



PHOTOS BY LOUISE KRAFT/GAZETTE PACKET

Alexandria City Manager Rashad Young looks on as the newly elected council members are sworn in by Clerk of the Circuit Court Edward Semonian.

## One-Party Rule Takes Hold

All-Democratic City Council members begin three-year term.

BY MICHAEL LEE POPE  
GAZETTE PACKET

Say goodbye to bipartisan government at Alexandria City Hall. Last week, the city's two elected Republicans stepped down as an all-Democratic City Council assumed the reins of power. Circuit Court Clerk Ed Semonian performed the official duty, as members stood straight-backed and pledged to support the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of Virginia. The newly inaugurated cast includes two returning characters,

two former stars and two newcomers. Democrats vowed that the one-party rule would not necessarily lead to an era of unanimous agreement.

"I think we should feel free to express our differences of opinion up on the dais," said Tim Lovain, who returned to office this year after being ousted in 2009. "We have a very political city, and they kind of like to see the sausage being made."

The last City Council campaign featured heated debates about everything from the size and scale of development to how much city residents should be taxed. The Democratic primary featured two opposing factions in the party, one that was critical of the recent direction and another that supported it. Most of the critics lost, except author and activist Allison Silberberg. She opposed the controversial waterfront plan, arguing that it lacked a core vision for the city's

SEE NEW COUNCIL, PAGE 3



Mayor William D. Euille is sworn in as Mayor of Alexandria for another term by Clerk of the Circuit Court Edward Semonian.



Secretary of the Electoral Board Donald E. Ledwig hands Allison Silberberg the statement of election results confirming her election to the council.

## Aiming To Close Gun Show Loophole

Legislators hope to register all private firearm transactions.

BY MICHAEL LEE POPE  
GAZETTE PACKET

Legislators will be dueling over guns this year at the Capitol, with gun-rights advocates set to oppose efforts to close Virginia's gun-show loophole. Alexandria state Sen. Adam Ebbin (D-30) and Arlington Del. Patrick Hope (D-47) have introduced legislation that would require a background check for every gun purchase.

That includes the 40 percent of current gun sales that take place in a private transaction, which do not require any kind of back-

ground check to be conducted on the individual purchasing the weapon.

"The current laws are like Swiss cheese," said Hope, who sits on the Militia, Police and Public Safety Committee. "We can't have nearly half of all gun sales in Virginia subject to background check and the other half absent any regulation."

Gun advocates fear that background checks are a slippery slope. Organizations such as the Virginia Citizens De-

fense League argue that increased registration could lead to confiscation, a threat that motivates ad-

SEE LEGISLATORS, PAGE 18

**"The current laws are like Swiss cheese."**

— Del. Patrick Hope (D-47)

## Seeking To Fund More Mental Health Staff

Krupicka leads effort to expand training for Mental Health First Aid.

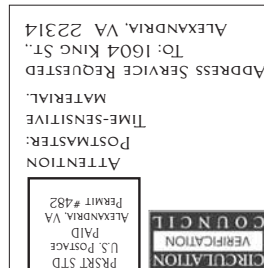
BY MICHAEL LEE POPE  
GAZETTE PACKET

In her role as a caseworker for Adult Protective Services, Wilma Roberts has seen it all. One of her clients said a stranger entered through a window and stole a left shoe. Another claimed that someone was lurking in the mirror. Roberts, who has been trained in a concept known as mental health first aid, knows how to respond.

"The first thing you do is listen patiently. You don't argue. You don't make it seem like they are a liar," said Roberts. "This person may need more help than you are able to offer."

Now that training may expand dramatically in the wake of a school shooting in Connecticut, where a gunman blasted his way into an elementary school and killed 20 students and six adults. Del. Rob Krupicka (D-45) has in-

SEE RED FLAGS, PAGE 18







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## New Leadership for Schools

Alexandria City Public Schools is beginning 2013 with a bang. When School Board members gathered for their organizational meeting, neither of the veteran members were selected for leadership positions. Newly elected member **Karen Graf** was selected as chairman and newly elected member **Justin Keating** was selected as vice chairman.

"With seven brand new people, the odds are that you may to have a change in leadership," said new School Board member **Kelly Carmichael Booz**. "There's nothing to read into."

The school system has been under intense pressure since an accountant's report indicating a "dysfunctional environment" in the budget office. Former Vice Mayor **Kerry Donley** called for Superintendent of Schools Dr. **Morton Sherman** to step down, but School Board members stood by their embattled superintendent. Most of those members decided against seeking re-election, and one was defeated at the polls. Neither of the two returning members were selected for chairman or vice chairman, which some are interpreting as an indication that the new School Board is interested in seeking a change in leadership.

"I think that's a fair assessment," said new School Board member **Bill Campbell**. "But I don't think that says we are not going to have the appropriate respect for the experiences that **Ronnie Campbell** and **Marc Williams** bring to the board. In fact, I think that we are going to lean on both of them very hard to figure out why certain decisions were made."

## Third-Party Tagline

What's in a name? As **William Shakespeare** once observed, a rose by any other name would smell as sweet. But City Council members are learning that changing the name of wastewater treatment services can smell, well, unpleasant.

City Hall has been flooded with complaints ever since city residents started receiving strange new bills from an Ohio company for water services in Alexandria. Many residents simply tossed the notifications into the trash, leading to late fees and disgruntled taxpayers. Alexandria Renew Enterprises chief executive officer **Karen Pallansch** appeared before City Council members this week to defend the new billing system — especially confusion created by the increased rates. "I own that mistake," said Pallansch. "We probably did not communicate as well as we needed to because we got overwhelmed with the billing change."

The problems started when Virginia American Water announced that it would no longer be conducting billing for wastewater treatment, a service that it had provided since 1954. So Alexandria residents began receiving a strange bill from a third-party vendor in Ohio.

"People were not about to start sending their money to Cincinnati," said Councilwoman **Del Pepper**.

Councilman **Paul Smedberg** criticized the name Alexandria Renew Enterprises, describing the moniker as confusing and misleading. He was especially critical of the organization for failing to have a tagline explaining what it was and its role as the successor to the former Alexandria Sanitation Authority.

"Have you thought about adding a tagline?" asked Smedberg.

"We'll go back and think about it," responded Pallansch.

"So that's a no," said Smedberg.

"No," said Pallansch. "We will seriously consider it."

## Inopportune Moment

With City Manager **Rashad Young**'s proposed budget for fiscal year 2014 weeks away, the budget season is already in full swing. That means a very difficult few weeks for new Budget Director **Nelsie Smith**, who began working for the city this week. "We're trying to keep the trend going of starting a person at the most inopportune and demanding time, as was done with me," said Young, who began last year as the budget season was beginning.

Smith worked as an assistant to the city manager in Greensboro, N.C., and a program analyst for the city of Baltimore. More recently, she was business development specialist at PayLock and associate director for Fitch Ratings in the public finance department.

— MICHAEL LEE POPE



PHOTO BY LOUISE KRAFT/GAZETTE PACKET

## Swearing in School Board

**Nolan B. Dawkins gives the 2013-2015 Alexandria City School Board the Oath of Office. Board members include: Kelly Carmichael Booz, Ronnie Campbell, William Campbell, Karen Graf, Patricia-Ann Henning, Stephanie Kapsis, Justin Keating, Christopher Lewis and Marc Williams.**

## New Council Begins Three-Year Term

FROM PAGE 1

future.

"First we must have a core vision of who we are and then a plan rather than the other way around," said Silberberg. "To me, that core vision begins with thinking about what's best for generations to come."

**THE FORMAL CEREMONY** at T.C. Williams High School featured a little bit of pomp and circumstance as well as a few revealing moments. Some newly inaugurated members spoke of their childhoods. Others spoke of their parents and ancestors. Newly elected member John Taylor Chapman compared the civic process to a scene from a romantic comedy.

"There's a scene from the movie 'Hitch,' where Will Smith, who is a matchmaker, is teaching his client how to deliver the first kiss," said Chapman. "He said that you have to go 90 percent, and the other person has to come 10 percent."

If elected officials will come 90 percent of the way, Chapman said, constituents must come the other 10 percent. That was an amorous theme Democratic Mayor Bill Euille reiterated later, underscoring the partnership between the elected and the governed. Euille said that all-Democratic City Council members form an engaging group, and that he expects big things in the next three years.

"This is a talented, smart, grounded, fun-loving, visionary and accessible team with independent voices for a common purpose," said Euille, "making Alexandria the best."

**MANY OF THE DIVISIONS** that were recurring dramas at City Hall will cease to become sticking points. Even though Silberberg opposed the waterfront plan, for example, a supermajority of members expressed support for the redevelopment plan

during the campaign. And with Republicans Frank Fannon and Alicia Hughes not around to oppose funding for large-scale investments in transit, the debates will lack the at-times emotional clashes between Fannon, Hughes and incumbent Councilman Paul Smedberg.

"We have to be mindful of the fact that we are a regional partner," said Smedberg. "We can't operate in a vacuum, and we can't decide things particularly in the area of transportation just within our borders."

All of the newly inaugurated members thanked their campaign volunteers and family members, although returning member Justin Wilson acknowledged that it wasn't an easy decision. He said after announcing his campaign last year, he began questioning whether or not he wanted to return to a job that he won in a special election and then lost two years later.

Did I make the wrong decision?" Wilson said he asked himself one sleepless night. "I have to admit that for about a week, I was a little possessed with this thought that I had made the wrong decision to get back into this."

**"This is a talented, smart, grounded, fun-loving, visionary and accessible team with independent voices for a common purpose — making Alexandria the best."**

— Mayor Bill Euille

**WHATEVER THEIR REASONS** running, members of the new City Council announced that the coming term would see a full slate of important decisions. Aside from the waterfront plan and other major redevelopment issues, council members will struggle with how to protect and preserve a dwindling stockpile of affordable housing units. Members said they would focus on everything from environmental stewardship to increasing transparency. After longtime Councilwoman Del Pepper outlined an extensive list of bullet points, the mayor cut her off for exceeding the time limit.

"You've over," Euille cracked with a smile.

"Are you timing this?" asked Pepper. "Do you see this? This is what I have to put up with."



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*Julie Hall 703-786-3634*



**Rosemont** **\$717,000**  
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# BULLETIN BOARD

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

## THURSDAY/JAN. 10

**Commission on Aging.** 4 p.m. Human Services Building, 2525 Mt. Vernon Ave. Contact Debbie Ludington, 703-746-5692.

**Board of Zoning Appeals Hearing.** 7:30 p.m. City Hall, Council Chamber, 301 King St. Contact Peter Leiberg, 703-746-4666.

**Alexandria Beautification Commission.** 7:30 p.m. Lee Center, 1108 Jefferson St. Contact Judy Lo, 703-746-5940.

**Budget Public Hearing.** 7 p.m. at 2000 N. Beauregard St. The Alexandria City School Board will hold a fiscal year 2014 budget public hearing. To sign up to speak, contact Clerk of the Board at 703-824-6614.

## MONDAY/JAN. 14

**Emergency Medical Services Council.** 7 p.m. Police Headquarters. Contact Brian Hricik, 703-746-5245.

**George Washington Birthday Committee.** 7 p.m. Lee Center, 1108 Jefferson St. Contact Cheryl Lawrence, 703-746-5419.

**Social Services Advisory Board.** 7 p.m. Human Services Building, 2525 Mt. Vernon Ave. Contact Tresniece Perry, 703-746-5668.

**Alexandria-Caen Sister City Committee.** 7:30 p.m. City Hall, Sister Cities Room 1102, 301 King St. Contact Rose Boyd, 703-746-4300.

**Health Systems Agency of Northern Virginia.** 8 p.m. Northern Virginia Regional Commission, 3060 Williams Drive. Contact 703-573-3100.

## TUESDAY/JAN. 15

**Waterfront Commission.** 7:30 a.m. City Hall, Room 2000, 301 King St. Contact Jack Browand, [jack.browand@alexandriava.gov](mailto:jack.browand@alexandriava.gov) or 703-746-5504.

**Alexandria Renew Enterprises Board of Directors.** 6 p.m. Alexandria Renew Enterprises, 1500 Eisenhower Ave. Contact Lorna Huff, 703-549-3381, ext. 2260.

**Alexandria Archaeological Commission.** 7 p.m. The Lyceum Museum, 201 S. Washington St. Contact Jennifer Barker, 703-746-4399.

**Budget and Fiscal Affairs Advisory Committee.** 7 p.m. City Hall, Sister Cities Room 1101, 301 King St. Contact Alex Braden, 703-746-3740.

**Commission for the Arts.** 7 p.m. The Lyceum Museum, 201 S. Washington St. Contact Diane Ruggiero, [diane.ruggiero@alexandriava.gov](mailto:diane.ruggiero@alexandriava.gov) or 703-746-5565.

**Human Rights Commission.** 7 p.m. Police Headquarters. Contact Jean Niebauer, 703-746-3140.

**Historic Alexandria Resources Commission.** 7:30 p.m. The Lyceum Museum, 201 S. Washington St. Contact Lance Mallamo, 703-746-4554.

**Meeting.** 7 p.m. at T.C. Williams High School, 3330 King St. The second meeting of the Long Range Facilities Planning Work Group will cover plans to accommodate growing student population and enhance educational programs and services. Contact ACPS Facilities Planner and GIS Specialist Laurel Hammig at 703-461-4168 or City of Alexandria Deputy Director of Planning and Zoning Karl Moritz at 703-746-3804.

SEE BULLETIN BOARD, PAGE 26



PHOTO BY TREVOR WRAYTON/VDOT

Looking north over the Telegraph Road interchange, the railroad bridges are the last part of this project.

## Update on Road Projects

The interchange at Telegraph Road and I-95/495 is the last part of the Woodrow Wilson Bridge project. Major components of the project include reconstructing 2.5 miles of the Capital Beltway, creating an urban interchange at Huntington Drive and North Kings Highway, and widening Telegraph Road from East Drive to Duke Street. The thru lanes on the beltway were complete last summer, and more recently, the second span carrying Telegraph Road over the railroad tracks was opened to traffic. The rest of the

\$236.8 million project will be completed in 2013.

At Mark Center, the state Department of Transportation will build a ramp from the high occupancy vehicle lanes to the Seminary Road overpass. Construction will begin on the ramp in 2013 and be completed in late 2015. Also, as part of the Mark Center transportation improvements, VDOT is building an auxiliary lane on northbound I-395 between Duke Street and Seminary Road. Construction is scheduled to start in spring 2013 and be completed in the fall of 2014.



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## Dueling Politicians

With the fresh tragedy of Newtown, Conn., haunting the Virginia General Assembly, the issue of gun control is certain to be one of the most emotional topics on the docket. But that doesn't mean that legislators will take action.

Both sides in the gun debate responded to the school shooting by doubling down on their existing positions. Gun enthusiasts called for increased armed security while supporters for increased regulation called for new restrictions. A few days after the shooting, Republican Gov. **Bob McDonnell** said policymakers should consider allowing school officials to carry firearms on campus. Northern Virginia Democrats were ready to pounce.

"Virginians deserve a measured and mainstream plan to keep schools safe, not a rash response that blindly puts more guns in our schools," said Del. **Charniele Herring** (D-46), chairwoman of the Democratic Party of Virginia, in a written statement. "That is the wrong approach."

Democrats have introduced a number of new gun regulations, everything from restricting who can walk into the Capitol with a firearm to requiring stolen guns to be reported within 24 hours. Perhaps the most controversial is the effort to close the gun-show loophole by requiring that all private gun sales require a background check. The gun lobby is ready to oppose the efforts of Herring and her party.

"Background checks have really done nothing to increase safety," said **Phillip Van Cleave**, president of the Virginia Citizens Defense League. "Back in the '50s and '60s, you could walk into a hardware store and buy a gun, and it was a lot safer back then."

Will the session end with any new gun restrictions?

"I just don't see a lot of potential traction for gun control legislation this year," said **Kyle Kondik**. "That's especially true given the makeup of the House of Delegates, which is so overwhelmingly Republican."

## A Gun in Every School.

The National Rifle Association responded to the tragedy in Newtown, Conn., by calling for police officers at every school in America. Several members of the General Assembly have responded by introducing legislation that would fund new school resource officers throughout Virginia.

"I don't think that's a terrible proposal," said Del. **Rob Krupicka** (D-45). "But I think it needs to be modified so that we give local school districts the option to spend the money in the way they think is best for school safety."

That could mean more police officers at schools, Krupicka said. But schools could also opt to spend the money on new security cameras to monitor entrances and exits. It could mean stronger locks or other safeguards to prevent people from blasting their way into schools. "I'd like to expand the school safety concept and include a lot more options than just school resource officers," said Krupicka. "Let the local school districts decide what will make them the most safe."

## Vacating Convictions

During his time as a member of the House of Delegates, **Adam Ebbin** made a name for himself as a tireless advocate for laws cracking down on human trafficking. He introduced new legislation every session, and many of his efforts had bipartisan support. Now that he's in the seat that was held for many years by former state Sen. **Patsy Ticer** (D-30), Ebbin has taken the fight to the other side of the Capitol.

This year, Ebbin is at it again with a bill that would help victims of human trafficking get their lives back together. The effort would allow people who have been forced into a life of prostitution to apply to have their convictions overturned. In an interview about the bill, Ebbin said he has a constituent who was forced into a life of prostitution in Washington, D.C., and New York City. Now she's facing the difficult task of putting the past behind her with a felony conviction on her record.

"In many cases, this is not a crime victims could escape from committing," said Ebbin. "If you are forced to commit prostitution under the threat of violence or after being brutalized, particularly if you are underage."

— MICHAEL LEE POPE

# Toxic Politics

BY MICHAEL LEE POPE  
GAZETTE PACKET

**N**orthern Virginia may be hundreds of miles away from the Southside community where a family business is seeking to overturn a longstanding ban on uranium mining in Virginia. But the toxic politics of uranium is red-hot throughout the state as members of the General Assembly arrive in Richmond this week.

Days before the opening session, the Virginia Coal and Energy Commission voted in favor of moving forward with mining for the metallic chemical element, a process that produces a radioactive byproduct known as tailings.

Critics say they are concerned about what might happen in the long term, 100 years from now when the tailings are still radioactive but the underground storage facility might leak into the groundwater.

"What about 10,000 years from now? I'm not going to be here," said state Sen. Dick Saslaw, a Fairfax County Democrat who serves as minority leader in the Senate.

"I can't ban something because of something that might happen 500 or a 1,000 years from now."

The Northern Virginia delegation is split, with Saslaw playing an important role as the party's senior leader in the region. Meanwhile, many other members remain undecided swing votes. Although Republican Lt. Gov. Bill Bolling has announced his opposition to uranium mining, Republican Gov. Bob McDonnell has yet to take a position because he's waiting for a socioeconomic report his task force requested. Business-friendly Democrats such as state Sen. George Barker (D-39) say they are still reading the reports and digesting information. "Clearly, some of the concerns have been addressed with the proposal to put it all underground," said Barker. "Whether that's adequate to resolve it, I don't have an opinion on that yet."

**MOST OF THE DELEGATION** from Northern Virginia is strongly opposed to overturning the ban, which has been in place since 1982. Earlier this week, a group of 50 municipalities and groups across Virginia announced the formation of CommonwealthHealthVA.org, which includes the cities of Norfolk and Virginia Beach as well as the Southern Environmental Law Center and other groups that have previously stated their opposition to uranium mining.

"There's a big division within the business community about whether this is a good thing or a bad thing. Those that are involved in tourist-type activities do not believe that removing the ban is a good thing."

— Sen. Barbara Favola (D-32)

## Northern Virginia could play key role in uranium debate.

community about whether this is a good thing or a bad thing," said Sen. Barbara Favola (D-32). "Those that are involved in tourist-type activities do not believe that removing the ban is a good thing."

Supporters of uranium mining say burying the waste in Pittsylvania County is a reasonable compromise to allay concerns about contaminated groundwater. But opponents fear that the technology is still emerging, and they don't want legislators gambling with the health of millions of people.

If the groundwater in Pittsylvania is contaminated, opponents fear, people downstream in the Hampton Roads area might suffer.

"Whether stored underground or above the ground, it's still going to be Virginia's taxpayers' responsibility for literally thousands of years," said Olga Kolotushkna, a Fairfax County woman who serves as an advisor to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission. "That waste remains toxic for thousands of years."

**THE ISSUE** pits economics against environmentalism because lifting the ban would add jobs and economic development to a struggling part of the state.

A recent study from the George Mason Center for Regional Analysis at George Mason University concluded that overturning the longstanding ban would bring more than \$1 million to Pittsylvania County, adding about 2 percent to the county's revenue

base. The study concluded that the net fiscal benefit would be equivalent to a reduction of 4 cents on the tax rate.

"There are only 300 jobs generated," said Favola. "And I have to believe over time that many of those jobs would be automated."

The ban was enacted in 1982, and supporters of allowing uranium mining say technology has progressed enough to allow for the safe storage of the radioactive byproduct.

Legislators on both sides of the issue say they have already been heavily lobbied on the issue, and billions of dollars are at stake for the Coles family, which has owned the farmlands for generations. In the past year, the business venture

formed by Chatham-based Walter Coles has invested \$147,000 in the George Mason study and pumped more than \$52,000 into campaign coffers of General Assembly members throughout the state.

"They still have to go through five years of a permitting process if we do lift the ban before they can turn the first shovel," said Saslaw. "So I think that there are more than enough safeguards."

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# More Fodder for Comedy?

**2013 Session of the Virginia General Assembly will tackle serious issues.**

The 2013 30-day session of the Virginia General Assembly begins on Wednesday, Jan. 9. We can only hope that the various legislative proposals do not provide as much fodder for comedy as last session. The Virginia House of Delegates and the Senate of Virginia will offer live streaming video of the 2013 Legislative Sessions, and it is well worth tuning in once or twice.

The General Assembly typically considers between 2,000 and 3,000 bills during a session. It's like drinking from a firehose. There will be proposals about revenue and lack thereof, transportation and education funding, bills proposing to allow concealed weapons in schools, bills to allow civil penalties against gun owners who fail to secure their guns, bills that would limit access to insurance coverage for contraception, bills to further limit abortion, bills about undocumented immigrants, and other bills beyond imagination.

Every resident of Virginia is represented by one delegate and one state senator. You can find out who your representatives are, and look up what they actively propose and how they

vote on the General Assembly website at <http://virginiageneralassembly.gov>

Here is a sample of bills local legislators have prefiled as chief patron.

Del. Dave Albo (R-42), **Seventh and eighth grade end-of-course mathematics Standards of Learning assessments; calculator use prohibited.** Prohibits students in the seventh and eighth grades from using any calculator on any mathematics Standards of Learning assessment. The bill also provides that no eighth grade student who fails to receive a passing grade on the end-of-course mathematics assessment shall be placed in an Algebra I course, or a more advanced mathematics course, in the ninth grade.

Del. David Bulova, **Landlord and tenant laws; Virginia Residential Property Disclosure Act; disclosure of methamphetamine laboratory; remedy for nondisclosure.** Requires a landlord of a residential dwelling unit who has actual knowledge that the dwelling unit was previously used as a clandestine methamphetamine laboratory and has not been cleaned up in accordance with the guidelines established by the Department of Health to provide to a prospective tenant a written disclosure that so states. The bill provides when the disclosure shall be made by the landlord and the remedy for the tenant for nondisclosure. The bill also requires an owner of residential property when selling the property to make the same disclosure. The bill has a delayed effective date of July 1, 2014.

Del. Barbara Comstock (R-34): **School calendar.** Makes local school boards responsible for setting the school calendar and determining the opening of the school year and eliminates the post-Labor Day opening requirement and "good cause" scenarios for which the Board of Education may grant waivers of this requirement.

Del. Charniele L. Herring (D-46): **Tax credit for small businesses hiring graduates of Virginia's public colleges.** Establishes, beginning Jan. 1, 2013, an individual and corporate income tax credit for certain small businesses creating new full-time jobs that are filled by persons holding associate's or bachelor's degrees from public institutions of higher education in the Commonwealth. The credit would equal \$2,500 for each such new full-time job. The credit would be claimed for the taxable year at which time the new full-time job was continuously filled for at least 12 months. Any unused credit would be allowed to be carried over for five taxable years. The tax credit would sunset in 2015.

Del. Tim Hugo (R-40): **Admission of students domiciled in Virginia at public institutions of higher education.** Provides that the board of visitors or other governing body of each public institution of higher education, except for Virginia Military Institute, Norfolk State University, and Virginia State University, must establish rules and regulations requiring that by the start of the 2018-2019 academic year, at least 75 percent of students admitted and enrolled at the institution are domiciled in Virginia.

Del. Rob Krupicka (D-45): **Customer access to restrooms; civil penalty.** Requires a retail

establishment that has a toilet facility for its employees to allow a customer who suffers from Crohn's disease, ulcerative colitis, or other medical condition that requires immediate access to a toilet facility, to use that facility during normal business hours if certain conditions are met. The measure does not apply to certain filling stations or service stations or to banks or savings institutions. The operator of a retail establishment that violates this requirement is subject to a civil penalty of not more than \$100. A violation does not subject the retail establishment to further liability to the customer.

Sen. George Barker (D-39): **Possession of open container of alcohol in a motor vehicle; penalty.** Provides that no person shall possess an alcoholic beverage in the passenger area of a motor vehicle upon a public highway of the Commonwealth in other than the manufacturer's unopened, original container. The bill punishes violators with a civil penalty of \$25. (Barker also proposes license plates for Washington Nationals fans.)

Sen. Adam Ebbin (D-30): **Nondiscrimination in state employment.** Prohibits discrimination in state employment based on race, color, religion, national origin, sex, pregnancy, childbirth or related medical conditions, age, marital status, disability, sexual orientation, or status as a special disabled veteran or other veteran covered by the Vietnam Era Veterans Readjustment Assistance Act of 1974, as amended. The bill defines "sexual orientation" as a person's actual or perceived heterosexuality, bisexuality, homosexuality, or gender identity or expression. The bill expressly provides that "sexual orientation" shall not include any person's attraction toward persons with whom sexual conduct would be illegal due to the age of the parties.

Sen. Barbara Favola (D-31) **Eligibility for TANF; drug-related felonies.** Provides that a person who is otherwise eligible to receive Temporary Assistance for Needy Families assistance shall not be denied assistance solely because he has been convicted of a felony offense of possession of a controlled substance, provided that he complies with all obligations imposed by the court and the Department of Social Services, is actively engaged in or has completed substance abuse treatment, and participates in drug screenings.

Sen. David Marsden (D-37): **Use of firearm in commission of crime; civil liability.** Provides that a person may be held civilly liable for injury to the person or property of another or for wrongful death resulting from the use of a firearm in the commission of a crime if it can be shown by clear and convincing evidence that the firearm came into the possession of the person who committed the crime because of the failure of the civil defendant to adequately secure the firearm from theft or unauthorized possession.

Sen. Toddy Puller (D-36): **Tax credit for hiring military veterans.** Establishes beginning Jan. 1, 2013, but before Jan. 1, 2018, an individual and corporate income tax credit for taxpayers hiring returning or disabled military veterans into new jobs paying an annual salary of at least \$50,000. (with other restrictions)

— MARY KIMM,  
MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

## Loss of Parking

To the Editor:

I am sure there were a lot of people enjoying all the events that came with the First Night Alexandria event, then there are the residents who have to put up with all the overcrowding of our streets.

I had to leave my home Monday and got back at 5:30 to find no parking anywhere near

my home, and we even have a parking lot right next door, but as expected it was overflowing.

Once again, there was not enough parking available to handle the crowds. I was hoping the transportation people and City Council members would be out amongst the many. Maybe they would have come down to the Osgood Durant Center on Cameron Street and realize the new Jefferson Houston Elementary School plan should keep the enclosed parking

SEE LETTERS, PAGE 9

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PHOTO BY LOUISE KRAFFT/GAZETTE PACKET

## Snapshot

**Lily Price, Sophie Johnson and Marin Cahill sell poinsettias outside of Pizzaiolo Cafe on Fern last month. The girls, all members of the U-12 Alexandria Fire traveling soccer team, are raising money for the team's upcoming season.**



## LETTERS

lot closed, leave the Buchanan Street Park and basketball court where they are.

Take down the old school building and add those 30-40 more parking spaces that the city so much needs.

Maybe then they would have realized how over crowded our streets are with vehicles during these events, and how people really are not going to give up their private modes of transportation.

What about when the King Street Metro lot is reconfigured, they will be taking away more parking there also, the backflow will run up Cameron Street and the other streets that are as close as one can get to the metro.

My children and I tried to take the trolley to the Parade of Lights, the trolleys were all so full, we even went to the King Street lot to be the first people on, but because King Street was so over-crowded and not moving, we got off and opted to walk/run down King Street through the crowds.

The city needs to realize if they want tourists and residents to live and move around together, they need to take into consideration that we, the residents of our city, pay to park, and we do not get special privileges when we cannot

park near our homes, we then have to pay the meters or even use parking garages just to park near our homes.

Give us more parking. I and my neighbors with small children should not be stranded because if we move our cars we will lose our parking during these city events.

**Bea Porter**

### Get Facts Straight

To the Editor

Re: Jan. 13 letter "Replace the Teachers Not the Building."

I wish that either Mr. Jim Roberts or the editor would fact check those assertions cited in the newspaper. Mr. Roberts incorrectly states T.C. Williams High School is one of the most costly high schools in the country. It is not even the most expensive high school building in the area, which is Arlington's Washington and Lee at almost \$100 million for that

renovation. Contrary to his letter, TC is also now accredited, as reported in the Gazette in October 2012.

**Pam Smith**

### Benefits of Food Stamp Program

To the Editor:

We were surprised to read Michael Lee Pope's article "Use of Food Stamps Skyrocketing in Northern Virginia" in your December 6, 2012 edition. The article ignores the positive effects of the Food Stamp Program on Alexandrians — particularly those who are most needy. Some 4,820 families in Alexandria rely on this program to provide the food they need to survive each month. Yes, the program has grown dramatically since the downturn in the economy, but that is to be expected given high unemployment rates and low wages. Participation will go down again once

the economy improves.

To put the program in perspective, people should know that earnings (in other words, wages from jobs) are the principal source of income for program participants. Over 40 percent of recipients live in households with earnings, 47 percent of all recipients are children and another 8 percent are elderly. To be eligible, a family must have gross income (in

SEE LETTERS, PAGE 11

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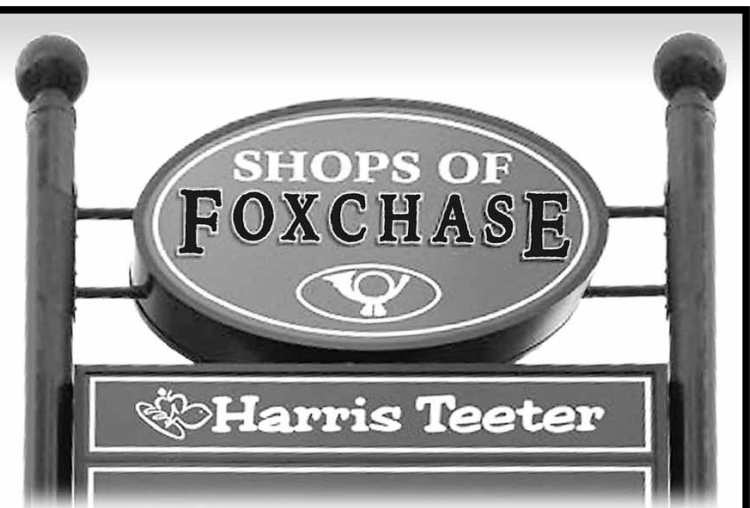
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## NEIGHBORHOODS

### Old Town

**ANTIQUES FOR ALL** (A Double Header) — Almost quietly, Old Town preservationists and collectors have become major players in the Washington Winter Show — perhaps the major antiques extravaganza in the Capital Region and a must go and see.

Old Town's key role has come seemingly overnight, but it hasn't happened that way. Try hard work, dedication and earning the respect of the folks who run this prestigious affair — and the generous welcome for Alexandrians who know a thing or two about antiques and how to raise funds and support for historic preservation.

It's not as if a bunch of Old Towners and their friends crept across the river late in the night and said "Move over Washingtonians." Alexandrians have played key roles with their friends in the Capital City for years.

More about this later. First I need to give you an overview of the Winter Show — not the least

of when it happens and why. This year's version, perhaps the most ambitious yet, will take place at the Katzen Arts Center at American University, 4400 Massachusetts Ave, NW, from Jan. 10 - 13. Admission is \$20 and includes a show catalogue. Events are by separate admission. Gobs of additional logistical information is available at 202-248-7159.

Theme of the show is "The Thrill of the Chase: Antiques of the Sporting Life" and the fun begins on Thursday, Jan. 10, when sponsors, benefactors and designers are invited to a private early viewing of the show wares starting at 6 p.m. A half hour later at 6:30 p.m. a Young Collectors reception will enjoy the usual goodies and more (cocktails, hors d'oeuvres and a catered buffet dinner). Show hours on Friday and Saturday will be spiced by everything from lectures, appraisals and more.

I'd be derelict if I didn't mention another special event on Jan. 12 — a "Jazz Night" hosted by one of the "Towners I mentioned earlier,

Amy Heiden, who will join you from 6 to 8 p.m. to sip and nip while enjoying the smooth sounds of the Levine School of Music Faculty Jazz Band.

Your hardworking reporter could go on and on telling you even more about the pleasures bundled into these evenings. But you'll have to find out for yourself because I want to mention some of the show's benefactors from Old Town and northern Virginia who have worked so hard with their brothers and sisters in this tale of two cities.

Let's start with the show's co-chair and go from there. In no particular order following co-chair Mason Bavin are these friends of the show who should take a bow (this listing is by no means complete): Henrietta Burke, Sarah King Carr, Eleanore Denegre, Anna May, Lucy Rhame, Ashley O'Connor, Michaela Robinson, Jean Taylor Federico, Sumpter Priddy, Julianne Belevetz and Shannon Campagna, to name a few.

— BOB FELDKAMP

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# LETTERS

FROM PAGE 9

come before taxes) of less than 130 percent of the national poverty level and net income of less than 100 percent of the poverty level. The poverty level for a family of three is \$1,590 a month and families with that income receive a \$16 benefit each month. Most households have incomes far less than this and therefore receive a larger benefit. In FY 2010 almost a third of all households had income that was 25 percent or less of the poverty level. In Virginia the average benefit per person per meal is only \$1.40.

We were taken aback by the suggestion in the article that participation rates were lower when food stamp users could be readily identified in the supermarket by the coupons they used to purchase their food rather than the debit cards that are used now. Is it really, as the article suggests, desirable to stigmatize those who have turned to us for help in a time of need? We don't think so. The article also derides efforts to let people know about the availability of the program, saying that it encourages more participation. Well, yes, shouldn't those who are eligible know that they are eligible and how to apply? We think they should.

The Food Stamp Program, now known as the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program or SNAP, is well run, is targeted to the most financially needy among us, and assures that the benefit goes to the purchase of food. We wish that you had been more balanced in your reporting and also conveyed the many positive effects of this program on Alexandrians and others in our nation.

**Jason Dechant**

Chair, Alexandria Social Services Advisory Board

**Gail Gordon Donegan**

Vice-Chair, Alexandria Social Services Advisory Board

**Bonny O'Neil**

Former Chair, Alexandria Social Services Advisory Board

## Taxpayer's Lament

To the Editor:

There was a recent story about city tax rates quoting the mayor, vice mayor and council member Alicia Hughes. Only Hughes showed the correct understanding of the tax rate and burden, so her failure to be re-elected is a real loss to the city. She correctly noted that tax bills have doubled in the last decade. However Vice Mayor Donley's discussion of tax rates and property values show he is

deeply out of touch with reality, particularly economic reality. Raising property values are only very remotely related, if at all, to city leadership. Apparently Mr. Donley is oblivious to the housing price bubble of the last decade. What the city really did was tax inflation, to cover over spending. The housing inflation had many causes, none of which were related to city leadership. That inflation allowed Alexandria and many other jurisdictions to pursue to reckless spending. As far as investment is concerned, what do we as citizens and taxpayers see? An expensive school system who's "crown jewel" (T.C. Williams High School) is labeled "persistently lowest achieving school," in the lowest 5 percent statewide. That speaks well for the city. We also see a new tax in the form of the new sewer agency, which for me was higher than my water bill. Yet there is no money or borrowing capacity to deal with flooding in Old Town.

Furthermore the city, with its brilliant current leadership, has subtracted from the tax base with the BRAC site, which is a permanent 2 percent hit on every property owner in the city. It will be 100 years, if ever, to correct that error. We cannot afford this "leadership."

The city's leadership has been lucky that the Federal presence keeps the local economy in relatively good shape. Maybe one day the Council will wake up. Meantime do the citizens and taxpayer a small favor and drop the phony outreach program. That will at least save a few dollars and as a bonus drop the hypocrisy.

**William Blumberg, MBA**

## Safety Issues of Shared Streets

To the Editor:

The recent letter to the editor by the former chair of the transportation commission reflects how dissent is treated at City Hall. The author used inaccurately reported quotes as an opportunity to ask the City Council to ignore my testimony in the future.

So, let us put it into context: The City Council held a public hearing in December to implement the shared street idea at the corner of King and Union Streets. The shared-spaces philosophy assumes that a more dangerous environment will cause everyone to be more considerate and cause people to behave more safely. This is accomplished by removing rules, traffic lights, stop signs and the

SEE LETTERS, PAGE 12

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# A Look Back: How Del Ray Changed in 2012

BY BILL HENDRICKSON  
PRESIDENT,  
DEL RAY CITIZENS ASSOCIATION

For those who haven't been keeping up with changes and activities in Del Ray, here is a recap of the past year, from my perspective as president of the Del Ray Citizens Association.

Del Ray continued to hum with activity in 2012, with perhaps the only disappointment being the cancellation of the popular Halloween Parade because of concern about the effects of Hurricane Sandy. Fortunately, we were spared any major impact from that storm. We weren't as lucky in late June, when the so-called derecho storm cut off power to most Del Ray (and Alexandria) residences for days and inflicted more damage on the neighborhood's already declining tree canopy.

In 2012, there was a great deal of concern and discussion about traffic and parking issues. Residents of East Howell and East Custis Avenues, in particular, expressed concerns about increased traffic and especially about the possibility of future Potomac Yard residents using their streets to reach the shops and restaurants on Mount Vernon Avenue. The city has already taken some steps to deal with these concerns and promises more action in 2013.

Meanwhile, the city released a consultant-conducted study of parking issues on and off Mount Vernon Avenue. The study concludes that demand for spaces exceeds the supply in certain areas at certain times, leading to parking on residential blocks just off the Avenue. The tight parking situation reflects the overall success of Del Ray's retail areas during the past decade or so. The city has said that it will form a work group made up of residents and business owners to address solutions to parking issues, but

at this time it is unclear when that group will be formed.

After more than a decade during which development languished, last year saw major progress in the build-out of the 5-million-square-foot 1999 Potomac Yard plan, which the Del Ray Citizens Association had a major role in shaping. With a number of specific development projects approved by the City Council in 2012, by the end of 2015 or early 2016 much of the 1999 plan should be completed. The approved projects include a new Giant super-

market, which called into question the continued operation of the small but convenient Giant store on East Monroe Avenue. Giant has not said what its plans are for that store, but the DRCA will continue to monitor the situation and work closely with Alexandria's economic development agency and the city's planning staff to seek a suitable replacement if Giant decides to leave the property. The progress at Potomac Yard also included construction of the 24-acre Potomac Yard Park, expected to open in summer 2013, and construction on Route 1 of dedicated transit lanes for buses, to be completed in December 2013.

Two major projects got underway in Del Ray: the renovation and rebuilding of the Calvert apartments complex and the Yates Corner development at the corner of Mount Vernon Avenue and Braddock Road. Renovations began at two modestly priced apartment complexes, Caylor Gardens and Alexandria Commons, with an unknown impact on the future affordability of those apartments.

Del Ray's retail sector continued to change, with the opening of the Del Ray Café, the Holy Cow Burger Joint, VeloCity, the community bike shop, and Amalgamated Clothing and Dry Goods, which sells vintage clothing and accessories. M.E. Swing Company began moving its coffee

roasting operation into the former Gold Crust bakery on East Monroe Avenue, with a retail store planned to open early this year. Reingold, a communications and marketing firm, renovated and moved into a building at 433 E. Monroe Ave. The Del Ray Pizzeria and Evening Star Café both received approval for additional seating. The Mount Vernon Deli changed ownership to become Mama Reacer's at the Mount Vernon Deli, selling Southern-style food. But La Strada restaurant closed at the end of the year, and the proposed Del Ray Trolley, created to bring visitors from Old Town to Del Ray, was derailed, at least for the time being, when a company could not be found to operate it. In 2013, we expect to see the opening of Emma's coffee and wine bar/restaurant and hopefully the reopening of the Bombay Curry Indian restaurant.

The DRCA sponsored three very successful events in 2012: The Del Ray House and Garden Tour, which raised money for tree planting and other community projects; the well-attended District A school board candidates forum; and the Del Ray Historic Preservation Conference, which highlighted, among other things, the neighborhood's rich Art Deco and Streamline Moderne architecture and the need to preserve it in the face of increasing redevelopment. The Del Ray Business Association continued its roster of events, including Art on the Avenue, the Turkey Trot road race on Thanksgiving Day, the Christmas tree and luminaria lightings, the Taste of Del Ray, and First Thursdays on the Avenue, one of which featured an entertaining Fashion's Night Out featuring local personalities walking a runway wearing a diverse collection of elegant and in a few cases outrageous fashion items.

Kelly Cares continued its 5K run/walk for charity, and a sock hop fundraiser in honor of Ryan Bailey benefited the Miracle Field, which opened this year.

The Del Ray Artisans celebrated its 20th anniversary and continued to produce imaginative art shows. Duncan Library helped celebrate the 75th anniversary of the Alexandria Library as a public system.

In park news, the new multipurpose fields at the expanded Simpson Park (part of the 1999 Potomac Yard plan) opened, the Mount Jefferson Playground was renovated, and the city began discussions with the neighborhood about longer-term changes to Simpson Park. The playground at the new pocket park at East Del Ray and Commonwealth avenues became a popular spot for toddlers, but unfortunately the city failed to complete the building of the park, despite spending more than \$1.7 million to buy the property and install the playground.

Mount Vernon Community School got a dynamic new principal, Peter Balas. Meanwhile, the City Council approved a handsome and expanded new facility to replace the existing Jefferson Houston School. Many Del Ray residents live within the boundaries of the Jefferson Houston School District.

Del Ray continued to produce city leaders. Del Ray resident Bill Euille was elected to his fourth term as mayor. Former DRCA President Justin Wilson, a former member of City Council, was elected to the City Council for a second term. Former DRCA President Rob Krupicka stepped down after his third term on the City Council after being elected in a special election as the 45th District representative to the Virginia House of Delegates. Del Ray residents Stephanie Kapsis and Karen Graf won two of the three District A seats on the Alexandria School Board, with Graf being elected as chair on Jan. 2. Graf and Kapsis replaced two Del Ray residents who decided not to run again: former Chair Sheryl Gorsuch and Mimi Carter.

Overall, it certainly was another banner year for Del Ray.

## COMMENTARY

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

FROM PAGE 11

separation among different modes of transport (pedestrians, bicycles, cars, buses, and trucks).

Shared Streets shows a remarkable faith in human nature, and we all would like it to be true. But a reasonable discussion would incorporate scientific evidence of its truth as a forerunner. Fortunately, there are many peer-reviewed articles published by reputable university researchers easily accessible that look at the empirical evidence. Unfortunately, they all conclude there is a large discrepancy between the theoretical philosophy of Shared Space and its practice.

Below are quotes from the studies presented to the City Council at the public hearing.

Looking specifically at the Netherlands, the studies find that "Observations in Drachten and Haren (original site for Shared Spaces) actually show that car drivers take their right of way and push ahead.

In Haren, bicyclists intimidate pedestrians." "Surveys of citizens in Drachten and Haren show divergent views about the traffic safety, as most respondents do not find the described situations to be safe." "Noteworthy among their responses is the fact that 90 percent of respondents to surveys concerning the Rijksweg in Haren want clear controls for bicycle traffic ...."

"For instance, 45 percent of respondents regard the post-conversion situation as unsafe, whereas the pre-conversion intersection is regarded as such by 30 percent." "In Haren with regard to the achieved safety level the opinions are mixed, but most respondents do not think the situations are safe. Both car drivers and bicyclists and pedestrians are critical about it."

Then there is this. "Monderman (founder of Shared Spaces) indicates that, pedestrians and drivers have to be friendlier and to look out for one another, and then zebra (pedestrian) crossings and suchlike are not needed. It doesn't work in practice. At the

insistence of many organizations (parents' organizations, Fietsersbond (the cyclists union), several zebra (pedestrian) crossings have been laid."

There is an unfortunate tendency to assume bicycle and pedestrian venues are synonymous. Far from it, so when bicycle groups applaud the removal of stop signs as it will improve the throughput speed, it might not be so beneficial for pedestrians. Maybe that is why the bicycle web sites feature school children collecting signatures to have the share street removed in Haren.

These issues might explain the following quote from A View from the Cyclepath (main bicycle web site).

"There is only one reason why this work was being done specifically about Shared Space, and that is because it remains controversial and unpopular in the Netherlands, even though some 'experts' still promote it."

By the way, no one has asked for the studies. Furthermore, this is the same City Hall

initially told people years ago, telling them "he talks about the Mirant Plant as if it were fact, but does not know what is talking about" adding that what we had was "just common dirt." Openness starts at the top, and the first lesson is, listen to science.

Poul Hertel

## Anniversary of Black January

To the Editor:

Twenty-three years ago, on the night of Jan. 19-20, 1990, Soviet authorities staged the falling empire's last brutal crime against own citizens. Amidst a popular uprising in Baku, Azerbaijan, 26,000 regular and special Soviet troops with support of tanks, helicopters and navy stormed the city overnight, indiscriminately killing unarmed inhabitants.

SEE LETTERS, PAGE 19



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**Oakland** \$1,295,000  
607 Braddock Road W, Alexandria, VA 22302  
Wonderfully charming & distinctive 1922 colonial w/ wide front porch, gracious entrance foyer, pine flrs, & beautiful 1st FL FR. This 5BR/3BA home will steal your heart away!  
Donnan C. Wintermute 703-518-6156



**Jefferson Park Area** \$1,395,000  
301 Charles Alexander Court, Alexandria, VA 22301  
Gorgeous 5BR/4.5BA brick center-hall colonial perfect for formal entertaining & comfortable family living. Fine moldings, 4fps, hwd fls, fully finished LL + 2 car garage.  
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**Mt Vernon Terrace** \$449,500  
5305 Remington Drive, Alexandria, VA 22309  
Charming well maintained brick home just steps to the Potomac River. 3BR/2BA/1CG & in ground gunite pool. Neighborhood use of waterfront lot for boat launch.  
Phyllis Patterson 703-518-6158



**Alexandria** \$749,000  
932 South Fairfax Street, Alexandria, VA 22314  
Coming Soon! End unit 4BR/2.5BA w/ large windows, views of trees & winter water views! 2 parking spaces, professionally landscaped garden, on private street next to park.  
Heather Corey 703.989.1183



**Waynewood** \$1,095,000  
8701 Eaglebrook Court, Alexandria, VA 22308  
This home is the perfect gathering place for entertaining. The well designed gourmet kitchen flows seamlessly to family room, formal dining room and fabulous outdoor living space.  
Edward Pagett 703-518-6161



**Mason Hill** \$739,990  
2005 Mason Hill Drive, Alexandria, VA 22307  
Beautiful Updated Colonial in Mason Hill, 4BR/2.5BA, Remodeled Kitchen with Granite, SS Apps, Refreshed Baths, Hardwood Floors, Walkout Lower Level, Great Floorplan.  
Greg Doherty 703-408-5068



**Greenhouse** \$278,000  
5300 Holmes Run Parkway 105, Alexandria, VA 22304  
Updated, move in condition condo w/ Gar prking, 2BR/2BA, 11 ft ceilings, large rms, first flr location w/ large patio, pet friendly building, 24 hr front desk, loads of amenities.  
Sherry York 703.625.7337



**Janneys Lane Area** \$799,999  
2933 Bryan Street, Alexandria, VA 22302  
Great for entertaining, expanded & renovated, big kit opens to family rm, fabulous decks & views! Low maint yard, garage, 3FP, 4BA, fin lower lvl, master BR suite.  
Sherry York 703.625.7337



**Tinkle AH** \$1,350,000  
8140 Stacey Road, Alexandria, VA 22308  
New 5BR Luxury Home in the Waynewood Sch. district. High end finishes, trim work, state-of-the-art design and a "Smart Home" - operate from your iPad!  
Rachel Carter 703-851-4207

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**NEW HOME**

5211 Polk Ave  
\$1,085,000  
**Just Completed - Grand Opening!**  
Best of both worlds-new home size and amenities combined with "in-town convenience". Spacious new home with all the bells and whistles: high ceilings, gourmet kit, upgraded trim detail, gorgeous hardwood flrs, 4 large BR including luxury MBR. Fin basement, 4.5 baths and 2 oversize 2 car garage. Nothing like it in City for close to this price!



**JUST LISTED**

9109 Chickawane Ct  
\$580,000  
**Westgate Colonial-Custom Pool!**  
Classic 4BR Colonial in gorgeous setting on large lot fronting quiet cul-de-sac in prime Westgate location. Fabulous features include bright open kitchen, economical gas heat and hot water and oversize 2 car garage. Custom pool and much privacy located on what is widely considered to be one of Mt. Vernon's prettiest streets. **OPEN SUN 1/13, 1-4PM.** GW Pky S, past Estate; L-Old Mt Vernon Rd; R-Westgate; L-Chickawane.



**JUST LISTED**

9226 Craig Ave  
\$619,500  
**Extensive Updates!**  
Spacious home loaded with custom updates. Special features include 4 fin. levels, 5 BRs, 3.5 baths, fabulous updated kitchen with granite, SS appli and custom cabs. Hardwood floors, walkout lower level, 2 car garage, gas heat and hot water. Outside deck and patio overlook beautiful grounds. Property offers size, updated amenities and location for remarkable price! **OPEN SUN 1/13, 1-4PM.** GW Pky S, past Estate; L-Old Mt Vernon Rd; R-Robertson; L-Craig.



**OPEN SUN!**

7720 Schellhorn Rd  
\$449,000  
**One Level Living!**  
Nothing like it on market for under \$500,000! Fab large Rambler just completely updated on spectacular large level lot in prime close-in location. Fabulous features include brand new gourmet kitchen with granite, SS appliances & huge pantry. New baths, open floor plan, 4BRs, hwd flrs. Distinctive front entry porch, garage and huge exterior deck. Unique opportunity! **OPEN SUN 1/13, 1-4PM.** GW Pky S; R-Morningside Ln, becomes Sherwood Hall; R-Schellhorn.



**JUST LISTED**

4712 Neptune Dr  
\$1,150,000  
**Waterfront Value!**  
Make seller's sudden job change work to your advantage! Home is totally redecorated and shows beautifully! Large home (app 2300 sq ft) with exceptionally bright open floor plan. All major rooms oriented to capitalize on fabulous water views. Special features include large kitchen with brand new stainless appli, 3 main level BRs including master suite with private balcony. Improved water frontage with stationary and floating dock. Best waterfront value on market today!



**NEW HOME**

8313 Mount Vernon Hwy  
\$789,000  
**Brand New Custom Home!**  
Area's best new home value just became even better! Now offering free finished LL with full bath (\$35,000 VALUE!) for any offer accepted by 1/31/13. **One time opportunity-contact us today!** Special features include: high ceilings, open floor plan, gourmet eat-in kit with gas cooktop, custom cabinets and granite counters, family room with FP, luxury baths, stunning master suite with private bath and huge walk in closet. Thermal windows & upgraded insulation. Two car garage.



**1250 S. Washington St #824**  
**\$599,000**  
**Porto Vecchio's Best Value!**  
\* Spectacular Water Views!  
\* Spacious 2 Bedroom Unit!  
\* Luxurious Amenities!



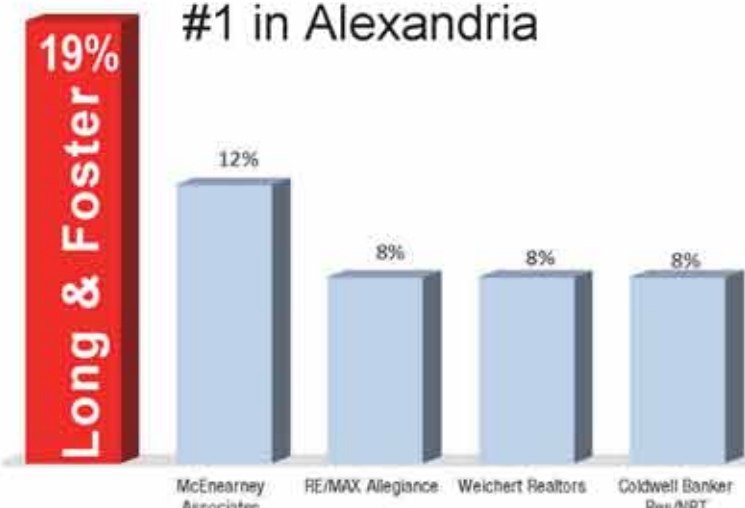
Spacious residence with breathtaking panoramic river views from every major room. Special features include: glass walled great room, luxury MBR, marble foyer, and bright white kitchen. Elevated views of bridge and National Harbor. Outstanding building amenities include limo service, party rooms, work out room, pool and more! Unique opportunity-typically units with similar combination of views & elevation cost thousands more!



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**\$ 3,500,000 Alexandria City "EXCLUSIVE PRE-CIVIL WAR UPDATED & EXPANDED RESIDENCE"**



Introducing one of Alexandria City's most exclusive residences. Sited on a private 1.25 acre lot, the Pre-Civil War home has been painstakingly updated and expanded using only the finest materials and craftsmanship. The property is comprised of 2 buildings: the main house and the guest house, and the professionally landscaped grounds include a separately deeded .25 acre lot (included in the 1.25 total acres). Highlights include a total of 6 bedrooms, 6 full bathrooms, 2 powder rooms, gourmet kitchen, heated swimming pool, professional landscaped gardens, and a heated 3-car garage. A rare opportunity!  
**Dayna Blumel/Kerry Adams 703.587.7841**



**\$ 1,195,000**  
**Old Town**  
**"SE QUADRANT"**

This residence blends historic charm with modern amenities. 2,000+ square feet of living space, the 3BR/2.5BA renovated home has a gourmet eat-in kitchen with granite & SSA; master suite has spa-like BA; built-ins in library, UL den or 4th BR; landscaped backyard. Original floors & more!

**Dayna Blumel / Kerry Adams**  
**703.587.7841**



**\$ 675,000**  
**Alexandria / Old Town**  
**"NEW PRICE"**

Spacious 3BR / 3BA 4 levels! Large master bedroom boasts vaulted ceiling, fireplace, skylight, and space for a king size bed. Finished lower level with bonus office. Large lot with front and back yard plus off street parking. Ready for your decorator. One mile to King St Metro. Shops, restaurants and Balducci all a few blocks away.

Call for more information:  
**Deborah Alea 703.447.1315**



**\$ 392,500**  
**Alexandria**  
**"MORE THAN MEETS THE EYE"**

Don't miss this 2 level spacious brick home located in close in Mt Vernon. 3/4BR, 2FBA, fireplace in LR, hardwood floors, newer kitchen and more. Deck off the back overlooking fenced in yard. Newer windows, CAC and gas heat for efficiency. Close to library, shopping, county park, facility and ez commuter route. Quick Occupancy Possible! Call ...

**Louise Devers 703.795.9944**



**\$ 1,399,000**  
**Alexandria**  
**"WONDERFUL"**

Over 4,000 sq ft in this expanded brick center hall Colonial, sited on 3/4 acre lot, in much sought after Chapel Hill. 4BR/4.5BA, deck, sunroom, family room, formal living/dining rooms, and 2 fireplaces make this home ideal for entertaining and comfort.

**Pat Wilson 703.598.7279**  
**Glenn Witucki 703.518.8708**



**OPEN SUNDAY 1 - 4!**  
**\$ 389,900**  
**6103 TALAVERA CT**

- Shows well: incredible space and location for the price
- EZ to Metro and major roadways
- 2,100+ sf of living space
- 3 finished levels
- Walk-out basement with FP
- Formal LR/DR
- Updated eat-in kitchen with SSA, granite

plus brand new deck off kitchen  
**Martine Imer & Alexander Imer**  
**703.346.7283 or 703.403.2465**



**OPEN SUNDAY 1 - 4!**  
**\$ 584,900**  
**Old Town**  
**1109 PORTNER RD**

A New Year resolution ... Buy Nethergate's largest model. 2,100 square feet, 4 levels, 3 fireplaces. Huge updated kitchen with granite, SS and fireplace - vast amount of space, close to Metro, DC, Potomac river trails. Call Renee ...

Nethergatehomes.com  
**Renee Raymond 703.507.5330**



**OPEN SAT & SUN 1-4!**  
**\$ 459,000**  
**Arlington /**  
**Fairlington Green**  
**3259 S Stafford St**



**JUST LISTED!** Renovated kitchen with gorgeous cabinets, granite, SSA and ceramic tile. Both baths have been updated. Crown molding, dry-walled basement, high efficiency windows, finished wood floors, heat pump and a lovely backyard patio. 2BR/2BA

**Gary Ansley 202.288.7946**



**OPEN SUNDAY 1 - 4!**  
**\$ 179,900**  
**Alexandria**  
**250 REYNOLDS ST**  
**#605**

Spectacular views from the largest 1 bedroom condo in the area. Huge living room, dining room with floor to ceiling windows. Renovated kitchen with 42" cabinets, W/D, updated 1.5 baths and lots of closets. Storage too! 2 miles from Metro and easy access to I-395 and I-495.

**Sharon Edwards 703.408.8144**



**OPEN SAT / SUN 1 - 4!**  
**\$ 879,000**  
**Hollin Hall Knolls**  
**8013 and 8115**  
**YORKTOWN**

ONLY TWO left of these luxury 5BR / 4.5BA homes with all the upgrades and options - gourmet kitchen with all SS, center island, granite and breakfast area. Built by Long Homes of VA located in heart of Mt. Vernon. Easy access to GW Parkway, shopping, bike trails, swimming and more.

www.thebendergroup.net  
**Randy Bender 703.906.1749**



**OPEN SUNDAY 1 - 4!**  
**\$ 650,000**  
**Alexandria South**  
**2914 POPKINS LN**

**JUST REDUCED!** 2013 is your year to have lots of room for all your family and friends. Custom-built in 2006, this 3,444 sq ft beauty has 3 finished levels with 6BR/3.5BA, 2-story foyer and family room with massive stone fireplace, spacious kitchen with granite and maple, MBR with sitting room and so much more.

Call for more information:  
**Margaret Keagle 571.332.5264**



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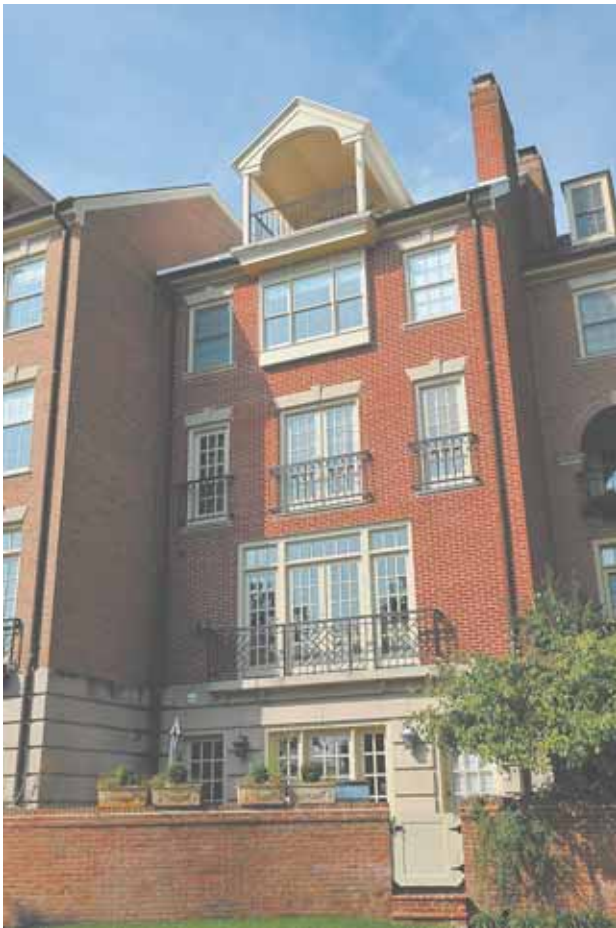




2012 TOP SALES IN ALEXANDRIA



312 Queen Street, Alexandria — \$2,900,000



4 Wolfe Street #21, Alexandria — \$2,850,000



6 Wolfe Street #22, Alexandria — \$2,375,000



213 Fairfax Street South, Alexandria — \$2,300,000

Address	BR	FB	HB	Postal	City	Sold Price	Type	Lot AC	PostalCode	Subdivision	Date Sold
312 QUEEN ST	4	..	4	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$2,900,000	Townhouse	0.10	22314	OLD TOWN	06/14/12
4 WOLFE ST #21	4	..	3	3	ALEXANDRIA	\$2,850,000	Townhouse		22314	HARBORSIDE	08/10/12
6 WOLFE ST #22	4	..	4	2	ALEXANDRIA	\$2,375,000	Townhouse		22314	HARBORSIDE	02/27/12
213 FAIRFAX ST S	6	..	3	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$2,300,000	Detached	0.12	22314	OLD TOWN	05/29/12
1020 PRINCE ST	4	..	3	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$2,200,000	Townhouse	0.10	22314	OLD TOWN	02/29/12
4007 MOSS PL	7	..	6	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$2,200,000	Detached	1.52	22304	SEMINARY RIDGE	05/11/12
801 DUKE ST	5	..	4	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$2,200,000	Detached	0.12	22314	HISTORIC OLD TOWN	06/13/12
12 WOLFE ST #52	3	..	3	2	ALEXANDRIA	\$2,200,000	Townhouse		22314	HARBORSIDE	08/10/12
22 WOLFE ST #57	5	..	5	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$2,121,000	Townhouse		22314	HARBORSIDE	04/16/12
52 WOLFE ST #19	4	..	3	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$1,750,000	Townhouse		22314	HARBORSIDE	05/29/12
11 WHARF ST	4	..	3	2	ALEXANDRIA	\$1,730,000	Townhouse	0.03	22314	FORDS LANDING	10/26/12
628 OAKLAND TER	4	..	4	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$1,695,000	Detached	0.65	22302	OAKLAND TERRACE	06/25/12
303 MANSION DR	4	..	4	2	ALEXANDRIA	\$1,670,000	Detached	0.42	22302	COLONIAL PARK	11/30/12
607 FORT WILLIAMS PKWY	5	..	4	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$1,645,000	Detached	0.50	22304	CHELSEA	07/31/12
6 ALEXANDER ST	4	..	3	2	ALEXANDRIA	\$1,550,000	Townhouse	0.03	22314	OLD TOWN	10/04/12
504 PRINCE ST	5	..	3	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$1,500,000	Semi-Detached	0.07	22314	OLD TOWN	09/12/12
403 VIRGINIA AVE	5	..	4	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$1,472,500	Detached	0.26	22302	JEFFERSON PARK	07/27/12
304 VIRGINIA AVE	6	..	5	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$1,450,000	Detached	0.24	22302	JEFFERSON PARK	06/22/12
4042 SEMINARY RD	5	..	4	2	ALEXANDRIA	\$1,450,000	Detached	0.48	22304	CHELSEA	08/30/12
632 PITT ST	4	..	4	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$1,415,000	Townhouse	0.06	22314	OLD TOWN	07/13/12
466 UNION ST S #11	3	..	3	2	ALEXANDRIA	\$1,413,500	Townhouse		22314	HARBORSIDE	08/24/12

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22 Wolfe Street #57, Alexandria — \$2,121,000



12 Wolfe Street #52, Alexandria — \$2,200,000



801 Duke Street, Alexandria — \$2,200,000



1020 Prince Street, Alexandria — \$2,200,000



## Find Real Estate Sales, Home Remodeling in One Place

### How much are those upgrades?

BY JOHN BYRD  
FOR GAZETTE PACKET

**S**uppose you were relocating to northern Virginia, found a house that — with some modifications — would perfectly suit your family's needs, and within hours knew the exact cost of your desired upgrades?

Or, say you were listing a house for sale, recognized that new owners might want to improve the kitchen or a bathroom, and could easily present sketches for these modifications as part of your sales package?

Where can you find such a happy convergence of cyber space and the real world?

Welcome to @home Real Estate Lounge and Design Center, a residential real estate brokerage and home remodeling showroom that recently opened its South Alfred Street office.

"Our core mission is to help buyers and sellers access the unique advantages that come from timely information," said principal broker Karen Hall, who has been active in local residential real estate for nearly 10 years.

"With very few new homes on the market, we find that a lot of people today want to know as quickly as possible what certain improvements will cost. This is a business model that provides accurate real-time property improvement cost information through the resources of one of the area's most experienced remodelers."

The upshot, Hall said, is convenience to both buyers and sellers in every phase of a typical real estate transaction.

Buyers recognize that they have options when they can see beyond the few things about a house that "just aren't right." Sellers stimulate a dialogue that gets all parties talking realistically.

The brainchild of Hall, 37, and David Foster, president of Foster Home Remodeling Solutions, the Real Estate Lounge and De-



**The new facility provides a 350-sq.-ft. showroom and design center where visitors can obtain immediate access to a long list of home improvement options.**

sign Center is configured so that interested parties can research buying, selling and remodeling considerations in one location by simply walking in off the street.

On the first floor, a Microsoft Surface table complete with laptops and flat screen monitors allows shoppers to look at homes listed "for sale" throughout the metro area; one level above, a visitor can research the costs of a long list of home improvement options simply by accessing Foster's DIY estimator program.

The 350-sq.-ft. design center also functions as a home improvement showroom.

Designers can be brought into the conversation by telephone. Foster's headquarters — which includes staff architects, design CAD systems, and a still larger showroom — is about 15 miles away in Lorton.

"It's a pretty logical alliance for today's market," Hall said. "Our clients are pleased at how easily they can answer questions that used to take weeks of research and entail a lot of second guessing. This is a huge asset when you're trying to find the right cost balance between a home's location and its

physical attributes."

Moreover, Hall sees the future of her profession in helping clients solve problems that used to be off the table.

**"WE ARE FUNDAMENTALLY** a service business," she said. "Today, anyone can get a look at homes for sale without leaving their workstation. What's valuable is information that can help you assess the feasibility of adapting an existing house to your use requirements and your budget."

Hall says she plans to have five full time agents on staff before the end of the year. The brokerage is licensed in Virginia, Maryland and the District.

Hall is also a specialist in serving the region's large military population. One of the firm's partners, CEO Jack Rives, is a retired three star general and attorney who was attached to the office of the Judge Advocate General for more than 25 years.

"Military personnel have pretty specialized needs arising from transience," Hall said. "When you've been transferred into a new assignment from out of town, you've

got a lot to think about — so it's important that the home shopping process goes smoothly."

Hall says her services allow a buyer to specify detailed improvements that can be executed before even moving in to the new house.

"You can select materials, colors, finishes from out of town if you want, and you know what the whole package costs," she adds. "This is not only efficient — but saves thousands of dollars."

Hall has also helped clients rent out their homes when they're sent on an overseas tour, and remodel after they've moved back in.

But sellers also benefit from readily available design and estimating services.

Hall recalls that she was having trouble selling a rather plain vacant house last month, so she had the Foster team mock-up a drawing for remodeling the kitchen and posted it online along with the existing home photos.

Within two days, the home's listing agent began receiving new offers.



**The newly opened @home Real Estate Lounge and Design Center on South Alfred Street allows visitors to research new homes listings and targeted upgrade costs in one location.**

### More

Karen Hall and David Foster often sponsor workshops on residential real estate and remodeling topics. The new center is located at 111 S Alfred Street in Alexandria. Call 703-791-1167 or visit [www.AtHomeDCMetro.com](http://www.AtHomeDCMetro.com).

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# Legislators Seek To Close Gun Show Loophole

FROM PAGE 1

vocates for gun rights to oppose efforts to increase background checks. In a perfect world, argues League president Phillip Van Cleave, all background checks would be eliminated — regardless of whether the sale is private or not.

“The truth is it’s easy to get around a background check. You simply send in somebody with a clean record to do a straw purchase,” said Cleave. “I certainly don’t want to see more background checks, and I’d be just as happy with fewer.”

**THE POLITICS** of gun regulation have become much more pitched in recent weeks, after a gunman blasted his way into a Connecticut elementary school and killed 20 children and six adults. Both sides of the gun debate responded by doubling down on its previous position. Those who support gun rights argue that schools should have armed security guards. Those who support increased gun regulation have been arguing for increased screening and background checks. Historically, Virginia has been hostile to efforts to increase gun regulations.

“There’s an urban-rural disconnect about gun rights, and that split defines politics in Virginia,” said Kyle Kondik, analyst with the University of Virginia Center for Politics. “I just don’t see a lot of potential traction for gun con-

trol legislation, especially given the makeup of the House of Delegates, which is so overwhelmingly Republican.”

That means Northern Virginia Democrats who support increased gun control have a seemingly intractable goal — persuading conservative members of the General Assembly to change their minds on one of the most emotional issues of the day. Even if they are not successful in session, though, Northern Virginia Democrats can campaign on the issue later this year, when every member of the House of Delegates will be up for reelection.

“I think the tragedy in Newtown will change the politics of all gun bills,” said Ebbin. “Whether or not particular ones will pass is hard to determine, but I think we will see a serious consideration of many more gun bills this year.”

**VIRGINIA HAS STRONG LAWS** protecting the right to carry and use guns, a tradition that dates back to English common-law instituted when the commonwealth was a British colony. The Brady Campaign to Prevent Gun Violence gives Virginia a score of 11 out of 100, describing the commonwealth as having “weak gun laws that help feed the illegal gun market, allow the sale of guns without background checks and put children at risk.” But many Republicans say no change to the law

could have prevented the mass shootings that happened. “Just because you pass a law doesn’t mean you’re going to stop it. I mean, there’s millions and millions and millions of guns in America,” said Del. Dave Albo (R-42). “So when somebody wants to pass a law that says no one can have a gun, does any rational person think that would work?”

One issue that comes up again and again each year is the so-called “castle doctrine,” sometimes known as “stand-your-ground” legislation, that would protect individuals from being sued if they fatally shoot an intruder. That hasn’t passed, but other measures increasing the availability of guns have been successful. One overturned a longstanding ban against individuals purchasing more than one handgun a month. Another successful bill allows local government employees to bring concealed weapons onto government property. A few days after the Connecticut shooting, Republican Gov. Bob McDonald suggested that policymakers should consider allowing armed guards in schools across Virginia.

“What an absurd idea,” responded Arlington state Sen. Barbara Favola (D-31) in a written statement. “We must seize this opportunity to craft reasonable gun violence prevention measures and to help those with mental illnesses. This is the only way to honor the victims of the Sandy Hook Elementary tragedy.”

# Red Flags on Mental Health’s Front Lines

FROM PAGE 1

roduced legislation that would add new full-time staff positions at every community services board in Virginia, which would be responsible for training individuals in mental-health first aid. That’s about 40 new mental-health professionals across the commonwealth. A budget amendment would provide grant funding for local school districts to fund training sessions for students and school officials.

“People need to be aware of the complexity of mental-health issues, and they need to know how to identify them and be sensitive to the challenges that go along with them,” said Krupicka. “Having a mental-health first aid training program in place can really help people identify issues and help people get the support and services they need so that we can prevent someone from going undiagnosed or unidentified.”

**THE CONNECTICUT** school shooting has already prompted a high-profile debate about gun control, with some advocating increased regulation while others are arguing for more armed guards. Reforms to mental health services have not received as much attention, although Krupicka says addressing the problem of gun violence requires a more proactive approach to identifying people suffering from mental illness. The question for lawmakers is whether or not members of the General Assembly are ready to take action.

“I doubt it,” said Kyle Kondik, analyst with the University of Virginia Center for Politics. “I just don’t see Sandy Hook having a lot of practical legislative impact in Virginia, whether it’s through gun control or even mental health issues.”

Mental health first aid is a relatively new phenomenon, first created in 2001. The idea is an extension of the concept of first aid into identifying signs of mental illness and being able to know how to respond appropriately. The most important part of the training encourages participants to remain calm and not escalate the situation.

“Being on the front lines, you don’t always know if someone has a mental illness or if they are just having a bad day,” said Evelyn Quiles, an administrative analyst who works in the Alexandria JobLink office on Beauregard Street on the West End. “This training taught us to not pass judgment so quickly, which could lead to the wrong conclusions.”

**THE COST** would be anywhere from \$3 mil-

lion to \$5 million, depending on how many people receive the training. Krupicka says he’s not yet ready to explain how he will come up with the funding for the program, but he says he has some ideas he will be able to unveil when the budget amendment is considered. The cost of adding staff to every community services board would be about \$3 million. The grant funding could be as much as \$2 million, depending on the scale of the effort.

“Generally speaking, there are lots of moving parts in the budget and there are opportunities to move things around so you can make something like this work,” said Krupicka. “If we are committed to mental health safety and we are committed to improving our mental-health services in Virginia, then we’ve got to be willing to put the resources into them.”

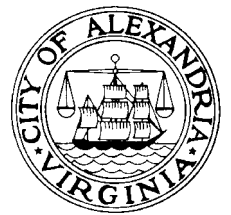
## New Grads

Seven new deputies with the Alexandria Sheriff’s Office graduated from the Session 127 of the Northern Virginia Criminal Justice Training Academy on Dec. 21. The graduation ceremony was held at George Mason University in Fairfax and followed nearly six months of deputy and law enforcement training, including emergency vehicle operation, firearms training, defensive tactics, jail and courthouse procedures, crash investigation, basic legal training and other important areas.

Alexandria’s deputy graduates are Fellman Cabero, Deon Eaddy, Israr Haq, Julio Ocasio, Keith Scott, Ryan Stearns and Curran Thorne. Eaddy was vice-president of this academy class and four others are pursuing law enforcement careers like their fathers. Stearns is the son of Chief Deputy Clarke Stearns, Ocasio is the son of Deputy Pedro Ocasio, Thorne is the son of Deputy Timothy Thorne, and Scott is the son of Chief M. Douglas Scott of the Arlington County Police Department.



## Legal Notices



Public Hearing will be held by the City Council of the City of Alexandria, Virginia, in the Council Chambers, City Hall, City of Alexandria, Virginia, on Saturday, January 12, 2013, at 9:30 a.m., or as soon thereafter as may be heard on the hereinafter described items.

\*\*\*\*\*

**AN ORDINANCE** to approve and authorize the transfer of property owned by the City of Alexandria, located at 3600 Jefferson Davis Highway, in the City of Alexandria, Virginia. The proposed ordinance authorizes the transfer of the City owned property at 3600 Jefferson Davis Highway.

\*\*\*\*\*

**AN ORDINANCE** to amend and reordain the Master Plan of the City of Alexandria, Virginia, by adopting and incorporating therein the amendment heretofore approved by City Council to the Transportation Master Plan chapter of such master plan as Master Plan Amendment No. 2012-0007 and no other amendments, and to repeal all provisions of the said master plan as may be inconsistent with such amendment. The proposed ordinance accomplishes the final adoption of Master Plan Amendment No. 2012-0007 to add additional language to the recommendations for each of the three transitway corridors in the Transportation Master Plan chapter of the City of Alexandria Master Plan.

\*\*\*\*\*

**AN ORDINANCE** authorizing the tenant of the property located at 105 King Street to construct and maintain an encroachment for a bay window at that location. The proposed ordinance permits the tenant of the restaurant located at 105 King Street to construct a bay window in the adjacent sidewalk area.

\*\*\*\*\*

**AN ORDINANCE** to amend and reordain Division 6 (FARES), Article A.1 (TAXICABS), Chapter 12 (TAXICABS AND OTHER VEHICLES FOR HIRE), of Title 9 (LICENSINGS & REGULATION) of the Code of the City of Alexandria, Virginia, 1981, as amended. The proposed ordinance makes changes to the fares to be charges by the City’s taxicab companies in the manner recommended by the Traffic and Parking Board and the City Manager after the recently concluded biennial industry review, public hearing and report.

\*\*\*\*\*

THE PUBLIC IS ADVISED THAT AMENDMENTS OR ADDITIONS MAY BE MADE TO PROPOSED ORDINANCES WITHOUT FURTHER PUBLICATION. IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT PERSONS INTERESTED IN ANY OF THESE ORDINANCES OBTAIN FREE FULL-TEXT COPIES FROM THE CITY CLERK AT CITY HALL. JACKIE M. HENDERSON, MMC, CITY CLERK



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# PEOPLE



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From left: Nominees Warden Foley and Bill McNamara (seated), Doug Gurka, Doug Guilder, Ben Livestro, Bill Aramony (kneeling), Steven Artley and John Bordner.



Nominee Lewis Stearman (right) and his wife, Mildred.



Councilwoman-elect Allison Silberberg and nominee Jay Johnson.

## 2013 Living Legend Nominees Honored

The 2013 Living Legends of Alexandria nominees were honored with a musical tribute at NOVA's Winter Concert at Rachel Schlesinger Hall Dec. 6. Nominees, nominators, board members and members of city council gathered for a pre-concert reception followed by the winter concert and formal introduction of the nominees during intermission.



Nominee Rosa Byrd and her husband, Jack.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

FROM PAGE 12

Black January — as it came to be called — was the most violent crackdown on dissent during Gorbachev's glasnost era. According to the official counts, 137 civilians were killed that night alone, with up to 170 reported dead by February 1990, and 714 wounded.

In December 1990, an investigation led by Human Rights Watch found compelling evidence that Soviet troops "used unjustified and excessive force resulting in unnecessary civilian casualties." Human Rights Watch reported that on the night of Jan. 19-20, 1990, "heavily armed Soviet soldiers assaulted the city of Baku as though it was an enemy position intended for military destruction"; fired on clearly marked ambulances attempting to assist the wounded; strafed a civilian bus that posed no threat to soldiers; used armored vehicles to intentionally crush civilians; used weapons appropriate for warfare between sophisticated armies to randomly fire at civilian targets

such as cars, residential yards and apartment buildings.

Soviet troops used expanding bullets prohibited by the 1899 Hague Convention, killed women, children, and elderly among many others. Despite the scale of brutality, Black January reinforced Azerbaijanis' determination for freedom. On the third day of the massacre, over 2 million people rallied at the mass funeral of the victims, defying the Soviet military curfew. Within less than two years, in October 1991, Azerbaijan restored its independence.

On the eve of the 23rd anniversary of Black January, I join members of Azerbaijani-American Council and Azerbaijan Society of America to call for a proper recognition of the heroes of Azerbaijan's struggle for freedom, by way of public statements and legislative resolutions. An example of such recognition is available at: <http://blackjanuary.azeris.org>

**Bedir Memmedli**  
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-Dagobert Runes

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## 21 Announcements

## 21 Announcements



RICHMOND - Alvin Foster Auringer, Jr., 87, formerly of Our Lady of Mercy Country Home in Liberty, Mo., and Richmond, Va., went to be with the Lord on January 4, 2013 at New Mark Care Center in Kansas City, Mo.

Alvin was born June 16, 1925 in Richmond, Va., the son of Alvin Foster and Mattie Gay (Allen) Auringer. He served in the U.S. Navy during World War II. Alvin worked as a rate analyst for CSX Railways in Richmond prior to retirement. He was a member of Westhampton Baptist Church in Richmond, Va. Along with his parents, Alvin was preceded in death by his dear wife, Martha Ann (Carson) Auringer, and sister, Dorothy Berkeypile.

Survivors include his daughter, Debbie Jones (husband Mike) of Liberty, Mo.; son, Alvin Foster Auringer III (wife Gail) of Alexandria, Va.; grandchildren, Katie Allenbaugh, Michael Jones, Samuel Auringer and Nathan Auringer; nine great grandchildren; sister, Mary Weassel; numerous nieces, nephews and other family members.

The family will receive friends Thursday, January 10, 2013 from 12 noon until 12:45 p.m., followed by a service celebrating Alvin's life at 1:00 p.m. in the chapel of Hogg Funeral Home, Gloucester Point, Va. Interment with military honors will follow in the Gloucester Point Cemetery. In our father's memory, contributions may be made to NorthCare Hospice, 2900 Clay Edwards Dr., North Kansas City, MO 64116, or to a charity of choice. Arrangements by Hogg Funeral Home and Crematory, Gloucester Point, Va.

## Legal Notices

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Pursuant to the provision of section 4-1-16 of the code of the City of Alexandria, the Alexandria Police Department located at 3600 Wheeler Avenue, Alexandria, VA 22304 is now in possession of unclaimed bicycles, mopeds, lawn equipment, money, scooters, and other items. All persons having valid claim to the property should file a claim to the property with reasonable proof of ownership or the items will be sold, destroyed, converted or donated. For a complete listing go to <http://alexandriava.gov/police/> and contact the Police Property Section at (703) 746-6709.

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where better is expected.  
-Thomas Fuller

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## ONGOING

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Beginning in February at Art at the Center, 2804 Sherwood Hall Lane. Children ages 6-10 can participate. Register at [www.artatthecenter.org](http://www.artatthecenter.org) or 703-201-1250.

### Life in Civil War Alexandria

**Exhibition.** Daily exhibit traces life in Alexandria following Virginia's decision to secede from the Union in May 1861. Through September 2013 at The Lyceum, Alexandria's History Museum, 201 South Washington St. Open Monday through Saturday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. and Sunday, 1-5 p.m. Suggested admission \$2. Visit [www.alexandriahistory.org](http://www.alexandriahistory.org) or call 703-746-4994.

**Tavern Toddlers.** Mondays, 10:30 a.m.-noon. Mondays through the end of April 2013. Designed for walkers through 36 months and their caregivers. Tavern Toddlers features a weekly open playtime in Gadsby's historic ballroom. Gadsby's Tavern Museum is located at 134 North Royal St. Call 703-746-4242 or visit [www.gadsbystavern.org](http://www.gadsbystavern.org).

## THURSDAY/JAN. 10

**Art Focus Group.** 7:30-9 p.m. Color Mixing as Science and Art - Explore liquid watercolor for mixing colors and experimenting with application to a variety of paintable materials. Classes are \$25 each or \$200 for the 10 class series. A school or group of teachers can share the registration for the full series. At 2804 Sherwood Hall Ln. Call 703-201-1250.

**Music.** Tommy Emmanuel will perform at 7:30 p.m. in the Music Hall at the Birchmere, 3701 Mount Vernon Ave. \$45. Visit [www.birchmere.com](http://www.birchmere.com) or 703-549-7500.

**Opening Reception.** 6-8 p.m. at Target Gallery, Torpedo Factory Art Center, 105 N. Union St. "Between the Lines: Contemporary Drawing Now" is an all-media exhibition focusing on current trends in drawing today. Free. Visit [www.torpedofactory.org/target](http://www.torpedofactory.org/target).

**Art Night: Wintry Mix.** 6-9 p.m. at Torpedo Factory Art Center, 105 N. Union St. Browse open studios, interact with artists, make a craft and more. Gloves or mittens accepted at a collection box. Free. Visit [www.torpedofactory.org](http://www.torpedofactory.org).

**Opening Reception.** Features a premiere piece of work by each of the Art League's nine 2013 solo artists. 6:30-8 p.m. in the gallery at the Torpedo Factory, 105 N. Union St. Free. Visit [www.theartleague.org](http://www.theartleague.org).

**Library Speed Dating.** 7 p.m. at Charles Beatley Library, 5005 Duke St. Book lovers can share their love of books and find a literary better half. Prizes will be awarded and refreshments served. Call 703-746-1751 to reserve a spot.

**Latin American Book Discussion Group.** 7 p.m. at Charles Beatley Library, 5005 Duke St. Call for title. 703-746-1702.

**English as a Second Language Class.** 10 a.m. at Charles Beatley Library, 5005 Duke St. All levels welcome. Free. 703-746-1702.

**Story Time.** 10:30 a.m. or 3 p.m. at Charles Beatley Library, 5005 Duke St. Children ages 3-5 years. Free.

Registration required. 703-746-1702 ext. 5.

**Mother Goose Time.** 10 a.m. at James Duncan Library, 2501 Commonwealth Ave. One-year-olds can sing, enjoy fingerplays and bounces. Free. 703-746-1705.

**Story Time.** 11 a.m. at James Duncan Library, 2501 Commonwealth Ave. Children ages 3-5 can enjoy stories, play time and a craft. Free. 703-746-1705.

**Movie Matinee.** 4 p.m. at Ellen Coolidge Burke Library, 4701 Seminary Road. Watch "The Odd Life of Timothy Green." Free. 703-746-1704.

**Pajama Party.** 7 p.m. at Ellen Coolidge Burke Library, 4701 Seminary Road. Pajamas optional, but children ages 3-6 can enjoy stories, songs, games and crafts. Free. 703-746-1704.

**Story Time.** 4 p.m. at Kate Barrett Library, 717 Queen St. Children ages 3 and up can enjoy stories, songs, movement and more, including a weekly craft or short film. Free. 703-746-1703.

## JAN.10 THROUGH JAN. 24

**Solo Preview Exhibit.** Features a premiere piece of work by each of the Art League's nine 2013 solo artists. Gallery is located in the Torpedo Factory, 105 N. Union St. Free. Visit [www.theartleague.org](http://www.theartleague.org).

## JAN. 10 THROUGH FEB. 10

**Call for Applicants.** Apply for the Visiting Artist Program for residency at the Torpedo Factory. Visit [www.torpedofactory.org](http://www.torpedofactory.org) for details on how to apply.

## FRIDAY/JAN. 11

**Opening Reception.** 5-8 p.m. See work by local artists Pamela Underhill and Rusty Lynn at The Gallery at Convergence, 1801 N. Quaker Lane. There will be dance and poetry by Tori Lane. Free. Visit



Jon Carroll

## Music at the Athenaeum

Two-time Grammy-winning, singer-songwriter Jon Carroll will appear solo in an intimate performance at the Athenaeum. Carroll has been a main-stay of the national music scene since the mid-1970s, when he received national attention with Starland Vocal Band and their #1 Billboard pop classic, Afternoon Delight. In 1982, Jon's original song, Get Closer, was a top-30 hit for Linda Ronstadt, as well as the title track for her Grammy winning album of the same name.

In 2010 he released Love Returns with a rockin' album release show at The Barns at Wolf Trap, during which he recorded his next album Live Returns. Thursday, Jan. 10 at 7 p.m. \$15. The Athaneum is located at 201 Prince St. Call 703-548-0035 or visit [www.nvfaa.org](http://www.nvfaa.org) or [JonCarroll.org](http://JonCarroll.org).

[www.Convergenceccf.net](http://www.Convergenceccf.net).

### Growing Healthy Indoor Plants.

1:30-2:30 p.m. at Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road. \$10. Learn how soil, location and plant selection can fill a house with easy-care plants. Register online at [www.greenspring.org](http://www.greenspring.org) or 703-642-5173. Code: 290 183 3301.

### Full Monty Fundraiser.

7 p.m. at the Little Theatre of Alexandria. Reception and silent auction followed by the musical "The Full Monty." Proceeds benefit Northern Virginia AIDS Ministry. Visit [novam.org](http://novam.org).

**Tech Zoo Fridays.** Noon at Ellen Coolidge Burke Library, 4701 Seminary Road. Learn about e-reading devices or bring one already owned. Free. 703-746-1704.

**One-Act Play Festival.** 7:30 p.m. at T.C. Williams Blackbox Theatre, 3330 King St. See student directed plays featuring student actors. \$5/adult; \$3/student. Seating is limited.

## JAN. 11 THROUGH FEB. 24

**Art Exhibit.** See work by local artists Pamela Underhill and Rusty Lynn at The Gallery at Convergence, 1801 N. Quaker Lane. Free. Visit [www.Convergenceccf.net](http://www.Convergenceccf.net).

## SATURDAY/JAN. 12

**Garden Design: Session One.** 9:30-11:30 a.m. at Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road. Two instructors will present lectures on "What Kind of Garden Do You Want?" and "Garden Bones." \$35. Register online at [www.greenspring.org](http://www.greenspring.org) or 703-642-5173. Code: 290 182 3101.

**Garden Sprouts: Gifts from the Gardens.** 11 a.m.-noon at Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road. Children ages 3-5 with adult can learn how seeds, fruit and other natural materials can be made into ornaments. \$5. Register online at [www.greenspring.org](http://www.greenspring.org) or 703-642-5173. Code: 290 185 9501.

**Family Fun: Snow Globe Workshop.** 2-3 p.m. at Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road. Make a snow globe in a jar with miniature figures and glittering snowflakes. \$6/person. Register online at [www.greenspring.org](http://www.greenspring.org) or 703-642-5173. Code: 290 182 3501.

**Pine Wood Derby Workshop.** 10 a.m.-2 p.m. at Old Town Ace Hardware, 809 S. Washington St. Cub Scouts can bring their cars, with the design traced onto the car, and have them be rough cut. Sanders, sandpaper and tools will be available for additional work to be done on the cars. \$1 voluntary donation per car accepted. 703-879-0475.

**Saturday Stories.** 11 a.m. at Charles Beatley Library, 5005 Duke St. All ages can enjoy stories and songs. Free. 703-746-1702.

**New Docent Training.** Volunteer at the Stabler-Leadbeater Apothecary Museum or Gadsby's Tavern Museum. To make a reservation in the training class, submit an application through the museum of your choice at [www.apothecarymuseum.org](http://www.apothecarymuseum.org) or [www.gadsbystavern.org](http://www.gadsbystavern.org). Training at Apothecary Museum from 9 a.m.-noon and Gadsby's 1-4 p.m. Call 703-746-4242.

**One-Act Play Festival.** 2 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. at T.C. Williams Blackbox Theatre, 3330 King St. See student



PHOTO BY LOUISE KRAFT/GAZETTE PACKET

**Eliza Malakoff, Samuel Hanoura and Kevin Rosado in "Shuffling" written by Ken Preuss.**

## TC Presents One-Act Play Festival

The T.C. Williams Drama Department's 2013 Winter One-Act Play Festival will be held on Friday, Jan. 11, at 7:30 p.m., and Saturday, Jan. 12, at 2 and 7:30 p.m. in the Blackbox Theatre at the main campus, 3330 King St., Alexandria. Tickets are \$5 for adults and \$3 for students. Come early, seating is limited. Led by Student Directors Sarah Paez, Tess Wagner, Matt Shadle, Ben Ribler, Rebecca Frank and Avi Littky, the one-acts will showcase student directing talents along with the skills of the student casts. The shows will compete for a spot in the upcoming 2013 Patriot District One-Act Play Festival. The one-act plays, produced by Hope E. Bachman and Leslie A. Jones, include "Closeted," written and directed by Sarah Paez; "The Ugly Duckling," written by A.A. Milne and directed by Tess Wagner; "Shuffling," written by Ken Preuss and directed by Matt Shadle and Ben Ribler; "It Hardly Matters Now," written by Roger Cornish and directed by Rebecca Frank; and "No Exit," written by Jean Paul Satre and directed by Avi Littky.

directed plays featuring student actors. \$5/adult; \$3/student. Seating is limited..

call 703-746-4399.

## MONDAYS/JAN. 14, JAN. 21

**Two-part Workshop.** 10 a.m.-noon at Del Ray Artisans gallery, 2704 Mount Vernon Ave. Artist Betsy Mead will show how using two shades of white can lead to shades of black, brown, grey or blue. \$65/DRA member; \$75/non-member. Register at [www.TheDelRayArtisans.org/fusedglass](http://www.TheDelRayArtisans.org/fusedglass).

## MONDAY/JAN. 14

**Used Book Sale.** 9 a.m.-3 p.m. at Beth El Hebrew Congregation, 3830 Seminary Road. Browse a gigantic selection, divided by category. \$10/early admission from 8:30-9 a.m. Free admission after 9 a.m.

**Little One-Ders.** 10:30 a.m. or 11:15 a.m. at Charles Beatley Library, 5005 Duke St. Children 12-23 months with adult. Free. Pre-registration required, 703-746-1702 ext. 5.

**Clutter Control.** 7 p.m. at James Duncan Library, 2501 Commonwealth Ave. Learn easy strategies to clear clutter from your home. Free. 703-746-1705.

**Spanish Story Time.** 10 a.m. at James Duncan Library, 2501 Commonwealth Ave. Children up to age 5 can enjoy stories and songs in Spanish. Free. 703-746-1705.

**Baby Time.** 11 a.m. at James Duncan Library, 2501 Commonwealth Ave. Children up to 11 months can enjoy songs, fingerplays and bounces. Free. 703-746-1705.

**Visit from the Animal Shelter.** 3:30 p.m. at James Duncan Library, 2501 Commonwealth Ave. A shelter employee talks about animals' habits, care and training. Frequently animals come along on the visit. For children in grades K-5. Free. 703-746-1705.

**Let's Talk Books.** 7 p.m. at Kate Barrett Library, 717 Queen St. Discuss "Brooklyn" by Colm Toibin. Free. Registration required, 703-746-1714.

SEE CALENDAR, PAGE 22



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## ENTERTAINMENT

FROM PAGE 21

**Read, Sing, Play, Baby.** 4 p.m. at Kate Barrett Library, 717 Queen St. Children up to 11 months can enjoy songs, games and playtime with toys. Free. 703-746-1703.

### TUESDAY/JAN. 15

**Genealogical Society meeting.** 1 p.m. at the Hollin Hall Senior Center, 1500 Shenandoah Road. Features a presentation "Stump the Panel," about what to do when an ancestor disappears, leaving no paper trail. Free. Visit [www.mvgenealogy.org](http://www.mvgenealogy.org).

**Chorus Rehearsals.** The NOVA Community Chorus will begin rehearsals at 7:30 p.m. Join by registering for the one-credit class at Northern Virginia Community College, Alexandria campus, 3001 N. Beauregard. 703-845-6097.

**English as a Second Language Class.** 10 a.m. or 3 p.m. at Charles Beatley Library, 5005 Duke St. All levels welcome. Free. 703-746-1702.

**Tech Zoo Tuesdays.** 3 p.m. at Charles Beatley Library, 5005 Duke St. Learn about the latest e-reading devices or get help with one currently owned. Free. 703-746-1702.

**Time for 2s.** 11 a.m. at Charles Beatley Library, 5005 Duke St. For children ages 24-36 months. Free. Registration required, 703-746-1702 ext. 5.

**Baby Rhyme Time.** 11:30 a.m. at Charles Beatley Library, 5005 Duke St. Children up to 11 months with adult. Free. Registration required, 703-746-1702 ext. 5.

**Game Night.** 7 p.m. at Charles Beatley Library, 5005 Duke St. Children ages 8-12. Games change monthly. Free. 703-746-1702.

**Songs and Stories.** 10 a.m. or 11 a.m.

## 2nd Thursday at The Torpedo Factory

Browse three floors of open studios and galleries, converse with artists, and enjoy a candy buffet at The Torpedo Factory's first Art Night of the new year. Thursday, Jan. 10, 6-9 p.m.

Visit Target Gallery from 6-8 p.m. for the reception for Between the Lines: Contemporary Drawing Now. Stay for the gallery talk at 7 p.m. by juror Linn Meyers.

Enjoy the reception from 6:30-8 p.m. in The Art League Gallery for the All-Media Membership Exhibit and the 2nd annual Solo Preview, featuring work by artists selected to have solo exhibitions in The Art League Gallery in 2013. Catch the awards ceremony at 7:30 p.m.

View winter-inspired work by Torpedo Factory Associate Artists in Joys of



**Barren Ice #2 by E. E. McCollum in Joys of the Season**

the Season in Site 2 Gallery, and donate to a mitten and glove drive benefiting the Child and Family Network Centers in Alexandria.

Queen St. Free. 703-746-1703.

### WEDNESDAY/JAN. 16

**Music.** "A Gathering of 5-String Masters" features Bela Fleck, Tony Trischka and more at 7:30 p.m. at Music Hall at the Birchmere, 3701 Mount Vernon Ave. \$49.50. Visit [www.birchmere.com](http://www.birchmere.com) or 703-549-7500. All Oct. 30 tickets will be honored. Refunds are available until Jan. 15 at place of purchase.

**Graphic Novel Discussion.** 7 p.m. at Charles Beatley Library, 5005 Duke St. Discuss a mix of fiction, non-fiction and superhero graphics. Beginners welcome. Free. Call 703-746-1746.

**Time for 2s.** 11 a.m. at Charles Beatley Library, 5005 Duke St. For children ages 24-36 months. Free.

SEE CALENDAR, PAGE 23

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# ENTERTAINMENT

FROM PAGE 22

Registration required, 703-746-1702 ext. 5.

**Who Was Martin Luther King, Jr?** 4 p.m. at Charle Beatley Library, 5005 Duke St. Children ages 6-12 can learn about the life of the great man who is celebrated. Free. Registration required. 703-746-1702 ext. 5.

**Book Discussion.** 7 p.m. at James Duncan Library, 2501 Commonwealth Ave. Discuss "On Clipped Wings" by Jameela Alter. Free. 703-746-1705.

**NASA Program.** 3:30 p.m. at James Duncan Library, 2501 Commonwealth Ave. Students in grades K-6 can learn why people need to wear protective suits to survive when high above earth and in space. Free. 703-746-1705.

**Mother Goose Time.** 10 a.m. at Kate Barrett Library, 717 Queen St. Children ages 12-24 months can enjoy songs, games and interactive fun. Free. 703-746-1703.

**Stories to Grow On.** Children ages 2 and up can enjoy stories, songs, movement and interactive fun at 11 a.m. at Kate Barrett Library, 717 Queen St. Free. 703-746-1703.

**Talk.** 9:30 -11 a.m. at Hollin Hall Senior Center, 1500 Shenandoah Road. The Alexandria/Mount Vernon Antiques Club features Regina Madory Walter who will discuss "The History of Christening Gowns." See some dating back to the 1700s. Free. 703-360-4979.

## THURSDAY/JAN. 17

**Creative Writing Session.** 1 p.m. at Hollin Hall Senior Center, 1500 Shenandoah Road. Get the creative juices flowing with the help of Camilla Clocker and Julie Ellis. Free, open to the public. 703-765-4573.

**Blockbuster Thursday.** 6:30 p.m. at Charles Beatley Library, 5005 Duke St. Call for title. Free. 703-746-1702.

**English as a Second Language Class.** 10 a.m. at Charles Beatley Library, 5005 Duke St. All levels welcome. Free. 703-746-1702.

**Great Books Discussion.** 7 p.m. at Charles Beatley Library, 5005 Duke St. Call for title. Free. 703-746-1702.

**Story Time.** 10:30 a.m. or 3 p.m. at Charles Beatley Library, 5005 Duke St. Children ages 3-5 years. Free. Registration required. 703-746-1702 ext. 5.

**Paws to Read.** 5:30 p.m. at Charles Beatley Library, 5005 Duke St. Sign up to read to a dog. For children in grades 1 to 6. Registration required. 703-746-1702 ext. 5.

**Mother Goose Time.** 10 a.m. at James Duncan Library, 2501 Commonwealth Ave. One-year-olds can sing, enjoy fingerplays and bounces. Free. 703-746-1705.

**Story Time.** 11 a.m. at James Duncan Library, 2501 Commonwealth Ave. Children ages 3-5 can enjoy stories, play time and a craft. Free. 703-746-1705.

**Classic Film Series.** 5 p.m. at Ellen Coolidge Burke Library, 4701 Seminary Road. Watch a "Farewell to Arms." Free. 703-746-1704.

**Pajama Party.** 7 p.m. at Ellen Coolidge Burke Library, 4701 Seminary Road. Pajamas optional, but children ages 3-6 can enjoy stories, songs, games and crafts. Free. 703-746-1704.

**Story Time.** 4 p.m. at Kate Barrett Library, 717 Queen St. Children ages 3 and up can enjoy stories, songs, movement and more, including a weekly craft or short film. Free. 703-746-1703.

## FRIDAY/JAN. 18

**Slam Alexandria.** 7 p.m. The Northern Virginia Fine Arts Society announces spoken word poetry



"Reflection in a Mirror" by Frances Seeger.

## People

The Northern Virginia Fine Arts Society hosts an exhibition of works by Alexandria artist Frances Seeger. The show will run from Jan. 10 through Feb. 24 in the Athenaeum Gallery, 201 Prince St. The public is invited to an opening reception on Sunday, Jan. 13 from 4-6 p.m. "Frances Seeger | People" features a number of the artist's larger figural paintings. Call 703-548-0035 or visit [www.nvfaa.org](http://www.nvfaa.org).

events at the Athenaeum in Old Town. Admission is free for all, but attendees interested in competing in the poetry slam can pay an entry fee of \$10 for a chance to win a \$100 cash prize. 201 Prince St.

**Music and Dance.** 7:30-9:30 p.m. at Hollin Hall Senior Center, 1500 Shenandoah Road. Enjoy dancing to the music of the Mount Vernon Swing Band. \$4/public. 703-765-4573.

**Tech Zoo Fridays.** Noon at Ellen Coolidge Burke Library, 4701 Seminary Road. Learn about e-reading devices or bring one already owned. Free. 703-746-1704.

**Theater Performance.** 7:30 p.m. at Aldersgate Church Community Theater, see Disney's "Little Mermaid, Jr." Visit [acconline.org](http://acconline.org) or 703-660-2611 for tickets and information.

**Music Performance.** 7:30 p.m. at Birchmere, 3701 Mount Vernon Ave. See Bottle Rockets perform with Marshall Crenshaw. \$27.50/person. Visit [birchmere.com](http://birchmere.com) for more.

**Wee Ones Story Time.** 10:30-11 a.m. at Hooray for Books, 1555 King St. Children up to age 2 can explore the world with stories and songs. Free. Visit [www.hooray4books.com](http://www.hooray4books.com) or 703-548-4092.

## JAN. 18 THROUGH JAN. 21

**George Washington Presidential Scavenger Hunt.** Children can explore Mount Vernon Estate, 3200 Mount Vernon Memorial Highway, for clues that will lead to a special prize. The 44th visitor through the

gate will also receive a special gift. \$17/adult; \$8/child 6-11; children under 5 free. Visit [www.mountvernon.org](http://www.mountvernon.org).

## JAN. 18 THROUGH JAN. 27

**Alexandria Restaurant Week: Inaugural Edition.** Alexandria celebrates the inauguration with a special edition of Restaurant Week. Kicking off inaugural weekend and lasting 10 days, Alexandria's presidential hotspots and more than 50 eateries are offering \$35 three-course dinners or \$35 dinners for two. Find menus and more presidential connections at [www.VisitAlexandriaVA.com](http://www.VisitAlexandriaVA.com).

## SATURDAY/JAN. 19

**Garden Design: Session Two.** 9:30-11:30 a.m. at Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road. \$35. Learn how to assess and improve the garden's growing conditions, discover great plants and create a sustainable garden. Register online at [www.greenspring.org](http://www.greenspring.org) or 703-642-5173. Code 290 182 3201.

**SOUPer Saturday.** 9 a.m.-noon at Torpedo Factory, 105 N. Union St. Select a handcrafted bowl donated by a local potter and get a complimentary serving of soup. Bowls are \$20 each, with proceeds benefitting United Community Ministries.

**Saturday Stories.** 11 a.m. at Charles Beatley Library, 5005 Duke St. All ages can enjoy stories and songs. Free. 703-746-1702.



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# 'Resilient' Cardinals Beat Flint Hill in Overtime

Bishop Ireton boys' basketball improves non-conference record to 9-1.

BY JON ROETMAN  
GAZETTE PACKET

Playing in its ninth road game in 26 days and fresh off an excursion to St. Mary's Ryken the night before, the Bishop Ireton boys' basketball team headed to overtime against the Flint Hill Huskies on Jan. 5.

The Cardinals had squandered a 13-point halftime lead against their 3-7 opponent from the Mid-Atlantic Conference and faced the possibility of dropping a winnable game amidst a cloud of fatigue. Instead, Ireton buckled down and dominated the final four minutes.

Bishop Ireton outscored Flint Hill 16-2 in overtime and pulled out a 70-56 victory on Saturday afternoon, improving its non-conference record to 9-1.

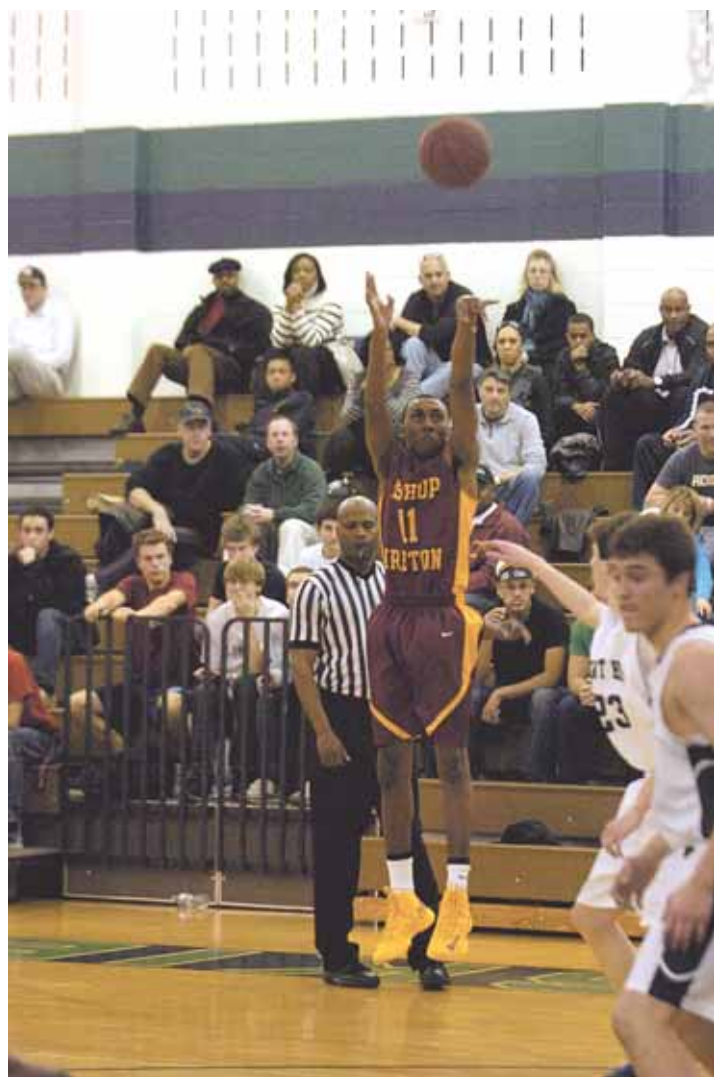
The Cardinals allowed just two free throws in the extra period. Meanwhile, Davon Wiley made a pair of field goals for Ireton and Wynn Miller knocked down a 3-pointer from the left corner.

"We just dug deep," junior point guard Taylor McHugh said. "We've been in a lot of close games before, so we knew it was going to be tough, especially because we were a little tired."

Ireton built a 30-17 halftime lead, but Flint Hill erased most of its deficit during a strong third quarter. The Cardinals led 52-45 midway through the fourth quarter, but Flint Hill closed regulation on a 9-2 run to force overtime. "Our guys have proven to be resilient," Ireton head coach Neil Berkman said. "We still have to develop a killer mentality when teams are down. This is the third game that we were up 13 at halftime — we lost the first two, one at PVI, one at St. John's [and] we almost lost this one." McHugh led Ireton with 14 points. Patrick Moseh finished with 13 points, Dan Noe had 11, and Khyree Robinson and Miller each finished with 10.

Berkman said the Cardinals have several players who are capable of scoring in double figures each night, but the team needs to improve at the defensive end of the court, especially with communication.

"The greatest paradox that I've found



**Taylor McHugh led Bishop Ireton with 14 points against Flint Hill on Jan. 5.**

since I've been a full-time math teacher is we can't get the kids to shut up in the classroom, [but] on the floor we're begging them to talk and they're mute," Berkman said. "It's an incredible paradox. I haven't been able to figure that out in 20 years."

On Tuesday, Ireton lost at DeMatha, 73-56, according to the Washington Post. The loss dropped the Cardinals' record to 12-4 overall and 3-3 in the tough Washington Catholic Athletic Conference. Last year, Ireton finished 6-12 in the conference, which was an improvement over previous

seasons. "We want to build on that and really make moves in the WCAC," Berkman said after the Flint Hill game. "... We have to get over the hump and figure out how to beat a top-half conference team."

Ireton will host Bishop McNamara at 7:30 p.m. on Friday, Jan. 11.

**Bishop Ireton boys' basketball coach Neil Berkman talks to the Cardinals during a game against Flint Hill on Jan. 5.**



PHOTOS BY CRAIG STERBUTZEL/GAZETTE PACKET



**Bishop Ireton's Patrick Moseh scored 13 points against Flint Hill on Jan. 5.**

## SPORTS BRIEF

### TC Girls' Basketball Beats West Springfield

The T.C. Williams girls' basketball team defeated three-time defending Patriot District champion West Springfield, 56-42, on Jan. 4, giving the Spartans their first district loss since 2009.

According to stats from the Washington Post's Web site, Angie Schedler led TC with 21 points, including five 3-pointers. Rejoice Spivey scored 19 for TC and Baylee Simpson added eight.

TC lost to Potomac, 81-60, on Jan. 5 and beat South County, 57-23, on Jan. 8. The Titans, who are 7-4 overall and 4-1 in the district, will travel to Lake Braddock at 7:30 p.m. on Friday, Jan. 11.

## SCHOOL NOTES

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

**Brendan Thurman Reilly** graduated from The Catholic University of America in May 2012 with a bachelor of science degree in architecture. He is the son of Peter and Cristine Reilly of Alexandria and a 2008 graduate of Bishop Ireton High School.

**Seeking AVID Tutors for 2012-13 School Year.** The ACPS Advancement Via Individual Determination (AVID) program is seeking individuals willing to work 15-20 hours in a secondary school during the school

year.

AVID tutors will be required to assist students in their learning by facilitating content-related tutorial groups using a Socratic methodology. They also will have the opportunity to collaborate with middle school and/or high school faculty and other tutors to support and build the AVID program through college- and career-related field trips and motivational experiences. Learn more about how to apply at [www.acps.k12.va.us/curriculum/avid/](http://www.acps.k12.va.us/curriculum/avid/).

The following students from Alexandria enrolled at Virginia Tech were named to the Dean's List for the spring 2012 semester:

♦**Christine R. McCoy** is a senior majoring in economics in the College of Science.

♦**Daniel J. Noelle** is a senior majoring in chemical engineering in the College of Engineering.

♦**Eduardo A. Ramirez** is a sophomore majoring in general engineering in the College of Engineering.

♦**Thinh C. Trinh** is a senior majoring in biological sciences in the College of Science.

♦**Erika L. Weidman** is a senior majoring in biochemistry in the College of Science.

♦**Patricia I. Welling** is a junior majoring in biological sciences in the College of Science.



## PEOPLE



**Bodie Lauinzer shows his mom Kristen and friends Stephen and Jimmy the stand he has made for his model car.**



**Old Town Hardware owner Rich Heilman sets up more bags of popcorn for the scouts working on their derby cars.**

### Pine Wood Derby Workshop At Old Town Hardware

The jigsaw was buzzing. Wood shavings and fine sawdust lightly covered the work tables as dozens of cub scouts and their friends and parents worked on creating a Pine Box Derby winner.

For the 5th year, Rich Heilman, owner of the Old Town Hardware and father of a scout, is hosting a derby workshop offering the skills of local craftsman Jesse Cathell to rough cut car designs. Scouts are asked to have their car designs sketched onto the pinewood block before cutting. Heilman is also providing, small electric sanders, sandpaper and planning tools for the scouts to smooth out their designs.

The workshop which started last Saturday will continue on Jan. 12, 13 and 19 from 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. The Old Town Hardware is asking for a voluntary \$1 donation per car cut. Donations plus 5 percent of all Pine Wood Derby-related products sold at the workshops will be shared between the Children's Miracle Network and the Boy Scouts of America Colonial District to offset costs of the Pinewood Derby District Finals. Last year the event generated \$800 in donations. Old Town Hardware is located at 809 S. Washington St. in Alexandria. For more information, call 703-879-0475.



**Joseph Brooks shows his brother Joshua his choice of paint for his model racer.**

PHOTOS BY LOUISE KRAFT/GAZETTE PACKET



**Joseph Brooks sands the edges smooth on his derby racer.**



**Stephen Ralis, of Pack 801 out of St. Andrew's Methodist Church puts some finishing sanding touches on one of his sons' cars.**

### Kehoe Joins Living Legends Board

**R**etired from the military, Bill Kehoe is a volunteer firefighter at the Alexandria Fire Department Emergency Operations Center. He was a first responder to the 9/11 crash and spent three days assisting in the center, shuttling fire department personnel to and from the Pentagon and standing a night shift fire watch on the Pentagon roof.

Kehoe volunteers regularly with Rebuilding Together Alexandria, an organization that donates

home repairs to the in-need families of Alexandria. He is the volunteer treasurer for the Institution of Fire Engineers, an international fire organization and serves as the Secretary/Treasurer of the Friendship Veterans Fire Engine Association.

Kehoe was named a Living Legend of Alexandria in 2012.



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# BULLETIN BOARD

FROM PAGE 5

## WEDNESDAY/JAN. 16

### Volunteer and Employment

**Opportunities.** 9:30 a.m.-noon at Charles Beatley Library, 5005 Duke St. Seniors can learn about employment and volunteer opportunities from representatives from AARP, Joblink, Volunteer Alexandria and more. Register online at [www.seniorservicesalex.org](http://www.seniorservicesalex.org) or 703-836-4414 ext. 10.

### Alexandria Works! Coalition Meeting.

10 a.m. JobLink, 1900 Beauregard St. Contact Dennis McKinney, 703-746-5874.

### Community Policy and Management

**Team.** 3 p.m. Human Services Building, 2525 Mt. Vernon Ave. Contact Dawnell White, 703-746-5787.

### Alexandria Law Library Board.

4 p.m. Courthouse Law Library. Contact Christine Hall or 703-746-4391.

### Torpedo Factory Art Center Board.

5:30 p.m. City Hall, Sister Cities Room 1101, 301 King St. Contact Jeremy McPike, 703-746-4770.

### Economic Opportunities Commission.

7 p.m. Human Services Building, 2525 Mt. Vernon Ave. Contact Ann Moore, 703-746-5915.

### Board of Architectural Review Old & Historic Alexandria District

**Hearing.** 7:30 p.m. City Hall, Council Chamber, 301 King St. Contact Al Cox, 703-746-3833.

## THURSDAY/JAN. 17

### Commission for the Arts - Arts Forum

**Comm.** 8:30 a.m. Dr. Oswald Durant Memorial Center, 1605 Cameron St. Contact Diane Ruggiero, [diane.ruggiero@alexandriava.gov](mailto:diane.ruggiero@alexandriava.gov) or 703-746-5565.

### Public Health Advisory Commission.

5:30 p.m. Alexandria Health Department, 4480 King St. Contact Dean Bryant, 703-

746-4956.

### Park and Recreation Commission.

7 p.m. Charles Houston Recreation Center, 901 Wythe St. Contact William Chesley, [william.chesley@alexandriava.gov](mailto:william.chesley@alexandriava.gov) or 703-746-5426.

### Public Records Advisory Commission.

7:30 p.m. City Hall, Sister Cities Room 1102, 301 King St. Contact Jackie Cohan, 703-746-4402.

### Garden Club Meeting.

10 a.m. at Fellowship Hall of Westminster Presbyterian Church, 2701 Cameron Mills Road. Learn how to create wedding bouquets and arrangements from club members Kathy Kelleher, Lynne Winter and Holly Sapp. Free.

## SATURDAY/JAN. 19

### PTA Food Drive.

11 a.m.-1 p.m. in the Kiss 'n Learn area in front of the school, 1101 Janneys Lane. Drop off non-perishable food items that will be donated to the Grace Food Pantry.

## TUESDAY/JAN. 22

### Potomac Station Condo Unit Owners

**Assn.** 2 p.m. The Station at Potomac Yard, 650 Maskell St. Contact Mildrilyn Davis, 703-746-4990.

### English as a Second Language Class.

10 a.m. or 3 p.m. at Charles Beatley Library, 5005 Duke St. All levels welcome. Free. 703-746-1702.

### Tech Zoo Tuesdays.

3 p.m. at Charles Beatley Library, 5005 Duke St. Learn about the latest e-reading devices or get help with one currently owned. Free. 703-746-1702.

## WEDNESDAY/JAN. 23

### Commission for the Arts - Grant

**Requests Panel.** 7 p.m. Dr. Oswald Durant Memorial Center, 1605 Cameron

St. Contact Diane Ruggiero, [diane.ruggiero@alexandriava.gov](mailto:diane.ruggiero@alexandriava.gov) or 703-746-5588.

### Board of Architectural Review Parker-

**Gray District Hearing.** 7:30 p.m. City Hall, Council Chamber, 301 King St. Contact Al Cox, 703-746-3833.

### Database Training.

7 p.m. at James Duncan Library, 2501 Commonwealth Ave. Learn how to search the library's databases. Registration required. Free. 703-746-1781.

## THURSDAY/JAN. 24

### Meeting.

Colonial Republican Women will meet from 6:30-9 p.m. at Virginia Hills Administration Center at Old Virginia Hills School, 6520 Diana Lane. Refreshments will be served. E-mail [colonialrepublicanwomen@gmail.com](mailto:colonialrepublicanwomen@gmail.com) or call Debbie at 703-768-1934.

### Commission for the Arts - Arts Forum

**Comm.** Noon. Dr. Oswald Durant Memorial Center, 1605 Cameron St. Contact Diane Ruggiero, [diane.ruggiero@alexandriava.gov](mailto:diane.ruggiero@alexandriava.gov) or 703-746-5565.

### Waterfront Commission - Tour of

**Brandt Building.** 5 p.m. For address, contact Jack Browand, [jack.browand@alexandriava.gov](mailto:jack.browand@alexandriava.gov) or 703-746-5504.

### Commission for the Arts - Grant

**Requests Panel.** 6 p.m. Dr. Oswald Durant Memorial Center, 1605 Cameron St. Contact Diane Ruggiero, [diane.ruggiero@alexandriava.gov](mailto:diane.ruggiero@alexandriava.gov) or 703-746-5588.

### Town Hall Meeting.

7 p.m. Samuel W. Tucker Elementary School, 435 Ferdinand Day Drive. Contact Mildrilyn Davis, 703-746-4990.

### English as a Second Language Class.

10 a.m. at Charles Beatley Library, 5005 Duke St. All levels welcome. Free. 703-746-1702.



PHOTO BY JEANNE THEISMANN/GAZETTE PACKET

## Heading to the Inauguration?

The Potomac Riverboat Company will be operating water taxi service from Old Town Alexandria to Washington, D.C. (7th and Maine Ave.) on Jan. 21 for the festivities celebrating the second inauguration of President Barack Obama (shown at the Inaugural Ball in 2009). Direct service will be offered hourly beginning at 7 a.m. through 6 p.m. to transport individuals to the Inauguration ceremony and parade festivities. Tickets are \$30 per person roundtrip and may be purchased online at [www.potomacriverboatco.com](http://www.potomacriverboatco.com). Due to limited seating, reservations are required.

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Jacki Sorensen's Aerobic Dancing starts **January 23** at Charles Houston Recreation Center


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### Room to Move

Bright townhouse with new neutral paint throughout, lovingly maintained, renovated kitchen with granite counter tops, extra baths, great deck in back yard, garage, and tons of visitor parking. Fantastically located! Cameron Knolls.

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Alexandria \$534,000



### Sunny and Convenient

You'll feel right at home in this sunny, two-bedroom, one-bath, end-unit townhome! The location is ideal for any mode of transportation; it's close to King Street for walkers, close to Braddock Rd Metro for commuters, and there's easy parking for drivers. Refinished hardwoods on the main level and all new stainless steel appliances. Cozy rec room in the basement!

**Elizabeth Lucchesi**  
703.868.5676  
www.LizLuke.com  
MLS# AX7965721



Old Town Alexandria \$327,500



### Harbor Terrace at its Best

One bedroom with loft in North Old Town has grand-sized den/second bedroom, wood-burning fireplace, skylights, good closets, finished "attic" storage. Everything has been redone, fresh paint, carpet, including large kitchen with marble. Balcony off living room. Beautiful bath! On bike path, near river, Metro, shops, and non-stop bus to DC.

**Joanne Gunn**  
703.786.1586  
www.JoanneGunn.com  
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Alexandria/Belle Haven \$1,995,000



### Large Corner Level Lot

Seven years young, this handsome custom home offers magnificent millwork, high ceilings, many windows, and floor-to-ceiling doors. Six bedrooms, hardwood floors, three fireplaces, a chef's eat-in kitchen with granite counters and Wolf range which adjoins a family room. The yard is fenced for privacy and the garden area is professionally landscaped.

**Babs Beckwith**  
703.836.1297  
www.BabsBeckwith.com  
MLS# FX7922576



Old Town Alexandria \$1,090,000



### One Block to the Potomac

Large brick end townhouse located in the heart of Old Town. Handsome details of fine craftsmanship in hardwood floors, built-ins, moldings with beautiful millwork and a luscious walled garden. Three bedrooms, three full baths, two wood-burning fireplaces and assigned parking space.

**Cecily Winchell**  
703.851.9292  
www.cecilywinchell.com  
MLS# AX7842310



Alexandria \$629,000



### Great Location!

Gorgeous three-level townhome updated throughout! Stunning kitchen with stainless steel appliances and granite counters. Woodburning fireplace in living room. French door from dining room opens to private patio and fenced yard. Two master suites on upper level, great amount of closet and storage space! Driveway and attached garage.

**Jen Walker**  
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Alexandria/Belle Haven \$1,850,000



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Deemed the "prettiest house in Belle Haven," this vastly expanded, all-brick colonial treasure with amazing views of the BHCC 8th green, Potomac River, and beyond is blessed with a spectacular new kitchen, dramatic staircase, grand receiving halls and gracious room sizes throughout. The large tasteful addition seamlessly preserved the charm and added the glamour.

**Ann Duff**  
703.965.8700  
www.annduff.com  
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Alexandria/Del Ray \$919,900



### Del Ray Perfection

Located on a tree-lined street, you'll love this charming three-bedroom home with front porch, which is minutes to everything. Features include gleaming wood floors, a cook's kitchen opening to family room, separate office, a large rear yard with two patios and play area, a spacious rec room, and 1+ car covered parking.

**Julian Burke**  
703.867.4219  
www.JulianBurke.com  
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Old Town Alexandria \$625,000



### Resort Living at Porto Vecchio

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**Susan Craft**  
703.216.4501  
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Alexandria \$455,000



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Old Town Alexandria \$2,150,000

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