

Alexandria Gazette Packet

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25 CENTS

AUGUST 30, 2012



PHOTO BY TIM CAVANAUGH

Patriot Scuba instructors lead Wounded Warrior Program participants underwater at the Holiday Inn at Eisenhower Avenue.

Scuba for Wounded Warriors



PADI IDC Staff Instructor Eliseo Rodriguez and PADI Dive Master Lisa Mucha talk through the next technique exercise with the veterans.

Patriot Scuba instructors offered recreational scuba diving lessons to a number of military veterans in the pool at the Holiday Inn at Eisenhower Avenue on Saturday, Aug. 25. Patriot Scuba of Occoquan Va. is a PADI 5 Star Instructor Development Center. Patriot also has instructors trained and certified by the Handicapped Scuba Association. On Saturday, Patriot teamed up with the Wounded Warrior Program to help facilitate the “Discover Scuba Event.” Scuba diving has been used as a rehabilitative resource in physical therapy for a number of years. The decreased gravity of water allows a larger range of mobility with less pain and strain on existing injuries.



Divers submerge in the pool at the Holiday Inn as part of the afternoon scuba lesson.



PADI IDC Staff Instructor Eliseo Rodriguez and PADI OWSI Tim Cavanaugh demonstrate how to share air underwater.

PHOTOS BY
LOUISE KRAFFT
GAZETTE PACKET

Ground Truth

City officials clash with descendants of long-neglected graves at Fort Ward.

BY MICHAEL LEE POPE
GAZETTE PACKET

Two years ago, city officials aimed a high-powered radar from California at the ground in various spots at Fort Ward. The idea was to create a sort of “ground truth,” revealing the hidden history buried at the old Union fort that was constructed as part of the defenses of Washington during the Civil War. That led to more investigation and years of archeology revealing more than 20 burial at various spots throughout the park last month. But opinions are divided about what to do next.

“There is still a high possibility that there are other graves out there,” said City Archeologist Pam Cressey. “But that’s more than 30 acres to look at, and it’s not reasonable to turn over every inch of ground.”

“This is a wrongdoing that has been passed down from generation to generation, and it’s time to do something about it.”

— Lena Rainey, whose ancestors are buried at Fort Ward

Not everyone agrees on what’s reasonable. Descendants of those who are buried at Fort Ward would like to see every acre of the park inspected for potential graves. They feel that the city has committed a grave injustice at Fort Ward,

taking an area known to have several African-American cemeteries and creating a public park. Even SEE GROUND TRUTH, PAGE 18

Known and Unknown

Democrat has detailed agenda for Richmond while his opponents have outlined little.

BY MICHAEL LEE POPE
GAZETTE PACKET

Voters in next week’s special election will be faced with a choice between the familiar and the unknown in the Sept. 4 special election. On one end of the spectrum is Alexandria City Councilman Rob Krupicka,

who enjoys name recognition and has a slate of legislative proposals largely aligned with his work on the City Council. At the other end of the spectrum are Republican Tim McGhee and Libertarian Justin Malkin, neither of whom have much to say about what bills they would introduce as freshmen leg SEE SPECIAL ELECTION, PAGE 8

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Installation of bike racks in Old Town for Capital Bikeshare has begun.

Sharing the Road

Ten months after City Council approved an agreement with Oregon-based Alta BikeShare, construction finally began this week on the system, which is expected to be operational next month. City officials installed eight solar-powered stations throughout Old Town — a system that will cost taxpayers about \$400,000 a year.

“I think the money should have and could have been used, for better ways, for instance, to improve the pedestrian realm of the city,” said **Poul Hertel**, Old Town resident and longtime critic of BikeShare. “We’re encouraging people to ride in a crowded place with very narrow sidewalks and very narrow streets in conflict with the residents.”

Here’s how it works: Membership to Capital BikeShare costs \$5 for one day, \$15 for five days and \$30 for 30 days. An annual pass costs \$75. The first 30 minutes of every trip is free, and a fee is charged for every half hour after that. Daily memberships can be purchased at any station, and longer memberships must be purchased online or over the phone. Cyclists can pick up a bike from any station in the system and return it to an empty dock at any other station, allowing for one-way trips.

“BikeShare helps solve the last-mile problem of commuters getting to their destination by co-locating BikeShare stations with transit,” wrote Transportation and Environmental Services Director **Rich Baier** in a memorandum outlining the program. “If successful, expansion should be considered outside of Old Town, heading north to Del Ray and Arlandria, connecting the existing Arlington BikeShare network.”

Vaudeville in Old Town

Comedy Zone may soon be coming to Old Town Theater. That’s part of a proposal currently before the Board of Architectural Review for the historic vaudeville theater, which was recently sold to Alexandria developer **Rob Kauffman**. Next week, the board will hear a proposal for a new Old Town Theater that will change the marquee sign twice daily.

“Once at opening in the morning for breakfast or lunch show and then again in the afternoon for evening shows,” according to the memorandum now under consideration. “On occasion, we might add a headshot of a celebrity next to the showtimes.”

Examples shown on the application include a variety of potential shows, including “Vaudeville Lunch,” “Alexandria Film Festival,” “An Alexandrian Christmas Carol” and a speaker series with **Newt Gingrich** and **James Carville**. Examples of playbills that would be located on the building façade include Sherlock Holmes and the Comedy Zone.

“I think this is a great concept,” said **Boyd Walker**, historic preservationist who was critical of a previous proposal to transform the historic theater into a retail space. “But I would have liked to have seen a marquee more similar to the original.”

Engaging the People

Recent months have seen an explosion of anger at City Hall,

SEE WEEK IN ALEXANDRIA, PAGE 25

News

ALEXANDRIA GAZETTE EDITOR STEVEN MAUREN
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PHOTOS BY JEANNE THEISMANN/GAZETTE PACKET

Washington Capitals mascot Slapshot joins in the fun during Design Day at the Charles Houston Recreation Center.

Kids @ Play Design Day drawings help create dream playground.

BY JEANNE THEISMANN
GAZETTE PACKET

More than 40 Alexandria children joined Washington Capitals mascot Slapshot and Elliot Segal of the Elliot in the Morning Show at the Charles Houston Recreation Center Aug. 15 for Design Day, a day set aside for children to draw their dream playground for Old Town’s Hopkins-Tancil Court area.

A joint effort of the Alexandria Redevelopment and Housing Authority, KaBOOM! and So Kids Can, elements from the children’s Design Day drawings will be incorporated into the final design for the new community playground to be built on Sept. 13 at S.T.A.R.S. Playground at Hopkins-Tancil, where equipment is outdated and not wheelchair accessible.

“Mike and I have had a blast with this,” said Segal, a co-founder of So Kids Can with Capitals defenseman Mike Green. “The people at KaBOOM! and everyone involved are just great.”

Funds for the playground were raised through So Kids Can during the 2011-12 Washington Capitals season.

Green and Segal created the So Kids Can program in 2008 to benefit youth-focused, nonprofit organizations. Last season Capitals forwards Nicklas Backstrom and Brooks Laich also joined the cause, which has raised more than \$200,000 for various youth organizations.

The playground will be the second built by KaBOOM!, the Washington Capitals and So Kids Can, and is one of more than 150 playground builds KaBOOM! will lead across the country in 2012.



So Kids Can co-founder Elliot Segal, center, gets help from the brother and sister team of Asante, 4, and Asantawaa, 5, during the Aug. 15 Design Day at the Charles Houston Recreation Center.



Eight-year-old Alphonso displays his drawing during the Aug. 15 Design Day at the Charles Houston Recreation Center.



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BULLETIN BOARD

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

THROUGH FRIDAY/SEPT. 21

Home Energy Makeover Contest. Sponsored by the Local Energy Alliance Program, the contest is free to enter and open to residents who own and occupy a home, townhome, condo, or duplex in the counties of Arlington, Fairfax, Loudon, Prince William, the cities of Alexandria, Falls Church, Manassas, Manassas Park and all the region's towns in-between. Residents must complete a quick online-report at www.novaenergycontest.com about their home's energy usage. Winners will be announce in October. Call 434-227-4666.

SATURDAYS/SEPT. 8-29

Mindful Mama Series. Core Wellness and Physical Therapy invites all current moms and moms-to-be to discuss how a clear mind and healthy lifestyle contributes to a well-balanced mom. At Core Wellness & Physical Therapy, 2212 Mount Vernon Ave. For information/pricing/registration email jackie@corewellness.net.

WEDNESDAY/SEPT. 12

Alexandria Hospital Lectures: Minimally Invasive Techniques in Gyn Surgery, Presented by Natalya Danilyants, MD. Inova Alexandria Hospital Auditorium, 4320 Seminary Rd. 6 p.m. Register: 1-855-694-6682 or register online at inova.org/AskTheExpert

Alexandria City Council Candidate Forum. Open to the public and takes place from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. in the auditorium of Francis C. Hammond Middle School, 4646 Seminary Rd, Alexandria VA. The event is being sponsored by several West End civic associations.

Help Underprivileged Children. Now through Sept. 12, 9 a.m.-8 p.m. The Dahn Yoga center is sponsoring a fundraising raffle to help the International Brain Education Association to assist youths from three countries. Purchase tickets, \$10 each, at 1630 King St. Call 703-684-7717 or email Alexandria@dahnyoga.com.

THURSDAY/SEPT. 13

Dry AMD Research Opportunity. 1:30-3 p.m. Learn about SEE BULLETIN BOARD, PAGE 15



Pupcakes Raise \$1,000

Rising Saint Stephens Saint Agnes School 7th graders Julia Burke and Virginia Kane caught the baking bug earlier this summer and decided to take it a step further. Baking up dozens of pupcakes, the girls set out to sell the cakes to raise money for the Animal Welfare League of Alexandria. The Olde Towne School for Dogs agreed to host the stand outside their shop at Oronoco and N. St. Asaph streets on Aug. 21. For five days the girls sold the decorated pupcakes. Their personal goal was \$500. They succeeded in doubling that in sales and public donations for the local shelter.

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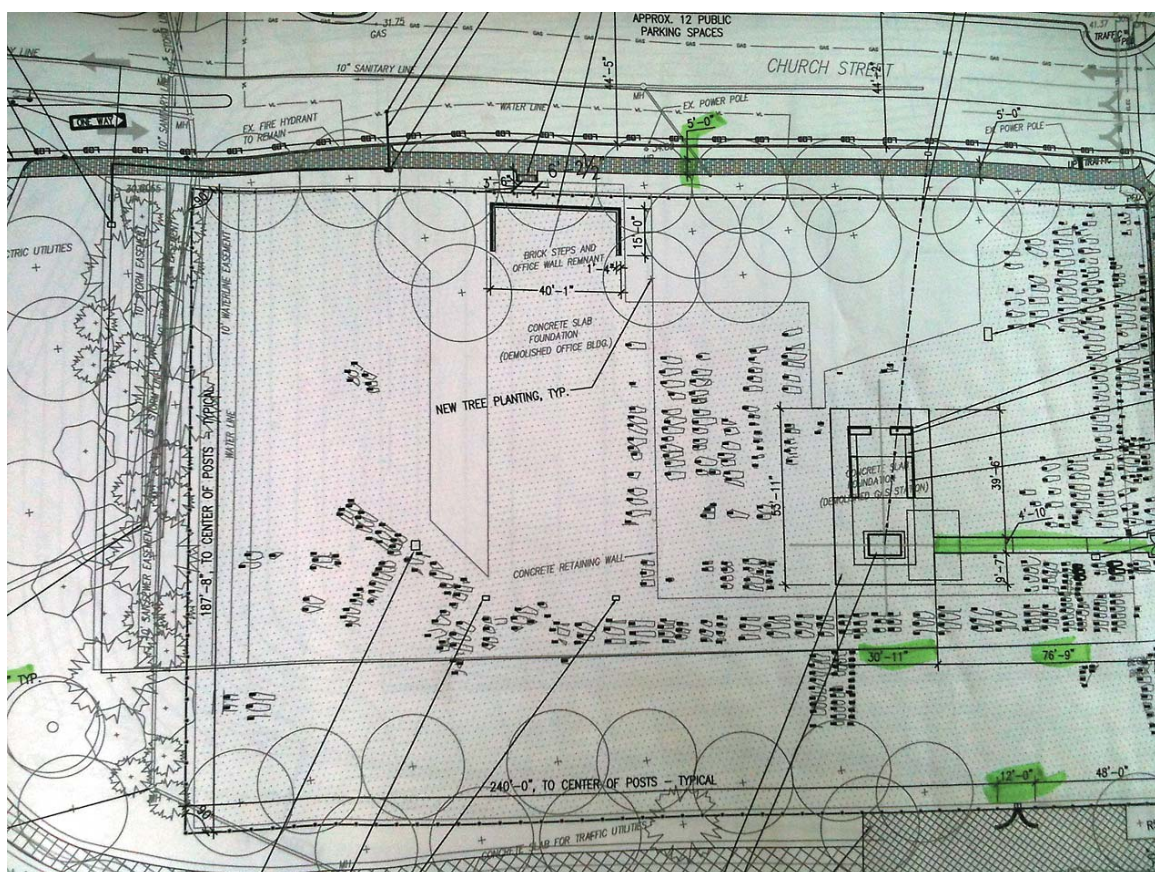
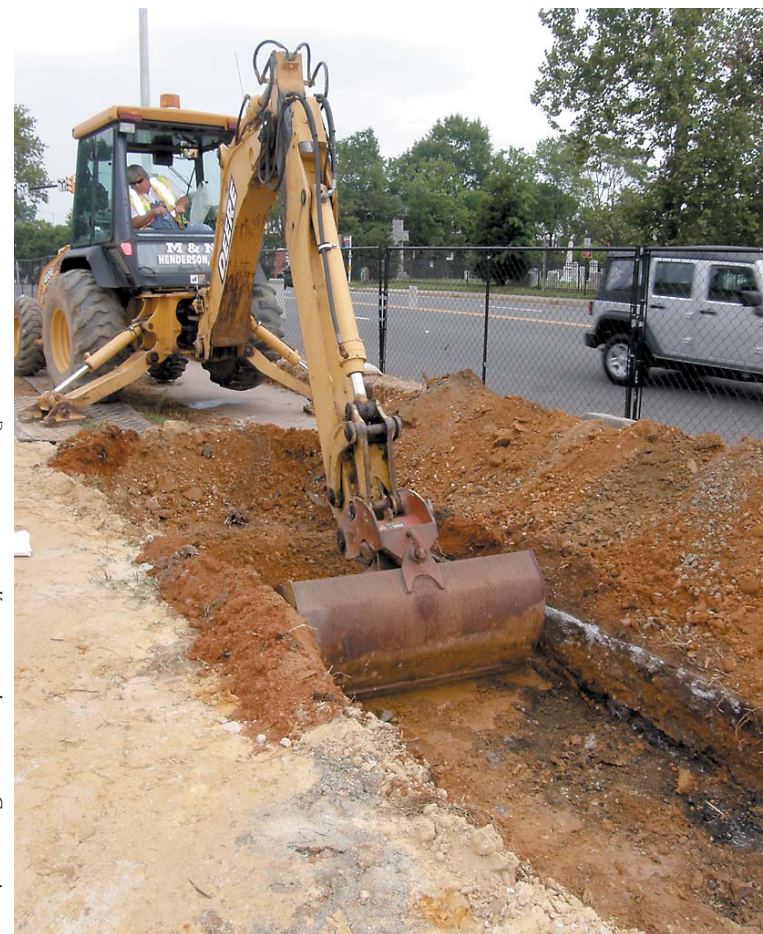


PHOTO COURTESY KATHLEEN LEONARD, CITY OF ALEXANDRIA



Construction crews working onsite at Alexandria Contrabands and Freedmen's Cemetery Memorial, South Washington and Church streets. Crews are following archaeological cues so as not to disturb existing grave sites.

Detailed construction plans of Contrabands and Freedmen's Cemetery: Ovoid shapes with rectangle inlays indicate known grave sites and place markers in position. Larger rectangle shapes in photo represent remnants of an office building and gas station.

Working To Create Fitting Memorial

Contrabands and Freedmen's Cemetery Memorial on pace for Spring 2013 opening.

BY MARK MCHUGH
FOR GAZETTE PACKET

In Spring 2007, the City of Alexandria purchased a desolate and overgrown lot on the southern edge of town and promptly razed the site's two buildings.

Six years later that same spot is going to be a historical and appropriate homage to that place's unseen — and unheard — inhabitants when the city dedicates the Contrabands and Freedmen's Cemetery Memorial this spring.

The project, which will cost around \$11 million, receives funding from the City of Alexandria, the Federal Highway Administration, Virginia Department of Transportation, a grant from Save America's Treasures, and funding from a partnership between the National Parks Service and the National Trust for Historic Preservation.

Following July's groundbreaking ceremony, construction crews have been working on location six days a week.

The freedmen's cemetery at the corner of South Washington and Church streets has been owned by several entities since it was closed in 1869.

Freedmen were African Americans freed from slavery by their owners. Contrabands were slaves who escaped to freedom or were brought within Union lines during the Civil War.

While the property's previous owners literally bulldozed their way there to benefit business, the city has taken quite a different approach: it is redeveloping the area to revere the grave sites.

The cemetery has been blanketed with several hundred truckloads of fill soil to make way for a grass mixture of fescue and Kentucky bluegrass.

The plantings and construction plans follow closely on the heels of almost two decades of extensive and non-invasive archaeological analysis. Archaeological findings have identified about 540 known graves, said Alexandria city engineer Emily Baker.

"We didn't move dirt," said Mitchell Bernstein, civil engineer for the city. "We just took off the vegetation at a very shallow depth, and then brought the soil in. The only digging we did was in a preventative manner, to make sure we weren't violating any graves."

Archaeologists have located grave shafts, and in many cases, the outline of hexagonal "shouldered" style coffin tops, through identifying changes in soil color and texture. According to city records, no grave can be associated with a particular person.

This renovation is hardly only aesthetics or grass deep, assured city officials, who said that the project has been undertaken with a great deal of historical and cultural sensitivity.

"The challenge is trying to construct something as a suitable memorial and not have any negative impact on the cultural resource," Baker said.

The centerpiece of the memorial area, called a "Place of Remembrance," is an open space housing interpretive walls with several panels detailing the cemetery's history, and a list of recorded names of the interred based on information from the Gladwin Record. A listing maintained from 1863 to 1869, the record includes information of

those interred, including their name, date of death or burial, next of kin or individual providing the report, residence or place of death, and additional comments about the burial or cause of death. A sculpture is to be installed at the front of the open space.

Fifty-three feet long and 31 feet wide, the place of remembrance is the highest point in the cemetery, where a Mobil gas station once stood.

In recent years the cemetery was a roadside brownfield strewn with trash, including slab remnants of the gas station and an office building.

A portion of the office building's foundation on Church Street will stand, because

the project's planners wished to not gloss over past transgressions of the cemetery. "They didn't want this to be forgotten," said Bernstein.

The city has taken a painstaking approach toward design and construction with respect to the graves.

To that end, 8-inch diameter steel helical piles will be used as foundations to anchor some segments of the galvanized steel tubing fence line.

While sturdy fence construction often utilizes larger diameter inserts, the narrower ones used here are suitable fence anchors that won't disturb nearby gravesites.

"It minimizes the footprint of the pier," said Bernstein, who was onsite earlier this month.

Bernstein motioned over to the outer proposed fence area, where different colored stakes indicated proximity — and safe construction distances — adjacent to gravesites. "We have a variable system designed," he said.

Workers of Garcete Construction Company Inc., of Bladensburg, Md., are following cues from Bernstein and Mitchell to maintain the sanctity of the grave sites as work progresses.

"Everything had to be designed very carefully, to avoid the graves," Baker said.

The city will lay place markers on the grave sites found during the archaeological studies. Some of them will be outlined with borders to give visitors a sense of scale, Baker said.

"A lot of the people buried here were children, and a lot of the shafts were very small, so you should be able to get a sense of the

SEE MEMORIAL, PAGE 18

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PEOPLE



PHOTOS BY LOUISE KRAFT/GAZETTE PACKET

Horseshoes await players in the side garden at the Lee-Fendall House.



The Lee-Fendall House is interpreted as a Lee home during 1850-1870.



Lee-Fendall House Museum director Erin Adams enjoys a bowl of ice-cream and strawberries.



Newlyweds Aaron Gilary and Jennifer Styles enjoy the cool afternoon at the Lee-Fendall Ice Cream Social. The couple was married in the Lee-Fendall House and Garden this past Memorial Day.



The Lee-Fendall Museum has received grants to undertake an archaeological excavation and garden redesign project.

Lee-Fendall House Hosts Great Gatsby Ice Cream Social

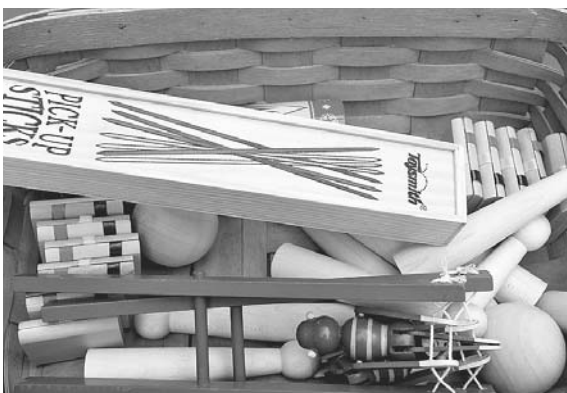
The house and garden of the Lee-Fendall House opened for an afternoon Ice Cream Social on Sunday, Aug. 26. Calling Card Events set out games for adults and children alike including horseshoes, croquet,

pick-up sticks, hoops, Jacob's ladder and more.

The staff is planning a number of events for the fall: 19th century baseball, Virginia wine reception, historic homeowners workshop, death in a civil war hospital reenactment and more.

From 1785-1903, the house served as the home to 37 members of the Lee family. John L. Lewis lived in the house from 1937-1969. Guided by its 1852 inventory, the house is interpreted as a Lee home of the 1850-1870 period. Guided tours are available Wednesdays-Saturdays 10 a.m.-4 p.m. and Sundays 1-4 p.m.

The house is available for weddings, corporate meetings and private parties. To get a complete list of upcoming events and more information visit www.leefendallhouse.org



18th and 19th century children's games: ready for play.



Friends of Lee-Fendall chair Dr. Patricia Sanders is flanked by board members Carter Refo and Ellen Stanton.

McDonnell's Moment

Republican Gov. **Bob McDonnell** may not have received the vice presidential nomination, but he got a great consolation prize this week — a prime-time speaking slot this year at the Republican National Convention in Tampa. The speech focused on job-creation numbers in Virginia and other Republican states, framing the election as a choice between “the status quo of an entitlement society, or dynamic change of an opportunity society.” George Mason University professor **Mark Rozell** is among those who say that McDonnell is positioning himself for a potential presidential run in the future.

“He has presented himself as a bipartisan leader who can talk to people across the aisle who doesn’t engage in overheated rhetoric,” said Rozell. “Frankly, a lot of people are looking for that.”

But that doesn’t mean the governor will have it easy. His graduate thesis at Regent University was critical of working women and feminists, which Rozell says could undercut his image as a moderate. And then there’s his voting record in the House of Delegates, where he represented a conservative district in Virginia Beach. In recent months, the governor has been pushed to the right by the Republican takeover of the state Senate.

“Everybody remembers the transvaginal ultrasound controversy,” said Rozell. “I don’t think that’s going to go away. He’s got some explaining to do on some of the social issues, where he could be vulnerable.” One of those issues emerged yet again this week. Before his prime-time speaking engagement, McDonnell was chairman of the platform committee that approved a measure in support of a Constitutional amendment outlawing abortion — including in cases of rape or incest.

Are You Inactive?

Every election cycle, thousands of “inactive” voters are purged from the rolls. Some are able to cast provisional ballots, although they are not counted. Many are turned away from the polls.

Alexandria currently has 81,000 active voters and 21,000 inactive voters. After each federal election, about half of the inactive voters are purged from the rolls. That means about 10,000 voters are deleted from the list every other year. Invariably, some of these voters show up on Election Day and expect to cast a ballot. “If I moved from Alexandria to Fairfax prior to the election in 2010, and I come back to my precinct in Alexandria, I’m not going to be able to vote,” said Alexandria Registrar **Tom Parkins**. “We would allow someone like that provisionally, but it’s not going to count.”

How long does it take to become inactive? That depends on where a voter moves. The deadlines are different for those who move within the state (one federal election cycle), within the jurisdiction (two federal election cycles) or within the precinct (an indefinite number of election cycles). As a rule of thumb, though, election officials strongly encourage anyone who has moved to register at their new address as soon as possible. The deadline for voters to change their address in this election cycle is Oct. 15. “We don’t carry inactive voters indefinitely,” said Parkins. “Once an inactive voter does not show any activity or any voting for two federal elections, then they get deleted from the list.”

Identifying Voters

Just because voters are on the list of active voters doesn’t mean they’ll be able to cast a ballot. This year, for the first time, voters will have to show identification as part of a new voter ID law passed earlier this year by the General Assembly.

But don’t look for the new voter ID law in Virginia to receive the same kind of attention as efforts in other states. “I think this is just grandstanding, frankly,” said George Mason professor **Michael McDonald**. “It’s nowhere on the same level of what we are talking about in places like Pennsylvania, Texas and California.” Voters will not need photo identification. And they will not need multiple forms of ID. All they need is the voter registration card they will be receiving in the mail next month. Voters can also use a driver’s license if they want to, but they won’t have to in order to meet the letter of the law.

— MICHAEL LEE POPE

POLITICS

Special Election in 45th Next Week

FROM PAGE 1
islaters.

“I don’t know what bills I would introduce,” said McGhee, a web developer who ran an unsuccessful campaign for the Virginia state Senate last year. “There are a lot of people in the world who believe that character of person is more important than exact policy specifics of what is going to be in every paragraph of every bill.”

“I can’t say that I have a particular agenda in mind as of day one,” said Malkin, a credit analyst and first-time candidate. “I think I’ve kind of got to get my feet wet before I can really figure out exactly what I can accomplish.”

Krupicka, on the other hand, has a long list of legislation he’s interested in proposing if he wins the special election. If elected, Krupicka said, he would like to focus attention on early childhood education. That’s been an ongoing theme of his years in politics over the last decade, although one in four children in Alexandria remain without a quality pre-Kinderergarten experience.

Krupicka also said he would work to give the Northern Virginia Transportation Commission more revenue authority, reducing the role of the Virginia Department of Transportation. That could mean that the commission would be able to create new taxes, although Krupicka would not endorse any specific proposal.

“That would have to be part of a package,” said Krupicka. “I want to move away from VDOT determining our destiny.”

ON THE ISSUES, the three candidates offer variety for voters even if their legislative agenda lacks clarity. Krupicka approaches the campaign from the left, supporting health-care reform and gun control while opposing limitations on abortion. McGhee approaches issues from the right, supporting limitations on abortion while opposing health-care reform and gun control. Malkin approaches the campaign from a Libertarian perspective, opposing health-care reform, gun control and limitations on abortion.

“My campaign is aimed at voters who are socially tolerant and fiscally responsible,” said Malkin. “That’s what would guide my decision-making in Richmond.”

McGhee, on the other hand offers a much more traditional Republican campaign. When asked about the hot-button social issues considered in the most recent General Assembly session, McGhee agreed with every major initiative of the new conservative majority. For example, he supports requiring a transvaginal ultrasound procedure before women can receive an abortion. And he supports the effort to create strict new regulatory standards for abortion clinics, holding



Krupicka



Malkin



McGhee

them responsible for hospital construction standards.

“Despite what you may hear from the other side on this issue, this industry does have a track record of creating some very dangerous and deadly situations for women,” said McGhee. “We need to make sure that as long as we continue to allow this procedure that we provide as much care for those involved.”

KRUPICKA OFFERS voters the most familiar face. First elected to the City Council at the age of 32, he spent many years as the youngest elected official in Alexandria. Now he finds himself as the oldest candidate in the race, and the one with the most experience as an elected official. He also has an existing campaign team from his failed bid for the Democratic nomination to fill the seat vacated last year by state Sen. Patsy Ticer (D-30), a hotly contested race with Del. Adam Ebbin (D-49). If elected, Krupicka says he would stand up to what he calls “the war on women” in Richmond.

“This should be an easy win for the Democrat,” said Toni-Michelle Travis, professor at George Mason University. “The only way Krupicka is in trouble is if voters are outraged by something he did on City Council or he makes some kind of major gaffe, neither of which seem likely.”



The 45th District of the House of Delegates stretches from south Arlington through Del Ray and Old Town into the Belle View neighborhood of Fairfax County.

VIRGINIA PUBLIC ACCESS PROJECT

PEOPLE



In Concert

The Alexandria Harmonizers sing “New York, New York” during a concert at Market Square on Aug. 17.

PHOTOS BY
LASHAWN AVERY-SIMON
GAZETTE PACKET

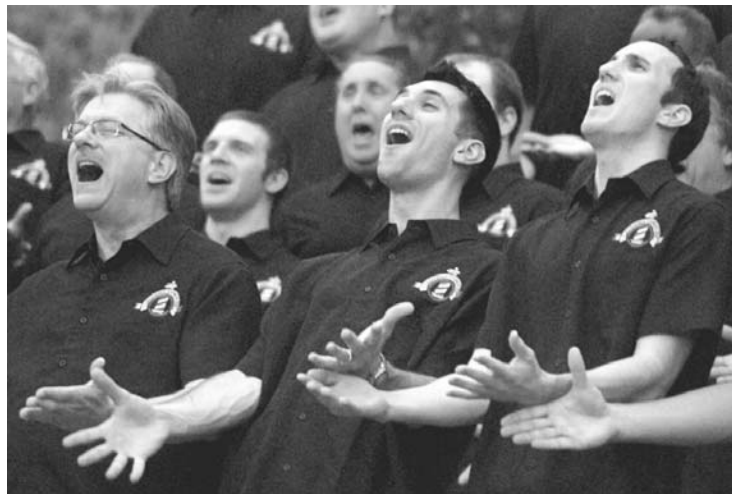


PHOTO BY LOUISE KRAFT/GAZETTE PACKET

Virginia Infantry soldier Todd Brighton shoots off a volley of fire on the front green of the Carlyle House at the siege of the War of 1812 exhibit on Saturday, Aug. 18.

Carlyle House and the War of 1812

Re-enactors in 19th century costumes roamed the grounds and home of John Carlyle on Aug. 18 re-enacting life during the siege of Alexandria during the War of 1812. Todd Brighton, a re-enactor with the First Virginia appeared as a Virginia Infantry soldier on the front green. Inside the museum house, Brighton displayed his collection of early 19th century artifacts that he has happened upon and collected over the years.



Reenactor Nicole Foronda stands outside the Carlyle House during the War of 1812 commemoration.

PHOTOS BY
LASHAWN AVERY-SIMON
GAZETTE PACKET



Recognition

Graduates Darren Walters, apprentice of three years also attending Roanoke college to study physics in the fall, and Bobby Johnson, the first apprentice to race a duck boat in the 2012 World Duck Boat Championship, receive their certificates at the Alexandria Seaport Foundation on Tuesday Aug. 21.

PHOTO BY
LASHAWN AVERY-SIMON
GAZETTE PACKET

Reenactor Kyle Dalton is showing Bridget O’Neil how to play “Shut the Box” dice game and a hoop and stick.



OPINION

Here Comes First Day of School

And never too early for parents to get involved.

The first day of school in most of Northern Virginia is Tuesday, Sept. 4. We don't agree with having the General Assembly dictate the first day of school, requiring the start date to be after Labor Day, but starting school after Labor Day does seem more hospitable than the Aug. 27 start in many other areas.

Attending Back to School Night and making contact with teachers is one of the most important things parents can do to set up the school year for success. Back to School Nights begin the first week of September. Find the date for yours:

Fairfax County <http://www.fcps.edu/news/backtoschool/>

In Arlington, Elementary Back-to-School Night is Sept. 19; Middle School Back-to-

School Night is Sept. 24 and High School Back-to-School Night is Oct. 1, with H-B Woodlawn's being Oct. 2. More at <http://www.apsva.us/aps>

City of Alexandria Back-to-School dates are available at <http://www.acps.k12.va.us/news/good-news/gn2012071801.php>

This school year will be the last for Superintendent for Fairfax County Public Schools Jack Dale, who has announced his retirement effective June 30, 2013. The School Board will spend much of the coming months in the search and selection of the new superintendent.

In Fairfax County, students will be encouraged to BYOD. That's "bring your own device." With written parental permission, students will be allowed to connect to school wireless with their smart phones, tablets and laptops. Students and parents should remember that school officials will be able to examine those devices and discipline students for content and activities that are in violation of conduct rules and act accordingly. More at <http://www.fcps.edu/it/byod>

Back to School Night Schedule for Alexandria

- ❖ T.C. Williams High School, 3330 King St., Alexandria, 703-824-6800 - Thursday, Sept. 20, 7 p.m.
- ❖ T.C. Williams High School Minnie Howard Campus, 3801 W. Braddock Road, Alexandria, 703-824-6750 - Wednesday, Sept. 19, 7 p.m.
- ❖ Francis C. Hammond 1 Middle School, 4646 Seminary Road, Alexandria, 703-461-4100 - Tuesday, Sept. 11, 7 p.m.
- ❖ Francis C. Hammond 2 Middle School, 4646 Seminary Road, Alexandria, 703-461-4100 - Tuesday, Sept. 11, 7 p.m.
- ❖ Francis C. Hammond 3 Middle School, 4646 Seminary Road, Alexandria, 703-461-4100 - Tuesday, Sept. 11, 7 p.m.
- ❖ George Washington 1 Middle School, 1005 Mount Vernon Ave., Alexandria, 703-706-4500 - Tuesday, Sept. 11, 7 p.m.
- ❖ George Washington 2 Middle School, 1005 Mount Vernon Ave., Alexandria, 703-706-4500 - Tuesday, Sept. 11, 7 p.m.
- ❖ John Adams Elementary School, 5651 Rayburn Ave., Alexandria, 703-824-6970 - Tuesday, Sept. 18, 6:30 p.m., for preschool-second grade; Wednesday, Sept. 19, 6:30 p.m., for third-fifth grades
- ❖ Charles Barrett Elementary School, 1115 Martha Custis Dr., Alexandria, 703-824-6960 - Tuesday, Sept. 18, 7 p.m.
- ❖ Patrick Henry Elementary School, 4643 Taney Ave., Alexandria, 703-461-4170 - Monday, Sept. 24, 6:30 p.m.
- ❖ Jefferson-Houston School, 1501 Cameron St., Alexandria, 703-706-4400 - Thursday, Sept. 20, 6:30 p.m.
- ❖ Cora Kelly School for Math, Science and Technology, 3600 Commonwealth Ave., Alexandria, 703-706-4420 - Monday, Oct. 1, 6 p.m.
- ❖ Lyles-Crouch Traditional Academy, 530 S. St. Asaph St., Alexandria, 703-706-4430 - Wednesday, Sept. 12, 6:30 p.m.
- ❖ Douglas MacArthur Elementary School, 1101 Janneys Lane, Alexandria, 703-461-4190 - Tuesday, Sept. 18, 7 p.m., for kindergarten through second grade; Wednesday, Sept. 19, 7 p.m., for third through fifth grades
- ❖ George Mason Elementary School, 2601 Cameron Mills Road, Alexandria, 703-706-4470 - Wednesday, Sept. 12, 6:30 p.m.
- ❖ Matthew Maury Elementary School, 600 Russell Road, Alexandria, 703-706-4440 - Wednesday, Sept. 12, 6 p.m., kindergarten through second grade; Thursday, Sept. 13, 6 p.m., third through fifth grades
- ❖ James K. Polk Elementary School, 5000 Polk Ave., Alexandria, 703-461-4180 - Thursday, Sept. 20, 6:30 p.m.
- William Ramsay Elementary School, 5700 Sanger Ave., Alexandria, 703-824-6950 - Monday, Sept. 24, 6:30 p.m., for preschool through second grade; and Thursday, Sept. 27, 6:30 p.m., for third through fifth grades

alexandriava.gov/Elections
132 North Royal Street, Alexandria, 22314; FAX 703-838-6449; email tom.parkins@alexandriava.gov
Fairfax County Board of Elections, 703-222-0776, www.fairfaxcounty.gov/eb/
12000 Government Center Parkway, Fairfax, Suite 232, Fairfax, 22035; FAX 703-324-2205; email voting@fairfaxcounty.gov
Arlington Board of Elections, 703-228-3456, <http://www.arlingtonva.us/vote>, 2100 Clarendon Blvd. Suite 320, Arlington, 22201; FAX 703-228-3659; email voters@arlingtonva.us
City of Fairfax General Registrar, 703-385-7890, <http://www.fairfaxva.gov/Registrar/GeneralRegistrar.asp>
10455 Armstrong Street, Sisson House, Fairfax, 22030; FAX 703-591-8364; email kevin.linehan@fairfaxva.gov

Correction: Last week's Newcomers and Community Guide omitted the name of an independent candidate, Mark T. Gibson, running for U.S. House of Representatives in the 11th District. The same paragraph also mistakenly referred to that district by the wrong district number in a second reference. The correction have been made in our online and PDF editions.

— MARY KIMM,

MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

Reminder: Check Voter Status

While Northern Virginia has remarkable rates of voter registration, many changes to polling places, political district boundaries and rules for voting in Virginia, make it worth double checking your status now. Virginia's front seat role at the Republican National Convention serves as a reminder that every Virginia vote cast will count in November.

To vote on Election Day, you must be registered at your current address no later than Oct. 15, 2012. You can check your registration status online by going to www.sbe.virginia.gov. There you can also download a voter registration form and mail it to your local elections office address.

Every Virginia voter should expect a new voter identification card in the mail at the beginning of October, very close to the Oct. 15 deadline, so better to check now.

Mail or FAX updates to your local Electoral Board.

Alexandria Board of Elections, 703-746-4050, <http://>

Our Health Depends on the Air We Breathe

BY JIM MORAN
U.S. REPRESENTATIVE (D-8)

For too many Americans and Virginians, simply breathing the air can be dangerous. That's especially the case for the 306,000 Virginia children and 96,000 adults who battle asthma, the 1.1 million with cardiovascular disease, the 154,000 with chronic bronchitis and the estimated 411,000 who live in poverty. But it is true for all of us and it's that way because of soot in our air.

Soot, or fine particulate matter (PM2.5), is composed of a mixture of solid particles and liquid droplets, usually made up of several different types of harmful



chemicals. It's easy to recognize as it contributes significantly to the haze that blankets many cities and national parks. Smokestacks and tailpipes churn out soot and we breathe it in, every day.

The body reacts to it in much the same manner as it does to tobacco smoke. Smaller than a grain of sand and only visible with a microscope, tiny soot particles travel deep into the lungs when inhaled and swiftly penetrate the bloodstream, immediately increasing the risk of severe respiratory distress, heart attacks and strokes.

Soot kills; leads to hospitalizations; triggers

asthma attacks, heart attacks and strokes; and has been linked to causing permanent lung tissue and airway damage, reproductive complications and cancer.

For decades, the Clean Air Act has helped protect the air we breathe by letting us know and track what pollutants make it into our air and allowing us to set targets, make plans, and have accountability for reducing those pollutants over time. And perhaps most importantly, it requires that we review those standards as science helps us understand new risks.

That's happening now with soot. The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is reviewing the current standard for soot, last set in 1997. Since then, more than 10,000 studies

SEE THE AIR WE BREATHE, PAGE 11

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Snapshot

The remains of Hubert N. "Dutch" Hoffman Sr. and his sister Mildred rest in the mausoleum in the parking lot of the Holiday Inn on Eisenhower Avenue.

The Air We Breathe

FROM PAGE 10

have demonstrated that soot is a public health threat and that we must ensure that fewer smaller particles are able to get into the air and into our lungs.

Earlier this summer, the EPA proposed a new stronger standard for soot and is accepting public comments on these standards until the end of August.

What are the potential benefits of enacting the strongest standard? By cleaning up soot, we can prevent 35,700 deaths, 23,290 visits to the hospital and emergency room, 2,350 heart attacks, 1.4 million cases of aggravated asthma and 29,800 cases of acute bronchitis every year. An estimated 2.7 million days of missed work and school due to air pollution-caused ailments would be avoided annually.

It's August in Washington and the humidity makes it hard enough to breathe for even the most healthy among us. While we see the haze of air pollution on really bad days, we do not see the particles within it. And those particles are a threat to our health and the health of our families and neighbors. I hope all Virginians and Americans will join me in asking the EPA to stand strong for a strong soot standard. We'll all breathe a bit easier when you do.

PHOTO BY LOUISE KRAFFT/GAZETTE PACKET

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ALEXANDRIAGAZETTE 5.12

OPINION

How Much Money for Retirement?

Too many underestimate what they need.

By TOM WEST, CLU, ChFC, AIF

Some of the conversation and discussion at Senior Law Day on Saturday, Oct. 13 from 9 a.m. to noon at First Baptist Church at 2932 King Street will include funding a retirement.

What is enough? If you are anywhere near retirement, or already living in it, you've probably heard or read that you

SENIOR SERVICES OF ALEXANDRIA

need to have saved about 70 percent of your final working salary to live comfortably in retirement. This estimate is frequently repeated ... but that doesn't mean it is true for everyone. It may not be true for you. Consider the following factors:

Health. Most of us will face a major health problem at some point in our lives. Think, for a moment, about the costs of prescription medicines, and recurring treatment for chronic ailments. These costs can really take a bite out of retirement income, even with a great health care plan.

Heredity. If you come from a family where people frequently live into their 80s and 90s, you may live as long or longer. Imagine retiring at 55 and living to 95 or 100. You would need 40-45 years of steady retirement income.



Portfolio. Many people retire with investment portfolios they haven't reviewed in years, with asset allocations that may no longer be appropriate. New

retirees sometimes carry too much risk in their portfolios, with the result being that the retirement income from their investments fluctuates wildly with the vagaries of the market. Other retirees are super-conservative investors: their portfolios are so risk-averse that they can't earn enough to keep up with even moderate inflation, and over time, they find they have less and less purchasing power.

Spending habits. Did you only spend 70 percent of your salary while em-

ployed? Probably not. If you're like many Americans, you probably spend 90 percent or 95 percent of it. Will your spending habits change drastically once you retire? Again, probably not.

Will you have enough? When it comes to retirement income, a casual assumption may prove to be woefully inaccurate.

You won't learn how much retirement income you'll need by reading this article. Consider meeting with a qualified financial professional who can help estimate your lifestyle needs and short-term and long-term expenses.

Senior Law Day is cosponsored by Senior Services of Alexandria and The Alexandria Bar Association. Anyone planning to retire now or in the future should register for the free event by going to www.seniorservicesalex.org or call 703-836-4414, ext. 10.

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How Teamwork Saves Lives

BY CHRISTINE CANDIO, FACHE
CEO, INOVA ALEXANDRIA HOSPITAL

Earlier this year, I shared some of Inova Alexandria Hospital's successful efforts to improve quality of care for heart attack patients. Now I am proud to report that our work has been recognized at the national level. The hospital recently received a Bronze Award from Mission: Lifeline, the American Heart Association's initiative to encourage prompt, appropriate treatment of patients with the most severe type of heart attack in which all coronary arteries are blocked.

COMMENTARY

For these patients, swift action is key. The faster they receive life-saving balloon angioplasty to open blocked arteries, the better their chance of survival. The AHA and others recommend door-to-balloon (D2B) time at 90 minutes or less.

The Inova Heart and Vascular Institute at Inova Alexandria Hospital has been working diligently to improve its D2B times. We upgraded and expanded our Cardiovascular and Interventional Radiology (CVIR) Department. Our Emergency Department (ED) and CVIR staff developed joint protocols to quickly identify and treat heart attack patients within the nationally recommended goals. And we became the first hospital in Northern Virginia to collaborate with EMS providers in the field to flag incoming heart



attack patients.

First responders from the City of Alexandria's EMS perform an EKG at the scene and transmit the results via ambulance computer to the ED where a physician makes a diagnosis. If the patient is having a heart attack, the hospital is able to mobilize the CVIR team and prepare an angioplasty lab before the ambulance even arrives. This seamless continuum

of care has helped us reduce our D2B times — already significantly below the 90-minute threshold — from 65 minutes back in February to an impressive 61 minutes today.

Such outstanding results would not be possible without the collaboration and communication of our dedicated ED physicians, interventional cardiologists, CVIR staff and the City of Alexandria's EMS providers. They have worked hard to break down barriers, build trust, and find new ways to improve care and save lives.

The work continues. We review every heart attack case for areas of improvement, participate in a national database that shares best practices for reducing D2B, and partner with AHA's Mission: Lifeline to create even more efficient systems of care. Together, we can make a significant difference for heart attack patients in the Alexandria community.

To learn more about this exciting work, as well as the full spectrum of cardiac services we offer, visit inovaheart.org.

Thank You, Bruce Johnson

To the Editor:

The citizens of Alexandria owe a debt of gratitude to Bruce Johnson, who is retiring from city government. Bruce took over the city's Office of Management and Budget in 2003 after years of service to the federal government as the budget director for the United States court system and on the staff of the U.S. Office of Management and Budget and U.S. General Accounting Office. When he came to work in City Hall, Alexandria got not only a recognized budget expert but someone who already knew the ins and outs of city finances from the years he spent as the School Board's representative on the city's Budget and Fiscal Affairs Advisory Committee.

During his tenure on BFAAC, he wrote knowledgeably on a variety of budget issues but it was his authorship of what became the city's debt policy guidelines that has had an enduring impact as these guidelines established metrics for the amount of money the city could/should borrow for capital projects and still maintain its coveted double, triple A bond rating. His expertise in public finance benefited the city greatly in raising funds for improvements as diverse as sewers, affordable housing, open space, recreation centers and schools.

Bruce later served as the city's chief financial officer and as acting city manager — and in all of his positions of responsibility, he has been a steady, guiding force in good times and in fiscally challenging times. Current and former members of BFAAC who had the good fortune to work with Bruce were always struck by his professionalism, substantive knowledge and insight, good humor, patience and his dedication to the welfare of the City and all of us who call it home. We wish Bruce well in his retirement and thank him sincerely for all he has done to make Alexandria better.

Current and former chairs of BFAAC: Jim Butler, Elliott Branch, Lisa Chimento, Tim Lovain, Tracy Rickett and Holly Hemphill

MORE LETTERS, PAGE 24

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FROM PAGE 4

participating in a clinical trial with FDA approved home-based monitoring program for people with dry AMD. Join Retina Group of Washington's Debbie Oliver, the developer of the monitoring device. At Charles Beatley Central Library, 5005 Duke St. For more information call 703-746-1760.

TUESDAY/SEPT. 18

Community Meeting. 6 p.m. Hosted by the City of Alexandria, the meeting is on the Jefferson-Houston School of the future. The Durant Center conference room, 1605 Cameron St.

ONGOING

Plant Clinics. Wonder how to grow great tomatoes, which tree is best for your home landscape, or what strange insect you have found? VCE Master Gardeners can help find the answers at weekly Plant Clinics held in the following locations:

Old Town Farmers' Market, 301 King St., Saturdays, from 7 a.m. - noon, May 5 through Sept. 29.

Del Ray Farmers' Market, intersection of Mt. Vernon and East Oxford avenues, Saturdays, from 8:30-11 a.m., May 5 through Sept. 29.

VCE Master Gardener Help Desk (703-228-6414), or mgarlalex@gmail.com; staffed from 9 a.m. - noon, Monday-Friday, year round. Bring fresh samples of problem plants, weeds or insects with you to ensure the accurate identification of any diseases or pests. VCE recommends carrying samples in plastic bags or other clear containers. Don't bring live insects. All clinics and Help Desk are free of charge.

TUESDAYS

Five-Star Toastmasters, Club # 9623. 5:30-7 p.m. at the Pentagon Conference Center. Toastmasters can help participants sharpen their speaking skills, boost their confidence and energize their leadership skills in a team-

oriented atmosphere. Visit <http://fivestar.freetoasthost.com> or contact Club Vice-President for Membership Katharine Gagné at 202-521-2307 or e-mail of Club VP_Mbrshp@fivestar.freetoasthost.com and Club President, Charlie DeWitt at 202-997-5087 or Club_President@fivestar.freetoasthost.com.

FIRST WEDNESDAYS

The Parkinson's Disease Support Group of Alexandria meets the 1st Wednesday of each month at 2 p.m. At the Hollin Hall Senior Center, Room 109, 1500 Shenandoah Rd. All Parkinson's patients and caregivers are welcome.

The Alexandria Tutoring Consortium needs volunteers to tutor kindergarteners and first-graders in literacy skills for 30 minutes once or twice a week through May in Alexandria public schools. Training and lesson plans provided. Call 703-549-6670, ext. 119, or visit www.alexandriatutors.org.

At Home in Alexandria! Those interested in becoming AHA! Friends should call AHA! at 703-231-0824 or download the application form from the AHA! website at www.athomeinalexandria.org. AHA! is a 501(c)(3) organization that supports Alexandrians ages 55+ who prefer to remain — independently — in their own homes. A non-profit, volunteer organization, AHA! delivers reliable, cost-effective transportation, light home maintenance and computer-related services and ready access to other vetted service providers.

Connect with T&ES on Facebook. The City of Alexandria's Department of Transportation & Environmental Services (T&ES) is on Facebook. The T&ES Facebook page will share information on topics such as transportation planning, trash and recycling service, road work and maintenance, traffic, infrastructure and engineering projects, Eco-City Alexandria and environmental initiatives, emergency cleanup efforts, and more. Visit alexandriava.gov/SocialMedia.

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CONTRACT!

2604 Boswell Ave
\$424,900
Better Than New!
Totally remodeled Victorian cottage nestled among Loft Oaks on gorgeous half+ acre grounds. Both interior and exterior are brand new. Fabulous special features include bright, open floor plan, gourmet kit, private master suite, luxury baths and huge screened porch and deck! **OPEN SUN 8/26 1-4! GW Pkwy S; R-Morningside, becomes Sherwood Hall; R-Frances; R-Boswell.**

OPEN SUN!

2406 Wittington Blvd
\$619,900
Updated Charming Colonial!
The home you have been waiting for! Classic 3 level Colonial in prime Stratford Landing location. Features include: updated gourmet kitchen, 4 large BRs, "Andersen" thermal windows, updated baths, screened porch and side load 1 car garage. Walk to neighborhood pool! Unique opportunity! **OPEN SUN 8/26 1-4! GW Pkwy S, R-Stratford; L-Camden; L-Wittington.**

9313 Heather Glen Dr
\$599,500
Gorgeous Home!
Updated with top quality materials and craftsmanship-\$160K in updates and renovations! Exceptionally bright, open floor plan, spacious family room off kitchen, gorgeous hardwood floors, Pella replacement windows, expanded master & large deck, fenced rear yard. Best commute in the DC area! **OPEN SUN 8/26 1-4! GW Pkwy S, past Estate; L-Ferry Landing Rd; L-Heather Glen.**

INTERVIEW!

1250 S. Washington St
Porto Vecchio #824
\$610,000
Best Value!
Spacious residence with breathtaking panoramic river views from every major room. Special features include: glass walled great room, luxury MBR, marble foyer, & bright white kit. Elevated views of bridge & National Harbor. Unique opportunity-typically units with similar combination of views & elevation cost thousands more!

NEW PRICE!

4005 Quisenberry Dr
\$569,900
Expanded Colonial-Fabulous Price!
Nothing like it in prime Mt. Vernon location for under \$600,000! Classic three level Colonial on large corner lot with many fabulous features including: open kit-family room; 2 master suites, oversize two car garage and large deck overlooking fenced rear yard. Combination of size, features and location typically found in much higher priced homes. Super value!

2011 Rampart Dr
\$565,000
Prime Location!
Five level split at bargain price! One of Collingwood Springs largest and most popular models! Bright & open floor plan, gorgeous hardwood floors, 5BR including MBR suite with private bath, new designer kitchen. Prime location on gorgeous fenced lot with easy walk to nearby highly rated Stratford Landing and Carl Sandburg Schools.

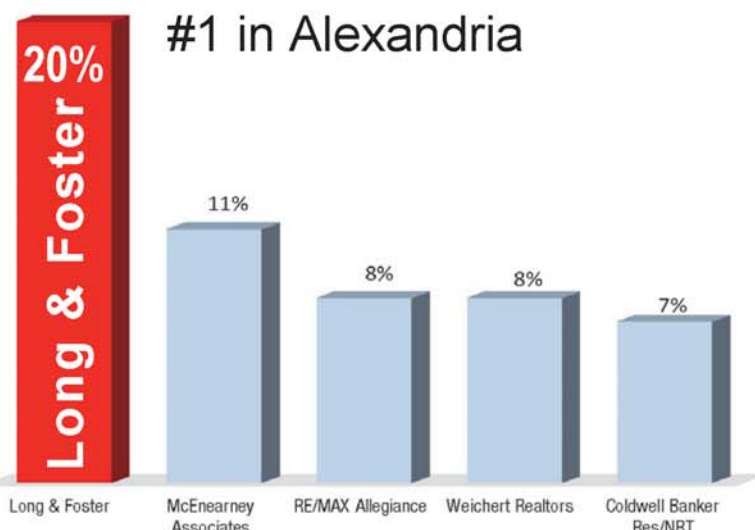
808 Pendleton St
\$465,000-
Total Renovation!!
Unique property combining the best of both worlds-new home amenities with the character and convenience of a prime Old Town location. Fabulous features include: open floor plan, brand new kitchen & baths, upgraded trim detail and hardwood floors. New windows, siding and roof. Complete rebuild by leading builder. No condo or HOA fees.

DOCK!

9410 Ludgate Dr
\$2,030,550
Custom Home with Semi-Private Dock!
Fabulous new home with all the bells and whistles to be built by Keswick Homes on gorgeous lot overlooking Potomac River with access to semi-private dock, to be shared by only 2 properties. Luxurious home with all the amenities that Keswick is noted for. Home was designed to capitalize on river views! Lot also available! Call for details.

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Kingstowne
"BACKS TO PARKLAND"
Delightful 3BR/2.5BA end townhouse. Wood floors thru-out with bamboo on the lower level. Nicely upgraded and appointed kitchen and baths. Stylish mantle on wood-burning fireplace in living room. French door leads to deck perfect for "al fresco" dining. Walk-out lower level. Laundry room with storage. Extra storage in attic.

Anne Hambley 703.946.7266

\$ 595,000
Arl / Shirlington Village
"BRIGHT & BEAUTIFUL"
Delightful 1,376 sq ft 2BR with Den/2BA condo and a open living / dining / kitchen floor plan. MBR has en-suite luxury BA and built-ins. Freshly painted. Balcony. Kitchen with SSA and granite. Parking. Pool. Harris Teeter. Restaurants, shopping, library & theater. EZ commuting.

Brian Hong & Jerry Beamer 703.929.5764

\$ 449,900
Alexandria / Montebello
"J MODEL"
Welcome home to the largest model with great views overlooking treetops and the pool. 3BR / 2FBA with lots of windows, balcony, enclosed sunroom and new HVAC. Gated community in a park-like setting offers resort style living with amenities galore: bowling, party/exercise rooms, 2 pools, tennis, and more! Quick commutes to DC, Old Town, Belvoir plus private shuttle to Metro. 1 car garage parking.

Michael Manuel 703.615.6317

OPEN SUNDAY 1 - 4!
\$ 549,000
Alexandria / Virginia Village
"JUST LISTED - NEW RENOVATION"
Charming circa 1941 front porch, all brick townhouse just renovated and ready for new owners. Features new open kitchen with top-of-the-line Kitchenaid SSA, granite island, cherry cabinets, dark bamboo floors, new master bath, LL rec room

Renee Reymond 703.507.5330

\$ 360,000
Alex/ Porto Vecchio
"GREAT PRICE"
Beautiful sunset views and city lights from this spacious high floor 1BR with fireplace and separate dining room. Abundant closet space, underground parking. An opportunity to enjoy a landmark complex well-sited on the Potomac and well known for it's social, resort feel and outstanding amenities.

Rich Webber 571.329.3401

\$ 245,000
Alexandria
"2BR / 1.5 BATH"
Summer days in the pool or on the tennis courts, followed by fall nights relaxing in front of the fireplace... This cozy 2BR townhouse with unfinished basement is move-in ready. Close to Kingstowne shops and restaurants, Springfield Metro, Ft. Belvoir.

Mindy Brubaker 571.242.9913
Susan Haughton 703.470.4545

\$ 424,000
Alexandria / Old Town
"LOCATION"
• Spacious updated 2BR/2BA
• Recessed lighting throughout
• New master bath
• Kitchen with granite and SS apps
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• 2 off-street parking
• Steps to Metro
• 9 foot ceilings

Martine Imer & Alexander Imer 703.346.7283 or 703.403.2465

OPEN SAT & SUN 1 - 4!
\$ 894,000
Hollin Hall Knolls
8115 YORKTOWN
GOING FAST... ONLY 2 LEFT of these luxury 5BR/4.5BA homes w/all the upgrades & options, built by Long Homes of VA located in heart of Mt. Vernon. EZ access to GW Pkwy, shopping, bike trails, swimming & more.

Randy Bender 703.906.1749

OPEN SUNDAY 1 - 4!
\$ 715,000
Alexandria / Quaker Ridge
3523 GODDARD WAY
Stunning all brick 4 level, 2-car garage townhome ready for immediate occupancy! Huge owner's suite with study and laundry room spans 2nd level. Gourmet chef's kitchen has granite, SSA, and an island with breakfast bar. Hardwoods and built-ins thru-out. 3rd floor has 2BR/1FBA. Lower level multipurpose room. Patio off kitchen. \$5K seller subsidy.

Elfie Biankini 703.593.2634

\$ 324,000
Alex / Ft Ellsworth
"FANTASTIC VALUE"
Quiet garden community in sought after location offering large 2BR/2BA, 9' ceilings in a step-down living room. Open floor plan, large balcony and great light. Modest condo fee includes utilities. The amenities include pool, tennis and reserved parking. Very close to King St Metro and Whole Foods Market. Enjoy the shops, restaurants and Old Town.

Deborah Alea 703.447.1315

\$ 350,000
Alexandria
"PIED à TERRE"
The perfect blending of historic charm with new world appointments. Wonderfully bright, large 1st floor condo which has been remodeled and move-in ready! New paint, floors refinished, brand NEW kitchen plus all that Old Town offers. Close to Metro.

Brian Hong & Jerry Beamer 703.929.5764

\$ 445,750
Alexandria
"LARGEST TOWNHOUSE IN THE COMMUNITY"
Sought after "Summers Grove" - 1,920sf, 3-story townhome with 2-car garage and 3BR/2Full & 2 Half BAs. Across from Metro. Minutes to Pentagon and downtown. Contemporary floor plan, with elegant living room, designer molding, gas fireplace. Open eat-in kitchen, gas cooking, French doors to deck. Luxury Master suite with soaking tub.

Sharon Edwards 703.408.8144

*Source: Information based on data supplied by MRIS and its member Association (s) of REALTORS, who are not responsible for its accuracy. Does not reflect all activity in the marketplace. April 1, 2011 - March 31, 2012. Information contained in this report is deemed reliable but not guaranteed, should be independently verified, and does not constitute an opinion of MRIS or Long and Foster Real Estate Inc. ©2012 All rights reserved.

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Ground Truth

FROM PAGE 1

though the atrocity happened in the 1960s, the pain created by the city's indifference to African-American graves is still fresh. As recently as three years ago, city maintenance vehicles were regularly driving over unmarked graves.

"I don't think that people really want to face up to what has happened," said Lena Rainey, whose ancestors are buried at the park. "No one wants to admit to wrongdoing, although it's right there in front of your face."

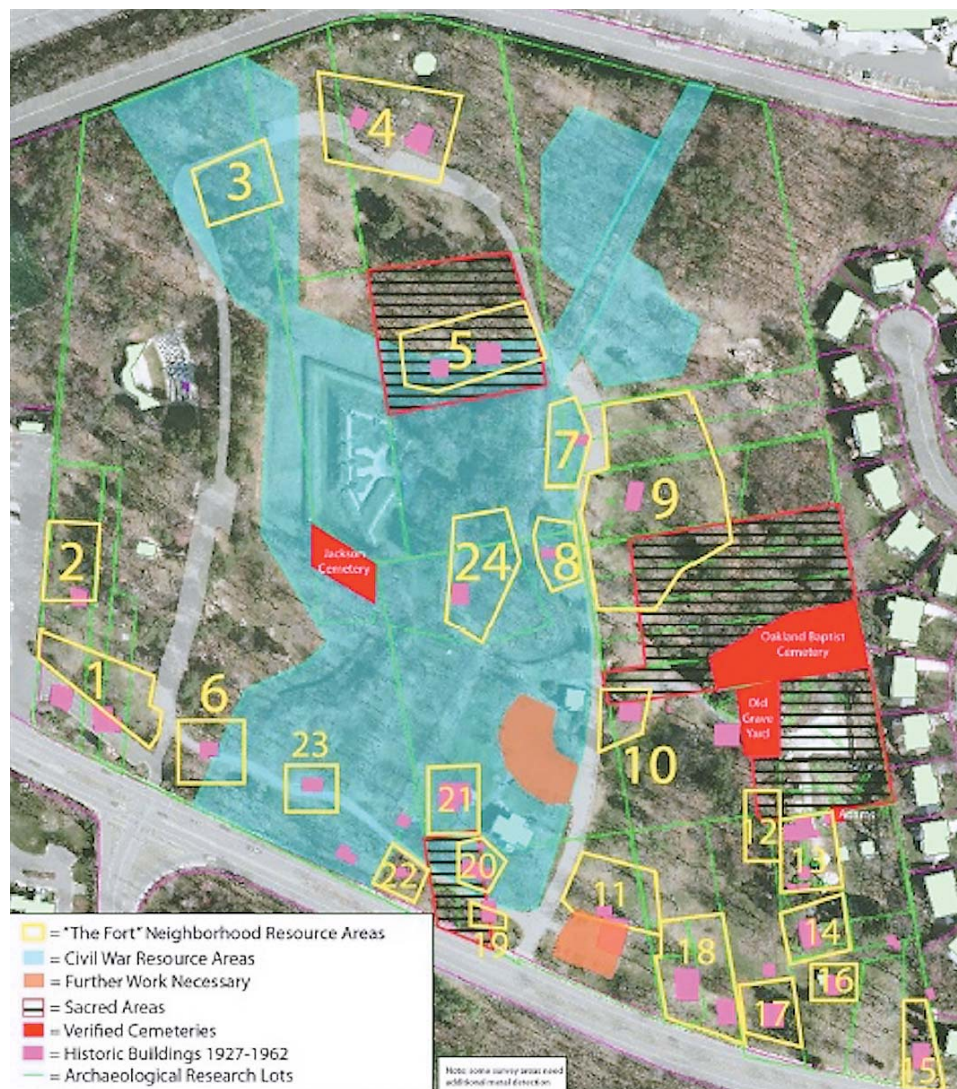
THE STORY OF HOW a city-owned maintenance yard ended up over a city-owned park dates back to the end of the Civil War. When the Union Army deserted the plantation guarding a critical approach to the capital, recently freed slaves began building new lives for themselves here. By the time the city was trying to assemble lands to create Fort Ward Park a century later, determining the titleholders to houses with no plumbing or sewer service created a problem.

"There may have been people who didn't want to sell but realized that their community was changing," said Wally Owen, curator at Fort Ward Park. "What's frustrating about this is that we don't have the full record of what went on back then."

Alexandria leaders have long known about the grave of Clara Adams, which was clearly marked by a headstone in the maintenance yard where they stored equipment and parked their vehicles. City officials believed that her husband was probably buried next to her, but recent archeology has discovered four burials here. And 19 additional graves were discovered in the Jackson family cemetery, which was previously thought to have five burials. And another separate burial area was discovered in an old grove that has three burials, including the sister of Clara Adams. Despite the recent findings, the search for long-lost graves may be over.

"There is a possibility that there are more graves in the park," said Lance Mallamo, director of the Office of Historic Alexandria. "But we feel satisfied that we have made every effort to reasonably identify the graves where we know that have been buried."

PART OF THE PROBLEM for Alexandria leaders is that Fort Ward is one of the crown jewels of city parks. It's a popular spot for a variety of activities, especially now that the Civil War sesquicentennial is attracting new attention to the Union fort. Visitors today



One of the graves at Fort Ward.

will learn about the Connecticut troops that once manned artillery here. But they'll learn almost nothing about the African-American community that thrived here after the war. Some say that indicates a reticence to own up to what happened here.

"If you look at the notices on the restroom doors about the work that's being done this spring and summer, the word graves isn't mentioned in any of those notices," said Glen Eugster. "I think people in the city are really nervous that there are a lot more people buried out here."

Another problem is drainage. Water from a nearby neighborhood washes into the park and floods the graveyard, carrying sediment and debris that washes over the existing headstones. Last year, city officials installed a series of slotted pipes and bales of hay to channel the water. But part of the system was installed on private property and was removed, creating a gap in the system that focuses the flow of water toward one of the graveyards rather than channeling it else-

where. "The city has done as much as it can," said Rich Baier, director of the Department of Transportation and Environmental Services. "We put in a system, and it was removed."

IN THE COMING months, members of a task force will be crafting a long-term management plan for Fort Ward Park, and panels will be installed telling visitors about the African-American neighborhood known as "the Fort." But descendants are skeptical that city leaders will take the actions necessary to find all the burials at Fort Ward, an outcome they say will fail to right the

Archeological Survey At Fort Ward

- 1: Peters and Lewis households.
- 2: Peters lot.
- 3: James Jackson lot (1894-1925) or Garnett Ashby lot (1925-1938).
- 4: Javins households
- 5: Cravins lot.
- 6: Unknown household.
- 7: Possible Shorts/Stewart outbuilding.
- 8: Unknown building on 1937 aerial map.
- 9: Shorts/Stewart household.
- 10: Possible Amanda Clark dwelling.
- 11: Ashby household.
- 12: Smith/Collins house.
- 13: Seminary Colored School (ca. 1898-1926), St. Cyprians Episcopal Church (ca. 1926-1942), Lee Thomas Young house (ca. 1947-1960).
- 14: Casey/Belk house.
- 15: Hogan/Craven house.
- 16: Clara Adams/McKnight house.
- 17: Ball family house.
- 18: Randall household.
- 19 and 20: McKnight household.
- 21: Miller house.
- 22: Possible McKnight lot.
- 23: Unknown structure.
- 24: McKnight household.

wrongs that were done in the 1960s when the park was built over burial grounds.

"The truth should be known," said Rainey, who is a member of a descendants group and a work group. "This is a wrongdoing that has been passed down from generation to generation, and it's time to do something about it."

For more than a year, the descendants have been seeking a meeting with city leaders. But that meeting has not happened. Mallamo says city leaders are concerned because the descendants want Alexandria officials to enter into an agreement. In the next few weeks, Mallamo said, he will be sitting down with the city attorney and the descendants group to determine some kind of resolution to the ongoing tension between relatives of those buried at Fort Ward and the city that transformed their graveyards into a maintenance yard.

"We see this as setting a precedent because they are seeking to develop an agreement with us to share research," said Mallamo. "Some of my other facilities are concerned about the precedent something like that will set."

Memorial on Track

FROM PAGE 5

size of the child that was buried," Baker said.

City records show that more than half of the 1,800 people buried in the cemetery between 1864 and 1869 were under the age of 10.

Survey information indicates gravesite positions. "We have the survey data that shows exactly where they are located, so we can come back after they are finished with the grading," Baker said. "They will put down the grass, and then we will go back and relocate them and put the markers on top of the coordinates."

The cemetery holds not only the graves of freedmen and contrabands. The oldest artifact yet found in Alexandria, a

13,000-year-old Clovis spear point, was recovered here in 2007. A marker will be placed at its recovery site.

Additionally, a place marker will be laid to commemorate a spot where 124 United States Colored Troops were buried. These soldiers' graves were disinterred in 1865 and moved to the Soldiers' Cemetery, now the Alexandria National Cemetery.

A gentle westward slope descends to a low-lying area, which at one time led to a creek. This section will be designated a "passive" portion of the memorial, conducive to walking and gathering. This area is outside the archaeological protection zone, where trees will be planted, along with a walkway.

ENTERTAINMENT

Jacques Brel is Alive and Well at MetroStage

BY CAROLYN GRIFFIN
METROSTAGE, PRODUCING
ARTISTIC DIRECTOR



NOTES FROM THE PRODUCER

Jacques Brel is Alive and Well and Living is Paris is a classic. It landed in New York in 1968 with an English translation and played at the Village Gate for four years. Since then it has played all over the world and is a beloved compilation of music by Brel, an artist growing up in Brussels, then living and performing in Paris. His music was translated by Eric Blau

and Mort Shuman and “Jacques Brel is Alive and Well and Living is Paris” introduced this stunning, passionate music to American audiences. The rest, as they say, is history.

I was introduced to Brel’s music in the ’80s at d.c. space, a funky little performance venue on the corner of 7th and E St. NW (now a Starbucks). I still own the original vinyl cast album. It has been a favorite of mine for decades. And

now MetroStage is producing it, opening our season with an amazing cast and band

to celebrate this brilliant music which covers life and death, love and loss and all of the human experiences in between. It is just as relevant today as it was when it was first introduced to English-speaking audiences of the late ’60s.

In 2006 a new production of Brel opened at the Zipper Theatre in New York.

MetroStage’s 2012-13 Season

Producing Artistic Director Carolyn Griffin announces that the 2012-13 season will open with the musical **Jacques Brel is Alive and Well and Living in Paris**, featuring Natascia Diaz from the 2006 production of the off-Broadway revival at the Zipper Theatre, and a remarkable cast of Bobby Smith, Bayla Whitten and Sam Ludwig. Aug. 30-Oct. 21, 2012.

The revival of **A Broadway Christmas Carol** will follow just in time for the holidays, featuring Michael Sharp as Scrooge and Tracey Stephens and Russell Sunday playing all of the other characters in this parody of *A Christmas Carol* using Broadway showtunes. Nov. 15-Dec. 23, 2012.

The world premiere of **Ladies Swing the Blues**, book and lyrics by Thomas W. Jones II and original music by William Knowles, will feature Roz White, Lori Williams, Yvette Spears, Sandy Bainum, and Anthony Manough. This is a new work that includes many MetroStage artists. A staged reading of it will be part of Page to Stage at the Kennedy Center on Saturday, Sept. 1 at 4 p.m. at the Terrace Theatre. Jan. 24-March 17, 2013.

The area premiere of Michael Hollinger’s **Ghost-Writer** will conclude the season. It will feature Susan Lynskey (last seen at MetroStage in a featured role in *Girl in a Goldfish Bowl*). John Vreeke returns to direct. April 18-May 26, 2013.

MetroStage is located at 1201 N. Royal St. in Alexandria in North Old Town. Tickets are \$48-55 and may be ordered by calling 1-800-494-8497 or online at boxofficetickets.com. For group sales and information call the theatre at 703-548-9044. Visit www.metrostage.com.



PHOTO BY CHRISTOPHER BANKS

Natascia Diaz, Sam Ludwig, Bayla Whitten and Bobby Smith will appear in MetroStage’s “Jacques Brel is Alive and Well and Living in Paris” through Oct. 21.

One of the acclaimed actors in that production was our very own Natascia Diaz. We are delighted that she will be headlining this great cast, also comprised of Bobby Smith, Sam Ludwig and Bayla Whitten. Natascia is well known to our audiences from our world premiere of “ROOMS a Rock Romance,” where she won the Helen Hayes Award for Outstanding Lead Actress in a Musical. She has also been at MetroStage in “Glimpses of the Moon” and, most recently, “Savage in Limbo.” Nationally she has been seen in “Cabaret” and “The

Capeman” and other Broadway and national tours. Bobby Smith, you will remember from our hilarious parody “Musical of Musical” (The Musical!), Sam Ludwig was seen opposite Natascia in “Glimpses of the Moon,” and Bayla is a beautiful young ingénue we will be introducing to MetroStage audiences for the first time.

“Jacques Brel is Alive and Well and Living in Paris” will run at MetroStage through Oct. 21. With this great cast, great band and great music this production of this classic show is a must-see this fall.

CALENDAR

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

THURSDAY/AUG. 30

Kenny Lattimore. 7:30 p.m. \$29.50. The Music Hall. Visit www.kennylattimore.com.

Leukemia/Lymphoma. 7 p.m. Free. Make a difference in the fight against blood cancer. Team In Training will be at Residence Inn Old Town to discuss upcoming races, registration, and training tips. Visit www.teamintraining.org/nca/ or find us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/TNTNCA.

AUG. 30 THROUGH OCT. 21

Jacques Brel. The classic compilation of Brel’s brilliant music about life and death, love and loss, will be in performance at MetroStage Thursdays and Fridays at 8 p.m., Saturdays at 3 p.m. and 8 p.m., and Sundays at 3 p.m. and 7 p.m. Tickets, \$48-55, at 800-494-8497 or www.metrostage.org. MetroStage, 1201 N. Royal St. Call 703-548-9044.

FRIDAY/AUG. 31

BIG CHALK DRAW. 8-10 a.m. Community art event in Art at the Center’s parking lot at 2804

Sherwood Hall Lane. Free. Donations of new backpacks and school supplies to benefit families served by Good Shepherd Housing and Family Services needed. Visit www.artatthecenter.org

Beatlemania Magic. The Carlyle Club, 411 John Carlyle Street, Alexandria. 8 p.m. \$25. A national touring Beatles Tribute band recreating the early Beatles concerts with identical costumes, equipment and spot on harmonies. Visit <http://thecarlyleclub.com> or call 703-548-8899

SATURDAY/SEPT. 1

Alexandria Art Market. 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Alexandria’s newest outdoor art market featuring a variety of original artwork from more than 25 artists displayed for sale including painting, photography, pottery, jewelry, and glasswork. Market includes live music and food from local restaurants. At Del Ray Artisans Gallery, 2704 Mount Vernon Ave. Call 703-838-4827.

THROUGH SEPT. 2

Boarderlines. Thursday-Sunday. Free. This exhibit is an individual and group journey across “boarders” and features a silent auction, 2-D and 3-D gallery artwork, and take-away art. At the Nicholas A. Colasanto Center,

2704 Mount Vernon Ave. Visit www.theDelReyArtisans.org.

WEDNESDAY/SEPT. 5

“Out of the Past.” 7 p.m. Free. Starring Robert Mitchum, Kirk Douglas, and Jane Greer. Part of the monthly Film Noir Series at Duncan Library, 2501 Commonwealth Ave., in Del Ray. After the movie, viewers are invited to discuss the film at St. Elmo’s Coffee Pub at 2300 Mt. Vernon Ave. Call 703-746-1705.

THURSDAY/SEPT. 6

Fashion’s Night Out Alexandria. Presented by Alexandria Convention and Visitors Association. 6-11 p.m. Participating boutiques, restaurants and businesses throughout Alexandria. Visit www.fashionsnighoutalexandria.com

Ten Thousand Villages, a fair trade retailer on King Street in Old Town, will be transformed into an oriental rug showroom, when more than 300 rugs, all hand made in Pakistan by fairly paid adults, arrive for the annual 4-day sale. Ten Thousand Villages is located at 915 King St. Call 703-684-1435.

Free Rug Seminar. 7 p.m. Enjoy the seminar at Ten Thousand Villages, 915 King St. Call 703-684-1435 to

SEE CALENDAR, PAGE 20



IMAGES COURTESY OF

Alexandria King Street Art Festival

Historic King Street from Washington Street to the waterfront is transformed into an outdoor art gallery with original fine artwork by over 200 artists. Sept. 8-9, Saturday 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. and Sunday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Visit AlexandriaVA.com, 703-746-3301 or www.ArtFestival.com, 561-746-6615. Free.

Art Activated 2012

Part of the Alexandria King Street Art Festival

Saturday, September 8th
12 - 4pm • FREE event

- Artist Demos & Hands-On Projects
- Q-Art Code Scavenger Hunt
- Ice Cream Bowl Fundraiser
- Sweet Treats & More!

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105 N. UNION STREET • ALEXANDRIA, VA 22314
www.torpedofactory.org

ENTERTAINMENT

Alexandria's Ready for Fashion's Night Out

Fashion's Night Out Alexandria will run from 6-11 p.m., with shopping until 10 p.m., on Sept. 6. More than 80 boutiques, restaurants and other specialty stores have signed up for the inaugural celebration, and will present the City one big shopping party with a variety of store events, including cocktails and restaurant specials, music, fashion shows, trunk shows, makeovers, designer appearances and exclusive style events.

Fashion's Night Out, launched in 2009 by Vogue's editor-in-chief Anna Wintour, is a global initiative to celebrate fashion, culture, lifestyle, restore consumer confidence and boost the retail industry's economy. In 2011, FNO was celebrated with more than 4,500 events in the U.S., including designer appearances, restaurant specials, retail happenings and other special events.

FNO Alexandria is presented by the Alexandria Convention & Visitors Association and endorsed by the City of Alexandria. In addition to store events, the evening will feature some fashionable public events:

Discover Fashion and Del Ray

East Oxford & Mount Vernon Avenue, 6-9 p.m.

The Del Ray neighborhood has big plans for their fashion-themed affair as they host the City's "fashion block party." Events include a runway show, live music, performance art and a few surprise performances. The fashion show will present some familiar fashionistas, mommies-to-be, hip-hop kids, beautiful brides, and stylin' pooches.

Fashion Show

Torpedo Factory Art Center, 105 North Union St. 8-9 p.m. (Doors open at 7 p.m.)

The Torpedo Factory Art Center, located on Alex-



Alexandria
CELEBRATES

**FASHION'S
NIGHT
OUT**

andria waterfront, will host Fashion's Night Out Alexandria's Inaugural Fashion Show. With Alexandria filled with hip and trendy boutiques, the event will showcase the City's historic ambiance and contemporary flair for fashion.

The Torpedo Factory will also have a collection of fashionable artwork from area artists displayed throughout the gallery. Internationally known couture milliner and Art League instructor Jan Wutkowski will join with a

special collection of millinery creations made for the evening's runway show, and a video demonstration showcasing her inspiration and process for one of the featured headpieces. Guests will be treated to celebrity runway appearances, beauty treatments, wine sips by Barefoot Winery, and wonderful bites by Bread & Chocolate.

Shoppers & Visitors Kiosk

King Street & Fayette Street, 6-9 p.m.

Fashion's Night Out Alexandria Visitor Kiosk (located on the intersection of King Street & Fayette Street) will offer cool activities, music, giveaways, and event maps. The first 100 shoppers who visit the kiosk will receive a swag bag of items from Alexandria businesses. Shoppers can strike a pose in our "Fashionable Photo Booth" and enjoy goodies from the evening's event sponsors.

CALENDAR

FROM PAGE 19

reserve a seat.

First Thursday in Del Ray. 6-9 p.m.

Celebrating Fashion's Night Out with the theme "Always in Fashion" during this month's family-friendly street festival. Festivities along Mount Vernon Avenue include music, exhibitions by local organizations, and businesses open late with activities. At Mount Vernon Avenue. Call 703-746-3301.

FRIDAY/SEPT. 7

Jazz Supper Under the Stars. 5-9 p.m. An evening of food and jazz with Al Williams' jazz band and catering by Hard Times Cafe. Hosted by the Old Town Business & Professional Association and the King Street Gardens Park Foundation. Tickets \$25 in advance, \$30 at the door. At King Street Garden Park, Diagonal Road and King Street. Call 703-683-0333.

Theater Night. Sponsored by Alexandria Bar Association Beat the Odds© Committee. The evening features a reception and a silent auction (start at 6:30 p.m.), and the riotous play "Funny Money (8 p.m.)." at the Alexandria Little Theatre. 600 Wolfe St. \$35. Call 703-548-1106 or email alexbar@alexandriabarva.org.

SEPT. 7 THROUGH 30

'It Runs in the Family' art exhibit.

Artists explore many ways art runs in families; presenting collections of their own and their family's artworks. Details at www.TheDelRayArtisans.org.

SATURDAY/SEPT. 8

Green Spring Gardens. 2-3 p.m. Family Fun: Autumn is for Apples. 4603 Green Spring Rd. Code: 290 484 7501. \$6/person. Children ages 5 and older with registered paying adult. Listen to the story of Johnny Appleseed and take a walk through our orchard. Register on-line at www.greenspring.org or call Green Spring Gardens at 703-642-5173.

Green Spring Gardens. Flourishing, Flowering Salvias. 4603 Green Spring Rd. Code: 290 488 6301. 9:30-11 a.m. \$22. Make room in your garden for fall blooming salvias. Take home a sample of hardy salvia. Register on-line at www.greenspring.org or call 703-642-5173.

Art Activated. 12-4 p.m. This free, 6th annual event takes place during the Alexandria King Street Art Festival. Studios and galleries will be open to meet the artists. Demonstrations, hands-on projects, and activities throughout the afternoon. At the Torpedo Factory Art Center, 105 N. Union St. Call 703-838-4565.

Melissa Ferrick. 7:30 p.m. The singer-songwriter and indie trailblazer returns to The Birchmere with special guest Astra Via. At 3701 Mount Vernon Ave. \$25. Tickets at

www.ticketmaster.com or visit www.birchmere.com.

SEPT. 8 THROUGH 29

"Funny Money." Wednesdays-Saturdays, 8 p.m.; Sundays, 3 p.m. \$17-20. At the Little Theatre of Alexandria, 600 Wolfe St. Call 703-683-0496.

SUNDAY/SEPT. 9

Autumn Cabaret. 7 p.m. An evening of song, dance, variety and comedy at the Carlyle Club, 411 John Carlyle St. \$20. Call 703-941-7464.

Matinee Film. 2 p.m. Featuring: Dave (PG-13). The Charles E. Beatley Central Library, 5005 Duke St. Visit www.alexandria.lib.va.us or call 703-746-1702. Free. Refreshments will be served.

Green Spring Gardens. Springfield Art Guild Art Reception. 4603 Green Spring Rd. 1-3 p.m. Free. Meet local artists from the Springfield Art Guild and their mixed media show of botanical art. Light refreshments served. Call 703-642-5173.

Family Concert. 7:30 p.m. Melissa Cox, at Mount Vernon Unitarian Church. At the MVUC Chapel, 1909 Windmill Lane. Donations will help Beacon House, which provides mentoring, athletic, and nutritional programs to at-risk children in the Edgewood Terrace community of Washington, D.C. Visit www.mvuc.org.

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ENTERTAINMENT

'Best Little Whorehouse in Texas'

Muscial comedy is running through Oct. 7 at Signature.

BY JEANNE THEISMANN
THE GAZETTE

It was known as The Chicken Ranch, a century-old "business" in La Grange, Texas, that earned its nickname for accepting chickens as payment for services rendered. But when a crusading TV reporter makes the brothel the subject of an expose, the legendary house of ill repute is forced to close, providing the basis for "The Best Little Whorehouse in Texas," a boot-scooting musical now playing at Signature Theatre in Arlington.

Originally staged on Broadway in 1978 (followed by the movie starring Dolly Parton and Burt Reynolds), "Whorehouse" stars the incomparable Sherri L. Edelen as Miss Mona, the proprietor of the Chicken Ranch. Edelen brings a sultry sexiness to the role, exuding charisma and charm in a range of songs from "A Lil' Ole Bitty Pissant Country Place" to the poignant closing strains of "A Friend to Me."

In addition to Edelen, the exceptional cast

includes Thomas Adrian Simpson, who turns in a stellar performance as Sheriff Ed Earl Dodd, a hot-tempered good-old-boy with a tender spot for Miss Mona. Simpson delivers his many expletive laden monologues with conviction and flair, while his rich vocals shine in "Good Old Girl."

Nova Y. Payton returns to Signature as Jewel, Miss Mona's trusted assistant who, along with the ensemble of "working girls," brings down the house with a rocking rendition of "Twenty-Fours of Lovin'."

With relentless energy and humor, Christopher Bloch commands the stage as the pompous and pious Melvin P. Thorpe, the TV reporter hell bent on shuttering the whorehouse, while Dan Manning is the Texas governor who comically sidesteps his political dilemma.

The entire ensemble is equally impressive, with the male Aggie Boys especially memorable in the sizzling, athletic routines that literally bare all save for the strategic placement of a few 10-gallon Stetsons.

Music and lyrics are by Carol Hall and book by Larry L. King and Peter Masterson. Gabriele Mangiante provides the musical direction of the seven-piece orchestra with choreography by Karma Camp.

The original Chicken Ranch may have ceased operating in 1973, but under the masterful eye of Signature's Artistic Direc-



PHOTOS BY SCOTT SUCHMAN

Sherri L. Edelen (as Miss Mona, center) leads the cast of "The Best Little Whorehouse in Texas" in the production's toe-tapping finale. The musical comedy "The Best Little Whorehouse in Texas" plays at Arlington's Signature Theatre through Oct. 7, 2012. Visit www.signature-theatre.org.

tor Eric Schaeffer, the legacy of "The Best Little Whorehouse in Texas" lives on in one of the most entertaining, toe-tapping productions of the year.

"The Best Little Whorehouse in Texas" is

playing now through Oct. 7 at Signature Theatre, 4200 Campbell Ave., Arlington. For tickets or more information, call 703-820-9771 or visit www.signature-theatre.org.

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The music starts to play and the crowd responds with dancing.



Glamdoll Makeup owner Letitia Thornhill paints Danielle Dean at the festival.

Celebrating Lenny Harris at One Love Festival



Teryl Hackley, owner of Conservative Cutts Barber Shop finishes a new cut on Markus Patten.

On Saturday afternoon, Aug. 18, the field at Braddock Park filled with friends, neighbors and the family to celebrate the One Love Festival and the legacy of Lenny Harris. Children were treated to games, rides, free haircuts while live music filled the air. Harris started the festival 10 years ago as a community gathering to promote the future and success of the youth in Alexandria. After his death last year, the festival was organized by his wife Deborah.

Ellison Paul scans the field as she rises in the air on the bungee jump.

PHOTOS BY
LOUISE KRAFFT
GAZETTE PACKET



SCHOOL NOTES

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

Patrick Henry Elementary School will host a kindergarten orientation — not a school-wide open house, as previously announced — from 10-11 a.m. on Thursday, Aug. 30. No programs for students or families are scheduled for Friday, Aug. 31.

Fall 2011 graduates from James Madison University include: **Gregory Allen; Benjamin Chang; Robert Clark; Erin Drone; Nabila Hafez; Della Hinn; Polly Reuter; Sarah Thomas; Monika Zawasky; and Bemnet Zeleke.**

The following students enrolled at Virginia Tech were named to the dean's list for the fall 2011 semester.

❖ **Harry L. Schonberger** of Alexandria is a freshman majoring in food science and technology in the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences.

❖ **Sarah K. Bosserman** of Alexandria is a senior majoring in human nutrition, food and exercise in the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences.

❖ **Michael Adu** of Alexandria is a senior majoring in biological sciences in the College of

Science.

❖ **Jeremy S. Bernier** of Alexandria is a senior majoring in mathematics in the College of Science.

Hasamone Nimjareansuk of Alexandria was named to the Dean's List at Niagara University in New York for the Fall 2011 semester.

The National Merit Scholarship Corporation announced the names of 800 outstanding Black American high school seniors who have won Achievement Scholarship awards through the National Achievement Scholarship Program. The local 2012 Achievement Scholarship winners include:

❖ **Aduragbemi Gbopemi Jibodu** of T.C. Williams High School. Probable career field: Aerospace Engineering. This award is supported by NMSC, which conducts the National Achievement Scholarship Program.

❖ **Saara K. Kaudeyr** of T.C. Williams High School. Probable career field: Medicine. This award is supported by NMSC, which conducts the National Achievement Scholarship Program.

Anastasia C. Voellm, the daughter of Frederick and Catalina Voellm of Alexandria, has been named to Randolph-Macon Academy's President's List for the third quarter of the 2011-12 school year. Anastasia is a junior at Randolph-Macon.

Jessica Raugitinane, a junior at the Univer-

sity of Connecticut and resident of Alexandria, has been chosen as the 2012 recipient of the Alma Exley Memorial Scholarship, which supports and encourages greater diversity in the teaching profession. Raugitinane, a graduate of T.C. Williams High School in Alexandria, is enrolled in the five-year integrated bachelor's and master's program at UConn. She is pursuing a triple major in elementary education, English and Spanish, with a minor in Latino studies.

A consistent Dean's List student, she has an outstanding record of public service in education. She has taught in the Dominican Republic with International Student Volunteers, and has served as a tutor, mentor or teacher's assistant in schools in Hartford, Windham, and Putnam, Conn., as well as in Alexandria, and Washington, D.C.

Natalie Stier of Alexandria, a member of the class of 2012 at Washington and Lee University, earned honor roll status for the winter 2012 term.

The following Washington and Lee students have earned dean's list status for the winter 2012.

❖ **Tyler Gehrs**, of Alexandria, a member of the class of 2013 at Washington and Lee University;

❖ **Meredith Mitchell**, of Alexandria, a member of the class of 2012 at Washington and Lee University;

❖ **Vanessa Ndege**, of Alexandria, a member of the class of 2012 at Washington and Lee University;

❖ **Caroline Schmidt**, of Alexandria, a member of the class of 2013 at Washington and Lee University;

❖ **Natalie Stier**, of Alexandria, a member of the class of 2012 at Washington and Lee University.

Villanova University named the following students to the Dean's List for the fall 2011 semester.

❖ **Inez Catherine Cooney**, from Alexandria, is enrolled in the Villanova School of Business;

❖ **Sarah Peterson**, from Alexandria, is enrolled in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences.

Margaret Widdowson of Alexandria received a Doctor of Veterinary Medicine degree from the Virginia-Maryland Regional College of Veterinary Medicine at Virginia Tech's graduation on May 11.

Glenville State College in Glenville, West Virginia has announced that **Kevin T. Webb** of Alexandria has attained the President's Honor Roll for the 2012 Spring semester.

Zachary Hoisington graduated with a bachelor's degree in Biology from Colorado College. Hoisington is the son of Jeff and Lynne Hoisington of Alexandria.

HOME SALES

In July 2012, 207 Alexandria homes sold between \$1,645,000-\$89,000.
This week's list represents those homes sold in the \$1,645,000-\$464,500 range.
For the complete list, visit www.ConnectionNewspapers.com

Address	BR .	FB .	HB ...	Postal	City	Sold Price ...	Type	Lot AC .	PostalCode	Subdivision
607 FORT WILLIAMS PKWY	5	4	1	.....	ALEXANDRIA	\$1,645,000	Detached	0.50	22304	CHELSEA
403 VIRGINIA AVE	5	4	0	.....	ALEXANDRIA	\$1,472,500	Detached	0.26	22302	JEFFERSON PARK
632 PITT ST	4	4	1	.....	ALEXANDRIA	\$1,415,000	Townhouse	0.06	22314	OLD TOWN
42 ALEXANDER ST	3	2	2	.....	ALEXANDRIA	\$1,350,000	Townhouse	0.03	22314	FORDS LANDING
405 WOODLAND TER	4	3	1	.....	ALEXANDRIA	\$1,315,000	Detached	0.19	22302	JEFFERSON PARK
614 FAIRFAX ST S	4	2	1	.....	ALEXANDRIA	\$1,290,000	Townhouse	0.06	22314	OLD TOWN
310 COMMERCE ST	4	2	1	.....	ALEXANDRIA	\$1,250,000	Detached	0.10	22314	OLD TOWN
203 LEE ST S	4	3	1	.....	ALEXANDRIA	\$1,200,000	Townhouse	0.05	22314	OLD TOWN
400 LEE ST S	3	3	0	.....	ALEXANDRIA	\$1,190,000	Townhouse	0.02	22314	OLD TOWN
508 SUMMERS CT	4	3	1	.....	ALEXANDRIA	\$1,165,000	Detached	0.19	22301	ROSEMONT
903 QUAKER LN N	4	3	1	.....	ALEXANDRIA	\$1,124,000	Detached	0.74	22302	CHAPEL HILL
219 ST ASAPH ST N	5	5	0	.....	ALEXANDRIA	\$1,040,000	Multi-Family	0.08	22314	OLD TOWN
600 WINDSOR AVE W	5	3	1	.....	ALEXANDRIA	\$1,030,000	Detached	0.12	22302	JEFFERSON PARK
808 GRAND VIEW DR	3	3	1	.....	ALEXANDRIA	\$970,000	Detached	0.16	22305	BEVERLY HILLS
5155 CALIFORNIA LN	4	3	1	.....	ALEXANDRIA	\$947,000	Detached	0.08	22304	CAMERON STATION
525 LEE ST S	3	2	0	.....	ALEXANDRIA	\$930,000	Townhouse	0.03	22314	OLD TOWN
414 PITT ST N	3	3	1	.....	ALEXANDRIA	\$924,900	Townhouse	0.03	22314	BULFINCH SQUARE
1250 WASHINGTON ST S #205	3	4	0	.....	ALEXANDRIA	\$910,000	Mid-Rise 5-8 Floors	0.22	22314	PORTO VECCHIO
3816 COLONEL ELLIS AVE	6	3	1	.....	ALEXANDRIA	\$905,000	Detached	0.33	22304	SEMINARY RIDGE
512 OVERLOOK DR N	3	3	0	.....	ALEXANDRIA	\$875,000	Detached	0.28	22305	BEVERLY HILLS
615 CRESTWOOD DR	5	3	1	.....	ALEXANDRIA	\$865,000	Detached	0.22	22302	MONTICELLO PARK
2607 DAVIS AVE	3	2	2	.....	ALEXANDRIA	\$859,000	Detached	0.13	22302	BRADDOCK HEIGHTS
712 HAWKINS WAY	4	3	1	.....	ALEXANDRIA	\$855,000	Townhouse	0.05	22314	OLD TOWN GREENS
826 MONTGOMERY ST	3	3	1	.....	ALEXANDRIA	\$845,965	Townhouse	0.00	22314	OLD TOWN COMMONS
810 GRAND VIEW DR	4	3	1	.....	ALEXANDRIA	\$837,500	Detached	0.16	22305	BEVERLY HILLS
1115 CAMERON ST #404	2	2	1	.....	ALEXANDRIA	\$827,500	Garden 1-4 Floors	0.04	22314	THE PRESCOTT
1647 HUNTING CREEK DR	5	4	1	.....	ALEXANDRIA	\$820,000	Townhouse	0.04	22314	OLD TOWN GREENS
3528 SAYLOR PL	4	2	1	.....	ALEXANDRIA	\$819,000	Detached	0.46	22304	STERLING
813 CHALFONTE DR	4	3	0	.....	ALEXANDRIA	\$812,800	Detached	0.23	22305	BEVERLY HILLS
31 ALEXANDER ST	2	2	1	.....	ALEXANDRIA	\$800,000	Townhouse	0.02	22314	FORDS LANDING
103 ALEXANDRIA AVE W	4	2	1	.....	ALEXANDRIA	\$780,000	Detached	0.15	22301	DEL RAY - ROSEMONT
433 LEE ST	4	2	1	.....	ALEXANDRIA	\$780,000	Semi-Detached	0.04	22314	OLD TOWN ALEXANDRIA
1413 OAKCREST DR	4	3	1	.....	ALEXANDRIA	\$775,000	Detached	0.16	22302	DYES OAKCREST
400 PAYNE ST S	3	3	1	.....	ALEXANDRIA	\$775,000	Townhouse	0.02	22314	OLD TOWN VILLAGE
1180 PITT ST	3	3	1	.....	ALEXANDRIA	\$770,000	Attach/Row Hse	0.02	22314	CANAL WAY
602 WINDSOR AVE W	4	3	0	.....	ALEXANDRIA	\$759,000	Detached	0.12	22302	JEFFERSON PARK
2509 CLAY ST	3	3	1	.....	ALEXANDRIA	\$750,000	Detached	0.16	22302	JEFFERSON PARK
416 PATRICK ST N	4	3	1	.....	ALEXANDRIA	\$750,000	Detached	0.05	22314	OLD TOWN
635 FIRST ST #102	2	2	0	.....	ALEXANDRIA	\$749,500	Garden 1-4 Floors	0.03	22314	LIBERTY ROW
1 POTOMAC CT	3	2	0	.....	ALEXANDRIA	\$735,000	Attach/Row Hse	0.03	22314	OLD TOWN
519 PITT ST N	3	2	1	.....	ALEXANDRIA	\$730,000	Townhouse	0.02	22314	CHATHAM SQUARE
311 WILKES ST	3	2	0	.....	ALEXANDRIA	\$720,000	Townhouse	0.02	22314	OLD TOWN
412 PENDLETON ST	3	3	1	.....	ALEXANDRIA	\$710,000	Townhouse	0.02	22314	CHATHAM SQUARE
419 COOK ST	3	3	1	.....	ALEXANDRIA	\$700,000	Townhouse	0.02	22314	CHATHAM SQUARE
903 CRESCENT DR	3	2	1	.....	ALEXANDRIA	\$699,000	Detached	0.15	22302	BEVERLY HILLS
503 TENNESSEE AVE	3	2	0	.....	ALEXANDRIA	\$699,000	Detached	0.20	22305	BEVERLY HILLS
319 HEARTHSTONE MEWS	3	2	1	.....	ALEXANDRIA	\$698,000	Attach/Row Hse	0.03	22314	HEARTHSTONE
403 CAMBRIDGE RD	3	2	1	.....	ALEXANDRIA	\$685,000	Detached	0.18	22314	COLLEGE PARK
8 UHLER AVE W	3	3	0	.....	ALEXANDRIA	\$680,000	Detached	0.11	22301	ROSECREST
676 COLUMBUS ST S #7	3	3	1	.....	ALEXANDRIA	\$680,000	Townhouse	0.03	22314	WASHINGTON SQUARE
516A HOWELL AVE E	3	2	1	.....	ALEXANDRIA	\$679,000	Detached	0.07	22301	DEL RAY
704 SCARBURGH WAY	3	3	1	.....	ALEXANDRIA	\$665,000	Townhouse	0.03	22314	OLD TOWN GREENS
733 PITT ST S	2	2	0	.....	ALEXANDRIA	\$653,000	Townhouse	0.04	22314	YATES GARDENS
458 SOUTH UNION ST #5	2	1	1	.....	ALEXANDRIA	\$640,000	Townhouse	0.03	22314	HARBORSIDE
107 MAPLE ST E	2	1	0	.....	ALEXANDRIA	\$626,000	Detached	0.11	22301	ROSEMONT PARK
4634 LAMBERT DR	3	3	1	.....	ALEXANDRIA	\$625,000	Townhouse	0.05	22311	STONEGATE
1204 DARTMOUTH RD	3	3	1	.....	ALEXANDRIA	\$624,000	Townhouse	0.04	22314	QUAKER HILL
2603 GADSBY PL	3	2	2	.....	ALEXANDRIA	\$620,000	Townhouse	0.03	22311	STONEGATE
918 ROLFE PL	3	2	1	.....	ALEXANDRIA	\$610,000	Townhouse	0.03	22314	POWHATAN PLACE
918 ROLFE PL	3	2	1	.....	ALEXANDRIA	\$610,000	Townhouse	0.03	22314	POWHATAN PLACE
301 LANNON CT	3	3	1	.....	ALEXANDRIA	\$600,000	Townhouse	0.04	22304	CAMERON STATION
115 LEE ST N #PH502	1	1	1	.....	ALEXANDRIA	\$600,000	Penthouse	0.04	22314	TORPEDO FACTORY
311 ADAMS AVE	3	2	0	.....	ALEXANDRIA	\$598,000	Detached	0.09	22301	ROSEMONT PARK
718 COLUMBUS ST N	2	2	1	.....	ALEXANDRIA	\$595,000	Attach/Row Hse	0.03	22314	PARKER GRAY/OLD TOWN
2408 PAGE TER	3	1	0	.....	ALEXANDRIA	\$587,500	Detached	0.14	22302	BRADDOCK HEIGHTS
400 SECOND ST	3	2	1	.....	ALEXANDRIA	\$581,000	Attach/Row Hse	0.03	22314	WATERGATE OF ALEXANDRIA
1026 TAYLOR RUN PKWY W	3	2	0	.....	ALEXANDRIA	\$570,000	Detached	0.21	22302	ALBERT V BRYAN
708 MOUNT VERNON AVE	3	3	1	.....	ALEXANDRIA	\$569,750	Townhouse	0.17	22301	NONE
164 BARRETT PL	3	2	1	.....	ALEXANDRIA	\$569,000	Townhouse	0.03	22304	CAMERON STATION
700 MOUNT VERNON AVE	3	3	1	.....	ALEXANDRIA	\$566,000	Townhouse	0.03	22301	DEL RAY
1505 WAYNE ST	2	2	0	.....	ALEXANDRIA	\$552,500	Duplex	0.06	22301	DEL RAY
2301 BURKE AVE	3	2	0	.....	ALEXANDRIA	\$550,000	Detached	0.13	22301	DEL RAY
4644 KIRKLAND PL	3	2	2	.....	ALEXANDRIA	\$550,000	Townhouse	0.05	22311	STONEGATE
115 LEE N #BH-207	2	2	0	.....	ALEXANDRIA	\$550,000	Mid-Rise 5-8 Floors	0.03	22314	TORPEDO FACTORY
504 TRIADPHILIA WAY #3	3	2	2	.....	ALEXANDRIA	\$549,450	Townhouse	0.03	22312	BEAUREGARD STATION
4021/2 ROYAL ST S	2	1	0	.....	ALEXANDRIA	\$546,500	Townhouse	0.02	22314	OLD TOWN
301 COLUMBUS ST	1	1	0	.....	ALEXANDRIA	\$540,000	Townhouse	0.03	22314	OLD TOWN, ALEXANDRIA
735 UPLAND PL	4	2	0	.....	ALEXANDRIA	\$537,500	Detached	0.12	22314	GLENMORE
910 POWHATAN ST #306S	2	2	0	.....	ALEXANDRIA	\$531,900	Garden 1-4 Floors	0.05	22314	900 N WASHINGTON ST CONDOS
220 NELSON AVE E	2	2	1	.....	ALEXANDRIA	\$530,000	Townhouse	0.05	22301	BIRDIE MAY MASON
1310 ROOSEVELT ST	4	2	0	.....	ALEXANDRIA	\$530,000	Detached	0.17	22302	BRADDOCK HEIGHTS
3809 ELBERT AVE	3	2	2	.....	ALEXANDRIA	\$530,000	Townhouse	0.08	22305	SUNNYSIDE
8 CATON AVE	3	2	0	.....	ALEXANDRIA	\$520,000	Townhouse	0.06	22301	DEL RAY
1503 HANCOCK AVE W	2	2	0	.....	ALEXANDRIA	\$515,000	Duplex	0.06	22301	JEFFERSON PARK
123 HENRY ST S	2	1	1	.....	ALEXANDRIA	\$515,000	Semi-Detached	0.02	22314	OLD TOWN
51 QUAKER LN N	3	3	0	.....	ALEXANDRIA	\$509,400	Detached	0.24	22304	ALEXANDRIA
6 CATON AVE W	3	2	0	.....	ALEXANDRIA	\$505,000	Townhouse	0.06	22301	DEL RAY
4661 KIRKLAND PL	3	2	1	.....	ALEXANDRIA	\$505,000	Townhouse	0.03	22311	STONEGATE
828 SLATERS LN #204	2	2	0	.....	ALEXANDRIA	\$505,000	Garden 1-4 Floors	0.03	22314	OLD TOWN CRESCENT
503 HENRY ST S	3	2	1	.....	ALEXANDRIA	\$492,000	Townhouse	0.03	22314	OLD TOWN ALEXANDRIA
828 SLATERS LN #105	2	2	0	.....	ALEXANDRIA	\$491,500	Garden 1-4 Floors	0.03	22314	OLD TOWN CRESCENT
165 MARTIN LN #541	3	2	1	.....	ALEXANDRIA	\$490,000	Townhouse	0.03	22304	CAMERON STATION
709 MASSEY LN #120	3	2	1	.....	ALEXANDRIA	\$490,000	Townhouse	0.03	22314	OLD TOWN GREENS
524 GLENDALE AVE	3	2	0	.....	ALEXANDRIA	\$485,000	Townhouse	0.05	22301	BRENTON
346 SAINT ASAPH ST N	2	1	0	.....	ALEXANDRIA	\$485,000	Townhouse	0.06	22314	BROCKETTS CROSSING
1120 POWHATAN ST	2	1	0	.....	ALEXANDRIA	\$485,000	Townhouse	0.06	22314	WESTOVER
304 PATRICK ST N	2	1	1	.....	ALEXANDRIA	\$479,000	Detached	0.02	22314	OLD TOWN
1712 PRICE ST	2	2	0	.....	ALEXANDRIA	\$474,000	Townhouse	0.03	22301	DEL RAY
6 REED AVE E	3	2	1	.....	ALEXANDRIA	\$474,000	Duplex	0.06	22305	BEAUMONT
3003 MOSBY ST	3	2	0	.....	ALEXANDRIA	\$470,000	Townhouse	0.09	22305	WARWICK VILLAGE
2181 JAMIESON AVE #801	2	2	0	.....	ALEXANDRIA	\$470,000	Hi-Rise 9+ Floors	0.07	22314	CARLYLE TOWERS
6 BELLEFONTE AVE E	2	1	0	.....	ALEXANDRIA	\$469,000	Duplex	0.07	22301	DEL RAY
5089 DONOVAN DR #181	3	2	1	.....	ALEXANDRIA	\$469,000	Townhouse	0.03	22304	CAMERON STATION
5367 HOLMES RUN PKWY	4	3	0	.....	ALEXANDRIA	\$467,500	Detached	0.18	22304	BROOKVILLE
2121 JAMIESON AVE #611	2	2	0	.....	ALEXANDRIA	\$465,000	Hi-Rise 9+ Floors	0.04	22314	CARLYLE TOWERS
217 GENTRY AVE	3	2	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$464,500	Townhouse	0.04	22305	WARWICK VILLAGE

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LETTERS

Voice for Education

To the Editor:

For many years, Rob Krupicka has been a voice for education in Alexandria; it is time his voice is heard in Richmond as a delegate for the 45th. Voting on Sept. 4 will send him there.

Having known Rob for many years, both of our mothers have a strong commitment to education that has instilled in both of us a lifelong belief in the power of education and access to education.

During Rob's tenure on council and the Virginia Board of Education, he has been a tireless advocate for students and innovations that increase the accessibility of education to all Virginians.

His voice on council will be missed and council will need a strong education advocate. Education is the most critical issue facing Alexandria and the Commonwealth. Will it continue to rest on our laurels and be out-competed by other states and nations, or will Virginia continue to lead the way as an innovator and example for others?

From Richmond, Rob will be advocating for education in our city and Virginia; it's time Rob's voice is heard in Richmond.

John Taylor Chapman

John Taylor Chapman is an educator and teacher-endorsed candidate for Alexandria City Council.

Clear Choice For Mayor

To the Editor:

In considering the upcoming mayoral election, it is essential to examine Mayor Bill Euille's recent record as the leader of the City Council.

1. The Mayor was asleep at the switch when the Defense Department proposed BRACC-133 without making necessary traffic arrangements.

2. The Mayor has tried to ram through a developer-friendly Waterfront Plan, initially highlighting three hotels, despite sustained and substantial opposition from residents.

3. The council ignored a citizen protest petition, which would have required a supermajority to approve the rezoning. The Board of Zoning Appeals overturned this action by a 4-2 vote in April. Instead of accepting this decision, the city has appealed the BZA ruling to the courts, using expensive outside legal counsel.

4. In July, the city tried an end run around Board of Architectural Review procedures, urging consideration of a waterfront hotel proposal that current zoning does not allow. Only vocal citizen protests forced City Hall to back off. Throughout the several year-long process, the Mayor and council majority have consistently denigrated citizen protests and shown little interest in exploring possible compromises.

5. The Mayor and council pushed through the Beauregard redevelopment plan in the West End, again in the face of widespread citizen opposition. The proposal will result in the loss of 1200 affordable housing units.

6. The Mayor and council supported a

rezoning proposal in Arlandia that was opposed by many local residents and will result in fewer affordable housing for low-income residents.

7. The Mayor and council were negligent in failing to press Potomac Yard developers to pay for the proposed new Metro station. The upshot is that Alexandria taxpayers will have to borrow a large portion of the \$500 million needed to finance this project.

8. The Mayor is putting at risk city finances by relying on overly optimistic projection of growth in tax revenue to fund many of Potomac Yard improvements while failing to provide adequate land for new schools and parks.

9. Lastly, the Mayor has been dodging stand-alone one-on-one debates with Andrew Macdonald, his opponent. What is the Mayor afraid of? His record perhaps!

The upcoming election offers Alexandrians a clear choice between a candidate who will work for the people and for sound growth and one who has been mainly concerned about promoting the interests of real estate developers. Bill Euille's record, especially during his last term, does not warrant his reelection. If you want a better, brighter future for Alexandria, then vote for Andrew Macdonald and not for a fourth term for Bill Euille.

Dennis Kux

'Demolition By Neglect'

To the Editor:

The following is an open letter addressed to Mayor Bill Euille and members of City Council.

I am completely appalled that the City Staff continues to recommend that the former Beachcomber restaurant at 0 Prince Street be leased out for the operation of a restaurant only.

At your last public hearing I spoke to you during the open mike session and recommended that you consider the sale of this property rather than leasing it and then subsequently reimbursing the city's Open Space Fund from where the funds to originally procure the property originated. In addition, I also recommended that uses other than restaurants should be considered. From the ensuing comments rendered by council I was under the impression that serious consideration would be given to those recommendations before the city embarked upon a redo of the property. Currently it is the city's number one example of "demolition by neglect."

I would have thought that the city, after suffering through the yet unresolved demise of the unoccupied Waterfront Food Court, would not want to engender a repeat performance with the Beachcomber.

It seems that every time a vacant piece of commercial property in Old Town becomes available, the planners always want to fill the vacancy with a restaurant. It doesn't make any difference whether or not a restaurant existed in the space previously. Apparently the planners haven't read the Parking Study which unequivocally shows that the over proliferation of restaurants in Old

Let's Be Ready, Alexandria

BY THE ALEXANDRIA CITIZEN
CORPS COUNCIL

Most of us don't think of Alexandria as a wild weather place. We don't live in tornado alley, and we're not usually at risk for the big hurricanes that often threaten Florida, the Carolinas, and the Gulf States. Until last summer, we didn't think

much about earthquakes in this area either. But, over the last several months, Alexandrians have seen it all- blizzards, earthquakes, derechos, and other storms that have uprooted trees, taken down power lines, and left thousands of us in the dark, sometimes for days.

How prepared were you for the derecho that hit Alexandria earlier this summer? That storm hit us without much warning, and many Alexandrians were caught off guard. Much of the area was without power — including our homes, banks, grocery stores, gas stations, and restaurants. Did you have extra cash on hand so you could buy things at stores that couldn't accept debit and credit cards while the phone and Internet lines were down? Did you have gas in your car, or were you one of the ones waiting in long lines at one of the few open gas stations? Did you have non-perishable food available at home for you and your family to eat while the grocery stores were closed because they lost power too? Did you have a battery-operated radio available so that you could get news and other information?

We don't know when the next emergency will be, but by now, we should know that it can and will happen — even in Alexandria. During all of the recent

emergencies, our first responders are working long hours, away from their own families, to help those who need it the most. We can help them by helping our neighbors and ourselves. September is National Preparedness Month, and a great time to take a few minutes to make sure that you're prepared. Here are three simple steps you can take to be ready:°

❖ Be informed. The city's eNews alert service lets you sign up to receive vital emergency alerts and information on more than 100 topics. Alerts and messages can be sent directly to your e-mail account, PDA, pager, cell phone, or BlackBerry. Don't miss out on important news and emergency alerts.°Sign up today: <https://enews.alexandriava.gov/>

❖ Make a plan. Visit Virginia Department of Emergency Management website for easy to use tools and suggestions to make a plan for you and your family. Keep important information and contact numbers handy. <http://www.vaemergency.gov/readyvirginia/makeaplan>

❖ Build a kit. Use this checklist from ReadyVirginia.gov to make sure that you, your family, and your pets have what you need before the next emergency. <http://www.vaemergency.gov/readyvirginia/getakit>

The Alexandria Citizen Corps Council was established under the City Code in 2005 to advise and support the City Council of Alexandria to help Alexandria minimize the impact of disaster through prevention, preparation, and effective response measures. The council meets on the 4th Monday of every other month at 7 p.m. at the Alexandria Fire Department Headquarters (900 Second Street). Members of the public are invited to attend and encouraged to get involved.

Town have caused our parking and traffic problems. Isn't it about time someone took note of this and acted in a responsible manner? The Beachcomber could very easily be used a small office building or a small museum. It could also become the cultural focus of a redesigned Waterfront Park reoriented so as to focus on the building. This would attract people to the waterfront by drawing their attention to the Beachcomber as they come to the end of King Street. This could be improved further by removing the road on the north side of the Beachcomber in order to integrate it into the Waterfront Park thereby focusing on the Beachcomber.

Townsend A. "Van" Van Fleet
Alexandria

More Than Sound Bites

To the Editor:

Ron Rigby and others maintain that it is unreasonable to ask Mayor Euille to debate

his mayoral opponent, Andrew Macdonald, for more than a few minutes at any debate. They say that the Mayor is too busy "running the city" or "The Mayor has a city to run."

They conjure up an image of Mayor Euille rushing out every morning to run the street sweeper. Then he puts in a few hours using his business acumen to audit the city's tax receipts, followed by a few more demanding tasks until he drags himself home long after the hour when citizens might be available to listen to a debate.

As the Mayor's supporters know or certainly should know, Alexandria has a Council-Manager form of government. Just last December the Mayor and the City Council hired Mr. Rashad Young as our newest city manager. He's paid around \$245,000 a year to run the city. The Mayor and Council hired him and set his salary. When they did that, I am sure they were thinking that Mr. Young has the talent that all first rate civil servants

SEE LETTERS, PAGE 26

OBITUARY

Gilbert Zimmerman

Gil Zimmerman, 94, died on Tuesday, Aug. 21, 2012 at his Woodhaven residence in the Williamsburg Landing retirement community in Williamsburg, Va., with, Lila, his loving wife of 51 years, at his side. He was born in New York City on Dec. 9, 1917. Prior to moving to Williamsburg in 1995, he and Lila were longtime residents of Old Town Alexandria, where he was a strong advocate of preserving the city's unique historical and cultural qualities. Just before leaving Alexandria, he was recognized by the mayor and city council in appreciation for his outstanding efforts.

He served as an officer in the U.S. Army Air Corps during WW II, and upon being discharged as a captain in 1946, he briefly worked for the U.S. Immi-



gration and Naturalization Service in New York before being transferred to Washington, D.C. While there, he attended Georgetown University Law School at night, and upon his obtaining his law degree at the top of his class, he transferred to the U.S. Attorney's Office and worked there until his retirement.

In addition to his wife, Lila, he is survived by his son, Gerry A. Zimmerman of Scottsdale, Ariz. At his

wish, there will be no public memorial services. Following his cremation at the Nelsen Funeral Home, his ashes will be sent for burial in a family plot in Wheatland, Mo. Online condolences may be expressed at www.nelsencares.com.

WEEK IN ALEXANDRIA

FROM PAGE 3

with residents complaining bitterly that they haven't been heard. The trend reached a crescendo with the Waterfront small-area plan and the Beauregard small-area plan, both of which received heavy criticism from citizens who said they were not engaged in the process.

"It's clear that the last two plans had a lot of controversy," said Deputy Planning Director **Karl Moritz**. "We want to make sure that what we are debating are the issues and not the process."

Next week, the Planning Commission will hear an update from Moritz about increasing civic engage-

ment. City Council members are set to hear the proposal this fall. Moritz says the idea is to make sure the city outlines principles of engagement, details common elements that every planning process should have and uses technology to expand the number of people who are involved. Council members will eventually consider the initiative, but the timeline is unclear.

"We're still thinking about that," said Moritz. "One of the issues to take into consideration is that there will be a new council in January, and it might be appropriate to deliver it to them."

— MICHAEL LEE POPE

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OPINION

Alexandria's Davey Johnson for President

BY HARRY M. COVERT

I'm absenting myself from the national political conventions this year. There's really no reason to listen and watch or attend in person. No drama there.

We know the candidates for the November election. While they babble away about the national debt and poverty and jobs, both sides



are spending billions upon billions trying to convince a gullible public they have all the answers. Let them trot off to Florida or North Carolina.

COVERT MATTERS

The good news for every Alexandria citizen and voter — and there is a difference — the Washington Nationals are tearing up the National League and baseball fans can rejoice in the good fortune.

The outcome of the presidential nominations will not surprise anyone. The same hopefully holds true for the Nationals who are on the throes of winning division and league championships.

How thrilling it is to see Alexandria resident Davey Johnson, the manager, lead the team to exciting success and ridding the franchise of a longtime slogan, "first in war, first in peace, and last in the American League." That referred to the old team known as the Senators. The Nationals to be clear are in the senior circuit, known as the National League.

To be frank, this is the year of the most excitement for sports and political aficionados seen in decades.

Imagine, local Methodists are happy about their Methodist brother in the mansion on Pennsylvania Avenue.

How about that teenager playing in the outfield? He's always hustling, hitting home runs and triples and creating his own cult of fanatics. That 19-year-old is setting the example whether he knows it or not that times are changing. Mormons can really play baseball and be successful.

This is the reason political wags will take a backseat to the sporting affairs at Nationals Park. It's about time.

While the November festivities are important, the October events are going to be far more exciting.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

FROM PAGE 24

possess. That is the talent to keep problems from reaching the level that forces elected officials to intervene. So the entire premise that the Mayor is on call 24/7 as the city's principal management official is ludicrous.

The Mayor does, however, have an important job, maybe the most important job in the city. He is Alexandria's leader, the person who more than anyone else sets the policy and direction of the city. He's held

"If I could not go to heaven but with a party, I would not go there at all." — Thomas Jefferson of Monticello, who brought tomatoes to Charlottesville.

At the risk of a little cynicism, Baltimore's sage said, "Under democracy one party always devotes its chief energies to trying to prove that the other party is unfit to rule — and both commonly succeed, and are right." The sage was H. L. Mencken. An Alabamian who had practice as a southerner of one party, said, "There's not a dime's worth of difference" in the major parties.

It's important to look back over your shoulder and find the wit and wisdom, particularly now. Remember, these are the good old days.

It might not be politically correct to mention the name of former President Herbert Hoover. He did love Virginia and fished often in the Rapidan River. He wasn't credited with being witty.

Hoover, according to H. Allen Smith, said there ought to be a law under which every president should be allowed to hang two men every year without giving any reason or explanation. "Would two be enough?" a friend asked him. "Perhaps not, but I could get word to 20 or 30 that they were being considered for the honor."

I would imagine, too, that both the current occupant and the wannabe would like to have the option.

All of this brings me to Davey Johnson, the brilliant field manager of the Nationals. He's no stranger to the Old Dominion or World Championships. He won Carolina League titles in Lynchburg and then moved on to the Big Apple where he promptly won World Series and a distinguished career.

He's bringing honor and glory to the Nationals and Alexandria and envy for his leadership and wisdom.

Time to take the Alexandria water taxi across the Potomac to Nationals Park.

this job for nine years. Now he is refusing to come before the voters and account for his decisions and describe his hopes for the city's future in a true one on one debate with his opponent. He is insisting that any debate time limit allowing for more than a few competing sound bites is too long. This simply shows a lack of regard for voters and for the democratic process.

Katy Cannady
Alexandria



Rebuilding Together volunteers make repairs to a resident's front porch.

RTA Receives \$15,000 Grant

Rebuilding Together Alexandria, a volunteer-based, non-profit organization that preserves affordable housing and revitalizes communities, received a \$15,000 grant from the Morris and Gwendolyn Cafritz Foundation this month. The grant will be used to make home repairs to low-income residents in Alexandria, at no cost to those that are served.

This grant will support the Critical Need Fund to address emergency home repairs and safety-related modifications. Emergency repairs mostly consist of repairing/replacing heating units when clients' furnaces break and fixing leaking roofs or plumbing. Safety modifications include the installation of smoke/carbon monoxide detectors; grab bars, handrails, wheelchair lifts, etc. The result of these efforts is to ensure that low-income homeowners are able to remain in their own homes safely, independently and comfortably.

Rebuilding Together Alexandria is one of 200 Rebuilding Together affiliates nationwide. With the help of funders and dedicated volunteers, RTA provides free

home repairs and modifications to ensure that low-income Alexandria homeowners can continue to live in warm, safe, and dry homes.

The Morris & Gwendolyn Cafritz Foundation is the largest private, independent, local Foundation focused exclusively on the Washington, D.C. metropolitan area. The foundation is committed to improving the quality of life for residents of the Washington, D.C. area. Since 1970, awards totaling more than \$379 million have been granted to organizations in the areas of Community Services, Arts and Humanities, Education, Health and the Environment. www.cafritzfoundation.org.

Rebuilding Together Alexandria is dedicated to repairing and revitalizing homes at no charge for homeowners in need, including elderly, disabled, military veterans and families. To date, in-kind donations of labor and materials have resulted in \$6 million worth of value on more than 1,547 properties. To apply, volunteer or donate, visit www.RebuildingTogetherAlex.org or call 703-836-1021.

Promoting Back-to-School Traffic Safety

Next week all Alexandria students will be back in school so Alexandria Sheriff's Deputy Valarie Wright is spreading the word about traffic safety by distributing posters and giveaways for AAA's annual "School's Open Drive Carefully" campaign.

Wright visited libraries and recreation centers around the city, asking them to display the poster and share stickers, rulers, pencils and other back-to-school items with young people and their parents as a safety reminder.

AAA offers the following safety tips for drivers:

- ❖ Limit distractions such as cell phones or other devices that cause you to take your eyes off the road. Research shows that taking your eyes off the road for just two seconds doubles your chances of crashing.

- ❖ Stay alert and slow down in or near school and residential areas. Don't rush into and out of driveways.

Expect pedestrians on the sidewalk, especially around schools and in neighborhoods.



Community Relations Deputy Valarie Wright dropped off bumper stickers, pencils, rulers and posters at the Beatley Library to remind adults and students about traffic safety in anticipation of the new school year.

- ❖ Stop at stop signs. It sounds obvious, but research shows that more than one third of drivers roll through stop signs in school zones or neighborhoods.

- ❖ Look for clues such as school Crossing Guards, AAA School Safety patrols, bicycles, and playgrounds, which indicate children could be in the area.

- ❖ Drive with your headlights on — even during the day — so children and other drivers can see you.

- ❖ Always stop for school buses that are loading/unloading students.

- ❖ Pay particular attention near schools during the morning and afternoon hours and plan ahead. Leave early for your destination and build extra time for congestion.

- ❖ Practice extra caution in adverse weather conditions.

For more information, visit the AAA website at <http://midatlantic.aaa.com/Foundation/SchoolPrograms/SchoolsOpenDriveCarefully/>.

T.C. Williams Football Loaded with Playmakers

Titans to open 2012 season at home against Wakefield.

BY JON ROETMAN
GAZETTE PACKET

After jumping out to an early lead, the T.C. Williams football team trailed in the fourth quarter of its Aug. 23 scrimmage at Herndon when linebacker Ed Kargbo saw an opportunity to make a play.

Kargbo had picked up on the rhythm of the Herndon quarterback's cadence and shot through a gap on a well-timed blitz. The TC senior caused the Hornets signal caller to fumble and junior linebacker Lamont Whiteside scooped up the loose ball and raced about 65 yards to the end zone for what proved to be the game-winning touchdown.

TC is once again loaded with playmakers on each side of the ball — athletes capable of scoring from anywhere on the field. But if the Titans have any chance of snapping the program's 21-year playoff drought, TC will have to improve its levels of discipline, execution and mental toughness.

The Titans' 2012 season gets underway at 5 p.m. on Thursday, Aug. 30 when TC hosts Wakefield, a program that hasn't had a winning record since 1983. The Titans beat the Warriors, 51-7, in last year's season opener before dropping five straight en route to a 3-7 record.



T.C. Williams senior receiver Landon Moss scores the first of his two touchdowns during a scrimmage against Herndon on Aug. 23.

PHOTO BY CRAIG STERBUTZEL/GAZETTE PACKET

Offensively, third-year starting quarterback Alec Grosser (6 feet 3, 193 pounds) is the trigger man for the Titans' spread offense. The senior showed his arm strength against Herndon with a long touchdown pass to a streaking Landon Moss, but he also exhibited a moment of sophomore-like decision making, when he threw a pass directly to a Hornets linebacker, rather than throwing the ball away out of bounds.

"We played well," Grosser said after the scrimmage. "Me, personally, I made some mistakes. I need to work on throwing the ball away. That's the dumbest throw I've

ever made."

If Grosser can limit his mistakes, he has the talent — and the surrounding weapons — to make the Titans a scoring machine.

"We run the [spread] offense that we're running because we have five or six guys that can touch the ball and go," said TC head coach Dennis Randolph, who has returned to the Titans sideline after missing the final six games of 2011 while battling pancreatic cancer.

One of those weapons is Moss, a 6-foot-3, 190-pound receiver. Moss caught two touchdown passes in the Herndon scrim-



PHOTO BY JOSEPH GAITLEY

T.C. Williams junior Malik Carney stiff-arms a Herndon defender during a scrimmage on Aug. 23.

mage.

"After the first series, [when] Landon caught the first hitch [for a touchdown] I was just like, I don't think that guy can stay with him," Grosser said. "It's just a matter of me getting the ball in his hands."

Junior Alex Bledsoe (6-1, 160), senior Julius Cooper (6-2, 210) and junior Malik Carney (6-3, 205) are also pass-catching threats.

"I feel like we have weapons all around the field and we're capable of making big plays at any time," Moss said. "It's just a matter of us executing the play."

SEE TITANS, PAGE 28

Defense Is Strength of Titans Field Hockey

BY JON ROETMAN
GAZETTE PACKET

While injuries have slowed the T.C. Williams field hockey team at the offensive end, the Titans' defense, led by senior goalkeeper Megan Boyle, will be the strength of the team early in the 2012 season.

Boyle is a fourth-year starter who garnered all-district and all-region accolades in 2011 and has the trust of her head coach.

"I've got a good, stable defense and I've got Megan Boyle as my keeper," William Heresniak said. "She's my rock of gold. She's ice under pressure, and I think I always trust her in the back. ... She's naturally athletic, naturally quick, commanding on the field now compared to when she just started as a freshman. She reads a lot of the fast breaks better; it's her circle. She protects her circle like a cat ready to go."

TC participated in the "Under the Lights" tournament Aug. 24-25 at Lee High School in Springfield. The Titans won their opening game, 2-0, over Hayfield on Friday. After, Boyle said the Titans need to have the right mental approach to be successful.

"I think we're a strong team," Boyle said.



Megan Laychak battles for the ball against a Chantilly defender during the "Under the Lights" field hockey tournament on Aug. 25 at Lee High School.

"I think that, physically, we could compete with any team in the region. I just think that, emotionally, we have to get the mindset ... we are the Titans, we can do this."

While the TC defense shut out Hayfield, seniors Hannah Drexler and Emma Bracken provided offense for the Titans. Drexler gave

TC a 1-0 lead in the first half and Bracken, a fourth-year varsity athlete, put the finishing touches on the win with a goal in the second half.

"This year, I'm trying to shoot a lot more because I'm kind of tentative on that," Bracken said. "I'm more of a pass-first player. I just had a really solid pass and I

saw an open lane, and I kind of hit it off speed, which might have thrown the goalie off. I was happy it went in."

Heresniak said Drexler and senior Charlotte Sackett have shown versatility, moving around to different positions to help with injuries.

TC will travel to face South County on Sept. 6.



T.C. Williams goalkeeper Megan Boyle is a fourth-year starter for the Titans.

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SPORTS

Alexandria Chamber of Commerce president John Long, left, is joined by Wiygul Automotive's winning team of George Ball, W.D. Wiygul, Zack Wiygul and Dave Krukowski following the annual golf tournament at Belle Haven Country Club Aug. 27. At right is tournament committee chairman Roger Parks.



PHOTO BY GEORGINA PARKS

David Martin of Goldworks displays some of his handcrafted jewelry during the Chamber of Commerce golf tournament Aug. 27. Tournament hole sponsors creatively used the opportunity to introduce participants to their business.



PHOTO BY JAY PALERMINO

Fore! Wiygul Automotive wins Chamber Golf Classic.

More than 120 golfers came together to participate in the Alexandria Chamber of Commerce Golf Classic, held Aug. 27 at the Belle Haven Country Club. The team from Wiygul Automotive captured first place in the annual event that featured foursomes from the Washington Nationals and leaders of the Alexandria Business Community.

The tournament featured a live auction, led by auctioneer John Porter, for the chance to win VIP passes to next year's Masters Golf Tournament at Augusta National in Georgia. Following closely behind the Wiygul Automotive team was the Clarke & Sampson foursome, who finished in second place with American Advertising Distributors of Northern

Virginia coming in third.

"Golf is an easy game ... It's just hard to play," laughed Chamber of Commerce president and CEO John Long. "But the business community had an enjoyable experience and everyone is looking forward to another chance next year to win tickets to the Masters and be honored as the top business golfers in our community."

Presented by Wiygul Automotive, more than 40 local businesses sponsored the event. A portion of the proceeds of the tournament benefited the Animal Welfare League of Alexandria.

— JEANNE THEISMANN

Titans To Open Season against Wakefield

FROM PAGE 27

Senior running back Dealo Robertson (5-8, 182) figures to be the Titans' primary threat on the ground.

"He's very quick [and] he has good vision," Randolph said. "Sometimes he gets a little anxious and tries to get outside too fast. Sometimes you've got to let the play develop, let the linebackers overrun it and then cut back and a couple times tonight he didn't do that. Overall, he does a very good job with that, so that makes him a good back. He's just got to learn to be a little more consistent."

Junior center RJ Thorne (6-1, 280) is a standout on the offensive line.

On defense, Kargbo (5-11, 185) is starting at "Mike" linebacker after not playing football his sophomore or junior seasons. Defensive coordinator Avery Williams said Kargbo is a smart player who only needed about a week to understand the defense.

"He really did a great job [in the Herndon scrim-

mage] considering the fact that he's been away from football for a couple years," Williams said. "He's stepped right in, he's learning the entire defense, he knows the calls, he knows all the checks, he's essentially running the defense."

Junior defensive back Tyrice Henry (5-7, 149) is the leader of the Titans secondary and returned a kickoff for a touchdown against Herndon.

"He knows the entire secondary calls," Williams said. "He's the one who's running everything on the back end of the defense."

Senior defensive back Carlos Jordan (5-9, 148) intercepted a pass during the scrimmage.

"As a defense, we're good, it's just that discipline part that we need," Kargbo said. "Other than that, we're good across the board."

Sophomore kicker Zach Eisenhour (5-6, 135) made a 40-yard field goal.

TC will host Westfield, last year's Division 6 region runner-up, on Sept. 8. The Titans will open Patriot District competition on Sept. 22 at home against South County, last year's Division 5 state runner-up.

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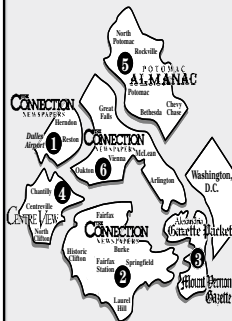
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21 Announcements

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21 Announcements

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Harold Wilson Holtzclaw

4 October 1928 – 24 August 2012

Retired Colonel Harold Wilson Holtzclaw, PhD, 83, long-time resident of Alexandria, VA, passed away on 24 August of natural causes.

Hal was born in Harrodsburg, KY on 4 October 1928. He attended Breckenridge Training School in Morehead, KY, as well as the University of Kentucky where he received a Bachelor of Arts in 1949 and a Master of Arts in 1950. He was a member of Phi Beta Kappa and Omicron Delta Kappa. He received a PhD from the University of Denver in 1963. He also attended the National War College.

Hal received a reserve commission in the United States Air Force in June 1950 and served on active duty from 1956 to 1985. His assignments included Chairman of Government and Associate Professor, Department of Political Science USAF Academy 1960-67. He received the Legion of Merit, the Defense Superior Service Medal, the Meritorious Service Medal and the Air Force Commendation Medal. He retired from the faculty of the National Defense University in 1991.

Hal was a highly respected bridge player, achieving the rank of Gold Life Master. He won dozens of events at sectional, regional and national tournaments sanctioned by the American Contract Bridge League. He was also very involved in Mount Vernon Unitarian Church, sitting on the Board of Trustees for a time and was always a respected elder. Hal was also an inveterate traveler, an insatiable reader, and a lifelong Redskins fan with a penchant for friendly poker games.

Harold was married to Margaret "Em" Holtzclaw for 40 years; she left this Earth in 1996. He then shared many years with Isa McGuire of Bradenton, FL.

Hal is survived by his children Sheryl Gusman of Sterling, VA, James Holtzclaw of Savannah, GA, and Debra Early of Charlottesville, VA and 11 grandchildren. He is also survived by his sister Claudia Holtzclaw of Sarasota, FL and brother Barry Holtzclaw of Dayton, OH.

There is a visitation at Demaine Funeral Home, 520 S. Washington St, Alexandria, VA 22314, on 14 September from 6-8 pm. A memorial service will be held at Mount Vernon Unitarian Church, 1909 Windmill Lane, Alexandria, VA 22307, 15 September at 11 am.

He will be buried at Arlington National Cemetery next to Em and receive full honors.

In lieu of flowers, please make donations to Hospice of Northern Virginia, Hospice of Northern VA, 2900 Telesar Court, Falls Church, VA 22042

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