



PHOTOS CONTRIBUTED

Children from Brent Place, an ACPS FACE Center, enjoy their new books from Alexandria's Book Shelf.

Alexandria's New Book Shelf

DreamDog Foundation creates citywide literacy program.

BY JEANNE THEISMANN
GAZETTE PACKET

Passionate about sharing the gift of reading, the DreamDog Foundation intends to get books into the hands of every child in need in the City of Alexandria through its new literacy program called Alexandria's Book Shelf.

"Reading is the number one predictor of success in schools, yet many of our children, right here in Alexandria, do not own books of their own," said DreamDog executive director Lorraine Friedman. "While many groups have made an impact through book donations, tutoring, and reading buddies, a free book a few times a year is different than access to books on a regular basis. Because of that, we decided to create Alexandria's Book Shelf to help provide children in need with access to books where they live, play and go to school."

In the first few months of creating Alexandria's Book Shelf (ABS), the DreamDog Foundation has set up bookshelves with more than 20,000 books for children in need. Each book is stickered with the ABS logo and can be kept or returned to any ABS site.

"It's such a thrill to see children get excited about reading," Friedman said. "As we are setting up the ABS sites, you can hear the children giving book reviews and telling their friends which books to read."

Jen Kenealy, a DreamDog board member and ABS Coordinator, started the first collection with her daughter Claire's Girl Scout Troop at Maury Elementary School.

"It was fun to go through all our own books and know they were getting new homes with kids who really needed them," said Claire Kenealy, who

SEE ALEXANDRIA'S NEW, PAGE 24



Alexandria's Book Shelf coordinator Jen Kenealy gets help from son Brendon in setting up an ABS site.

Setting the Tone

First redevelopment proposal of waterfront plan heads to council.

BY MICHAEL LEE POPE
GAZETTE PACKET

It's too big. It's too bulky. It's too boxy. Those were the comments of speaker after speaker Tuesday night, as members of the Alexandria Planning Commission considered a proposal to build a five-story hotel at the northeast intersection of Union and Duke streets. By the time the public hearing was closed and members of the commission started debating the plan, not one speaker has signed up to support the plan in public. Nevertheless, the commission approved the plan and sent it the City Council.

"It's a cold night, but it's not that cold, that there might be somebody to come out — even somebody who has a commercial interest," said Planning Commissioner Steward Dunn, the only member who did not vote in favor of the proposal. "The Chamber of Commerce didn't even come out and speak in favor of it."

Dunn tried to shave off part of the building in an effort to make it less objectionable to neighbors

in Old Town. Leaving his seat on the dais, he walked over to the model and explained how parts of the building could be modified. His suggestion was that the developer remove 10 rooms so that the proposal was a 110-room hotel instead of a 120-room hotel. Dunn also said he would like to see some kind of financial evidence that reducing the scale of the building would make the project unworkable. A lawyer representing the developer flatly rejected the compromise and the effort to obtain more information.

"We will not build a 110-room hotel," said attorney Kenneth Wire of McGuireWoods, the same firm that represented the city government in a series of lawsuits challenging the waterfront plan. "We're not going to show you the financial numbers."

AS THE WITCHING HOUR approached Tuesday night, city officials and lawyers for the developer retreated to the back room to craft a last-minute arrangement. They

SEE FIRST, PAGE 9

Twisted Psychology

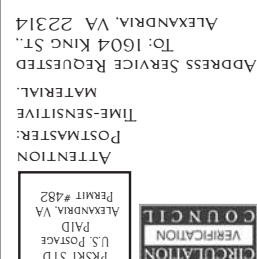
TC teacher sentenced to year for inappropriate contact with students.

BY MICHAEL LEE POPE
GAZETTE PACKET

It all started so innocently, according to court records. In the spring of 2012, a T.C. Williams High School psychology teacher Steven Miarer and a student started spending time to-

gether. She would stop by his classroom during "Titan Time," a less structured part of the day that can be used for studying or mentoring. Court documents show Miarer's mentoring became increasingly personal, as the two began speaking more like friends. After Spring

SEE TC TEACHER, PAGE 24



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Minority Report

Don't look now, but Junior might be puffing on an electronic cigarette. And it's legal. Unless state Sen. Adam Ebbin (D-30) has something to say about it.

Ebbin has introduced legislation to ban the sale of "e cigs" to minors, which Ebbin says is a step toward making sure they don't get hooked. States across America have asked the federal government to regulate electronic cigarettes, a growing commercial trend that has many worried about marketing efforts aimed at children.

Think Joe Camel meets Transformers.

"There absolutely no prohibition now," said Ebbin. "And they are fairly inexpensive."

Ebbin's bill would outlaw the sale of e-cigarettes to minors, punishable by the same kind of enforcement that already exists for old-fashioned tobacco products. When asked about kind of pushback received after introducing the legislation, Ebbin said Big Tobacco is already onboard. "They'll be supportive," said Ebbin. "They don't want to sell their products to minors either."

Changing Face of King Street

There was a time, not all that long ago, when Upper King Street was a notorious spot for drugs and prostitution. One block was so dangerous taxicab drivers refused to stop there. Patrons were thrown through one plate glass window so many times that the proprietor replaced it with wood.

Things are different now, of course. President Obama even comes for dinner every now and then. The neighborhood has changed, although some things remain the same. Take the used car lots, for example.

Yes, upper King Street is home to two used car lots. They seem drastically out of place next to white tablecloth restaurants and high-end retailers. But nevertheless there they are, a vestige of a time almost forgotten. Someday soon, say Planning Commission members, they'll be a thing of the past entirely.

This week, members of the Planning Commission voted to defer action on the two used-car lots — setting the stage for a different land use at the two spots. The business owners at both locations pleaded with commissioners to let them continue operations until they could find a new location. As a result, the commission decided to kick the can down the road until March. But several members said they would not offer another deferral. By the time first flowers of spring are ready to spout, members of the Planning Commission will be ready to change the face of King Street forever.

"There is a place for this in the city," said Planning Commission member Nathan Macek. "But it's not at this place on King Street, certainly not at this time."

"After this, I guess we'll work on those wig shops," joked chairman John Komoroske.

Legislating to the Test

For many years, teachers and parents have complained about "teaching to the test" — a phenomena created by high-stakes tests that determine everything from neighborhood status to funding levels. The issue came up several times during the gubernatorial campaign, when Democratic candidate Terry McAuliffe vowed to reform the system if elected governor. Now that he's on his way to the Governor's Mansion, Del. Rob Krupicka (D-45) is proposing legislation to take a first crack at reforming the Standards of Learning.

"Our schools have become testing sweatshops," said Krupicka. "We need to have an alternative assessment that's project based as opposed to relying on rote memorization."

His bill would eliminate four Standards of Learning tests throughout elementary and middle school and replace them with what he calls "project-based assessments." The guidelines for the assessments would be established at a later date by the Board of Education. The bill would also allow an option for schools to replace high school social studies or science tests with accountable "authentic assessment."

"I know that's kind of edu-speak," he said. "But it gets to the core of what we need to be doing in the schools, which is showing deep knowledge and developing problem-solving skills across disciplines."

— MICHAEL LEE POPE

First Night Welcomes 2014

Fireworks and Fun Hunt highlight celebration.

BY JEANNE THEISMANN
GAZETTE PACKET

Revelers from as far away as Paris celebrated the New Year in Alexandria as a dazzling display of fireworks lit up the waterfront to signal the arrival of 2014.

"We are very excited to be here," said Clement Pouget, who was visiting Alexandria with his family from their home in Paris, France. "We are visiting Washington, D.C. and heard that Alexandria is the best place to be on New Year's Eve."

The fireworks finale was the culmination event of First Night Alexandria, which featured more than 100 live performances throughout Old Town, including a Battle of the Bands competition for students.

Billed as the largest family-friendly New Year's Eve party in the greater Washington area, the celebration culminated with a fireworks finale over the Potomac River along the waterfront, drawing a crowd estimated to be more than 10,000.

First Night participants enjoyed an afternoon scavenger hunt throughout Old Town before evening performances got underway as part of the



PHOTOS BY JOHN BORDNER

Fireworks light up the sky over the Potomac River to ring in 2014 as part of First Night Alexandria.

celebration that extended from the George Washington Masonic Memorial to the waterfront.

"This is our third year ringing in the New Year at First Night," said Sandy Watkins, who was visiting the area from Alabama with her husband Gerald and son Jack. "We have made so many friends since our first visit here that we wouldn't think of going anywhere else. There really is no better place to be on New Year's Eve than Alexandria, Va."



Saxophonist Vaughn Ambrose performs at the Principle Gallery as part of First Night Alexandria.



The Janine Wilson band performs a set at American Legion Post 24.



PHOTO BY JEANNE THEISMANN/GAZETTE PACKET

Madeleine Quill, 11, and Carmen Rivera, 7, pose for a photo with First Night Alexandria mascot Professor Arts Safari following the Fun Hunt.

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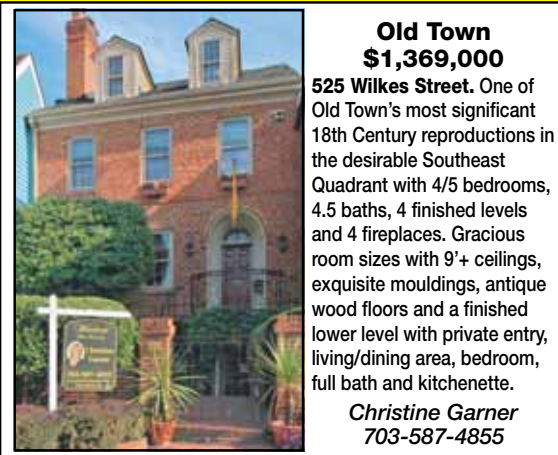
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ALEXANDRIA DEMOCRATIC COMMITTEE

Alexandria Democratic Committee executive board, from left: Laurie MacNamara Hendrickson, William Mount, Pat Mulloy, Dak Hardwick, Kathryn Sorensen, Larry Benenson, Clarence Tong, Liz Campbell, Helen Clemens, Holly Wallace, Boyd Walker, Mary Lyman and Michael Cohen.

New Leadership for Democrats

BY MICHAEL LEE POPE
GAZETTE PACKET

Only a few weeks ago, Democrats swept all five of Virginia's statewide offices — largely with the help of organizations from Northern Virginia. Now Alexandria Democratic Committee Chairman Dak Hardwick is stepping down and making room for new blood. Hardwick has led the organization for the last two years, a time when the party had the largest field of City Council candidates in the city's history and unseated two Republican incumbents on the council.

"I believe this is the first time in Alexandria's history that, at all levels of government, we are represented by only Democrats," Hardwick said in a letter to committee members. "I am proud of that ac-

complishment and you should be proud as well."

This week, members of the committee met and elected a new slate of leaders. At the top of the organization is the new chairman, Clarence Tong, who was elected to a two-year term Monday night. Tong is a founder of the Asian American Civic Project and a member of the Budget and Fiscal Affairs Advisory Committee. He's a former member of the Alexandria Social Services Advisory Board and a former legislative director for U.S. Rep. Joe Sestak (D-Pa.). He currently serves in the Office of Congressional and Intergovernmental Affairs at the U.S. Department of Energy.

"We know that when Obama coalition voters turn out, Democrats win," said Tong. "The ADC is a strong political organization that will stay focused on keeping Democrats energized across Alexandria."



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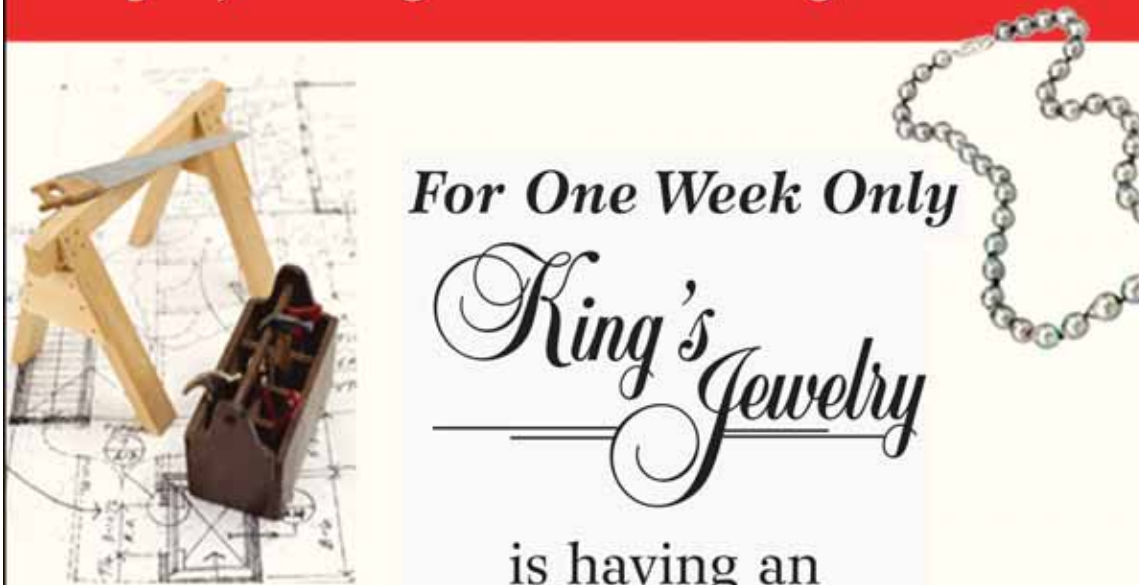
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AN APPRECIATION

In Memory of Robert Steidl

BY DANITA SHARP
AND ELLEN EVANS



Robert Steidl

Robert Steidl was born on Aug. 14, 1940 in Linz, Austria. Linz was occupied by the Nazi German party at that time and Robert's family had the courage to give safe haven in their home to the Jews who were being hunted down. Robert had an early memory of an American soldier who was stationed in Linz after the Nazis were gone. The soldier reached out to little Robert and gave him a chocolate bar. The soldier's name was Richard. Years later, when Robert had a son, he named him Richard. Robert never forgot.

Robert worked hard as a young man. At 14, he worked as a laborer for a bricklayer in addition to working in a local bakery. One day a friend pointed out to Robert that down the street at this hairdressing school there were "lots of pretty young women." In an instant, Robert gave up the bricks and the bread and went to study at the hairdressing school and got his license in hairdressing.

Robert traveled Europe pursuing his trade: Switzerland, Germany, London — where he worked with the signature hairdresser, Vidal Sassoon. He then decided to see the world while working: a cruise ship. He traveled to Singapore, the mid-east, Portugal and Greece. But while serving the guests on the ship, Robert noticed something: the American guests were the ones who tipped. "Americans must have a lot of money," he surmised.

So how to get to America? He started in Canada —

the city of Vancouver, B.C. And from there made his way into the U.S.: first San Francisco then on to L.A., Phoenix, Chicago, and Miami and finally, in 1964, to Northern Virginia. Robert opened five salons in the Northern VA area and then, in 1971, went to a salon on South Washington: Shylocks. He was quite the appealing hairdresser:

young, good looking, exotically European, and with an eye for the ladies. And one day, a lovely young Eastern Airlines flight attendant named Mary sat in his chair. He did her hair on a Sunday and the next Wednesday they married. And for the next 32 years, until his death on Sept. 11, 2013, they were loving partners — both professionally and as husband and wife.

And from there came the legacy of which we write today, not only Robert's passion for excellence and continues improvement, but also his commitment to mentor and provide guidance:

❖ Sponsoring 33 people to become American citizens — two of whom are co-owners and operators of the day-spa and salon, on North Alfred Street, The SugarHouse — exemplifying his belief in this country as the land of opportunity, and wanting to share that opportunity with others;

❖ Employing more than 300 people and helping

SEE IN MEMORY. PAGE 26

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Alexandria
Gazette Packet



PHOTOS BY JEANNE THEISMANN/GAZETTE PACKET

Mike Conner, left, swears in the 2014 officers of the Alexandria Retired Police, Fire and Sheriff's Association Dec. 12 at the Holiday Inn on Eisenhower Ave. From left are Ken Howard, president (APD Ret.), Jane Malik, 1st vice president (AFD Ret.), Sandy Flynn, 2nd vice president (AFD Ret.), Monroe Bryant, treasurer (APD Ret.) and Patricia Miles, secretary (APD Ret.)

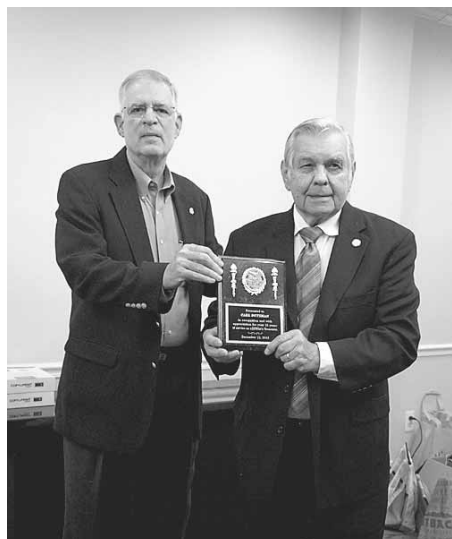
Association of Retirees Elects Officers

Dutzman honored for 15 years of service.

More than 70 members and guests joined Police Chief Earl Cook and Fire Chief Adam Thiel in attending the annual Alexandria Retired Police, Fire and Sheriff's Association holiday celebration Dec. 12, where the 2014 officers were sworn in for the coming year.

Held at the Holiday Inn on Eisenhower Avenue, Retired Chief Fire Marshal Michael Conner administered the oath office to Ken Howard, president (APD Ret.); Jane Malik, 1st vice president (AFD Ret.); Sandy Flynn, 2nd vice president (AFD Ret.); Monroe Bryant, treasurer (APD Ret.), and Patricia Miles, Secretary (APD Ret.). Longtime treasurer Carl Dutzman (APD Ret.) was presented a plaque recognizing his 15 years of service to the Association.

— JEANNE THEISMANN



Carl Dutzman (APD Ret.), right, is presented a plaque by Ken Howard honoring his 15 years of service as treasurer of the Alexandria Retired Police, Fire and Sheriff's Association.

Decriminalizing Suicide

General Assembly to consider abolishing common-law crime of suicide.

By MICHAEL LEE POPE
GAZETTE PACKET

Suicide is illegal in Virginia, one of the few states that has not yet abolished the English common-law tradition of criminalizing the act of intentionally causing one's own death. Now members of the General Assembly are about to consider abolishing the common-law crime of suicide in the commonwealth, a tradition that dates back to the 13th century England.

"It surprises me that this is still on the books at all," said Christy Letsom, chairwoman of the Virginia Suicide Prevention Coalition. "Study after study has shown this doesn't increase safety, it just defers behavior."

The original common law was created when suicide was perceived as an immoral and criminal offense against God and king, who was deprived of one of his subjects as a result of the act. English law declared suicide to be a social injustice and an act of cowardice to be punished cruelly to discourage others from considering it. Today the law is more than a quirky old law. It has consequences in malpractice and insurance claims even though Virginia has no statute prescribing punishment.

"Although penal statutes proscribing suicide or suicide attempts have been repealed or remain unenforced in most states, in a handful of states they or unchanged common law criminalized suicide continue to play an important role in tort claiming arising out of suicide," wrote Dr. Robert Simon, Dr. James Levenson and Dr. Daniel Shuman in a 2005 journal article.

THE MOVEMENT to do something about the issue this year began in Alexandria, where family members who had experienced the grief of suicide approached members of the local delega-

tion. They told state Sen. Adam Ebbin (D-30) and Del. Rob Krupicka (D-45) that their family had been stigmatized enough by what had happened and that they didn't need the extra burden of having the criminal justice system looming in the background — even if only symbolically.

"They don't want their deceased loved one labeled as a criminal because she was mentally ill," said Ebbin. "It doesn't serve any purpose to have it in the code."

Much of American law was originally derived from English common law, which is how the criminalization of suicide found its way into the Virginia code. Other than Massachusetts, though, no state has created a punishment for committing suicide. Massachusetts repealed that statute years ago, and most states have already taken criminalization of suicide off the books. Not Virginia — at least not yet.

"This is part of a larger effort to bring attention to suicide as a mental-health issue," said Krupicka. "It's also about dealing with stigma."

MOST STATES took action years ago — New Jersey in 1971, North Carolina in 1973 and Washington in 1976. Here in Virginia, forfeiture of goods has already been replaced as part of the common law. But a 1992 Virginia Supreme Court ruling showed that Virginia case law continues to view suicide as an "immoral and illegal act." For critics of the existing law, that only adds to the stigma of those who are living with mental illness or who have lost a loved one to suicide.

"We know that those kinds of prohibitive and restrictive laws really don't have an impact for safety," said Letsom. "They gave people some legal authority to take action, but didn't actually end up helping. It was actually more hurtful than helpful."

First Redevelopment Proposal of Waterfront Plan Heads to Council

FROM PAGE 1

emerged from the room with language members of the commission approved in a six-to-one vote directing city staff to work with the developer in an effort to reduce the size and scale of the building. That means the plan that comes before City Council is likely to be a modified concept, one that will have the stamp of the Planning Commission.

"You work on the finances with the city manager to make sure it's as small as we can possibly get it, and then in concert with that you make it look as small as you can possibly get it with the best design as you can possibly get it," said Planning Commission Chairman John Komoroske. "I'm pretty comfortable with staff handling that."

For city officials and development interests, stakes are high. Supporters of the waterfront plan say they're worried that excessive restrictions on the size and scale of the building might jeopardize the hotel proposal. Komoroske said if the hotel deal falls through, other developers might come forward with plans for office or residential projects.

"There's blood spilled all over this dais up here from all the pain we've been through to get these hotels," said Komoroske.

THE PROPOSAL will be closely watched because it's the first redevelopment under the controversial waterfront plan, which initially passed in 2012 and then was the subject of a number of lawsuits — one of

which has yet to be fully resolved. Several commission members said they wanted to be careful to set the right tone with this proposal because it would be viewed as the template for future redevelopment projects along the waterfront. City officials say they believe the proposal would set the right tone in activating the waterfront plan, although they acknowledge it's still being tweaked.

"It was the best that we could make it," said Planning Director Faroll Hamer. "We think it's good."

That comment prompted Planning Commission member Derek Hyra to wonder why the project didn't have a more ringing endorsement.

"You felt it was good, but you didn't use the term great," Hyra told Hamer. "Everyone up here wishes that you could use the

word great when you were describing this."

Although the City Council chamber was packed with people who opposed the plan, six members of the commission voted in favor. Dunn abstained, calling the proposal a "roadside motel" that was "not special." The rest of the commission said they were hopeful the plan could be improved. As the proposal now moves to City Council, supporters of the waterfront plan predict people in the future will look back on these events as a turning point in the history of the city's waterfront.

"I think this is going to be of great benefit to the city, and I put the word 'great' into my sentence there," said Planning Commission member Eric Wagner. "It is going to be of great benefit to the city. I think we will be proud when it's built."

OPINION

Signs of Safer Times

To the Editor:

Thank you to Alexandria City Transportation and Environmental Services (TE&S) Director Richard Baier and his staff for their prescient decision to implement bike lanes on King Street.

Having participated in many of the tense public meetings where both the pro and con bike lane camps provided public comment, Mr. Baier and his staff listened

carefully and responded in a fair and balanced manner that I feel accommo-

dates the majority of needs on each side of the debate. More importantly, this decision continues to support a future vision in our city where transportation is not just about cars but also pedestrians and bikers like myself who want to safely ride and walk on and near this heavily used city street.

In response to the TE&S decision I have observed many anti – bike lane yard signs appearing at homes along King street with statements like: “Bikes Unsafe on King St” and “No Bike Lanes.” One message is written in equation format: “BIKE LANES = UNSAFE.” These signs make false claims that as a daily rider on this street require a first-hand biker’s response.

As a biker that uses this road daily I do agree with the anti-bike crowd on one point — King Street as it’s configured today, is dangerous for cyclists. In my 15 years of riding this road I’ve mixed with cars that honk, yell and often race past me for no reason but to meet me at the red light at the bottom of the hill. Without benefit of steel or glass to surround and protect me, two seconds of driver’s carelessness could put me in the hospital.

Thankfully, in the spring when the city paints the bike lanes, I will no longer have to mix with cars or careless drivers; bicyclists like me will have a pocket of safety when riding the bike lane on King St. So the truth is: “BIKE LANES = SAFER ROAD.”

Having no private property on King Street to respond to these yard signs, here are my virtual yard sign responses:

BIKES = < CO2
BIKES = < CONGESTION
BIKES = < CAR TRAFFIC
BIKES = > HEALTH
BIKES = THE FUTURE!
BIKES = HAPPINESS

Rudolf Rojas
Alexandria



Culture of Arrogance

To the Editor:

On Dec. 14, 2013, City Council rejected a Planning Commission recommendation and permitted stadium lighting at proposed tennis courts at T.C. Williams. In doing so, it knowingly breached 2007 written requirements the city and Alexandria City Public Schools proposed, and formally approved by the city, ACPS and hundreds of citizens. In the process, the What’s Next Alexandria effort was exposed as empty rhetoric.

The agreement prohibiting lighting has its roots in the 1960s and 1970s. When the city sought to build T.C. Williams High School, and under the guise of “urban renewal,” the city conducted a campaign of denigrating the families, whom it had earlier ejected from their homes at Fort Ward, to generate public support to get their property. As part of its seizure, the families were again re-located behind the school and the city committed not to light the athletic fields. In 2004, citizens (including the families) who were engaged in the negotiations for the proposed new T.C. Williams facilities suggested that it be designed to keep athletic fields away from those properties to ameliorate future concerns about lighting. The city and ACPS declined. However, the city and ACPS insisted that it would never seek lighting at the athletic fields, inserted a lighting prohibition and consultation requirement with the families, and reduced it to written and binding requirements. The new school

opened in 2007.

Thus, what the mayor and council casually dismissed as an obsolete relic was a 6-year-old written agreement formally proposed, evaluated and approved by all parties, including this mayor. It was the culmination of years of negotiations involving many citizens and public officials, dozens of issues, and 60 years of checkered history. The process of engagement leading to the agreement met the principles of What’s Next and served as a model for how to do it right. Yet the city discarded it with nary a thought of the consequences.

When the city and ACPS announced that they planned to breach, we were hopeful that the What’s Next Alexandria effort would have stimulated improved dialogue and an open process. After all, the What’s Next handbook states in bold italics that “The community is a partner and shares responsibility, as they know best the issues affecting their neighborhoods The primary goal of the What’s Next Alexandria initiative is to improve the quality of Alexandria’s public participation process so that members of the community are actively, constructively, and meaningfully involved in the public decisions that affect their lives and see outcomes as reflective of their input”

Surely, we thought, it would require something urgent and compelling to breach a recent successful agreement, and the community’s views and concerns would receive a respectful audience.

One would be wrong. At the Dec. 14 hearing, citizens who

asked the city to honor its signed agreement and address well-grounded concerns were called bullies; an ACPS official implied homeowners are terrorists because they “hold us hostage;” others injected race. One council member dismissively sneered, “If you don’t like it, just pull your drapes.” At a Dec. 5 school board meeting, ACPS proposed that it conceal what it was doing, and play games with appropriated funds to do it. There were also disparaging remarks directed at the families at that meeting. The mayor and council sat in support of the demagogues.

What’s Next was not even mentioned.

In the end, nothing really changed — ACPS never explained, and the mayor and council showed no interest in, where ACPS was getting \$600,000 beyond what was appropriated to pay for the courts and lights (we know what happened the last time ACPS moved money around when no one was looking); what changed since 2007 causing the city to glibly breach; what impacts this will have on the surrounding community; or whether the project can meet City Code. We still do not know any of this. We have to pass the bill to find out what’s in it.

I and others had suggested at the hearing that the city approve the tennis courts, defer the lights for now, direct ACPS and city staff to engage the community to address the deficiencies (an existing site condition requirement), and resolve the issues consistent with the What’s Next effort. Had ACPS and the city met its own requirements, SEE LETTERS, PAGE 19

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OPINION

Planning for Your Family's Future

BY JOHN PORTER
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, ACT FOR
ALEXANDRIA



Porter

Believe it or not, you have an estate. In fact, nearly everyone does. Your estate is comprised of everything you own — your car, home, other real estate, checking and savings accounts, investments, life insurance, furniture and personal possessions. No matter how large or how modest, everyone has an estate — and, as the old saying goes, you can't take it with you.

On Wednesday, Jan. 15, ACT for Alexandria is partnering with Senior Services of Alexandria (SSA) to offer expert advice on "Planning for your Family's Future." Open to the public, this seminar will cover what you need to know about financial and estate planning. Join us at 9:30 a.m. at the Beth El Hebrew Congregation located at 3830 Seminary Road for this informative discussion.

It is important to plan ahead, make decisions in advance and not be guided by emotions. Estate planning is not just for retired people, although people do tend to think about it more as they get older. Unfortunately, we can't predict how long we will live, and illness can happen to people of all ages.

Estate planning is not just for the wealthy, although people who have built some wealth do often think about how to preserve it. Good estate planning often helps families with modest assets as they cannot afford a financial loss.

Wills and trusts are two important tools to assist you in spelling out how you would like your assets distributed. Other tools, including the advanced medical directive, healthcare proxy and durable power of attorney, will also be referenced.

Panelists will touch upon a variety of issues from retirement planning and managing one's finances to tax planning and risk management. AARP representative Sally Hurme will set the stage by framing the issues many seniors face when planning for the future. Rounding out the panel will be Kim Fiske, partner with Fiske & Harvey, offering legal guidance and Laurie Blackburn, vice president, Investments at Speck-Caudron Investment Group of Wells Fargo Advisors discussing financial considerations. The panel will be moderated by Tristan Caudron, Senior Partner and Managing Director, Investments of the Speck-Caudron Investment Group of Wells Fargo Advisors.

To register, call 703-836-4414, ext. 10 or visit www.seniorservicesalex.org.

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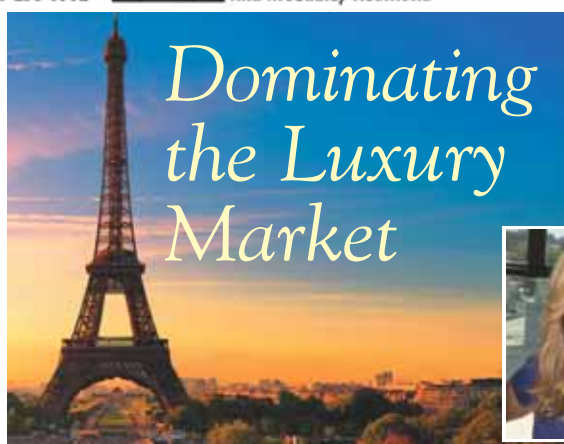
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***Classes begin on Saturday, January 25th and end on Saturday, February 22nd. They will be held on Tuesday and Thursday evenings from 6:00pm - 9:30pm and on Saturdays, 9:00am - 5:00pm during the day.

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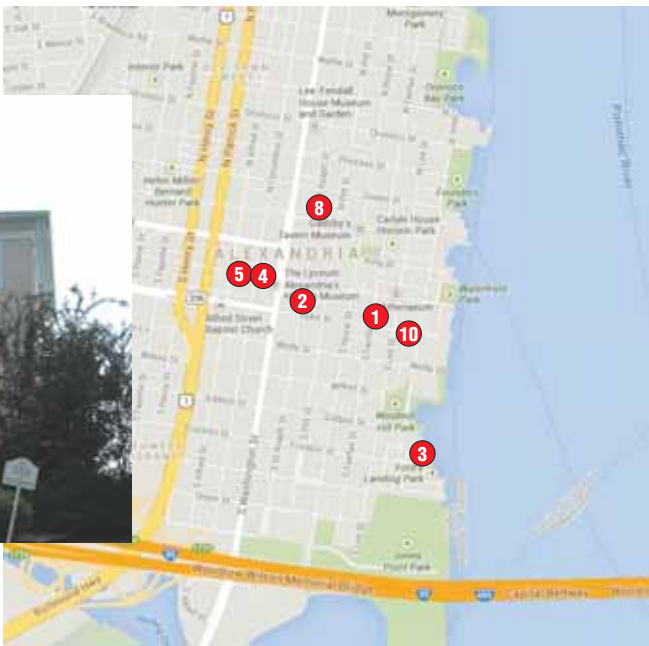
10 109 Duke Street , Alexandria — \$2,275,000



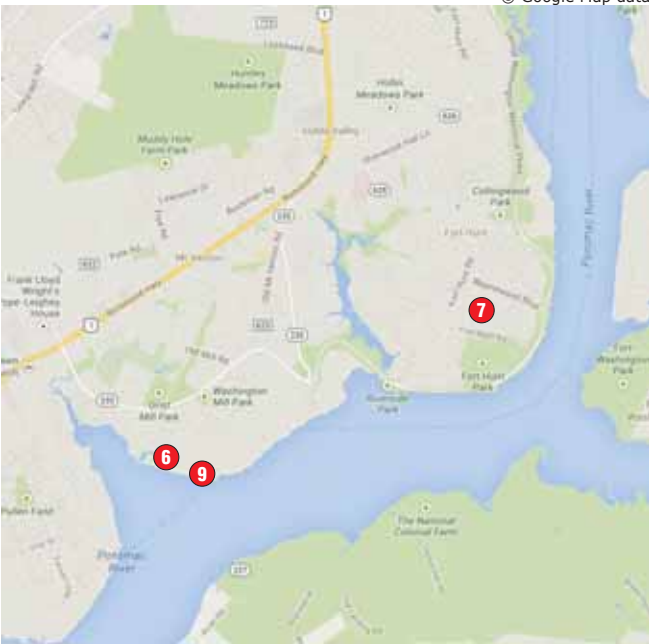
1 217 Fairfax Street South, Alexandria — \$4,656,000



9 9515 Lynnhall Place, Mount Vernon — \$2,330,000



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1 217 FAIRFAX ST S	6	..	4	2 ..	ALEXANDRIA	\$4,656,000	Detached	0.23	OLD TOWN	04/22/13	
2 211 SAINT ASAPH ST S	5	..	6	2 ..	ALEXANDRIA	\$4,600,000	Townhouse	..	22314	OLD TOWN	07/30/13
3 1 KEITHS LN	5	..	5	2 ..	ALEXANDRIA	\$4,000,000	.....	Attach/Row Hse	0.08	22314	FORDS LANDING	06/04/13
4 711 PRINCE ST	6	..	4	1 ..	ALEXANDRIA	\$3,485,000	.....	Detached	0.31	OLD TOWN	04/24/13	
5 811 PRINCE ST	5	..	4	1 ..	ALEXANDRIA	\$3,200,000	.....	Townhouse	..	22314	OLD TOWN	03/29/13
6 4601 NEPTUNE DR	5	..	5	1	MOUNT VERNON	\$3,000,000	.....	Detached	2.29	22309	FERRY LANDING	09/19/13
7 8709 WINTHROP DR	5	..	5	1	MOUNT VERNON	\$2,856,400	.....	Detached	0.50	22308	PLYMOUTH HAVEN	04/03/13
8 212 SAINT ASAPH ST	5	..	4	1 ..	ALEXANDRIA	\$2,800,000	.....	Detached	0.17	22314	OLD TOWN	11/25/13
9 9515 LYNNHALL PL	4	..	5	2	MOUNT VERNON	\$2,330,000	Detached	0.71	22309	OXFORD	08/29/13
10 109 DUKE ST	4	..	3	1 ..	ALEXANDRIA	\$2,275,000	Townhouse	..	22314	OLD TOWN	07/23/13

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Top Designs of 2013

Local builders look back on their most impressive spaces.

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL
GAZETTE PACKET

From outdoor patios with the comforts of indoor family rooms to a stark white bathroom replete with Carrara marble flooring, local designers said they've created some spectacular living spaces in 2013. Their personal favorites may be surprising, and include a lot of kitchens and bathrooms.

JOE STARKEY, of Old Town Kitchen and Bath in Alexandria, also gives an Arlington space the top honor. "We had many projects throughout 2013, but the one that comes to mind was a kitchen on Washington Boulevard in Arlington," he said. "By expanding slightly into an adjacent area, we managed to turn a dated, awkward kitchen and miniature powder room into fully functional, comfortable, useable, family-friendly area."

Starkey said that the homeowners have children and trying to prepare meals had become difficult. "By completing the redesign, we were able to make a genuine improvement to someone's life," he said. "That makes for a memorable job."

BILL MILLHOLLAND, executive vice president of Case Design/Remodeling, with offices in Bethesda and Falls Church, said there are three projects that that he considers among his company's best work of 2013.

He gives a nod to a McLean renovation by Allie Mann and Steve Scholl: "This project involved the total renovation of a kitchen, including opening it to the family room and breakfast room, as well as creating a mudroom," he said. "The scale of the kitchen as well as its crisp, all-white, transitional look and high-end finishes make it



PHOTO COURTESY OF TWO POOR TEACHERS

Ken Nies of Two Poor Teachers says floor-to-ceiling glass tile used in the remodel of this Arlington bathroom helps make it one of his company's most spectacular projects of 2013.

a standout project."

Also noteworthy, said Millholland, is a Falls Church project by Jim Wrenn. The owners wanted to improve their home's layout and add amenities such as a wine cellar. "This project involved several additions, including digging out a basement to add a wine room [with] a staircase up to a new exercise area, screened porch and patio," said Millholland. "The renovations also include a reoriented staircase leading from the family room to the upper level bedrooms, including a new master suite."

A condominium renovation by Valery Tessier that included both a kitchen remodel and a new master bathroom is also among the most impressive spaces completed by Case in 2013 says Millholland. "The contrast of the rich espresso cabinet stain with



PHOTO COURTESY OF BOWA BUILDERS, INC.

The kitchen of an Arlington condominium that includes a custom-designed range hood is among the top 2013 spaces by BOWA Builders, Inc.

the cool palette of the countertop, backsplash and walls is very soothing, but gives an edge to this kitchen," said Tessier. "The galley layout with the peninsula offers multiple work areas and the open shelves lighten up the corner."

BETH WALTERS, spokeswoman for Sun Design, Inc., which has offices in Fairfax County, listed projects in Vienna, Great Falls and Oak Hill as the company's best for 2013.

In Vienna, a construction project tied a home's indoor entertainment space with the outdoors. The new space includes a rear, screened porch with a pizza oven, lounge and dining areas. Tile flooring, recessed lighting, pendant lighting, a chandelier, a tray ceiling with handcrafted wood trim and an outdoor surround sound give this outdoor space the feel of a cozy family room.

In Oak Hill, a kitchen renovation created an open floor plan that allows the cook to move freely while guests relax at an expansive, triangular center island. The kitchen includes a coffered, wave accent tile featuring both Carrara mosaic tiling and black marble borders over the range, two full-sized refrigerators in the kitchen, one hidden behind cherry wood facing to match the cabinets. A Great Falls master bathroom is another project of which Sun Design is proud, said Walters. The new space, which includes his and her vanities, a large walk in shower and foot ledge for shaving, allows two people to use it simultaneously.

JOSHUA E. BAKER, founder and cochairman of BOWA Builders, Inc. names two condominium projects as his company's best.

"As some of our clients are moving in closer to the city and sizing down, they're looking to bring with them the luxury and residential feel of their single family homes," said Baker. "Projects range from pull-and-replace kitchens to remodeled

master suites to whole-unit renovations."

For example, the kitchen of an Arlington condominium includes a custom-designed range hood that was built on site, and a space in Chevy Chase, Md., features intricate woodwork. Baker says these rank among his company's chiest spaces.

"The [Chevy Chase] project really shows how a simple, boring condo hallway can be transformed into a beautiful, customized gallery," said Baker. "Custom woodwork in the walls and built-ins ... in the hallways maximize space."

KEN NIES, owner and cofounder of Two Poor Teachers in Reston, says an Arlington bathroom remodel ranks as his company's top project. His crew installed, "floor-to-ceiling glass tile that went from dark to lighter, and incorporated 'wood tile' (tile that resembles hardwood) for a rustic feel," Nies explained. "[The space] was modernized with LED lights. The shower is a steam unit that was enclosed with a frameless glass pivot door. A Jacuzzi tub and pendant lighting spruced it up even further."

GUY SEMMES, of Hopkins & Porter Construction, Inc. in Potomac, named a whole house renovation that resulted in a clean, modern space as one of his company's top jobs. The remodel included a white kitchen with stainless steel appliances.

"It used to be a galley kitchen and we added an 8-by-10-foot addition to make it larger," said Semmes. "The owner wanted to make things accessible with open shelves, rather than hiding them with cabinetry."

Semmes says remodeling a 1960s Bethesda home is also among his company's top projects. "The fireplace was in the living room and the kitchen was half the size it is now," he said. "We gutted the house. We opened up the wall going into the den and added a first floor powder room."



PHOTO COURTESY OF CASE DESIGN/REMODELING, INC.

This wine cellar was added during the remodel of a Falls Church home by Case Design/Remodeling, Inc. Bill Millholland, the company's executive vice president, says it ranks among the company's top projects for 2013.



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Home LifeStyle

Trendiest Color: Radiant Orchid

Local designers offer tips on using this exotic hue tastefully and share their own color predictions.

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL
GAZETTE PACKET

It has been called exotic, vibrant and even magical. Now it has been named the 2014 color of the year: orchid, or radiant orchid to be exact. Pantone, color authority and provider of professional color standards for design industries, says this shade of purple will be everywhere in 2014. Local design experts agree that this lively hue can add bursts of energy to almost any interior when used tastefully. But before you lay radiant orchid marble in your powder room, remember that Pantone will crown a new shade in less than 12 months.

"I would use this color in 'easily changed' items such as linens and accessories to add a pop of color to a space," said Bill Millholland, executive vice president at Case Design/Remodeling, with offices in Bethesda and Falls Church. "I think of the Pantone selection as primarily fashion focused. As a result, it has a limited lifespan and is not appropriate for tile [and] cabinetry É that you want to look great for a long time."

Jim Nicolson, of Tech Painting Company in Alexandria, said, "We might get a request for an accent wall in a deep purple or violet, but it would be fashion-forward type people who uses those colors, at least in the Washington area."

Instead, designers say to look for radiant orchid in textiles. "A great complementary color is navy blue," said interior designer Sallie Kjos of GreyHunt Interiors in Chantilly. "You can inject these colors into your home by using throw pillows and throws. Replace rugs with navy blue and white indoor-outdoor rugs, [using] the pops of orchid on the pillows and artwork. É Look É for orchid pillows in solids and mix [them] with a geometric pattern in navy blue."

"We might get a request for an accent wall in a deep purple or violet, but it would be fashion-forward type people who use those colors, at least in the Washington area."

— Jim Nicolson, Tech Painting Company in Alexandria



PHOTO BY GREGORY TINUS

While radiant orchid might be the color of the year, Victoria Sanchez, of Victoria at Home in Alexandria, says "Neutrals are here to stay."

Victoria Sanchez, of Victoria at Home in Alexandria, said, "Orchid is going to be the new blue for the bedroom. It will take the place of blue and can be paired with similar neutrals."

Sanchez predicts that soft colors will also be popular in 2014. "Neutrals are here to stay," she said. "We'll still be enjoying grays, taupes and shades of ivory with their soothing palettes."

Lisa Magee, project designer at Case Design/Remodeling anticipates seeing shades of gray this year. "Grays are where it's at. We're moving away from the earth tones and into the cooler colors like grays and blues."

Nicolson said that "Grays were big last year, a lot of shades of gray, and that doesn't seem to be changing, but that could very well be unique to Washington."

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LETTERS

FROM PAGE 10
including consultation, the problems with lighting the courts could have been mitigated and the hearing uneventful. But the mayor, council, and ACPS were not interested in civic engagement, sound policy or fiscal prudence; they were interested in gaming the system and victory. This decision required ignoring history, blithely blowing off carefully negotiated agreements before the ink was dry, and undermining What's Next. But it was more important to the City and ACPS to win. "Pull your drapes," not the soothing rhetoric of What's Next, captures the city government's culture of arrogance.

Frank Putzu
Alexandria

Possible Misperception

To the Editor:

Michael Pope quoted me accurately in his recent story about the problems and delays with building the planned Potomac Yard Metro station. A friend tells me my quote suggests that I dislike the Metro system. During my years in the workforce I rode Metro to downtown D.C., to Crystal City, and to the Pentagon. I still use Metro when I go into Washington.

Despite my personal preference for riding Metro, no Metro station in Alexandria has ever been the preferred travel method for more than half of the households or busi-

ness commuters within an easy walking distance from the station. The 2010 small area plan for North Potomac Yard states that only half of all traffic generated by new development will use Metro.

I believe this is an important fact. Alexandria citizens need to keep it in mind in deciding whether another Metro station, especially option B with all its technical problems, is worth the time, effort and expenditure of our tax dollars that a Potomac Yard station would require.

Katy Cannady
Alexandria

Arbitrary Cancellations

To the Editor:

The following open letter was addressed to Dr. Alvin L. Crawley, interim superintendent of Alexandria City Public Schools.

After the last two frivolous school closings, and a two-hour delay, I have to share my concerns about weather-related school closures, and my deep disappointment in the school administration's decisions. Last Friday's school closure was unnecessary — snow had stopped before midnight, and roads were clear by early morning well before buses needed to leave. The cold temperatures are not so cold as to endanger children walking to school, and the change in temperatures from 8 a.m. to 10 a.m. is meaningless. In reality, the unnecessary clo-

sure and delay decisions are teaching our children to be hampered by minor inconveniences, instead of teaching them a bit of perseverance and determination in upholding their responsibilities. The closures and delays interrupt school curriculum and classroom learning, disturb children's and families' schedules, and cause a number of unnecessary distractions. It is the school administration's job to provide consistent, supportive learning environment; that won't be achieved with arbitrary cancellations.

As a parent of two children at Maury Elementary, I'd ask that you consider deeply the ramifications of the cancellation decisions. I hate to think we are raising a generation of wimpy children. Administrators, teachers and parents should be setting an example for our children. A little cold weather is no excuse for administrators or children to sit in bed and ignore school responsibilities. Now bundle up, and let's get to class.

Stephanie Lynch
Alexandria

Lack of Common Sense

To the Editor:

I oppose plans of the Transportation and Environmental Services Department (TESD) to install bike lanes on King Street.

During this last year I gave little notice to the repaving and marking of Janneys Lane with bike lanes. But on Oct. 30 I attended a staff presentation regarding proposed bike lanes on the King Street hill west of the Metro. New vehicle lanes only 10 – 1/2' wide were proposed along with painted bike lanes on both sides of the street. In response to a question, the city staffer responded that Dash and school buses were only 8' wide. That statement and the claim that 12 cyclists per hour were using King Street piqued my interest. I personally measured the school buses — counting the rear view mirrors, they are 10' wide. On a week night I stood at the top of King Street between 4:30 and 5:30 pm and counted two cyclists, not 12.

I was a member of the Traffic and Parking Board for five years so I have some knowledge of city traffic issues. For 20 years I ran the technology planning and procurement process for the FBI so I also have an interest and experience in cost effective government solutions. I have seen little of that in Alexandria and I correctly predicted that Mr. Richard Baier, director of TESD would move forward with the King Street bike lane plans even if the Traffic and Parking Board came to a different conclusion after its Nov. 25 hearing.

In his Dec. 20 letter to King Street residents, Mr. Baier cited his status as an engineer partly as justification to move forward with the installation and ignore the board's

SEE LETTERS, PAGE 20

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Inova's Commitment Remains Amid Healthcare Changes Ahead

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

2014 promises to be a year of significant change in the healthcare landscape. Most notably, the Affordable Care Act's (ACA) "individual mandate" takes effect, requiring Americans to obtain health insurance by March 31 (or pay a penalty). This year will also see Medicaid coverage expansion in those states that opted in to this voluntary provision of the ACA. Expanding Medicaid eligibility is designed to help even more Americans obtain quality healthcare coverage — something that is important not just for the health of an individual, but also for long-term personal financial security.

Last year, the Virginia General Assembly committed to expanding Medicaid, the jointly run federal/state health program for



the poor, as long as certain program reforms were implemented.

Those reforms, overseen by the Virginia Department of Health and currently under review by a bipartisan legisla-

tive committee, include flexibility in how the program is run, cost-containment measures to ensure the program's future fiscal stability and the option to halt coverage expansion if the federal government doesn't uphold its financial commitment.

Such measures would help rein in the program's costs, which have grown by 80 percent in the last decade, according to Virginia's Department of Medical Assistance Services.

The stakes are high and all Virginians — the insured as well as the uninsured — have much to gain if Virginia Medicaid reform and expansion move forward during this General Assembly session.

It would help nearly 400,000 of Virginia's working poor (over 65,000 in Northern Virginia) access primary care coverage, receive annual physicals and undergo preventive care in the most efficient setting; it would preserve hospital emergency room resources for true emergencies rather than primary care; and expansion would bring more than \$21 billion in federal funds to the Commonwealth over the next decade — money that could help hospitals, like Inova Alexandria, further our outreach to help even more in the community while offsetting significant federal funding cuts set to hit hospitals over the coming years.

Regardless of these changes, one thing that is not changing is Inova's commitment to the community. In my last column, I out-

lined the many ways that Inova Alexandria Hospital and Inova support community health, like hosting public safety events or giving health screenings at various events. As a not-for-profit healthcare system, Inova provided \$274 million in community benefit in 2012 (the most current figures available).

That number includes \$64 million in unreimbursed Medicaid costs. And, in fact, among acute care organizations in Virginia, Inova consistently ranks as one of the top providers of hospital care for Medicaid patients.

I will be heading to Richmond in the next several weeks to join my healthcare colleagues across the Commonwealth in making sure our leaders understand the gravity of this opportunity: Medicaid reform and coverage expansion is something Virginia just can't afford to pass up in 2014.

Read more about Inova's commitment at inova.org/community.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

FROM PAGE 19

recommendation. He claims that the narrow lanes will slow the vehicle traffic, provide for the needs of the cyclists and that the bike lanes will provide a buffer for the pedestrians. In other words, their plan will meet multiple needs and provide safety for all. At the hearing the staff claimed that they thoroughly researched the issues at hand to determine and apply "best practices." Engineers and other technologists seldom give specific details as to what any "best practices" may be but simply use the generalized claim to deflect questions and doubts about their plans and decisions. My experience with engineers has also shown that they tend to focus on the technology and structure and give little genuine thought to the human factors.

Anyone who has been in the military or worked in law enforcement or worked as fireman can tell you that the mix of people and any type of mechanical device can quickly lead to disaster. Bicycles and vehicles certainly fall into the category of mechanical devices. The key to safety is simplicity and consistency. A firearms range instructor will carefully give and repeat commands to trainees over and over to keep their pistols pointed down range and make their weapons safe and holstered before turning. When people repeat safe practices over an extensive time period, those practices become inherent and imbedded in their minds and muscle memories. This minimizes the chance of a disaster arising from routine activities and keeps the mind free to deal with any unique hazards that arise in the field.

A drive up and down Janney's shows that the finished product of traffic lanes provides little simplicity or consistency. Starting from Quaker going east, you start with a narrow vehicle lane with sharrows indicating lane sharing with cyclists. After East Taylor Run, a dedicated bike lane runs between the vehicle lane and curb side parking.

At Putman you only have a vehicle lane

and a bike lane at the curb just before King Street. Returning west, you start with sharrows in the vehicle lane until West Taylor Run. At that point you have a bike lane at the curb overlaying space where curb side parking is allowed.

Starting at the Cloverway intersection a bike lane is painted between the vehicle lane and the curbside parking lane. That bike lane ends at MacArthur School but starts again after the school and continues until 200 feet before Quaker where the bike lane shifts to the right and then transitions into sharrows in the right side vehicle lane.

So what practices and behaviors are being imbedded in the minds and muscle memories of drivers in this complicated and inconsistent environment? First I must point out that there are so few cyclists on Janneys Lane that I have yet to encounter a single rider in my daily driving on that road. I con-

stantly observe automobile drivers in the narrow lanes swerve slightly to the right when a bus or other large vehicle approaches from the opposite direction. I even find myself doing it. This is a behavior repeated over and over, without immediate consequences, because there are no bike riders in the lane to the right.

But there will eventually be a bike rider therein the lane and he or she may end up hurt or worse.

The plans for King Street are much more complicated and inconsistent than Janneys Lane and the street is much narrower. The vehicle traffic amounts to 13,000 to 15,000 vehicles per day so that is a lot of drivers imbedding hazardous driving practices in their minds and muscle memories. I live off Janneys Lane so the vocal advocates cannot say that I am only complaining about losing my parking. I am concerned about

safety and the waste of taxpayer resources for unjustified goals.

It seems that the city staff really wants that platinum award from the League of American Bicyclists touted by a vocal minority pressing for these changes. Some King Street residents did some of their own counting and have good reason to doubt the bike traffic numbers claimed by city staff. Neighborhood parents laughed when I asked if they would let their children ride their bicycles on Janneys Lane and one responded, "I won't let my children serve as a traffic-calming device."

The City Council should take this matter out of the staffers' hands and inject some common sense in this matter.

Tom Walczykowski
Alexandria

NEIGHBORHOOD

Taylor Run

"The weather was so nice we just kept going," said Rachel Gibson Hunt, who led the group of carolers around Shooter's Hill, where caroling groups have gone raising money for Children's Hospital for half a century. Rachel was one of the original carolers who started the activity all that time ago as a way for school children to do something in the vacation period between Christmas and New Years.

This year the group received \$1,009.70. People have tried to add .30 to make it come out even but I wanted to print just what we really received.

Amy and Holden Swindell joined Richard Bussey in the record-setting trip. A group of Rachel's friends from Silver Spring came to help. This tradition started with cocoa drinking provided by Marian Thomas, who no longer lives on Park Road but who we miss. The carolers ate a potluck supper at 310 Park Road, where they had started, to celebrate another year of help for the hospital.

NEW YEAR'S DAY BIRD CENSUS

Dakota Kelso Hunt and her aunt Lucy Hunt spent an exhausting six hours counting birds for the annual bird census.

— LOIS KELSO HUNT



PHOTO BY CERI BALDWIN

Snapshot

The Heritage at Old Town: Old Glory dancing into the new year.

ENTERTAINMENT

‘Curtain Up!’

Alexandria actress takes the stage in Signature’s production of “Gypsy.”

BY JEANNE THEISMANN
GAZETTE PACKET

She was always more tease than strip, and ever since she first shared the stage with Tessie the Tassel Twirler in the 1920s, she was determined to be famous for more than feathers and falsies. She was Gypsy Rose Lee, the queen of burlesque, whose 1959 memoirs inspired the award-winning Broadway musical “Gypsy,” now playing at Shirlington’s Signature Theatre.

Born Rose Louise Hovick, we meet her as Louise, the gawky daughter of the quintessential stage mother Rose. When her prettier and more talented sister June (later to become the actress June Havoc) abruptly runs away from the family’s vaudeville act, Louise awkwardly steps into the spotlight and out of her clothes in an effort to fulfill her mother’s show business aspirations.

But while the title may suggest that the show is about the famous stripper, it is really about Mama Rose, the unrelenting stage mother played by such legendary actresses as Ethel Merman, Rosalind Russell, Angela Lansbury, Bernadette Peters and Patti LuPone. Add to that list Sherri L. Edelen, who takes command of the stage to belt out a vibrant score by Jules Styne and Stephen Sondheim that includes “Let Me Entertain You,” “Together, Wherever We Go,” and the signature “Everything’s Coming Up Roses.”

From her first entrance into the theatre, barking “Sing out, Louise!” as she marches up the audience aisle, Edelen completely inhabits the role of Rose, a mother who steamrolls her way onto vaudeville stages across the country. Too late to achieve her own stardom, Rose is undaunted in pursuing it vicariously through her two daughters.

Edelen, a two-time Helen Hayes award winner, portrays a dangerously obsessive Rose whose need for success is palpable from the opening strains of “Some People” to the bittersweet finale “Roses Turn.” From belting to ballads, Edelen is spellbinding as she nails the challenging range of songs with a performance that outshines her Broadway peers.

Mitchell Hebert is Herbie, an endearing but lonely soul who hooks up with Rose after a chance meeting at an audition. Hebert delivers a tender performance as Herbie falls painfully in love with Rose and endures far more and stays far longer than any man should. He and Edelen have a visible chemistry that is ultimately doomed by Rose’s unquenchable need to succeed no matter the cost to those around her.

Maria Rizzo plays the title role of Gypsy, and her unexpected conversion from self-conscious wallflower to the voluptuous star is convincing and captivating. She particularly shines in the touching and melancholy ballad “Little Lamb,” yet with each step across the stage, Rizzo visibly transforms from the sweet Louise into the savvy stripper who became world renown.

Joe Calarco directs the multitalented and multi-generational cast and coaxes engaging performances from Erin Cearlock as Baby June and Alexandria’s own Ellen Roberts as Young Louise. In an especially clever use of staging and strobe lights, Calarco magically transforms the tots into teens during the Karma



PHOTO BY TERESA WOOD

It’s “Rose’s Turn” to be a star as Momma Rose (Sherri L. Edelen) imagines a different life for herself in the musical “Gypsy,” playing now through Jan. 26 at Signature Theatre.

Camp choreography to “Baby June and Her Newsboys.”

Vincent Kempinski stands out as Tulsa, one of the older newsboys, with an enthusiastic song-and-dance routine in “All I Need is the Girl.” But it’s Sandy Bainum, Donna Migliaccio and Tracy Lynn Olivera as the trio of strippers who long ago should have hung up their G-strings that stop the show with an uproarious rendition of “You Gotta Get a Gimmick.”

Under the talented baton of Jon Kalbfleisch, Styne’s musical score is superb and the 11-piece orchestra, punctuated by the richness of bright brass and woodwinds, electrified the audience and earned an ovation of its own.

Artistic Director Eric Schaeffer and Managing Director Maggie Boland have staged a production full of vitality that is enhanced by James Kronzer’s scenic design and impressive period costumes by Frank Labovitz.

But in the end, the success of any production of Gypsy will always be determined by the strength of its Rose, and Edelen, with an aching in her voice, perfectly nails the brash humor, the maniacal tyranny and even the faint glimmers of vulnerability as Rose’s determination turns to disappointment and despair.

“Make them beg for more and then don’t give it to them!” was the mantra of Mama Rose, and the real Gypsy never actually appeared nude on stage — her art was in being sexy, funny and clever all at once. So, curtain up! Let Signature Theatre entertain you with a spectacular production of one of theatre’s consummate and most enduring musicals.

“Gypsy” is playing now through Jan. 26 at Signature Theatre, 4200 Campbell Ave., Arlington. For tickets or more information, call 703- or visit www.signature-theatre.org.

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

ONGOING

African American Activists

Exhibition. Through Saturday, Jan. 4, 2014, Living Legends of Alexandria is an ongoing photo-documentary project created in 2006 by artist-photographer Nina Tisara to identify, honor and chronicle people making current history in Alexandria. This free exhibit is at the Alexandria Black History Museum, 601 Wythe St. The museum is open Tuesday through Saturday, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Visit www.alexblackhistory.org or call 703-746-4356.

Art Exhibit. “Small Works,” juried by Irene Owsley will run Nov. 26-Jan. 5, at the Multiple Exposures Gallery in the Torpedo Factory Art Center, 105 N. Union St. Visit www.torpedofactory.org for more.

Art Exhibit. See “IMPART,” a project that is a collaboration between The Art League and the Wounded Warriors at Ft. Belvoir. Features ceramics by eight artists showcased at The Art League in the Torpedo Factory, 105 N. Union St. Exhibit runs through Jan. 5. Visit www.theartleague.org for more.

“The Street Sense Project.” Thien-Kim Pham presents “Portraits of People Who Live and Work on the Streets” in studio 21 at the Torpedo Factory, 105 N. Union St. The exhibit runs Dec. 5 through Jan. 6. A portion of the sales will be donated to a local charity related to the subject matter depicted in the piece. Visit www.theartleague.org or 703-683-1780 for more.

Art Exhibit. “Small Worlds,” a multimedia juried exhibition with a focus on artists who work in miniature or small scales will run Dec. 6-Jan. 12, at the Target Gallery in the Torpedo Factory Art Center, 105 N. Union St. Visit www.torpedofactory.org for more.

Solo Artist Preview Exhibit. Runs Jan. 9-23 at the Torpedo Factory Art Center, on the waterfront in Old Town Alexandria at 105 N Union St. Call 703-683-1780 or visit www.theartleague.org. The Art League’s Solo Artist Preview Exhibit premieres one piece by each of the nine solo artists on the 2014 exhibition calendar, which include photographers, collage artists, sculptors, and painters. A panel of outside jurors select the solo exhibits at The Art League in a process that happens two years in advance.

Theater Performance. Aldersgate Church Community Theater presents Disney’s “Beauty and the Beast, Jr.” The show runs Jan. 17-26. \$10-\$12. Visit acctonline.org.

Art Exhibit. See “No Room For Doubt,” abstract works on wood, canvas and paper by Kristen Hayes through Jan. 26 at The Athenaeum, 201 Prince St. Free. Visit nvfaa.org or 703-548-0035.

Art Exhibit. Artist John Gascot of Studio 4, 218 N. Lee St., suite 101, creates an art exhibit to honor the life journeys of transgender individuals. It will be on display through January. Gallery hours are Thursday-Saturday, noon-7 p.m. and Sunday from noon-5 p.m. or by appointment. Visit www.studio4oldtown.com for more.

Art Exhibit. See “Primary Colors” art exhibit from Jan. 3-Feb. 2 at The Del Ray Artisans, 2704 Mount Vernon Ave. Artists use the three primary colors without mixing them. Free. Visit www.TheDelRayArtisans.org for more.

Theater Performance. See “The Ballad of the Red Knight” by Red Knight Productions at Port City

Playhouse, 1819 N. Quaker Lane. Runs Jan. 24 through Feb. 8. Performances are Friday at 8 p.m. and Saturdays at 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. For tickets visit www.portcityplayhouse.org.

Art Exhibit. See a solo photographic exhibit “Darkness Visible” by Timothy Hyde at Multiple Exposures Gallery in the Torpedo Factory, 105 N. Union St. Runs Jan. 7 through Feb. 16. Hyde’s photography examines the mysteries hidden in the shadows. Visit www.torpedofactory.org for more.

Theater Performance. Arts on the Horizon presents “Under the Canopy,” a 20-minute interactive, nonverbal show for children up to age 4. Performances are Feb. 12-14, 16, 17, 19-21, 23 at 10:30 a.m. at The Athenaeum, 201 Prince St. \$5/person. Visit www.artsonthehorizon.org for tickets. They can be purchased at the door.

Celebrate Black History Month. 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Feb. 1-28 at Mount Vernon Estate. In observance of Black History Month, George Washington’s Mount Vernon highlights the lives and contributions of the slaves who built and operated the plantation home of George and Martha Washington. A wreathlaying and presentation occurs daily at the slave memorial site throughout the month of February. Black History Month activities are included in admission: adults, \$18; senior citizens, \$17; children age 6-11, when accompanied by an adult, \$9; and children under age 5, free. Visit www.mountvernon.org or 703-780-2000.

Art Exhibit. See “Reincarnations” art exhibit at Del Ray Artisans, 2704 Mount Vernon Ave. Features art from salvaged items, art from encyclopedias and more. Free. Runs Feb. 7 through March 2. Visit www.thedelrayartisans.org for more.

Art Exhibit. See “Frances Gallardo: Meteorology” Jan. 18 through March 2 at the Target Gallery in the Torpedo Factory, 105 N. Union St. Free. Visit www.torpedofactory.org/target for more.

Occupied City: Life in Civil War Alexandria Exhibition. At The Lyceum, 201 South Washington St., through Sunday, March 23. This exhibit traces life in Alexandria following Virginia’s decision to secede from the Union in May 1861. The Lyceum is open Monday through Saturday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. and Sunday, 1-5 p.m. Suggested admission is \$2. Visit www.alexandriahistory.org or call 703-746-4994.

CLASSES

Acting Classes. Acting classes for children begin the week of Jan. 14 at the Little Theatre of Alexandria, 600 Wolfe Street in Old Town. There are after school classes on Tues/Thurs for K-2nd graders, Fairy Fun for 5 year olds on Tuesdays and classes for all ages on Saturdays/some on Sundays. Visit www.thelittletheatre.com or call 703-683-5778, ext. 2. Open House at the theatre Saturday, Jan. 11, 11 a.m.-1 p.m. to meet the teachers.

Metro Club After-School Program. From Sept. 9-June 2014, the Metropolitan School of Arts presents an after-school program for grades 1-6. The program is located at both the Lorton studio at Workhouse Arts Center, 9517 Workhouse Way and in Alexandria at 5775 Barclay Drive. Programs will focus on the arts, including music, dance, theatre, yoga and academics, as well as designated homework time. The program will run Mondays, 1-6 p.m., and Tuesday-Friday, 3-6 p.m. Tuition runs from

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ENTERTAINMENT

\$130-150. Call 703-339-0444 or visit www.metropolitanarts.org.

Life Drawing. Del Ray Artisans offers a range of open life drawing sessions for anyone to develop life-drawing skills further. Just drop-in for the session and bring your supplies to draw or paint our live models. Fee ranges from \$8-\$12. All skill levels are welcome. Del Ray Artisans is located at 2704 Mount Vernon Ave. Visit www.TheDelRayArtisans.org for a schedule.

Photography Workshop. 10:30 a.m.-noon at Multiple Exposures Gallery on 105 N. Union Street. Photographers and enthusiasts of all skill levels are invited to share work, ideas, and questions at this free workshop held on the last Sunday of each month, except December. No reservations. Call 703-683-2205.

AUDITIONS

Audition for MVCCT's "Once Upon a Mattress" on Monday, Jan. 13 and Tuesday, Jan. 14 at Bryant High School, 2709 Popkins Lane. Anyone age 8-18 years of age can audition. Register online at mvcct.org for a time slot.

THURSDAY/JAN. 9

Opening Reception. 6:30-8 p.m. at the Torpedo Factory Art Center, on the waterfront in Old Town Alexandria at 105 N Union St. Call 703-683-1780 or visit www.theartleague.org. The Art League's Solo Artist Preview Exhibit premieres one piece by each of the nine solo artists on the 2014 exhibition calendar, which include photographers, collage artists, sculptors, and painters.

Second Thursday Music. 7:30 p.m. at The Athenaeum, 201 Prince St. The Noctonals will perform. \$10. Visit <http://nvfaa.org> for more.

FRIDAY/JAN. 10

Music Performance. See Ricky Skaggs & Kentucky Thunder at The Birchmere Music Hall, 3701 Mount Vernon Ave. 7:30 p.m. \$39.50. Visit www.birchmere.com or 703-549-7500 for tickets.

Music Performance. 8 p.m. at Immanuel Church-on-the-Hill, 3606 Seminary Road. The Singers' Theatre of Washington presents "Ariadne auf Naxos." \$20/general; \$15/senior and student. Buy tickets at www.singerstheatre.com or at the door.

SATURDAY/JAN. 11

Dance Performance. 2 p.m. at Theatre on the Run, 3700 S. Four Mile Run Drive. Jane Franklin Dance performs "Mouse of Amherst," adapted from the book "Mouse in

MVCCT Spring Musical



Auditions for Mount Vernon Community Children's Theater's spring musical "Once Upon A Mattress" will take place Monday Jan. 13 and Tuesday Jan. 14 at Bryant Alternative High School, 2709 Popkins Lane. Children aged 8-10 may sign up to audition from 5:30-7 p.m. on either day. Those aged 11-18 may sign up to audition from 7-8:30 p.m. on either day. Register online to audition at www.mvcct.org.

House" by Elizabeth Spire. \$15/adult; \$10/child. Visit www.janefranklin.com or 703-933-1111.

Dance Performance. 7 p.m. Jane Franklin Dance presents "See" at Theatre on the Run, 3700 S. Four Mile Run Drive. \$20. Visit janefranklin.com or 703-933-1111.

Music Performance. See Ricky Skaggs & Kentucky Thunder at The Birchmere Music Hall, 3701 Mount Vernon Ave. 7:30 p.m. \$39.50. Visit www.birchmere.com or 703-549-7500 for tickets.

SUNDAY/JAN. 12

Performance. Doors open at 1:30 p.m., show at 2 p.m. at Grace Episcopal School, 3601 Russell Road. Families can enjoy a performance by Rockneceros. \$5/person. Visit rockneceros.com for more.

Gallery Talk. 2-3:30 p.m. Kristen Hayes will lead a talk about her exhibit "No Room For Doubt" at The Athenaeum, 201 Prince St. Free. Visit nvfaa.org or 703-548-0035.

Dance Performance. 2 p.m. at Theatre on the Run, 3700 S. Four Mile Run Drive. Jane Franklin Dance performs "Mouse of Amherst," adapted from the book "Mouse in House" by Elizabeth Spire. \$15/adult; \$10/child. Visit www.janefranklin.com or 703-933-1111.

Opening Reception. 2-4 p.m. meet the artist of "Darkness Visible," Timothy Hyde at Multiple Exposures Gallery in the Torpedo Factory, 105 N. Union St. Runs Jan. 7 through Feb. 16. Hyde's photography examines the mysteries hidden in the shadows. Visit www.torpedofactory.org for more.

Music Performance. 4 p.m. at Immanuel Church-on-the-Hill, 3606 Seminary Road. The Singers' Theatre of Washington presents "Ariadne auf Naxos." \$20/general; \$15/senior and student. Buy tickets at

www.singerstheatre.com or at the door.

MONDAY/JAN. 13

Music Performance. 7:30 p.m. at West Potomac High School Springbank Auditorium, 6500 Quander Road. Boston Brass will perform with West Potomac's Symphonic Winds. \$11/senior or student; \$12.50/general. Visit www.brownpapertickets.com/event/531160 or email bandadmin@wolverineband.com for tickets.

WEDNESDAY/JAN. 15

Cabaret Night. 7 p.m. in the Springbank Auditorium, 6500 Quander Road. Soloists from West Potomac High School choirs will perform. Free. 703-718-2687.

Swing Dance. 9-11 p.m. at Nick's Nightclub, 642 S. Pickett St. Dance to music by The Grandsons. \$10.

FRIDAY/JAN. 17

Swing Dance. 7:30-9:30 p.m. at Hollin Hall Senior Center, 1500 Shenandoah Road. Dance to live music. \$4/person. 703-765-4573.

Music Performance. 7:30 p.m. at Birchmere Music Hall, 3701 Mount Vernon Ave. Jackson Edwards (of the WeatherVanes) will open for Junior Brown. Visit www.birchmere.com or 703-549-7500 for tickets.

Music Performance. 8 p.m. at Immanuel Church-on-the-Hill, 3606 Seminary Road. The Singers' Theatre of Washington presents "Ariadne auf Naxos." \$20/general; \$15/senior and student. Buy tickets at www.singerstheatre.com or at the door.

FRIDAY-SUNDAY/JAN. 17-26
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ENTERTAINMENT

prix-fixe three-course dinner or dinner for two will be offered at 50 Alexandria restaurants throughout the city. Visit www.visitalexandriava.com or 703-746-3301.

SATURDAY/JAN. 18

Dance Performance. 2 p.m. at Theatre on the Run, 3700 S. Four Mile Run Drive. Jane Franklin Dance performs “Mouse of Amherst,” adapted from the book “Mouse in House” by Elizabeth Spires. \$15/adult; \$10/child. Visit www.janefranklin.com or 703-933-1111.

Opening Reception. 6-9 p.m. artist John Gascot of Studio 4, 218 N. Lee St., suite 101, creates an art exhibit to honor the life journeys of transgender individuals. It will be on display the whole month of January. Gallery hours are Thursday-Saturday, noon-7 p.m. and Sunday from noon-5 p.m. or by appointment. Visit www.studio4oldtown.com for more.

Dance Performance. 7 p.m. at Theatre on the Run, 3700 S. Four Mile Run Drive. Jane Franklin Dance performs “The Trickster,” a multidisciplinary work in collaboration with percussionist Tom Teasley. \$20/person. Visit www.janefranklin.com or 703-933-1111. Tickets can be purchased at the door.

Performance. 7:30 p.m. at The George Washington Masonic Memorial Theatre, 101 Callahan Drive. Watch Greek dancing by Dynami and a performance of “Dyskolos.” Presented by Ambassador Theater. Tickets are \$15-\$30. Visit www.aticc.org/home/box-office for tickets.

Music Performance. 8 p.m. at Immanuel Church-on-the-Hill, 3606 Seminary Road. The Singers’ Theatre of Washington presents “Ariadne auf Naxos.” \$20/general; \$15/senior and student. Buy tickets at www.singerstheatre.com or at the door.

SUNDAY/JAN. 19

Celebrate Community 5k & 1K Fun Run/Walk. 9 a.m. at 2021 Eisenhower Ave., near the U.S. Patent Office. Benefits ALIVE! Bring a non-perishable food item. Families and strollers welcome. \$25/5K before Jan. 16; \$35/race day. \$15/1K before Jan. 16; \$20/race day. Visit www.prracing.racebx.com or 703-998-6460.

“From Board Game to Book.” Noon-4 p.m. at Del Ray Artisans gallery at the Nicholas A. Colasanto Center, 2704 Mount Vernon Ave. Stacy Rausch teaches participants to create a one-of-a-kind art book using a board game as the cover with traditional book-binding methods and materials. The fee (all supplies included) is just \$48 for Del Ray Artisans members, \$53 for non-members. Register at www.TheDelRayArtisans.org.

Winter Warmer Tea. 3-4:30 p.m. at Gadsby’s Tavern, 138 N. Royal St. Eat period-inspired delicacies while enjoying tea and American Heritage Chocolate. A historic guest will be visiting. \$35/person and is all inclusive. Reservations required, shop.alexandriava.gov or 703-746-4242.

Performance. 5 p.m. at The George Washington Masonic Memorial Theatre, 101 Callahan Drive. Watch Greek dancing by Dynami and a performance of “Dyskolos.” Presented by Ambassador Theater. Tickets are \$15-\$30. Visit www.aticc.org/home/box-office for tickets.

Music Performance. 7 p.m. at Episcopal Church of the Resurrection, 2280 N. Beauregard St. Focus Music presents folk singer-songwriters Joe Crookston with Tiffany Thompson. \$18/door; \$15/advance or member. 703-380-3151.

MONDAY/JAN. 20

Theatre Production. 12:30 p.m. at Agudas Achim, 2908 Valley Drive. See “The Meeting,” which depicts what might have happened had Malcolm X and Martin Luther King, Jr. met before they were assassinated. \$10/adult; \$5/student. Visit 703-998-6460.

Talk. 7 p.m. at The Athenaeum, 201 Prince St. Michael Mark Ludlow will discuss “19th Century Conspicuous Consumption: Artistic Examples of Alexandria’s Unique Cast Iron Downspouts.” Free. Visit www.nvfaa.org or 703-548-0035.

Give Together. Families with school-age children can volunteer together at Heritage Presbyterian Church, 8503 Fort Hunt Road. Register at www.volunteerfairfax.org.

TUESDAY/JAN. 21

Special Tour. 1:30 p.m. at Mount Vernon Estate. Take a special tour of the new Fred W. Smith National Library for the study of George Washington. Included in admission. Visit

www.mountvernon.org or 703-780-2000.

Jewelry information Session. 12:30 p.m. at Hollin Hall Senior Center, 1500 Shenandoah Road. Bring a piece of jewelry and get information on it, such as how old it is, how to restore and repair it. Free. 703-765-4573.

Chamber Performance. 7:30 p.m. at Pendleton Hall, Episcopal High School, 3900 W. Braddock Road.

The National Chamber Players with guest artist Nurit Bar-Josef perform Paganini’s Duet for violin and bassoon, Igor Prolov’s Divertimento for two violins and piano, and Mozart’s Quintet in A Major for clarinet and strings. Free, no tickets required. Call 703-933-4135 or visit www.episcopalhighschool.org/arts for more.

Birthday Celebration. Jackson 20 is holding specials, including a lobster boil, in honor of the restaurant’s 6th birthday. Located at 480 King St. For reservations 703-842-2790.

SATURDAY/JAN. 25

Dance Performance. 2 p.m. at Theatre on the Run, 3700 S. Four Mile Run Drive. Jane Franklin Dance performs “Penelope’s Pesky Pen,” inspired by a children’s book by Frank Dormer. \$10-\$15/person. Visit www.janefranklin.com or 703-933-1111.

Dance Performance. 7 p.m. at Theatre on the Run, 3700 S. Four Mile Run Drive. Jane Franklin Dance performs “The Trickster,” a multidisciplinary work in collaboration with percussionist Tom Teasley. \$20/person. Visit www.janefranklin.com or 703-933-1111. Tickets can be purchased at the door.

Annual Dinner. 7 p.m. at Carlyle Club, 411 John Carlyle St. The Dunbar Alexandria-Olympic Boys & Girls Club will recognize community leaders. \$100/person and includes dinner, dancing and silent auction. All proceeds benefit the club. Visit www.2014bgcdinner.eventbrite.com or 703-549-3077.

Lecture and Bourbon Tasting. 7 p.m. at Lee-Fendall House Museum and Garden, 614 Oronoco St. Hear about Revolutionary War hero and governor of Virginia, Gen. Henry “Light Horse Harry” Lee and his son Confederate Gen. Robert E. Lee. A tasting of bourbons will be available after the lecture. \$7/lecture; \$15/tasting or \$20/both. Visit www.leefendallhouse.org/ for more.

Music Performance. 7:30 p.m. at Birchmere Music Hall, 3701 Mount Vernon Ave. The Manhattans featuring Gerald Alston and Blue Lovett will perform. \$45. Visit www.birchmere.com or 703-549-7500 for tickets.

Civil War Ball. Doors open at 7:30 p.m., and event from 8-11 p.m. in Gadsby’s Tavern Ballroom, 138 N. Royal St. Features dancing, live music, desserts. Period attire or after-five wear. Reservations recommended. Visit shop.alexandriava.gov or 703-746-4242 for tickets.

SUNDAY/JAN. 26

Dance Performance. 2 p.m. at Theatre on the Run, 3700 S. Four Mile Run Drive. Jane Franklin Dance performs “Penelope’s Pesky Pen,” inspired by a children’s book by Frank Dormer. \$10-\$15/person. Visit www.janefranklin.com or 703-933-1111.

Winter Warmer Tea. 3-4:30 p.m. at Gadsby’s Tavern, 138 N. Royal St. Eat period-inspired delicacies while enjoying tea and American Heritage Chocolate. A historic guest will be visiting. \$35/person and is all inclusive. Reservations required, shop.alexandriava.gov or 703-746-4242.

MONDAY/JAN. 27

Music Performance. 7:30 p.m. at Birchmere Music Hall, 3701 Mount Vernon Ave. Robin Zander of Cheap Trick will perform a solo concert. \$35. Visit www.birchmere.com or 703-549-7500 for tickets.

SATURDAY/FEB. 1

Music Performance. 7:30 p.m. at Birchmere Music Hall, 3701 Mount Vernon Ave. James McMurtry will perform. \$29.50. Visit www.birchmere.com or call 703-549-7500.

Warehouse Sale. 9 a.m.-4 p.m. at the George Washington Masonic Memorial, 101 Callahan Drive. Browse high-end boutique merchandise during the 9th annual Old Town Boutique District Warehouse Sale. Visit www.oldtownboutiquedistrict.com or facebook.com/ALXWarehouseSale for more.



The poster features a dark blue background with white musical notes and swirls. At the top, there are icons of a chef's hat, a coffee cup, salt and pepper shakers, a teapot, and a teacup. The date "January 17-26, 2014" is written in a large, white, stylized font. Below the date, the word "EXTRAORDINARY" is in a red box with white text. The word "Alexandria" is in a large, white, cursive font. Below that, "restaurant week" is in a large, white, sans-serif font. At the bottom, there is a row of colorful, stylized buildings. The text "OVER 45 RESTAURANTS WITH \$35 MENUS!" is in white on a black background. Below that, "AlexandriaRestaurantWeek.com" is in white on a red background. At the bottom, there are Facebook and Twitter icons, followed by the text "Browse Menus Make Reservations" in white. Below that, "POWERED BY" is in white, followed by the OpenTable logo. At the very bottom, "© 2013 ACVA" is in white.



Girls Scouts from Maury Elementary School help set up a site for Alexandria's Book Shelf.

Alexandria's New Book Shelf

FROM PAGE 1

helped collect thousands of books for the project. In its first few months, Alexandria's Book Shelf has provided books for children in need at preschools such as: Child Family Network Centers and ALIVE! Child Development Center, Title 1 Schools in ACPS, Alexandria Recreational Centers, Alexandria

Regional Housing Authority (ARHA), FACE Centers (Family and Community Engagement Centers), Head Start programs, Child Find and preschool play groups they facilitate, and local shelters.

"We received a Community Partnership Grant from ACPS to help fund their Title 1 schools and FACE Centers," Friedman said. "This was a great start, but the need is tremendous and the number of places requesting an ABS site continues to grow."

Literacy advocates are working with community partners to help bring awareness and support to the program. In one instance, Jane Collins, executive director of Give Out and Give Back, ran a workshop to provide a donation to purchase the first round of Spanish books, which are growing in demand.

How To Help

The DreamDog Foundation accepts donations of gently used books at the following donation sites:

- ❖ ACT for Alexandria - 1421 Prince Street, 2nd floor.
- ❖ Hooray for Books - 1555 King Street (Old Town).
- ❖ Mount Vernon Rec Center - 2701 Commonwealth Ave. (Del Ray).



Jazz, the DreamDog Foundation mascot, visits with children at the Charles Houston Rec Center.

"ABS made sure all our kids had books to read all summer long," said Elsie Akinbobola, director of the Mount Vernon Rec Center. "The books were right there and children could take them home whenever they wanted. It was a huge success. ABS was our summer reading program and they have come many times to refill our shelves."

What started out as a small program has grown quickly to provide books from preschool up to the newest ABS site at T.C. Williams High School. But as the program grows, so does the need for support from the community.

"Just today we got a request for a senior site," Friedman said. "Now, we just need to figure out who would love to sponsor it so we can continue to expand, purchase books in Spanish and make it happen for all Alexandrians in need."

For more information on how to donate or volunteer, call 703-535-1545 or visit www.dreamdog.org.

PHOTOS CONTRIBUTED

TC Teacher Sentenced

FROM PAGE 1

Break, according to a statement of facts in the case, it became intimate.

One day, when the two were alone, Miarer sat next to the girl in his classroom and brushed her shoulder. The next time they met, he kissed her and touched her buttocks. After that, he touched her breasts. By the fourth and final rendezvous, events had spiraled out of control for the psychology teacher who made \$70,800 a year. Court documents show he grabbed her. Then he pulled down his own pants and underwear to his knees, exposing himself to her.

She tried pulling away, according to court documents, but he grabbed her and tried to pull her closer to him again from the waist. After that, the two had little contact other than an extracurricular club they were both involved in.

BY AUTUMN, Miarer's attention had moved on to another student. He started flirting with her, according to court documents, a relationship continued in a string of emails to his private account. When she was having trouble with her parents at home, he would offer a hug. One day, he told her to go to a corner of his empty classroom, where he hugged her again. But this time it went farther.

Court records show he leaned in and kissed her. Soon afterward, they were both groping each other there in the classroom. The victim told investigators that he grinded against her. He told her that she was beautiful, that he did not want to stop. Then he reached down her shirt.

Later that day, she told investigators, she felt guilty about the encounter because Miarer was married. So she began resisting his flirtations. Court records also show that she heard about other girls and believed Miarer knew what he was doing.

By June, word was out, and people were talking. Rumors were swirling around the school, and



Psychology teacher Steven Miarer was featured in an issue of the T.C. Williams High School newspaper.

Miarer knew the walls were closing in. When one of the students called him at home, according to court records, he told her that he couldn't talk and that he was "in a lot of trouble." After he resigned his position, detectives with the Alexandria Police Department obtained emails from one of the students to the teacher — a chain of correspondence that started as a conversation about homework and

later moved into flirtations.

"The defendant, who was 20 years older than his victims, was prosecuted under the Virginia code section designed to protect minors from sexual exploitation by adults who hold positions of trust or authority over them."

— Deputy Commonwealth's Attorney Cathryn Evans

IN OCTOBER, Miarer pleaded guilty to "taking indecent liberties with juveniles." Last week, Circuit Court judge Nolan Dawkins sentenced Miarer to one year in the Alexandria jail and nine years of supervised probation.

"The judge's just sentence, which represented an upwards departure from the applicable advisory sentencing guidelines, was appropriate because the defendant used his position as a teacher to

sexually exploit several students," said Deputy Commonwealth's Attorney Cathryn Evans. "The defendant, who was 20 years older than his victims, was prosecuted under the Virginia code section designed to protect minors from sexual exploitation by adults who hold positions of trust or authority over them."

Officials at the Virginia Department of Education say they have not yet received a petition to revoke Miarer's teaching license.

"The board has not acted on this case yet," said Charles Pyle, spokesman for the Virginia Department of Education. "In most cases, the school division will present a petition to the department to revoke the license."

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101 Computers

101 Computers

LEGAL NOTICE

Hyjek & Fix, Inc. entered dissolution on December 18, 2013. Any claim that you may have against Hyjek & Fix, Inc., including the amount and basis thereof, must be transmitted to Rees Broome, PC, Attn: SDC, 1900 Gallows Rd., Suite 700, Vienna, VA 22182. A claim against Hyjek & Fix, Inc. will be barred unless a proceeding to enforce the claim is commenced prior to the earlier of the expiration of any applicable statute of limitations or three years after the date of publication of this notice.

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LEGAL NOTICE

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LEGAL NOTICE

Sealed proposals for the City of Alexandria per specifications will be received in the Office of the Purchasing Division until the date and time designated as follows:
TITLE: RFP No. 00000399, Professional Engineering Services for Bridge Safety Inspections, Design and Construction Management/Inspection Services
RFP Closing Date and Time: January 21, 2014, 4:00 p.m., prevailing local time
Pre-Proposal Conference: None
For general inquiries contact John Soderberg, Sr., Contracts Consultant at 703.746.4397.
The City of Alexandria reserves the right to reject any and all proposals, cancel this solicitation, and to waive any informalities or irregularities in procedure. THE CITY REQUIRES ITS CONTRACTORS TO BE EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYERS.

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OBITUARY

Funeral services for
Mr. Rush Gibson Mosley, age 75, of Spanish Fort, AL, were held at 11:00 a.m., Saturday, January 4, 2014, at Mosley Bridge Congregational Methodist Church in Gilbertown, AL, with Reverend Grant Barber, Reverend Chris Sowell, Reverend Clovis Lewis, and John A. Boney, Sr. officiating. Interment was in the Mosley Cemetery in Gilbertown, AL.

Mr. Mosley passed away on Wednesday, January 1, 2014, at his residence in Spanish Fort, AL.

He is survived by his wife, JoAnn Anthony Mosley of Spanish Fort, AL; one son, Joe Mosley (Cindy) of Daphne, AL; one daughter, Cheri Ferral (George) of Las Cruces, NM; one brother, Phil Mosley (Linda) of Gilbertown, AL; one sister, Sherry McBride (Wayne) of Fairhope, AL; four grandchildren, Lucy Mosley, Russ Mosley, Zachary Ferral, and Kelsey Ferral; and a host of nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his father Thomas Leon Mosley, his mother Eula Gibson Mosley, and one sister Lona Gay Mitchum.

Serving as pallbearers were Russ Mosley, Zachary Ferral, Jason Mosley, Michael Druhan, Sr., Michael Druhan, Jr., Crimson Lewis, Adam Wilson, and Johnny Boney.

Visitation was held Saturday, January 4, 2014, from 10:00 a.m. until 11:00 a.m. at Mosley Bridge Congregational Methodist Church. Phillips Funeral Home in Gilbertown, AL, was in charge of arrangements.

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OBITUARY Ruth Eaton Weber



Ruth Eaton Weber, age 54, formerly of State College, died in Pittsburgh, Pa., on December 12, 2013, of complications following a bone marrow transplant. During months in the hospital, Ruth gallantly fought setbacks, displaying her customary courage, strength of character, tenacity, and sense of humor. Ruth's spirit touched many lives. She was greatly loved by her family and friends. She will be missed by all who knew her.

Ruth was born in Bellefonte, Pa., on December 2, 1959, the fourth and youngest child of Robert L. and Marion F. Weber. She graduated from the State College Area High School. She went on to earn her bachelor of arts from the Pennsylvania State University in 1981, graduating with highest distinction in sociology; she received a masters in public administration in 1986. As an undergraduate student, Ruth played for four years in the Blue Band. She was proud to be the first woman to play the sousaphone in the Band and to serve as rank leader.

Ruth spent most of her career in public service. She served as manager of Penn*Link for the Pennsylvania Department of Education, policy director for the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation, and special assistant to the administrator, Federal Highway Administration, the U.S. Department of Transportation. She continued her career with Michael Baker, Jr., Inc., where she rose from communications and customer care director to assistant vice president.

Ruth was a member of Phi Beta Kappa honor society, the American Association of University Women, the Project Management Institute, and the Society for Marketing Professional Services. She received professional awards and honors from the U.S. Department of Transportation Secretary's Office of Public Affairs, the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials, and the Central Pennsylvania Business Journal.

Ruth had a wonderful quick wit. She cared deeply for people, and was a loyal and loving friend. Some of her treasured friendships reached back to childhood including her years as a camper and later a counselor at Camp Kehonka on Lake Winnepesaukee, NH. Ruth enjoyed travel. She visited the United Kingdom and Europe as a member of the Ambassadors of Music. Later, she visited the United Kingdom, Ireland, France, and Italy on trips with friends or family.

Ruth's many friends rallied to assist her as she faced the challenges of her long illness. Ruth also received professional care and many kindnesses from the nurses and doctors at the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center in Shadyside. The family wishes to express their gratitude to all these caring individuals.

Ruth was preceded in death by her sister Karen Louise, parents Robert L. and Marion F. Weber, and aunt and uncle Constance and Norton Cashen. She is survived by her sister Meredith Anne Weber of State College, Pa., brother Robert F. and his wife Anne of Sun Prairie, Wis., nieces Alexandra and Katja, and nephew James.

A memorial service will be held at 10:00 a.m. on Saturday, Jan. 18, 2014, at the State College Presbyterian Church, 132 W. Beaver Ave., State College, with the Rev. Dean Lindsey officiating. A reception will be held immediately after the service (details to follow).

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Bone Marrow Transplant Patient Assistance Fund, UPMC Cancer Center, UPMC Cancer Pavilion, Suite 1B, 5150 Centre Ave., Pittsburgh, Pa. 15232 (memo line: "Ruth E. Weber"). Those who wish to sign up to become a bone marrow donor or to contribute to the work of the bone marrow registry may do so online at www.bethematch.org.

Arrangements are under the care of Koch Funeral Home in State College. Online condolences and signing of the guest book may be entered at www.kochfuneralhome.com

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LEGAL NOTICE

Sealed proposals for the City of Alexandria per specifications will be received in the office of the Purchasing Division until the date and time designated as follows:
RFP #00000415: Updated Medical Standards
RFP Closes: Date and Time: January 31, 2014, 4:00 p.m., prevailing local time
Pre-Proposal Conference: January 13, 2014, at 2:00 p.m., prevailing local time
Purchasing Division Conference Room, 100 N. Pitt St. Suite 301, Alexandria, VA 22314.
For general inquiries contact Jason Soltis, Contract Specialist at 703.746.4299.
The City of Alexandria reserves the right to reject any and all proposals, cancel this solicitation, and to waive any informalities or irregularities in procedure. THE CITY REQUIRES ITS CONTRACTORS TO BE EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYERS.

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LEGAL NOTICE

Sealed proposals for the City of Alexandria per specifications will be received in the office of the Purchasing Division until the date and time designated as follows:
Title: Request for Proposals No. 00000402, Update to the City of Alexandria's Pedestrian and Bicycle Master Plan and Development of the Complete Streets Design Guidelines Manual.
RFP Closing Date and Time: February 7, 2014 at 4 p.m., prevailing local time
Pre-Proposal Conference: A non-mandatory vendor pre-proposal conference will be held: January 10, 2014, at 10 a.m., prevailing local time, at 301 King Street Council Work Room, Second Floor, Alexandria, Virginia 22314
For general inquiries contact Christina Wells, Deputy Purchasing Agent at procurement@alexandriava.gov.
The City of Alexandria reserves the right to reject any and all proposals, cancel this solicitation, and to waive any informalities or irregularities in procedure. THE CITY REQUIRES ITS CONTRACTORS TO BE EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYERS.

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ABC LICENSE

Green Paradise Alexandria, LLC trading New Grand Mart, 6255 Little River Tnpk, Alexandria, VA 22312. The above establishment is applying to the VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL (ABC) for Wine and Beer Off Premises license to sell or manufacture alcoholic beverages. Lydia Lee, member, LLC
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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Legal Notices

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

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Richard E. Gutting, Jr.

Richard E. Gutting, Jr. died December 24, 2013 in Alexandria, VA. He was 70. Mr. Gutting graduated from Stanford University and Stanford Law School in 1968 to pursue a 45-year career of law, government service, writing and teaching. He was President of the National Fisheries Institute and partner with the law firm of Redmon, Peyton and Braswell. Mr. Gutting also served as general counsel for fisheries of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, counsel for the Subcommittee on Fisheries and Wildlife Conservation of the U.S. House of Representatives and as legal advisor to the President's Council on Environmental Quality. He is survived by his wife of 37 years, Jimmie B. Cook, his son David J. Gutting and his wife Monica of Santa Rosa, California, his daughter Gretchen E. Curtis of Menlo Park, California, four granddaughters Alondra Gutting of Santa Rosa, CA, Linnea Gutting of Santa Rosa, CA, Natalie J. Curtis of Menlo Park, CA, and Stella M. Curtis of Menlo Park, CA. He also leaves one sister Anne L. Gutting of Huntington, NY. His family thanks Richard's many friends and neighbors for the extraordinary love and support as he battled his final illness. Services will be private. Expressions of sympathy may be made in the form of a donation to the Alexandria Seaport Foundation, P.O. Box 25036, Alexandria, VA 22313 www.alexandriaseaport.org

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BULLETIN

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

WINTER PROGRAMS

Guide Now Available. The Department of Recreation, Parks and Cultural Activities' 2014 Winter Program Guide is now available. Individuals who did not receive the program guide can download a free copy at alexandriava.gov/recreation. To sign up for a free subscription visit alexandriava.gov/recreation or call 703-746-4343.

MONDAY-FRIDAY/JAN. 6-10

Park Closures. Contractors will be on site to obtain soil samples at Beverley Park, 620 North Overlook Drive. For safety reasons, the work will require that some areas of the park, including the playground be closed intermittently during the on-site work.

THURSDAY/JAN. 9

Waterfront Commission — Marina Committee. 5 p.m. City Hall, Room 2000, 301 King St. Contact Jack Browand, jack.browand@alexandriava.gov, 703-746-5504.
Meeting Postponed. The Process Improvement Workgroup Meeting has been postponed until February to allow for greater community participation. Contact James Hunt at james.hunt@alexandriava.gov or 703-746-4200.

MONDAY/JAN. 13

Beginner Fencing Class. 7-8 p.m. at Charles Houston Rec Center, 901 Wythe St. Youth classes for children ages 10-15. \$64/8-week session. Mask, foils and jackets provided. Register at www.alexandriava.gov/recreation or the night of class.

TUESDAY/JAN. 14

Help the Cats Training Session. 7-8 p.m. at Kingstowne Library, 6500 Landsdowne Center. Learn how cats can be spayed and neutered for free and learn about the trap-neuter-return program. RSVP by emailing animals13@verizon.net.
Application Deadline. Applications are being accepted for the Alexandria Marketing Fund, a grant program providing seed money in the form of matching funds for new and innovative marketing programs. The program also provides grants for the expansion of ongoing or pre-existing programs. Visit alexandriava.gov/MarketingFund. Contact Andrea Blackford at 703-746-3959 or andrea.blackford@alexandriava.gov.
City Council Work Session. 5:30 p.m. City Hall, Council Work Room, 301 King St. Contact 703-746-4550.

In Memory

FROM PAGE 8

many of them start their own establishments, taking joy in the success of others.

Robert Stiedl had a zest for life that was excessive: excessively hard working but with joy in a job well done; excessively altruistic, but with a joy for seeing those he mentored go on to succeed and achieve great things; excessively fun-loving — whether riding his Harley or skating along the Mt. Vernon bike path or perhaps, just walking quietly from his Mt. Vernon home to the workplace he loved. Robert was about excess: excessively loving: his wife, his family, his colleagues and the strangers whom he helped along the way and who then too became his partners and friends.

It is a privilege and honor for those of us who knew and loved him to have the opportunity to share his story with you. A story he never promoted, but a story that gave him joy and peace even in his last days. Thank you, Robert Stiedl.

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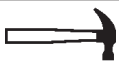
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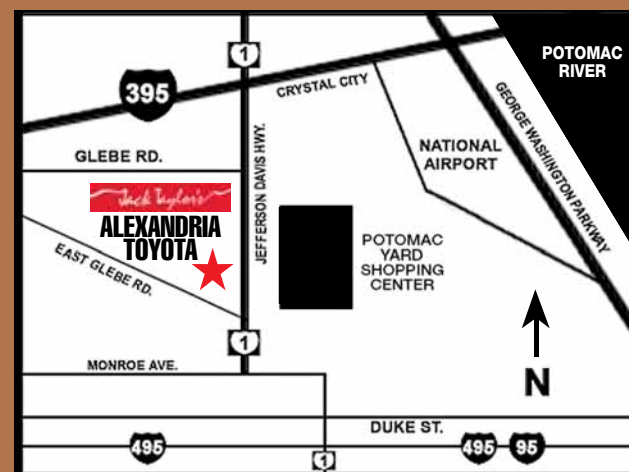
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Toyota mufflers, exhaust pipes, shocks, struts and strut cartridges are guaranteed to the original purchaser for the life of the vehicle when installed by an authorized Toyota dealer. See us for full details.



OIL & FILTER SERVICE SPECIAL

\$5.00 OFF

Includes: Change oil, install Genuine Toyota oil filter, inspect & adjust all fluid levels and complimentary multi-point inspection with print out.

NOT VALID WITH ANY OTHER OFFER OR COUPON. TOYOTA VEHICLES ONLY. OFFER EXPIRES 1/31/14. COUPON MUST BE PRESENTED AT TIME OF WRITE-UP. VALID ONLY AT ALEXANDRIA TOYOTA. TAX AND SHOP SUPPLIES ADDITIONAL.

TRUE START BATTERY SPECIAL

\$129.95

INCLUDES BATTERY INSTALLATION

Includes: 84 month warranty, 24 month FREE replacement, 24 month FREE roadside assistance, 60 month prorated, PLUS we'll check all battery cables & connections.

Does not apply to hybrid batteries. NOT VALID WITH ANY OTHER OFFER OR COUPON. TOYOTA VEHICLES ONLY. OFFER EXPIRES 1/31/14. COUPON MUST BE PRESENTED AT TIME OF WRITE-UP. VALID ONLY AT ALEXANDRIA TOYOTA. TAX AND SHOP SUPPLIES ADDITIONAL.

BRAKE SPECIAL

\$79.95

PADS

Includes: Install Genuine Toyota front brake pads, inspect front & rear rotors & drums, check tire condition and inspect all hardware. Pads only.

MACHINE ROTORS AN ADDITIONAL \$199.95.

NOT VALID WITH ANY OTHER OFFER OR COUPON. TOYOTA VEHICLES ONLY. OFFER EXPIRES 1/31/14. COUPON MUST BE PRESENTED AT TIME OF WRITE-UP. VALID ONLY AT ALEXANDRIA TOYOTA. TAX AND SHOP SUPPLIES ADDITIONAL.

VARIABLE DISCOUNT

\$5.00 OFF with purchase of \$35.00 - \$49.99
\$10.00 OFF with purchase of \$50.00 - \$99.99
\$15.00 OFF with purchase of \$100.00 - \$199.99
\$20.00 OFF with purchase of \$200.00 - \$499.99
\$50.00 OFF with purchase of \$500.00 or more

NOT VALID WITH ANY OTHER OFFER OR COUPON. TOYOTA VEHICLES ONLY. OFFER EXPIRES 1/31/14. COUPON MUST BE PRESENTED AT TIME OF WRITE-UP. VALID ONLY AT ALEXANDRIA TOYOTA. TAX AND SHOP SUPPLIES ADDITIONAL.

WINTER DETAIL SPECIAL

\$119.95

Prepare your car's paint for the harsh winter road conditions. A full exterior buffing, paint sealant and wax, along with a vacuuming of the interior. Vans & SUVs add \$20.00.

NOT VALID WITH ANY OTHER OFFER OR COUPON. TOYOTA VEHICLES ONLY. OFFER EXPIRES 1/31/14. COUPON MUST BE PRESENTED AT TIME OF WRITE-UP. VALID ONLY AT ALEXANDRIA TOYOTA. TAX AND SHOP SUPPLIES ADDITIONAL.

BUY 3 TIRES AND GET 4TH FOR

\$1.00

GOT TIRES? NO CHARGE ROAD HAZARD PROTECTION, TIRE WARRANTY, AND FREE COURTESY MULTI-POINT INSPECTION. PRICE MATCH GUARANTEE. SEE SERVICE ADVISOR FOR DETAILS.

NOT VALID WITH ANY OTHER OFFER OR COUPON. TOYOTA VEHICLES ONLY. OFFER EXPIRES 1/31/14. COUPON MUST BE PRESENTED AT TIME OF WRITE-UP. VALID ONLY AT ALEXANDRIA TOYOTA. TAX AND SHOP SUPPLIES ADDITIONAL.

TOYOTA GENUINE SERVICE

DETAIL SPECIALS

\$39.95

Wash & Vacuum

\$139.95

Hand wash, wax & interior cleaning

\$295.95

Full premium detail

NOT VALID WITH ANY OTHER OFFER OR COUPON. TOYOTA VEHICLES ONLY. OFFER EXPIRES 1/31/14. COUPON MUST BE PRESENTED AT TIME OF WRITE-UP. VALID ONLY AT ALEXANDRIA TOYOTA. TAX AND SHOP SUPPLIES ADDITIONAL.

COMPLIMENTARY MULTI-POINT INSPECTION

Includes: Inspect tires, brakes, wipers, lights, belts & hoses & fluid levels.

NOT VALID WITH ANY OTHER OFFER OR COUPON. TOYOTA VEHICLES ONLY. OFFER EXPIRES 1/31/14. COUPON MUST BE PRESENTED AT TIME OF WRITE-UP. VALID ONLY AT ALEXANDRIA TOYOTA. TAX AND SHOP SUPPLIES ADDITIONAL.

4 WHEEL ALIGNMENT

\$89.95

Your car's alignment suffers, and can cause uneven tire wear, steering problems and decreased fuel economy.

INCLUDES: Inspect suspension, ball joints, struts & shocks, tire condition and set tire pressure.

NOT VALID WITH ANY OTHER OFFER OR COUPON. TOYOTA VEHICLES ONLY. OFFER EXPIRES 1/31/14. COUPON MUST BE PRESENTED AT TIME OF WRITE-UP. VALID ONLY AT ALEXANDRIA TOYOTA. TAX AND SHOP SUPPLIES ADDITIONAL.

12% OFF ANY FACTORY RECOMMENDED MAINTENANCE

NOT VALID WITH ANY OTHER OFFER OR COUPON. TOYOTA VEHICLES ONLY. OFFER EXPIRES 1/31/14. COUPON MUST BE PRESENTED AT TIME OF WRITE-UP. VALID ONLY AT ALEXANDRIA TOYOTA. TAX AND SHOP SUPPLIES ADDITIONAL.

WINTER MAINTENANCE PACKAGE SPECIAL

\$59.95

INCLUDES: Install Genuine Toyota oil filter, up to 5 qts of oil, tire rotation, tire tread inspection, set proper tire pressure, battery check (with print-out), inspect brakes, inspect drive belts, check & top off all fluids and check engine coolant/antifreeze.

NOT VALID WITH ANY OTHER OFFER OR COUPON. TOYOTA VEHICLES ONLY. OFFER EXPIRES 1/31/14. COUPON MUST BE PRESENTED AT TIME OF WRITE-UP. VALID ONLY AT ALEXANDRIA TOYOTA. TAX AND SHOP SUPPLIES ADDITIONAL.

WE WILL MEET OR BEAT ANY LOCAL TOYOTA DEALERSHIP'S CURRENT ADVERTISED SERVICE SPECIALS

NOT VALID WITH ANY OTHER OFFER OR COUPON. TOYOTA VEHICLES ONLY. OFFER EXPIRES 1/31/14. COUPON MUST BE PRESENTED AT TIME OF WRITE-UP. VALID ONLY AT ALEXANDRIA TOYOTA.

FREE QUICK ALIGNMENT CHECK

We will take the guess work out. Stop paying for alignments you don't need.

ADJUSTMENTS, \$89.95

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**Service &
Parts Dept.
Hours:**
Monday - Friday,
7:00am to
7:00pm
Saturday,
8:00am to
5:00pm



ALEXANDRIA TOYOTA/SCION
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Alexandria/Colecroft Station \$408,000

Park the car in the garage and just walk to get coffee, a bite to eat or catch the Metro, just one block away! Sweeping views from the private balcony of this two-bedroom, one-bath condo. Gleaming wood floors and newer HVAC. 505 Braddock Road E #702. MLS# AX8241865

Elizabeth Lucchesi

703.868.5676

www.LizLuke.com



Alexandria/Del Ray \$569,000

Fabulous Location, so near "The Avenue." Delightful 2-bedroom, 2-bath duplex, granite counters, hardwood floors, open floor plan, off-street parking, beautiful treed fenced yard with brick patio. Screened porch, bright lower level family/guest room with full bath. 1503 Hancock Ave W.

Donna Sehler

703.966.7864

www.DonnaSehler.com



Alexandria \$675,000

Fabulous top-to-bottom renovation includes a gorgeous kitchen, bright and open floor plan, private brick walled garden. Four bedrooms, three and a half baths. Great location close to historic Old Town, Metro, and DC!!! 6316 Olde Towne Court. MLS# FX8243643

Robin Arnold

703.966.5457

www.robinarnoldsells.com



Old Town Alexandria \$1,289,000

With nearly 2,900 SF of comfortable living space, period details and modern convenience, this circa 1800 home has it all! Double parlors with twin fireplaces, separate dining room, kitchen with adjoining family room. Upstairs a den and three bedrooms. Lovely walled garden. MLS# AX8247688

Vici Boguess

703.447.2829

www.BBZgroup.com



Alexandria/Del Ray \$559,000

End unit conveying with 3 off-street parking spaces! 2 bedrooms, 2 baths. Light-filled townhome within steps of "The Avenue" and a 5 minute walk to Metro, restaurants and grocery stores. Huge yard with deck for entertaining and a gardener's paradise. 233 E Mason Ave. MLS# AX8249285

Pam Cornelio

571.236.4398

www.PamCornelio.com



Alexandria \$755,000

End-unit townhome brimming with light! Three bedrooms, two full and two half baths. Granite and stainless eat-in kitchen opens to fireplaced family room. Separate dining and living rooms. Huge master suite. Two-car garage. Close to King Street Metro and Old Town. MLS# AX9004164

Susan Leavitt

703.855.2267

www.SusanLeavitt.com



Alexandria \$599,900

Solid brick Cape with tons of potential. Located in a sought-after neighborhood just one stop light to DC. Great space featuring four generous-sized bedrooms and a large walk-out lower level, two full baths and one half bath, hardwoods throughout and updated windows. MLS# AX8221467

Jessica Richardson

703.864.3438

www.JessicaRichardson.com



Princess Street Townhomes

Lot 603 N Alfred St. Offered at \$1,460,000 4BR / 4.5BA
Lot 602 N Alfred St. UNDER CONTRACT 3BR / 3.5BA
Lot 601 N Alfred St. Offered at \$1,185,000 3BR / 3.5BA

Three New Construction Townhomes located at the corner of Princess & N Alfred Streets in Old Town. Quality construction by Northfield Development — Kulinski Group Architects PC.

www.PrincessStreetTownhomes.com



www.susancraft.com Susan Craft 703.216.4501



Alexandria/Kingstowne \$464,900

This brick front, three bedroom, two full and two half bath, garage townhouse is in a great section of Kingstowne with a fabulous southern exposure, private backyard, and deck off of the new kitchen. Open floor plan with vaulted ceilings in all bedrooms. MLS# FX8235623

Kay Blemker

703.623.8563

www.KayBlemker.com

109 S. Pitt St. | Alexandria, VA 22314 | 703.549.9292

www.McEneaney.com

