



PHOTO BY LOUISE KRAFT/GAZETTE PACKET

To the Sugar Bowl

Under the direction of Carlos O. Gonzalez, the marching band from T.C. Williams High School has been invited to perform at the 2014 Allstate Sugar Bowl. The band's 80 students will join marching bands from across the country in the half-time show finale of the major college bowl game to be held in New Orleans. The exclusive invitation is part of a WorldStrides Heritage Performance program.

Living with Uncertainty in West End

City Council to consider plan to demolish hundreds of low-end garden apartments.

BY MICHAEL LEE POPE
GAZETTE PACKET

On the windswept streets of the city's West End, many poor and Latino residents say they are living with a sense of uncertainty. City leaders are considering a plan that would demolish 2,500 units of low-end garden apartments and construct 6,500 units of luxury housing. Supporters of the plan say the plan includes 800 units of dedicated affordable housing, but residents who live here now say they don't know what will happen.

"We might move in with local relatives in Fairfax, but it's totally unknown to us right now," said Rodolfo Navorio, a senior at T.C. Williams High School. "I try not to let it bother me, personally, but when the time comes, I'll have to deal with it."

This week, members of the Alexandria Planning

Commission approved the upzoning, although they added an amendment that City Council members will consider when they vote on the issue later this month. Instead of delivering the units slowly over a 20-year period, new member Derek Hyra suggested that all 800 of the dedicated units be delivered in the first decade of redevelopment — a way he says would minimize displacement of the thousands of families who live there now.

"We don't want the old urban renewal," said Hyra. "We want this to be considered new urban renewal."

"We don't want the old urban renewal. We want this to be considered new urban renewal."

— Derek Hyra

CRITICS OF THE PLAN wore pajamas to the Planning Commission hearing Tuesday night, an indication they were willing to stay as long as necessary to advocate for the families who live there now. They were right that it was going to be a long night, with a vote that took place after midnight. Speaker after speaker said city officials should delay the plan until more accommodations could be made for the thousands of families who are now living with uncertainty.

"Let's show them that we heard them," said Planning Commission member Mary Lyman. "And that we are at least trying to come up with some ideas to make it better."

SEE LIVING, PAGE 3

The Price of Administration

School system's central office has 27 administrators who earn a total of \$3.6 million a year.

BY MICHAEL LEE POPE
GAZETTE PACKET

In the classic Depression era tune "Nice Work if You Can Get It," Ira Gershwin describes "a man who only lives for making money" as one who "lives a life that isn't necessarily sunny." Here in Alexandria, the sun is not always shining on the Alexandria Public Schools central administration headquarters on Beauregard Street. But it is raining cash — \$3.6 million this year for 27 administrators who oversee a system with 13,000 students.

"My concern is we have more administrators than we have principals in the elementary schools," said School Board member Pat Hennig. "We need to take a look to see if all of these people are needed and if there is a duplication of effort."

Information about salaries is difficult to get. School officials would not share the information without first receiving a formal Freedom

of Information Act request. And School Board member Ronnie Campbell says elected officials even have a hard time getting the numbers.

"It's very frustrating," said Campbell. "These salaries come from taxpayers, so people in the community shouldn't have to file a FOIA to get it."

SALARIES FROM NEIGHBORING

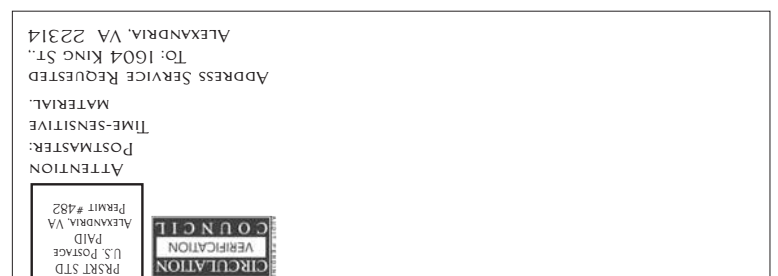
jurisdictions show that Alexandria is not out of step with other jurisdictions. Superintendents in the region, for example, tend to make anywhere from \$250,000 to \$300,000. So Superintendent Morton Sherman's salary of \$265,000 falls well within the norm, according to industry groups that track salary data. Even when you look at national data, Alexandria's salaries do not stand out as particularly high.

"Alexandria is not out of line with other jurisdictions across the country," said Daniel Domenech, executive director of the American Association of School Administrators.

SEE CENTRAL, PAGE 7

"Alexandria is not out of line with other jurisdictions across the country. If anything, the city seems to be on the lean side."

— Daniel Domenech, executive director, American Association of School Administrators





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Amending the Minutes

What would happen if an alien species landed on a barren and deserted Alexandria a millennia from now? Would they be able to make sense out of the waterfront plan? Vice Mayor Allison Silberberg is not so sure.

At issue is the minutes of the Feb. 23 City Council meeting. During the meeting, she introduced a series of letters critical of the controversial rezoning plan, which would almost triple density at three sites compared to what's there now. The letters were from the National Trust for Historic Preservation, longtime state Sen. Patsy Ticer (D-30) and legendary folk singer Pete Seeger. Silberberg also suggested that council member should consider allowing only one hotel instead of two.

None of that is reflected in the official minutes of the meeting.

Instead, this is what future generations will see: "Vice Mayor Silberberg submitted letters from the community regarding the waterfront issue and stated that she is seeking a compromise for the community on the waterfront plan." The vice mayor says she doesn't believe that sentence captures the essence of what happened during the meeting. But when she tried to add some detail to the minutes, none of her colleagues on the council were willing to support the change.

"People should know the minutes of this meeting are not historically accurate," said Silberberg, who is still frustrated by the lack of detail in the official record. "I just think that's a basic democratic value that the minutes reflect what happened."

HOT Issue

Residents on the West End are not breathing easy this week, and many are organizing a protest this weekend to draw attention to construction of an Interstate ramp that many say will be an environmental hazard. At issue is a ramp from the High Occupancy Toll lanes from Shirley Memorial Highway at Turkeycock Run. "The ramp will raise pollution levels well above safe exposure standards for more than 75,000 local residents," wrote West End resident Mary Hasty in a letter to her neighbors this week. "An independent analysis reveals the ramp will spike area pollution for miles around, affecting over 75,000 residents."

A coalition of homeowner associations known as Concerned Residents of Landmark is sponsoring the demonstration, which is set to begin at 10 a.m. Saturday morning. The rally will take place at the construction site for the HOT lanes terminus at the Stevenson Avenue cul-de-sac.

Appreciating Potomac Yard

This year, city officials plan to spend about \$2 million for the Potomac Yard Metro station — a \$273 million station that city taxpayers will pay for in the coming decades. The location hasn't even been determined yet, and most of Potomac Yard remains raw land or longstanding retail property. In the future, city officials are planning a financial model that will set aside appreciation on the real estate to fund service delivery in the newly created neighborhood.

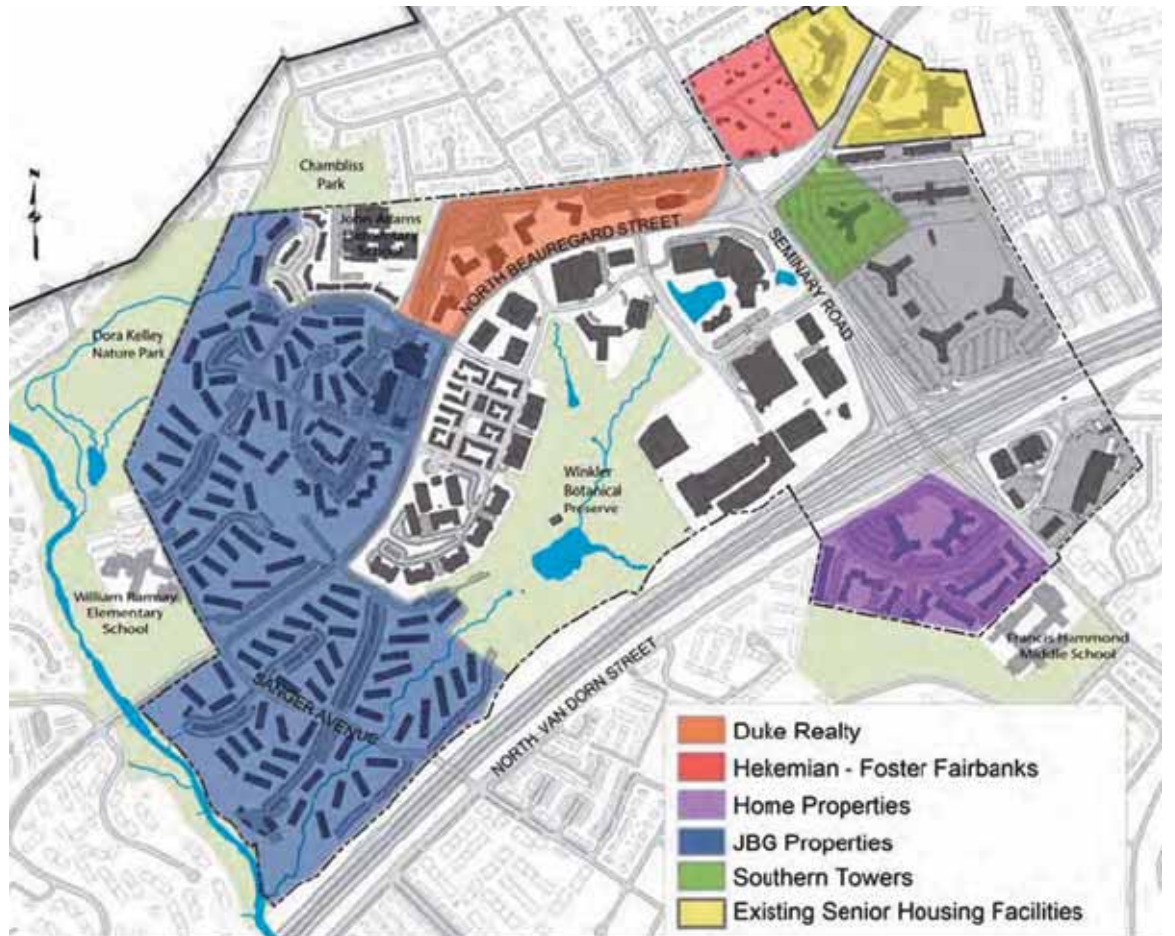
"With development at Potomac Yard now accelerating, and with the timing of potential station construction drawing nearer, the fine tuning of the revenue calculation model will occur over the next year," wrote Budget Director Nelsie Smith in a budget memo last week.

Part of that fine tuning will be the creation of a model to differentiate between kinds of properties. Single-family detached homes will be taxed at a different rate than townhouses, for example, or mid-rise residential properties. Budget officials say the reason for that is residents of these buildings will demand different kinds of services as taxpayers. "Making a distinction will be important as Alexandria City Public Schools costs are the biggest driver of the cost of serving residential properties," Smith said. "And there are major differences in student generation among different types of residential property."

Currently, the station is in the Environmental Impact Statement Study phase — a process that city budget officials have set aside \$2 million for this year. Three alternative designs are currently under consideration, ranging in cost from \$194 million to \$459 million. City Council members are expected to make a decision on the design and location this year.

— MICHAEL LEE POPE

News



ALEXANDRIA DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING AND ZONING

Living with Uncertainty in West End

FROM PAGE 1

But when Hyra suggested that commissioners consider adding 100 additional units of affordable housing, a majority of the members rejected the idea. They said that the small-area plan had already been considered and adopted, including a carefully balanced financial plan for how the affordable units would be financed.

"It's not that I didn't hear them, and my heart strings were tugged at," said Planning Commission member Eric Wagner. "But there is no other plan that we've developed that puts this kind of money for affordable housing."

THE ZONING PLAN now before City Council members includes \$167 million for affordable housing, a feature that supporters say makes the Beauregard plan a historic addition to the supply of dedicated units in the region. About \$52 million of that will come from developer contributions, with the rest coming from tax-increment funding. Planning Commission members said that if they failed to approve the deal, those units would not be available and market forces would displace residents.

"If we don't act," explained chairman John Komoroske, "we lose those units."

Many residents who live in the apartments now say the promise of 800 units in the future is small consolation for people who live in 2,500 units today. They worry that they might not be one of the lucky few who gets selected to live in the units, which will be a fraction of the market-rate affordable housing units there today. Many residents say the stress of an uncertain future lingers over their days, a phenomenon that several suggested that City Council members consider as they take up the issue

"Let the stress kick in of having to find a place to live, of relocating their kids, of having a longer commute to work," said Alex Santiago, who has three children in the public school system. "Have them stress about it as much as me and my family are stressing about it."

CITY OFFICIALS say the redevelopment will unfold in phases over three decades, a long-term plan that includes a new town center and a transit corridor. Developers expect to break ground in 2014, when the first phase of demolition and construction will begin. The deal now under consideration would have

developers contribute \$52 million for affordable housing, \$28 million for a traffic ellipse, \$23 million for a transitway, \$18 million for donated land and \$10 million for a fire station. An attorney representing developer JBG said the phasing plan will allow many of the families to stay where they are during the construction.

"There will be many, many apartments that remain in place over time," said Kathy Puskar, a land-use attorney who represents the developers interested in redeveloping the properties. "So the

first phase is not tearing down all 2,500 units."

The original plan called for the first 47 units of dedicated affordable housing to be delivered in 2014, with half of the units more than a decade away. Now that Planning Commission members have suggested an accelerated timetable, those units may be available sooner if City Council members agree. Until then, many of the residents of this working class neighborhood say they want to find a way to stay in a neighborhood they have come to call home.

"I feel very sad because I live for 16 years here," said Milagros Navorio. "I want to stay here for my family."

"I try not to let it bother me, personally, but when the time comes, I'll have to deal with it."

— **Rodolfo Navorio, a senior at T.C. Williams High School**

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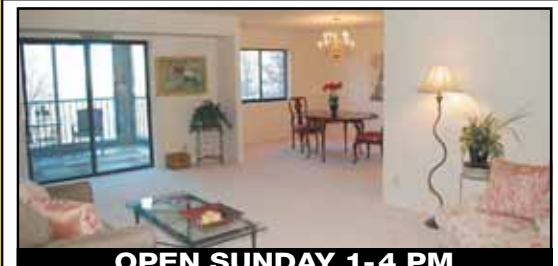
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News



Sheriff Dana Lawhorne and Deputy Valarie Wright arrive at Inova Alexandria Hospital with a basket full of stuffed bunnies and candy.

The Easter Bunny, portrayed by Winchester Sheriff Leonard Millholland, enjoys visiting with patients and hospital staff.



PHOTOS CONTRIBUTED

Easter Bunny Spreads Cheer at Hospital

Alexandria Sheriff Dana Lawhorne and members of his office accompanied the Easter Bunny, portrayed by Winchester Sheriff Leonard Millholland, to Inova Alexandria Hospital on Wednesday, March 27, for the Office's annual visit.

Carrying a basket of stuffed bunnies adorned with hearts and the printed message "Some Bunny Loves Me," Deputy Valarie Wright, Latoscha Pierce and Tif-

fany Searcy helped the Easter Bunny spread cheer to patients, visitors, staff and volunteers.

The Inova Alexandria Hospital bunny began in 2009 in this joint community service project sponsored by the Easter Bunny Foundation, a nonprofit organization whose mission is to provide a personal visit and a toy from the Easter Bunny during the week of Easter to children in hospitals.

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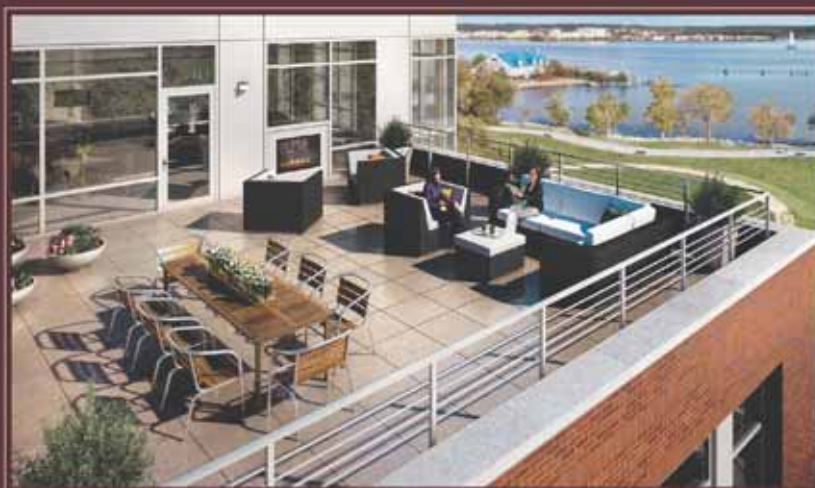
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27 in Central Office Earn Total of \$3.6 Million

FROM PAGE 1

tors. "If anything, the city seems to be on the lean side."

Domenech said that when you look at the ratio of administrators per pupil, Alexandria has fewer officials than other jurisdictions of its size. And the average deputy superintendent in Northern Virginia makes about \$180,000, according to Domenech. So Deputy Superintendent Madye Henson's annual salary of \$177,000 is below the regional average. He said that when city residents look at salaries of central administrators, they need to remember that these are highly educated people in high demand, and that the marketplace of talent works the same way in public sector as it does in the private sector. "If people were to look at a similar list of salaries for people in the private sector, they would seem to be all right," said Domenech, a former superintendent in the Fairfax County public school system. "But somehow in the public sector, it's almost as if these people have taken a vow of poverty, and they have not."

THE GERSHWIN TUNE also laments "a man who works for fame" because "there's no guarantee that time won't erase his name." So far, Superintendent Sherman's name has been thoroughly etched into the memory of people in Alexandria and throughout the region. Last year, then-Vice Mayor Kerry Donley called for Sherman to resign after a financial scandal was uncovered in the school system's budget office. Instead of stepping down, the superintendent brought a new team of administrators on board and persuaded School Board members to let him stay for the remainder of his contract, which expires in the summer of 2015.

"I think there would be a comfort level

across the city with what we are spending if we had better results," said School Board member Bill Campbell. "So don't tell me there's no room in this budget for adjustments."

One potential cut under consideration would remove three positions from central staff to save \$425,000 a year.

"As a board, we are analyzing all of the administrator salaries as we go through the budget process," said School Board Chairwoman Karen Graf in an emailed response to questions. "I think there will be some critical analysis that might bring about some more effective streamlining of the organizational chart."

ADMINISTRATOR SALARIES in Alexandria tend to be about twice as much as the average teacher salary which is \$73,000. School officials say part of the reason for the cost of administration is the challenge of working in a system where 56 percent of students qualify for free or reduced price lunch, an indication that most of the public school students in the city live in poverty. That's one of the reasons why the cost-per-pupil in Alexandria is \$17,618, one of the highest in the region. Educational leaders in Northern Virginia say attracting talent to this region is difficult because the cost of living here is so high.

"Obviously people are most familiar with teachers and principals," said Phil Kavits, communications director with Prince William County public school system. "But they may not be familiar with all the people who are necessary to make sure we get students to school, that we keep them safe while they are there, that we deal with the myriad mandates from the state and local level and that we effectively communicate with parents and other constituents."

Central Administration Salaries

- ❖ Superintendent **Morton Sherman**, since 8-15-2008
\$265,000
- ❖ Deputy Superintendent **Madye Henson**, since 7-11-2011
\$177,000
- ❖ Chief Academic Officer **GwenCarol Holmes**, since 5-16-2011
\$172,000
- ❖ Chief Human Resources Officer **Kevin North**, since 8-29-2011
\$172,000
- ❖ Chief Financial Officer **Stacey Johnson**, since 11-18-2009
\$158,000
- ❖ Chief Administrative Officer **Tammy Ignacio**, since 8-21-1991
\$158,000
- ❖ Executive Director of Policy Development **Margee Walsh**, since 4-1-1993
\$150,000
- ❖ Executive Director of Curriculum **John Brown**, since 11-16-2009
\$148,000
- ❖ Executive Director of Technology Services **Elizabeth Hoover**, since 8-21-1995
\$145,000
- ❖ Director of Educational Facilities **William Finn**, since 7-2-2012
\$144,000
- ❖ Director of Pupil Transportation **David Rose**, since 5-3-2004
\$138,000
- ❖ Director of Accounting **Michael Covington**, II, since 11-3-2010
\$138,000
- ❖ Coordinator of Volunteer and Community Partnerships **Coleen Mann**, since 7-9-2004
\$134,000
- ❖ Director of Pre-K Initiatives **Gregory Hutchings**, since 1-3-2011
\$132,000
- ❖ Director of Nutritional Services **Becky Domokos-Bays**, since 8-25-2003
\$127,000
- ❖ Director of Special Education Services **Jane Quenneville**, since 9-22-2008
\$127,000
- ❖ Director of Employee Relations **Sandra Hardeman**, since 6-7-2010
\$122,000
- ❖ Director of Employment **James Loomis**, since 11-4-1998
\$122,000
- ❖ Director of Communications and Public Relations **Kelly Alexander**, 1-3-2011
\$122,000
- ❖ Director of English Language Learning **Bethany Nickerson**, since 8-17-2010
\$118,000
- ❖ Director of Equity **Victor Martin**, since 12-3-2012
\$109,000
- ❖ Director of Technology Services **Marya Runkle**, since 8-25-2003
\$108,000
- ❖ Director of Title 1 Programs **Natalie Mitchell**, since 7-1-2010
\$104,000
- ❖ Executive Director of Accountability **Clinton Page**, since 8-25-2008
\$102,000
- ❖ Assistant Director of Maintenance and Operations **Lucy Willis**, since 9-25-2006
\$99,000
- ❖ Clerk to the School Board **Candra Hodges**, since 8-15-2011
\$70,000
- ❖ Administrative Assistant to the Superintendent **Keira Hopkins**, since 12-3-2008
\$54,000



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Kick Butts Day

On Kick Butts Day, March 20, more than 40 Alexandria youth, supported by adults, celebrated the day by conducting Operation Storefront, where they filled out surveys on the amount of tobacco advertising in over 60 local stores. Kick Butts Day is a national day of activism that engages youth in a variety of activities designed to raise awareness about the problems of tobacco use in the schools and in the community. The Kick Butts Day activities were sponsored by the Substance Abuse Prevention Coalition of Alexandria, the Clean and Smoke Free Air Coalition of Alexandria, Y Street, and the Department of Parks, Recreation, and Cultural Activities.

BULLETIN BOARD

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

NATIONAL CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH EVENTS

SafeAssured Child Identification. SafeAssured ID Kits provide families with vital information needed by law enforcement and the media to immediately broadcast information unique to a missing child. Open to the public. For more information, visit <http://www.safeassured-id.com/>.

Saturday, April 6, 9:30 a.m.-2 p.m. at Cora Kelley Recreation Center

Saturday, April 13, 9:30 a.m.-2 p.m. at William Ramsey Recreation Center

Saturday, April 27, 9:30 a.m.-2 p.m. at Charles Houston Recreation Center.

Darkness to Light's (D2L) Stewards of Children. Training for parents and caregivers in the ways to better prevent, recognize and respond to child sexual abuse. Childcare and pizza provided. Reservations limited. To register, go to: cactewardsofchildrentraining.eventbrite.com/

Friday, April 19, 3- 6 p.m. at The Center for Alexandria's Children, 1900 N. Beauregard St., Suite 200

Tuesday, April 30, 3- 6 p.m. at The Center for

Alexandria's Children, 1900 N. Beauregard St., Suite 200

A Playgroup A Day: The Center will host a playgroup a day through the month of April. Developmental playgroups focus on the importance of learning through play and provide parents with best practices. Ages 0-5. No pre-registration or enrollment necessary. For a listing of playgroups, visit the Center's website at www.centerforalexandriaschildren.org or call 703-746-6008.

SEXUAL ASSAULT AWARENESS MONTH EVENTS

The Sexual Assault Center of the Department of Community & Human Services will recognize Sexual Assault Awareness Month. There will be several activities going on around the City: View the Message of Hope display:

April 1 - 12 at the Department of Health (4480 King St.) and DCHS (2525 Mt. Vernon Ave.)

April 15 - 19 at the Casey Clinic (1200 N. Howard St.) and the Alexandria Police Department

April 19 - 26 at the Alexandria Police Department (3600 Wheeler Ave.)

The Clothesline Project, a display of t-shirts made by survivors that bears witness to the violence they have experienced, will be on display **April**

SEE BULLETIN BOARD, PAGE 23

Help Shelter on Free Cone Day

On Tuesday April 9, Ben & Jerry's across the nation will host its annual Free Cone Day. From noon to 8 p.m. at the Old Town Ben & Jerry's located at 103 South Union St., Carpenter's Shelter will be collecting donations. All proceeds further Carpenter's Shelter's work in the community, serving homeless and formerly homeless men, women and children. The ice cream is free but all donations benefit Carpenter's Shelter.

From 4-6 p.m., guest scoopers will be dishing out ice cream alongside the Carpenter's staff. Guests will include: U.S. Rep. Jim Moran, Kerry Donley, David Speck and Sheriff Dana Lawhorne.

Donate Dresses for 'Princess for a Night'

The eighth annual Princess for a Night project is collecting dry-cleaned formal dresses, shoes, handbags, jewelry, unused make-up (for example, sample cosmetics), and shopping bags now through Friday, May 11.

Donations can be dropped off at the T.C. Williams High School's Main Office, 3330 King St., Monday through Friday between 7:30 a.m. and 4 p.m.

For the past seven years, the community has helped young women across the region to attend prom without major expense. In April, dresses and other prom essentials are collected at various drop-off points throughout the area. Then, in April and May, events are held at T.C. Williams High School and two other local high schools, where the students can select dresses, shoes, handbags and jewelry free of charge. Last year, more than 500 dresses (as well as shoes, jewelry, and handbags) were donated; more than 325 students from 11 high schools attended.

The project especially needs dresses for full-figured young women (sizes 18+). Do not donate velvet or wintry dresses, soiled items, outdated items, casual dresses or items for mature women, as they cannot be used.

Dress selection will take place at T.C. Williams on Friday, April 27, from 3:30 to 6 p.m., and Saturday, April 28, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Enter through the Chinquapin Drive entrance and follow the signs. Students will be served on a first-come, first-served basis.

To assist with the project, e-mail Eleanor Muse, eleanor.muse@acps.k12.va.us.

Join Spring2ACTion on April 17

On April 17, 95 of Alexandria's nonprofit organizations are enlisting the community to raise money for local causes during Spring2ACTion, a 24-hour online giving drive. Also known as Alexandria's Giving Day, Spring2ACTion, is hosted by ACT for Alexandria and ACTION Alexandria.

The Art League, Animal Welfare League of Alexandria, Community Lodgings, Alexandria Police Foundation, Carpenter's Shelter, Stop Child Abuse Now (SCAN) of Northern Virginia, local PTAs, Hopkins House, Alexandria Seaport Foundation, Senior Services of Alexandria, Gadsby's Tavern Museum Society, Alexandrians Involved Ecumenically (ALIVE!), Center for Alexandria's Children, The Child & Family Network Centers, Friends of Guest House and The Reading Connection are some of the participating organizations. Nearly 14 percent of children in Alexandria live in poverty and more than one-third are considered low-income, according to Venture Philanthropy Partners' 2012 Capital Kids report. Alexandrians can join the effort on April 17 by visiting www.spring2action.org. A donation of \$10 can help one's favorite nonprofits keep up with local needs. Spring2ACTion has helped Alexandria nonprofits raise more than \$420,000 since its inception in 2011 to support new and existing programs.

Park To Host Earth Day Events

Celebrate Earth Day on Saturday, April 20 at Ben Brenman Park, 4800 Brenman Park Drive, from 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. The event will include educational exhibits, demonstrations, hands-on activities for children, a tree sale, and more. For details visit alexeearthday.org.

BUSINESS



Sheriff Dana Lawhorne, Councilwoman Del Pepper, Del Ray Variety Shop co-owner Erik Dorn, U.S. Rep. Jim Moran, Ryan Bailey, owner of Greener Cleaner of Del Ray and Heart of Del Ray 2013 awardee Serdar Basegmez, Gayle Reuter, Patty Moran, Carol Bailey, Pat Miller, president of the Del Ray Business Association Mellenie Runion, Del Ray Variety Shop co-owner Jennifer Dorn and Dr. Jennifer Lee.

Del Ray Variety Store Opens

After months of canvassing neighbors and businesses in Del Ray, the Del Ray Variety Store held a grand opening on Saturday morning, March 30. The canvassing was the brainchild of the owners — to find out what the neighborhood lacks in goods and supplies. The focus is on fun and convenience, something for everyone to enjoy: children's toys, arts and crafts, pet products, helium balloons, greeting cards, hardware, and party supplies. Also in the inventory are office and school supplies, beauty products, bath and kitchen products, and general home merchandise and candy. The store is independently owned by Jennifer and Erik Dorn.

Free parking is available for 21 cars next to the store at 203 E. Del Ray Avenue.



Sunna and Ray Mahmood, Mayor Bill Euille and Del Ray Variety Store owners Jennifer and Erik Dorn take a moment from the grand opening festivities and the new variety store in Del Ray.

Phoebe, Mein, Olivia and Claire tour the parking lot with gift balloons during the grand opening celebration on Saturday morning.



Del Ray Variety Shop co-owner Erik Dorn has a laugh with Bryan Porter and Sheriff Dana Lawhorne.

PHOTO BY
LOUISE KRAFFT
GAZETTE PACKET

LIVING LEGENDS

Lord and Brown Help Shape This City

They share artistic vision and volunteer spirit.

BY CHUCK HAGEE

One is an accomplished architect, the other an award-winning photographic artist. Together Marlin G. Lord and Kathryn A. Brown transform the world around them and give tangible evidence to the philosophy of Johann Friedrich von Schiller: "He who has done the best for his own time has lived for all times."

Lord brought his Midwestern values, sense of community and can-do attitude with him when he came to the Del Ray section of Alexandria 47 years ago from Minneapolis to join the architectural firm of Vosbeck, Vosbeck, Kendrick and Redinger (VVKR). Today the results are evident, not only in structural form, but also in his ongoing activities and civic and philanthropic actions citywide.

Brown was born in Hato Rey, Puerto Rico, grew up in Westfield, N.J., and graduated from Pennsylvania State University with a bachelor of arts degree emphasizing fine art, architecture, art education and history. Twelve years later, after working for several firms as an architectural draftsman, and a sojourn in California, she decided her first love was photography. However, it was her architectural drafting capabilities that brought her in contact with Lord. She applied for a job at VVKR. Lord, then a vice president of the firm, recommended that she be hired.

"We came upon one another in the stairwell of the building after she was hired and I said that I was the one who had recommended her," Lord said. That was in 1979. It was the beginning of an alliance that has benefitted Alexandria and its residents for more than 33 years.

In addition to being founding members of the Del Ray Artisans (DRA), a nonprofit organization with the mission of promoting art and community, Brown's and Lord's other joint civic endeavors include the King Street Gardens Park Foundation and Chinquapin Organic Gardens. They also work together at Lord's architecture firm, Marlin G. Lord AIA Architect. Lord is the company's principle architect and Brown is the



PHOTO BY STEVEN HALPERSON

In addition to being founding members of the Del Ray Artisans, Kathryn Brown's and Marlin Lord's other joint civic endeavors include the King Street Gardens Park Foundation and Chinquapin Organic Gardens.

draftsman. They share design responsibilities. They also support each other's photographic art and submit their work to exhibitions throughout the metropolitan area.

A MINNESOTA NATIVE, Lord earned architectural degrees from the University of Minnesota in 1960 and 1962. His architectural designs in Northern Virginia include the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics headquarters in Reston, the Thomas Jefferson Elementary School in Falls Church and the restaurants Los Tios Grill on Mount Vernon Avenue and Dos Amigos on Braddock Road.

Perhaps Lord's greatest architectural contribution to Alexandria was his leadership on a new design for the old Monroe Avenue Bridge. The straightening and redesign of the bridge resulted in safer and more efficient traffic flow on Jefferson Davis Highway, improved the Potomac Yard land-use

plan, expanded parkland at Simpson Field and led to the revitalization of Mount Vernon Avenue as a safe and thriving commercial and residential primary artery through Del Ray.

In 1983 Brown left VVKR to establish her own commercial photography firm concentrating on events, products, public relations and architecture. She received an A.A.S. degree in commercial photography from Northern Virginia Community College in 1988. She continues to provide drafting service to Lord's architectural firm. "Photography is both a vocation and avocation for me. As a full-time, self-employed commercial photographer I strive daily to provide visually stimulating images to fulfill my clients' needs. As a fine art photographer I strive to balance the pressure of deadlines with the release of the creative process," Brown said.

Brown has served as vice president of internal affairs and grant chair for Artisans United, Inc. in Annandale, and is a legacy member of The Art League in Alexandria. She has served as treasurer and newsletter editor of the Business and Professional Women's Club of Fairfax County and is a member of the Del Ray Business Association, the Del Ray Citizens Association and Agenda:Alexandria. She served a term on the visual arts panel of the Alexandria Commission for the Arts. She was a member of the Alexandria Chamber of Commerce cultural arts committee from 1991 until the

committee was disbanded and in 1992 became the Alexandria Arts Forum, a coalition of artists and arts patrons, advocates and administrators. Brown helped found the forum and for 18 years has served in multiple positions on its board.

One of Brown's most recognized ventures was cutting and donating her long hair to Locks of Love, an organization that collects human hair to make wigs for children who suffer from diseases that cause their hair to fall out. "It was recommended for me to do this by my fellow DRA members," Brown said. Her hair had not been cut since she was in the eighth grade. It had reached nearly to her knees before her first donation of 17 inches in 2009 to Locks of Love. She repeated the donation in 2012 with a donation of another 17 inches. Her donations were leveraged to raise funds for the Ted Eichers Memorial Art Scholarship, which awards \$1,000 annually to a T.C. Williams High School senior. "I was amazed by the depth of the warmth and generosity that I found as I spoke with fellow Alexandrians," she said. "In the end we were able to donate \$800 to the fund."

AS FOUNDING MEMBERS of Alexandria's Urban Design Task Force, Brown and Lord fostered an international design competition for King Street Gardens Park, located at the intersection of King Street and Daingerfield and Diagonal Roads. The project was the recipient of many grants, which helped lead to its creation. It was also funded in part by the Buy a Brick, Build a Park campaign, spearheaded by Lord and Brown, serving as volunteers.

"There was a fair amount of controversy and even a proposal by some to have it torn down. But supporters of the project threatened to chain themselves to it if any attempt was made to dismantle it," Lord said. The park now hosts Wednesday farmers markets from May through October and an annual Supper Under the Stars organized by the Old Town Business and Professional Association.

For 20 years Lord served as a member of the Alexandria Park and Recreation Commission, including seven years as chair. Over the years Lord has also answered the Alexandria City Council's call to serve on the Waterfront Committee, the Alexandria 2020 Ad Hoc Committee, the Washington Area Council of Governments citizen land-use advisory committee and the Upper Potomac West Task Force, to mention a few. He is a former president of the Del Ray Citizens Association and a recipient of the Del Ray Business Association's Star Award.

Lord is also an award-winning photographer in his own right. "He won an award for his photography in the first show he ever entered," Brown said.

Together, Lord and Brown have not only changed the face of Del Ray but also have been instrumental movers and shakers in many activities and projects that have improved the City of Alexandria and the lives of its residents.

Living Legends: The Project

Living Legends of Alexandria is an ongoing 501(c)(3) photo-documentary project to identify, honor and chronicle the people making current history in Alexandria. The project was conceived in 2006 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; Goodwin House, Inc.; McLaughlin Ryder Investments; Renner & Company, CPA, P.C. 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 future Legend, visit www.AlexandriaLegends.com or contact Legends@AlexandriaLegends.com.

OPINION

April Is Poetry Month

Send us your poems, your Mother's Day photos, and even your poems about mothers.

April is poetry month, and we invite our readers to share their poems with us. Some will appear in the print edition and some will appear online.

We'd love to have a note from you about what inspired your poetry, and illustration, photo of you, etc. are welcomed as well. Include the text of your poem, your name and address (we will only print your name and town name, not your full address), email address and phone number to gazette@connectionnewspapers.com.

Here are some poetry happenings from around the area:

Alexandria's new poetry society, based at the Duncan Library, will hold its second meeting at St. Elmo's Coffee Pub on April 8 from 8 – 10 p.m. and will explore beat poetry. For more, contact the Duncan Library at 703-746-1705.

At presstime, Alexandria was expected to announce the name of the new Alexandria Poet Laureate, replacing Amy Young.

Bernadette Geyer of Vienna was selected for the 2012 Hilary Tham Capital Collection for her poetry manuscript, "The Scabbard of Her Throat."

The Iota Club and Cafe, 2832 Wilson Blvd., Arlington, holds an annual poetry event on Mother's Day. This year's event, Sunday, May 12, 6-8 p.m., will feature Bernadette Geyer of Vienna and James Arthur. Iota Club and Café

Mapping Alexandria in Poems and Pictures

MAPP your city! Alexandria City Poet Laureate Amy Young is calling all residents of Alexandria to submit poems and artwork to help MAPP (Mapping Alexandria in Poems and Pictures) Alexandria.

City residents are invited to send in poems and artwork about the streets they live on and use every day. These street "portraits" will be collected on the city's website in the hope of creating an interactive map of Alexandria. There will be a reading of MAPP poems and a display of artwork at the Athenaeum on April 25 at 6:30 p.m. This will be the culminating event for National Poetry Month.

Residents should send their poems and artwork to poet@alexandriava.gov by April 19. Poetry and artwork will continue to be collected after this date for the city's website. Residents are reminded that April 18 is Poem in Your Pocket Day. Let the city know how you plan to celebrate, by sending your ideas to the above email.

Stewart Ave.

January 12, 2011

The sun went bowling here today.

It rolled from the snow-covered lot at one end of the street

past picket fences, barking dogs and bird feeders, past bungalows and brick colonials,

past cigarette-smoking city workers and Nature's Nibbles and hit a strike at the avenue's end, scattering its rays through the windows

of Mt. Vernon Community School.

— Amy Young

is at 2832 Wilson Blvd., Arlington.

Virginia's current Poet Laureate, Sofia M. Starnes, has launched The Nearest Poem Anthology project, which will collect 50-100 poems submitted by Virginia residents "that are most meaningful to us and thus create a testimony to the immediacy of poetry and its closeness to everyday life." Submissions will be accepted through June, and should include the full text of the poem, the name of the poet and the source, including where you encountered the poem, and 200-250 words of persuasive explanation of why you selected the poem. "This should include some information about yourself and why you consider your selected poem 'nearest' to you," Starnes writes. "The compelling nature of your write-up — your story — will play an important role in the selection of the poems to be included." Visit

<http://sofiastarnes.com/NearestPoemAnthologyBrochure.pdf>

Mother's Day Photos

Mother's Day is May 12 and every year at this time we call for submissions to our Mother's Day photo gallery. Send photos of you and your mother, grandmothers, great-grandmothers. Please name everyone in the photo, describe what is happening in the photo and include your name, address, email address and phone number. Send photos to gazette@connectionnewspapers.com

You can also submit poetry, poetry about mothers and photos celebrating mothers directly through our website at <http://www.connectionnewspapers.com/contact/letter/>

LETTERS

Governing Behind Closed Doors

To the Editor:

On March 16, the Alexandria City Council passed controversial and sweeping planning changes that are already the subject of litigation. The city passed these changes to transform an honest policy disagreement into Through the Looking Glass litigation tactics, where nothing is as it appears to be. There are two cases in court.

The first, city-initiated litigation attacks a Board of Zoning Appeals (BZA) decision finding that citizens have a right to petition their government in accordance with state law (the BZA is a creature of state law, not the city) and zoning ordinance. The second, citizen-initiated litigation, which is before

SEE LETTERS, PAGE 14



PHOTO BY LAURA SUDDER

Snapshot

Sam Kirby stores gear after the sunrise Easter service by Good Shepard Lutheran Church at Waterfront Park on March 31.

Alexandria Gazette Packet

www.AlexandriaGazette.com

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NEWS DEPARTMENT:
To discuss ideas and concerns,
Call: 703-778-9410
e-mail:
gazette@connectionnewspapers.com

Steven Mauren
Editor, 703-778-9415
smauren@connectionnewspapers.com

Michael Lee Pope
Reporter, 703-615-0960
mpope@connectionnewspapers.com
@MichaelLeePope

Jeanne Theismann
703-778-9436
jtheismann@connectionnewspapers.com
@TheismannMedia

Jon Roetman
Sports Editor, 703-224-3015
jroetman@connectionnewspapers.com
@jonroetman

Louise Krafft
Photographer
lkrafft@connectionnewspapers.com

ADVERTISING:
For advertising information
e-mail:
sales@connectionnewspapers.com

Julie Ferrill
Display Advertising, 703-778-9446
jferrill@connectionnewspapers.com

Jane Hughes
Display Advertising, 703-778-9448
jhughes@connectionnewspapers.com

Tara Lloyd
Display Advertising, 703-778-9447
tlloyd@connectionnewspapers.com

Andrea Smith
Classified Advertising, 703-778-9411
asmith@connectionnewspapers.com

Debbie Funk
National Sales
703-778-9444
debfunk@connectionnewspapers.com

Publisher
Jerry Vernon
jvernon@connectionnewspapers.com

Editor & Publisher
Mary Kimm
703-778-9433
mkimm@connectionnewspapers.com
@MaryKimm

Editor in Chief
Steven Mauren
Art/Design:
Laurence Foong, John Heinly
Production Manager:
Jean Card
Geovani Flores

Editor Emeritus:
Mary Anne Weber

CIRCULATION: 703-778-9427
Circulation Manager:
Ann Oliver
circulation@connectionnewspapers.com

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OPINION

Protecting the Antibiotic Arsenal

By CHRISTINE CANDIO, RN, FACHE
CEO, INOVA ALEXANDRIA HOSPITAL

Since the discovery of penicillin by Alexander Fleming in 1928, antibiotics have served an essential role in helping the body's immune system fight infections caused by bacteria. They are prescribed to treat myriad illnesses like pneumonia, strep throat, and urinary tract infections. Sometimes, however, antibiotics are prescribed for illnesses they cannot treat — those caused by viruses — like colds and flu, or they are prescribed too often. This misuse has given rise to drug-resistant pathogens and compromised the efficacy of our limited antibiotic options.

The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recently highlighted the dire consequences of antibiotic misuse and overuse in a report about the ever-increasing problem of "nightmare superbugs." Known by an alphabet soup of letters like CRE, MRSA and VRE, these germs are becoming increasingly resistant to many if not all classes of antibiotics and are creating healthcare headaches in hospitals and nursing homes worldwide. For patients, this can mean extended hospital stays, longer lasting illnesses, even more medicines with negative side-effects, or in extreme cases, death. Now, the CDC is urging hospitals, healthcare providers, and patients to act immediately to protect our antibiotic arsenal before it's too late.

At Inova Alexandria Hospital, I am proud to say, we are part of the solution to this global patient safety concern. In 2010, we developed an Antimicrobial Stewardship Program to optimize our use of anti-

otics and provide better quality care for our patients. With a multidisciplinary team of infectious disease physicians, critical care intensivists, pharmacists, microbiologists, nurses, and clinical specialists, we created a new care model that has achieved successful results.

The hallmark of the model includes daily rounds on all patients undergoing antimicrobial therapy (antibiotics and anti-fungals) in our Intensive Care Units, as well as those on high risk or extended antibiotics in all inpatient units. In consultation with the patient's attending physician, the team follows these patients throughout their hospital stay, closely monitoring their medications, therapies, and lab results. They ensure that every patient prescribed an antibiotic actually needs such therapy and that they receive the correct drug at the right dose via the right route for the right amount of time.

To effect change, team members educated staff about the need for judicious use of antibiotics and introduced best practices in antimicrobial stewardship, which sometimes ran contrary to traditional patterns of therapy. With help from the hospital's physician leaders, the team overcame these conflicts and improved patient safety in the process. In the first full year of our Antimicrobial Stewardship Program, we significantly decreased the number of days ICU patients received antibiotics, as well as associated hospital costs; we also saw a decrease in patients' hospital stays and patient deaths.

Buoyed by the successful results in our ICUs, we have expanded the Antimicrobial Stewardship Program hospital-wide and will look for other opportunities throughout Inova.

Free Remodeling & Design Seminars!

Celebrating 25th Anniversary



Sat, April 6th — 10am-2pm

Where: 6862 Elm Street, Suite 330, McLean, VA 22101

Thinking of remodeling? This event is the perfect opportunity to take advantage of free expert advice with no obligation. Learn about the hot topics you should consider when remodeling.

Saturday's Seminars:

- Kitchen and Bath Trends
- Paint Colors Made Easy
- Apples to Apples - Thinking your project through? How do you compare?

Seminars run from 10am-Noon.
Lunch to follow.

Please arrive at 9:45am for check-in.

Seating is limited. Call Sabrina at 703.425.5588 to reserve your seats!

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Cupcakes & COCKTAILS

As you tour our lovely center, at each tour stop you'll sample a different, scrumptious cupcake and enjoy refreshing sparkling cider. Along the way, meet our wonderful, caring staff and learn more about services we offer. The tour will end in our beautiful dining room where we'll have a variety of light refreshments and even more cupcakes! We'll also have drawings for lots of great door prizes! Ms. Arlene Beckerman from the Northern Virginia Pro Bono Law Center will be our guest speaker from 11:30 am to 12 noon.

Date: Thursday, April 11, 2013

Time: 10 am to 6 pm

Location: Envoy of Alexandria
900 Virginia Avenue
Alexandria, VA 22302
(703) 684-9100

We look forward to seeing you at our Cupcakes and Cocktails Open House Event!

900 Virginia Avenue, Alexandria, VA 22302
Phone (703) 684-9100 | Fax (703) 684-5497

ENVOY
of Alexandria

HOME SALES


In February 2013, 142 Alexandria homes sold between \$1,900,000-\$105,000. This week's list represents those homes sold in the \$555,000-\$327,000 range. For the complete list, visit www.ConnectionNewspapers.com

Address	BR	FB	HB	Postal	City	Sold Price	Type	Lot AC	Postal Code	Subdivision
3804 ELBERT AVE	3	2	2		ALEXANDRIA	\$555,000	Townhouse	0.04	22305	SUNNYSIDE
432N PEYTON ST	4	3	0		ALEXANDRIA	\$550,000	Detached	0.08	22314	WHEAT & SUTERS
305 PAYNE ST S #301	3	2	1		ALEXANDRIA	\$540,000	Garden 1-4 Floors		22314	OLD TOWN VILLAGE
501 SLATERS LN #1001	3	2	0		ALEXANDRIA	\$530,000	Hi-Rise 9+ Floors		22314	MARINA TOWERS
718B NORFOLK LN	3	2	1		ALEXANDRIA	\$529,000	Townhouse		22314	OLD TOWN GREENS
5119 DONOVAN DR	3	2	1		ALEXANDRIA	\$528,000	Townhouse		22304	CAMERON STATION
434 CLAYTON LN	3	2	1		ALEXANDRIA	\$525,000	Townhouse	0.04	22304	EDSALL RD T/H
910 POWHATAN ST #304N	2	2	0		ALEXANDRIA	\$521,900	Garden 1-4 Floors		22314	900 N WASHINGTON ST CONDOS
1104 COLONIAL AVE	3	2	1		ALEXANDRIA	\$499,000	Townhouse	0.03	22314	WESTOVER
2181 JAMIESON AVE #2101	2	2	0		ALEXANDRIA	\$495,000	Hi-Rise 9+ Floors		22314	CARLYLE TOWERS
307 PATRICK ST	3	1	1		ALEXANDRIA	\$489,900	Attach/Row Hse	0.01	22314	OLD TOWN
256 BURGESS AVE	3	2	0		ALEXANDRIA	\$476,000	Townhouse	0.04	22305	WARWICK VILLAGE
5332 TANEY AVE	3	2	0		ALEXANDRIA	\$475,000	Detached	0.17	22304	SEMINARY VALLEY - BROOKVILLE
19 KENNEDY ST	3	2	0		ALEXANDRIA	\$475,000	Townhouse	0.04	22305	WARWICK VILLAGE
3834 BRIGHTON CT	3	2	2		ALEXANDRIA	\$474,000	Townhouse	0.02	22305	BRIGHTON SQUARE
2121 JAMIESON AVE #2007	2	2	0		ALEXANDRIA	\$472,500	Hi-Rise 9+ Floors		22314	CARLYLE TOWERS
5113 HERITAGE LN	3	3	1		ALEXANDRIA	\$472,000	Townhouse	0.04	22311	SEMINARY PARK
3837 WATKINS MILL DR	2	3	1		ALEXANDRIA	\$460,000	Townhouse	0.04	22304	TOWNES AT CAMERON PARKE
411 ASHFORD LN	3	2	1		ALEXANDRIA	\$460,000	Townhouse	0.04	22304	EDSALL RD T/H
5209 RICHENBACHER AVE	4	3	0		ALEXANDRIA	\$450,000	Detached	0.18	22304	BROOKVILLE
610 WEST ST N #508	3	2	0		ALEXANDRIA	\$445,000	Mid-Rise 5-8 Floors		22314	COLECROFT STATION
2945 SYCAMORE ST	3	2	0		ALEXANDRIA	\$443,000	Townhouse	0.04	22305	WARWICK VILLAGE
5022A BARBOUR DR	2	2	1		ALEXANDRIA	\$440,000	Townhouse		22304	CAMERON STATION
917 ASHTON ST	3	2	1		ALEXANDRIA	\$436,750	Detached	0.34	22312	LINCOLNIA HILLS
210 BURGESS AVE	3	1	0		ALEXANDRIA	\$420,000	Townhouse	0.04	22305	WARWICK VILLAGE
204 ASPEN ST	3	2	0		ALEXANDRIA	\$410,000	Townhouse	0.04	22305	WARWICK VILLAGE
6039 RICKETTS WALK	3	2	2		ALEXANDRIA	\$410,000	Townhouse	0.03	22312	QUANTRELL MEWS
2906 COMMONWEALTH AVE	3	1	0		ALEXANDRIA	\$405,000	Townhouse	0.04	22305	WARWICK VILLAGE
400 CAMERON STATION BLVD #336	2	2	0		ALEXANDRIA	\$400,000	Garden 1-4 Floors		22304	CAMERON STATION
169 WESMOND DR	2	2	0		ALEXANDRIA	\$400,000	Townhouse	0.03	22305	LYNHAVEN
407A CLIFFORD AVE	3	1	1		ALEXANDRIA	\$400,000	Semi-Detached	0.06	22305	ST ELMO
1200 BRADDOCK PL #102	2	2	0		ALEXANDRIA	\$397,500	Mid-Rise 5-8 Floors		22314	BRADDOCK PLACE
5404 WYCKLOW CT	3	2	1		ALEXANDRIA	\$395,000	Townhouse	0.03	22304	HOLLAND TOWNE
21 FLOYD ST S	2	2	2		ALEXANDRIA	\$390,900	Townhouse	0.03	22304	CAMERON KNOLLS
4006 DUKE ST	2	2	1		ALEXANDRIA	\$389,900	Townhouse	0.03	22304	CAMERON KNOLLS
5543 FORRESTAL AVE	3	2	0		ALEXANDRIA	\$385,000	Detached	0.19	22311	SHIRLEY FOREST
603 QUEEN ST #1	1	1	0		ALEXANDRIA	\$385,000	Other		22314	ANCHORAGE HOUSE
1703 PRESTON RD #956-17	3	1	0		ALEXANDRIA	\$378,800	Townhouse		22302	PARKFAIRFAX
1600 PRINCE ST #510	1	1	0		ALEXANDRIA	\$353,000	Mid-Rise 5-8 Floors		22314	1600 PRINCE STREET
3313 CORYELL LN #803-33	2	2	0		ALEXANDRIA	\$345,000	Garden 1-4 Floors		22302	PARKFAIRFAX
1819 KENWOOD AVE #303	2	2	1		ALEXANDRIA	\$345,000	Townhouse		22302	KINGSGATE
1653A VAN DORN N ST	3	2	1		ALEXANDRIA	\$340,000	Townhouse		22304	PARKSIDE AT ALEXANDRIA
269 PICKETT ST #402	3	2	0		ALEXANDRIA	\$337,000	Garden 1-4 Floors		22304	HILLWOOD
520 JOHN CARLYLE ST #304	1	1	0		ALEXANDRIA	\$335,000	Mid-Rise 5-8 Floors		22314	CONDOS AT CARLYLE SQUARE
143 JASPER PL	5	2	0		ALEXANDRIA	\$330,000	Duplex	0.12	22304	TARLETON
501 SLATERS LN #1003	2	2	0		ALEXANDRIA	\$330,000	Hi-Rise 9+ Floors		22314	MARINA TOWERS
1403 ABINGDON DR E #5	1	1	0		ALEXANDRIA	\$327,500	Garden 1-4 Floors		22314	HARBOR TERRACE

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Exterior features include slate roof, stone and brick patios lush landscaping and porch overlooking the private wooded lot. ~ \$1,495,000

1105 Vassar Road Alexandria, VA 22314

A Home With Character



This is the house you want to come home to. Beautiful Charleston style colonial with over 7,000 square feet of living space. Five



bedroom, three full and two half baths, two gorgeous fireplaces, renovated kitchen, two car garage, in sought after cul de sac just

steps to the Potomac River ~ \$1,395,000

9051 Tower House Place Alexandria, VA 22308



Open Sunday 2-4

Two level brick home with incredible panoramic views of the Potomac River. Three bedroom, three bath, lower level suite, remodeled kitchen, two fireplaces and large garage on .4 acres. ~ \$929,000



7305 Park Terrace Alexandria, VA 22307

New Listing off Telegraph Rd



Open Sunday 2-4

Ready to move in! Three/four bedroom, two bath home located in the Wickford neighborhood just off Telegraph



Road. This charming detached home is filled with new upgrades, stone fireplace in family room, new carpet, hardwoods, bay windows, trex deck,

shed with electricity. ~ \$495,000

5413 Foxboro Court Alexandria, VA 22310



Open Sunday 2-4

Charming home in Wellington Heights. Three bedrooms, 2 baths on 1/2 acre. Remodeled kitchen and baths, bright family room addition, large living room and three fireplaces. Conveniently located near the Mt. Vernon Trail in the Wayneswood school district. ~ \$549,000



7605 Fort Hunt Road Alexandria, VA 22308



Open Sunday 2-4

Four season water views backing to bike trail on almost 1/3 acre! State of the art kitchen, 4 bedrooms, 3.5 baths, on 2 fully finished levels with 2 car garage. Welcoming foyer, formal dining room, living room with fireplace, 3 season room just off



kitchen opens to large patio. ~ \$849,900

8503 West Boulevard Drive Alexandria, VA 22308

Classic Wellington Home



Beautifully crafted colonial on over 1/2 an acre just off East Boulevard Drive in sought after Wellington. 5 bedrooms, 4.5 baths, on 3 fully finished levels spanning almost 4,000 finished



sq ft. Large rooms, great flow, stunning kitchen renovation, overlooking huge family room and quite back yard, sited on private gravelled road at the end of a cul de sac. ~ \$1,245,000

900 Clifton Drive Alexandria, VA 22308

New Waterfront Construction



New construction to be built along scenic Hunting Creek with boating access to the Potomac River. Lot size of .35 acres with 99 ft of water frontage. Several



floor plans to choose from. Four bedrooms, 3 full and 2 half baths, with 2 car garage. Upper level features study, loft space & wet bar leading out to deck which overlooks the water. Customize your dream home ~ \$1,350,000 ^

8728 Thomas Stockton Pkwy Alexandria, VA

New Price!



Charming stone cottage in pristine condition on 1/2 acre. Fully Renovated and modernized while maintaining all its historical features. Featuring a new chef's kitchen, master retreat with stone bath. Wood and stone floors throughout. 3 bedrooms, 2.5 baths, new two car cedar carport with workshop, lush landscaping and two flagstone patios. ~ \$850,000



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22314



LETTERS

FROM PAGE 10

the Supreme Court of Virginia, is whether the city can manipulate the process to deprive its citizens of due process of law. The city repeated its manipulation of the process in March, which likely will lead to more litigation. Yet City Council passed both new changes after only three weeks of total process, and there was scant discussion of the implications of these changes. It was so scant there was no discussion.

As background, the decision to initiate the changes was made in an executive session of council, in apparent violation of transparency laws. Citizens, of course, have no idea who was present, what was said or by whom, or who voted for what. What we do know is that the city held a press conference a few days later announcing that it had decided in closed session to enact these changes to "get beyond the litigation."

Not much was spoken about whether either text amendment was a good idea. Indeed, the city blocked release of the text amendments until 10 days before the Planning Commission hearing. It is a common and sound litigation strategy to withhold information until required to reveal it. As public policy, withholding information

relevant to a public matter is atrocious government (and gives the lie to the What's Next effort). Obviously, the city recognized a conflict between governing and litigating, and chose litigating as the priority.

Although the March 5 Planning Commission hearing and March 16 council hearing were entertaining as Kabuki theater, it was nothing more. Multiple witnesses testified against the changes and some testified for it. Yet no one on the Planning Commission or council could discuss the real reason the changes were introduced in the first place: to advance the litigation interests.

One of the changes curtails the due process rights of property owners to petition its government. The Planning Commission (like the BZA last year) raised many questions about the implications of this reform, none of which were answered at council. So now they want a working group to figure out what the new provision means? Why would council pass changes that it does not understand? The city attorney implied the changes are necessary to improve the city's posture in court. Little was said about the underlying meaning. In English, the city railroaded through changes it does not un-

derstand because litigators told them to. Why? The city of course could not discuss or disclose the rationale behind adoption of public policy (on the advice of counsel?) because that would apparently betray litigation strategy. So they remained silent during testimony and enacted sweeping changes with little discussion or understanding.

It is unfortunate that we are now in a place where decisions are not made in public for policy reasons but made behind closed doors, cloaked in secrecy, for the purpose of advancing narrow litigation interests.

It may work; it may not; it may trigger more litigation. The Supreme Court of Virginia and the Circuit Court will tell us soon enough. But we should not be under any illusion that the March 16 changes were done for any other reason than positioning the city and certain developers in court. Having passed the law, we will have to wait to find out what's in it. In other words, government of the litigators, by the litigators, and for the litigators.

Frank Putzu
Alexandria

SEE LETTERS, PAGE 30

Planning for Retirement

BY MARYANNE BEATTY
SSA'S MEAL-ON-WHEELS
PROGRAM COORDINATOR



financial Security for AARP; Nancy Van Gulick, CEO with Seniors Living Well; Tom

Everyone looks forward to the "golden years," when you reached the point where you can enjoy all that life has to offer and not worry about all that comes with reaching that phase of your life.

SENIOR SERVICES OF ALEXANDRIA

It can be a bit overwhelming, but knowing what resources are available can lessen the stress if you are retired or planning for that next chapter of your life. "Planning for and Making the Most of your Retirement" is the topic of Senior Services of Alexandria's next Speaker Series on Wednesday, April 10 at the Charles Beatley Central Library at 5005 Duke Street from 9:30 a.m. to noon.

We will have a great group of local experts lined up to answer your questions including Erin Scheithe, project manager - Fi-

West, financial advisor with Signature Estate & Investment Advisors, LLC; and Cedar Dvorin, coordinator with the Virginia Insurance Counseling and Assistance Program (VICAP). They'll be talking about a variety of topics: steps to take to help ensure your long-term financial security; reverse mortgages; what you can really expect from Medicare and Medicaid, important advice about Social Security; downsizing and making your home more accessible. The event is free and open to the public. Light refreshments will be served. Seating is limited so please RSVP online at www.seniorservicesalex.org or call SSA at 703-836-4414, ext 10.

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210 West Walnut Street, Alexandria, VA 22301
Circa 1918, this immensely charming cedar shingle colonial features a wonderfully spacious LR w/ fp, huge DR w/ fp, sunroom, den, 4BR/3.5BA + finished lower lvl. This is a gem!
Donnan C. Wintermute 703-518-6156



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Hayfield \$495,000
5314 Foxboro Court, Alexandria, VA 22315
Ready to move in 3-4BR/2BA, 2 frpls. Charming detached home w/ new upgrades, stone fireplace in family room, new carpet, hardwoods, bay windows, trex deck, shed w/ electricity.
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Lorton \$315,000
8937 Milford Haven Court, Lorton, VA 22079
This fabulous condo is a commuters dream. Walk to the VRE & close to 95. Spacious end unit. 3BR/2.5BA w/ garage, large master suite, access to club house & pool.
Phyllis Patterson 703-518-6158



JUST REDUCED



Collingwood Springs \$850,000
8316 Fort Hunt Road, Alexandria, VA 22308
Price Reduction on this uniquely charming home with elegant features. 3BR/2.5BA on .5 acre. New chef's kitchen, custom cabinetry, slate patios, beautifully crafted carport.
Phyllis Patterson 703-518-6158



NEW LISTING



Springfield \$494,000
8304 Terra Grande Ave, Springfield, VA 22153
Move in condition colonial, convenient to new Pentagon Express Line, Ft Belvoir & major commuter routes, 3BR/2.5BA/2CG, screened in porch, numerous updt.
Bonnie Rivkin 703-598-7788



NEW LISTING



Alexandria \$849,000
2212 King Street, Alexandria, VA 22301
Grand old Alexandria home featuring high ceilings, large rms, pine fls & cozy frpl. Just two blocks from the King Street Metro. New listing-Wonderful Opportunity.
Sherry York 703.625.7337



NEW LISTING



Alexandria \$549,900
8220 Crown Court Road, Alexandria, VA 22308
This 4BR/2BA home is sure to please. Lots of updt, hardwds & a lovely kit. add to it's allure. Great curb appeal. Outdoor space to enjoy the nice weather just around the corner.
Karen Leonard 703.328.7041



NEW LISTING



Riverview At Mount Verno \$1,395,000
9051 Tower House Place, Alexandria, VA 22308
Beautiful Charleston Style home w/ over 6,000 sq ft. 5BR/5BA, 2 fireplaces, renovated kitchen, 2 offices, 2 car garage, in sought after culdesac - steps to the Potomac.
Phyllis Patterson 703-518-6158



Belle View \$315,999
6508 Boulevard View B1, Alexandria, VA 22307
Pristine, rarely-on-the market 3BR right off GW Pkwy. All the bells & whistles, updated bath & kitchen w/ granite & stainless. Perfect location, meticulous condition!
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2617 Woodlawn Trail
\$949,000
Former Model at Sacrifice Price!
 Distinctive Craftsman style highlighted by spacious front porch. Stunning home offers virtually all the builders upgrades and options. Features include bright open floor plan, spacious rooms & amazing kitchen, 3 fin lvs, luxury master suite, hwd flrs, upgraded trim detail, 2 car gar. & the list goes on! Prime "close-in" location on large level lot. **OPEN SUN 4/7, 1-4! Ft Hunt Rd S; R- Sherwood Hall; R-Davenport; L-Elba; L-Lisbon; L-Milway to Woodlawn Trail**



8313 Mount Vernon Hwy
\$699,000
Brand New Home at Used Home Price!
 Be the first to call this property home. Special features include: high ceilings, open floor plan, gourmet eat-in kitchen with gas cooktop, custom cabinets and granite, family room with fireplace open to kitchen. Stunning master suite with huge walk-in closet and luxury bath. Thermal windows & upgraded insulation. 2 car garage. No detail has been overlooked. **OPEN SUN 4/7, 1-4! GW Pky S, sharp Right on N235 at Estate; continue to house on right.**



4721 Tarpon Ln
\$899,000
Unbelievable Waterfront Price!
 Fab updated & expanded Colonial on gorgeous half acre plus waterfront lot. Just dredged to provide deep water and smooth boating to Potomac and beyond! Magnificent three level home with 5 bedroom, 3.55 bath, large room sizes, updated gourmet kitchen, stunning sunrooms on two levels, and oversize 2 car garage. Walk to yacht Haven amenities. **OPEN SUN 4/7, 1-4, GW Pky S, past Estate; L-Forest Haven, R-Tarpon.**



4004 Belle Rive Terrace
\$1,299,000
Master Piece-Near River!
 Must see-one of area's most spectacular properties! Top quality renovation resulting in almost 8000 sq ft of updated elegance. Features: grand room sizes, high ceilings, custom trim detail, refinished hwd flrs, updated kit and baths, 5BR, 4.5BA. Multi-tiered decks with hot tub capitalize on privacy of grounds. Prime location on quiet cul-de-sac near river in prestigious Belle Rive. **OPEN SUN 4/7, 1-4! GW Pky S, past Estate; L-Old Mt Vernon; L-Rive; R-Belle Rive.**



5211 Polk Ave
\$1,085,000
Seller Offering Closing Cost Credit up to \$15K!!
 Best of both worlds-new home size and amenities combined with "in-town convenience". Spacious new home with all the bells and whistles: high ceilings, gourmet kit, upgraded trim detail, gorgeous hardwood flrs. 4 large BR including luxury MBR. Fin basement, 4.5 baths and oversize 2 car garage. Nothing like it in City for close to this price!



5901 Ashby Manor Pl
\$929,500
Magnificent Home-Spectacular Setting!
 One of Alexandria's most exciting opportunities. Stately large Colonial updated throughout, open floor plan and high ceilings. Special features include updated gourmet kitchen, hwd flrs, four full baths, fam room off kitchen with soaring cathedral ceiling and fireplace. Luxurious master suite and oversize three car garage. Custom columned rear porch overlooks private full acre+ grounds.

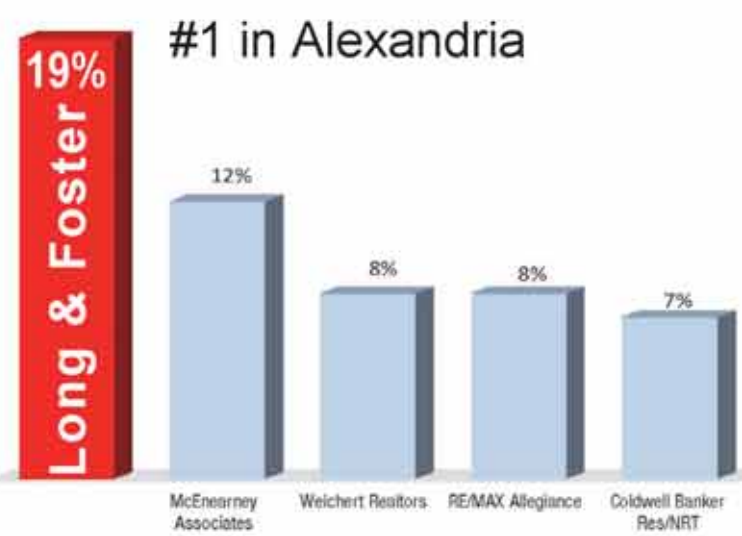


213 Woodland Terrace
\$1,759,000
Rare In Town Estate!
 One of Alexandria's most admired homes! Magnificent property consisting of 18,000 sq ft manicured grounds, elegant main residence, two car garage and detached cottage.



Home has been tastefully updated and expanded with a careful eye on preserving its original charm and character. Fabulous features include: bright, open, free flowing floor plan, exquisite trim detail, hardwoods, custom built-ins, high ceilings and recessed lighting throughout. Striking gourmet kitchen any chef would envy. Magnificent family room open to kitchen. Stunning master suite with fireplace, luxurious bath & his and hers dressing rooms with custom cabinetry. Fabulous covered porch overlooks private rear grounds. Winner of the *Alexandria Beautification Award*, recognizing select Alexandria residences that beautify their surroundings. "Perfection" best describes this one of a kind offering!

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ENTERTAINMENT

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

ONGOING

Art Exhibit. See “Process: Photography” at The Athenaeum, 201 Prince St. Features established and emerging talent displaying a wide variety of picture taking devices ranging from large print to electron microscopy. Over 15 types of equipment are represented. Through April 7. Free. Visit www.nvfaa.org for more.

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

Art Exhibit. Through Tuesday, April 23. Open Friday-Wednesday 10 a.m.-6 p.m. and Thursday 1-9 p.m. Potomac Fiber Arts Gallery announces the opening of the juried show “Sculptural Elements.” Located located in Studio 18 of the Torpedo Factory Art Center at 105 North Union Street. Free Admission. Visit www.Potomacfiberartsgallery.com or call 703-548-0935.

Art Exhibit. 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Monday through Friday. “Spotlight,” an exhibition of acrylic paintings on canvas by Lukman Ahmad, will be on display in the Margaret W. and Joseph L. Fisher Art Gallery, 3001 N. Beauregard St. through Sunday, April 28. Visit www.nvcc.edu/alexandria/schlesingercenter/gallery.html.

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.

Art Exhibit. See Multiple Exposures Gallery “Dual Show” by Eric Johnson and Susan Meyers through Sunday, May 5. Located in the Torpedo

Factory, 105 N. Union St. Free. Visit www.multipleexposuresgallery.com or 703-683-2205.

Art Exhibit. Through May 11. Local artist Nicholas Aman attempts to express the compelling nature of the Pacific coast through his solo exhibition, “Pacific Pulse,” at Alexandria’s Artspace 109 Gallery, 109 N. Fairfax St. The gallery hours are: Tuesday through Friday noon-5 p.m., Saturdays 11 a.m.-5 p.m., and Sundays noon-5 p.m.

Occupied City: Life in Civil War Alexandria Exhibition. At The Lyceum, Alexandria’s History Museum, 201 South Washington Street. Open daily through September, this exhibit traces life in Alexandria following Virginia’s decision to secede from the Union in May 1861. See how Robert E. Lee’s hometown was transformed literally overnight from a prosperous commercial port into a supply, hospital, and transportation center for the Union Army, and find out why Alexandria became a destination for African Americans seeking freedom. Explore the experiences of Alexandrians and others who lived here during this tumultuous time, through their own words, as well as in period photographs and collections items. The Lyceum is open Monday through Saturday, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sunday, from 1-5 p.m. Suggested admission is \$2. Visit www.alexandriahistory.org or call 703-746-4994.

Dance Class. Join Tom Koerner and Debra Sternberg, 1994 UK Lindy Hop Air Steps and 1994, ‘95, ‘96, ‘98, ‘02 and ‘03 Virginia State Open Champions at these great swing dances. For more information call 703-359-9882 or visit www.gottaswing.com.

Life Drawing. Del Ray Artisans offers a range of open life drawing sessions to hone your figure drawing skills. Just drop-in with your supplies to draw our live models. Fee: \$8-12. View the calendar: www.TheDelRayArtisans.org.

WEDNESDAY-SUNDAY/APRIL 3-7

O’Connell’s Fleadh Cheoil. There will be music and fun for all ages at O’Connells, 112 King St. April 7 is family fun day with face painting, story telling and more. All events are free. Visit www.danieloconnells.com for more.

THURSDAY/APRIL 4

Comedy Performance. Jon Lovitz, Tim Meadows and Chris Kattan will perform at 7:30 p.m. in the Music Hall at the Birchmere, 3701 Mount Vernon Ave. \$69.50. Visit www.birchmere.com or 703-549-7500.

Dumbarton Oaks Estate and Park. 9:45 a.m.-3:30 p.m. Meet at Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road. Get away to Dumbarton Oaks historic estate in Georgetown. Tour the historic house and gardens, have lunch at a local park, and spend the afternoon exploring Dumbarton Oaks Park, the work of landscape designer Beatrix Farrand. \$95. Visit www.greenspring.org or call 703-642-5173.

Mother Goose Time. 10 a.m. at Duncan Library, 2501 Commonwealth Ave. Children ages 12-24 months can enjoy stories, activities and more. Limited to 25 children. Free. 703-746-1705.

Story Time. 10:30 a.m. or 3 p.m. at Beatley Library, 5005 Duke St. Children ages 3-5 can enjoy stories, activities and more. Free. Registration required, 703-746-1702 ext. 5.

Story Time. 11 a.m. at Duncan Library, 2501 Commonwealth Ave. Children

ages 3-5 can enjoy stories and more. Free. 703-746-1705.

Little One-Ders. 11:15 a.m. at Beatley Library, 5005 Duke St. Children ages 12-23 months can enjoy stories and more. Registration required, 703-746-1702 ext. 5.

Story Time. 4 p.m. at Barrett Branch Library, 717 Queen St. Children ages 3 and up can enjoy stories and more. Free. 703-746-1703.

Poem in Your Pocket Day. 5 p.m. at Beatley Library, 5005 Duke St. Read and listen to haiku poems before creating one. Then carry your poem in a pocket decorated by you. Children ages 8-12. Free. 703-746-1702.

Paws to Read. 5:30 p.m. at Beatley Library, 5005 Duke St. Children in grades 1-6 can read to friendly dogs. Registration required, 703-746-1702 x5.

Pajama Party. 7 p.m. at Burke Branch Library, 4701 Seminary Road. Children ages 3-6 can come dressed in their favorite outfit/pajamas and listen to stories. Free. 703-746-1704.

Build/Renovate Your Own Castle V. 11 a.m.-2 p.m. at the Alexandria Black History Museum, 902 Wythe St. Future and current home buyers, renters and homeowners can get advice on how to renovate their living space. Free. To RSVP 703-746-4356.

Whiskey sale. 10 a.m. Mount Vernon Distillery & Gristmills gift shop. Purchase unaged George Washington Rye Whiskey. The Whiskey is the most authentic version of Washington’s whiskey available today. \$95 per bottle.

APRIL 4 THROUGH MAY 6

Art Exhibit. 10 a.m.-6 p.m. at the Torpedo Factory Art Center, 105 N. Union St. Studio 21. Linda Lawler presents “Everyday Gods and Goddesses.” Free. Call 703-683-1780 or visit www.theartleague.org.

FRIDAY/APRIL 5

Opening Reception. 7-10 p.m. “Turn on Your Masters” at Del Ray Artisans Gallery, 2704 Mount Vernon Ave. The artists pay homage to, praise, critique or dish the artists who have influenced them. Free. Visit

www.thedelrayartisans.org for more.

APRIL 5-28

Art Exhibit. “Turn on Your Masters” at Del Ray Artisans Gallery, 2704 Mount Vernon Ave. The artists pay homage to, praise, critique or dish the artists who have influenced them. Free. Visit www.thedelrayartisans.org for more.

APRIL 5-6

Rachelle Ferrell. \$59.50. The Birchmere Music Hall is located at 3701 Mount Vernon Ave. Visit www.birchmere.com or call 703-549-7500.

SATURDAY/APRIL 6

World Magic Gala Show. 7:30-9 p.m. at Bishop Ireton High School, 201 Cambridge Road. Features four magicians from around the world. Visit magi-whirl.org/gala for tickets. Proceeds benefit the International Brotherhood of Magicians and Bishop Ireton High School’s Theater.

Opening Reception. 4-6 p.m. at the Margaret W. and Joseph L. Fisher Art Gallery, 3001 N. Beauregard St. Meet artist Lukman Ahmad. Featuring Kurdish Sitar and Saz music by Jani Dylan and Azad Yalcin. Visit www.nvcc.edu/alexandria/schlesingercenter/gallery.html.

Garden Markets. 9 a.m.-1 p.m. at Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road. Local growers have shrubs, native plants and wildflowers, ornamental grasses and unusual perennials and annuals. Call 703-642-5173.

Workshop: Ikebana Flower Arranging. 9:30-11 a.m. at Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road. Learn the rich symbolism and fundamentals of Ikebana flower arranging and take home an arrangement of your own. \$35. Register by March 28. Call 703-642-5173.

Tasting Party: Umami Means ‘Delicious.’ 10 a.m.-noon at Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road. Explore the savory taste of umami, its history, health benefits, and the taste research science behind it. Sample umami-rich foods and learn how to use its attributes to enhance your cooking. \$27/person. Visit www.greenspring.org or call 703-642-5173 to register.

Annual Rum Punch Challenge. 7-9:30 p.m. at Gadsby’s Tavern Museum, 134 N. Royal St. Try six different creations while bidding on silent auction items. \$50/person. Proceeds benefit the education and preservations programs of the museum. Go to visitalexandriava.com to register and information.

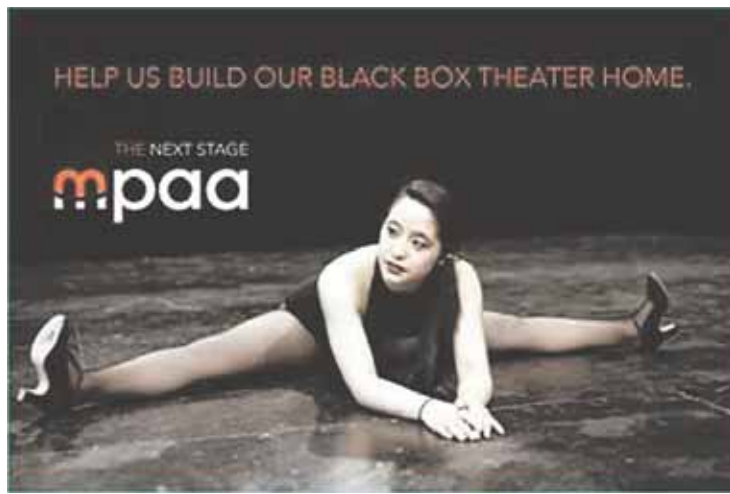
Craft Workshop. 2 p.m. at Beatley Library, 5005 Duke St. Adults can learn how to make soaps in an ice tray. Free. 703-746-1702.

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

Family Collage Workshop. 9-11 a.m. at Art at the Center, 2804 Sherwood Hall Lane. Come celebrate four years of Art at the Center being on Sherwood Hall Lane, with a collage workshop. Free. Call 703-201-1250 or visit www.artatthecenter.org.

Festival. 12:30-6:30 p.m. at Market Square in Old Town. Come celebrate Alexandria’s Scottish heritage with a daylong festival, featuring bagpipe bands and singers performing traditional Scottish song. Free.

SEE CALENDAR, PAGE 19



Benefit Concert

Metropolitan Performing Arts Alliance, of Alexandria and Fairfax Station, will be hosting its first Annual Benefit Concert at the Ernst Cultural Center at the Northern Virginia Community College, Annandale campus on Sunday, April 7 at 5 p.m. The benefit concert, showcasing the dance companies of Metropolitan Youth Ballet, Metropolitan Youth Tap Ensemble and iMPulse Jazz Ensemble, is campaigning to raise more than \$100,000 for construction of the new Alliance Theatre, an extension of Metropolitan Fine Arts Center in Alexandria. Tickets are \$40 per person and can be purchased at www.metrofinearts.com.

The MPAA Annual Benefit Concert is sponsored by Mark Yoo Architects, Myra Oppel and Old House Vineyards. MPAA is the non-profit performance arm of Metropolitan Fine Arts Center and is the umbrella organization of the

performing ensembles, Metropolitan Youth Tap Ensemble, iMPulse Jazz Company and Metropolitan Youth Ballet. It offers operational, artistic and production support to the dance companies so promising young artists may achieve their fullest potential through high caliber performance opportunities.

The 200-seat Alliance Theater will be a part of the Metropolitan Fine Arts Center studios in Alexandria. When completed, the convertible venue will house four dance studios, four music studios and a state-of-the-art black box theater, designed specifically for dance company performances. It will be one of the few performance spaces in Northern Virginia available to stage and perform dance work in an intimate and appropriate setting.

Call 703-339-0444 or visit www.metrofinearts.com.

ENTERTAINMENT



City Birds 1 by John Rizzo, from Target Gallery's Trash Talk exhibition

2nd Thursday Art Night: Greening the Arts

Browse three floors of open studios and galleries, converse with artists, enjoy refreshments, and live music by Guitars Not Guns at this free monthly event, Thursday, April 11, 6-9 p.m. Celebrate Earth Day at the receptions for eco-friendly art exhibitions - Trash Talk in Target Gallery and Beauty and the Waste in Site 2 & 3 Galleries. Then use recycled materials to craft your own environmental art at our Do-It-Yourself Creation Station. Visit The Art League Gallery for the reception for Linda Lawler: Everyday Gods & Goddesses and Flora and Fauna.

Visit Target Gallery from 6 to 8pm for the reception for Trash Talk. Stay for remarks at 7 p.m. by juror Maren Hassinger. Stop into The Art League Gallery from 6:30-8 p.m. for the reception for Linda Lawler: Everyday Gods & Goddesses and Flora and Fauna.

Visit www.torpedofactory.org/thursday.htm for more information about 2nd Thursday Art Night.

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War Re-enactment. Noon-4 p.m. at Carlyle House Historic Park, 121 N. Fairfax St. Take a step back in time and experience the French and Indian War at the Alexandrian home of Colonel John Carlyle. Free. Call 703-549-2997 or email carlyle@nvrpa.org.

Concert. 1 p.m.-1 a.m. at L&B Pizzeria & Sports Bar, 5401 Mapledale Blvd. Come see Alexandria locals Fuse Box and other bands, to benefit the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation. \$10. Call 703-730-1764.

APRIL 6 THROUGH APRIL 30

Art Exhibit. See works by Bud Hensgen, 14 paintings reflecting the impressions he found in Palestine at The Gallery at Convergence, 1801 N. Quaker Lane. Free. 703-998-6260.

SUNDAY/APRIL 7

Artists' Show and Tell. 2 p.m. at The Athenaeum, 201 Prince St. Meet some of the creators of the "Process: Photography." Many of the artists will bring the equipment they used and talk about the processes they used to create their art. Free. Visit www.nvfaa.org for more.

Reception. 1-:30 p.m. "Artistic Duo IV" will be on exhibit at Green Spring Horticultural Center Gallery, 4603 Green Spring Road. Works by watercolor artist Carolyn Grossé and photographer Stephen Gawarecki are featured in a joint show. Paintings range from realistic to abstract; photographs include his window series and moody landscapes. Free. Visit www.greenspring.org or 703-642-5173.

Concert. 4 p.m. New Dominion Chorale will perform Thomas Beveridge's "Yizkor Requiem," along with several works by Felix Mendelssohn at the Rachel M. Schlesinger Concert Hall and Arts Center, 3001 North Beauregard Street. \$30/adults; \$25/seniors; \$5/children and students. Tickets are available through www.newdominion.org/.

Film Fest. In honor of Women's History Month watch "Frida" at 2 p.m. at Beatley Library, 5005 Duke St. Free. Visit www.alexandria.lib.va.us or 703-746-1702.

Benefit Concert. 5 p.m. at the Ernst Cultural Center at the Northern Virginia Community College, Annandale campus. The Metropolitan Performing Arts Alliance will showcase the dance companies of Metropolitan Youth Ballet, Metropolitan Youth Tap Ensemble and iMpulse Jazz Ensemble. \$40/person. Visit www.metrofinearts.com for tickets.

Concert. 3 p.m. at The Lyceum, 201 S.

WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

Washington St. Violinist Alexandra Osborne and pianist Christopher Astilla perform Brahms, Debussy and others. Free. Call 703-635-2770 or visit eclipseco.org.

Concert. 4 p.m. Schlesinger Concert Hall, 3001 N. Beauregard St. Performance of "Yizkor Requiem: A Quest for Spiritual Roots." Tickets available: \$30, general admission; \$25 for seniors; \$5 for students and children. For more information, call Margaret Volpe at 703-403-4709.

MONDAY/APRIL 8

Little One-Ders. 10:30 a.m. or 11:15 a.m. at Beatley Library, 5005 Duke St. Children ages 12-23 months can enjoy stories and more. Registration required, 703-746-1702 ext. 5.

Baby Time. 11 a.m. at Duncan Library, 2501 Commonwealth Ave. Children up to 11 months can hear stories and more. Sign up half-hour before it begins. Free. 703-746-1705.

Baby Rhyme Time. 11:30 a.m. at Beatley Library, 5005 Duke St. Children up to 11 months can enjoy rhymes and more. Free. Registration required, 703-746-1702 ext. 5.

Read, Sing & Play Baby. 4 p.m. at Barrett Branch Library, 717 Queen St. Children up to 11 months can enjoy stories and more. Free. 703-746-1703.

Book Discussion. 7 p.m. at Barrett Library, 717 Queen St. Discuss "Blood Done Sign My Name" by Timothy B. Tyson. Free. 703-746-1703.

Interfaith Book Club. 7 p.m. at Beatley Library, 5005 Duke St. Read nonfiction works that strive to find common ground through recognizing and celebrating common values. Free. Call 703-746-1743 for title.

Poetry Group. 7 p.m. at Duncan Library, 2501 Commonwealth Ave. Discuss poems and poetry in an informal setting. Free. 703-746-1705.

Auditions. 4-6 p.m. Gadsby's Tavern Museum, 134 N. Royal St. Auditions for 4th and 5th graders for Junior Docents. Visit www.gadsbys-tavern.org or call 703-746-4242.

TUESDAY/APRIL 9

Stories and Songs. 10 a.m. at Duncan Library, 2501 Commonwealth Ave. Children ages 1-4 can enjoy stories and more. Sign up half-hour before. Free. 703-746-1705.

Mother Goose Time. 10:15 a.m. at Barrett Branch Library, 717 Queen St. Children ages 12-24 months can enjoy games, rhymes and more. Free. 703-746-1703.

Time For 2s. 10:30 a.m. at Beatley Library, 5005 Duke St. Children age 24-36 months can enjoy stories and more. Free. Registration required, 703-746-1702 ext. 5.

Stories to Grow On. 11 a.m. at Barrett Branch Library, 717 Queen St. Children age 2 and up can enjoy stories and more. Free. 703-746-1703.

Tuesday Tots. 11 a.m. at Burke Branch Library, 4701 Seminary Road. Children ages 2-3 can enjoy stories and more. Free. 703-746-1704.

Baby Rhyme Time. 11:30 a.m. at Beatley Library, 5005 Duke St. Children up to 11 months can enjoy rhymes and more. Free. Registration required, 703-746-1702 ext. 5.

Paws to Read. 5:30 p.m. at Duncan Library, 2501 Commonwealth Ave. Children in grades 1-6 can read to friendly dogs. Registration required, 703-746-1705.

Game Night. 7 p.m. at Beatley Library, 5005 Duke St. Children ages 8-12 can play with their friends. Free. 703-746-1702.

PechaKucha Night. 6-9 p.m. at the Light Horse Restaurant & Bar, 715 King St. Enjoy food and drink and discover a fun way to share ideas and experiences with only 20 images, shown for 20 seconds each. The evening will feature a variety of creative presenters and interesting topics. Free. Visit www.aianova.org/architectureweek.php.

Concert. 7:30 p.m. Springbank Auditorium, 6500 Quander Road. Listen to a free concert performed by a Russian women's choir hosted by West Potomac High School. Free.

WEDNESDAY/APRIL 10

Days of Remembrance. Noon-1 p.m. at City Hall. Each year the City of Alexandria sponsors a civic ceremony observing the days of Remembrance for the victims of the Holocaust.

Mother Goose Time. 10:15 a.m. at Barrett Branch Library, 717 Queen St. Children ages 12-24 months can enjoy games, rhymes and more. Free. 703-746-1703.

Time For 2s. 10:30 a.m. at Beatley Library, 5005 Duke St. Children age 24-36 months can enjoy stories and more. Free. Registration required, 703-746-1702 ext. 5.

Stories to Grow On. 11 a.m. at Barrett Branch Library, 717 Queen St. Children age 2 and up can enjoy stories and more. Free. 703-746-1703.

Spanish Story Time. 1 p.m. at Beatley Library, 5005 Duke St. All abilities and all levels can join in for stories. Free. 703-746-1702.

Author Series. 7 p.m. at Beatley Library, 5005 Duke St. WUSA News reporter Bruce Johnson will discuss his book "Heart to Heart," his account of surviving a heart attack. Free. 703-746-1702.

Lego Family Night. 7 p.m. at Beatley Library, 5005 Duke St. Families can

SEE CALENDAR, PAGE 20

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ENTERTAINMENT

FROM PAGE 19

enjoy building together and more. Free. 703-746-1702.

Founder's Day Benefit. 6-8 p.m. at Pepco Edison Place Gallery, 702 Eighth St., N.W. Washington, D.C. A celebration of empowered women featuring art, food and entertainment. \$40/individuals, \$75/couple. Visit www.maggio-kattar.com/about/community/founders-day-benefit.

APRIL 10 THROUGH APRIL 28

Art Exhibit. See "Trash Talk" at Target Gallery in the Torpedo Factory, 105 N. Union St. The exhibit focuses on everyday common objects that are reclaimed, recycled and transformed into art. Free. Visit www.torpedofactory.org/target for more.

THURSDAY/APRIL 11

Art Focus Group. 7:30-9 p.m. Building Observation skills through drawing — explore connections between drawing and building and ways to encourage observation skills through drawing. Classes are \$25 each or \$200 for the 10 class series. A school or group of teachers can share the registration for the full series. At 2804 Sherwood Hall Ln. Call 703-201-1250

Opening Reception. 6-8 p.m. at Torpedo Factory, 105 N. Union St. Juror talk with Maren Hassinger. Free. Visit www.torpedofactory.org/target for more.

The History of Jazz. 7:30 p.m. at Pendleton Hall, Episcopal High School, 3900 W. Braddock Road. Robert Jospé and Inner Rhythm present performances of

compositions from some of the greatest American jazz artists and composers, including Louis Armstrong's "Struttin' With Some Barbecue," Duke Ellington's "Black and Tan Fantasy," Count Basie's "Tickle Toe," and more. Free. Visit www.episcopalhighschool.org or 703-933-4135.

Mother Goose Time. 10 a.m. at Duncan Library, 2501 Commonwealth Ave. Children ages 12-24 months can enjoy stories, activities and more. Limited to 25 children. Free. 703-746-1705.

Story Time. 10:30 a.m. or 3 p.m. at Beatley Library, 5005 Duke St. Children ages 3-5 can enjoy stories, activities and more. Free. Registration required, 703-746-1702 ext. 5.

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

Little One-Ders. 11:15 a.m. at Beatley Library, 5005 Duke St. Children ages 12-23 months can enjoy stories and more. Registration required, 703-746-1702 ext. 5.

Story Time. 4 p.m. at Barrett Branch Library, 717 Queen St. Children ages 3 and up can enjoy stories and more. Free. 703-746-1703.

Pajama Party. 7 p.m. at Burke Branch Library, 4701 Seminary Road. Children ages 3-6 can come dressed in their favorite outfit/pajamas and listen to stories. Free. 703-746-1704.

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

Architecture Exhibit. 6 p.m. at Virginia Tech's Washington Alexandria Architecture Center, 1001



Spring Classes

Registration is now open for spring classes. Art at the Center is located at 2804 Sherwood Hall Lane. Call 703-201-1250 or visit www.artatthecenter.org.

Prince St. The exhibit highlights award-winning projects by local architects and features a presentation by Christopher L. Gordon, AIA and his team at KGD Architecture. Free. Visit www.aianova.org/architectureweek.php.

Art Exhibit. 6-9 p.m. at the Torpedo Factory Art Center, 105 N. Union St. Browse open studios, interact with artists and enjoy refreshments. Free. Visit www.torpedofactory.org or call 703-838-4565.

Reception. 6:30-8 p.m. at the Torpedo Factory Art Center, 105 N. Union St. Studio 21. Open reception for Linda Lawler's exhibit, "Everyday Gods & Goddesses." Free. For information call 703-683-1780 or go to

www.theartleague.org.

THURSDAY-SUNDAY/APRIL 11-14

Kathleen Madigan "Gone Madigan." \$59.50. The Birchmere Music Hall is located at 3701 Mount Vernon Ave. Visit www.birchmere.com or call 703-549-7500.

APRIL 11 THROUGH MAY 26

Art Exhibit. Thursday, Friday and Sunday noon-4 p.m.; Saturday 1-4 p.m. at The Athenaeum, 201 Prince St. See works by Mary Margaret Pipkin. Free. Visit www.mmpipkin.com.

FRIDAY/APRIL 12

Basic Gardening: Edibles Mix-it-Up. 1:30-2:30 p.m. at Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road. Discover the basics of mixing edibles into your ornamental landscape and enjoy the beauty and benefit of fresh vegetables outside your door. \$10. Visit www.greenspring.org or call 703-642-5173.

PBS Documentary Screening. 3 p.m. at Beatley Library, 5005 Duke St. Watch "Guilty Pleasures," which takes a look at why romance novels are so popular. Free. 703-746-1702.

Call for Submissions. Artists of all ages—young and old—are invited to participate in the Mental Health Anti-Stigma HOPE Campaign's 2013 Art Exhibition "Art Uniting People." Artists may enter a diverse range of art pieces including all the different mediums in painting as well as sculpture, drawings, ceramics, photography and writing. Entry forms must be returned by Friday, April 12. For more information go to www.healthieralexandria.org/antistigma.

Theater Performance. 7 p.m. in the main auditorium of T.C. Williams High School, 3330 King St. The T.C. Williams Drama Department presents "The Wiz," a musical retelling of The Wizard of Oz set against an urban background to music with a mixture of rock, gospel and soul. Tickets are \$10 for Adults and \$5 for ACPS staff, students and senior citizens.

SATURDAY/APRIL 13

Garden Markets. 9 a.m.-1 p.m. at Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road. Local growers provide

SEE CALENDAR, PAGE 21

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ENTERTAINMENT

FROM PAGE 20

you with shrubs, native plants and wildflowers, ornamental grasses and unusual perennials and annuals. Call 703-642-5173.

Tasting Party: Umami Means 'Delicious.' 10 a.m.-12 p.m. at Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road. Explore the savory taste of umami, its history, health benefits and the taste research science behind it. Sample umami-rich foods and learn how to use its attributes to enhance your cooking. \$27/person. Visit www.greenspring.org or call 703-642-5173 to register.

Homes for Native Bees. 9:30-10:30 a.m. at Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road. Learn more about our busy native pollinators and how you can help them by creating native bee homes for your yard. \$12. Visit www.greenspring.org or call 703-642-5173 to register.

Java Jolt. 10 a.m. at Alexandria Archaeology Museum, 105 N. Union St. William Connery "Mosby's Raids in Civil War Northern Virginia." Light refreshments will be served. Free, but reservations required, 703-746-4399.

BEL13VE Gala. 6 p.m. at Crowne Plaza Old Town Alexandria. Features cocktails, auctions, dinner and a guest appearance by Three for a Song. Benefits Good Shepherd Housing and Family Services. For tickets visit www.goodhousing.org or 703-768-9404.

Pet First Aid Course. 10 a.m.-2:30 p.m. at PetSage, Inc., 2391 S. Dove St. Prepare for wound care, acute health challenges and more. \$45. Register online at www.petsage.com or 703-299-5044.

Opening Reception. 5-7 p.m. see works by Bud Hensgen, 14 paintings reflecting the impressions he found in Palestine at The Gallery at Convergence, 1801 N. Quaker Lane. Free. 703-998-6260.

Music Performance. Fusebox performs at Moe's Peyton Place, 6516 Backlick Road. Visit www.moespeytonplace.com.

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

Duncan Film Series. 1 p.m. at Duncan Library, 2501 Commonwealth Ave. Call 703-746-1705 ext. 3 for title.

Theater Performance. 7 p.m. in the main auditorium of T.C. Williams High School, 3330 King St. The T.C. Williams Drama Department presents "The Wiz," a musical retelling of The Wizard of Oz set against an urban background to music with a mixture of rock, gospel and soul. Tickets are

\$10 for Adults and \$5 for ACPS staff, students and senior citizens.

Concert. 9 a.m.-10 p.m. at the Virginia Theological Seminary, 3737 Seminary Road. The day-long event includes a morning Quidditch clinic and tournament, food vendors and more than 10 hours of live music. Free, registration required. Visit www.vts.edu/rockconcert.

Civil War Re-enactment. 2-4 p.m. at Historic Huntley, 6918 Harrison Ln. Join 1st Lieutenant Willard Longnecker and fellow re-enactors of the 3rd US Infantry Regiment Company B, "The Old Guard," as they recreate Civil War life at Historic Huntley. Suggested donation \$3; children 10 and under, free; visitors in period attire, free. Call 703-768-2525.

Live Music. 7-9 p.m. Alexandria's FuseBox performs at Moe's Peyton Place, 6516 Backlick Road. Visit them at www.reverbnation.com/fuseboxbandrocks.

SUNDAY/APRIL 14

Pop-up Sewing Class. 9 a.m. or noon

at Del Ray Artisans. Children age 11 up to adult can make an environment friendly bag. \$20/member; \$25/non member. Register at www.TheDelRayArtisans.org/sewing.

Walking Tour. 1-3 p.m., leaves from Market Square. The tour, offered by local architects, covers the history of Alexandria as reflected through its architecture and urban design, highlighting examples from Georgian to Art Deco. The tour is free, but requires pre-registration by emailing reservations@aianova.org.

MONDAY/APRIL 15

Performance. Brian Culbertson performs at 7:30 p.m. in the Music Hall at the Birchmere, 3701 Mount Vernon Ave. \$55. Visit www.birchmere.com or 703-549-7500.

Little One-Ders. 10:30 a.m. at Beatley Library, 5005 Duke St. Children ages 12-23 months can enjoy stories and more. Registration required, 703-746-1702 ext. 5.



2013 Newly Juried Artists Exhibition
Exhibition Dates: March 23rd - 30th, 2013

Target Gallery welcomes the eighteen new artists of the Torpedo Factory Artists' Association (TFAA). These artists were selected through the TFAA's Annual Jury Process, where an outside panel of art experts made the selections from among 80 applicants.

Please join us for the reception on
Saturday, March 30th from 3-5pm

2D Results:
Dmitriy Akhunbabayev
Regina Davis-Izaguirre
Newton More
McCain McMurray
Gail Spencer Saur
Marlynn Spindler
Gregory Lambert

3D Results:
Jennifer Athanas
Charlene Cross
Dana Lehrer Danze
Brian Grow
Diane Lietzau
Mike McAteer
Yoshiko Ratliff

Melanie Sears
Carol Talkov
Tracie Griffith Tso
Christopher Waters

target Gallery is the national exhibition space of the Torpedo Factory Art Center, a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization whose mission is to enhance public art appreciation and education. Founded in 1987, the gallery was tasked with the mission to feature emerging and established artists from all over the country in shows that would engage and challenge the viewer. We accomplish this through a series of juried exhibitions that are open to all artists nationally and internationally.

target Gallery • Torpedo Factory Art Center
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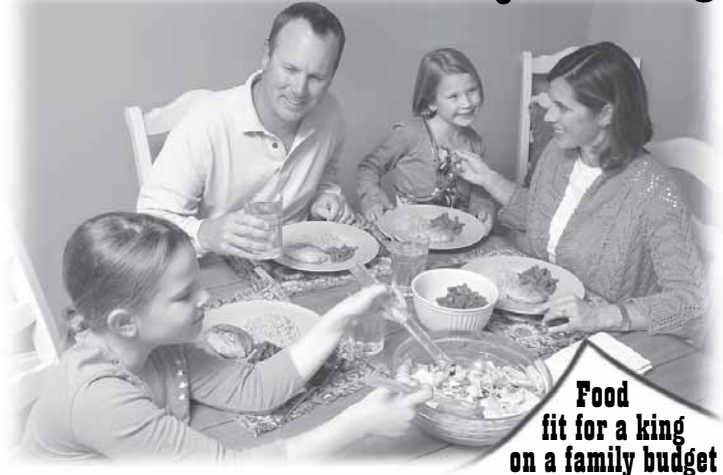
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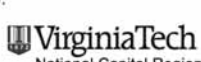
May 23rd - Noon to 8PM - Holiday Inn Old Town

Luncheon Keynote Speaker - Lt. Governor Bill Bolling

Business to Business Innovation Expo, Small Business & Innovation Training Seminar Tracks

Business After Hours Legislative Reception - 5:30PM - 7:30PM

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2013 Public Safety Valor Awards Ceremony & Luncheon

June 13 - Noon-2pm - Crowne Plaza Old Town

Honoring the public safety personnel of the Alexandria Fire Department, Police Department and Sheriff's Office for heroic acts of valor.

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Sponsorships for both events are still available. For more information, visit www.alexchamber.com or email jay@alexchamber.com

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SCHOOLS

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

Cora Kelly School for Math, Science and Technology held a drive to collect toys and "A Coat for Every Kindergartener." The school partnered with the Drug Enforcement Agency, an organization with a mission to keep young children's minds and bodies healthy. The event fit into the kindergartners' social studies unit, during which students learned about needs versus wants, and talked about viewing coats as a type of "shelter," one of the three needs of living things. Collected gifts, clothing and food went to 130 students.

Alexandria City Public Schools is the recipient of a \$380,771 federal grant from the Health Resources and Services Administration, a division of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. The funding will help ACPS start a mobile health unit that will provide primary health, basic dental and mental health services to students in the William Ramsay, John Adams and Patrick Henry elementary school communities.

William Ramsay, Patrick Henry and John Adams serve a combined 2,235 students. Of John Adams's 820 students, about 65 percent are economically disadvantaged, 17 percent are students with disabilities and 33 percent are English language learners. Seventy-five percent of Patrick Henry's 586 students are economically disadvantaged, 10 percent are students with disabilities and 34 percent are learning English. Ramsay serves 829 students, 86 percent of whom are economically disadvantaged,
SEE SCHOOLS, PAGE 26

JACKI SORENSEN'S FITNESS CLASSES

Jacki Sorensen's Aerobic Dancing

Starts **April 15** - Mon & Wed - 10:15 am at
Cora Kelly Rec Center

Starts **April 17** - Wed - 5:30 pm at
Charles Houston Rec Center

Register on line at
alexandriava.gov › Recreation

For more information,
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PEOPLE



James Madison Inaugural Banquet

Jeff Miller talks with Secretary of State Albert Gallatin played by Ron Duquette during the inaugural banquet for President James Madison on Saturday evening, March 23 at Gadsby's Tavern Museum. Upcoming events include a Salon with President Madison on April 21 and Mrs. Madison's Ball on June 8.



Bill Barker as President Thomas Jefferson proposes a toast at the inaugural banquet.



Daniel Jones talks with the President and Mrs. Madison at the banquet. President Madison is portrayed by John Douglas Hall and Mrs. Madison is Katherine Spivey.

PHOTOS BY
JEFF HANCOCK



PHOTOS CONTRIBUTED

Participants of the Child and Family Network Centers' Super Science Saturday watch as a volcano experiment by pre-schoolers and their families erupts March 14 at the CFNC Birchmere headquarters on Mount Vernon Avenue.

Kids at Play CFNC hosts Super Science Saturday.

The Child and Family Network Centers hosted a hands-on Super Science Saturday March 14 at the CFNC Birchmere headquarters on Mount Vernon Avenue.

Joined by members of the Key and Keydette Clubs from T.C. Williams High School, CFNC pre-schoolers and their families participated in interactive experiments that encouraged exploration, discovery and basic science concepts. As a finale, children watched as their own version of a volcano erupted.

CFNC provides free and fully accredited preschool education for 200 children living in poverty in Northern Virginia. The organization also provides free family support, literacy, job training and health programs to the parents of its students. For more information, visit www.cfnc-online.org.

— JEANNE THEISMANN



Pre-schoolers participate in the Child and Family Network Centers' Super Science Saturday March 14 at the CFNC Birchmere headquarters on Mount Vernon Avenue.



PHOTO BY JIM BROWN

Change Of Command

Old Dominion Boat Club president Miles Holtzman, left, makes remarks at the 133rd Change of Command ceremony Jan. 19 in Old Town. The event recognized the 2013 officers and Board of Governors, including Commodore Dave Howell, who joined Holtzman in presenting the Non-member of the Year award to Brenda Beck for her volunteer contributions to the organization. www.olddominionboatclub.com

NEIGHBORHOOD

Taylor Run

O'BRIEN RETURNS

David O'Brien, our neighbor who is an expert in installing public health management systems, has returned from Ghana, which

he describes as having a beautiful countryside and hospitable and friendly people.

His son Conor is now a CPA. Both the O'Brien girls, Jessica and Bridget, are working in the District of Columbia.

BULLETIN BOARD

FROM PAGE 7
15 - 19 at City Hall (301 King St.). Spanish Language Safety and Prevention Forum for the Hispanic Community on **April 30** from 7-9 p.m. - A panel discussion on services and information for the Hispanic community at St. Andrews United Methodist Church,

845 N. Howard St.
Denim Day - On **April 24**, wear jeans to work, school or around town as a visible means of protest against myths that surround rape and sexual assault. For more information on national denim day, go to denimdayusa.org/.

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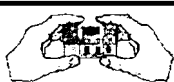
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Zone 4: Centre View North
Centre View South

Zone 5: The Potomac Almanac
Zone 6: The Arlington Connection
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The McLean Connection
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21 Announcements

ABC LICENSE
Yemex International Grocery Inc trading as Yemex International Grocery, 6130 N. Kings Hwy, Alexandria, VA 22303. The above establishment is applying to the VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL (ABC) for a Wine and Beer off premises license to sell or manufacture alcoholic beverages. Yoseph Tesfay, President
NOTE: Objections to the issuance of this license must be submitted to ABC no later than 30 days from the publishing date of the first of two required newspaper legal notices. Objections should be registered at www.abc.virginia.gov or 800-552-3200.

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21 Announcements

21 Announcements

PUBLIC NOTICE

Property Address: 628-636 South Picket Street, Alexandria, Virginia

Tax Map Number: Map-Block-Lot Number 067.02-02-10

VRP Participant: Pickett Square - I LLC, c/o Moore Associates, Inc.

4350 East West Highway, Suite 500

Bethesda, Maryland 20814

In accordance with the Virginia Administrative Code (9 VA 20-160-120), notice is provided by the VRP Participant for the approximately 2.27-acre property referenced above under the Virginia Voluntary Remediation Program (the "VRP"). A site characterization was performed on the property due to the site use as an auto service facility. Contaminants were identified in the soil and groundwater within the property boundaries. The main contaminants of concern at the site are volatile organic compounds and metals. A risk assessment evaluating the potential risks to human health and the environment was completed in accordance with Virginia Department of Environmental Quality regulations and guidance. The risk assessment found that the future use of the property for industrial/commercial purposes would be protective of human health and the environment provided that the property is restricted to prohibit the use of groundwater beneath the property on the property for any purposes (other than for environmental monitoring and testing).

Written comments will be accepted on this matter until May 8, 2013. All comments should be provided in writing to Mr. Jeffrey M. Griffin, Moore&Associates, Inc., 4350 East West Highway, Suite 500, Bethesda, Maryland 20814. Additional information may be requested by contacting Mr. Griffin at 301-565-5100.

21 Announcements

James G. Davis Construction Corporation (DAVIS) is seeking certified SDB, WOSB, HUB Zone, VOSB and SDVOSB companies for their participation on the

Nolan Building Parking Garage Project at

1st IO Command, 8825 Beulah Street Ft Belvoir, VA. 22060.

Bids are due by 12pm on Tuesday, April 16th, 2013. At this time, we seek bidders in divisions 1-16. Documents are available immediately.

All interested bidders please contact

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Obituary

Inez Vivian Arnold, 81 of North Charleston, passed away April 1, 2013.

She was the daughter of the late John Henry Hudgins and Ruth Harrington and widow to Joseph A. Arnold, Sr. Mrs. Arnold was born in Danville, VA and lived in Alexandria for over fifty years. She was a longtime member of Plymouth Haven Baptist Church in Alexandria and was a current member of Deer Park Baptist Church. Mrs. Arnold enjoyed shopping with her granddaughters, playing with her great grandsons and spending time with her family. She always opened her home and heart for family and friends.

She is survived by her son, Joseph Aaron Arnold, Jr. of Alexandria, daughter, Denise Arnold Fones and husband Jim of Ladson, S.C., two granddaughters, Sarah Katherine Stament and Husband Jessie of Goose Creek and Karen Denise Westmoreland and husband Michael of Ladson, sister, Diane Wood and husband Wayne of Greensboro, NC, brother, Michael Hudgins of Danville, VA. Mrs. Arnold is also survived by her three great grandsons, Cameron Westmoreland, Tyler Stament and Connor Stament.

The family will receive friends Thursday, April 4, 2013 from 6:00 until 8:00 pm at Everly-Wheatley Funeral Home, 1500 W. Braddock Road, Alexandria, VA 22301.

Graveside service will be Friday, April 5, 2013 at 11:00 a.m. at Mount Comfort Cemetery, Alexandria, VA.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to Deer Park Baptist Church, Building Fund, 8875 University Blvd, North Charleston, SC 29406.

You may leave a condolence to the family or sign the guest registry at www.everlyfuneralhomes.com

RESOLUTION OF INTENT

TO ADOPT AND CHANGE CERTAIN RATES, FEES AND CHARGES

"BE IT RESOLVED, that the City of Alexandria, Virginia Sanitation Authority d/b/a Alexandria Renew Enterprises, Inc. hereby signifies its intent to change certain rates, fees and charges to become effective **October 1, 2013** and hereby sets the date of **Tuesday, June 18, 2013 at 7:15 p.m.**, at the Authority's administration office, 1500 Eisenhower Avenue, Alexandria, Virginia 22314 for a public hearing to receive comment regarding same.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Chief Executive Officer is hereby directed to have published in a newspaper having general circulation in the City of Alexandria, for two consecutive weeks, notice of the proposed change in the schedule of rates, fees and charges and the day and time of the public hearing.

The proposed rates, fees and charges are:

Preliminary Schedule of Rates to be effective October 1, 2013

	Current	Proposed
<u>Account Charge (Per Bill)</u>	\$ 6.78	\$ 0.00
<u>Residential Customers:</u>		
Quarterly Base Charge (Per Account)	\$ 25.15	\$ 25.15
Variable Charge (Per 1,000 Gallons)	\$ 6.36	\$ 6.51
Billing Cap	Greater of 9,000 Gallons or Winter Quarter Water Usage	Greater of 9,000 Gallons or Winter Quarter Water Usage

Commercial Customers:

<u>Quarterly Base Charge (Per Meter):</u>		
5/8"	\$ 75.45	\$ 75.45
3/4"	75.45	75.45
1"	188.62	188.62
1-1/2"	377.25	377.25
2"	603.59	603.59
3"	1,131.74	1,131.74
4"	1,886.23	1,886.23
6"	3,772.50	3,772.50
8"	6,036.00	6,036.00

Variable Charge (Per 1,000 Gallons) \$ 6.36 \$ 6.51

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All other rates, fees and charges currently in force shall remain unchanged.

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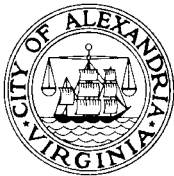
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Design Public Hearing Eisenhower Avenue Widening and Roadway Improvement Project

City of Alexandria

Thursday, April 4, 2013
* 7 p.m. - 9 p.m.*

A brief presentation will begin at 7:30 p.m.

**

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*Find out *about the project scope and tentative construction schedule.

**

*Review *the project information, proposed plans, schedule and the approved environmental document at the public hearing or at City of Alexandria City Hall, 301 King Street, Room 3200. You can also review the project on the City of Alexandria Web page at <http://alexandriava.gov/tes/info/default.aspx?id=11248>. Please call ahead, 703-746-4053, to ensure the availability of personnel to answer your questions.

**

*Give your written or oral comments *at the hearing or submit them by April 18, 2013, *to Lisa Jaatinen, P.E., 301 King Street, Room 3200, Alexandria, VA 22314. You may also e-mail your comments to lisa.jaatinen@alexandriava.gov. Please reference "Eisenhower PH Comments" in the subject line.

**

*The City of Alexandria ensures *nondiscrimination in all programs, services, and activities in accordance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. Call 1-703-746-4027 at least 48 hours in advance of the meeting date for special assistance or information. If you need more information or special assistance for persons with disabilities or limited English proficiency, contact Kathleen Leonard at 703-746-4027 or TTY/TDD 703-838-5056.

State Project# U000-100-135 Fed. # STP-5401(743)

PEOPLE



PHOTOS BY LOUISE KRAFFT/GAZETTE PACKET

Roderic Brame, Ph.D., and his wife Rachel pose for a photo outside of St. Elmo's on Saturday afternoon, March 30, with friends, former students and their families. Pictured are Shamsun and Maisha Nahus, Shamso and Laila Mohamed, Shema, Rachel and Roderic Brame and Fatima and Aidan Sivirian.

From T.C. Williams Dropout to Ph.D.

Injured from an accident with heavy machinery and left with a broken back, Roderic Brame went back to school. He was admitted to Radford University where he completed a B.S in geology and a M.S. in science education. Brame continued and pursued and was awarded a Ph.D. in geological sciences from Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University. He has not ever received a high school diploma after dropping out of T.C. Williams. Brame dropped in again after attaining his doctorate and for three years taught the ESL students Earth Science. Today Brame is an instructor of science at Academy at the Lakes View in West Florida.

Brame returned to Alexandria over spring break with his wife Rachel to visit friends and promote his new book, "The Mighty Titans."

While Brame was at T.C. Williams, he taught 341 students; 184 of those students are still in contact with him through facebook and email. Nineteen of those students contributed their perspectives on learning to the book. They included: Sharmin Ahktar, Tynita Butts, Wendy Diaz, Esteban Enriquez, Mavis Gandayi, Brice Gibson, Yonathan Kassaye, Hanna Mangold, Aynun Nahar, Fatima Sivirian, Oscar Vasquez, Habiba Ashna, Yancy Collins, Kate Doniger, Diana Espinosa Newman, Citina Getachew, Maria Henry, Ahmed Khalil Ph.D., Almas Mendygaliyev, Sonia Paniagua and Tracy Twumasi.

"The Mighty Titans" may be purchased at St. Elmo's in Del Ray or at www.themightytitans.com

— LOUISE KRAFFT



Former student Shema watches as Roderic Brame, Ph.D., signs her copy of "The Mighty Titans."



Shema, Shamsun and Maishu Nahus.



Norma Antezana and Tasha Tobias.

SCHOOL NOTES

FROM PAGE 22

8 percent of whom have disabilities and 52 percent of whom are English language learners.

The next step involves ACPS working with community partners to develop a planning committee and identify service providers for the mobile health project. Administrators expect the unit could roll

out as early as the beginning of the 2013-14 school year.

Cody Boehm, from Bishop Ireton High School, is a National YoungArts Foundation Finalist in Theater. Students will share their work through performances, readings, exhibitions and screenings. YoungArts Week will culmi-

nate in An Affair of the Arts Performance and Gala.

Jacqueline A. McCabe, a sophomore majoring in biology and French, was named to the dean's list at Bridgewater College.

SEE SCHOOLS, PAGE 29

WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

SSSAS Girls' Lax Ends Losing Streak Against Bryn Mawr

Saints extend winning streak to 25 games dating back to 2012.

BY JON ROETMAN
GAZETTE PACKET

With seven state championships, more than 20 league titles and a head coach with more than 600 career victories, there isn't much left for the St. Stephen's & St. Agnes girls' lacrosse program to accomplish.

On Monday, however, this group of Saints faced a challenge they had yet to conquer. St. Stephen's hosted Baltimore's Bryn Mawr, having lost to the Mawrtians each of the last three seasons. While head coach Kathy Jenkins said the Saints only discussed how to improve from last season's loss to Bryn Mawr, senior Carly Reed, the Saints' all-time leading scorer, had all three losses on her mind.

"That's what I thought about the most is how we lost the past three years," Reed said after the game. "I always knew we could beat them — last year we lost by one. We knew we had it in us and this year is [the seniors'] last year, so we knew we had to win."

The Saints ended the losing streak in convincing fashion, beating Bryn Mawr 15-3 on April 1 at St. Stephen's & St. Agnes School. Reed scored a game-high six goals and senior captain Margaret Tucker Fogarty finished with five.

"It's always been one of our biggest games and we really wanted to come out and beat them and I knew we could," said Fogarty, who will play at James Madison University. "I feel like today we just came out

really fired up and we had a lot of confidence ..."

Last season, Bryn Mawr edged SSSAS, 14-13.

"We were trying to work defensively because they were able to get around us and get good shots off last year, and I said we really need to try to take them out of that and force them back to use their left hand more," Jenkins said. "We spent time on that and I think it paid off. We know they play more of a zone [defense] and they double really well and trap, so we talked about really moving the ball and sending a cutter out and a cutter in because at that point we'll hopefully get an opening in front of the goal, and I felt like that worked, too."

Saints goalkeeper Gussie Johns finished with 12 saves. Jenkins said Johns played well during the team's recent trip to the Golden State.

"The whole time in California, the teams we played out there that were really strong; they said they thought Gussie was the difference," Jenkins said. "When they got opportunities to score, Gussie came up with big saves, so they never got any rhythm on their shooting or their attack because Gussie was so dominant in goal."

The Saints improved their record to 8-0 and extended their winning streak to 25 games, dating back to last season. St. Stephen's & St. Agnes has gone undefeated eight times in program history, the last coming in 2008.

Does the possibility of going undefeated cross the Saints' minds?

"It's more of keeping the legacy, keeping up the reputation than it is to be undefeated," said Reed, who will play for the University of North Carolina, "but being undefeated is what we're aiming for."

The Saints faced Episcopal on Wednesday, after the Gazette Packet's deadline. St. Stephen's & St. Agnes will host New Trier at 4 p.m. on Friday, April 5.



PHOTO BY LOUISE KRAFT/GAZETTE PACKET

St. Stephen's & St. Agnes senior Carly Reed scored six goals during a 15-3 victory against Bryn Mawr on Monday.

SPORTS BRIEFS

TC Frosh Girls Win At Noxontown Regatta

The T.C. Williams crew team traveled to St. Andrew's School in Middletown, Del., on Saturday for the Noxontown Regatta, a contest that saw the Titan rowers come

away with a victory and two second-place finishes in their first official competition of the year.

Leading the way for T.C. Williams was the girls' freshman 8, which captured first place in its 1500m race with a time of 5:34.87, which was 13 seconds faster than the second-place boat from Walt Whitman High School.

Members of the girls' freshman 8 include

coxswain Maggie Chamberlain and rowers Natasha Magallon, Harper Jensen, Amelia Bender, Giulia Pastore, Hannah Posson, Abby Prall, Sarah Scroggs and LeeAnn Richards.

Also turning in a strong performance at St. Andrew's was the T.C. Williams girls' first 8, which narrowly missed capturing first place in its race when it crossed the finish line with a time of 5:21.8, which was .9 seconds behind the winning boat from St. Andrews. Members of the TC girls' first 8 include coxswain Rosa Procaccino and rowers Gabby Salcedo, Alexandra Lemke, Nadia Magallon, Caroline Olsson, Katie Pickup, Maura Nakahata, Maeve Bradley and Kyra McClary.

The T.C. Williams boys also turned in a solid showing at St. Andrew's, with the top performance coming from members of the Varsity 4 "A" boat, who took second-place honors in its race with a time of 5:16.6, six seconds off the pace set by the winning boat from Washington-Lee and two seconds ahead of the TC varsity 4 "B" boat, which was also competing in the race. Members of the TC varsity 4 "A" boat include coxswain Spencer Gilliland and rowers Sam Zickar, Greg Montenegro, Carter Weitekamp and Ben Blakeslee.

In addition to T.C. Williams and host St. Andrews, other schools competing at the

Noxontown Regatta this past weekend included Ocean City, Robinson, Walt Whitman, and Washington-Lee.

Next up for the TC crew team is an intra-squad scrimmage this Saturday, April 6, at the Dee Campbell Boathouse in Old Town. The scrimmage, which comes at the end of spring break for many schools in the region, is intended to provide the Titan rowers with one last week of competitive practice before they enter the heart of their schedule over the next 60 days.

The T.C. Williams crew team is guided by boys' head coach Pete Stramese and girls' head coach Mercedes Kiss. For more information on TC crew, visit www.tcwcrow.org, or follow them on Facebook at www.facebook.com/alexandria.crewbooster.com.

TC Boys' Soccer Improves to 4-0

The T.C. Williams boys' soccer team defeated Falls Church 2-0 during the Titans' home opener on Tuesday.

TC improved to 4-0 and has yet to allow a goal.

The Titans will travel to face Edison at 7:30 p.m. on Thursday, April 4. TC will open Patriot District competition against Lake Braddock on April 11.



PHOTO BY KEVIN CRUZ

Terrell Williamson and the T.C. Williams boys' soccer team improved to 4-0 with a victory against Falls Church on Tuesday.

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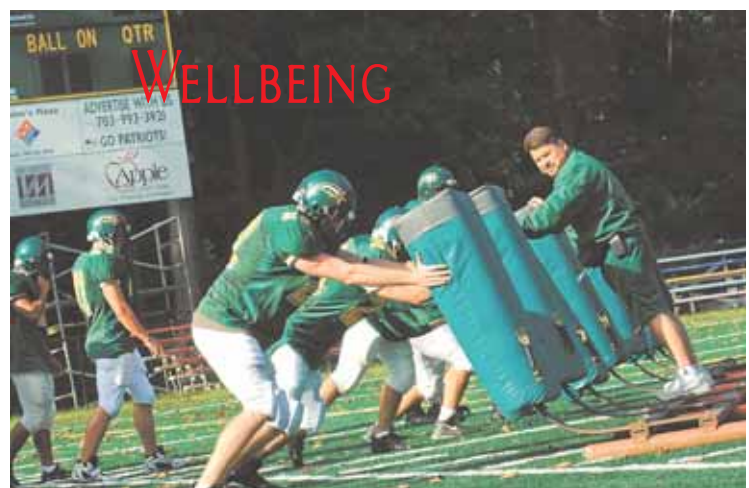


PHOTO COURTESY OF CREATIVE SERVICES/CNU

Researchers in George Mason University's College of Education and Human Development (CEHD) joined the Advancing Healthcare Initiatives for Underserved Students (ACHIEVES) project to offer concussion education.

Researchers Address 'Concussion Culture'

Education and proper health care are keys.

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL
GAZETTE PACKET

With the impending warmer weather comes an increased number of children participating in outdoor activities. Some local health care professionals and researchers are issuing words of caution.

"More children will be outside playing with friends, riding bicycles and engaging in contact sports. These activities and others where impact is a possibility place children at risk for a concussion," said Dr. Faith Claman, who holds a doctor of nursing practice and is an assistant professor in the Malek School of Health Professions at Arlington's Marymount University.

Local educators say it is important to know the facts. "A concussion is a brain injury, which often occurs as a result of a fall or blow to the head or body, said Dr. Dalila Birem, associate medical director of Molina Healthcare of Virginia and Fairfax Community Health Care Network. "Normally, the brain is cushioned by fluid, but when jolted violently, the brain crashes into the skull, resulting in damage to the soft tissue."

Birem says that while some people may lose consciousness, more common symptoms of a concussion include headache, blurred vision, fatigue or irritability.

"Others may experience no symptoms at all [and] with rest, most people fully recover from a concussion," said Birem. "However, severe concussions or repeated incidents may lead to more serious consequences, such as

problems with speech, mobility or learning."

Researchers at George Mason University in Fairfax are taking action. "Concussions are running rampant across the country right now and it seems that no one, from middle school student athletes to professional players, are exempt," said university spokeswoman Catherine J. Probst. "As a result, some states are enacting new laws to change this concussion culture. Virginia's General Assembly [passed legislation] that requires student athletes and their parents to receive annual concussion education. ... The law also states that schools form concussion management teams to provide and document concussion education for students, staff, coaches and parents."

Implementing the legislation presents challenges, however. "Many Virginia public schools lack the necessary resources to properly deliver concussion education," she continued.

To address the dearth of resources, researchers in Mason's College of Education and Human Development (CEHD) joined the Advancing Healthcare Initiatives for Underserved Students (ACHIEVES) project to offer effective medical care and education.

"The project has already reached more than 80,000 student athletes, staff, coaches and parents to deliver more effective medical care and concussion education," Probst said.

ACHIEVES offers services that run the gamut from implementing an electronic medical record-keeping program to offering both online and face-to-face sessions. Probst says university researchers hope the ACHIEVES project will serve as a model for other school systems at the local, regional and national levels as more states enact concussion laws.

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SCHOOLS

FROM PAGE 26

Jacqueline Beckwith was awarded an Abraham Lincoln Scholarship by the Gettysburg College.

Alyssa Glomb is a member of James Madison University's nationally-ranked policy debate team.

Mark L. Bane has enrolled in the Army ROTC program at Marion Military Institute, Ala. Upon graduation and completion of ROTC Military Science courses at the host university, the cadet receives a bachelor's degree and a commission of second lieutenant in the U.S. Army. Bane is the son of Pamela and Ben S. Bane. He graduated in 2012 from Leavenworth High School, Kansas.

Tae Kim was recently initiated into Phi Kappa Phi. Kim is pursuing a degree in medicine at Pennsylvania State University.

Kyle Travers has been named to the fall 2012 Champlain College's dean's list and is majoring in Secondary Education and English. Travers is the son of Robin Travers and Walter Travers both of Alexandria.

Gregory Scott Casey, Jr., a graduate of Gonzaga College High School and the son of Mr. and Mrs. Gregory S. Casey, Sr., was named to the dean's list at Hampden-Sydney College.

The following Alexandria residents have been named to the president's list at Clemson University: **Alexandra Lee Butler**, who is majoring in management with an emphasis in international management; **Lydia Elena Ciavarella**, who is majoring in elementary education; **Andrew MacDonald Garden**, who is majoring in English; and **Lindsey Joy Reich** who is majoring in English.

Samuel Frazier was named to the Curry College dean's list.

Several local students have been named to the University of Delaware's dean's list: **William Donahoe**, **Natalie Felice**, and **Stephanie Restifo**.

Corbin Barr has been named to the dean's list at New River Community College for the fall 2012 semester.

The following local residents were among Coastal Carolina University students who made the fall 2012 dean's list: **Merid A. Merid** and **Marissa M. Ashby**, both majoring in marine sciences; and **Constance P. Darlington**, who is majoring in exercise and sport science.

Fourteen T.C. Williams High School students successfully auditioned at the District All-Star Jazz Auditions Tuesday night at the Francis C. Hammond Middle School Campus. They participated in a workshop with Chris Vadala, director of jazz studies at the University of Maryland, Jan. 24-26 at Episcopal High School.

This workshop culminated in a concert on Saturday, Jan. 26. The performers include: Alto sax - **Brendan Kerwin**, lead, and **Jillian Schiele**; trumpet - **George Rhodes**, lead, **Bryson Lockett** and **Alex Aplin**, first alternate; trombone - **Maria Jones**, lead, **Garrett Youmans**, **Bobby Warden** and **Darius Carter**; bass; guitar - **Peter Eckel** and **Denny Okudinani**; bass - **Duncan Forrester** and **Colby Gustafson**; drums - **Ted Davis**.

Colin Chaddock has been named to the Emory and Henry College's dean's

list for the fall semester.

The following Alexandria residents have been named to the dean's list at Clemson University for the fall semester: **Megan Elizabeth Epperson** is majoring in biological sciences; **Shannon Kay Frydenlund** is majoring in elementary education; **Amanda Michelle Smith** is majoring in philosophy (law, liberty and justice); **Melissa Christine Beaty** is majoring in political science; and **Emily Anne Smoot** is majoring in pre-business.

Aisha Ford and **Madeline Ogden** have been named to the fall 2012 honors list at Mary Baldwin College.

Emily Jayne was named to the dean's list at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. She is part of the school of education.

John Thomas Tenorio, a freshman, was among the 305 students from Thiel College who were named to the fall 2012 dean's list. Tenorio has been on the Thiel dean's list one time.

The following students were recognized as members of the dean's list for the fall semester at Eastern Mennonite University: **Heather Evans**, a sophomore music performance major. Evans is the daughter of David and Beth Evans. **Erin Rheinheimer**, a sophomore art major. Rheinheimer is the daughter of Doug and Valerie Rheinheimer. **Stephanie Rheinheimer**, a senior social work major. Rheinheimer is the daughter of Doug and Valerie Rheinheimer.

Jasminka Herceg was named to the fall 2012 dean's list at Mary Baldwin College.

Matthew Carney and **Emily Laubach** were awarded dean's list honors for the fall 2012 semester at St. Mary's College of Maryland.

Lyles-Crouch Traditional Academy was chosen to receive a \$500 grant through the 2012 ExxonMobil Educational Alliance program. The Exxon station at 501 S Washington St., Alexandria, submitted an application that was approved for one of the many grants available across the country this school year. The EMEA program has allocated nearly \$2 million to support local schools nominated by ExxonMobil branded gas stations, providing ExxonMobil retailers with the opportunity to invest in the future of our communities. The school will display an EMEA poster, which will be delivered along with the check.

Tamaric Wilson has made the dean's list at Sacred Heart University.

Emily Hauptle has been named to the dean's list for the fall 2012 semester at Marquette University. Hauptle is pursuing a bachelor of science in business administration.

Genevieve Francis was named to the dean's list at The University of Scranton for the fall 2012 semester. Francis is a freshman occupational therapy major at Scranton.

The following local students have been nominated as National Youth Correspondents for the 2013 Washington Journalism and Media Conference at George Mason University.

Iman-Jane Reese a student at T C Williams High School has been nominated to represent Virginia.

Nicholas Proano a student at Washington International School has been nominated to represent Virginia.



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

English Honor Society Induction

T.C. Williams High School held its inaugural Induction Ceremony of the school's chapter of the National English Honor Society. Thirty-two students, three faculty members, and the keynote speaker were inducted on Feb. 13. The following are the T. C. Williams NEHS inductees: Wafaa Ahmed, Kate Arnold, Ameena Ashraf, Luwam Bokure, Abigail Bolton, Meredith Caine, Holland Cathey, Gabrielle Cirenza, Emily Dickson, Rebecca Frank, Vilma Garcia, Cara Giordano, Emma Goldberg – president, Jessica Goodwin, Kenna Kassa, Lamia Khandker, Gianna Knutson, Eliza Malakoff – historian, Molly Merbeth, JoAnn Michel, Maura Nakahata, Isabella Neihardt, Kari Nelson – secretary, Annika Papke, Miniya Shabazz, Lora Strum-Vaitas, Tezeta Tamrat, Edom Tilahun, Katrina Umstead, Ishani Viradiya – treasurer, Parker White – vice-president, Andrea Zelaya Macato, Dr. Jaqueline Gorski - English teacher and NEHS Faculty Advisory Council member, Matthew Henry - English teacher and NEHS Faculty Advisory Council member, Suzanne Maxey – principal, and Dr. Elizabeth Simons - former ACPs English curriculum specialist.



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Pennies for Patients

With the support of family, friends, and teachers, the students of Douglas MacArthur Elementary were able to raise \$7,724.76 during their three week Pennies for Patients campaign, benefiting the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society. At left are Leah Tomlin, Leukemia and Lymphoma Society School & Youth senior campaign manager, and Ethan Reynolds, Douglas MacArthur Elementary SCA president.

Celebrating Chinese New Year

St. Stephen's & St. Agnes Lower School celebrated the Chinese New Year on Feb. 11 with an interactive presentation from Wong People of Washington, D.C. Students learned the cultural meanings of the Chinese New Year, and students and faculty were encouraged to wear red, symbolizing good luck.



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

LETTERS

FROM PAGE 14

Sharing the Joy Of Easter

To the Editor:

The beauty of giving shines brighter than one can speak of. On the behalf of the communities of the City of Alexandria, I would like to say thanks to the Alfred Street Baptist Church of Alexandria for its outpouring of love — and more than 100 Easter baskets that were given to children from age of 4 months and up.

What a simple gift of the heart and what it meant for each child, especially the smiles of joy as some of the youngest tried to carry baskets larger than themselves.

May we all share that moment through a child's eyes, to enjoy the life that's given.

Geri Baldwin
Alexandria

Budget's Effect On Officers

To the Editor:

The following letter was addressed to the citizens of Alexandria.

I am Sean McGowan, executive director of the Virginia Police Benevolent Association. I am a retired Alexandria police officer, having served 25 years in the department. While a police officer for Alexandria, I served as the president of the Alexandria Chapter of the Police Benevolent Association.

Members of the Alexandria Chapter have expressed deep concerns over the city manager's proposed changes to the city's health insurance program and the police and fire pension. Both of these changes will have a major impact on the lives of police officers and their families. While our officers have long lagged behind our comparable jurisdictions in salary, they have always been able to point to their benefits as something that helped maintain their compensation level; this is no longer the case.

Our law enforcement professionals understand that the cost of healthcare is rising, not only here in the city, but nationwide. Over the past several years, the city has increased the portion of health insurance premiums that they pay to 20 percent, which has not been easy, but it is understandable given the trends that are outside the city's control. Our Police Department and public safety employee members are greatly concerned about the proposed changes to deductibles and the co-pay system that will not only directly impact family budgets, but may put employees in a situation where they think twice about obtaining medical care. Under the new deductible plan, a family must meet a deductible of \$800 each year before benefits apply. As anyone with young children can attest, there are reoccurring trips to doctor's offices, urgent care, and even the emergency room. Before each of these trips, parents will now have to weigh whether or not they will be able to pay the hundreds of dollars in medical bills they are about to incur. This is a choice that no parent should have to make. Dealing

with a sick or injured child in the middle of the night is stressful enough without having to factor in the hundreds of dollars of out of pocket costs.

There are also members of our police family who are battling cancer and other chronic diseases. Rest assured, they will reach their yearly deductible. God forbid they face complications in their treatment that results in an inpatient hospitalization; they will also face a \$500 co-pay.

The facts of the matter is that police officers and their families will be required to pay \$800 more a year for their health insurance on top of any premium increases that may come along. Family financial concerns will now be factored into the decision to obtain medical care. By adopting this proposal, this is the difficult financial road our officers will be on.

On top of the changes to the health insurance program, the city manager's proposed budget also calls for an additional 2 percent annual contribution to the Police & Fire pension plan. It goes without saying that these directly affect officers' gross and take home pay. Our police officers already contribute 8 percent of their salary to the plan and have for nearly 10 years. Now police officers are being asked to pay more and receive the same benefit, all the while being told that the plan is on sound footing. When the plan was enacted in 2004, they were told that the design of the plan allowed the city, rather than the participating police officers, to absorb the ups and downs of the markets and investments, but now they are being told that we must contribute more to compensate for underperforming investments. Something isn't adding up.

I cannot understate the impact of these proposals on police officers and their families. The Alexandria Human Resources Department has provided a calculator for employees to determine the impact on their paychecks. I have had the opportunity to run some figures in the calculator and found them to be troubling. A brand new police officer, with a family, who was hired this past January, is estimated to receive an \$11 increase in salary for fiscal year 2014. That's not \$11 a week, or \$11 a paycheck, that's \$11 for the entire year. It gets worse for those who have served their city honorably for years. A police detective, with a wife



PHOTO BY LAURA SUDDER

Snapshot

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church's Easter Sunday Sunrise Service at Waterfront Park.

and child, who has been with the city for nine years, will actually see a \$383 deduction in his gross pay. A 16-year veteran police officer suffers a \$923 loss. This is real. These are real people who will make less money in the future. It's hard to convince a new, bright young police officer to stay with our department when they know that they will make less money — year after year. Not only will you lose the future of this department when these young officers leave, but they walk out the door with the training and know how we have given them. These police officers then go to work for another jurisdiction. The City of Alexandria has invested thousands of dollars in training in them and has nothing to show for it.

The city manager's budget includes an average 3.1 percent merit increase for employees.

For this they are thankful, because without it, the 2 percent pension increase and the rise in insurance premiums would make these losses even greater. Keep in mind that these numbers do not include the \$800 deductible that I discussed earlier or the Federal Reserve's 1.5 – 2 percent increase in inflation predicted for 2014.

That makes the officer's family budget picture even bleaker.

There is not a police officer in this city who took their job to become rich. All that they ask is that they do not fall further behind, and that their families be taken care of. There are police officers who will see a gross pay deduction of over one thousand dollars if these proposals go into effect — that is no small amount in a police officer's family budget.

Our city law enforcement professionals are public servants and they understand all that goes along with that title. Recent events

remind us exactly why they are here and the risks that they undertake each day. They continue to embrace that challenge and are humbled by the trust the public has placed in their hands.

We all know that budgets are about making choices and often those choices are difficult. All I ask is that you consider this city's dedicated police officers and their families as you make your choices and the impact your choices will have on them.

We ask that you contact your Alexandria City Council member and ask them to uphold the promises that they have made to our law enforcement professionals. The Alexandria City Council repeatedly professes that the employees of Alexandria are their most important asset. We ask now that they show their support and place these critical employee issues as priorities when considering the budget.

Thank you for your attention and concern.

Sean McGowan

Executive Director

Virginia Police Benevolent Association

Write

The Gazette Packet welcomes views on any public issue. The deadline for all material is noon Friday. Letters must be signed. Include home address and home and business numbers. Letters are routinely edited for libel, grammar, good taste and factual errors. Send to:

Letters to the Editor
Alexandria Gazette Packet
1606 King St., Alexandria VA 22314
Call 703-917-6444 or email
gazette@connectionnewspapers.com

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From Sales to Service, Jack Taylor's Alexandria Toyota has offered an experience unlike any dealership I've ever seen. My family has been buying and servicing our cars there for over 20 years. And now with their Sign & Drive offers, there's truly never been a better way to get a new car. I got an upfront price, with no hidden fees or games once I got to the dealership. I simply got the car I wanted, at the price I wanted.

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34 HWY⁶

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\$0 DUE AT SIGNING

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TAX, TAGS, FEES, - THEY'RE ALL INCLUDED



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35 HWY⁶

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ALEXANDRIA TOYOTA

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24 CITY
31 HWY⁶



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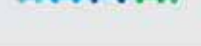
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prius goes plural



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**Let's
Go
Places**

(1) OFFERS INCLUDE VA TAX, FREIGHT, ACQUISITION FEE AND \$0 SECURITY DEPOSIT. 36-MONTH LEASE WITH 12K MILES PER YEAR. \$499 PROCESSING FEE DUE AT SIGNING. DOLLAR PER DAY AMOUNT BASED ON 30-DAY MONTH. MONTHLY PAYMENTS EQUAL TO: (COROLLA: \$239/MONTH, CAMRY: \$279/MONTH). (2) 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 \$1,000 BORROWED. (3) BASED ON BLACK BOOK TRADE VALUE MINUS EXCESS MILEAGE AND RECONDITIONING. (4) 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. (5) COLLEGE GRAD AND MILITARY REBATE AVAILABLE ON APPROVED CREDIT THRU TFS. ELIGIBLE CUSTOMERS MUST BE IN ACTIVE DUTY STATUS IN U.S. MILITARY TO RECEIVE REBATE. (6) 2012 OR 2013 EPA-ESTIMATED MILEAGE. ACTUAL MILEAGE MAY VARY. (7) UP TO \$2,750 CASH BACK FROM TOYOTA ON SELECT MODELS. CAN RECEIVE CASH BACK FROM TOYOTA OR CAN APPLY TO DOWN PAYMENT. NOT VALID WITH ANY OTHER ADVERTISED OFFER EXCEPT ON 2012 CAMRY. (8) MUST BE CURRENTLY LEASING A TOYOTA TO QUALIFY. (†) WHICHEVER COMES FIRST FROM DATE OF TCUV PURCHASE. (††) FROM DATE OF TCUV PURCHASE. (†††) 1.9% APR FINANCING ON ALL CPO VEHICLES FOR UP TO 60 MONTHS WITH APPROVED CREDIT ON SELECT MODELS THROUGH TFS. 60 MONTHLY PAYMENTS OF \$17.05 PER \$1,000 BORROWED. ALL OFFERS EXPIRE 04/30/13.



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ALEXANDRIA

OLD TOWN

\$1,495,000



The Glamorous Life!

Distinctly original, classically modern, this three-bedroom, four-and-a-half-bath home is like no other! An architectural wonder in the heart of Old Town, this magnificent three-level, 5,000 square foot home is perfect for both easy living and sparkling parties. Stunning with its tall ceilings, brilliant lighting and welcoming openness, the wide living room features a gas fireplace and is wrapped with two walls of windows. The sleek kitchen is enhanced with striking Snidero Italian cabinetry, the finest appliances and voluminous storage options. A media room awaits in the huge lower level, plus a full bath and separate laundry room. Significant recent improvements. Your housewarming party will certainly be the event of the season!

Ann Duff
703.965.8700 www.AnnDuff.com



ALEXANDRIA/DEL RAY

\$750,000



Del Ray Farmhouse

Bright, spacious home with timeless appeal. Three bedrooms and three full baths, gleaming hardwood floors, renovated kitchen with granite counters and stainless appliances. Finished lower level rec room adds wonderful space and flexibility to the home. Enjoy a gorgeous back yard with patio area. Walkable to "The Avenue" in Del Ray, easy access to Metro.

Jen Walker
703.675.1566
www.JenWalker.com



ALEXANDRIA/HOLLINDALE

\$749,000



Welcome Home

You will fall in love with the charm and warmth of this special house. Solidly built and sited on lovely wooded lot in a serene neighborhood. It has a wonderful layout that includes a beautiful living room and study, separate dining, an eat-in kitchen, a large sun room with vaulted ceilings, four nice bedrooms and a full finished basement. Make it yours today!

Robin Arnold
703.966.5457
www.robinarnoldsells.com



ALEXANDRIA/ROSEMONT

\$865,000



Just in Time

...to enjoy Spring weather on the front porch or kick a ball around the large back yard of this fully renovated beauty. Handsome original woodwork, high ceilings, gorgeous windows and floors combine with remodeled baths, kitchen and replacement of electrical, HVAC, plumbing, etc. throughout all three levels of this three bedroom, two and a half bath home.

Betty Mallon
703.989.8548
www.BettyMallon.com
MLS ID# AX8019818



ALEXANDRIA

\$615,000



Cute as a Button

Fantastic three-bedroom in North Old Town. Beautifully updated kitchen and baths, den, sunroom, and three finished levels. Lower level has a rec room and storage galore. Spend the summer on the deck surrounded by lush greenery. Excellent location just off the GW Parkway, close to Metro and one block from Rustico, Buzz Bakery and the bike trail.

Jessica Richardson
703.864.3438
www.JessicaRichardson.com
MLS ID# AX8041429



ALEXANDRIA CITY

\$579,000



Great Value, Location and Condition!

Move-in ready raised rambler in popular Park Ridge offering three bedrooms, two full baths, fireplace in living room, sunny eat-in kitchen and warm hardwood flooring. Lower level suite with kitchenette, rec room, bedroom and full bath. Walk to MacArthur Elementary, Metro and Old Town.

Joy Sutherland 703.725.5061
Casey Sutherland 703.628.1386
www.McEneaney.com
MLS ID# AX8040646



ALEXANDRIA

\$1,449,000



Vacation Year Round

Custom Tirtinadi Design home in desirable waterfront community. Incredible light-filled rooms with water views from nearly every window. Open floor plan, over 7,775 square feet of beautiful living space. HUGE DREAM kitchen, family room, and wrap-around rear deck. High ceilings, hardwoods, marina, tennis, and yacht club.

Joan Shannon
703.507.8655
www.JoanHome.com
MLS ID# FX7713855



OLD TOWN ALEXANDRIA

\$899,900



Fantastic Property

Lovely end-unit, four-level brick townhouse has off-street parking. Four bedrooms and four full baths offer comfortable space. Hardwood floors on all levels. Two master suites including luxurious top-floor expanded bath. Beautiful built-ins and crown molding. Family room walks out to private patio which leads to parking. Kitchen upgraded with granite and stainless. The house is an easy walk to Metro and the restaurants and shops of Old Town.

Chris Hayes
703.944.7737
www.homesbyhayes.com
MLS ID# AX8019826



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