



PHOTO BY LOUISE KRAFT/GAZETTE PACKET

Scholarships for Sandy Hook

Tatyana Keen, Abby Drexler and Areana Goodrum, members of the T.C. Williams Leadership class, volunteered to solicit funds Friday evening, Jan. 11, to support scholarships for the children and siblings of those who died in the massacre at Sandy Hook Elementary School in Newtown, Conn. last month. Students from the University of Connecticut created the Sandy Hook Memorial Scholarship Fund to help with higher education expenses for the siblings of the children lost and children of staff members who were murdered. To help the university meet its goal, the T.C. Williams Leadership class partnered with The Motley Fool, which paid for the cost of spirit towels that read: "Titans Care, Supporting the families of Sandy Hook community." The towels were sold at last Friday's basketball games and city wrestling tournament at the school. The TC students are hoping to raise \$5,000-\$10,000.

Civil Rights Struggle in Richmond

Northern Virginia Democrats finally get traction on voting rights for nonviolent felons.

BY MICHAEL LEE POPE
GAZETTE PACKET

The plight of the nonviolent felon has been a losing cause in Northern Virginia for decades. Year after year, Democrats introduce a bill that would restore voting rights for nonviolent felons. And year after year, the effort fizzles in Richmond. So when Republican Gov. Bob McDonnell announced his support for automatic restoration of civil rights for nonviolent felons, many believed this might finally be the year supporters could

see some action on the issue.

"As a nation that believes in redemption and second chances, we must provide a clear path for willing individuals to be productive members of society once they have served their sentences and paid their fines and restitution," said McDonnell. "It is time for Virginia to join most of the other states and make the restoration of civil rights an automatic process for nonviolent offenders."

Within minutes of the speech, a number of civil rights advocacy groups spoke out in support of the governor's push. The American Civil Liberties Union of Virginia praised the effort as a way to shed "this vestige of the Jim Crow era." Virginia Organizing and

Virginia New Majority also issued written statements supporting the effort, which now had bipartisan appeal. State Sen. Don McEachin (D-9) even called on the governor to name the legislation in honor of the late

state Sen. Yvonne Miller (D-5), who was a longtime

"If you're a Republican, why would you support it?"

— Geoff Skelley, analyst with the University of Virginia Center for Politics

SEE CIVIL RIGHTS, PAGE 9

Smart Growth Vs. Affordable Housing

Clash between opposing visions raises questions about parking on Jefferson Davis Highway.

BY MICHAEL LEE POPE
GAZETTE PACKET

What happens when the principles of smart growth collide with transit planning? That's the case on Jefferson Davis Highway in Alexandria, where a new affordable housing complex is planned at the northwest corner of the intersection at East Reed.

The project has 78 new units of dedicated affordable housing for a 60-year period.

"Probably this is the number one issue in the city, and it's the number one issue on the campaign trail," said land-use attorney Duncan Blair, representing developer AHC. "So I'm like the Easter Bunny bringing you exactly what you want."

But some neighbors say this Easter egg is rotten.

"Duncan," asked Lynhaven Citizens Association president Joe Bondi, "why does the Easter Bunny have to park his car on East Lynhaven Drive?"

Bondi and several other Lynhaven residents appeared at

the public hearing to express concerns about parking. Despite a Planning Commission recommendation to bundle the rent and the parking, city officials recommended "unbundling" the two. By forcing residents to pay about \$500 a year for parking, the theory goes, residents will be more likely to use transit services and less likely to use an automobile.

"If this isn't the place to do unbundle," said Councilman Justin Wilson, "I don't know if there is a place to unbundle."

"Probably this is the number one issue in the city, and it's the number one issue on the campaign trail. So I'm like the Easter Bunny bringing you exactly what you want."

— Duncan Blair

THE VOTE on unbundling the parking at 3600 Jefferson Davis Highway revealed the first divided vote on the new all-Democratic City Council. New Vice Mayor Allison Silberberg and new Councilman John Taylor Chapman both voted against the parking plan,

which they said would put residents of the new affordable housing complex at a competitive disadvantage. The stretch of Jefferson Davis highway will soon be home to a bus-rapid transit system, and the new Potomac Yard

SEE SMART GROWTH, PAGE 7

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Demolishing the Past

Alexandria's historically black American Legion Hall may be headed for the wrecking ball soon.

Feb. 1 is the deadline for the potential sale of the building, which is located on North Fayette Street. Originally constructed in 1944 as the Carver Nursery School, the building was one of several schools that existed in the Alexandria area in the 1940s to provide preschool education and daycare service. Now the facility is an abandoned building that a developer wants to demolish in order to build high-end housing.

"We are in a time of great success for African Americans in Alexandria, but there seems to be little interest in preserving African-American history," said **Boyd Walker**, historic preservation advocate who has fought to save the building. "The city is more interested in development and increasing the tax base."

Developer **William Cromley** wants to demolish the old American Legion Hall and construct a modern condominium building, a plan he's been pursuing since 2010. That's when the Alexandria government granted him a demolition permit, although the plan was stalled when city officials decided that the property must be put on the market for a fair-market value to allow time for any potential buyer to step forward and offer to preserve the building. That hasn't happened, and now Walker is holding out hope that the city's elected officials might step forward with city money.

"There are some other options other than the city purchasing the building," said Walker. "The city could negotiate with the owner to extend the agreement another six months."

Mastering Duke

How specific should Alexandria's transportation master plan be? That's a matter of debate at City Hall, where elected officials clashed last week about the level of detail that appears about the city's transit corridors. For example, part of the language added to the master plan last week stipulated that a reversible lane would be constructed along the Duke Street transit corridor between Jordan Street and Roth Street. It also included language about a dedicated curbside transit lane between Landmark Mall and Jordan Street between Roth Street and Diagonal Road.

"This corridor is probably not going to happen for another decade," said Councilman **Justin Wilson**. "And so this type of specific language does not belong in a master plan."

Wilson spoke out against amending the master plan with details, arguing that it should be a document written at the "30,000 feet level." None of his colleagues on the City Council agreed, however, and they approved the master plan amendment over his objections. Wilson cast a lone dissenting vote during Saturday's public hearing.

"Ten or fifteen years from now, things may be very different along Duke Street," said Wilson. "Why would we want to put language that specific into our master plan?"

Lefty Politics

For years, the intersection of King Street and Union Street has served as a sort of test case for anarchy.

The intersection features a maddening combination of pedestrians, automobiles and bicyclists — each jockeying for position. Now city officials have come forward with a series of proposals to make things better. The first step is eliminating all left turns. But some are urging caution. Old Town businessman **Bert Ely** appeared before council members last weekend to speak out against the new restrictions forbidding lefthand turns at the intersection of King and Union.

"The effect of those all-the-time restrictions will be to force these residents to travel further to reach their destinations at times when traffic is light on Union and King," said Ely. "That would hardly be eco-friendly."

Ely suggested that the 24-hour nature of the ban might be overkill. "Is it really necessary to ban a left turn from northbound Union onto westbound King at 11 p.m. on a Wednesday evening or at 7 a.m. on a Saturday morning?" he asked. "I doubt it."

— MICHAEL LEE POPE

News

ALEXANDRIA GAZETTE EDITOR STEVEN MAUREN
703-778-9415 OR GAZETTE@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Representatives of ALIVE!, The Campagna Center, Carpenter's Shelter, Computer C.O.R.E., Friends of Guest House, Just Neighbors, Mid-Atlantic Gleaning Network, Northern Virginia Dental Clinic, NOVA Scripts Central, and Senior Services of Alexandria were awarded grants through the United Way of the National Capital Area Alexandria Community Impact Fund in City Hall chambers. Pictured with the non-profit representatives are United Way of the National Capital Area Chief Operating Officer Kelly Brinkley, regional council chair Florence King and Mayor Bill Euille.

United Way Awards Non-Profits \$105,300

United Way of the National Capital Area awarded grants to 10 local non-profits through the Alexandria Community Impact Fund a total of \$105,300 on Tuesday, Jan. 8, at City Hall. United Way of the National Capital Area Chief Operating Officer Kelly Brinkley, regional council chair Florence King and Mayor Bill Euille awarded the grants to ALIVE!, The Campagna Center, Carpenter's Shelter, Computer C.O.R.E., Friends of Guest House, Just Neighbors, Mid-Atlantic Gleaning Network, Northern Virginia Dental Clinic, NOVA

Scripts Central, and Senior Services of Alexandria.

The funds came through designations to the Alexandria Community Impact Fund in United Way NCA's annual workplace giving campaign.

Nearly \$1.65 million was raised through Community Impact Funds in United Way NCA's eight regions thanks to the support of employees from more than 800 workplaces throughout the Washington region.

Each of the grants addresses United Way NCA's focus areas of education, health and financial stability.

New Administrators at Central Office

Superintendent of Schools Dr. Morton Sherman has appointed two new Alexandria City Public Schools Central Office staff members.

Victor S. Martin, Jr. is the new director of equity, in charge of the offices of Equity and Cultural Competency. The position assists schools and the division in monitoring areas of disproportionality and seeks to develop within the school system a culture in which diversity and inclusion are recognized and valued, and in which students and staff are supported in their development of a climate that addresses issues and opportunities of equity that impacts student learning and success.

Kevin D. Bellamy is the new grants officer, responsible for overseeing all pre- and post-award aspects for grants benefiting the school system.

Prior to joining ACPS, Martin served, starting in 2006, as administrative coordinator, multicultural education, for Prince William County Schools. His previous leadership positions include assistant principal for Parkside Middle School in Manassas and summer school principal at Westridge and Antietam elementary schools in Woodbridge.

He also served as lead instructor of the English Language Acquisition Program at the Hangzhou Babel Language Center in Hangzhou, China, and taught sixth-grade U.S. history and language arts at



Martin



Bellamy

Saunders Middle School in Manassas and fifth-grade at Antietam Elementary School in Woodbridge.

Martin has a master's degree in education leadership from George Mason University and a bachelor of arts degree in English from Oswego State University, Oswego, N.Y.

Martin, who will serve as facilitator of the Student Achievement Advisory Committee, has served as a certified local trainer for Prince William County Schools and worked as a coordinator on the Prince William Superintendent's Advisory Council on Instruction. His professional activities and accomplishments include numerous conference presentations. In 1995, the Aseltine School in San Diego, Calif., named him Instructor of the Year.

Bellamy most recently served as a grants writer and contracts manager for the National Minority AIDS Council in Washington, D.C. He also served as State Education Agency grant developer/founding liaison for District of Columbia Public Schools. He also has worked as recreation outreach manager for the Takoma Park Recreation Department in Takoma Park, Md., and as executive director of Southern Area Youth Service Inc., in Suitland, Md.

Bellamy has a bachelor of science degree in political science from Frostburg State University, Frostburg, Md.

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OBITUARIES

Helen D. Anderson

Helen D. Anderson died Jan. 9, 2013. She was the beloved mother of Earl and Thomas Anderson and grandmother to Dennis, Brenda, Nancy and Toni. A visitation was held on Monday, Jan. 14, at Cameron United Methodist Church, 3130 Franconia Road, Alexandria, where funeral services took place. Interment followed at Mount Comfort Cemetery.

Hilary Carr

Hilary Carr, 62, of Alexandria, died on Thursday, Jan. 3, 2013. She was the sister of Malcolm Carr of Ventura, Calif.

A Memorial Service will be held on Monday, Jan. 28, at 11 a.m. at Westminster Presbyterian Church, 2701 Cameron Mills Road, Alexandria. Memorials may be made to Wounded Warriors or the local SPCA. A guest register may be found at www.everlyfuneralhomes.com.

Edward Arthur Daggit

Lt. Col. Edward Arthur Daggit Ph.D., USA Ret., age 80, of Harrisonburg, Va., died on Friday Jan. 11, 2013.

He is survived by wife, Darla L. Daggit (nee Cullen); son, Andrew A. Daggit of Star Tannery, Va.; grandsons, Bryant T. Daggit of Winchester, Va. and Jonathan A. Taylor of Davenport, Iowa; his sister, Elizabeth M. Haynes of Springfield, Va., one nephew; three nieces; and nine grandnephews and grandnieces.

Edward was born in New Orleans, La., on June 15, 1932 and subsequently lived in the DC Metropolitan area. He attended local schools, mainly in Alexandria, through 10th grade. He graduated high school at Staunton Military Academy, Staunton, Va., and college at USMA, West Point, NY, in 1953 with a bachelor's degree and a commission in the Infantry. Later he received degrees at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, Troy, N.Y. (Masters in Mathematics, 1959) and New York University (Ph.D. in Mathematics, 1968).

During his 22 years of service in the Army, he had overseas assignments in Sendai and Kokura in Japan, Seoul, Korea, Heidelberg, Germany, and Dalat, Vietnam, where he was advisor to the dean of the Vietnamese Military Academy. Twice he was assigned to the Math Department at USMA where he gained six years of teaching experience.

After retiring in 1975, he filled in for a professor on a year's sabbatical at Clinch Valley College, Wise, Va. and subsequently taught 20 years at Grove City College, Grove City, Penn. During a leave of absence in 1992-1993, he and Darla visited over 100 ROTC units on behalf of the Officer's Christian Fellowship. Since January 2008, he has resided in a Health Care facility in the Sunnyside Retirement Community in Harrisonburg, Va.

Interment will be at Arlington National Cemetery at a later date.

Memorial gifts may be made to the Research for



CA, Heart Association, Alzheimers Association, a church, or other Christian works such as Sunnyside Retirement Community or The Officer's Christian Fellowship. Visit www.kygers.com.

Muriel S. Rector

Muriel S. Rector, 90, formerly of Alexandria, died on Dec. 19, 2012, in Kilmarnock, Va. Born Oct. 17, 1922, in Cincinnati, Ohio, she is predeceased by her parents, Jessie Allen Schmick and Walter Paul Schmick, four brothers, Walter, Allen, Philip, and Paul Schmick and one sister, Angela Schmick Ruttle.

Muriel graduated from the University of Cincinnati in 1944 where she was a member of Kappa Kappa Gamma sorority, and later received a master's degree in elementary education from Case Western Reserve University in Cleveland, Ohio. She moved with her husband, George B. Rector, to Lakewood, Ohio, in 1953, and taught at Lincoln Elementary School there for many years. Each summer Muriel traveled extensively throughout Europe, the Middle East, and Russia, and studied in England and Italy. In 1984 she retired to Alexandria, where she volunteered at the Carpenter's Shelter and worked at Crown Bookstore in the Bradlee Shopping Center. She was a member of Mount Vernon Presbyterian Church in Alexandria. Her other interests were knitting, studying the Civil War, and cooking for friends, family and neighbors.

Survivors include two sons, Cleland M. Rector of Wheaton, Ill., and Dr. James B. Rector of Boulder Colo., a daughter, Joy Rector Gwaltney of White Stone, Va., and five grandchildren, Darren Rector, Carey Rector, Jessica Rector, Ellen Gwaltney Johnson and William Blair Gwaltney.

A private graveside service will take place on May 4, 2013, at Spring Grove Cemetery in Cincinnati, Ohio.



Willard F. Townsend

Lt. Col. Willard F. Townsend (USAF-Ret.), age 79, of Pike Road, Ala. died on July 31, 2012.

Willard resided in the Mt. Vernon-area of Alexandria from 1972 to 1985 and during that time forged many close friendships that he maintained long after he moved to Montgomery, Ala. in 1985.

Willard's long service in the Air Force brought him to the area with assignments at the Pentagon and Ft. Meade, Md. Willard is predeceased by his first wife, Barbara Ann, and is survived by his wife, Diane Underwood Townsend; four children, Richard Townsend of Harrisburg, Penn., James Townsend of Alpharetta, Ga., Jamie Underwood of Lake Park, Ga., Tara Martin Marquis of Montgomery, Ala., as well as seven grandchildren. A Full Honors Military Funeral ceremony will be held at Arlington Memorial Cemetery at 3 p.m. on Friday, Jan. 25, 2013. A reception will follow at Ireland's Four Courts restaurant in Arlington.



NEIGHBORHOOD

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IN MEMORY OF DORIS AND DON MELA

Shooter's Hill Ecumenical Carolers led by Lois Hunt and Betty Livingston, walked around on top of our eponymous hill, singing carols and collecting donations for Children's Hospital. This activity started 45 years ago as an attempt by the Hunts and the Biache children to fill up the Christmas vacation; \$1,188.53

was collected and forwarded to the Washington Post campaign. Several hundred dollars more were sent independently directly to the hospital. After exercising their legs and their voices, the carolers returned to 310 Park Road for a potluck supper. Swedish meatballs and salade Russe were consumed. The group started by putting on several plays, one of which featured movie star Dermot Mulroney. He was 6.

— LOIS KELSO HUNT

WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

NEWS

Drop-Off Site for Shelter's Wish List

Jodi Casamo, owner of Casamo Court Reporting and also three large dogs, contacted the Animal Welfare League of Alexandria when she realized that having her office nestled in the heart of Old Town could be a strategic drop-off point for individuals desiring to donate items to the shelter. Casamo's office is located at 1010 Cameron St.

The AWLA shelters, feeds and provides medical services for more than 3,500 animals each year. Individuals can help homeless animals by donating items from the Wish List.

Casamo Court Reporting & Videography is a woman-owned business providing court reporting services, video depositions, video-conferencing technology, and litigation support. For more information about Casamo's services, visit casamo.com

Jodi Casamo



Casamo's Old Town office located at 1010 Cameron Street is now an official Wish List drop-off site for the Animal Welfare League of Alexandria.

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NEWS BRIEFS

Two Charged in Police Cruiser Cases

Alexandria Detectives have charged two men in connection with the two stolen police cruiser cases from December 2012. A 31-year-old man was arrested on Sunday, Jan. 6, following a traffic stop in Anne Arundel County, Md. He was charged with grand larceny auto and possession of stolen property (felony). He is being held at the Jennifer Road Detention Center in Annapolis, Md. where he awaits extradition. A 33-year-old man was arrested on Tuesday, Jan. 8, by Sheriff's deputies at the Al-

exandria Courthouse. He was charged with grand larceny auto, conspiracy to commit grand larceny and possession of stolen property (felony) and taken to the William G. Truesdale Adult Detention Center where he is being held without bond.

The missing police issued Remington 870 shotgun and the Panasonic Toughbook Mobile Computer have not been recovered. The investigation continues.

Anyone with information about these cases is asked to call the Criminal Investigations Section of the Alexandria Police Department at 703-746-6711.

Detectives would like to remind witnesses that they can remain anonymous.

New Lights for Simpson Park

The City of Alexandria's Department of Recreation, Parks and Cultural Activities is replacing the existing athletic field lights at Simpson Park, 426 E Monroe Ave. The replacement lights will include state-of-the-art cut off technology, improve energy efficiency and reduce the number of light poles.

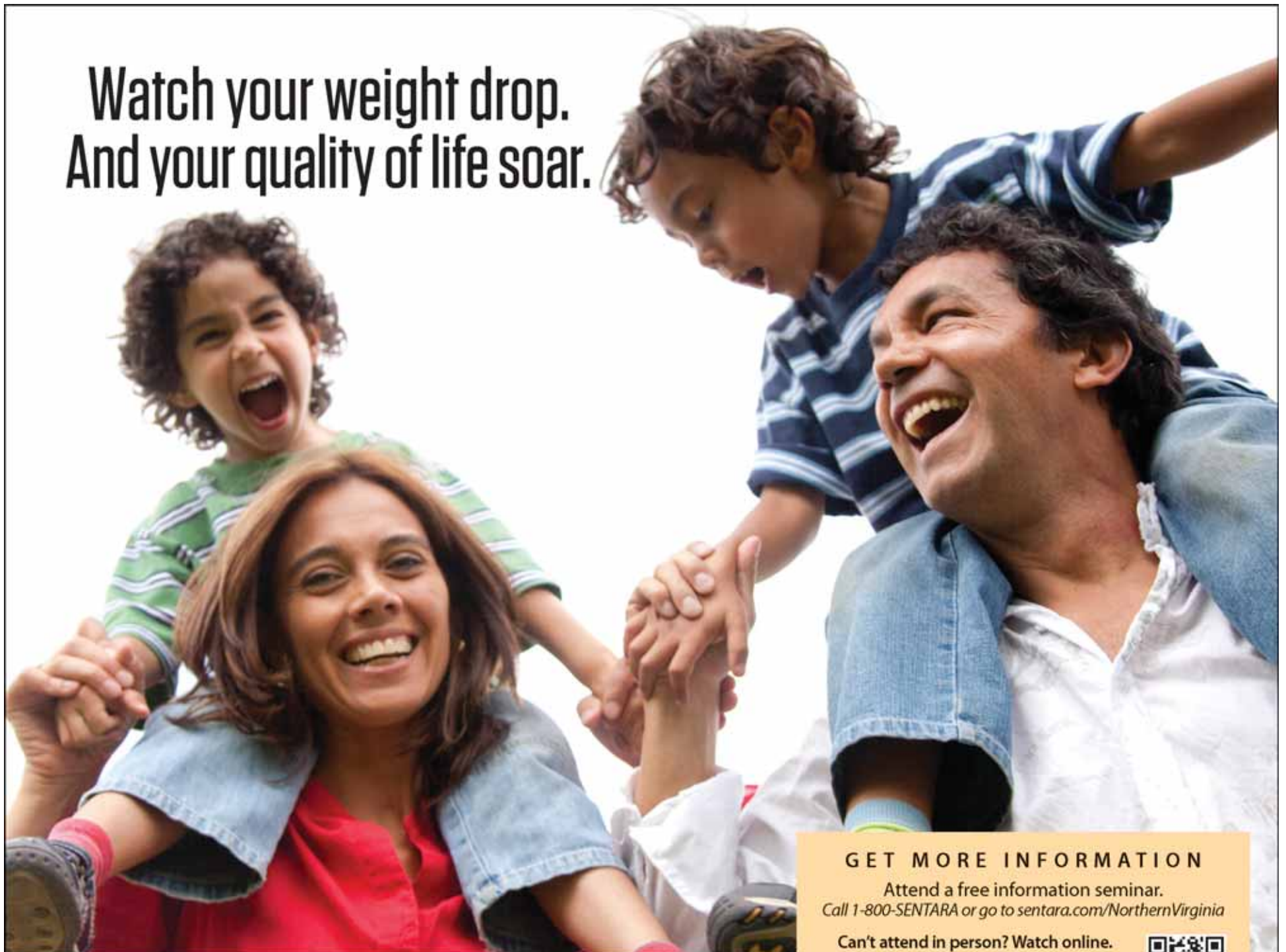
Work is scheduled to occur through Feb. 15. Residents will see equipment in use and crews at work during the daytime. Residents are asked to use extra caution when moving around the site.

DASH Increases Service to NVCC

Riders on the Alexandria Transit Company's (DASH) AT6 route will see more frequent service between the King Street Metrorail Station and the Northern Virginia Community College, starting this week. The change will increase service from every 30 minutes to every 15 minutes in the morning and evening peak periods and improve timeliness which has been affected by increasing ridership in recent years.

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PHOTO COURTESY OF THE ALEXANDRIA DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING AND ZONING

Arlington-based nonprofit AHC is moving forward with a plan to create 78 new units of dedicated affordable housing at 3600 Jefferson Davis Highway.

Smart Growth Vs. Affordable Housing

FROM PAGE 1

Metro will be a short walk away. Nevertheless, Chapman said, that might not provide the level of service needed by the affordable housing residents.

"Maybe they are a school teacher, and maybe they don't work in Alexandria. Maybe they work in Fairfax or Loudoun County or wherever," said Chapman. "Our BRT is not going to get them to their job. They are going to need a car."

Chapman and Silberberg found themselves in the minority, though. Most of the City Council members agreed that the smart-growth philosophy of unbundling the parking was the best way to proceed with the proposal. Several Lynhaven residents spoke out against the unbundling plan. They said residents will forgo forking over the \$500 annual fee and merely park along neighborhood streets, leading to a lack of parking for residents who are already using the streets.

"The choices that people make who will live in this building are different than the choices that people make who live in market-rate buildings," said Bondi.

THE PROPOSAL has been in the works for years, the brainchild of Arlington-based nonprofit organization AHC. City Council members approved a \$2.5 million loan to help finance the proposal, as well as use of a city lot at 3600 Jefferson Davis Highway. The project has 78 new units of affordable housing for households with up to 60 percent of the Washington Area Median Income — around \$65,000 for a four-person household, \$52,000 for a two-person household and \$45,000 for a one-person household. AHC also

plans to receive eight vouchers from Housing and Urban Development to make some of the units more affordable to residents with disabilities. After the initial tax credit has expired, AHC will have an opportunity to buy out the investor's share of the partnership and own the project, which is anticipated in 2031. Once this has taken place, the nonprofit will also have an opportunity to acquire the city's partnership share. AHC and Alexandria officials have agreed

that the city's partnership stake will be its 2012 market value minus one half of any environmental mitigation costs that the nonprofit incurs in developing or constructing the project.

"Because of the city parcel's former uses as a gas station and a rental car lot, the city has proposed to share these costs," wrote City Manager Rashad Young, "by deducting 50 percent of the total from the amount to be paid for its partnership shares in the future."

BULLETIN BOARD

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

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.

SUNDAY/JAN. 20

Bone Marrow Registry and Blood Drive. 9 a.m.-1 p.m. at Beth El Hebrew Congregation, 3830 Seminary Road.

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.

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Importance of Recess

Pediatric researchers say unstructured play can help a child's cognitive, physical, emotional and social development.

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL
GAZETTE PACKET

Can climbing on monkey bars help a child's cognitive development? Can a game of tag boost preschooler's social skills? The nation's top pediatricians say "yes" and some local educators agree.

A policy statement released earlier this month by the American Academy of Pediatrics said recess, when provided in a safe environment and under supervision, provides children with cognitive, physical, emotional and social benefits. Additionally, the AAP recommended that unstructured play be used in conjunction with physical education in schools.

"Recess and unstructured play provide children with opportunities to explore, problem-solve and learn in ways that enhance their socio-emotional, physical and cognitive development," said Julie K. Kidd, associate professor and early childhood education academic program coordinator at George Mason University in Fairfax. "The physical and mental break from academic activities enables children to return to their studies more focused and ready to learn."



COURTESY OF NORWOOD SCHOOL

Students at Norwood School in Potomac, Md., enjoy outdoor recess. The American Academy of Pediatrics says that recess — when provided in a safe, supervised environment — offers children physical, emotional and social benefits.

moral development," said Colin Gleason, head of the Lower School at The Heights School in Potomac.

Gleason says unstructured play provides a much-needed outlet for some children. "At this age, children, and especially boys, overflow with physical energy," he said. "They are wired ... to explore and learn about the world around them in an active way, using all of their senses. Also, by organizing play with their peers in this environment, they learn the natural laws of social interaction. They learn that it pays off to be kind towards others, to work together to make a game run smoothly [and] to make rules that are fair."

American Academy of Pediatrics researchers also recommended that recess not be withheld from children as punishment.

Shannon Melideo, chair of the education department and an associate professor at the School of Education and Human Services at Marymount University in Arlington, agrees: "Too often the children who are denied recess as a punishment are the children who need recess most."

Some local educators say that recess gives children an opportunity to learn how to manage their free time. "Current research in brain development highlights the connections between physical activity, attention and memory," said Dresden Koons, head of Lower School at St. Andrew's Episcopal School in Potomac. "We ... [believe] that what happens outside the classroom benefits what goes on inside it, and vice versa. Most of all, we want our students to take appropriate risks in a safe environment and to experience repeated successes on the playground that will translate into their success as learners and as human beings."

THE AMERICAN ACADEMY OF PEDIATRICS STATEMENT stresses that recess should complement, not replace physical education classes, even for schools with limited outdoor space, and Reston-based National Association for Sport and Physical Education spokeswoman Paula Keyes Kun agreed.

She said, "All children need a minimum of 60 minutes of physical activity every day. Regular daily recess should be a part of every school day. It provides children with discretionary time to be active, helps them develop healthy bodies and enjoy movement."

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SOME LOCAL SCHOOLS agree that recess is an important part of a student's day. "In addition to physical education classes, our students enjoy unstructured recess every day," said Dick Ewing, head of school at the Norwood School in Potomac, Md. "Of course, there are the health benefits of the physical activity, and teachers will tell you that children are more focused in the classroom after recess, but there are also several social-emotional benefits. Children learn important life skills during recess. They learn how to effectively communicate, collaborate, cooperate and problem solve during various playground games. Creativity also comes into play as children make up their own games."

Lizabeth Borra, school counselor at Potomac Elementary School in Potomac, added: "This unstructured time gives children the opportunity to develop lifelong skills such as conflict resolution, communication, creativity and negotiation."

Joan Holden, head of school for St. Stephen's & St. Agnes School in Alexandria, developed play areas known as "Tinkering Spaces" on campus, "dedicated spots where students work together with educational games, building tools and puzzles, where there are no assessments or evaluations, just a relaxing, fun atmosphere that brings out teamwork, creativity, invention and problem-solving," said Holden. "I thought it would be great to have age-appropriate spaces on each campus where students could tinker in a very informal way, with no instructions. The only ground rule is that you can't destroy what someone else has started. You can either build on it or start your own project."

American Academy of Pediatrics researchers and local educators concluded that recess and free play activities are a critical part of development and social interaction that students may not get inside a classroom. "Time outside in an unstructured environment among peers provides an important avenue for the development of their creative, social and



Decorating Mitten Tree

The students of Grace Episcopal School helped the families of the Campagna Center by collecting more than 300 hats, scarves, gloves, socks and mittens last month for the "Mitten Tree." At left, Dr. Tammy Mann, CEO of The Campagna Center, and Chris Stegmaier Byrnes, Head of Grace Episcopal, stand around the Mitten Tree with 5th grade students.

Civil Rights Struggle in Richmond

FROM PAGE 1

advocate for restoring civil rights to nonviolent felons.

Then House Republicans pulled the rug out.

During a Monday meeting of the House Subcommittee on Constitutional Amendments, members of the Republican majority rejected a bill introduced by Del. Charniele Herring (D-46). House Republicans indicated that they were willing to break with the Republican governor, the Republican lieutenant governor and the Republican attorney general — a demonstration of diversity in a party that usually speaks in lockstep on major issues.

"A number of Republicans stood up on the floor of the House and essentially attacked the governor for supporting this," said Del. Rob Krupicka (D-45). "It's clear they don't intend to follow his wishes."

THE EFFORT is still alive on the Senate side, where state Sen. Louise Lucas (D-18) introduced SJ 266. On Tuesday, a Senate subcommittee was deadlocked on the issue and cast a 3-to-3 vote. That means the bill will move on to the next meeting of the Senate Committee on Privileges and Elections next week without a recommendation. Supporters are hopeful that they can get the issue out of committee and onto consideration by the full Senate, which is evenly divided between Republicans and Democrats. Because Republican Lt. Gov. Bill Bolling has already announced his support for the initiative, he could end up casting a tie-breaking vote in favor of automatic restoration.

"The House of Delegates still has time to reverse their course by voting for the Senate's version of the bill," said John Liss, executive director of Virginia New Majority. "Automatic rights restoration opens the door for those convicted of non-violent felonies

to become full participants in our community."

Currently, more than 350,000 Virginians have been stripped of their right to vote. That's more than one in five African Americans and 7 percent of the adult population. The way things currently stand, only the governor has authority to restore rights. Since he became governor in 2011, McDonnell has restored rights to more than 4,000 people — more than any other governor in history. And yet even though the Republican governor has signaled that the issue is important to him, many Republicans oppose the move because it would increase the power of Democrats.

"If you are thinking about this in political terms, the majority of felons who would get their rights restored are probably more likely to vote Democratic than Republican," said Geoff Skelley, analyst with the University of Virginia Center for Politics. "If you're a Republican, why would you support it?"

"Automatic rights restoration opens the door for those convicted of non-violent felonies to become full participants in our community."

— John Liss, executive director, Virginia New Majority

FOR NOW, the effort is still alive on the Senate side. But even supporters acknowledge that it will have a very difficult time if it makes it back to the House after crossover. Even if the measure is able to get out of the Senate Privileges and Elections Committee on Tuesday, it will still face a vote of the full Senate and, ultimately, the same hostile members of the House subcommittee that already killed the effort this week. Then the bill must pass again next year after the election before ultimately being considered by the voters.

"We must not lose the chance to put this question before the voters in 2014," said ACLU of Virginia executive director Claire Gastanaga. "For too long, Virginia has been out of step with the rest of the country by continuing to disenfranchise all felons for life."

IN SESSION

Show and Tell

The hidden camera footage is shaky and brief. But state Sen. **Adam Ebbin** (D-30) and Del. **Patrick Hope** (D-47) believe it will change the momentum of the gun debate.

The YouTube clip documents the sale of a firearm at a gun show. Although the seller asks for a driver's license, he does not conduct a background check to see if the buyer has a record. Now Ebbin and Hope want to use the clip as yet another piece of evidence in what they see as a mounting case in favor of gun control. Specifically, the two lawmakers want to require background checks for all private sales of guns in Virginia.

"We easily purchased a handgun at a Virginia gun show, without undergoing a background check," said Ebbin and Hope in a written statement. "In the interest of community safety, it's not too much to ask for responsible gun purchasers to undergo a background check to screen for criminal history or history of serious mental illness."

The lawmakers unveiled their legislation during a press conference at the Capitol Tuesday. Hope displayed a High Standard Sentinel revolver he purchased for \$175. Ebbin produced a 30-round magazine he bought for \$20. The show-and-tell effort was aimed at providing props in the ongoing effort to crack down on gun safety in the wake of a recent school shooting in Connecticut, where a gunman killed 20 children and seven adults.

"Buying a 30-round magazine should not be as easy as buying a candy bar," said Ebbin.

Here They Come

Are authorities coming to take your guns away? If you are dangerous, the answer may be yes.

Del. **Rob Krupicka** (D-45) has introduced legislation that would provide law-enforcement officials with new authority to quickly remove guns from people who pose an imminent threat to themselves or others. House Bill 2263 creates a requirement for health officials to report individuals who have made threats of violence to others or themselves. It also authorizes police to temporarily seize guns from individuals who are under investigation.

"It doesn't take guns away indefinitely. There's a due process that allows people to get their guns back," said Krupicka. "Gun advocates who want to protect their own access to guns are going to have a hard time arguing that people with mental illness should keep their guns."

Raises for Teachers?

State Sen. **George Barker** (D-39) hopes that his Senate colleagues will agree to a 3 percent raise in teachers' salaries this year. Barker said increasing teacher salaries will help close achievement gaps in Virginia. As a result, he has introduced the effort as a budget amendment, which will be considered toward the end of the session. "We'd like to go higher than that," said Barker in a written statement. "But we want to operate within the budget constraints that we have."

Birth Control Wars

Last year, Del. **Charniele Herring** (D-46) made so many appearances on MSNBC, some were joking that she would eventually have her own show. That hasn't happened yet, but Herring's newfound status as a party leader helped her snag the role of chairwoman of the Democratic Party of Virginia. Now Herring finds herself at the vanguard of efforts to oppose Republican efforts on social issues — especially efforts by Attorney General **Ken Cuccinelli** and Del. **Bob Marshall** (R-13) to limit availability of birth control.

"Virginia families need a governor who brings a mainstream approach to growing jobs and the economy," Herring said in a written statement this week, "not the extreme Cuccinelli-Marshall agenda to inject government between a woman and her doctor."

Herring's comments came after Cuccinelli suggested opponents of a federal mandate to offer birth control coverage should "go to jail" rather than follow the law.

— MICHAEL LEE POPE

OPINION

Transportation Money

Eliminating the gas tax makes no sense.

Virginia, and especially Northern Virginia, is woefully short on funds for transportation. One reason is that its gas tax, a logical way to fund transportation infrastructure, is one of the lowest in the nation, and has remained flat since the '80s, since it is not indexed for inflation. So the buying power of the gas tax has been dwindling.

It seems obvious that one way to fix this is to allow it to rise with inflation, or change it to a percentage of the price of a gallon of fuel. Tying road funding to gas consumption is a logical connection, and the increase encourages conservation and more fuel-efficient vehicles.

Instead, Gov. Bob McDonnell has proposed eliminating the gas tax, replacing the funding with an increase in the sales tax plus a plan to shift money from other state spending, like education, human services and public safety,

to transportation.

With considerable agreement that Virginia needs about \$1 billion a year to pay roads and transit, this proposal would raise about one-third of that.

Part of the Governor's plan also calls for a \$100 annual fee on vehicles that use alternative fuels.

EDITORIAL

Raising the sales tax to pay for roads is particularly unfair to the many residents of Northern Virginia who have chosen to live in Arlington, Alexandria and other areas that are walkable and provide easy access to public transit.

Penalizing drivers of hybrid and electric vehicles by charging them more than six times what other vehicles pay is not in the best interests of anyone who breathes the air in Virginia, and is a stark slap at innovation.

The entire proposal makes about as much sense as forcing a select few Northern Virginia

residents, the drivers on the Dulles Toll Road, to almost single-handedly pay for rail to Dulles. Dulles airport is one of the key economic drivers for the Commonwealth of Virginia. Building rail to serve the airport is an economic investment that will have broad benefits in revenue for the state. A disproportionately small amount of that revenue will make it back to Northern Virginia. So it is welcome that the Governor's proposal calls for diverting some of the "new" transportation money to Dulles rail.

The current proposal would make Virginia the only state without a gas tax. It seems unwise for a state with such dramatic transportation deficits to abandon the one source of funding that makes sense. More money is needed; that requires addition, not subtraction.

— MARY KIMM,

MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

Must an Affordable Neighborhood Be Lost?

BY HECTOR PINEDA

Soon we'll celebrate Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s birthday — a day for service. But I want to suggest that it should be a day for justice, beginning in our own backyard. The injustice that my family and our neighbors are experiencing in the Beauregard

The 10,000 Alexandrians who live in this neighborhood include those who build this city and provide the services that make it run. My wife and I clean homes. My neighbors drive the taxis that take you home from the airport, cook your meals and wash dishes in the restaurants you eat in, build your homes and office

COMMENTARY

buildings, pave the roads you drive on, file your papers, take your blood pressure, and provide care for your children and grandparents. Our tax dollars help fill the public treasury. In short, we help make Alexandria a great city.

But too many of my neighbors have already been forced out of this community. Others work two or even three jobs to afford to stay in the neighborhood

and provide a good future for their children. Our landlord, JBG, is destroying one of the most affordable and diverse neighborhoods in Alexandria. They aren't waiting for the bulldozers that will demolish 2,475 homes to make way for a new development of hotels, shops, and luxury apartments. They are driving out families now by increasing rent and utility charges by hundreds of dollars a month for many residents.

City leaders tell us that JBG has promised that eventually (sometime over the next 25 years or so) perhaps 12 percent of the units in the new development will be affordable. But that's not enough and it comes too late. Meanwhile, will JBG completely drive working people and people of color out of Alexandria's Beauregard neighborhood? Surely that's the kind of injustice that Dr. King struggled against throughout his life.

Will Mayor Euille and the new City Council allow this injustice to continue or will they stand up to save a vibrant, multicultural community? Our leaders should work with JBG to stabilize rents at fair rates and create an enforceable plan that guarantees affordable housing for all of the current residents.

We envision a Beauregard in 30 years that is a thriving, diverse neighborhood that includes our children and grandchildren.

We invite Mr. Glosserman of JBG, Mayor Euille, and City Council members to make this dream a reality. Only then will justice be done.

Hector Pineda is a long-time resident of the Beauregard neighborhood. He is president of the Beauregard Tenants Association and a member of Tenants and Workers United.

"Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere."

— Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., Letter from Birmingham Jail, Ala., April 16, 1963

area is "a threat to justice everywhere."

For decades, the Beauregard neighborhood has been a welcoming place for families to make a home. This tree-filled valley in Alexandria's West End is also home to a unique multicultural community that my family and many other Alexandrians cherish. Indeed 70 percent of our neighbors are Asian, African, Latino, and African American.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Overpowering Gun Lobby

To the Editor:

I'm a retired, wounded, and decorated army veteran who was raised during the Great Depression, served overseas in an infantry division in World War II, made the Inchon D-Day landing with the 1st Marine Division in the Korean War, was in the Tet Offensive in the Vietnam War, and also served in NATO in the Middle East. As a rational, intelligent approach to our national gun dilemma we

should consider the following:

It's a paradox of our society that a small (3 million) vocal/active minority — the gun lobby — have held such power over the large silent/passive majority (300 million) — the American public, including the Congress — for so many years.

The vast majority of the U.S. population disagrees with the Supreme Court's recent biased interpretation the Constitutional intent of the vague 2nd Amendment — which was written at a time when the country was a subsistence economy dependent on hunting

with flintlock muskets, had no standing army, relied entirely on local militias for safety and security, and in which the possession of individual firearms in the colonies had been banned by the Crown

There is no rational justification for the current proliferation of firearms and ammunition in the hand of individuals. Assault-type weapons should be banned, hunters should be limited to bolt action-type rifles, all firearms and ammunition in the hands of individuals should be registered and controlled, and concealed weapons

should be prohibited.

The National Rifle Association was, originally, a highly respected organization which focused on hunters with reasonable gun control and was instrumental in training our youth, including myself, in the junior and senior ROTC, in marksmanship — enhancing our victories on the battlefield. However, in subsequent years, it was taken over by a series of zealots bent on enacting laws promoting the unrestricted availability and ownership of all types of firearms — leading to such tragedies as Vir

SEE LETTERS, PAGE 24

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PHOTO BY PAUL WILSON

Celebrating 90 Years

Lifelong Alexandria resident Joe Krafft celebrates his 90th birthday with his family on Sunday, Jan. 13. Pictured with him are his wife, Alice and children: Kathy and her husband John Long, Fred, Louise, Henry, Matt and his wife Jean, Amy, Charlie and his wife Cairn, Rebecca and her husband Jamie. Also pictured are grandchildren Skip and Martin. Celebrating but not pictured are Martha Krafft and grandchildren: Jacob and Karl, Stuart and Joseph, Shannon, Luke, Max, Johanna and Peter, Douglas and Laurel and great-grandchildren Sarah, Johanna Belle and Henry.

Some Thoughts on Transportation

BY ROB KRUPICKA
DELEGATE (D-45)

Transportation funding is going to be a big issue this General Assembly session. The Governor has taken the step of agreeing that we need more revenue and tax increases to pay for transportation; but the details of his initial proposal are cause for concern. We need a balanced, fair and long-term solution. We are not there yet.

The question this session is whether we'll find compromise or whether we'll stay in our respective corners unable to address Virginia's job-killing congestion. Our state has a multi-billion dollar hole in transportation funding and needs a solution that puts us on a path towards a billion dollars a year in new transportation revenues. The lack of such a plan will continue to put our infrastructure at risk, harm our business climate and impact our quality of life.

I have not yet seen a formal transportation proposal that fairly addresses our local needs for transit funding, provides reliable long-term funding without taking existing revenues from schools, safety and community health. I support a comprehensive transportation approach and I think both Democrats and Republicans have offered creative ideas to increase the gas tax and add other revenue sources for transportation. But the Governor's initial proposal fails to meet a fairness, balance or long-term solution test. It creates an unfair tax system on different types of vehicles and creates a back door way to remove money from schools, public safety and more.

The Governor's idea is to take away the gas tax and replace it with a sales tax. People out of state pay for 30 percent of the gas tax so this change would immediately put more burden on Virginians and



leave out of state drivers off the hook to pay for the roads they use. A sales tax also disproportionately impacts lower income residents. User fees tie the use of a service to the cost of using it. The gas tax, while not perfect, is a user fee because the more you drive, the more you pay.

The problem with the gas tax is that it hasn't kept up with inflation and growth over the last 20 years. That is a pretty easy issue to solve. Getting rid of it is also a potential windfall for oil companies because eliminating the gas tax isn't likely to significantly change the price at the pump — the marketplace sets those prices and gas companies will make sure they can get as much as the market will pay.

Eliminating the gas tax while keeping a tax on diesel vehicles, as has been proposed, would create an unfair tax system as there are a number of clean diesel cars on the road that would end up paying more than other vehicles because of their fuel source.

The proposed idea of adding a new tax on hybrid vehicles and arguing it is needed because they pay less gas tax makes little sense when you are also proposing to eliminate the gas tax. The argument that this makes up for lost Federal transportation revenue is creative, but a stretch. It is really just an unfair tax on alternative fuel cars. Combined with the diesel tax, this simply props up traditional gasoline vehicles and disadvantages any other type of fuel.

The Governor's proposal that we stake the future of transportation funding on the Federal Government's ability to pass an Internet retail sales tax for the bulk of the proposed new transportation revenue seems odd. The Governor and many others

SEE THOUGHTS, PAGE 24

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LIVING LEGENDS

Championing Lynhaven, Education, Voter Registration

Rosa Byrd: Protecting her neighborhood, improving her city.

BY ALICE MORGAN

Rosa Byrd has lived in Alexandria for more than 50 years and for much of that time she has been a community leader and champion for causes to make her Lynhaven neighborhood a safe place to live. She and her husband Jack are the proud parents of Patricia Yancey (Alex) and Julious Byrd (Semone) and grandparents of Chanel Yancey, Jordan Byrd and Jalen Byrd.

For more than 35 years, Byrd and her friends inspected alleyways of Lynhaven for code enforcement violations, sanitation problems and lighting outages. They were lovingly referred to as the “Snoop Sisters” by their neighbors. Byrd developed a working relationship with the mayor, members of City Council and the city manager that helped to solve many of the neighborhood’s problems. She and her neighbors were successful in transforming a vacant lot into a playground for their children. Later, then-Mayor Charles Beatley was on hand for the opening of a second park in the area. One former business owner was so appreciative of Byrd’s volunteer efforts in her community that he established the Lynhaven/Byrd scholarship at T.C. Williams High School. Del Pepper, Alexandria City Council member, said, “In many ways, large and small, Rosa has truly made a positive difference in the neighborhood and community. She has shown courage when that was needed as well as determination, commitment and perseverance. It’s caring people like Rosa that have made Alexandria such a wonderful place to live.”

Unfortunately, in the late ‘80s, Alexandria began to attract drug dealers from New York and Washington, D.C. Lynhaven was targeted as an area whose streets would become “open air drug markets.”

The loss of so many youths to drugs and gang activities inspired Byrd and others to take on the dealers and gang leaders to make their neighborhood safe. Byrd was in constant contact with the mayor, members of council, city manager and the Alexandria Police Department to bring all resources to bear for an all-out attack on the problem. She was instrumental in encouraging her neighbors to establish a bond of trust and respect with the undercover police officers. Residents allowed their homes to be used by police to observe active drug sales. Byrd activated telephone trees to assist a special unit of the Police Department called the “Jump-Out Boys.” The dealers feared this unit because of its success.

“Rosa’s energy, commitment and effectiveness for the causes she cares about are legendary.”

**— Former City Manager
Vola Lawson**



Rosa Byrd was instrumental in encouraging her neighbors to establish a bond of trust and respect with undercover police officers.

Lynhaven was selected to become the first neighborhood in Alexandria to participate in a program called Community Oriented Policing (COP). This program entailed having one particular police officer assigned exclusively to Lynhaven. The officer worked in conjunction with residents to establish neighborhood patrols, and united with the transportation and environmental services department, code enforcement and the traffic division to help clean and beautify the neighborhood again. Absentee landlords were held accountable for the maintenance of their properties. The COP’s program is still in operation. Sergeant Robyn Nichols, Lynhaven’s liaison officer since 1996 said, “Rosa held the Police Department and elected officials accountable for combating the drug problem in the neighborhood.”

Byrd’s influence also extended outside of Lynhaven. Her concern for quality education in all the city’s public schools, especially for minority students, led to many educational endeavors. She has led by example. In 2011, Byrd and her daughter, Patricia, were honored with the “Generation to Generation” award for community service by Senior Services of Alexandria.

Byrd has served as officer of the PTA’s of Cora Kelly Elementary School, Francis C. Hammond Middle School and T.C. Williams High School.

Byrd knows the importance of having in-

put into the day-to-day decisions made by politicians. She knew that the way for the disenfranchised to have a “voice” was through their vote. She actively recruited neighbors to register, she volunteered at the polls, served as a precinct chief, campaigned for city, state and presidential candidates,

Living Legends: The Project

Living Legends of Alexandria is an ongoing 501(c)(3) photo-documentary project to identify, honor and chronicle Alexandria’s Living Legends. The project was conceived by artist-photographer Nina Tisara to create an enduring artistic record of the people whose vision and dedication make a positive, tangible difference to the quality of life in Alexandria.

Platinum and Gold sponsors this year are the Alexandria Commission for the Arts, Club Managers Association of America, Renner & Company, CPA, P.C., Goodwin House, Inc. and SunTrust Bank.

This is one of a series of profiles that will appear this year. For information, to volunteer, become a sponsor or nominate a Legend for 2014, visit www.AlexandriaLegends.com or contact Nina Tisara at 703-625-2330.

arranged for transportation to and from the polls and provided any other service necessary in her efforts to get people out to vote.

Former City Manager Vola Lawson said, “Rosa Byrd is a real dynamo. She has worked successfully for years to benefit and improve her beloved Lynhaven community. She has also been a strong advocate for the rich diversity of our school children. Rosa’s energy, commitment and effectiveness for the causes she cares about are legendary.”

Living Legend Ferdinand Day considers Rosa Byrd to be one of his “ladies,” a group of community activists who have worked with him and Living Legend Melvin Miller throughout the years. The group includes three Living Legends and two nominees. Day said, “Working with Rosa has been a pleasure. I have known her for many years and I have been impressed with her dedication to the city. Her nomination to Living Legends honors the concept of the Legends.”

Honoring Founder

From left: The Rev. Patricia Dickson, director of Pastoral Care, Inova Alexandria Hospital; Christine Candio, chief executive officer, Inova Alexandria Hospital and senior vice president, Inova Health Systems; Cynthia Puskar, president of the Board of Lady Managers of Inova Alexandria Hospital, and the Very Rev. Ian Markham, dean and president, Virginia Theological Seminary participate in the Dec. 13 wreath-laying ceremony at the gravesite of Julia Johns to mark the 140th anniversary of the founding of the Board of Lady Managers of Inova Alexandria Hospital and of the hospital.



COMMENTARY

Success of Playfest in 2012

By McKENYA DILWORTH-ABDALLA,
LEAD TEACHER TC SATELLITE CAMPUS

Students, staff and some community members all came together to create something meaningful and beautiful for the Playfest at T.C. Williams High School Black Box Theatre last November. In 2011, the Playfest made its debut in the city at the Lee Center for the Performing Arts in Old Town and featured local playwrights. This year there were many more students involved in the production of the festival, from the selection of the playwrights to the stage management. Co-sponsored by ARHA, the Playfest was a collection of scenes from playwrights from Alexandria, Indiana, Arizona and New Jersey. There were also actors from New Jersey who traveled to be a part of the production with a play entitled "Teenage Love" by Aaron Wright.

Satellite students and staff were featured in the scenes dealing with missing children, legislation deeming homeboys as terrorists, struggling with peer pressure as young people, STDs, teenage pregnancy, abstinence and infidelity in relationships. The participating thespians and supportive principal of the TC Satellite Campus deserve both kudos and gratitude.

Thank you to Dr. Sherman, Dr. Henson, Dr. Wilson (principal of TC Satellite), Roy Priest, Sandra Fowler, Mr. Trice, Leslie Jones, Shawn Thorpe (Center for the Arts K12), Gary Ayers, Julia Hardeman-Tsadick, TC Satellite staff, Stephanie Tullis, Tiffany Pappadam, Cierra Boyd, Bre Nee Ruffin, Shanelle Gayden (play-

wright), Alicia Harris, Anderson Jarreau, Anthony Pullen, Andrew Bangura, John N. Price, Rodjae Gatlin, Norman Frye, Mary Price, Morning Bishop (playwright), Rah Mah Mercy (playwright) and Aaron Wright (playwright), and New Jersey Traveling Theatre.

After each show, the actors were gathered onstage to share their creative process with the audience. Students from the Satellite Campus were able to articulate their feelings about the subject matter of their respective scenes and how they were able to invest in their characters. Both nights we were fortunate to have a supportive crowd and hope to increase our audience in the future.



Stephanie Tullis, Satellite student actor and Julia Hardeman-Tsadick, school psychologist at Satellite Campus prepare for their opening scene for the Playfest 2012 held at T.C. Williams High School's King Street Campus.

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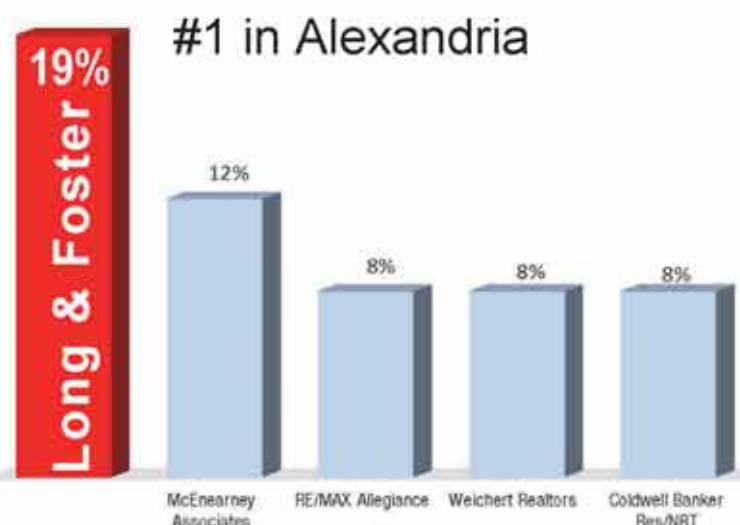
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SCHOOLS

City PTA Reflections Program Honors Students



Alexandria City PTA Reflections winners from Mount Vernon Community School pose with newly installed School Board Chair and Mount Vernon parent Karen Graf, along with Superintendent of Schools Dr. Morton Sherman following the awards ceremony. Sherman and Graf were on hand to help hand out awards along with

PTAC President Pamela Lepp and City Reflections Chair Betsy Wong, not shown, honoring 52 ACPS students from eight schools for winning entries in the National PTA visual and performing arts program. Each entrant won first place in their respected school PTA Reflections contest, covering six art categories in four age divisions. From left: Christopher Alers, Karen Graf, Evan Bellanca, Owen Ward, Jon Morgan Petrini, My-Linh Aslanian, Dr. Sherman, Seamus Brown, far right. Also pictured right front of Sherman is Hammond Middle School winner Muhammad Akbar Ali. Front row: Katy Hartell, Celeste Bernstein, Viviana Reyes. MVCS winners not pictured: Sabine Bruno, Moira Sirois, Jackson Werner.

PHOTOS BY PAUL ALERS



Maury Elementary students and sisters Helen and Alena Cooper, right, share a secret while viewing winning artwork. At far left is Maury 2nd-grader Mia Medearis, wearing a blue ribbon. Mia's Visual Arts entry took First-Place/Outstanding Interpretation in the city primary division. Helen, 3rd grade, won Honorable Mention in the city intermediate division.



Mount Vernon 3rd-grader Christopher Alers makes an amusing comment while receiving a handshake from new School Board Chair Karen Graf, as PTA Council President Pamela Lepp, left, and Superintendent of Schools Dr. Morton Sherman react.



City PTA Reflections winners and parents gather around the photography display. From left, George Mason 4th-grader Sophia Powell, City 1st place/Outstanding Interpretation winner, shows her photo to a friend with help from her brother, Keenan, and their mom, Natalie, center, while Mount Vernon Kindergarten Katy Hartell views her City Honorable Mention-winning photo along with fellow Mount Vernon Kindergarten and City Award of Merit winner Celeste Bernstein, far right, with mom, Karen Ross.



Mount Vernon Community School 1st-grader Owen Ward receives a handshake from Superintendent of Schools Dr. Morton Sherman. PTA Council President Pamela Lepp, left, and new School Board Chair Karen Graf look on. Owen, whose poem "Trains Are Magic" won 1st place at Mount Vernon, received an Award of Merit in the Literature Primary category.

ALEXANDRIA CITY PTA REFLECTIONS WINNERS, 2012-13

Key

OI = Outstanding Interpretation (1st place)
AE = Award of Excellence (2nd place)
AM = Award of Merit (3rd place)
HM = Honorable Mention

LITERATURE

Primary

OI: **Warwick Lloyd**, 2nd grade, MacArthur
AE: **Sara Prince**, 2nd grade, Polk
AM: **Owen Ward**, 1st grade, Mt. Vernon

Intermediate

OI: **Nora Fareeha**, 3rd grade, Polk
AE: **Oscar Lloyd**, 4th grade, MacArthur
AM: **Seamus Brown**, 5th grade, Mt. Vernon
HM: **Mia Humphrey**, 4th grade, Maury
HM: **Eva Joia**, 4th grade, George Mason

Middle

OI: **Fabiola Perez Ayala**, 8th grade, Hammond-1
AE: **Meredith Lemke**, 7th grade, George Washington

AM: **Mosed Saroor**, 7th grade, Hammond-2
HM: **Ian Willmore**, 7th grade, Hammond-3

MUSICAL COMPOSITION

Primary

OI: **Andrew Matherne**, 1st grade, MacArthur
AE: **Ben Dunbar**, K, Polk
AM: **Celeste Bernstein**, K, Mt. Vernon

Intermediate

OI: **Jonathan Morgan Petrini**, 5th grade, Mt. Vernon
AE: **Savannah Anderson**, 3rd grade, MacArthur
Middle
OI: **Caroline Simmons**, 6th Grade, George Washington

VISUAL ARTS

Primary

OI: **Mia Medearis**, 2nd grade, Maury
AE: **Ava Tucker**, 2nd grade, MacArthur
AM: **Emily Olivera Rocha**, K, Polk
HM: **Viviana Reyes**, K, Mt. Vernon

Intermediate

OI: **Annik Fus**, 3rd grade, George Mason
AE: **Dayana Bynum**, 5th grade, MacArthur
AM: **Will Hensley**, 3rd grade, Polk
HM: **Helen Cooper**, 3rd grade, Maury
HM: **My-Linh Aslanian**, 5th grade, Mt. Vernon

Middle

OI: **Auvareeon Dyson**, 8th grade, George Washington
AE: **Reem Omer**, 7th grade, Hammond-2
AM: **Muhammad Akbar Ali**, 6th grade, Hammond-1

HM: **Kennedi Norman**, 7th grade, Hammond-3

DANCE CHOREOGRAPHY

Primary

OI: **Evan Bellanca**, 2nd, Mt. Vernon

Intermediate

OI: **Catherine Quidas**, 4th grade, Polk
AE: **Sabine Bruno**, 3rd grade, Mt. Vernon

Middle

OI: **Sam Landa**, 7th grade, George Washington
AE: **Hana Cridlan**, 6th grade, Hammond-1

PHOTOGRAPHY

Primary

OI: **Bodie Lauinger**, 2nd grade, MacArthur
AE: **Charlie Sokolove**, 1st grade, Polk
AM: **Alexander Reisig**, 2nd grade, Maury
HM: **Katy Hartell**, K, Mt. Vernon

Intermediate

OI: **Sophia Powell**, 4th grade, George Mason
AE: **Christopher Alers**, 3rd grade, Mt. Vernon
AM: **Eliza Medearis**, 5th grade, Maury
HM: **Paul Ostermann-Healey**, 3rd grade, MacArthur

Middle

OI: **Gillian Stothard**, 8th grade, George Washington
AE: **Kyle Johnson**, 7th grade, Hammond-3
AM: **Timur Ismailov**, 6th grade, Hammond-1

High
OI: **Conrado Castro**, 12th grade, TC Williams

FILM PRODUCTION

Primary

OI: **Jackson Werner**, 2nd grade, Mt. Vernon

Intermediate

OI: **Nate Wong**, 4th grade, Polk
AE: **Moira Sirois**, 3rd grade, Mt. Vernon

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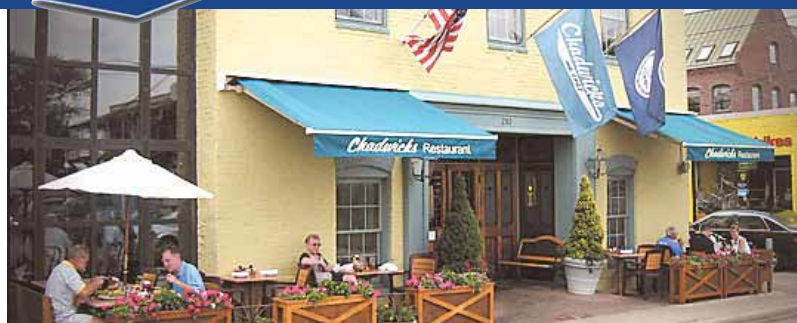
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ENTERTAINMENT

Birchmere Hosts Steep Canyon Rangers

Band returns to The Birchmere at the start of a busy year of bluegrass.

BY AMBER HEALY
GAZETTE PACKET

It's only the beginning of January, but the Steep Canyon Rangers have their whole year booked.

The Grammy-nominated quintet from North Carolina are about to kick off not only a tour of clubs, but also the four-day Mountain Song at Sea cruise in Miami in February before heading into the studio to record a new album, followed by another round of tour dates.

And on Jan. 25, they'll make their third stop at the Birchmere, a venue lead singer Woody Platt called a "legendary" place, especially in the world of bluegrass music.

"People have come up to us after shows and said I don't like bluegrass, but I love your band," he said. "We're not a typical bluegrass band. We dance around a lot, we sing, we have a really good time."

Bluegrass music "has a lot of layers" and different styles, from those deemed "classical" bluegrass to the more contemporary bluegrass/roots music made popular — and unexpectedly, Platt said — by groups like Mumford and Sons and the Avett Brothers in recent years.

Platt, the lead singer and guitarist, is joined in the band by banjo player Graham Sharp, mandolin player Mike Guggino, fiddler Nicky Sanders and upright bassist

Charles Humphrey III. The band started on a lark, as the musicians met while in college at Chapel Hill in North Carolina and began playing together "as a pure hobby," just for fun. As the time came for graduation, the band had developed "some momentum" and decided to make a go of it in the world of music.

"We're very lucky," Platt said. "A lot of bands come together because of their musical talent, but we were friends who happened to like playing together."

THE BAND'S BEEN SUCCESSFUL, too, earning their first Grammy nod for their last album, "Nobody Knows You." There has been one other Grammy nomination, but that was for an album the band recorded with their friend and part-year banjoist, Steve Martin. Yes, that Steve Martin, of Saturday Night Live and movie fame.

It turns out that Martin's wife was a friend of the band before she met him, Platt said. Martin's played banjo for more than 50 years, and when the band was invited to a dinner party while the Martins were on vacation in western North Carolina, an impromptu jam session turned into a musical relationship. Most recently, Martin joined the Steep Canyon Rangers on Late Night with David Letterman, The View and a concert on the Mall last summer.

"We couldn't have planned it any better,"



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Steep Canyon Rangers will be performing at The Birchmere in Alexandria on Friday, Jan. 25. Clockwise from left: Charles Humphrey III, Graham Sharp, Mike Guggino, Woody Platt and Nicky Sanders.

Platt laughed. "We're thrilled at how it turned out."

Martin won't be joining the Rangers at The Birchmere, but Platt said the partnership has helped bring people to gigs. He also credits the Internet with helping the band spread their music, as the digital technology for sharing music with thousands of people with a few clicks of a computer wasn't around, or as legal, when the band

started out more than a decade ago.

He also encourages people who've seen the Rangers perform before to come to the show later this month, as they'll be trying out new material from the upcoming record.

"We're really happy with everything right now," Platt said. "We're booked for the rest of the year. Festivals start booking early, and we've got the cruise, which we host. There's a lot going on."

Details

Tickets are still available for the Steep Canyon Rangers' upcoming show at The Birchmere and can be purchased at the club's website, www.birchmere.com.

Dine at Presidential Hotspots

Alexandria celebrates the inauguration with a special edition of Restaurant Week. Kicking off inaugural weekend and lasting for 10 days, Jan. 18-27, Alexandria's presidential hotspots and more than 50 eateries are offering \$35 three-course dinners or \$35 dinners for two. With fine dining plus acclaimed neighborhood favorites, patrons can see why President Obama and the First Family have frequented Alexandria eateries. Diners can treat their ears and their taste buds at piano bar shows by the White House pianist who performed for every president from Nixon through Clinton, and go back in time and dine at George Washington's favorite tavern, which has hosted all of the country's first five presidents.

Alexandria's presidential culinary connections include:
Barack Obama and the First Family: Several of the Obama's Alexandria eateries are participating in Restaurant Week.

Del Ray Pizzeria – Featuring presidential pies enjoyed by President Barack Obama.

The Majestic – Chef Shannon Overmiller presents selections from the First Family's menu for Michelle's mother's birthday, including a classic Caesar salad, fried oysters, fried green tomatoes, and the Majestic's signature meatloaf.

Union Street Public House – Sample trout and gumbo at this eatery visited by Michelle and Malia Obama.

White House Pianist for Nixon through Clinton: The Grille at Morrison House – Piano bar features Bob Smith, the White House pianist who performed for every president from Nixon through Clinton. Performances Tuesdays, Fridays and Saturdays. Throughout the week, Chef Brian McPherson presents fresh seasonal selections including a pumpkin soup with duck confit and an olive oil poached Scottish salmon.

Ronald Reagan: Ireland's Own (formerly Pat Troy's Ireland's Own) – Surprise visit by Ronald Reagan on St.



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Del Ray Pizzeria

and Early Presidents: Gadsby's Tavern Restaurant – Favorite of George Washington and hosted all of the first five U.S. presidents. Restaurant Week menu includes an apple wood-smoked pork chop, seared chicken with nutmeg and sage cream, and a honey cake with cinnamon glaze.

Mount Vernon Inn Restaurant – Adjacent to George Washington's Mount Vernon Estate.

Restaurant Week also features hot eateries beloved by foodie magazines, like Virtue Feed & Grain, named a Top 50 Best New Restaurant by Bon Appetit, and Cheesetique, honored on Food & Wine's 'Best Mac N Cheese' list.

View menus, book your table, and discover presidential connections at www.VisitAlexandriaVA.com.

Patrick's Day 1988. The restaurant features photos of Reagan, the original table where he dined and a bust of the president.

Laura Bush: Jackson 20 – Laura Bush dined here during her husband's presidency. This tavern was named for President Andrew Jackson and his visage on the \$20 bill.

George Washington

CALENDAR

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

ONGOING

Homeschool Studio Class.

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

Tavern Toddlers. Mondays, 10:30 a.m.-noon. Mondays through the end of April. 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.

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,

SEE CALENDAR, PAGE 20



PHOTO BY SHANE CANFIELD

The “Hot Metal Boys” — Malcolm Lee (Noah), Keith Miller (Ethan), Michael Gale (Malcolm), Christopher Harris (Dave), James Hotsko (Jerry), and Jack Stein (Harold) — prepare for the no-holds barred finale of “The Full Monty.”

The Bare Necessities

Little Theatre debuts
“The Full Monty.”

BY JEANNE THEISMANN
GAZETTE PACKET

The year is 1992 and unemployment is high in Buffalo, N.Y., where former millworker Jerry Lukowski hatches a plan to earn some quick cash by producing a Chippendale’s-style strip show in “The Full Monty,” now playing at The Little Theatre of Alexandria.

The cleverly written and composed musical comedy by Terrence McNally and David Yazbek is directed by Frank D. Shutts II, who has cast wisely and well for the LTA production of the 2001 Drama Desk Award winner for Best Musical.

“This is not about T&A,” Shutts said following the Jan. 12 opening night production. “It’s a love story about six guys that you want to root for.”

With an energetic and appealing cast, the heartwarming story of six unemployed men who form an exotic dance troupe for a one-night only, no-holds barred strip show is buoyant and bawdy while keeping the same poignancy that made the original 1997 film such a success.

“Never in a million years did I think I would be taking my clothes off in front of 200 people,” said Christopher Harris, who plays unemployed Dave Bukatinsky. “But this is such a heartwarming story and the audience is always cheering us on. It’s really been such an amazing adventure.”

In the pivotal role of Jerry is James Hotsko, with Michael Gale, Malcolm Lee, Keith Miller, Jack Stein and Harris rounding out the “Hot Metal Boys,” as they have come to call themselves. Collectively, they form a formidable team with the young but versatile Colin Cech as Jerry’s son Nathan.

Jennifer Strand rocks the role of the droll, D-list piano pro Jeannette, who joins the act and draws blood as well as laughs with her razor sharp assessments of her amateur colleagues.

Other notable performances are turned in by Amy Conley as Pam Lukowski, Cara Giambrone as Georgie Bukatinsky and Annie Ermlick as the hot-blooded Vicki Nichols.

The commanding score is under the capable baton of Christopher A. Tomasino with particular kudos to the horn-driven charts. Highlights include “Big Black Man,” delivered with panache by Lee, “You Rule My World” with Harris and Stein, and the tender “You Walk with Me” with Miller and Gale. As expected, the finale of “Let It Go” brings the audience to its feet.

(Spoiler alert: The playful choreography by Ivan Davila does include limited male nudity.)

The final moment before the lights dim is not hard to guess — a theatrical triumph for the stellar actors and the entire cast and crew of The Little Theatre of Alexandria. Without a doubt, you have to see it to believe it.

“The Full Monty” is playing now through Feb. 2 at The Little Theatre of Alexandria, 600 Wolfe St. For tickets or more information, call 703-683-0496 or visit



PHOTO BY JEANNE THEISMANN/GAZETTE PACKET

Cast and production staff members celebrate opening night of “The Full Monty” Jan. 12 at The Little Theatre of Alexandria.

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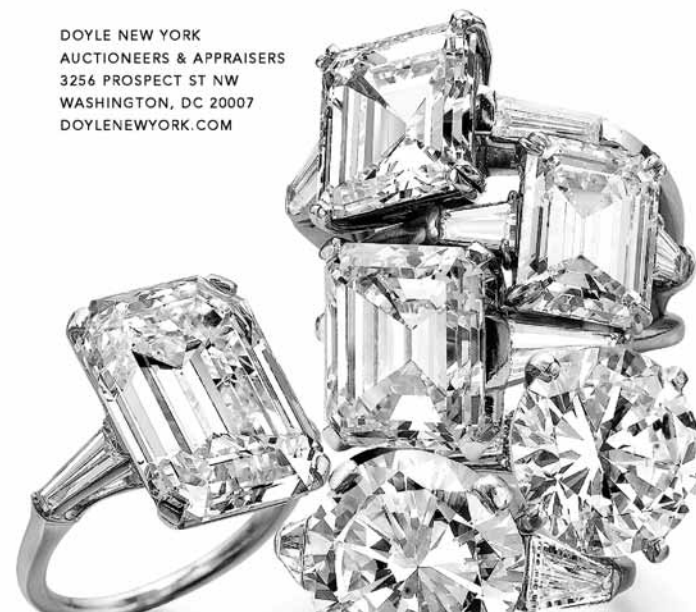
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www.thelittletheatre.com

ENTERTAINMENT

FROM PAGE 18

movement and more, including a weekly craft or short film. Free. 703-746-1703.

FRIDAY/JAN. 18

Slam Alexandria. The Northern Virginia Fine Arts Society announces spoken word poetry 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. Featuring live music, scheduled artists, and an open mic, SLAM ALEXANDRIA is hosted by Shelly Bell and co-sponsored by the NVFAA and Shelly B. Arts. The event starts at 7 p.m. and is located at The Athenaeum, 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 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 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 or 703-548-4092.

Presidential Beer Dinner. 7-9:30 p.m. at Gadsby's Tavern Museum, 134 N. Royal St. In partnership with Yards Brewery. Each course will highlight a different president. \$85/person. Reservations required. 703-746-4242.

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 prize. The 44th visitor through the gate will also receive a gift. \$17/adult; \$8/child 6-11; children under 5 free. Visit www.mountvernon.org.

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 growing conditions, discover great plants and create a sustainable garden. Register online at 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.

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.

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

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 or 703-548-4092.

Author Meeting. Local author Marfe Delano will launch her new book "Master George's People," based on research into George Washington and the slaves who worked his estate, from 3:30-5 p.m. at Hooray for Books, 1555 King St. Free. Visit www.hooray4books.com or 703-548-4092.

Book Signing and Lecture. 1 p.m. at the Lee-Fendell House, 614 Oronoco St. Honor the birthday of Light Horse Harry Lee with cake and champagne at the Lee-Fendell House, featuring historian/author Mike Cecere and "Wedded to My Sword: The Revolutionary War Service of Light Horse Harry Lee." \$7 per person, and may be purchased at the door or at 703-548-1789.

Author Signing. 1-3 p.m. at Lavender Moon Cupcakery, 116 S. Royal St. Local author Kara Carter will sign copies of her book "Abby's Quilt," which is about her grandmother. Free.

SEE CALENDAR, PAGE 21

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| Sunday 7:30; 9:00; 10:30 am; 12:00 Noon 2:00 pm (en Español) | Children's Liturgy of the Word Sundays (Sept.-July) during 9:00 am Mass (English) |
| 6:30 pm Mass (from Sept. 9 until mid June) | Sign Language Interpreter Sunday at 9:00 am Mass |

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ENTERTAINMENT

FROM PAGE 20

SUNDAY/JAN. 20

Music. Peter Mayer will perform with Copper Ponies at 7 p.m. at Church of the Resurrection, 2280 N. Beauregard St. \$18/general; \$15/advance. Tickets can be purchased at focusmusic.org.

Annual Jury Information Session. 2-3 p.m. in Studio 31 at the Torpedo Factory, 105 N. Union St. Visual artists who are interested in joining the Torpedo Factory Artists' Association can get more information. Free. Visit www.torpedofactory.org.

Family Tea. 3-4:30 p.m. at Gadsby's Tavern Restaurant, 138 N. Royal St. Children can bring their dolls and enjoy tea and period-inspired delicacies with their parents and Mrs. Dolley Madison. \$35/person. Reservations required. Visit www.gadsbystavern.org or 703-746-4242.

Don't Be a Drip: Using Water Wisely. 1:30-3 p.m. at Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road. \$10. Learn how to handle excess water with rain gardens and more. Register online at www.greenspring.org or 703-642-5173. Code: 290 182 1901.

Theater Performance. 2 p.m. at Aldersgate Church Community Theater, see Disney's "Little Mermaid, Jr." Visit acconline.org or 703-660-2611 for tickets and information.

Choir Festival. 7 p.m. at Bethlehem Baptist Church, 7836 Fordson Road. Enjoy the 18th annual Ventures in Community festival. Free-will offering will be distributed among several non-profit groups in the area. 703-360-4170.

THROUGH JAN. 20

Art Exhibit. See "Joys of the Season" at Site 2 Gallery, Torpedo Factory Art Center, 105 N. Union St. See all-media exhibits by five Torpedo Factory artists. Free. Visit www.torpedofactory.org or 703-838-4565.

MONDAY/JAN. 21

Theater Performance. 2 p.m. at Aldersgate Church Community Theater, see Disney's "Little Mermaid, Jr." Visit acconline.org or 703-660-2611 for tickets and information.

TUESDAY/JAN. 22

Billy Cobham's Spectrum Band "40th Anniversary Tour." \$35. The Birchmere Music Hall is located at 3701 Mount Vernon Ave. Visit www.birchmere.com or call 703-549-7500.

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. at James Duncan Library, 2501 Commonwealth Ave. Children ages 1-4 can enjoy songs, fingerplays and stories. Free. 703-746-1705.

Paws to Read. 5:30 p.m. at James Duncan Library, 2501 Commonwealth Ave. Sign up at

the children's desk or call 703-746-1783 to reserve a 15-minute slot to read to a dog. For students in grades 1-6.

Tuesday Tots. 11 a.m. at Ellen Coolidge Burke Library, 4701 Seminary Road. Children ages 2-3 can enjoy stories, songs, games and making crafts. Free. 703-746-1704.

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.

Concert. 7:30 p.m. at Ainslie Arts Center at Episcopal High School, 3900 W. Braddock Road. Hear the National Chamber Players. Free. Visit www.episcopalhighschool.org for more.

WEDNESDAY/JAN. 23

Author Series. 7-8:30 p.m. at Charles Beatley Library, 5005 Duke St. William Burton McCormick will speak about his novel "Lenin's Harem," a work of historical fiction set during the Russian revolution. Free. www.alexandria.lib.va.us or 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.

Spanish Story Time. 1 p.m. at Charles Beatley Library, 5005 Duke St. All levels welcome. Free. 703-746-1702.

Meeting. 7 p.m. at James Duncan Library, 2501 Commonwealth Ave. Learn about the Friends of Duncan Library. 703-746-1705.

Nature Program. 3:30 p.m. at James Duncan Library, 2501 Commonwealth Ave. A Buddie Ford Nature Center naturalist will talk on various topics, often bringing animals. For children in grades K-5. 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.

THURSDAY/JAN. 24

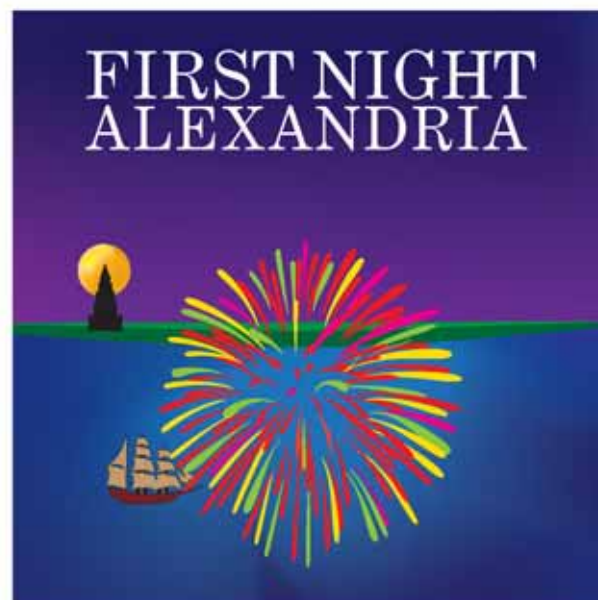
Art Focus Group. 7:30-9 p.m. Custom color painting — explore routines and practices for mixing a unique color palette and painting with tempera paint. Classes are \$25 each or \$200 for the 10 class series. A school or group of teachers can share the registration for the full series. At 2804 Sherwood Hall Lane. Call 703-201-1250.

Blockbuster Thursday. 6:30 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.

Fire Safety Story Time. 10:30 a.m. at Charles Beatley Library, 5005 Duke St. Children ages 3-5 can learn about fire safety from a representative from the Alexandria Fire Department. 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.



Thank you!

First Night Alexandria relies on the generosity of area businesses and individuals to throw the largest family-friendly, budget-friendly New Year's Eve celebration through the performing arts in the region! The sale of admission badges covers less than one-half of the annual cost to produce the event. In addition to the many goods and services provided pro bono or far below retail, \$200,000 is needed to cover the expense of First Night Alexandria. These businesses and individuals make it all possible.

We are grateful for their generosity and hope you too will thank them by doing business with them

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I have
seldom seen
much
ostentation
and much
learning
met
together.

—Joseph Hall



Defense Propels TC Boys' Basketball Past Lake Braddock

Titans hold Bruins scoreless for 7-minute, 31-second stretch.

BY JON ROETMAN
GAZETTE PACKET

After the T.C. Williams boys' basketball team knocked off Lake Braddock to win its fourth consecutive Patriot District contest, a reporter asked TC guard Javon Wilson about the Titans' defensive performance.

"Defense?" Wilson asked. "We can always do better on defense."

When the reporter informed Wilson that TC held the Bruins scoreless for a 7-minute, 31-second stretch, the senior showed surprise before saying: "We feel we played well, but coach [Julian King] always says there's always something we can do better. He'd say, 'Seven minutes? Why didn't you hold them for eight minutes?'"

T.C. Williams used a 17-0 run to pull away from Lake Braddock and the Titans defeated the Bruins 53-43 on Jan. 11 at T.C. Williams High School. Both teams struggled offensively in the first half. TC led 5-4 at the end of the first quarter and the score was tied at 10-all midway through the second. That's when the Titans started to pull away while the Bruins remained stuck in an offensive funk.

Lake Braddock sophomore Reagan Jones made a free throw to tie the score at 10-all with 4:36 remaining in the second quarter. The Bruins wouldn't score again until a Jones bucket with 5:05 remaining in the third quarter. Meanwhile, a 3-pointer by Andre Suggs sparked a 17-0 TC run. Malik Carney's 3-pointer with 5:21 remaining in the third quarter gave the Titans a 27-10 lead and TC led by at least eight points for the remainder of the contest.

Regardless of whether the Titans can improve, at least they're remembering their coach's words.

"Considering the way we played early in the season, we've played harder defensively," King said. "We didn't exactly play smarter, and [Lake Braddock] had an off night."

Offensively, Wilson and 6-foot-8 senior Grant Dickinson each scored 12 points for the Titans. After Lake Braddock cut the TC lead to 10 with a 6-0 run midway through the fourth quarter, Wilson buried a 3-pointer to help keep the Titans in control.

Dickinson scored in the paint as well as showing his perimeter touch. He also



Lake Braddock's Will Gregorits is defended by T.C. Williams' Javon Wilson, left, and Grant Dickinson.

grabbed seven rebounds.

"We need that every night — something close to a double-double," King said. "With his size, his length and his shooting ability, he's able to command the middle for us defensively and, offensively, he's skilled enough to stretch everybody out and he allows our other big guys or our guards free cuts to the basket."

Carney finished with seven points for TC and Jeremiah Clark added six.

Will Gregorits scored 19 points and grabbed seven rebounds for Lake Braddock.

The following night, TC lost a home game to North Point (Waldorf, Md.), 89-57. As of Wednesday morning, North Point was ranked No. 8 in the Washington Post's top 20.

On Jan. 15, the Titans improved to 8-6 overall and 5-2 in the district with a 62-59 victory against Annandale.

"I think it's just everyone accepting their roles and knowing what we've got to do,"



T.C. Williams junior Jeremiah Clarke scored six points against Lake Braddock on Jan. 11.

Dickinson said after the Lake Braddock game about the Titans improving, "and then just buying into what coach is telling us."

TC has won five consecutive district games after losing on the road against West Potomac (5-2 in the district) and Woodson (7-0). Lake Braddock beat West Potomac 46-43 on Jan. 15 and is also 5-2 in the district.

"I think we just got off to a slow start," Wilson said after the Lake Braddock game. "It was the first time this group had gotten together [and] all of us got the chance to play. ... We just got off to a rough start but I feel like we're about to kick it into gear and take this district by storm."

TC will host West Potomac at 7:45 p.m. on Friday, Jan. 18.



T.C. Williams boys' basketball coach Julian King talks to the Titans during a Jan. 11 game against Lake Braddock.

"I think we just got off to a slow start. It was the first time this group had gotten together [and] all of us got the chance to play. ... We just got off to a rough start but I feel like we're about to kick it into gear and take this district by storm."

— T.C. Williams senior Javon Wilson

SPORTS



EHS Nick Deitz vs TCW Harlan Belcher.

TC Wins City Wrestling Tournament

Wrestlers from T.C. Williams, Saint Stephens Saint Agnes School, Episcopal, and Bishop Ireton high schools met on the mats at TC on Friday evening, Jan. 11 for the annual city tournament. The TC team, coached by Chris Marshall, won the competition.

PHOTOS BY LOUISE KRAFFT/GAZETTE PACKET



SSSAS Will Siegmund vs BI Tommy Kelly.



SSSAS James Kunder vs BI Juan Class.

SPORTS BRIEFS

SSSAS Girls' Basketball Improves to 10-4

The St. Stephen's & St. Agnes girls' basketball team defeated Maret 62-53 on Jan. 15, improving its record to 10-4.

The Saints will host Bullis at 5:45 p.m. on Thursday, Jan. 17 and Sidwell Friends at 3 p.m. on Saturday, Jan. 19.

SSSAS Boys' Basketball Beats Episcopal

The St. Stephen's & St. Agnes boys' basketball team improved to 11-4 with a 54-52 victory against Episcopal on Jan. 15.

Cameron Gregory led the Saints with 20 points and 10 rebounds. Travis Light scored 14 points and Gavin Peppers added six.

SSSAS will travel to face Bullis at 7:30 p.m. on Friday, Jan. 18.

MidAtlantic Erg Sprints Looking for Volunteers

In anticipation of another record turnout this year, organizers of the 28th Annual MidAtlantic Erg Sprints have put out a call for more volunteers to help things run smoothly once the competition — which will be held on Feb. 2nd at T.C. Williams High School in Alexandria — gets underway.

"The 2012 Erg Sprints featured the largest turnout ever," said Jeff Byron, the director of the MidAtlantic Erg Sprints. "In all, we had 1,572 athletes from 56 high schools, 38 rowing clubs, 10 colleges, and six fitness clubs competing in the event. This made the MidAtlantic Erg Sprints the second largest indoor rowing competition in the world. It's also one of the reasons why we are putting out a call for additional volunteers for this year's event."

Byron noted that the 2012 MidAtlantic Erg Sprints were staffed by 210 volunteers — 160 adults and 50 students. Given the large turnout expected, he added that he hopes to match or exceed that number this year.

"We would not be able to hold this event without the great work of our volunteers," he said. "They have helped turn the MidAtlantic Erg Sprints into one of the premier indoor rowing competitions in the world. They are also part of what make it such a fun event."

This year's MidAtlantic Erg Sprints will take place on Saturday, Feb. 2, from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the Gerry Bertier Gymnasium at T.C. Williams High School. According to Byron, volunteers generally work 2-3 hour shifts, helping out in areas ranging from registering athletes to handing out awards.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Volunteers talk with two athletes at the 2012 MidAtlantic Erg Sprints. This year's competition is scheduled to be held in the Gerry Bertier Memorial Gymnasium at T.C. Williams High School on Saturday, Feb. 2.

This year's shifts on Saturday, Feb. 2, include: 7-10 a.m., 10 a.m.-1 p.m., 1-4 p.m., and 4-6 p.m.

Individuals who wish to volunteer can do so at <http://ergsprints.com/volunteer/contact.html>. For more information on the

Erg Sprints, please visit <http://ergsprints.com/>.

The MidAtlantic Erg Sprints were first held in Alexandria in January 1986. The event is sponsored by the Alexandria Crew Boosters.

GOP Stands in the Way of Voter Issues

BY CHARNIELE HERRING
DELEGATE (D-46)



As the Virginia General Assembly begins its annual winter session, there are many areas of policy that require urgent attention. As we move forward, attention will be paid to transportation, education, and the way we fund our priorities in the Commonwealth, as it should be. However, under cover of a quiet weekend, Republicans in the House of Delegates chose to dispose of legislation related to our fundamental right to vote discretely in early morning subcommittees. A number of pieces of legislation, some of which I sponsored, failed in subcommittee, even with support from top Republican leaders. Bills addressing early voting, disaster preparedness, and the restoration of civil rights were quietly done away with in the early morning hours of Monday and Tues-

COMMENTARY

day, without even the debate of a full committee hearing. In his Jan. 9 State of the Commonwealth address, Governor McDonnell implored Virginia's state senators and delegates to continue his work, endorsing efforts to re-enfranchise the 350,000 Virginians who have served their time, paid their debt to society, but cannot vote. The Governor's office has made it a priority to restore this civil right, personally re-enfranchising almost 4,000 people last year, but the current petition process cannot address inequity at this scale. That's why even Governor McDonnell lent his vocal support to the automatic restoration of civil rights to non-violent felons who have served their time and made restitution. Still, even a Republican governor could not prevent Republicans on these subcommittees from killing legislation sup-

ported by over 62 percent of Virginians.

The long lines at polling places last November should have been a sign of a thriving democracy where citizens choose engagement over apathy, but they are also a sign of the government dysfunction that voters cast their ballots hoping to remedy. Thirty-two states and the District of Columbia have already implemented early voting programs that could have dramatically shortened those lines, and more than 32 million Americans in those states chose to vote early.

Virginia has an absentee voting program as well, but unlike in those 32 states, here a voter must have an excuse to use the early polling stations and absentee ballots that 11 percent of Virginians already use. Simple legislation was considered that would have removed that excuse requirement, acknowledging that the busy schedules of many hardworking Virginians were reason enough. Instead, we saw delegates choose to discourage civic engagement, refusing to

even give a reason why improving access to elections wasn't worth their time or consideration. This even extended to legislation aimed at being prepared for a disaster. I sponsored a bill that would lift the excuse requirement if a state of emergency was declared within two weeks of an election.

Voting is fundamental to our American identity. We believe in democracy and open elections to choose who leads us as a people. When our system breaks, causing people to wait for hours upon hours to participate in the sacred franchise, it is our duty to find a better way. Quietly removing this legislation from the public discourse of the legislature is unwarranted. This is a discussion that must continue. Some of this legislation is still working its way through the State Senate, and I hope that you will make your voice heard.

Charniele Herring (D-46) represents Alexandria City in the Virginia General Assembly and serves as the House Minority Whip. For more information, visit www.charnieleherring.com or on twitter @c_herring.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

FROM PAGE 10

ginia Tech, Va., Columbine HS, Colo., Fort Hood, Texas, Aurora, Colo., Newtown, Conn., and many others. Now is a golden opportunity for our intimidated and passive Congress to introduce remedial legislation such as The Charlton Heston Federal Gun Control Act of 2013, to be followed by a subsequent Wayne LaPierre Second Amendment Repeal Act of 2014. This would not only rectify an error in judgment by the Supreme Court but also honor the memory of two of our leading "automatic assault gun in every household" advocates.

Eugene Morath
Alexandria

Former Board's Achievements

To the Editor:

Last week, newly-elected city leaders were sworn into office, and seven members of the Alexandria School Board — Mimi Carter, Yvonne Folkerts, Sheryl Gorsuch, Blanche Maness, Helen Morris, Art Peabody and Charles Wilson — ended their terms of service. As current and former PTA presidents, we are writing to thank each of them for their work, and to recognize some of the significant accomplishments that they achieved during their tenures:

❖ A comprehensive award-winning strategic plan that aims to prepare every student for college, work and life, and has as its core principles educational excellence, higher achievement for all, a culture of collaboration, continuous

improvement and accountability, and environmental stewardship. <http://www.acps.k12.va.us/board/strategic-plan/>

❖ A 21st-Century Curriculum for all subjects from kindergarten to 12th grade that was custom-designed for ACPS and is the first of its kind in our schools. While presenting a course of studies that exceeds state standards, it focuses on helping our students develop higher-order thinking skills. Parents can view one-page summaries describing the sequence of units for every subject area at <http://www.acps.k12.va.us/curriculum/design/course-glance.php>

❖ A transformed T. C. Williams High School. When T.C. was designated as "persistently low-achieving," the transformation model of change that ACPS chose included a thorough review of instructional practices with nationally-recognized experts. A record two-thirds of the senior class took the SAT in 2012 and scores increased from the previous year. For the first time, T.C. has been accredited under No Child Left Behind. <http://www.acps.k12.va.us/tcw-transformation/>

❖ A consistent record of delivering responsible budgets to the City Council. These budgets included capping elementary class sizes and reducing per-pupil costs by 2.2 percent over the past four years, even while enrollment increased 20 percent during the same period. Eight preschool classrooms have been added, and the Board has made a priority of ensuring that every child in Alexandria is enrolled in Pre-K. The Board has also implemented the Baldrige

Model of Excellence (Plan-Do-Study-Act), which has shown impressive results at Cora Kelly Elementary School, for example.

While many challenges remain, our school division as a whole is markedly stronger than it was five years ago, and is on an upward trajectory. Each year, a higher percentage of ACPS students are graduating on time, attending college, enrolling in and earning passing scores on AP exams and taking more rigorous course loads, and fewer of them are dropping out. The achievement gap is starting to narrow. ACPS students are excelling at unprecedented levels in the classroom, in the arts, and on the playing fields. Forty-one teachers have earned the coveted National Board Certification distinction.

Over the years, these members of the School Board haven't always seen eye-to-eye on the best way forward for our schools. But they were a model of collaboration and compromise of which our community can be proud, and the accomplishments listed above, along with many others, resulted from those collaborative efforts. We look forward to working with the new and returning School Board members, and we hope that they will continue to build upon the noteworthy progress that our school division has made in recent years.

Cindy Anderson, Past President, Alexandria PTA Council, T.C. Williams High School PTSA, George Washington Middle School PTA and George Mason Elem. PTA; **Kay Arndorfer**, Past President, Charles Barrett Elem. PTA; **Patty Chamberlain**, President-Elect, T.C. Williams High School PTSA; Past Presi-

dent, Hammond Middle School PTA and James K. Polk Elem. PTA; **Beth Coast**, Past President, Jefferson-Houston Elem. PTA; **Kelly Dresen**, President, Jefferson-Houston Elem. PTA; **Maggie Fitzsimmons**, Past President, T.C. Williams High School PTSA and Douglas MacArthur Elem. PTA; **Julie Forsht**, Past President, Cora Kelly Elementary PTA; **Mary Giordano**, Past President, George Washington Middle School PTA; **Priscilla Goodwin**, Past President, T.C. Williams High School PTSA and George Mason Elem. PTA; **Marianne Hetzer**, President, T.C. Williams High School PTSA; Past President, Alexandria PTA Council, Hammond Middle School PTA and James K. Polk Elem. PTA; **Lisa Jacobs**, Past President, George Washington Middle School PTA and George Mason Elem. PTA; **Linda Kelly**, Past President, Alexandria PTA Council and Cora Kelly Elem. PTA; **Aileen LaGanza**, Past President, George Mason Elem. PTA; **J. Lepp**, President, Alexandria PTA Council and Past President, Douglas MacArthur Elem. PTA; **Judy Lyons**, Past President, George Mason Elem. PTA; **Nicole Maaia**, President, Charles Barrett Elem. PTA; **Cindy Martinez**, Past President, Charles Barrett Elem. PTA; **Karen McManis**, President, George Washington Middle School PTA; Past President, Alexandria PTA Council and Charles Barrett Elem. PTA; **Ann O'Hanlon**, Past President, George Mason Elem. PTA; **Marsha Oshima**, Past President, Cora Kelly Elementary PTA; **Priscilla Plishker**, Past President, Matthew Maury Elem. PTA; **Marie Randall**, President-Elect, George Mason Elem. PTA; **Jennifer Roda**, Past President, Charles Barrett Elem. PTA; **Becky Sullivan**, Past President, George Mason Elem. PTA; **Carey Sullivan**, Past President, George Mason Elem. PTA; **Tom Tyler**, President, Cora Kelly Elem. PTA; **Annie Vroom**, Past President, George Mason Elem. PTA; **Katherine Walker**, Past President, John Adams Elem. PTA; **Rosie Wiedemer**, President, George Mason Elem. PTA; **Melynda Wilcox**, Past President, Alexandria PTA Council, George Washington Middle School PTA and George Mason Elem. PTA; and **Jeff Zack**, Past President, Alexandria PTA Council and James K. Polk Elem. PTA

Thoughts

FROM PAGE 11

have correctly called the Federal government dysfunctional. While we wait for them to get something done our roads could disintegrate into gravel. And the idea of using the Internet retail sales tax has a second problem. As more folks shop online, you'll see a decline in traditional retail sales tax revenues. Those traditional sales tax revenues fund the basic operations of our government. So the more you buy online the less money we'll have for schools, police, courts, and much more.

My sense is that there is a strong majority in Richmond that understands we have to address transportation. I think the question is whether we are just looking for a press release to say we tried or if we are looking for a true answer. I'm always optimistic. I'll keep looking for a bi-partisan approach that is fair, balanced and long-term. It is too important to our state's future not to.

You can keep up with what is happening in Richmond by following me on Twitter (RobKrupicka) or keeping tabs on blog posts to my website at www.krupicka.com. Please feel free to contact me during session and definitely stop by if you are in Richmond.

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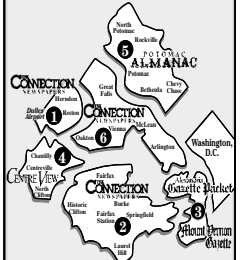
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• Covers 2 years or 25k miles. Oil and Filter - Tire
Rotation - Multi-Point Inspection¹



The Best New Cars Make The Best Used Cars

- 7YR/100K MILE ROADSIDE ASSISTANCE PLAN¹
- 160 POINT QUALITY ASSURANCE INSPECTION^{1†}
- CARFAX VEHICLE HISTORY REPORT
- 1.9% APR FINANCING AVAILABLE^{1††}
- 12 MO./12K MI COMPREHENSIVE WARRANTY
- 7 YR./100K MI LIMITED POWERTRAIN WARRANTY

\$1,000
REBATE FOR RECENT
COLLEGE GRADS⁶

\$500
MILITARY REBATE
INCENTIVE FOR
ACTIVE MILITARY
PERSONEL⁷

(1) OFFERS INCLUDE VA TAX, FREIGHT, \$399 PROCESSING FEE, ACQUISITION FEE AND \$0 SECURITY DEPOSIT. 36-MONTH LEASE WITH 12K PER YEAR. (2) TOTAL DOWN PAYMENT PLUS TAX, TAGS, FREIGHT AND \$399 PROCESSING FEE DUE AT SIGNING. (3) 0% APR FINANCING AVAILABLE FOR UP TO 60 MONTHS ON SELECT MODELS. OFFERS FOR WELL-QUALIFIED BUYERS WITH APPROVED TIER1+ CREDIT THROUGH TFS. 60 MONTHLY PAYMENTS OF \$16.67 PER \$1000 BORROWED. \$399 DEALER DOC FEE. (4) BASED ON BLACK BOOK TRADE VALUE MINUS EXCESS MILEAGE AND RECONDITIONING. (5) COVERS NORMAL FACTORY SCHEDULED SERVICE FOR 2 YEARS OR 25K MILES, WHICHEVER COMES FIRST. THE NEW VEHICLE CANNOT BE PART OF A RENTAL OR COMMERCIAL FLEET. SEE PARTICIPATING DEALER FOR COMPLETE PLAN DETAILS. VALID ONLY IN THE CONTINENTAL UNITED STATES AND ALASKA. (6) TOYOTA FINANCIAL SERVICE COLLEGE GRADUATE PROGRAM IS AVAILABLE ON APPROVED CREDIT THROUGH A PARTICIPATING TOYOTA DEALER AND TOYOTA FINANCIAL SERVICES. NOT ALL APPLICANTS WILL QUALIFY. REBATE OFFERED BY TOYOTA MOTOR SALES, U.S.A., INC. REBATE WILL BE APPLIED ON LEASE CONTRACTS, FIRST TOWARD THE AMOUNTS DUE AT LEASE SIGNING OR DELIVERY WITH ANY REMAINDER TO THE CAPITALIZED COST REDUCTION OR TOWARD THE DOWN PAYMENT ON FINANCE CONTRACTS. ONE REBATE PER LEASE OR FINANCE TRANSACTION. (7) REBATE OFFERED BY TOYOTA MOTOR SALES, U.S.A., INC. REBATE WILL BE APPLIED ON LEASE CONTRACTS, FIRST TOWARD DUE AT SIGNING OR DELIVERY, WITH ANY REMAINDER TO THE CAPITALIZED COST REDUCTION, OR TOWARD THE DOWN PAYMENT ON FINANCE CONTRACTS. ONE REBATE PER FINANCE OR LEASE TRANSACTION. NOT COMPATIBLE WITH THE TOYOTA COLLEGE GRADUATE REBATE PROGRAM. SEE DEALER FOR COMPLETE DETAILS. ELIGIBLE CUSTOMERS MUST BE IN CURRENT ACTIVE DUTY STATUS IN THE U.S. MILITARY. (†) WHICHEVER COMES FIRST FROM DATE OF TCUV PURCHASE. (††) FROM DATE OF TCUV PURCHASE. (†††) 1.9% APR FINANCING ON ALL CERTIFIED PRE-OWNED VEHICLES FOR UP TO 60 MONTHS WITH APPROVED CREDIT ON SELECT MODELS THROUGH TFS. 60 MONTHLY PAYMENTS OF \$17.05 PER \$1000 BORROWED. \$399 DEALER DOC FEE. SEE DEALER FOR COMPLETE FINANCING DETAILS. ALL OFFERS EXPIRE 01/31/13.

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ALEXANDRIA/CARLYLE TOWER \$879,900



Amazing City Views

Live in style overlooking The Masonic Temple, Alexandria and DC. Located in Carlyle Towers, this three-bedroom, three-and-a-half-bath condo is close to the King Street Metro, major commuter routes, and nearby restaurants. 24-hour gym and health spa access, two garage parking spots, and more!

Sue Goodhart
703.362.3221
www.SueGoodhart.com
MLS ID# AX7989206



ALEXANDRIA/DEL RAY \$839,900



Charming Farmhouse in Del Ray

Four bedrooms, two and a half baths, welcoming front porch, hardwood flooring, French doors open to back deck and fenced back yard, updated kitchen with granite counters and stainless steel appliances with additional pantry area. Driveway/offstreet parking. Basement is fully finished with bedroom and full bath. Walkable to Braddock Road Metro!

Jen Walker
703.675.1566
www.JenWalker.com
MLS ID# AX7991620



OLD TOWN ALEXANDRIA \$720,000



Sweet!

This end-unit townhouse is a gem. Located in the southeast quadrant of Old Town, in a cul-de-sac, with two parking spaces, patio, and side yard, it has three bedrooms, one and a half (room for two and a half) baths, 1,365 square feet of living space on two levels. With spacious attic for storage. Well maintained. Nice upgrades in kitchen and baths, and recent roof, HVAC, and furnace. Just a short walk to the river and the life of King Street.



Jud Burke 703.966.8343
www.JudBurke.com
Barbara Cousens 703.966.4180
MLS ID# AX7992225



ALEXANDRIA/FORT ELLSWORTH \$292,500



Walk to Metro!

Spacious, two-bedroom, two-bath condo located within walking distance to King Street Metro. Large eat-in kitchen. Tons of closet space. Assigned parking. Spectacular views from every window. Enjoy swimming, tennis and LOW condo fee. Large master suite with two closets and private bath. Second bedroom has walk-in closet.

Pam Cornelio
571.236.4398
www.PamCornelio.com



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703.628.1386
csutherland@mcneaney.com

OLD TOWN ALEXANDRIA \$5,850,000



Gracious Estate

A tantalizing glimpse through iron gates reveals the quiet repose of a beautifully tended and spacious walled garden replete with gazebo, an 18th century brick and stucco home, and a rare, period dependency now enjoyed as a guest house. Impressive thought and care have been taken in the total renovation of this residence while maintaining the historic integrity.



Carol Cleary 703.625.6829
Babs Beckwith 703.836.1297
www.CarolCleary.com
MLS ID# AX7819667



ALEXANDRIA SOUTH \$799,000



Classic Colonial

Situated on a pretty, private lot in a quiet cul-de-sac, this spacious home is in turn-key condition. Large, light-filled rooms afford plenty of living space including gourmet kitchen and adjoining family room. There are four upper level bedrooms including a spacious master suite. Hardwood floors on two levels, new windows, nearly new heating and air conditioning.

Vici Boguess 703.447.2829
Sissy Zimmerman 703.989.9779
www.bbzgroup.com
MLS ID# FX7991191



OLD TOWN ALEXANDRIA \$659,900



Sunrise, Sunset

Southern exposure and 56 feet of balcony give this Alexandria House beauty a sunny disposition! Grand living and dining rooms, private master suite with walk-in closet plus additional wall of closet space! Big workable kitchen, three bedrooms and two and a half baths, and unmatched storage. Great location. Close to shops, GW Parkway, Metro. Garage parking.

Susan Anthony
703.795.9536
www.susanbruceanthony.com
MLS ID# AX7953444



OLD TOWN ALEXANDRIA \$895,000



Just 3 Blocks to the River & King Street

This large and immaculate seven year old luxury townhouse in the heart of Old Town offers three large bedrooms, three and a half bathrooms, living/dining room with wood paneling, a family room with gas fireplace, a loft/den area that leads to a roof top terrace, a gourmet eat-in kitchen, and a two-car garage. Extensive storage, hardwood floors on the main level, and wood blinds throughout complete this light, bright and sunny home.

Annette Hinaman
571.216.4411
www.AnnetteHinaman.com



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