

WELLBEING

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October 2, 2014

Serving Alexandria for over 200 years • A Connection Newspaper

Police Chief Earl Cook addresses the crowd at the Sept. 27 groundbreaking for the **Fallen Officers Memorial.**

For Those Who Serve

APF breaks ground on Fallen Officers Memorial.

By Jeanne Theismann Gazette Packet

lexandria police officer Eugene Yoakum was 31 years old when he was killed in the line of duty on Sept. 27, 1964. On the

50th anniversary of his death, his daughter Sharon joined other family members of slain officers at Police Department headquarters for the groundbreaking of the Alexandria Fallen Officers Memorial.

SEE FOR THOSE WHO SERVE, PAGE 8

Shift in Jobs

Growth is in retail, leisure and hospitality.

By Vernon Miles Gazette Packet

he growth in low-wage jobs is greater than the decline in the number of federal government jobs in the area, according to the Alexandria Economic Development Partnership's recently released mid-year 2014 State of the Market report.

Eight thousand government jobs were lost in the D.C. area in the past year. Citing evidence from George Mason University's Center for Regional Analysis, the State of the Market report theorizes that the number of lower wage health care industry jobs in the D.C. area will eventually outweigh hiring by the federal government, currently the second largest industry in the region. While many economic trends can have vague roots, the loss of federal jobs seems to have a more simple answer.

"Much of this loss of government jobs in the D.C. region is a direct result of sequestration," said Stephanie Landrum, executive

vice president of the AEDP. "Many agencies have enacted a sort of managed attrition. People have retired and the agency just didn't refill that position.'

Additionally, Landrum notes that these federal job losses won't necessarily have a heavy impact on Alexandria.

"The Patent and Trademark Offices (PTO) are the largest federal employers for Alexandria and fall under a different category. The PTO is a self-funding agency, meaning all of their work is funded by the fees they charge, and thus they weren't impacted by sequestration."

According to Landrum, the PTO alone has nearly 9,000 employees in its Alexandria headquarters. Jeannette Chapman, a research associate with the Center for Regional Analysis, agreed that the impact of less federal jobs in D.C. wouldn't be as noticeable in Alexandria as in other parts of the D.C. area, but cautioned that didn't mean Alexandria would be immune to the effects of sequestra-

"A lot of the older workers are reaching retirement age and they aren't being replaced," said Chapman, echoing Landrum's comments. "It lessens the impact,

SEE JOB GROWTH, PAGE 14

Severance Sent To Arlington Jail

Lawhorne: Transfer avoids "appearance of a conflict."

by three Alexandria Circuit Court judges to recuse themselves from the murder case

ollowing the recent decision Sheriff Dana Lawhorne has chosen to transfer the suspect to the custody of the Arlington Sheriff's department on similar grounds. Sev of Charles Severance, Alexandria See Severance Trial, Page 5

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News

141 Pounds of Drugs Collected

The Alexandria Police Department and the Alexandria Sheriff's Office collected 141 pounds of unused and unwanted prescription drugs for destruction at the National Prescription Drug Take Back Day.

On Saturday, Sept. 27, 2014, the two Alexandria law enforcement agencies, with cooperation from the Substance Abuse Coalition of Alexandria, collected the prescription drugs and other medications for destruction at three sites in the city.

More than 5,000 collections sites nationwide participated in the take back day program on Saturday and more than 3,150 pounds were collected in the Northern Virginia area. In Alexandria, residents dropped off unused prescription medications at the Police Headquarters, the Del Ray Pharmacy and the parking lot of the First Baptist Church. The service was free and anonymous.

Last spring, the two Alexandria law enforcement agencies collected over 188 pounds of prescription drugs for destruction in the third ever take back initiative.

Woman Convicted Of Embezzlement

Julissa Rauhut, 45, formerly of Springfield, was convicted Sept. 24 on five counts of wire fraud after embezzling over \$186,000 from her employer from 2008 to 2011.

Dana J. Boente, U.S. Attorney for the Eastern District of Virginia, and Earl L. Cook, Alexandria Chief of Police, made the announcement after the verdict was accepted by U.S. District Judge James C. Cacheris.

Rauhut was indicted on May 22, 2014 by a federal grand jury on the wire fraud charges. According to court records and evidence at trial, between December 2008 and August 2011, Rauhut worked as a personal assistant at a law firm in Alexandria. While there she stole 120 checks and 64 money orders that were intended as payments to her employer and deposited them into her personal checking account at Bank of America. In total, Rauhut embezzled \$186,178.93.

Rauhut faces a maximum penalty of 20 years in prison for each count when she is sentenced on Dec. 18.

At Library, Discussing Mental Health Issues

A series of free presentations addressing mental health issues will be offered Monday, Oct. 6, through Thursday, Oct. 9, in the large meeting room of the Beatley Central Library, 5005 Duke St.

The series, presented as part of Alexandria's Mental Health Awareness Week, begins with a discussion of "Suicide Prevention and Response," Oct. 6 at 7 p.m.

At 10:30 a.m. Oct. 7, Alexandria's Hoarding Task Force will explain "Hoarding, a Mental Illness."

"The Causes and Treatment of Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder" will be described in a discussion Oct. 8 at 7 p.m. and a film, "The Genuis of Marian," a documentary about Alzheimer's disease, will be shown Oct. 9 at 6:30 p.m.

For more information, call 703-746-1751 or visit www.alexandria.lib.va.us or www.alexandriava.gov/

Brandishing Near School Unfounded

The Alexandria Police Department has investigated the reports of a subject brandishing a weapon toward school children at Maury Elementary School on Tuesday, Sept. 16, and determined that the reports were false.



Substitute teacher Geoffrey Silas Merrill lands a perfect pitch and sinks the principal.

Dunking for a Good Cause

have no idea if I still have a bathing suit," said Mount Vernon Community School Principal Peter Balas as a smile lit up his eyes. Balas was the major attraction at the annual Mount Vernon Community School summer reading celebration held on Friday, Sept. 19 in the schoolyard.

Over the summer, students were challenged to read 20 minutes a day for 50 days; 183 students completed

the task logging in 183,000 minutes or 3,050 hours of reading. The reward chosen by the students was once again to put the principal in the dunk tank. Each of the 183 students were given one chance with a ball and many succeeded. Teachers were also given the opportunity to try their arm at the throw. Substitute teacher Geoffrey Silas Merrill succeeded in landing the perfect pitch and sinking the principal.



Principal Peter Balas braces for impact as another pitch approaches the target.

Photos by Louise Krafft Gazette Packet



School librarian Deadre Henderson and the next pitcher receive a blast of water from one of Principal Peter Ballas's water pistols.



Principal Peter Balas slides once again into the tank of water.

BULLETIN BOARD

Email announcements to gazette@connectionnewspapers.com. Include date, time, location, description and contact for event: phone, email and/or website. Photos and artwork welcome. Deadline is Thursday at noon, at least two weeks before event.

THURSDAY/OCT. 2

Cyber-bullying Prevention

Workshop. 6:30-8:30 p.m. Samuel Tucker Elementary, 435 Ferdinand Way Drive. Helping parents and students understand cyber-bullying, cyber-safety and cyber-civility. Call Krishna Leyva at 703-824-6865 or email krishna.leyva@acps.k12.va.us.

Carlyle/Eisenhower East Design

Review Board. 7 p.m. at City Hall, Room 3500 (City Manager's Conference Room) 301 King St. Visit www.alexandriava.gov/planning/info for more.

FRIDAY/OCT. 3

Applicants Wanted. The City of Alexandria is seeking applicants to fill a vacancy on the Braddock Implementation Advisory Group. All applicants must submit a completed application to the Department of Planning and Zoning no later than 5 p.m. Submissions received after this deadline will not be considered. Visit www.alexandriava.gov/Braddock.

Community Centers Closing for

Staff Training. 6 p.m. The following City of Alexandria Department of Recreation, Parks of Cultural Activities' community centers will close early to provide for staff training: Charles Houston, Cora Kelly, Mount Vernon, Nannie J. Lee and William Ramsay. In addition, the Lee Center will close at 6 p.m. For a list of recreation facilities, visit www.alexandriava.gov/RecreationCenters. Visit www.alexandriava.gov/Recreation or call 703-746-5414.

SATURDAY/OCT. 4

Falun Gong Workshop. 2-5 p.m. Charles Houston Recreation Center. 901 Wythe St. Workshop conducted by TV host Amy Xue, who has practiced Falun Gong for more than 16 years. Free. Register at lily_lee@cox.net.

SUNDAY/OCT. 5

Pumpkin Patch Volunteers

Needed. 11 a.m. -3 p.m. at Immanuel Church-on-the-Hill, 3606 Seminary Road. Volunteers will unload two 18-wheeler trucks full of pumpkins in a colorful, seasonal cooperative effort to create a Pumpkin Patch. The Immanuel Pumpkin Patch, a 21-year tradition in Alexandria, is open daily Oct. 5-31 10 a.m.-8 p.m. It also features gourds, mini-pumpkins, seasonal baked goods, soups and apple crisps.

MONDAY/OCT. 6

Braddock Implementation

Advisory Group Meeting. 6:30-9 p.m. Charles Houston Recreation Center, 905 Wythe St. The first part of the meeting is a business meeting of the Implementation Advisory Group. The second part is a Braddock IAG community meeting to discuss Braddock neighborhood streetscape improvements. Visit

www.alexandriava.gov/braddock. Admission Curriculum Night,

SEE BULLETIN, PAGE 25

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News

Severance Trial Date Set for Oct. 23

erance has been charged with the murder of Ruthanne Lodato, a local music teacher and the sister of retired General District Court Judge Robert Giammittorio, who is a close friend of Lawhorne's. Severance is also charged with the murder of Nancy Dunning, the wife of former Alexandria Sheriff James Dunning.

"I wanted to eliminate any possible appearance of a conflict," said Lawhorne, "and therefore requested that the Arlington Sheriff house Severance."

Lawhorne also wanted to emphasize that this was not a reflection on the professionalism of the Alexandria sheriff's department and that no issues have arisen during Severance's time in the Alexandria jail.

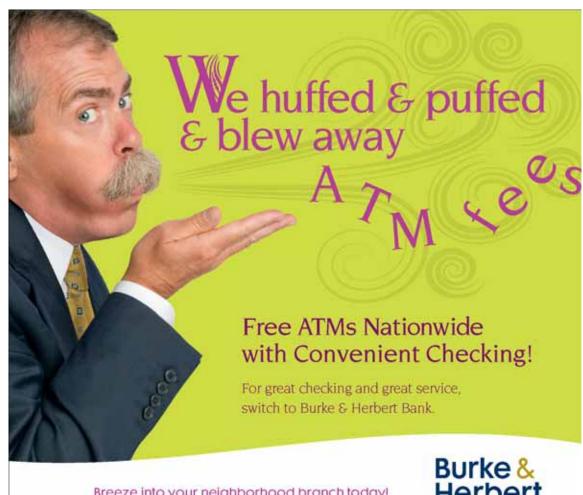
"I have the utmost confidence in my staff to handle the incarceration of Charles Severance," said Lawhorne, "as they have previously demonstrated their ability to remain professional regardless of the charges an inmate may be fac-



Severance

A hearing for a trial date has been scheduled for Oct. 23. Fairfax County Circuit Court Judge Jane Marum Roush has been appointed by Virginia Chief Justice Cynthia Kinser to oversee the case against Severance. Roush previously presided over the 2003 trial of Lee Boyd Malvo, one of the two D.C. Beltway snipers.

Vernon Miles



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PEOPLE

Wielding Haircutting Scissors

All about knowing one's customers.

BY SHIRLEY L. RUHE GAZETTE PACKET

t is mid-afternoon and Sophia Taghipour picks up her long silver scissors and slender comb and begins cutting hair. "See," she says, "he has very good hair. It is fine and it is healthy and he gets it cut every two weeks - he was used to be in the military. I should be finished in 20 minutes." On average, a man gets a cut every four weeks. He says, "now she is doing the detail work," and she bantered back that he is a good customer; "he always comes on time." She tucks a yellow towel into his shirt, smooths fluffs of white shaving cream on the back of his neck and shaves off the stray hairs.

PEOPLE

Taghipour removes the large patterned cape she has put on her customer to AT WORK keep hair from falling on his blue shirt. Pointing to a display of coins on her

work table, she says, "These came from generals this one from the Secretary of the Army and this one from the Joint Chief of Staff. When they retire they pass these coins to people who worked for them." Taghipour worked at the Pentagon Athletic Club from 1989-2004 until it closed. She said about 90 percent of her customers at Kim's Hairstyling on South Washington Street followed her from the Pentagon. "We are like a family."

She works from 10 a.m.-6 p.m. in this Alexandria location on Friday and Saturday and from 8:30 a.m.-6 p.m. Monday-Thursday at a different downtown location. The phone rings. "Yeah, I can do it — what

She looks up and motions Tom Moser over to the large padded chair. "Hello Tom; how was your trip? ... And how is your father?" They take up their conversation where they left off before she took her biennial trip back home to Iran, and Moser and his wife left for a trip to Turkey and Greece. She had a good trip except when she lost her iPhone, "dropped it in the water."

Moser requests, "a little longer this time." As Taghipour wields the thinning scissors, finishes the cut and begins the blow dry, he jokes she has been gone so long she forgot how to cut his hair. Moser confessed he had another haircut while they were both gone. She said, "I can always tell," but she laughed, "my customers don't cheat on me."

Taghipour says she has been cutting hair since she was 12 or 13 years old. "It was my passion. I always



Sonya Taghipour does the final detail work on her hair cut at Kim's Hairstyling on S. Washington Street where she has customers on Friday and Saturday.

had a comb and scissors in my hands cutting my aunt's or grandmother's hair." But she says you have to love it. Some people just can't do it. "My sister, no way." Here in America she only cuts men's hair. "I would need a separate license to cut women's hair. Most men are very conservative and get the same cut every time. And of course in the Pentagon, they get really short hair. No comb-overs." There are some people who want a high-end haircut, but she doesn't take out the mousse or spray unless they ask. Sometimes a young person comes in with a picture of a new style. She said recently someone wanted the top really long and both of the sides shaved entirely clean. Moser commented, "It's the Bryce Harper look." Some hair is harder to cut, especially if it is curly.

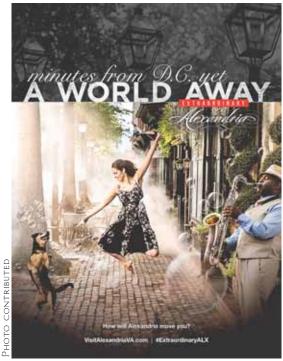
Taghipour came to America to attend college in Memphis, but after a year and a half she could tell it wasn't for her. So she went to Memphis Barber College for 14 months. It was down the street from where Elvis grew up. She said she thought she would come to America for four years of college like a lot of people in her family and then go back home, but here she is. "I like my country and I like it here too." She adds that haircuts are pretty much the same everywhere. "Tom could be getting the same haircut as my father in Iran."



Sonya Taghipour and her customer, Tom Moser, catch up on recent travels as she finishes up a "moderate short cut."



Sonya Taghipour looks over the coins she received from generals when she worked at the Pentagon Athletic Club. She said, "We were like a family."



The Alexandria Convention and Visitors Association unveiled the latest ad in its "Extraordinarv Alexandria" marketing campaign during its annual meeting Sept. 29 at the Old Town Hilton.

'Extraordinary Alexandria'

ACVA unveils new marketing campaign.

By Jeanne Theismann Gazette Packet

he Alexandria Conven tion and Tourism Asso ciation unveiled the latest addition to its "Extraordinary Alexandria" tourism campaign during its annual meeting where officials also released the latest figures on visitor spending.

Held Sept. 29 at the Old Town Hilton, the ACVA touted an independent study showing a 171:1 return-on-investment for the "Extraordinary Alexandria" campaign, an increase from a 130:1 ROI found by a 2010 study of the prior cam-

The new study, conducted by Destination Analysts, determined that for every dollar spent by the City of Alexandria on campaign advertising, \$171 was generated in visitor spending at local businesses and \$6 came back to the city in tax revenue, up from \$4 in city tax revenue per ad dollar in 2010.

Launched in September 2013, the latest marketing campaign showcases various scenes from around the city and utilizes a media strategy focusing on digital and online television and a broader mix of traditional ads including print, outdoor billboards and D.C. Metrorail.

The campaign will also attempt to broaden the audience scope to include a younger demographic.

Millennial and Gen X profes-

sionals ages 25 to 40 have been added as a second target audicomplement ence to Alexandria's traditional audience of affluent adults ages 45 to 64.

According to 2013 visitor spending figures released by the Virginia Tourism Corporation, Alexandria's numbers held at \$738 million, compared to a record high of \$739 million in 2012. This translates into \$24 million in tax revenue generated for the City of Alex-

According to the ACVA, visitor spending contributed \$5,000 per resident in economic activity and reduced the average tax bill of every household by more than \$300. More than 6,000 jobs are also supported by the city's tourism in-

ACVA's latest ads feature the theme "Minutes from Washington, DC, yet a world away." The signature ad of the campaign's second year is an image of the King Street streetscape with a woman and her dog inspired to dance as a musician performs

Intended to evoke the "rejuvenated and carefree feeling a visitor experiences while in a city known for its authentic and uncontrived local character," the ad features Alexandria jazz musician Vaughn Ambrose and Cool Luke, beloved pet of the owner of the dog daycare business Your Dog's Best Friends.

The Annual Meeting was sponsored by Burke and Herbert Bank as part of a new marketing partnership with the ACVA.

For more information, visit www.visitalexandriava.com.







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News

Alexandria **Police Chief** Earl Cook, far right, is joined by family members of police officers killed in the line of duty in breaking ground on the Fallen Officers **Memorial** Sept. 27 at police headquarters.



For Those Who Serve

From Page 1

"This memorial expresses the community's deep appreciation of our police department's sacrifice," said Willem Polak, board chair of the Alexandria Police Foundation. "We want to be sure that the job they do each day to keep this city safe is never forgotten."

Polak and board members of the Alexandria Police Foundation spearheaded a fundraising campaign that raised more than \$300,000 for the memorial, slated to be completed in December.

"The tireless efforts of the Police Foundation are a testament to the respect and admiration this community has for its police force," said U.S. Rep. and former Alexandria Mayor Jim Moran.

The memorial, to be located at the entrance to police headquarters on Wheeler Avenue, will honor the 18 Alexandria officers that have been killed in the line of duty since the early 1800s.

"The worst thing a police department can endure is the loss of an officer," said Police Chief Earl

Cook. "The APF moved mountains for this memorial to be built so that we can honor the sacrifice of men like Officer Yoakum and Charlie Hill, whose wife Ginny has selflessly dedicated her energy and commitment to what we are doing."

Ginny Hill-Obranovich, the volunteer executive director of the APF, was joined at the ceremony by her sons Charles Jr. and Robert, who is following in his father's footsteps as an Alexandria police officer.

Cook also recognized the family of the late Vola Lawson, who was instrumental in founding the APF during her tenure as city manager.

"Vola always kept the ship on course," Cook said. "She is missed dearly here today."

HDR Engineering and Whiting-Turner are working together to design and build the memorial, which the APF expects to be completed before the end of the year.

"No community should take its security for granted," Moran said. "But this security does not come



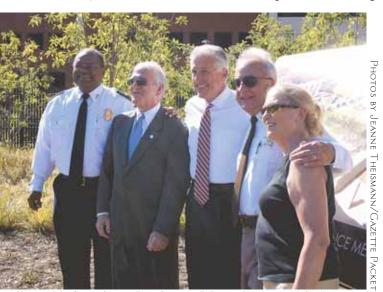
The family of slain officer Charlie Hill listens to remarks during the groundbreaking ceremony for the Fallen Officers Memorial. Pictured are Officer Hill's widow Ginny Hill-Obranovich and sons Charles Jr. and Robert.

without sacrifice. The 18 officers memorialized at this site remind us of that fact. It's time we honor that sacrifice and recognize the ongoing dangers our officers face every day so that the rest of us can remain safe."

To donate to the memorial, visit www.alexandriapolicefoundation.org.



Sisters Josephine and Eleanor Lawson take part in the groundbreaking for the Fallen Officers Memorial. They are the grand-daughters of the late Vola Lawson, who was instrumental in establishing the Alexandria Police Foundation



Police Chief Earl Cook, Alexandria Police Foundation board chair Willem Polak, former police chief David Baker, Sheriff Dana Lawhorne and Ann Dorman pose for a photo in front of a rendering of the future memorial.

8 ALEXANDRIA GAZETTE PACKET OCTOBER 2-8, 2014

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OPINION

Does Change in Voter ID Laws Matter?

More than 22,000 active voters in Northern Virginia are without the required ID.

stringent voter identification laws are in effect. Taken together, more than 22,000 of Northern Virginia's closein voters right now do not have the photo identification now required to vote in the coming election. While there are simple ways to get an identification card for Election Day, so far, only a handful of voters have done so.

In Fairfax County, 13,247 of the county's 672,756 active voters do not have the photo identification they will need to vote on Elec-

In Alexandria, 2,729 of the City's 85,671 active voters do not have the photo identification they will need to vote on Election Day.

In Arlington, 6,348 of the 140,255 active

Register

For More Election Information:

Alexandria Board of Elections, 703-746-4050, http:/ /alexandriava.gov/Elections

132 North Royal St., Alexandria, 22314; FAX 703 838-6449; email tom.parkins@alexandriava.gov

State Board of Elections, 804 864-8901 Toll Free: 800 552-9745 FAX: 804 371-0194

email: info@sbe.virginia.gov http://www.sbe.virginia.gov

or the current election, new, more voters do not have the photo identification they will need to vote on Election Day.

> These numbers are analysed by the State Board of Elections, and include voters who do not have a match in the DMV data, and also are not designated as military, overseas or federal only voters, who do not have an

active Federal Postcard Application or Annual Absentee application, and who have voted or registered since and including the last presidential election.

Across the Commonwealth, 93,117 active voters also lack photo ID from DMV or the other likely sources.

When you consider that in the last election, Virginia's Attorney General was elected by a margin of 165 votes out of more than 2 million votes cast, these numbers are staggering. There is no evidence of voter identification fraud on any scale that requires potentially disenfranchising tens of thousands of voters. Because Northern Virginia is the most populous part of the state, the impact is also greatest in our area.

Here are the "acceptable" forms of identification. "Valid" is defined as a genuine document, bearing the photograph of the voter, and is not expired for more than 12 months: Valid Virginia Driver's License or Identification Card; Valid Virginia DMV issued Veteran's ID card; Valid United States Passport; Other government-issued photo identification cards; Valid college or university student photo identification card, must be from an institution of higher education located in Virginia; Employee identification card containing a photograph of the voter and issued by an employer of the voter in the ordinary course of the employer's busi-

ness; or a Virginia Voter Photo ID Card obtained through any local general registrar's office.

Voters arriving to the polls without photo ID will be allowed to vote a provisional ballot and will have until noon on the Friday after the election to deliver a copy of identification to their locality's electoral board in order for their provisional ballot to be counted.

If you or anyone you know might need identification to vote, the process is simple. Contact your local board of elections and go apply for your ID card.

There is help in place to transport voters who need help getting there.

In order to vote on Election Day, you must be registered at your current address no later than Oct. 13, 2014. You can check your registration status online by going to www.sbe.virginia.gov.

— Mary Kimm, MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Breaking a Commitment

To the Editor:

This Thursday night, the School Board plans to vote on the lighting of the Parker Gray Stadium at

T.C. Williams High School. The long and perhaps unknown history of the location of both the school and the stadium gives everyone a reason to consider why lights should never be placed in this lo-

For many years following the African American community

Civil War, there was a thriving community of African Americans living around what we know today as Fort Ward Park. When the city decided to make this a park, they took the land and relocated my ancestors to another thriving

EDITORIAL

AFTER NEARLY FOUR DECADES OF SPEEDING AWAY FROM EARTH, VOYAGER LEAVES THE HELIOSPHERE AND HEADS INTO THE VACUOUS DEPTHS OF INTERSTELLAR SPACE... ITS MISSION: TO SEEK OUT INTELLIGENT LIFE AND, PERHAPS SOLVE THE MYSTERY OF WHY THERE IS NO SCIENTIFICALLY CONFIRMED EVIDENCE THAT EARTH HAS BEEN VISITED BY BEINGS FROM OTHER WORLDS. THIS SYSTEM where T.C. Williams H.S. and Parker-Gray Stadium stand today. This community of African Americans is known as the Woods Community, unlike many other African American communities in the city, the Woods Community owned their land, stretching from the Quaker Lane area, through where the school and field are to Scroggins Road and further north and west.

In the early '60s when the city decided they wanted a new high school, they took the land from this African American community, using the Minimum House-Hygiene Ordinance passed in December 1957 to devalue the property, making it easier for the government to take the land. "Negro residents of the area ... had charged that selection of Mudtown as a school site was one of a series of devices to force them out of a location their families had occupied since Civil War days." ("Compromise on Mudtown is Proposed," Washington Post Nov. 16, 1960.) Owning land in Alexandria wasn't easy for African American families at that time. When they lost their land, some of those families were forced to move from the Woods Community, and in their move had to deal with discriminatory restrictive covenants, but many re

SEE LETTERS, PAGE 12

Alexandria Gazette Packet

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OPINION

A Taste of Outdoors

By Barbara S. Moffet

he feline residents of the Vola Lawson Animal Shelter will soon be glimpsing blue sky and breathing some fresh air. A "catio" under construction on the shelter grounds will be the animals' new playground — a fenced outdoor area with a specially curved top that will prevent escape.

The catio is an effort by the Animal Welfare League of Alexandria, which operates the shelter, to recognize that cats need to stretch their paws and get outside from time to time, but in a safe space. "Cats that roam outside face so many dangers — getting hit by cars, encounters with wildlife, poisons — that we really encourage people to keep their cats inside," said Abbie Hubbard, the League's director of animal care.

She recalls numerous times cats have been brought AWLA to the shelter suffering from injuries caused by run-ins with cars — and even a kitten whose ears were sheared off by a lawn mower. Fortunately, that one survived, with aid of veterinary care, and was eventually adopted.

Hubbard says that an expanding array of products, such as outdoor mesh enclosures, provides ways to create safe spaces for cats. Screened-in porches also can put cats in touch with the outdoors while keeping them at a safe distance from vulnerable wildlife. Apartment dwellers should be aware that cats who



Raja, a cat adopted from AWLA, taking a walk on a harness.

fall from open windows or balconies can sustain serious, even fatal, injuries.

Increasingly, cats are following in their canine pals' footsteps by taking walks with owners, sporting harnesses and leashes made for cats. Cats should be introduced to that concept gradually, Hubbard says. She suggests that cats' human companions start the process by putting a harness on the cat while indoors, for just a few minutes. "If your cat likes treats, make sure the treats come out when the harness does, so the cat will enjoy the experience," Hubbard said. After several times, a leash can be attached to the harness but allowed to just drag on the floor until the cat becomes comfortable with it. Finally, the cat and human can venture outside on short trips. "It won't be like walking a dog," Hubbard said. "The cat will probably choose the direction it wants to go, or it may just perch somewhere to watch birds and inhale outdoor smells."



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LETTERS

From Page 10

mained located right next to the new high school on Woods Avenue and Woods Place. The Woods family still lives in these homes today.

Many remember losing their homes to the city, and how the City of Alexandria treated African Americans in the 1960s, a time more recent than many care to admit or even realize.

And this is how the city and the School Board plan to continue treating us in this community. This historic community, which gave up their homes and land for Fort Ward Park and then again for T.C. Williams, is now being told that they must have the value of their homes and land greatly diminished to make way for lights on a football field. Lighting this football field and stadium will pollute the surrounding neighborhoods with excess light and glare and constant noise from events into the evenings and nights.

This field (which once belonged to my great grandparents and others in the community) is not really for T.C. Williams athletes, but will be used as a city stadium for all sorts of non-high school events, including fee for usage events. Lighting the field for student use is one thing, but we already know

it will be rented out to the highest bidder and lit well beyond the hours of typical school activities the last bus at T.C. Williams leaves at 6:30p.m. Lighting this field is not about football for high school

Lighting Parker Gray Stadium (named for the former all black segregated high school in the city) is about betraying people with deep roots in Alexandria again; about treating neighbors, specifically the Woods Community, who have already given so much, as if it were still the 1960s, when taking from black landowners was acceptable public policy.

This is the same community abused in the '60s and now, set to be abused again – the families that occupied the Woods Community in 1960 are the same families that occupy these homes today.

When is it OK to break a promise, destroy a neighborhood and ignore commitments? It is disheartening that this School Board seems to think that in this teachable moment it is an acceptable lesson to teach our youth and future leaders that promises do not matter and showing respect towards a group of people who have already been forced to give up so much is unnecessary. The response

from the School Board and city officials that it was not us that made that promise is an unacceptable answer to this African American community and should be unacceptable to the all residents of Alexandria, especially given the promise was made again and reaffirmed with the recent redevelopment of T.C. Williams in 2007.

We hope that city officials from the School Board, Planning Commission, and City Council make decisions consistent with the acts of their predecessors in 2007 and not their predecessors of the 1960s.

*It should be noted that members of the community view the term "Mudtown" as a slur imposed upon the community by the city that still marks real estate records.

> **Andrea Mackey** Alexandria

Capitalism's Advantage

To the Editor:

It's bad enough when the Federal government takes it upon itself the right to tell business owners what to pay entry level employees. Now we have evidence that one of our rulers, councilmember Justin Wilson, wants us to have fewer taxis.

According to a blurb in the Gazette, he agreed during a City Council hearing with the local Yellow Cab president that there are too many taxis in Alexandria. He subsequently asked our overpaid city manager to strongly consider reducing them.

Who gave either the city manager or Justin Wilson the special vision to decide how many taxis should be available to us? Unlike in command economies, not a single one of which is now or has ever prospered (remember the USSR?), that decision is made by the interaction of two simple realities: supply and demand.

Surely Mr. Wilson was awake when he was in school during the class explaining how capitalism thrives on competition without which goods and services cannot be properly priced.

If he wants to experience what happens when governments meddle in the private marketplace, then he should move to a marketmeddling country. The two closest are Cuba and Venezuela.

Until then, Mr. Wilson should focus only on providing government services. If he wants to be bolder than his colleagues, he should find less costly ways to provide them.

Jimm Roberts

Alexandria

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Susan Gray Chambers

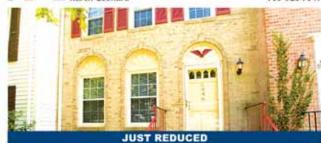




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Job Growth Seen in Retail, Leisure and Hospitality

From Page 1

or how it feels, but it also lessens the regional growth."

Where the region is seeing growth is in retail, leisure and hospitality jobs, which together saw a total increase of 15,000 jobs.

"The report is affirming what we knew to be true," said Carol Jackson, executive director for the Alexandria Housing Development Corporation. "The job growth we're seeing is coming from service industry employment, especially as the federal government's role in employment de-

Much of this development has been centered on downtown Alexandria.

"In general, a lot of the retail has been out in the malls, so now its returning to smaller scale areas and closer to residences," said Chapman. "Alexandria has always had that, and now it's really coming back much more strongly than it has."

But this shift in Alexandria's workforce may come with its own share of problems. Retail and hospitality, the region's fastest growing industries, also rank as the lowest paying industries in the report's breakdown of median salaries.

"Alexandria has had many new retailers move in along King Street and we're projecting that growth [in the hospitality industry] with the new hotel coming in on the waterfront," said Landrum. "But the wages for these jobs are very different, and that trickles into housing and disposable incomes. You can draw that line out even further into transportation and education."

WHILE HOME SALES in Alexandria have fallen, home prices have risen. According to the State of the Market report this trend will likely continue.

Along with increases in retail jobs, the report projects a growth in the Washington area of nearly two million new residents by 2040, many of whom will be younger workers, often with a more limited income. Landrum says this younger workforce will likely be more transient, and renting apartments will be more feasible for them than buying a house. Developers are already looking for new, smaller types of housing in the area designed with the younger, single professional in mind.

"There's never enough housing here for low income households," said Jackson. "If we can't get more affordable housing in Alexandria, that growth is going to move elsewhere ... This isn't just a social justice issue



Retail and hospitality are the region's fastest growing industries.

anymore; it's an issue of economic advantage."

Some have raised concerns about the accuracy of the information in the State of the Market report.

Pat Mann, an urban planner with Alexandria's Department of Planning and Zoning, noted that there are approximately three million jobs in the Washington area, almost half of which are in some way related to the federal government.

"The numbers in the reports are largely people's estimates, and you can't necessarily say there's something of statistical significance," said Mann. "The loss of 8,000 jobs is an extremely small percentage of the total."

Mann also cautioned that much of the report's statistics scale Alexandria against regional totals without considering some of Alexandria's unusual employment characteristics, in particular the unusually high level of education for Alexandria's workforce. Mann says these issues make it difficult to draw accurate trends out of the State of the Market report.

"Nationally, I think we do see a greater trend towards service industry jobs," said Mann, "and it's going to be important to compare Alexandria to the nationwide numbers when more information emerges."

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OPINION

Costs of Long-Term Care

By Patrick F. Killeen
AARP Volunteer

y grandmother said to me one time, "Don't get old." To which I replied, "What's the alternative?" The fact is most of us will get older, much older, before we die. In fact, depending on what source you reference, the average life expectancy in the U.S. is about 78-79 years old.

One of the consequences that result from living longer is the need to figure out a way to pay for our own care when we can no

Senior Services of Alexandria longer physically or mentally work. Not just healthcare, like doctor visits, but also what is commonly referred to as long-term care. Long-term care

can have many meanings. The Department of Health and Human Services defines it as "not medical care, but rather assistance with the basic personal tasks of everyday life, sometimes called Activities of Daily Living (ADLs), such as bathing, dressing, and eating."

When a person needs long-term care, the costs can be devastating.

According to the Virginia Department of Social Services, the average monthly cost of private nursing care in the Northern Vir-



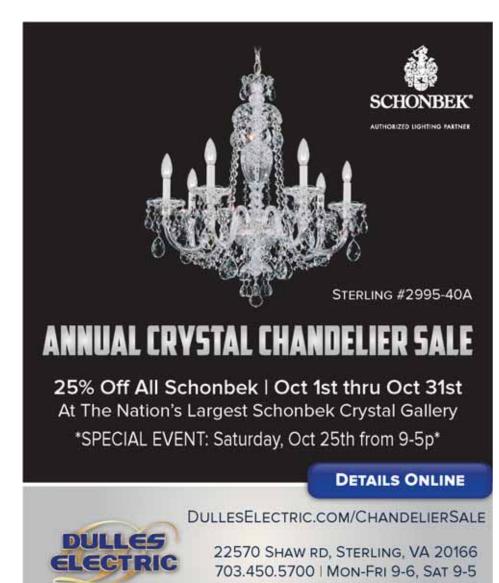
Killeen

ginia area is \$7,734, which equates to \$92,808 per year. At an annual rate of almost \$100,000, a person's life savings will deplete very quickly. Despite these incredible costs, there are ways to plan

for the financing of a person's long-term

On Oct. 18,, from 8:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m., Senior Services of Alexandria and the Alexandria Bar Association will host the fourth annual Senior Law Day event at First Baptist Church, 2932 King St. This free event is open to the public. Come hear local experts, including attorneys, financial advisors, and experts from the AARP discuss how to plan and pay for long-term care. These experts will discuss the options, models, and financing that is available to meet the rising costs of long-term care.

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JUST LISTED! Good things come in small packages! Rambler with updates, screened porch, garage. Newer vinyl windows, plantation shutters, wood-burning fireplace. Newer gas furnace and electric CAC. Bus at your front door. Waynewood Elementary School.



Christine Vanderhyde 703.309.2829 ALEXANDRIA / Belle View \$ 259,000

Wow! Fabulous renovated first floor 2BR/1BA including totally new open kitchen with dishwasher and more, bath with marble floor/tile new HVAC, new bamboo floors, new interior doors and elegant picture molding. Laundry and storage unit in same building. Must see!



Mary Lou Sage 703.851.5441 ALEXANDRIA / Mt. Vernon \$ 560,000

Brick split level located on .5 acre lot with 4BR/3BA. LL has a kitchenette ("in-law suite") with private entrance. Large kitchen has SSA, island, family room with exposed brick plus door to patio.



Emily Capelli 703.472.1282 & Ann Logsdon 703.568.8433 ALEXANDRIA \$650,000 OPEN SUNDAY 1 - 4

4504 PENWOOD DR 4BR/3.5BA, brand new modern kitchen, finished walk-out lower level, screen porch and 2-car detached garage plus 1-car attached garage! Less than 3 miles to 3 Metros and walk



4416 Tarpon Ln \$558,000



Brian Hong & Jery Beamer 703.929.5764 ALEXANDRIA \$325,000 OPEN SUNDAY 1 - 4

1014 PRINCE ST #5 Great 1BR/1BA pied-a-terre convenient to all Old Town offers plus Metro. Hardwoods. Crown molding: W/D. Wood-burning fireplace. Bedroom has walk-in closet + alcove for



Sheila Kolb 703.201.2334 ALEXANDRIA \$265,900

Location, Location . . . one light to DC with great deck and space Hardwoods in main living area, W/D, new heat pump, updated bath and kitchen. New carpet in bedroom. Bright sunlight upstairs and quiet downstairs bedroom. Close to shops, eateries and Metr



Melissa Rosario 919.518.7288

ALEXANDRIA \$ 549,999

Large traditional brick home on beautiful corner lot, with many builder

upgrades. Granite kitchen, extra cabinets, double master suites, 2-car

garage, hardwoods on LL. Interior freshly painted and move-in ready.

ALEXANDRIA \$ 675,000

3BR/2BA brick single family home with great bones ready for your modern upgrades. Excellent location! Lovely landscaped front and back yards. Drive way with off-street parking. www.brianandjery.com

Long & Foster / Old Town Historic District Office • 703.683.0400

400 King Street, Alexandria, Virginia 22314 • Fax 703.683.1303









LUX*U*RY PORT/OLIO

INTERNATIONAL"

HISTORY

Alexandria to New Orleans: The Human

BY DONALD M. SWEIG, PH.D.

This is the first article in a four-part series.

On May 17, 1828, the following advertisement appeared in the *Alexandria Phenix Gazette*:

Cash in Market~

The subscribers having leased for a term of years the large three story brick house on Duke Street, in the town of Alexandria, D.C. formerly occupied by Gen. Young, we wish to purchase one hundred and fifty likely young negroes of both sexes, between the ages of 8 and 25 years. Persons who wish to sell will do well to give us a call, as we are determined to give more than any other purchasers that are in market, or that may hereafter come into market.

Any letters addressed to the subscribers through the Post Office at Alexandria, will be promptly attended to. For information, enquire at the above described house, as we can at all times be found there.

his was neither the first nor the last such notice to appear in Alexandria or Washington newspapers, but it commenced the business operations of the most successful interstate slave-trading operation in the history of the United States. Over the next eight years, John Armfield in Alexandria pur-

PART 1 chased from local planters and farmers, and shipped to his partner Isaac Franklin at New Orleans at least 5,000 Virginia and

Maryland slaves. Franklin and Armfield, as the firm came to be known, were engaged in the transportation and sale of slaves within the United States; in compliance with the law, they did not bring into the country any African or West Indian blacks.

The international slave trade involving all the major nations of Europe as transporters, much of Africa to supply the slaves, and both North and South America and the West Indies as markets for the enslaved blacks had begun in the middle 15th century and continued in Cuba and Brazil until nearly the middle of the 19th century. In all, between 10 and 15 million blacks were forcibly transported across the Atlantic Ocean. Of this number, fewer than 400,000, barely 4 percent, were imported to all of British North America. Nevertheless, this 400,000 was sufficient to establish racially based slavery in every British North American colony, a situation which persisted in all of the new American states at the time the federal Constitution was adopted. The Constitution, reflecting the needs and desires of Carolina and Georgia, prohibited interference with the importation of slaves by the federal congress until 1808, a period of 20 years. The need for such a prohibition is ample testimony of the inclination of many of the founding fathers to restrict the slave trade at the earliest possible date.

Indeed, George Mason, of Fairfax County, opposed the ratification of the Constitution by Virginia because (among other issues) it allowed this "infamous traffic" to continue for another 20 years. The importation of blacks into the United States barely survived



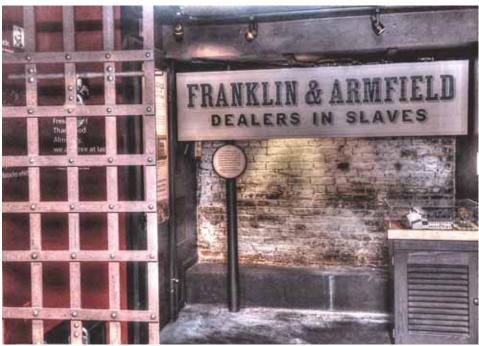
The historical marker outside 1315 Duke St., now the home of the Northern Virginia Urban League Inc.

the 20-year protection provided by the Constitution. On March 2, 1807, Congress prohibited further importation of slaves after Jan. 1, 1808. This same legislation expressly allowed the interstate transportation of slaves providing that duplicate copies of manifests listing slaves transported should be kept and certified by U.S. Customs officials. Thus, Franklin and Armfield operated within the law of the United States.

In fact, this statute, by prohibiting importation of slaves, yet allowing the interstate transportation of slaves, combined with a surplus of slaves on the worn-out tobacco farms of Virginia and Maryland and a need for more slaves to operate the newly developing cotton and sugar plantations of the deep South (Louisiana, Mississippi, Arkansas, Alabama, east Texas), a need which could be supplied in no other way, acted to create the interstate trade which was so profitable for Franklin and Armfield.

Location on the Potomac River, in the heart of a region with many surplus slaves, made the City of Washington and the town of Alexandria an early transfer point for buyers and sellers of enslaved African-Americans. As early as 1802, an Alexandria grand jury had complained of the "Grievance ... of persons coming from distant parts of the United States into this District for the purpose of purchasing slaves." It referred to the "wretchedness and human degradation" of marching black slaves "in our streets ... loaded with chains as though they had committed some heinous offence against our laws." It lamented that "interposition of civil authority cannot be had to prevent parents being wrested from their offspring, and children from their parents, without respect to ties of nature.

IN 1816, vituperative Virginia congressman John Randolph declaimed against this "nefarious traffic" in the House of Representatives and insisted it was not necessary that "this city should be made a depot for



A view inside 1315 Duke St. of the Freedom House Museum that was formerly part of the slave pens.

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Section of a ship's manifest for a shipment of slaves from John Armfield, in Alexandria, to Isaac Franklin in New Orleans in March, 1832. Each slave was entered on the manifest as to name, height, age, and complexion, as required by federal law.

Source: National Archives

Tragedy of the Interstate Slave Trade

carry advertisements for the local traders. Samuel J. Dawson, Jesse Bernhard, and Samuel Meek advertised to buy in

Georgetown; John W.Smith and E.P. Legg were among those who operated at Alexandria. By the 1830s, James H. Birch, William H. "Yellow House" (from the color of the building where he conducted his business) Williams, and Joseph W. Neal Company bought slaves in Washington City, as numerous planters who came to buy for themselves. Alexandria was soon recognized as "the best point from which to start both coastwise shipments and overland coffles." It became "the place most favored" for beginning such journeys.

Isaac Franklin was operating as a slave trader in Mississippi as early as 1819. In 1824, he met John Armfield driving a stage in

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slaves." Yet the newspapers continued to Virginia. Armfield later married Franklin's niece and, in 1828, the two men formed a partnership to engage in the slave trade. John Armfield, who operated the Alexan-

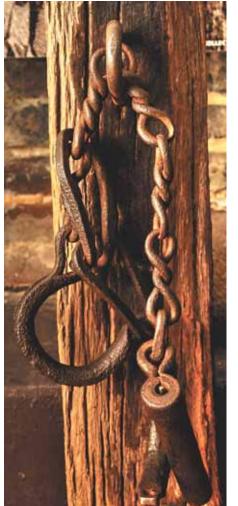
dria end of the business, was a careful and successful businessman. He, like his partner Franklin, is reputed to have made over half a million dollars (in 19th-century value) in the slave trade. How then did this business operate in the City of Alexandria?

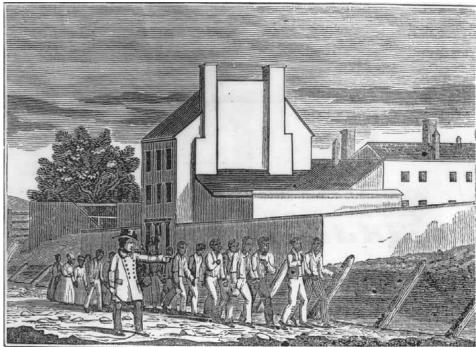
John Armfield purchased slaves at the firm's "establishment" on Duke Street from 1828 until 1836. He not only purchased slaves brought to him by farmers and planters, but had agents or buyers at Richmond and Warrenton in Virginia, and at Baltimore, Frederick, and Easton in Maryland. The majority of the slaves were transported to New Orleans by ship from October through April of each vear.

THE FIRM initially used whatever ships were available such as

JAMESO OF W. W. DUNII.

Fredericksburg. Capt B. | Co





FRANKLIN & ARMFIELD'S SLAVE PRISON

Detail from a 19th-century broadside protesting the slave trade in Alexandria. Library of Congress.

the Shenandoah of Georgetown and the Ariel and James Monroe of Norfolk, often sharing these ships with other traders. By 1834, they owned four ships of their own; the United States, the Tribune, the Uncas, and the Isaac Franklin, which was built at Baltimore especially for their trade. The ships sailed from Alexandria once a month at first and later once every two weeks. A typical cargo was from fewer than 100 slaves to more than 250, the average being a little less than 200. Once a year, during the summer, they transported slaves by "coffle," or chain gang, overland to Missis-

The best descriptions of Franklin and Armfield's Alexandria "establishment" come from abolitionist writings of the early 1830s. Many abolitionists came to Washington to protest slavery and the slave trade before the Congress, and several of these men came across the river to Alexandria, inspected the slave "prison or jail" on Duke Street, and recorded what they saw. By this time, Franklin and Armfield were at the height of their business.

The Rev. Joshua Leavitt of New York visited the "establishment" in late January 1834. Leavitt had been told that Armfield "bore the character of a gentleman, of fair character for integrity and openness in his dealings, and one who was ever ready to afford any facilities forredressing whatever abuses might grow out of the nature of his business." George Drinker, an Alexandria Quaker and abolitionist, confirmed this essentially positive picture of Armfield and added that Armfield was very careful to avoid purchasing or transporting free blacks, and often went "to much trouble and expense ... to keep his business free from every thing that would contravene the laws."

The following year, 1835, a Boston abolitionist, Professor E. A. Andrews, recorded that Armfield had by his efforts to prevent kidnapping and his honorable mode of dealing "acquired the confidence of all the neighboring country." In fact, Andrews had been assured that this reputation extended even to the Alexandria slave community, and that when faced with being sold, many Alexandria slaves requested that they "be sold to Mr. Armfield." Even so, trading in the buying and selling of other human beings was at all times a nasty and disreputable business.

To be continued in next week's Gazette Packet.

may 15 Cash in Market. THE subscribers having leased for a term of years the large three story brick house on Duke street, in the town of Alexandria, D. C. formerly occupied mor by Gen. Young, we wish to purchase one hundred and fifty likely young negroes of both sexes between fore the ages of 8 and 25 years. Persons who wish to sell will do well to give us a call, as we are determined to give more than any other purchasers that are in market, or that may hereafter come into market. Any letters addressed to the subscribers through pe the Post Office at Alexandria, will be promptly attended to. For information, enquire at the above dech scribed house, as we can at all times be found there. Fu FRANKLIN & ARMFIELD; Washington, Alexandria, and Baltimore. Steam Packet Line. The new and elegant Steam.

May 17, 1828, this advertisement appeared in the Alexandria Phenix

Author

Donald Sweig, who retired in 2002 after more than 27 years as the county historian for Fairfax County, holds a Ph.D. in American history from the College of William and Mary. This article is drawn from his earlier scholarly, statistical analysis of the Alexandria-to-New Orleans slave trade, which was awarded the Charles Thomson Prize by the National Archives of the United States, and The Organization of American Historians, and from his doctoral dissertation "Northern Virginia Slavery." He is an occasional contributor to The Connection Newspapers.



Email announcements to gazette@connectionnewspapers.com. Include date, time, location, description and contact for event: phone, email and/or website. Photos and artwork welcome. Deadline is Thursday at noon, at least two weeks before event.

ONGOING

Doggy Happy Hours. 5-8 p.m. at Jackson 20 and Hotel Monaco Alexandria, 480 King St. Thursdays during the summer. Free, drinks sold separately. Treats and water for dogs, with pet boutique and service vendors. Portions of proceeds benefit People. Animals. Love. Visit www.Monaco-Alexandria.com/alexandria-hotel/doggy-happy-hour.html.

"Metamorphosis" Juried Art Exhibit. Runs Friday, Oct. 3 through Sunday, Nov. 2, Thursday noon-6 p.m., Friday and Saturday noon-9 p.m., Sunday noon-6 p.m. Reception Friday, Oct. 3, 7-9 p.m. Del Ray Artisans Gallery.Transformative art embodying 'change'. Visit www.TheDelRayArtisans.org for more.

Art Display. Through Oct. 5 at Margaret W. and Joseph L. Fisher Art Gallery, Northern Virginia Community College. Electronic Aesthetics by sculptor Eric Celarier and painter Glen Kessler will be on display, and viewing is free and open to the public. Open Friday-Sunday 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

Exhibition of New York. Through Oct. 12 at 105 N Union St. studio 312. View work by French impressionist Danny Conant and Shadow Series by E. E. McCollum. Open daily 11 a.m.-5 p.m and Thursdays 2-9 p.m. Call 703-683-2205 for more.

Hacking Objects of Desire. Through Oct.19 in the Target Gallery. Norwegian Sámi artists Joar Nango, Silje Figenschou Thoresen,and Sigbjørn Skåden examine pertinent questions about commercialism and globalism.

Saving Mount Vernon. Saturdays and Sundays through Oct. 26. 3:30 p.m. at George Washington's Mount Vernon, 3200 Mount Vernon Memorial Highway. Visit the rarely seen basement and wander the historic area to learn the heroics of the estates caretakers. \$5 in addition to estate admission. Visit www.mountvernon.org/ for more.

Through My Eyes. Saturdays and Sundays through Oct. 26. 1:30 p.m. at George Washington's Mount Vernon, 3200 Mount Vernon Memorial Highway. Join people from Washington's world as they go about their daily activities, making several stops along the way. \$5 in addition to estate admission. Visit www.mountvernon.org/ for more.

Art Exhibit. Through Oct. 6 at
Principle Gallery, 208 King St.
Showcased inside the historic Gilpin
house built in the 1790s, the gallery
is highlighted by its original
fireplaces, signature rust-colored
walls and beautiful open skylight.
Sunday and Monday, noon-5 p.m.
Tuesday-Thursday, 10 a.m.-6 p.m.
Friday-Saturday, 10 a.m.-8 p.m.
Contact Jessica at 703-739-9326 or
info@principlegallery com for more

info@principlegallery.com for more. **Play.** Runs Oct.10-25. 8 p.m at Aldersgate United Methodist Church, 1301 Fort Hunt Road. Agatha Christie's "Murder on the Nile" will be presented. Vist www.acctonline.org for more.

Art Exhibit. Through Oct. 26 at the Vola Lawson Animal Shelter, 101 Eisenhower Ave. "All Creatures Great and Small" is an animal themed, fundraising exhibit. Both nonprofit organizations receive a percentage of each sale. Monday-Thursday, noon-7 p.m. and Saturday-Sunday, noon-5

p.m. Visit TheDelRayArtisans.org/ AWLA for more.

National Treasure

Tour. Through Oct. 31. 1-3 p.m. at George Washington's Mount Vernon, 3200 Mount Vernon Memorial Highway. A tour dedicated to the behind the scenes filming of "National Treasure 2: Book of Secrets." \$5 in addition to estate admission. Visit www.mountvernon.org/for more.

for more.

Art Exhibit. Through Oct.
31 at at Prudential
PenFed Realty, 300 N
Washington St., Suite
100. The artwork of
Wendy Band, Sharon
Frey and Linda Lowery
in the small group
show: "Three Artists,
Three Visions" will be
displayed. MondayFriday, 9 a.m.-5 p.m.
Vist
TheDelRayArtisans.org/

PrudentialPenFed for more.

October-long Star-Spangled Banner Exhibition. George Washington's Mount Vernon has partnered with Maryland Historical Society to display Francis Scott Key's original draft of the Star-Spangled Banner in the Donald W. Reynolds Museum and Education Center in commemoration of the poem's

bicentennial. The exhibition of the manuscript will be surrounded by panels describing Mount Vernon at the time the poem was written. A day of activities focused on the manuscript and its connection to Mount Vernon will take place on Sunday. Oct. 5.

take place on Sunday, Oct. 5. **Art Exhibit.** Runs from Oct.9-Nov.3 at Torpedo Factory Art Center,105 North Union St. "Beyond the Edge" Contemporary Portraits by Leslie Nolan Reveal will be on display. Call 703-683-1780 Visit www.theartleague.org for more.

Photography Exhibition. Friday,
Oct. 10 through Sunday, Nov. 9. 10
a.m. - 4 p.m. Monday through Friday
and during performances.
Schlesinger Center Margaret W. &
Joseph L. Fisher Gallery, 4915 East
Campus Lane, Alexandria. "The Man
in the Bowler Hat" is an exhibition by
photographer Michelle Rogers. Visit
www.nvcc.edu/schlesingercenter/
gallery.html.

Art Exhibit. Runs from Friday, Nov.7-30. "Nourish & Flourish: The Food Show" art exhibit at Del Ray Artisans, 2704 Mount Vernon Ave. This member show reflects and illuminates the ways food influences us all. Thursday, noon-6 p.m. Friday and Saturday, noon-9 p.m. Sunday, noon-6 p.m. Visit www.TheDelRayArtisans.org for

Art Exhibit. Through Jan. 2 at 1717
King St. and 300 S. Washington St.
BB&T Bank hosts an exhibition of
portraits of African American and
women Living Legends of Alexandria
at its Old Town branches. MondayThursday 9 a.m- 5 p.m. and Fridays 9
a.m.-6 p.m. Visit www.Alexandria
Legends.com. for more.

New Exhibit. Mount Vernon invites visitors to explore George Washington's design for the grounds of his estate, through a new exhibition, "Gardens & Groves: George Washington's Landscape" at



'Under the Canopy'

Arts on the Horizon, a theatre company for children ages 0-6 in Northern Virginia, presents "Under the Canopy." Imagine a theatrical world designed especially for babies and young toddlers to enjoy, inspired by the wonders of the rainforest. Whistling flowers, a clacking caterpillar, and brightly colored umbrella birds await. "Under the Canopy" is a 20-minute, interactive, nonverbal show geared for children 0-2 (and their 3-4 year old pals). At The Athenaeum, 201 Prince St., Oct. 1-3 and Oct. 5, at 10:30 a.m. Tickets are \$5 for children and adults and can be purchased at the door on the day of the performance. Call the box office at 703-967-0437. Visit www.artsonthehorizon.org for more.

Mount Vernon through Jan. 12, 2016. Gardens & Groves is the first museum exhibition to focus specifically on Washington's landmark achievements as a landscape designer combining rarely-seen original documents, artwork, and books with period garden tools, landscape photography, and a scale model of the Mount Vernon estate. Included in admission \$18/adult; \$17/senior citizen; \$9/child age 6-11; children under 5 are free. Visit www.mountvernon.org for more.

Alexandria Cars & Coffee invites car enthusiasts to meet for coffee at Hollin Hall Shopping Center in front of Roseina's, 1307 Shenandoah Road. Owners of classic cars, hot rods, exotic cars, motorcycles and more meet to share car stories and drink coffee. Group meets the first Sunday of every month. 8:30-11 a.m.

George Washington's Mount

Vernon has joined Thomas
Jefferson's Monticello and James
Madison's Montpelier to expand the
"Presidents Passport," Virginia's
premier presidential trail. As an
added bonus to this year's program,
visitors to the Alexandria Visitors
Center at 221 King St. showing or
purchasing a ticket to any of the
three presidential estates will, upon
request, receive for free Alexandria's
"Key to the City" pass, which grants
access into nine historic sites and
museums in Alexandria - a \$26
added value. Visit
www.PresPassport.Monticello.org for
more.

Fifty Years of Collecting. Tuesday-Saturday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Sundays noon to 5 p.m. Fort Ward Museum 4301 West Braddock Road. An anniversary exhibit of objects from the Fort Ward collection. Free. Visit www.fortward.org or call 703-746-4848

Dinner for the Washingtons. Noon at George Washington's Mount

Vernon, 3200 Mount Vernon Memorial Highway. A walking tour that goes behind the scenes to find out how food was prepared and served before the era of microwaves and TV dinners. \$5 in addition to estate admission. Visit www.mountvernon.org/ for more.

Second Thursday Music.

Athenaeum, 201 Prince St. 7 pm. Second Thursday of every month. Visit nvfaa.org to view concert calendar and listen to upcoming Second Thursday Music artists.

The Monday Morning Birdwalk has

been a weekly event at Huntley Meadows since 1985. It takes place every week, rain or shine (except during electrical storms, strong winds, or icy trails), at 7 a.m. (8 a.m. November through March), is free of charge, requires no reservation, and is open to all. Birders meet in the parking lot at the park's entrance at 3701 Lockheed Blvd. Direct questions to Park staff during normal business hours at 703-768-2525.

CAMPS, CLASSES & WORKSHOPS

Creating and Portraying a Living
History Character. This four-part

workshop taught by an experienced first-person interpreter will demonstrate how to research and develop a first-person character, select appropriate period clothes, offer practice sessions in character, and provide an opportunity (and goal) to step out onto the "stage' during Gadsby's Tavern Museum's 2014 Candlelight Tour Program Meant for beginners, participation in all four classes is recommended. Classes are held at Gadsby's Tavern Museum, 134 N. Royal Street 2-4 p.m. on Sundays, Oct. 5, Nov. 2, and Dec. 7. Cost is \$40 for the series, \$12 per class as space allows; tickets must be purchased in advance either through the online shop at http://

shop.alexandriava.gov or by calling 703-746-4242. Visit

www.gadsbystavern.org for more. **Pottery Classes.** 1- 4 p.m. at
Alexandria Clay, 2389 S. Dove St. Try
It classes Oct.19, Nov. 2 and Nov.16.
Call 703-672-2419 for more.

Sewing Classes. Introduction to Machine Sewing for Kids. Sewn Collage for Kids: Thursdays through Oct. 23, 4:15-5:45 p.m. or Saturdays through Oct. 25, 10-11:30 a.m.; Sewn 3-D Creations for Kids: Thursdays, Nov. 6-20 or Saturdays, Nov. 8-22, 10-11:30 a.m. Visit www.artatthecenter.org/registrationfall2014.htm to register.

Photography Workshop. 10:30 a.m.noon at Multiple Exposures Gallery on 105 N. Union St. 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.

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.

THROUGH NOV. 21

Young at Art. Durant Arts Center, 1605 Cameron St. An exhibit for artists who are 55 or older. Free. Call 703-836-4414 or 703-824-1345 for more.

TUESDAY/SEPT. 2-SUNDAY/OCT. 12

Photography Exhibit. Opening
Reception on Sunday, Sept. 7, 2-4
p.m. Gallery Hours 11 a.m.-5 p.m.
daily and 2-9 p.m. on Thursdays at
Multiple Exposures Gallery, Torpedo
Factory Art Center #312, 105 N.
Union St. E.E. McCollum will be
showing images from his "Shadow
Series" and Danny Conant will be
showing "French Impressions." Visit
www.dannyconant.com or
www.eemccollum.com for more.

FRIDAY-SUNDAY/SEPT. 5-OCT. 5

Electronic Athletics. 10 a.m.-5 p.m.
Opening reception is Sept. 6, 4-6
p.m. Schlesinger Center, Margaret W.
& Joseph L. Fisher Gallery, 4915 East
Campus Lane. Exhibit of artwork by
Eric Celarier and Glen Kessler. Free.
Visit www.nvcc.edu/
schlesingercenter/calendar.html for

Live Music. 7:30 p.m. at the Birchmere, 3701 Mount Vernon Ave. Euge Groove performs live. \$39.50. Visit www.birchmere.com or www.eugegroove.com.

SEPT. 9-OCT. 14

Art Gallery. 10 a.m.-5 p.m at Studio 18 of the Torpedo Factory, 105 N Union St. In "Architectural Interpretation," artists create fiber art inspired by architecture. Free. Visit www.Potomacfiberartsgallery.com for more.

THURSDAY-SUNDAY/SEPT.25-OCT.5

Arts on the Horizon. 10:30 a.m. The Athenaeum, 201 Prince St. Imagine a theatrical world designed especially for babies and young toddlers to enjoy, inspired by the wonders of the rainforest. Whistling flowers, a clacking caterpillar, and brightly colored umbrella birds await. Under the Canopy is a 20-minute, interactive, nonverbal show geared for children 0-2 (and their 3-4 year

www.ConnectionNewspapers.com

old pals). Performances are Sept. 25-26, 28, and Oct. 1-3, 5. Tickets are \$5 for children and adults and can be purchased online at www.artsonthehorizon.org or at the door on the day of the performance. Call the box office at 703-967-0437.

THURSDAY/OCT. 2

Ford Evening Book Talks. 7 p.m. at George Washington's Mount Vernon, 3200 Mount Vernon Ave. A book talk that features authors and historians discussing their latest books about George Washington and the nation's founding era. Space is limited and registration is required. Free and open to the public. Visit www.mountvernon.org/ for more.

FRIDAY/OCT. 3

Senior Services Oktoberfest. 5:30-8:30 p.m. at Port City Brewing Company, 3950 Wheeler Ave. This event will support Senior Services programs and services. Space is limited. Call 703-836-4414, ext 10 or visit www.seniorservicesalex.org for more.

Fall Block Party.6-9 p.m.Jackson 20 and the Hotel Monaco will host the festival in the courtyard, pulling in market vendors for a night time pop up market. Tickets are \$35. Visit www.eventbrite.com/e/soil-soultickets-12666821805 for more.

tickets-12666821805 for more. **Art on Tap**. 7-10:30 p.m. at The Art
League Gallery, Torpedo Factory Art
Center. Sample the creative
combinations in a take home Art on
Tap beer tasting glass and vote for
your favorite and the end of the
event. Visit www.eventbrite.com/e/
art-on-tap-tickets for more.

Free Concert. 8 p.m. at Alexandria's
History Museum, 201 S. Washington
St. The United States Air Force BandReed Quintet, featuring members of
the Concert Band will perform. Call
202-767-5658 or visit
www.usafband.af.mil for more.

The Hope Grows Gala. 7 p.m.
Waterford at Springfield, 6715
Commerce Street, Springfield. Rising
Hope's annual fundraising dinner,
dance and auction. Visit
www.risinghopeumc.org for more.

Civil War Wine Dinner. 7 p.m. Gadsby's Tavern Museum, 134 North Royal St. Five course meal with wines from Gray Ghost Vineyards. Visit http://shop.alexandriava.gov or call the museum at 703-746-4242.

FRIDAY-SUNDAY/OCT. 3-5

Wine Festival. 6-9 p.m. at George Washington's Mount Vernon, 3200 Mount Vernon Memorial Highway. Live music and a view of the potomac while sampling wine from 16 Virginia wineries. \$38 per person Friday and Sunday and \$44 on Saturday. Fruit and cheese boxes are \$26. Visit www.mountvernon.org/ for more.

SATURDAY/OCT. 4

Survive the 5 — 5K Run/Walk. 7:30 a.m. at Cameron Run Trail. The ART of Driving is an award winning educational awareness program for teen drivers and parents. All proceeds will go to educational programs and an annual college scholarship fund. Call 703-968-0975 or visit www.theartofdriving.org for more.

Art on the Avenue. 10 a.m.-6 p.m.
Mount Vernon Ave. This annual
festival includes more than 300
juried artists selling handmade wares
across ten blocks along with four
stages for live entertainment. Visit
www.artontheavenue.org for more.

Gardening with Spring Bulbs. 10 a.m.-noon. Barrett Branch Library, 717 Queen St. VCE Master Gardeners of Arlington and Alexandria will present a program on Gardening with Spring Bulbs. Topics covered will include what to plant, which bulbs are less attractive to squirrels and other wildlife, how to select and store the bulbs until planting time. Free. Advanced registration is required. Call 703-228-6414 or email mgarlalex@gmail.com for more.

Concert. 3 p.m. at The Lyceum(, 201 South Washington St. Washington Metropolitan Philharmonic Association's free Summer Chamber Series extends to fall, adding one more concert. Visit www.wmpamusic.org for more.

Www.wimpamusic.org for more.

Concert. 8-9:30 p.m. at The Lyceum,
201 South Washington St. Jennifer
Scott, mezzo-soprano and pianist,
presents vintage songs from around
the world in jazz quartet. Tickets
\$20. Call 703-746-4994 for more.

SUNDAY/OCT. 5

Woodrow Wilson Bridge

Marathon. 7 a.m. Starts at Washington's Mount Vernon Estate, 3200 Mount Vernon Memorial Highway and ends at National Harbor, Md. Packet pick up Oct. 3, 4-8:30 p.m. and Oct. 4, 9 a.m.-3 p.m. at the U.S. Patents and Trade Office, 600 Dulany St. Minimum age is 13. Half marathon: \$105, for military: \$95. 6K: \$45, For police, fire and EMTs: \$40. After Aug. 31, prices will increase by \$10. Visit register.wilsonbridgehalf.com for more.

Wreathlaying Ceremony at

Washington's Tomb. 10 a.m. and 3 p.m. Listen to brief remarks about Washington's legacy and its impact on saving Mount Vernon during the War of 1812. A performance of The Star-Spangled Banner will take place while the wreath is laid at the tomb of George Washington. Part of the Star-Spangled Banner exhibition. All activities included in admission: \$18/adult, \$9/child, children five and under free. Visit www.mountvernon.org for more.

A Musical Tribute Celebrating the Star-Spangled Banner. 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. Robert H. & Clarice Smith Auditorium at George Washington's Mount Vernon, 3200 Mount Vernon Memorial Highway. Early American music expert David Hildebrand performs authentic music of the War of 1812. Hildebrand sings and plays upon period guitar, fretless banjo and a variety of flutes. Part of the Star-Spangled Banner exhibition. All activities included in admission: \$18/adult, \$9/child, children five and under free. Visit

www.mountvernon.org for more. **Civil War Sunday**.1-5 p.m. at Alexandria Archaeology Museum,

Alexandria Archaeology Museum, 105 North Union St. Take in the 1860s and many more archaeological sites during the Civil War at this museum. Call 703-746-4399 or visit www.alexandriaarchaeology.org for

Archaeology Month Celebration. 2-4 p.m. at Torpedo Factory Art

4 p.m. at Torpedo Factory Art Center,105 N. Union St. Celebrate Virginia Archaeology Month in the Alexandria Archaeology Museum. Visit torpedofactory.org/event/ curiosities-a-multi-studio-event for more.

First Person Workshop. 2-4 p.m. at Gadsby's Tavern Museum, 105 North Royal St. This class is meant for beginners wanting to develop their inner historical character. Call 703-746-4242 or visit

www.gadsbystavern.org for more.

Scholarship Benefit Concert. 3-4:30
p.m at The Lyceum, 201 South
Washington St.Suzuki Association of
the Greater Washington Area
presents a Scholarship Benefit
Concert. All proceeds will assist
students who would otherwise be
unable to afford music lessons. Call
703-746-4994 or visit

www.alexandriahistory.org for more. **Member Appreciation Party.** 6-8 p.m. at Athenaeum, 201 Prince St. Join now at the Supporter level or above and be a guest at Cocktails in La Zona Rosa. Enjoy a night of wine tasting, live music, and enter a drawing for great prizes. Call 703-548-0035 or visit nvfaa.org for more.

MONDAY/OCT. 6

'Fore' the Kids Golf Tournament.

Registration 9:30 a.m., shotgun start 11 a.m. at International Country Club, 13200 Lee Jackson Memorial Highway, Fairfax. All proceeds benefit Boys & Girls Club programs for underprivileged, at-risk youth in Fairfax County, including academic enrichment, athletics, health and wellness, character and leadership development, the arts, and career development. Individual golfers, \$250; foursomes, \$900. Includes greens fees, cart, driving range, post tournament awards dinner, boxed lunch, contests, raffles, prizes, live and silent auction. Visit http:// tinyurl.com/forethekids2014 for more. For sponsorship opportunities, contact Amir Capriles at amir.capriles@microsoft.com or 703-362-6970.

TUESDAY/OCT. 7

Open Rehearsal for New Singers.

7-9 p.m. at West Potomac High School Choir Room, 6500 Quander Road. Southside Singers is a new community choir looking for voices, just in time for the holiday season. Ability to read music and choral experience is helpful but not required. Visit

www.facebook.com/SouthsideSingers for more.

Live Music. 7:30 p.m. at The Birchmere, 3701 Mount Vernon Ave. Macy Gray: The Way Tour 2014. \$49.50. Visit www.birchmere.com or call 703-549-7500.

WEDNESDAY/OCT. 8

The Murray Hill Show. 7:30 p.m.

The Birchmere, 3701 Mount Vernon
Ave. \$25. Visit www.birchmere.com
for more.

THURSDAY/OCT. 9

Free Concert. 8 p.m. at Alexandria's
History Museum, 201 S. Washington
St. The United States Air Force Band
"An Evening of Music for Brass
Quintet," with the Blue 82 Brass
Quintet, featuring members of the
Concert Band will perform. Call 202767-5658 or visit
www.usafband.af.mil for more.

FRIDAY/OCT. 10

Live Music: Bob Schneider. 7:30 p.m. at the birchmere, 3701 Mount Vernon Ave. Performance by Bob Schneider. \$29.50. Visit www.birchmere.com or call 703-549-7500 for more.

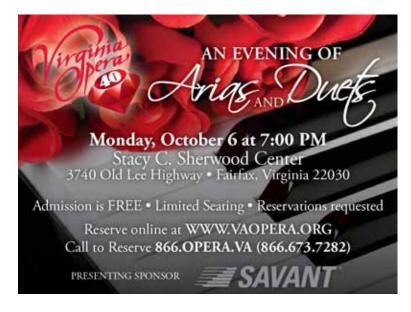
Photography Exhibition. 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Monday through Friday and during performances. Schlesinger Center Margaret W. & Joseph L. Fisher Gallery, 4915 East Campus Lane. "The Man in the Bowler Hat" is an exhibition by photographer Michelle Rogers. www.nvcc.edu/ schlesingercenter/gallery.html

SATURDAY/OCT. 11

Stay Active 10K and 5K. 10K starts at 8 a.m., 5K starts at 9 a.m. at John Carlyle Square Park, 300 John Carlyle St. Benefits the effort to eliminate homelessness in the community and chance for some great physical activity. \$30 participation fee. Free parking. Visit https://runsignup.com/rockandstroll for more.

Rock and Stroll to End

Homelessness. 8 a.m. at John Carlyle Square Park. Six nonprofits throughout Northern Virginia, will







come together to host the event, which includes a 10K/5K timed run, 1K Fun Run/Walk as well as a festival of activities for all ages as a way to raise awareness and funds to support those at risk. Visit runsignup.com rockandstroll for more

Alexandria Art Market. 10 a.m.-4 p.m. in Colasanto Park, 2704 Mount Vernon Ave. Local artists will perform. Browse artwork by local artists and more. Visit www.TheDelRayArtisans.org/ ArtMarket for more.

Live Music. 7:30 p.m. in the Music Hall at the Birchmere, 3701 Mount Vernon Ave. Phil Vassar. \$45. Visit www.philvassar.com or www.Birchmere.com for more.

Wreath Laying Ceremony.11 a.m. at George Washington's Mount Vernon Estate, 3200 Mount Vernon Memorial Highway. Ceremony and program presented by Black Women United for Action's. Free to the public. Visit www.bwufausa.org for more.

Walking Tour. 1-2:30 p.m. Friendship Firehouse, 107 South Alfred Street, Alexandria. Explore Alexandria's firefighting history on the "Blazing a Trail: Alexandria's Firefighting History" tour. Participants learn about volunteer firefighting in Alexandria, three devastating fires and five volunteer fire companies. The tour begins at the Friendship Firehouse, goes east of Prince Street and returns to Friendship via King Street. For ages 10 and older. \$6 for adults, \$4 ages 10-17. Reservations are required, space is limited. Call 703-746-4994 or visit www.friendshipfirehouse.net

Concert. 7 p.m. Church of St. Clement, 1701 North Quaker Lane. Focus Alexandria presents Anne Hills in a CD release concert for her new recording "Tracks." Admission is \$18,

\$15 for advance sales and members. Visit www.focusmusic.org/ venue_alexandria.php or call Herb Cooper-Levy, venue host.

SUNDAY/OCT. 12

Live Music. 7:30 at the Birchmere, 3701 Mount Vernon Ave. The Whispers perform. \$75.00. Visit www.thewhispers.com or www.Birchmere.com for more.

Beginner Halloween Cookie Class. 10 a.m. at La Cuisine, 323 Cameron St. Take this class to learn how to decorate spooky cookies from Katrina Tines. The cost of the class and materials is \$120. Visit www.lacuisineus.com for more.

MONDAY/OCT. 13

Lani Hall: In The Mood. 7:30 p.m. The Birchmere, 3701 Mount Vernon Ave. \$45. Visit www.birchmere.com

TUESDAY-WEDNESDAY/OCT. 14-15

Live Music. 7:30 at the Birchmere, 3701 Mount Vernon Ave. Jake Shimabukuro '2014 Uke Nations Tour.' \$45.00. Visit http:// jakeshimabukuro.com or www.Birchmere.com for more.

TUESDAY/OCT. 14

Open Rehearsal for New Singers.

7-9 p.m. at West Potomac High School Choir Room, 6500 Quander Road. Southside Singers is a new community choir looking for voices, just in time for the holiday season. Ability to read music and choral experience is helpful but not required. Visit

www.facebook.com/SouthsideSingers

FOOD & DRINK

Mount Vernon Farmers Market. 8 a.m.-noon, Wednesdays, through Dec. 17. Fresh local food, artisan crafts. Sherwood Library, 2501 Sherwood Hall Lane. Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/farmersmarkets/ mtvernonmkt.htm for more.

Kingstowne Farmers Market. 4-7 p.m., Fridays, through Oct. 31. Giant parking lot, 5955 Kingstowne Towne Center. Products include fresh organic honey, pies and rolls. Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/ farmersmarkets/kingstownemkt.htm for more.

Old Town Farmers Market. 7 a.m.-noon, Saturdays year round. Local farmers and artists have been selling products there since 1753. Located at Market Square, 301 King St. Call 703-746-3200 or email oldtownfarmersmarket@alexandriava.gov. **Del Ray Farmers Market.** 8 a.m.-noon, Saturdays year round. Features

fresh vegetables and fruits in season, meats, eggs, fresh pasta and sauces, Amish cheese, yogurt, bakery goods and more. Located at the corner of East Oxford and Mount Vernon avenues. Contact pmiller1806@comcast.net for more.

Four Mile Run Farmers & Artisans Market. 9 a.m.-1 p.m, Sundays through November. Brings fresh nutritious foods to people of all income levels. Located at the entrance to Four Mile Run Park at 4109 Mount

Vernon Ave. Visit www.4mrmarket.org/ for more.

West End Farmers Market. 8:30 a.m.-1 p.m. Sundays through November.
Fresh, locally grown, in-season vegetables as well as berries, apples, pears, and seasonal peaches. Vendors also sell fresh-squeezed orange juice, freshbaked pastries, gourmet cheeses and more. Located at Ben Brenman Park, 4800 Brenman Park Drive. Visit www.westendfarmersmarket.org/ #FarmersMarket for more.

for more.

"All Mozart" Benefit Concert. 7:30 p.m. Schlesinger Concert Hall on the Alexandria Campus of Northern Virginia Community College, 3001 North Beauregard St.. The NOVA Community Chorus, under the direction of Dr. Mark Whitmire. The program will include Mozart's Solemn Vespers of the Confessor, K. 339; Concerto No. 10 for two pianos, K. 365/316a, with Christine Hagan and David Hagan, pianists; and the violin Concerto in G, K. 216 (Movement 1), with Sean Ganous, violin. Free admission for NVCC students, faculty and staff with NOVA ID and for anyone under 18. Tickets are \$15 in advance, \$20 at the door, and are available by calling 703-845 6097 or emailing mwhitmire@nvcc.edu

WEDNESDAY/OCT.15

Lecture.7:30 p.m. at the historic Lloyd House, 220 North Washington St. Alexandria Civil War Sesquicentennial lecture series will begin with a presentation titled, "The Paradox of Robert E. Lee" by author R. David Cox. Call 703-746-4554 or visit www.historicalexandria.org for

THURSDAY/OCT. 16

Members Preview Fall Book Sale.

4-8:30 p.m. Charles E. Beatley Central Library, 5005 Duke Street. \$10 memberships available at door. \$3 or less, unless specially marked. Hardbacks, paperbacks, children's books and audio-visual items. All genres. Call 703-746-1702 or visit www.alexandria.lib.va.us for more.

Evening of Music. 8 p.m. at Alexandria's History Museum, 201 S. Washington St. The United States Air Force Band-String Ensemble presents "An Evening of Music for String Ensemble," featuring members of the Air Force Strings. This concert is free and open to the public. Contact 202-767-5658 or visit www.usafband.af.mil for more.

FRIDAY/OCT. 17

Fall Book Sale. 10 a.m.-5:30 p.m. Charles E. Beatley Central Library, 5005 Duke St. \$3 or less, unless specially marked. Hardbacks, paperbacks, children's books and audio-visual items. All genres. Call 703-746-1702 or visit www.alexandria.lib.va.us for more.

SATURDAY/OCT. 18

Fall Book Sale. 10 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Charles E. Beatley Central Library, 5005 Duke St. \$3 or less, unless specially marked. Hardbacks, paperbacks, children's books and audio-visual items. All genres. Call 703-746-1702 or visit www.alexandria.lib.va.us for more.

Burgundy Fall Fair. 11 a.m.-3 p.m. at Burgundy Farm Country Day School, 3700 Burgundy Road, Alexandria.

12K OR 1 MILE. YOU CHOOSE. SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 16

We had a blast last year and are thrilled to announce the .US National 12K is returning to Alexandria!

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- * KIDS' FUN RUN \$10

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ALEXANDRIA, VA / 2014









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Gazette Packet

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OPEN HOUSE DATES

- Friday, October 10, 9-11 a.m. Tuesday, November 11, 9-11 a.m.
- · Saturday, December 6, 2-4 p.m. Sunday, January 11, 2-4 p.m.

RSVP or schedule a tour at 703.329.6968.



Burgundy Farm Country Day School 3700 Burgundy Road, Alexandria, VA www.burgundyfarm.org

Family fun for all ages: Haunted House, pumpkin painting, moon bounce, live music, craft mart, used book and kids' closet sale, food tent. Free admission. Proceeds from activity tickets and food and merchandise sale benefit student financial aid. Rain or shine.

Visitwww.burgundyfarm.org or call 703-960-3431.

Photography Exhibition Opening Reception. 3-5 p.m. Artist's talk at 4 p.m. Schlesinger Center Margaret W. & Joseph L. Fisher Gallery, 4915 East Campus Lane, Alexandria. Opening reception for "The Man in the Bowler Hat", an exhibition by photographer Michelle Rogers. Visit www.nvcc.edu/schlesingercenter/gallery.html for more.

Live Music. 7:30 p.m. in the Music Hall at the Birchmere, 3701 Mount Vernon Ave. Raven's Night 2014 'Sci-Fi Phantasm.' \$25. Visit www.ravensnight.com or www.Birchmere.com for more.

Concert. 7 p.m. Celebration Center for Spiritual Living, 2849 Graham Road, Falls Church. Focus Falls Church presents Jennifer Cutting, Andrew Dodd and Lisa Moscatiello, of Ocean Orchestra. Admission is \$18, \$15 for advance sales and members. Visit www.focusmusic.org/ venue_alexandria.php.

SUNDAY/OCT. 19

Fall Book Sale. 1-4:30 p.m. Charles E. Beatley Central Library, 5005 Duke St. \$3 or less, unless specially marked. Hardbacks, paperbacks, children's books and audio-visual items. All genres. Call 703-746-1702 or visit www.alexandria.lib.va.us.

Live Music. 7:30 at the Birchmere, 3701 Mount Vernon Ave. An Evening with Andy McKee. \$25.00. Visit www.andymckee.com or www.Birchmere.com for more. Intermediate Halloween Cookie

ntermediate Halloween Cookie Class. 2:30 p.m. at La Cuisine, 323 Cameron St. Venture beyond decorating a pre-cut cookie shape and learn how to draw shapes on a cookie, create more intricate designs and fashion layering effects with royal icing from Katrina Tines. The cost of the class and materials is \$120. Visit www.lacuisineus.com.

WEDNESDAY/OCT. 22

Live Music. 7:30 p.m. in the Music Hall at the Birchmere, 3701 Mount Vernon Ave. The Marshall Tucker Band. \$45. Visit www.marshalltucker.com or www.Birchmere.com for more.

THURSDAY/OCT. 23

Live Music. 7:30 p.m. in the Music Hall at the Birchmere, 3701 Mount Vernon Ave. John Jorgenson Bluegrass Band. \$25. Visit www.johnjorgenson.com or www.Birchmere.com for more.

THURSDAY/OCT. 23

Fashion Show and Luncheon. 10 a.m. at the Fort Belvoir Officers Club. The Yacht Haven Garden Club will be

The Yacht Haven Garden Club will be presenting their 31st annual fashion show. Fashions for women of all sizes will be provided by Bloomingdales. Contact Terra at admommy@verizon.net or 703-340-

FRIDAY/OCT. 24

4555 for more.

Brewing History. 6-9 p.m. at George Washington's Mount Vernon, 3200 Mount Vernon Memorial Highway. A special beer dinner, brewing demonstration and private mansion tour. Learn more about how beer was brewed in early America. \$95. Visit www.mountvernon.org/ for more.

Live Music. 7:30 p.m. in the Music Hall at the Birchmere, 3701 Mount Vernon Ave. Steep Canyon Rangers. \$29.50. Visit www.steepcanyon.com or www.Birchmere.com for more.

Special Halloween Tour. 7-9 p.m.at Gadsby's Tavern Museum, 134 N. Royal St. For one night only, Alexandria Colonial Tours will end its special Halloween tour in the very room where one of Alexandria's most mysterious women became a ghost. Vist www.alexcolonialtours.com.

SATURDAY/OCT. 25

Historical Tour. 9 a.m. at Carlyle House, 121 N. Fairfax St. Step back in time to John Carlyle's 1780 Funeral. Call 703-549-2997 or visit www.novaparks.com for more.

Capturing an American Icon. 2:30-5 p.m. at George Washington's Mount Vernon, 3200 Mount Vernon Memorial Highway. Go behind the scenes to area of the estate no available to the general public for a photo workshop. \$89 per person. Visit www.mountvernon.org/ for more.

Walking Tour. 1-3 p.m. Friendship Firehouse, 107 South Alfred St. The "We've Been Burned: Alexandria's Firefighters During the Civil War" walking tour will explore firefighting during the Union occupation. Tour four of the five firehouses and learn what happened if there was a fire in the occupied city. For ages 10 and older. \$6 for adults, \$4 ages 10-17. Reservations are required, space is limited. Call 703-746-4994 or visit www.friendshipfirehouse.net.

SATURDAY-SUNDAY/OCT. 25-26

Fall Harvest Family Days. 9 a.m.-5 p.m. at George Washington's Mount Vernon, 3200 Mount Vernon Memorial Highway. Enjoy autumn activities including wagon rides, wheat treating, 18th-century dancing demonstration, and straw bale maze, and more. Included in estate admission. Visit www.mountvernon.org/ for more.

SATURDAY/OCT. 26

Fall Fun. Noon-3 p.m. at Mount Vernon Presbyterian Church, 2001 Sherwood Hall Lane. There will be pumpkins for sale and decoration, a photo booth for children and parents to pose for spooky pictures, pony rides, moon bounces, a cake walk and lunch is included. Call 703-765-6118 for more.

Annual Del Ray Halloween Parade. 2 p.m. at Mount Vernon Ave. This parade has historically attracted thousands of participants. Adults, children and dogs are all welcome to

join. Visit www.visitdelray.com.

Concert. 4 p.m. at the Rachel M. Schlesinger Concert Hall and Arts Center, 4915 East Campus Lane. New Dominion Chorale and Orchestra, conducted by Artistic Director Thomas Beveridge, will open its 24th season with a performance of G. F. Handel's pastoral opera, "Acis and Galatea." Call 703-442-9404 or visit www.newdominion.org.

THURSDAY/OCT. 30

Live Music. 7:30 at the Birchmere, 3701 Mount Vernon Ave. Laurie Anderson 'Language of The Future.' \$39.5. Visit www.laurieanderson.com or www.Birchmere.com for more.



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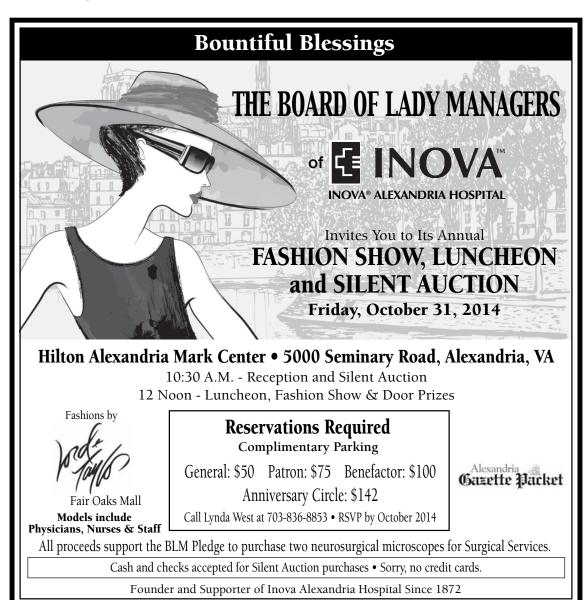
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LIVING LEGENDS

Helping Low Income and Public Housing Residents

Ramona K. Hatten was with the national Daily Point of Light Award.

BY ALICE P. MORGAN

or over 30 years, Ramona K. Hatten has been involved in community service in Alexandria. Hatten graduated from Mount Vernon College with a Bachelor of Arts in business administration. Since then, she has used her professional skills to help low income and public housing residents improve their quality of life. Hatten has encouraged them to become involved in civic activities, the PTA, voter registration and public demonstrations for justice. She was a grass roots campaign worker on Joyce Woodson's City Council win.

Hatten was an Alexandria Redevelopment Housing Authority (ARHA) commissioner from 1982 to 1990. In 1988, she was instrumental in the formation of the Alexandria Resident Council (ARC) to assure public housing resident input into ARHA decisions affecting public housing tenants. In 1991, she lobbied city council to establish a resident slot on the ARHA board.

ARC worked closely with ARHA to develop a memorandum of understanding. ARC was active in finding innovative ways to support capacity building among residents, as well as supporting training programs that sought to build competency skills under Hatten's leadership. Some noteworthy achievements were the Job Bank where residents were able to come to the ARC office and obtain information on job openings, the Day Care Program located in the "Berg" for parents who lived in that community and the Safety and Security Training Program conducted by the Alexandria Police Department for ARC's block captains and site representatives.

In 1983 Hatten participated in the "We Care" initiative to combat drug abuse in the home, school, and community through application of spiritual principles. Between 1989 and 1994, Hatten worked to combat drug abuse in public housing. She was a member of the city's anti-drug task force from September to December 1987. In 1989, she was one of the speakers at the Alexandria Town Meeting regarding drugs in the city.

In 1988, she developed a mechanism for helping public housing residents stop illegal drug trafficking into their community. The ARC organized an anti-drug boycott in the 800 block of N. Alfred St. followed by weekly sit-ins. Every Friday evening for approximately nine weeks, public housing residents and others sat out in lawn chairs until after midnight. There was also increased police visibility during this time and throughout the following year. This was a great deterrent to drug dealing in the neigh-



Ramona Hatten has used her professional skills to help low income and public housing residents improve their quality of life.

borhood.

Hatten was very instrumental in working with City Council on changing the hours of operation of the 7-Eleven convenience store located on North Columbus Street. The 24-hour operation invited loitering and other behavior problems to the community. After several presentations before City Council and Hatten speaking one-on-one with its members, council passed a motion to have the store closed at midnight.

On Jan. 16, 1990, President George H. W. Bush visited the homes of ARC members to show his support of their efforts. The President pledged to use "the success you already have had to offer hope to communities around the country." Also, Jack Kemp, then Secretary of Housing and Urban Development stated that the activities of ARC and others "send a clear signal to not only public housing residents in Alexandria, but to honest men and woman living in public housing all over America that no longer is public housing going to be a safe haven for drug users, dealers and abusers."

President Bush established the vision of a "Thousand Points of Light" in 1989 and he invited the nation to take action through service to their fellow citizens. In 1990, President Bush recognized more than 1,000 volunteers, including Hatten, with the Daily Point of Light Award in honor of making a difference in their community.

The Empowerment Network (TEN) was featured in the April 1993 Empowerment Pioneer: "During a meeting with Virginia Gov. Douglas Wilder and his Cabinet, TEN Foundation President David Caprara re-

ceived encouragement for the new welfare reform demonstration initiative involving Alexandria public housing residents and clergymen. With the enthusiastic backing of the Alexandria Resident Council, led by Ramona Younger (Hatten) and Rev. Lloyd Roberts of the 'We Care' ministers' alliance, a community-based welfare reform strategy was born."

This drug elimination tactic was replicated by HUD and others. Hatten partici-

Living Legends: The 2014 Project

Living Legends of Alexandria is an ongoing 501(c)(3) photo-documentary project to identify, honor and chronicle the people making current history in Alexandria. The project was conceived in 2006 to create an enduring artistic record of the people whose vision and dedication make a positive, tangible difference to the quality of life in Alexandria.

Platinum and Gold sponsors this year are the Alexandria Commission for the Arts, Alexandria Toyota, Club Managers Association of America, Dominion, Goodwin House, Inc., Gregg & Monica Murphy on behalf of Senior Services of Alexandria, Linda Hafer, Renner & Co. and Nina Tisara.

This is one of a series of profiles that will appear this year. For information, to volunteer, become a sponsor or nominate a future Legend, visit www.AlexandriaLegends.com or contact Info@AlexandriaLegends.com.

The deadline for 2015 nominations is Oct. 15.

pated in a HUD discussion group in Montgomery County, Md. where Alexandria was used as a model. She was also involved in discussions of HUD's drug eviction policy for public housing residents.

From 1989 to 1994, Hatten was president of ARC (the appointed board that represents the city's public housing residents).

Hatten initiated and assisted the housing authority in establishing the "Kids are Responsible Workers" (KREW) Program, helping teenagers acquire skills for entering and remaining in the workforce. Though successful, the program was discontinued due to lack of funds. In 1990, she established the first annual event to support and promote traditional family values through a Family Day Festival for public housing residents. This event was held in 1990, 1991, and 1992. Hatten has received awards and public recognitions from the Alexandria Anti-Drug Task Force, the Equal Opportunities Commission, the Commission on the Status of Women and the Departmental Progressive Club.



A Gathering of the Legends

Living Legends celebrated the 50th anniversary of the Civil Rights Act by honoring those Legends, black and white, who were active in Civil Rights in Alexandria in the '60s: Ferdinand Day, Nelson Greene Sr., Gwen Menefee Smith, Melvin Miller, Connie Ring, Patsy Ticer and Dorothy Turner. Also honored were the memories of Mel Bergheim and Vola Lawson. The event took place at a MetroStage production of "Three Sistahs." From left, 1st row, are Jane Ring, Ferdinand Day, Nelson Greene Sr.; 2nd row, Mollie Abraham, Donnie Wintermute, Gwen Menefee-Smith, Patsy Ticer, Mayor Bill Euille, Carolyn Griffith; 3rd row, Connie West, Bob Calhoun, Connie Ring, Marian Van Landingham, Gregg Murphy, Joe Shumard; David Martin and Lynnwood Campbell. Not pictured is Dorothy Turner.

WELLBEING



PHOTOS BY EVAN CANTWELL/GMU CREATIVE SERVICES



Joseph J. Pancrazio

Professors Win Aging Grant

Funding will be used to study Alzheimer's disease.

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL Gazette Packet

wo George Mason University professors recently won a prestigious and competitive grant that they hope will lead them closer to success in their fight against Alzheimer's disease.

Professor Joseph J. Pancrazio, chair of the Department of Bioengineering, and Professor Robin Couch, an associate professor in the Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry, were awarded grants from the Alzheimer's and Related Diseases Research Award Fund, which is administered by the Commonwealth of Virginia's Center on Aging.

"I am very appreciative to the Virginia Center of Aging for giving us the opportunity to pursue this new line of potentially high impact research," said Pancrazio.

Although they are using different approaches, both Pancrazio and Couch are studying ways to defeat or slow down the progression of Alzheimer's disease, which Couch characterizes as "the progressive deterioration of cognitive and functional abilities, leading to the loss of bodily function and death."

Pancrazio and his research team are looking at ways brain cells react to certain medications. "Our main research goal is to develop an engineering platform that can be utilized to study the underlying mechanisms of Alzheimer's disease and eventually to test new therapeutic options," said Pancrazio. "By growing brain cells, neurons, on a dish which is very

similar to a computer chip, we can then measure the electrical activity of the cells and determine how the activity would change in presence of an Alzheimer's disease biomolecule such as amyloid beta peptide. We believe our platform provides a fast, non-invasive and accurate screening tool."

Electrical and computer engineering Ph.D. student Hamid Charkhkar is on Pancrazio's research team. "Every day, I feel more devoted to pursue this research, not only because it satisfies my scientific curiosity, but also [because] I am very hopeful that the outcomes of my research would potentially help patients with Alzheimer's disease," he said.

Couch and his research team are treating brain cells with molecules to prompt them to release a "nerve growth factor," a protein that keeps neurons alive.

"While the pathology of Alzheimer's disease is related to the accumulation of protein deposits — or plagues — in the brain and the death of specific neurons, the currently employed therapeutics address the cognitive decline, but do little to halt or even slow the progress of neuronal decay," said Couch. "A radically different approach to the treatment [and] prevention of AD is known as neuroprotection, which involves the use of therapeutic agents, such as nerve growth factor, to defend the neurons from death. Nerve growth factor, naturally produced in the brain, binds to ... the neurons associated with Alzheimer's disease and promotes their survival."

Justin B. Davis, who is the lead Ph.D. student Couch's research team, said, "While the complexities of Alzheimer's disease and its progression make it an academically stimulating research topic, the gravity of the disease and its effects on the population are the true driving forces behind our efforts at George Mason."

BULLETIN BOARD

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Grades 6-12. 6:30-8:30 p.m. SSSAS Upper School Campus, Chapel/ Performing Arts Center, 1000 St. Stephen's Road, Alexandria. For prospective students and parents. Learn firsthand about the SSSAS experience from students, current parents and faculty. Reservation required at 703-212-2706 or smcleod@sssas.org.

MONDAY-THURSDAY/OCT.6-OCT.9

Mental Health Awareness Week

Beatley Library, 5005 Duke St. This year's topics will include suicide prevention, hoarding a mental illness, the causes and treatment of PTSD and how living with a chronic illness or a physical disability can affect mental health. Visit the Mental Health Anti-Stigma HOPE Campaign Facebook page for more.

MONDAY/OCT. 6

Adult Mental Health First Aid

Training Class. 4-8 p.m. 4480 King St., Room 514. Demonstrates the initial help given to a person showing signs of mental illness or a mental health crisis. The two-day, eight-hour course teaches risk factors, warning signs and symptoms of mental health and substance use disorders; the effects of the illnesses and an overview of treatments; and a fivestep action plan for helping someone with symptoms. Contact Donielle Marshall at 703-746-3523 or donielle.marshall@alexandria.gov. Register at http:// survey.alexandriava.gov/s3/ MHFARegistration.

TUESDAY/OCT. 7 Senior College Night Workshop. 6-

8 p.m. T.C. Williams High School Auditorium, 3330 King St. An opportunity for seniors and their parents to meet with student counselors, members of the College & Career Center and the Scholarship Fund of Alexandria to discuss the application process, how to pay for college and other questions and concerns. Call Krishna Leyva at 703-824-6865 or email krishna.leyva@acps.k12.va.us.

WEDNESDAY/OCT. 8

Lower School Admission Group

Tour. 8:30 a.m.-10:45 a.m. SSSAS, Lloyd House, Lower School Campus 400 Fontaine St. For prospective JK/ K/1st parents. An opportunity to tour Lower School campus, talk with a parent guide, meet administrators and see faculty in action. Registration

SEE BULLETIN, PAGE 27









Alexandria Police Fallen Officers Memorial

The Board of Directors of the Alexandria Police Foundation would like to thank all of the generous donors that made last weekend's groundbreaking for the Alexandria Police Fallen Office Memorial possible:

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Sports

Cardinals 'Claim' Alexandria

Bishop Ireton football is 4-1, including wins over Episcopal, SSSAS.

By Jon Roetman Gazette Packet

B ishop Ireton football coach Tony Verducci knows a thing or two about rivalries.

As a Naval Academy graduate and former player/graduate assistant with the school's sprint football team, Verducci is well-versed in the importance of the Commander-in-Chief's Trophy, which is awarded annually to the winner of the competition between the Air Force, Army and Navy football teams.

While no such trophy exists for the competition between the trio of private schools in Alexandria, Verducci and the Cardinals set their sights on earning bragging rights in the city. After beating Episcopal 26-24 on the Maroon's home field Sept. 20, Bishop Ireton finished the job in convincing fashion.

Ireton defeated St. Stephen's & St. Agnes 41-17 on Sept. 27 at SSSAS. The victory gave the Cardinals a three-game winning streak and improved their record to 4-1. It also gave Ireton bragging rights in Alexandria.

"We talked before [the] Episcopal [game] about claiming Alexandria," Verducci said. "With me as a Naval Academy grad, you have the Commander-in-Chief's Trophy, and the guys talked about a mythical City-of-Alexandria trophy. After we won the first one, there was definitely a sense of pride and let's go get the second one to claim that mythical title amongst the private schools in [Alexandria]."

The Cardinals led the Saints 21-10 at half-time and 28-10 entering the fourth quarter. Senior quarterback Joe Dickinson, who transferred to Ireton from El Paso, Texas, in January, completed 14 of 18 passes for 259 yards and a touchdown. He was intercepted once.

Sophomore running back Perris Jones, another first-year Ireton player, carried 19 times for 105 yards and two touchdowns. Senior receiver Drew Smith, in his fourth year with the Cardinal varsity, caught seven



Bishop Ireton's Drew Smith has more than 500 yards and eight touchdowns receiving this season.

passes for 165 yards and a score.

Senior linebacker Nigel Bullard led the Ireton defense with 10 tackles and a sack. Junior defensive back Charlie Ladd had nine tackles, and junior defensive back Alex Duke had eight tackles and a sack. Junior cornerback Corey Johnson snagged an interception.

After a 1-9 record in 2012 and a 4-6 mark in 2013, Verducci credits the Cardinals' hard work and an influx of talent for the program's turnaround in 2014.

Dickinson has passed for 1,239 yards and 11 touchdowns in five games. Jones, who Verducci said is starting to grasp the offense,

has 230 yards and four touchdowns. Junior kicker David Cooper, a military-family transfer from Korea, has given the Ireton special teams a boost.

Verducci also mentioned the performance of a four-year Ireton varsity athlete, who is also helping the team.

"I think the other thing would be the rapid improvement of Drew Smith," Verducci said. "He caught 48 passes last year, but this year, if the ball is in the air, it's his. ... He gives us a deep threat [and] he gives us a short threat." Smith has 536 yards and eight touchdowns receiving.

"I think all those [Ireton] teams that even



Bishop Ireton quarterback Joe Dickinson helped the Cardinals beat St. Stephen's & St. Agnes 41-17 on Sept. 27.

had down years still had a lot of talent on them," Smith said, "it's just this year in practice, we go hard every day."

Senior linebacker Josh Ammon, who missed the St. Stephen's game with an ankle injury, has also been a key part of the defense

Bishop Ireton's next two games are at home, starting with Friday's 3:30 p.m. contest against Flint Hill (1-3). The Cardinals, who are in second place in the VISAA, will host first-place Benedictine at 1 p.m. on Saturday, Oct. 11.

"We're working together," Ammon said, "we're on the upswing."



Sophomore running back Perris Jones (2) carried 19 times for 105 yards and two touchdowns against St. Stephen's & St. Agnes on Sept. 27.

BULLETIN BOARD

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required, contact April Toman at 703-212-2705 or atoman@sssas.org.

THURSDAY/OCT. 9

Meet the 8th Congressional

District Candidates. 8-9:30 a.m. at Belle Haven Country Club, 6023 Fort Hunt Road. Candidates Micable Edmonds (R) and Don Beyer (D) will introduce themselves and answer questions. Cost is \$25. A full buffet breakfast will be served. Visit www.MtVernon-LeeChamber.org for

Low Vision Discussion. 1:30-3 p.m. at Beatley Central Library, 5005 Duke St. Candid Conversation with Dr. Suleiman Alibhai about vision loss. Call 703-746-1762 for more.

Help Your Child Succeed in School. 6:30 p.m. Cora Kelly Elementary School, 3600 Commonwealth Ave.. Workshop for elementary school parents. Call Krishna Leyva at 703-824-6865 or email krishna.leyva@acps.k12.va.us.

FRIDAY/OCT. 10

School Open House. 9-11 a.m. at Burgundy Farm Country Day School, 3700 Burgundy Road, Alexandria. School serves pre-kindergarten to 8th grade. Childcare available. Call 703-329-6968 to RSVP or schedule a personal tour. Visit www.burgundyfarm.org for more.

WEDNESDAY/OCT. 15

Nomination Deadline. Living Legends of Alexandria is looking for nominees who have contributed at least one tangible improvement to

the quality of the City's life that

would likely be missing without this

person's vision and energy. Those currently running for or holding political office are not eligible for consideration. Visit www.alexandrialegends.com/nominationform.htm. Email nominations to info@alexandrialegends.com.

Michael and Son Jingle Singoff.

Registration ends Oct. 15, winners will be announced Nov. 15. The winning elementary school in each region within Michael and Son's service area will receive \$5000. Email

jill.gorman@michaelandson.com or call 703-658-1152.

JobLink Open House. 4-5:30 p.m. at 1900 North Beauregard St., Suite 300. The City of Alexandria's Workforce Development Center open house. Visit www.alexandriava.gov/ joblink or call 703-746-5940. ZONE 3: • ALEXANDRIA Mount Vernon



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The above establishment is applying to the VIRGINIA DE-PARTMENT OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL (ABC) for a Mixed Beverage Caterer license to sell or manufacture alcoholic beverages. Mark C. Michael, owner

NOTE: Objections to the issu-ance of this license must be submitted to ABC no later that 30 days from the publishing date of the first of two required

newspaper legal notices. objections should be regis-

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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 Ave-

nue. Alexandria. VA 22304 is now in possession of un-claimed bicycles, mopeds,

lawn equipment, money, scooters, and other items. Al

persons having valid claim to the property should file a claim

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ble proof of ownership or the items will be sold, destroyed

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complete listing go to

http://alexandriava.gov/police/ and contact the Police Proper-

ty Section at (703) 746-6709.

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An expert is someone who knows some of the worst mistakes that can be made in his subject and how to avoid them. -Werner Heisenberg

28 Yard Sales

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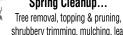
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From Page 12

Preserve Old Town Theatre

To the Editor:

Last week it was announced in the Washington Business Journal that "The life of the Old Town Theater as an entertainment venue may be coming to an end after a rocky few years." Will the property be turned into a retail location as suggested as a possibility in the article? "Major national retail tenants have long been attracted to the property for its prime location." This would be unfortunate, not only because of the outstanding work Rob Kaufman did to restore the theater, even finding many hidden and forgotten elements, but because an arts venue is an outstanding asset that not only contributes economically to Alexandria but also to our history and sense of place.

The city website states it this way: "Arts and culture not only enhance the quality of life for residents and visitors in a community — the creative economy is a vital element in building and sustaining unique and diverse communities. By working together cultural organizations, working artists, and creative businesses contribute to the local economy by providing jobs, supporting other local businesses, and local revenue.'

I was very excited about the potential of a performance venue on King Street in the heart of Alexandria, not only because it restored a beautiful building to its original purpose, but because it had and still has the potential as an attraction that will bring visitors for a unique purpose, who can then also shop, dine, and visit our historic sights. Old Town was once home to several theaters, but now there is only one historic theater. It is part of our historic legacy and a unique venue that can not be duplicated.

There are several models for how community theaters are supported. Signature Theater in Shirlington was brought in as a cultural anchor for the new development. It serves as a focal point for the retail district, attracts 80,000 visitors a year, and gives back to the community through education programs, free lectures, and performance training. It has over 5,000 subscribers, 60 percent who live in Northern Virginia. So it is a big regional draw that contributes to the overall success of the Shirlington neighborhood.

Similarly, the Atlas Performing Arts Center on H Street in Washington D.C. has helped transform that neighborhood. Spearheaded by an individual philanthropic effort, it partnered with the D.C. government and the local community to become the centerpiece of the revival of H Street. I recently attended the DC Fringe Festival there, which could not have happened if it were not in a non-profit environment. The Atlas now serves to increase "public understanding of the value of the arts in our community, enhances the civic wellbeing of all its citizens, and strengthens Washington, D.C.'s role as an international leader in the arts." Alexandria would also like to be recognized as a leader in the arts, and therefore should continue to strengthen the identity of Old Town and King Street as a uniques destination by having a venue for the arts.

I urge those involved in the arts, and in the leadership of the city, to start a conversation about the Old Town Theater, and what its role could be. Whether it is to find a philanthropic owner, or someone to purchase it as a performance space, I believe it is critical to Alexandria's economic and cultural future that we all work toward a solution that preserves the theater as an arts venue. Rob Kaufman got the ball rolling by restoring the theater, and now we need the right person to assume the reins and find the right model that works to preserve this arts venue in Alexandria. Arts are good for the local economy and help make Alexandria a unique place to live and visit.

Boyd Walker Alexandria

Out-of-Place Structures

To the Editor:

On Sept. 3, Al Cox (who is the Historic Preservation Manager of the Board of Architectural Review) gave a presentation on "Alexandria's Buildings of Genuine Architectural Merit." The impetus for this presentation was a response to a hypothetical question of "what constitutes good historic development at the Robinson Terminals?"

Mr. Cox displayed images of at least 50 historic structures (mostly in Old Town), categorized by historic single family houses, commercial buildings, churches, schools, and ending with libraries. It was indeed a very well-prepared synopsis of our extremely rare repository of cherished historic structures

In addition to the historic structures, Mr. Cox identified several other structures as being of architectural significance, such as the Jefferson Houston School, the Beatley Library, and the Edmonds Plaza.

Here is where we seriously digress; the Jefferson-Houston School is an oversized monstrosity of a building that looms over its place in the local community, and the very interesting but seriously out of place Beatley library could be an outstanding feature of a vast rolling meadow, but not as a side facing structure to busy Duke Street. Lastly, the Edmonds Plaza (memorializing the slave market on upper Duke Street), features large plate glass windows which are reminiscent of a Miami Beach structure, which is fine for the Causeway, but not here. So why even mention these anomalies? In each of these examples, the buildings are out of "place."

The reaction of the BAR members to all of this was a split between endorsing historic buildings in Copenhagen (?) and focusing on the one and only glass-oriented building in the entire historic district, which is the Edmonds Plaza. Obviously, the Edmonds Plaza must have had a direct impact on EYA as their latest creation for the Robinson Terminal South site evokes those aforementioned Miami Beach hotels. This, coupled with similar glass-oriented buildings recommended for Robinson Terminal North will add to the identity crisis that already seems to plague the City of Alexandria. We deserve better than this.

The City of Alexandria is sacred to the memory of George Washington, Robert E Lee and a host of other historic luminaries, and we must be mindful of this precious heritage. We must not further squander the opportunities to honor our forefathers by continuously creating seriously out-of-place structures, no matter how interesting or worthy of note they may seem.

> Townsend A. "Van" Van Fleet Alexandria

Independent **Bike Count**

To the Editor:

Out of sheer curiosity I counted bicycles and observed pedestrians and cars at the intersection of Royal and Cameron on Thursday, Sept. 4 from 5-7 p.m. This day and time corresponds with those used by the city and its data collection volunteers from BPAC (Bicycle, Pedestrian Advisory Committee). I did this in order to provide a "blind" count of the flows, i.e. one uninfluenced by prior alerts. Here is what I found.

A total of 43 bicycles passed through the intersection of Royal/Cameron. Royal Street was used by 32, mostly going south; the majority (27) did not stop at the stop sign. For Cameron Street there were 11 bicyclists, 10 did not stop, all except one were going west. One person using Royal Street made a complete stop, recognized the drivers, and proceeded; this is considered by most experts to be "best practice." There was one Capital Bikeshare rider going north.

All cars, and there were many using the Royal/Cameron intersection, stopped and honored the protocol for proceeding through a four-way stop sign. Two SUVs made u-turns in order to get parking spaces. Pets and people come out at 5:30 and 6:30 p.m. There were no runners.

It will be interesting to compare these counts with those of the city and BPAC, which in searching for volunteers published the places, dates and times for the count. In standard research practice, this would be expected to inflate the count, and is a regular way of evaluating the effectiveness of advertising.

Before making any decisions on installing bike lanes for Cameron and Royal streets, the electronic counts must be done. It would be best to do them very close to the BPAC counts in order to validate both with and without prior notification of the large, regional advocacy audience. Valid research outcomes make for better deci-

Kathryn Papp Alexandria

Write

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

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