal-fired power plants. The standards will protect young children from the nation’s single largest source of mercury pollution: coal-fired power plants.

Mayor Euille and the Alexandria City Council are to be commended for their efforts to combat air pollution from the GenOn power plant, the largest local source of air pollutants like mercury, and contributing to the commitment by GenOn to close that plant by 2010. By signing this letter, Mayor Euille will help to reduce pollution from other coal-fired power plants, both in Alexandria and across the country.

Mayor Euille should be applauded for understanding the real day-to-day needs of protecting the health of Alexandrians. His support for public health and strong mercury standards represents the type of leadership that all elected officials should aspire to emulate.

Dean Amel, Chair
Sierra Club-Mount Vernon Group

Helping Small Business

To the Editor:

I am enjoying my fifth year as a small business owner in Alexandria. I have received a number of awards, The Alexandria Chamber of Commerce Small Business of the Year award.

Recently, I was faced with one of the unusual events that can occur as a small business owner. I was feeling disappointed and uncertain. Unsure of where to turn, I took the advice of a long-time client that I contacted Val Hawkins, president and CEO of the Alexandria Economic Development Partnership. Mr. Hawkins listened to my story, understood that time was of the essence and advised me. I never expected that they would take such an active and personal interest in my situation. Christina said, “We want you to keep your business in our city.” And she meant it! They exceeded my expectations and saved my small business in this economy. They have given me the opportunity to grow and create a few more jobs in the city.

I want to thank my client, Val Hawkins, Christina Mindrup Robinson and Dianne Sappenfield for their care and professional attention during my time of need. I am so proud to be a member of the Alexandria community. Having a valuable resource like the AEDP is just another wonderful thing about owning a business in the City of Alexandria.

Christina Mindrup Robinson and Dianne Sappenfield

Aida Fekir
Owner, Aida Spa
1309 King Street

Appreciating Old Glory

To the Editor:

Oftentimes our ownership of our community of The Heritage At Old Town of Alexandria, for some reason or another, the American flag seems to be forgotten for a while.

But on this day, the Red White and Blue Old Glory flew on June 12, 2012 — a day before Flag Day — at our community. I find myself speechless and eyes full of tears after I exit the building where I reside. I look up to the sky and there’s Old Glory — a sight so beautiful that I made a u-turn back into the building and just stood at the desk speechless and pointing to the front door as the leasing person of our building asked if everything was OK. I just smiled and said, “The flag, The American Flag... Thanks! Thanks to the management and maintenance staff of our community.”

As I went back outside I stood there and thought about our land, our country, our nation and all who come to America, a land of freedom and a land of many languages. Seeing Old Glory high in the sky within our community of The Heritage At Old Town... Awesome!

Geri Baldwin
Alexandria

Letters
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OPINION

Just the Beginning

By Dr. Morton Sherman
Superintendent of Schools

Recently, the keynote speaker at Wellesley High School in Massachu- setts delivered a profound message to her graduates in words that are not special.” While his remarks were intended to be a reality check for students … a reminder of how competitive the world will be after leaving high school … I believe the T.C. Williams High School Class of 2012 is special. Each and every student is special because of who they are and the community from which they hail. Beyond wishing them the very best, we charge them to take care of themselves and to take care of others and to always remember that they are special. Once a Titan; always a Titan.

Having been part of more than 35 high school graduations as a superintendent, each one is inspiring and deeply touching. This year’s graduation at T.C. Williams High School on June 16 was truly inspiring and touching. Each graduate, each faculty member and each of their family members felt some pride and joy, some love and happiness and a great sense of accomplishment as a participant in these commencement exercises.

They are remarkable Titans; good caring young men and women with a sense of responsibility. Academically, this class has continued the transformation of T.C. with the largest percentage of any T.C. class taking AP courses – 53 percent and leading the way with a pass rate of more than 92 percent on the English and Writing SOLs. The Class of 2012 has produced special leaders in many arenas, winning awards in journalism, the arts, sciences, athletics and producing two National Merit Scholarship and two National Achievement Scholarship recipients.

These graduates are going on to great lives and in life including attending some of the best colleges and universities in the nation. Members of the Class of 2012 will attend Georgetown University, Dartmouth College, Columbia University, University of Virginia, The Ohio State University, Syracuse University, Cornell University, John Hopkins University, and many other great institutions across the country. They will enlist in the military and they will work in fields that they received training in through our Career and Technical Education courses at T.C. Williams High School.

Like the tree that is the gift from the Class of 2012 to the school – a gift in memory of the seniors who we lost this year, T.C. will continue to grow and to flourish. While our recent graduates are making their start in the world, we will continue to work toward preparing our next class of graduates. We will continue preparing our school with high standards, high expectations, and excellent teaching.

Each year brings a new beginning. I hope you will join us next year and remain involved in the education of our children as we work to meet the needs of our students with the launch of the T.C. Satellite Camps, enhanced elementary reading guidelines, a new plan for the Talented and Gifted program and continued focused commitment to ensuring all students receive an excellent education in Alexandria City Public Schools.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

From Page 37

Lack of Action

To the Editor:

Three years ago this month, the City of Alexandria approved the Urban Forestry Master Plan, a far-thinking document intended to increase tree planting and care in the city.

Unfortunately, the Council has failed to take any actions to implement the plan.

The council’s lack of action is disappointing in three respects. First, our tree canopy has declined significantly during the past decade or so. Second, tree planting and care is one of the cheapest and most effective means of improving public health and the environment. Third, the council does not appear to consider trees as an investment.

Consider what the council’s underinvestment means:

1) More air pollution. Because there are fewer trees to absorb pollutants, life is more difficult for people with asthma and other respiratory illnesses.

2) More water pollution. Tree root systems and the microbes associated with them break down toxic chemicals, but now more of those chemicals wash into local waters and ultimately the Chesapeake Bay.

3) Hotter summers. A good tree canopy can reduce ambient air temperatures by 10 degrees or more. Our declining tree cover means that fewer people are able to walk or exercise outside during the sweltering summer months.

4) Less than expected real estate values and tax revenues. Many studies have linked trees and higher real estate values. Our already-high real estate values could perhaps be even higher with a greater tree canopy.

In short, a greater city investment would more than pay for itself.

I believe the council cares about trees. It has also struggled with a difficult budget situation in recent years. But the budget situation always seems to be challenging, and even in good times, the city has undervested in tree planting and care.

This year, the council cut $70,000 from the tree care budget, a very shortsighted move, because newly planted trees that are not watered often die and young trees that are not pruned often result in bigger and costlier problems later on.

The Urban Forestry Master Plan includes many practical recommendations for reversing the decline of our tree canopy, none of which are hugely expensive. A greater investment will be needed, but it can be made over a decade or more.

The plan identified many opportunities for planting more trees, on public and private property. But tree care can be even more important than planting, because it doesn’t make sense to plant a lot of trees if you’re not going to care for them.

In terms of planting, we need to think not necessarily in terms of numbers, but rather in terms of increasing the overall tree canopy. In this respect, fewer but larger shade trees can have a greater impact in terms of improving public health and the environment than a lot of cherry or other small flowering trees, no matter how pretty they are in the spring. We need an Alexandria Shade Tree Campaign.

The most important thing is that the council change its mindset and begin thinking of tree planting and care as an investment that makes more sense to plant a lot of trees if you’re not going to care for them.

In terms of planting, we need to think not necessarily in terms of numbers, but rather in terms of increasing the overall tree canopy. In this respect, fewer but larger shade trees can have a greater impact in terms of improving public health and the environment than a lot of cherry or other small flowering trees, no matter how pretty they are in the spring. We need an Alexandria Shade Tree Campaign.

The most important thing is that the council change its mindset and begin thinking of tree planting and care as an investment that makes more sense to plant a lot of trees if you’re not going to care for them.
Summer Crew Registration To Be Held June 23

Interested in learning how to row this summer? Then come down to the Dee Campbell Boathouse this Saturday, June 23 and sign up for the Alexandria Crew Boosters 2012 summer crew program. Sign-up will be held from 8-10 a.m. at the Boathouse, which is located at 1 Madison Street in Old Town.

The program is open to youth and adult novice rowers who are interested in learning more about the sport. Sessions begin on Monday, June 25 and run for five weeks. The program concludes on Saturday, Aug. 4 with the Blue Plains Sprints, an annual regatta that pits the summer rowers against each other in a series of races and marks the official end of the summer rowing season.

This year’s programs include the youth novice sweep which allows one oar per rower and is a learn-to-row program for students in the eighth through 12th grades. No experience is needed. Rowers are grouped by age and ability, and learn the basics of rowing in 8-person shells. Sessions are held from 7:15-9 a.m., Monday-Friday. The fee is $175.

The youth intermediate sweep program focuses on building rowing skills and technique, as well as strength and endurance. This program is for rising ninth graders with one competitive season of rowing under their belt. Sessions are held from 7-8:45 a.m., Monday-Friday. The fee is $175.

The youth sculling program, in which each rower uses two oars, is for high school students with two competitive spring seasons of rowing and experience sculling or in a varsity-level 8 or 4. Scullers will row in quads, doubles and singles. Sessions are held from 6:45-7:45 a.m., Monday-Friday. The fee is $200.

The adult novice sweep program first session is for adults of all ages who want to learn the basics and the beauty of rowing; no experience needed. Sessions are held from 6-7:30 a.m., Monday, Wednesday and Friday. The second group of sessions are held from 6-7:30 a.m., Tuesday and Thursday, and 7-8:30 a.m. on Saturday. The fee is $250.

All participants in the summer crew program must register in person, submit a signed waiver form and certify or pass a swim test. Registration forms can be found at http://www.tcwcrew.org/programs/summercrew.html.

Additional questions can be sent to Lexye Hearding, the director of the Alexandria Crew Boosters 2012 Summer Crew Program, at lexye.hearding@acps.k12.va.us.

A pair of rowers in a double scull race down the Potomac during the Blue Plains Sprints a few years back.

Click here for more information about the Alexandria Crew Boosters 2012 summer crew program, at http://www.tcwcrew.org/programs/summercrew.html.

**Summer Crew Registration To Be Held June 23**

**Alexandria Aces outfields Alex Buccilli was named Cal Ripken Collegiate Baseball League Player of the Week for the extended first week of the season.**

Buccilli, a junior at Coastal Carolina University, went 13 for 32 (.406) with two doubles, a triple and two home runs from June 6-17.

Buccilli and the Aces were 7-5 entering action on June 21.

Kevin Francke (Trinity) is hitting .308 for the Aces.

**Youth Volunteer Coaches Needed**

The Alexandria Department of Recreation, Parks and Cultural Activities is accepting registrations for the Youth Basketball Fundamentals School for boys and girls ages 5-12. The school will run on Saturdays from July 7 through July 28 at Francis Hammond Middle School located at 4646 Seminary Road. Participants will learn the fundamentals of ball handling, shooting, passing, dribbling and rebounding. Registration fee is $50 per child. Registration deadline is June 30 or as soon as sessions are filled. For more information, contact the youth sports office at 703-746.5402 or go to the youth sports website at www.alexandriaga.gov/recreation.

**Youth Basketball Fundamental School**

The Alexandria Department of Recreation, Parks and Cultural Activities is seeking volunteers to coach youth baseball, softball, field hockey, swimming, track and field, rugby, summer basketball and football. Criminal history, background checks are required. Interested persons should call the sports office at 703-746.5402 or emialmac.slover@alexandriava.gov.

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**Aces’ Buccilli Named CRCBL Player of the Week**

Alexandria Aces outfielder Alex Buccilli was named Cal Ripken Collegiate Baseball League Player of the Week for the extended first week of the season.

Buccilli, a junior at Coastal Carolina University, went 13 for 32 (.406) with two doubles, a triple and two home runs from June 6-17.

Buccilli and the Aces were 7-5 entering action on June 21.

Kevin Francke (Trinity) is hitting .308 for the Aces.
Deanna Marie Doyle of Alexandria was named the 2012 Outstanding Graduating Student from the Department of Art in the College of Visual and Performing Arts (CVPA) at Radford University. Doyle worked as a museum intern — first at the Glencoe History Museum in Radford where she worked on the inventory data base, next at the Lee-Fendall House Museum and Garden in Alexandria, where she developed educational programs for scout troops and led guided tours and most recently at the U.S. Navy Museum in Washington, D.C., where she was involved in teaching and developing educational activities related to the museum’s exhibitions and was responsible for the creation and organization of two week-long summer camps: “Rocket Camp” and “Engineer Camp” for primary school-aged children.

Deanna Doyle (left) with Dr. Richard Ray, RU chairperson of art education.

Outstanding Radford Student

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OLD TOWN ALEXANDRIA

Cute as a button this three-level, two-bedroom, brick townhouse is already updated and waiting for a new owner. The main level floor plan is open with light from east to west. The lower level serves as a cozy family room/guest quarters with Italian tile in the full bath and an outside entrance. Two bedrooms are on the top level with an Art Deco bathroom. Enjoy the beautifully landscaped front and back yards with a flagstone terrace. Ideal location for walking to shops, restaurants, Metro and Potomac River.

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www.CecilyWinchell.com
MLS ID® AX7866634
$524,900

ALEXANDRIA/DEL RAY

Del Ray
Situated on a quiet hilltop in Del Ray, this spacious and light-filled corner townhouse will win your heart. Updated, sleek kitchen, opens to living room and dining room. Half bath on main level. Three well sized bedrooms. HUGE basement with tall ceilings and walk out. Deep back and front yards for summer evening barbecues and watching the world go by. The AVENUE is a five-minute walk where all the restaurants, shops, and Metro are at your fingertips.

Pam Cornelio
571.117.0248
www.PamCornelio.com
MLS ID® AX786743
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ALEXANDRIA/DEL RAY

One Level Living in Del Ray
Idyllic bungalow home that exemplifies the charm and warmth of Del Ray. Three bedrooms, two baths, hardwood floors in bedrooms and main living area. Granite counters in kitchen with adjoining breakfast room. Large family room addition with cathedral ceilings. Fenced back yard with lush landscaping. Steps to “The Avenue” in Del Ray.

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ALEXANDRIA

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Elizabeth Luechese
703.205.5678
MLS ID® FX784562
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ALEXANDRIA

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Stunning three-level end townhouse in immaculate condition just two blocks to the river. Three bedrooms, two and a half baths, high ceilings, hardwood floors, plantation shutters, extensive storage, new appliances, gas fireplace, and luxury walk/wash throughout. Two parking spaces and storage unit.

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www.SinclairHinman.com
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Joel Miller
571.277.1321
www.mcenearney.com
MLS ID® FX7832979
$459,000

ALEXANDRIA/MONTEBELLO

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1 BR 1 5/8 BA: $269,990 - Tax Credit $7200*
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Luxurious, two-bedroom, two full-bath – study condo offers beautiful custom views, nine-foot ceilings, enormous bay windows and third floor balcony. Incredibly updated with bamboo floors, lots of closets with organizers, custom built-in cabinets, electric fireplace, closet fans & more. Two garage spaces, shuttle to Metro, blocks to restaurants & shops.

Ann McClure
301.367.5098
www.AnnMcClure.com
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