



PHOTOS BY MARISSA BEALE/GAZETTE PACKET

Members of the congregation marched from Alfred Street Baptist Church to the steps of the Alexandria Courthouse, where they prayed, sang and supported one another.

Hundreds March in Peaceful Protest

Pastor leads his congregation.

BY MARISSA BEALE
GAZETTE PACKET

Members of Alfred Street Baptist Church in Alexandria took to the streets Wednesday, Dec. 3, in an impromptu peaceful protest against recent court rulings where police officers were not indicted for their aggression against black males, notably 18-year-old Michael Brown Jr. in Ferguson, Mo., and 44-year-old Eric Garner in Staten Island, N.Y.

The congregation marched from the church building to the Alexandria Courthouse, stopping traffic and drawing the attention of police officers and drivers along the way.

"This courthouse sentenced my brother for 43 years," said one protester who stood with the congregation in front of the Courthouse, proclaiming it ironic that he was there in front of the Courthouse to raise awareness about



Dozens of members of Alfred Street Baptist Church created signs so that drivers, walkers and news media would know what the march was about.

injustice.

"Don't let this be the last courthouse you stand in front of," said a young woman to the crowd.

While the protesters carried signs, all of those who gathered at the church had arrived not for a protest, but for Alfred Street's "Come As You Are," or CAYA service. Pastor Howard-John Wesley delivers the message, but on Wednesday, he planned for the church congregation to deliver a message to the community. "I know some of you will have to go change shoes," joked Wesley to the women. Still hundreds walked the streets of Alexandria that night chanting "No justice, no peace; know justice, know peace."

One Twitter follower tweeted "Saw a sign the other day 'where is the church'? @AlfredStreetBC & @PastorHJW has been answering. Tonight we marched!" "We have faith in our God who brought us through many a dark stage," said Wesley, bringing the protest to a close with a prayer around 8:45 p.m. Members of the congregation also prayed, shared thoughts and hopes for the future, and shared with those who were not present, using the Twitter hashtag: #CAYAJustice.

TC Students Lead Assembly on Race

Faculty and students hold gathering to give student body a voice.

BY VERNON MILES
GAZETTE PACKET

Originally, students at T.C. Williams High School planned to stand up from the classrooms or the cafeteria and walk out of the school at 1 p.m. on Thursday, Dec 4, as part of a national Walk Out campaign in memory of Michael Brown, killed earlier this summer by a police officer in Ferguson, Mo. This did not happen. Instead, students and the administration worked out a compromise: a school-wide assembly that would allow students to come together and discuss the issue.

In a conference room at T.C. Williams High School, nine of the students who participated in or helped organize the rally discussed issues of race in their lives. According to Alieu Rahim, 11th grade student at T.C. Williams High School, the idea was to protest the lack of

"I know the voices of the people sitting around me are important, because we made this happen."

— Jalisa Orellana

an indictment against the police officer who shot Brown. Plans began to form on social media, but when the school eventually found out, Principal Suzanne Maxey approached the students with the alternative plan. With some staff help, she allowed the students to plan the event themselves and had to stand back and hope

SEE T.C. WILLIAMS, PAGE 8



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED BY SHELDON MCCLENDON

Yonas Araya, 12th grade, speaks at the T.C. Williams High School assembly.

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PHOTO BY VERNON MILES/GAZETTE PACKET

Secretary of Education Arne Duncan (left) and Attorney General Eric Holder

Educating Young Inmates

Holder, Duncan focus on educating incarcerated youth.

BY VERNON MILES
GAZETTE PACKET

Secretary of Education Arne Duncan described his visit to an Alexandria juvenile detention center as equal parts inspiring and heart-breaking. In a visit to the Northern Virginia Juvenile Detention Center Monday, Dec. 8, Duncan and Attorney General Eric Holder discussed a new set of guidance they hope will help the facility regard its residents more as students and less as inmates.

The Correctional Education Guidance Package announced by Duncan and Holder contained new guidelines emphasizing that Juvenile Detention Centers provide “education ser-

vices comparable to those available to students in community schools”. To this end, the package included a series of “Dear Colleague” letters by Holder and Duncan addressed state school officials and state attorney generals, encouraging correctional facilities to take advantage of Federal Pell Grants to promote education in an effort to reduce crime. The package aims to provide higher overall quality education to America’s 60,000 youth in similar facilities across the country.

“We have learned that many kids [in the juvenile justice system] received deficient instruction, in some cases they received no instruction at all,” said Holder. “Some students

SEE EDUCATING, PAGE 22

City Manager Resigns

City Manager Rashad Young informed the Alexandria City Council that, after three years, he will resign as city manager at the end of the year to accept an appointment as city administrator for Washington D.C. City Council will discuss its process for picking a new city manager on Saturday, Dec. 13. The next city manager will have to begin immediately working on the spring budget process, but Young said he believes his staff is up to the task.

“I think we’re in a good place here, we have a strong senior level

team and our deputy city managers are fully up to speed,” said Young. “The big issue will be gearing up for the budget, but everyone knows what they’re supposed to do and we’ve got everything lined up.”

“We are grateful to Rashad [Young] for the contributions he’s made to our community over the last three years,” said Mayor William Euille in a press release.

“His work has made Alexandria a better place to live, work, and visit.”

— VERNON MILES



2014 Grand Marshal Donnie Jack, Scottish Affairs Counsellor for the Americas.



Campagna Center president & CEO Tammy Mann leads her staff and center families in the parade on Saturday.

At the 44th Annual Scottish Christmas Walk

In partnership with The Scottish Government, The Saint Andrew’s Society of Washington, D.C. and the City of Alexandria, the Campagna Center hosted the 44th annual Scottish Christmas Walk on Saturday, Dec. 6. Honored international guests included Dundee Lord Provost Bob Duncan and his wife, Brenda, and Council Officer Bill Rowland; and Caen France Mayor Joël Bruneau and his wife, Catherine, Bertrand Cousin, Head of the Mayor’s Office, and his wife, Annabelle, and Mrs. Lesley Coutts, Head of International Relations Office.

Sponsors included: The Scottish Government, Passport Auto, Christine Garner, Mazda, Oxford Finance, TTR I Sotheby’s International Realty, The Goodhart

Group, Bridget & John Weaver, Burke & Herbert Bank, Mercer Trigani, Avison Young, Buchanan Ingersoll & Rooney PC, Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage, Craig and Leslie Stevens, Curcio Law, McLaughlin Ryder, National Beer Wholesalers Association, Optimal Networks, Saul Ewing LLP, Tom and Laura Lawler and Karen Schuiling.

All proceeds from the Scottish Christmas Walk Weekend events benefit the Campagna Center’s programs: Early Head Start, Alexandria Head Start and Learning Center, Campagna Kids, 21st Century Community Learning Center, Building Better Futures and New Neighbors. Visit www.campagnacenter.org



Members of the Ballyshaners cheer as they walk up King Street. The Ballyshaners – Irish for “old towners” – is an all-volunteer, non-sectarian, non-partisan not-for-profit organization dedicated to preserving Irish heritage. In conjunction with the City of Alexandria, the group organizes and produces the yearly Alexandria St. Patrick’s Day Parade and the summer Alexandria Irish Festival.



The Lord Provost from Dundee Scotland Bob Duncan.

PHOTOS BY
LOUISE KRAFFT
GAZETTE PACKET



The 84th Regiment of Foot Royal Highland Emigrants, formed in 1775, fought for the Crown during the American Revolution. The recreated 84th Regiment participates in reenactments from Canada to South Carolina.

HOLIDAY GIFT GUIDE

Gifts for Animal Lovers



In a city that has water bowls waiting on sidewalks for four-legged friends, it's not a surprise to find shops selling gifts for those who enjoy animals.

— RENÉE RUGGLES

Anna Fitzgerald, owner of The Dog Park, shares a selection of vibrant limited edition prints that the store carries. Both cat and dog breeds are available. Among all of the dog care items and treats are some breed specific, high quality stuffed dogs that can be fun for people of all ages. Visit www.dogparkva.biz



PHOTOS BY RENÉE RUGGLES/GAZETTE PACKET

A gift with a cause. The Dog Park carries Rescued Wine candles. The candles are soy based and sit in repurposed wine bottles. A portion of each sale is donated to animal rescue groups.



Carla M. Clarke, assistant manager of Today's Cargo, with two of the displays in a store filled with jewelry and accessories. Visit www.todayscargo.com



Today's Cargo carries Sienna Sky jewelry. The line offers colorful earrings and necklaces, reflecting a love of nature and animals.



Guzal Arslanova, owner of VIP Pet, was tending to her four-legged clients. She stopped to share some of the dog care items that her store carries. Her shop carries the La Pooch fragrance line. VIP Pet also

offers dog spa services and carries hypoallergenic, all natural products that are good for a pet's skin.



VIP Pet put together some gift baskets for dog owners. The store also offers pet photography. Visit www.vippetsalon.com.

VIEWPOINTS PHOTO BY RENÉE RUGGLES/THE GAZETTE

What is the best gift, that you've given, that did not cost anything?

Shawn Redfern and his son, Ian, Alexandria: "We're originally from Massachusetts. We're here for Thanksgiving and go home for Christmas. We started Displaced Thanksgiving. Every year, we do a big Thanksgiving potluck with friends and neighbors."



Janet Campbell, visiting from Newport News: "Let me think ... The best gift was love."



Priya Patel, Alexandria: "For my sister's birthday, I made her a card, with a scene that recreated a show we watched, together."

Gift of Art

PHOTOS BY LOUISE KRAFF GAZETTE PACKET

The annual Del Ray Artisan Holiday Market will be held over three weekends. The next markets will be Dec. 12-14 and 19-21. Hours are Friday 6-9 p.m. (reception), Saturday 10 a.m.-4 p.m. and Sunday noon-4 p.m. Visit www.delrayartisans.org to see a complete list of the artists that will be featured.

Holiday Market will be held over three weekends. The next markets will be Dec. 12-14 and 19-21. Hours are Friday 6-9 p.m. (reception), Saturday 10 a.m.-4 p.m. and Sunday noon-4 p.m. Visit www.delrayartisans.org to see a complete list of the artists that will be featured.



Derek Hall with a selection of his "The Bear Parts" screened t-shirts. Visit www.Etsy.com/shop/TheBearParts



Vanessa Bruno surrounded by a selection of her hand-woven rugs. Bruno recycles and repurposes fabrics and hand-weaves them on a frame to make one of a kind rug, 2x3 feet to 8x10 feet.



Jewelry made with sea glass, stained glass and marbles by Amy Marx. For more visit www.amymarx.etsy.com



Detail of two of Vanessa Bruno hand-woven throw rugs made from discontinued designer upholstery fabrics.



Barb Boatman weaves a strip of aluminum can through a piece of fabric at the Del Ray Artisans Holiday Market. For more images visit www.cutsewcreate.studio.blogspot.com



Leslie Hall holds a selection of her hand-beaded bracelets at her 'Ruthless Artist' booth. For more visit www.etsy.com/shop/ruthlessart

City Budget Faces Structural Deficit

Council debates five-year financial plan.

BY VERNON MILES
GAZETTE PACKET

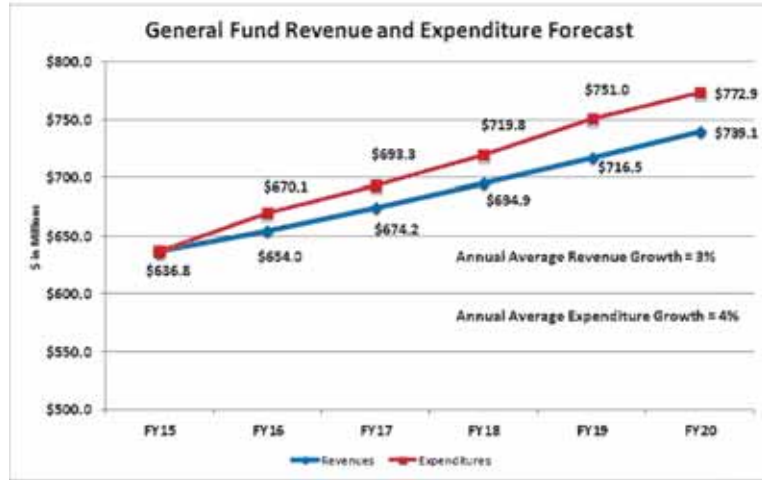
According to a report by the Alexandria's Office of Management and Budget (OMB), expenditure growth is expected to outpace the city's revenue, prompting members of City Council to voice concerns about the city's financial future.

The OMB presented a five-year financial plan to the council on Dec. 9 and addressed the impending financial problems of an expenditure growth of projects exceeding revenue growth.

"In that plan, we showed a structural deficit over the next five years if we continue to go along as we have been going along with our expenditure plan and if revenues continue," said Neslie Burch, director of the Office of Management and Budget. "Expenditure growth is expected to grow at 4 percent with revenue only growing at 3 percent."

To limit the increased expenditures, the city staff recommended a limit of the General Fund support to the Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) to no more than 12 percent of the General Fund expenditures

Baseline Forecast FY 2015 – FY 2020



COURTESY OF ALEXANDRIA OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET

annually in each year of the 10-year CIP. Over the next 10 years, the CIP budget is \$1.5 billion. Staffing and infrastructure from projects in the CIP plan are expected to increase the financial stress on the general funds.

"We're at 41 percent cash resources and 59 percent borrowing," said Christopher Bever, assistant

SEE CITY BUDGET, PAGE 22

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PEOPLE

Repairing, Restoring Violins

From 20 minutes
to 100 hours.

BY SHIRLEY L. RUHE
GAZETTE PACKET

It was a dark Thursday morning when Mark Weller twisted the key in the lock and walked upstairs to his violin shop on King Street. Weller, owner of Weller Violins, does repairs and minor restorations in his shop in Alexandria on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, arriving at about 5:30 a.m. “But I wish you could see I have another more complex shop at home with the larger instruments where I do restorations and more complicated repairs.”

Weller said that minor repairs can take 20 minutes to an hour but restorations can take some 80-100 hours. “I once did an antique bass that took, oh I forget how many hours, at least 200. See how lightweight this is? This violin is made with spruce on top and curly maple on the sides, back and neck. This is a Baroque model from the 1400-1500s when someone started doing it this way, and we’ve been doing it like this ever since.”

With a touch of his Dutch accent, Weller says each violin has its own sound based on the piece of wood, the strings and how it’s made. Strings are still mostly European but have changed from sheep’s gut to synthetic over the years. “Strings can change the sound; if you want a brighter sound,” he says, holding up the catalog full of tiny print, “the Pirastro Evah Pirazzi would be a good choice.”

He said he works on a lot of instruments at the same time because the glue has to dry so he goes to the next violin while he is waiting. “I have 8-9 cellos and 18-25 violins at home right now.” Some repairs are short term but others “I have for a long time, months. It is a balancing act because, for instance on this violin, the neck is too low and was uncomfortable so I have to take it out and reset it. But she is playing in a holiday concert and needs it next week.” Some days he works on 10-15 different instruments.

All of Weller’s instruments come with a story and he gets many different requests. He remembers seven-year-old Jason, back when he worked in Pennsylvania. “His grandparents bought him a \$35,000 violin.” And he said, pointing to the table, “this old cracked French violin is owned by a collector. I have



PHOTOS BY SHIRLEY RUHE/GAZETTE PACKET

Mark Weller replaces a violin in a row of instruments needing minor repairs. However, he does major repairs and restorations in his home in Centreville.

restored a lot of his violins. This one will probably be worth \$7,000-8,000 when I get it to look as well as I can.”

Weller went to the computer and showed a picture of a violin crunched with a large hole. “Here is a \$10,000 violin — his son stepped on it.” Pieces are spread across the screen. “There is a small margin of error: I have to glue it carefully.” I have worked on \$200,000 violins.” He emphasized the obvious, “You have to be careful and you have to carry insurance for it, too.” He continues, “And on this one, the pegs were slipping out so I just took out the old ones this morning and have to get it ready in a few days. Also I have people with a fine old instrument but they play at Wolftrap outside in the 90-degree summer heat. “The humidity makes the wood come apart. So they tell me to make them a new violin but make it look old.”

A brown paper bag decorated with a bow and presented by his brother with a violin sticking out of the bag diverted Weller from an engineering career when he was 14 years old. He started playing the violin. “I taught myself to play simple songs, but I didn’t like the way my violin sounded. So I took it apart and put it back together. And it was better. The next couple of years I made a couple of primitive violins.” Then on to four years of college in Germany followed by two years studying with an expert in Los Angeles who “taught me to do more complicated repairs and restorations. After a few years in Pennsylvania as head of a workshop, he moved to the D.C. area in 1977 and moved to his present location in 1997.

Weller says he always tries to make an instrument better but can’t always improve everything they ask for. If it is 200 years old, there may be too many repairs to do them all. Because he has so many years of experience, Weller has done all kinds of repairs. But occasionally he gets something “where you have to use all of your wits and invent a way of fixing it.” He tilts his head sideways, “What part shall I do first? As I work, I come up with an idea.”



Mark Weller analyzes a violin with pegs that were too loose and had just been removed. He will replace them soon for use by a violin instructor.



PHOTOS BY LOUISE KRAFFT/GAZETTE PACKET

Surrounded by local officials and Safeway management and staff, Safeway Eastern Division president Steve Burnham and Bradlee Safeway store manager Lori Valenzuela take up the scissors for the official ribbon cutting at the Bradlee Safeway on Thursday evening, Dec. 4.

Safeway Re-opens

After over a year in the making, the Safeway in Bradlee officially re-opened to shoppers on Friday morning, Dec. 5. The night before, Safeway officials and store management hosted a reception and ribbon cutting with local officials. The new 61,323 sq.ft. “lifestyle” store features a Starbucks coffee bar, expanded produce and floral departments, a hearth oven for baking bread and specialty desserts, service meat and ex-

panded service seafood departments, gourmet cheese and deli with prepared foods, a beer and wine department with a wine steward and an in-store café seating.

The store also includes a pharmacy and a Bergmann’s drycleaner. The site and building was designed by Cunningham I Quill Architects, PLLC with associate architects Freeman Morgan Architects of Richmond. The store is open 24 hours daily.



Fred and Carol Parker explore the newly opened Safeway.



Akie Kadota, Denny Okudinani and Jomar Bomilla of the T.C. Williams Orchestra perform at the opening of the Bradlee Safeway.



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T.C. Williams Students Lead Assembly on Race

FROM PAGE 1

that 800 high school students would be able to have a mature and calm discussion about a very emotional topic.

“Growing up, I’ve never really seen a community come together,” said Jalisa Orellana, 11th grade. “What I saw in that assembly was one of the most beautiful things I’ve ever seen in my entire life. The fact that we did that, the people sitting in this room ... if we hadn’t gone on twitter or did what we did, this wouldn’t have happened.”

The assembly gave the student body a safe space to express their opinions on the issue with their peers. While the majority of students held similar beliefs on the shooting of Brown and the lack of indictment, Maxey was still surprised by the range of opinions expressed.

“Some students went up and said ‘we’re all responsible for this, we’re part of the problem,’” said Maxey. “That’s a hard thing to say in front of 800 kids when it’s much more popular to say ‘fight the system.’”

“It was cool to see students that you wouldn’t think had an opinion on this at all come up and say something,” said Ana Diaz, 12th grade. “There are going to be opinions you’re not going to like, but we had a safe space.”

For some of the students, the role of the internet and social media was significant. Rahim acknowledged that the internet, and social media in particular, is prone to feeding vices like narcissism and procrastination, but said on an issue like this it can be a powerful tool.

“Before, you would hear about it and you would hear it on the news once and you could say ‘oh, that sucks’ and go about your day,” said Rahim, “but now we go on the internet and you see it, the injustice is right there in front of you, and you have a feeling that ‘I need to do something about this.’”

According to Orellana, a large part of what made these killing special, particularly the Brown case, was the victim’s closeness in age to many of the students in the room. Other students agreed, saying that that it felt very personal.

“You have to tell somebody ‘this could have been your brother,’” said Anijah Willis, 10th grade. “You have to tell them ‘I see you at the gas station every day, imagine if you and your friend were at the gas station, something happened while you were walking across the street and you or your friend got shot.’ You have to put it in the heart of Alexandria, put it on Braddock Road, and make everybody see it.”

For some, an incident like the killing of Brown would not seem out of place in Alexandria. When asked if they’d seen racism in their local communities, the students responded with a resounding “yes.” Yonas Araya, 12th grade, referenced a video posted to YouTube on October where a 7/



T.C. Williams student leaders discussed issues of racism in their community.

11 on Duke Street refused to sell a bag of chips to a young African American boy accompanied by his father, but would allow the Caucasian woman in line behind them to buy it. Other students said that when African American students go into the convenience stores in Old Town, they’re told to leave their bags at the door or outside. For Orellana, her first encounter with racism was when the police came to her home and, she claims, assaulted her family and pointed a taser at her 4-year-old brother.

“Alexandria and Ferguson, when you look at them demographically, are not that different,” said Andrew Pickup, 11th grade. “They’re both suburbs of major cities but also independent communities.”

Pickup noted that Alexandria has its own uncomfortable history of racism. The pool in his neighborhood was the subject of the Supreme Court case *Sullivan v. Little Hunting Park, Inc.* in 1969 that forced the pool to desegregate.

“I think it’s funny when people try to say there’s not racism and prejudice in a place like Alexandria,” said Araya. “Segregation ended in the ‘50s, TC wasn’t desegregated until the ‘70s. There’s a whole 20-year gap, after that for another 10 years there weren’t a lot of black people that came here because of the racial injustice and prejudice.”

Many students credited lessons learned in their social justice class with Ra Alim Shabazz. According to Diaz, the class had just finished a discussion on the civil rights



Salem Mesfin, 11th grader, in attendance at the rally.

movement and comparing it to the Indian Independence movement.

“That class was really inspiring, it taught us about organizing and the other side of history,” said Diaz. “What we learned in regular history, it’s one perspective, and going into social justice you see a different side.”

“We talk about the issues of the day and many of them expressed a great deal of displeasure [about the recent events],” said Shabazz. After he was told about their plans to stage a walk-out protest, it was Shabazz who told them to speak with administration first and try to reach a compromise. “The central idea [is] that we are not going to ignore the student body or the student rage, and their sense of hopelessness and rage. If we try to invalidate that in some way, it will manifest in a way we are not prepared to deal with. The rally allowed students to be able to speak their minds.”

Araya, one of Shabazz’s students, said that the best way to combat incidents like Ferguson was to get registered to vote, to have more minorities on juries, and to work to have more minorities hired as public servants.

Aliou said the problem stems from a lack of a relationship between the police and low income or minority communities.

“We never see the police just talking to people in low income areas, meeting the people there,” said Aliou. “The police have a mentality of us vs them, it’s not citizens helping other citizens. We need to get the police in these communities just to talk; not seeing them thinking ‘it’s a police officer, he’s going to beat me up’ but thinking ‘oh, that’s George! He’s nice.’”

Many of the students say they still face substantial apathy from their peers.

“This circle here are people I can talk to and they’ll understand what I’m saying, but when I go outside of this group I have friends that care but they don’t care too much,” said Willis. “They don’t want to sit

down and have an hour-long discussion about it, ‘it’s not them’ and ‘it wasn’t cousin Freddy or anybody so we really don’t need to talk about it.’ This conversation really opened it up for conversation at the lunch table and going home and talking to your parents about it. It opened a lot of doors for people who didn’t know that they could talk about it.”

Shabazz and Maxey both expressed pride in their students for having an open dialogue. As a teacher, Shabazz says he knows he often plants seeds in the mind of these young adults, but never gets to see them bloom the way he has now.

“My mom, all our parents, they love us,” said Parker. “To see us getting shot, by a police officer or anybody, that’s heartbreaking for them. They try to help us and provide for us, to make us successful. A parent should never have to bury their kid. We should all get together, talk about it.”

While expressing their frustrations, students also acknowledged the support from the administration and felt that their criticisms weren’t falling on deaf ears.

“I know my voice is important, I know the voices of the people sitting around me are important, because we made this happen,” said Orellana. “We pushed for this, and we got it with compromise. It’s cool, because at first you feel powerless, but now it feels like every single person in the world matters. I’m upset I had to fight for something like this, but I’m glad I got to be a part of it. This feels important.”

PHOTO BY VERNON MILES/CAZETTE PACKET

CONTRIBUTED BY SHELDON MCCLENDON

OBITUARY

Capt. Robert "Bob" Porter Rice USN (Ret)

Robert Rice, 82 died at his home in Alexandria on Nov. 19, 2014 after a long struggle with COPD.

Bob was born March 5, 1932 in Lawrence, Mass. He is the son of the late Willard and Ethel Rice of So. Yarmouth, Mass. He is survived by his wife of 49 years Betty (Georgia) Rice of Alexandria; his brother George and sister-in-law Moira of Osprey, Fla., niece Kimberly and her husband Robert Hofeldt with daughter from Manchester, Mass., and nephew Bob and his wife Jennifer and their seven children from Steubenville, Ohio.

Bob was a career Naval Jet Pilot who re-

tired as Captain after 27 years which included five tours of duty in Vietnam, the last one as Commanding Officer of VF-111, flying the world famous F4B attack jet aircraft aboard the USS Coral Sea (CVA-43). During his lengthy career Bob flew a total of 3,347 flight hours and had 687 carrier landings which included 315 combat missions in Vietnam. He was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross, Meritorious Service Medal, Air Medal "24" Strike Force Numeral with 2 Stars, the Navy Commendation Medal with Combat



was invited to fly with the famous Blue Angels but instead he opted to take his 5th tour of duty in Vietnam as squadron leader.

In addition to his flying time, for two years in 1963-1965, Bob was the Aide/Flag Lieutenant to Vice Admiral John T. Hayward

in Hawaii. In 1967 he attended the Naval War College in Newport, R.I. In 1968 he attended the Naval Postgraduate School in Monterey, Calif., and in 1973 the National War College, followed by staff assignments in the Pentagon.

Bob and Betty have lived in Alexandria since 1974 where Bob had a side activity as a docent at the Smithsonian Air & Space Museum where he could provide his great depth of military knowledge to visitors. Bob had a wonderful sense of humor and he truly loved life. He will be sorely missed by his family and his many, many friends. Full military service and burial will be held at a future date at Arlington National Cemetery.

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OPINION

Make a Plan, Talk About It

Here is help in keeping impaired drivers off the roads.

The holiday party season is upon us, and with it an increase in drinking and driving. It's up to you to make a plan to get home safely.

Plan to bring a designated driver. Plan to take public transportation. Plan to celebrate at home or someplace where you can spend the night. Plan to abstain.

And if all of that fails, the Washington Regional Alcohol Project has a safety net for you.

WRAP, a local nonprofit organization, will offer free cab rides to would-be drunk drivers throughout Northern Virginia during the winter holidays.

More than 10,000 people died in drunk driving related accidents in 2012, including more than 200 in Virginia and 160 in Maryland. Tens

of thousands more were injured. Holidays lead to an increase in impaired driving, the Christmas and New Year season in particular.

The annual Holiday SoberRide program will operate nightly from 10 p.m. to 6 a.m. starting Friday, Dec. 12, 2014, and continuing until Thursday, Jan. 1, 2015 as a way to keep local roads safe from impaired drivers during this traditionally high-risk, holiday period.

During these times, area residents celebrating with alcohol can call the toll-free SoberRide phone number 1-800-200-TAXI for a no-cost (up to \$30 fare), safe way home. Callers will be responsible for fare amounts over \$30.

Since 1993, WRAP's SoberRide program has provided more than 61,000 free cab rides home to would-be drunk drivers in the Greater Washington area.

We know that many young people over 21 are living at home with parents, or will be visiting for the holidays. Parents, be brave. Have a conversation with your children whether they are under or over 21. Be sure those over 21 have a plan, and are equipped with the

SoberRide number.

SoberRide is not available for underage drinkers, but parents still should talk to their children about their plans, and tell them out loud that you expect them not to drive impaired and not to get into a car with an impaired driver.

Tell them to call you, and you'll come get them if necessary. The news has been full of teachable moments about the consequences and vulnerabilities of drinking to excess, drinking and driving and beyond. Don't let the opportunity to talk about it pass you by.

— MARY KIMM

MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

EDITORIAL

Safe Ride Home

WRAP's 2014 Holiday SoberRide program will be offered from 10 p.m. to 6 a.m. nightly from Dec. 12, 2014 to Jan. 1, 2015. To receive a free cab ride home (up to a \$30 fare), call 800-200-8294 (TAXI). See SoberRide.com information listed below for important details concerning this program.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Blocked View

To the Editor:

The city government blocked the view of visitors from the Alexandria City Pier to the Parade of Lights on Dec. 6. The city could not have done a better job of blocking visitors view from the city dock on Saturday to view the boats in the Alexandria Parade of Lights, if they had tried. The barge and crane at the end of the City Pier were huge and blocked most if not

all the boats in the Parade of Lights.

Those in charge of the dredging of city waterfront (the mayor, council and city manager) owe the visitors to the parade, the participants in the parade (the boats), and the organizer of the parade an apology. All that hard work and few people saw the parade.

As one of the participants, I was very sorry for the people on the City Pier, who could not see the parade. They missed a great show.

Doug Wood
Alexandria

Celebrate George Mason

To the Editor:

The Bill of Rights, one of the most important bulwarks of our freedoms, was the product of the wisdom and determination of George Mason IV of Gunston Hall, a proud native Alexandrian. This forceful statement was adopted on Dec. 15, 1791, when the Virginia legislature provided the decisive vote. Although it is the best-known section of the Constitution, many

founding fathers, including George Washington, opposed its inclusion. George Mason deserves our honor and thanks for his many important contributions to our local welfare as well as that of our state, nation and the world.

When the British closed the port at Boston, he immediately realized that the American colonies must unite to resist the British tyranny. He initiated assistance by word and deed by writing the Fairfax Resolves, adopted in Alexandria, the county seat, on July 18, 1774. He also set an example for others by sending food stuffs overland to the Bostonians at his own expense and inviting others to join him in doing so. George Washington and other Virginians did, thus providing the first example of intercolonial cooperation against the British and preventing the Bostonians from being starved into submission.

Mason's Virginia Declaration of Rights was adopted by our General Assembly on June 12, 1776. It included the lines: "That all men are born equally free and independent, and have certain inherent natural Rights ... among which are the Enjoyment of Life and Liberty, with the Means of acquiring and possessing Property, and pursuing and obtaining Happiness and Safety." Jefferson's most famous lines in our Declaration of Independence are a close paraphrase. It also served as the basis for our Constitution's Bill of rights, the French Declaration of the Rights of Man and Citizen adopted in

SEE LETTERS, PAGE 12

STEVE ARTLEY/GAZETTE PACKET



OPINION

Growing Alexandria's Economy

Through clean water

BY JOHN HILL
CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD
ALEXANDRIA RENEW ENTERPRISES

Tucked away on a 33-acre campus between the Beltway and historic Alexandria National Cemetery is a place that makes sustainability its business. It protects the public's health while helping to restore the bounty of the Chesapeake Bay Watershed. This place also serves its customers 24 hours a day, seven days a week, and contributes quality jobs to the Alexandria economy. It's a

COMMENTARY place that is passionate about partnering with colleagues throughout the city to ensure the city's economic and environmental well-being, helping to make Alexandria the Eco-City of the future.

I bet Alexandria Renew Enterprises was not what you thought of when you read the description, because it's the facility that cleans our dirty water here in the city. But it's so much more than that.

Two years ago, when Alexandria Sanitation Authority was renamed Alexandria Renew Enterprises, a reporter for a well-known newspaper called to find out about the hubbub and asked, "What is this Alexandria Renew Enterprises?" It was explained that the new name reflected a grow-

ing responsibility to become more energy- and cost-conscious, uncover innovative approaches to recover and use resources from waste, and meet stricter environmental regulations.

And, a recent study sponsored by the Water Research Foundation out of Denver and the Water Environment Research Foundation in Alexandria, the two leading research entities for the water industry, which includes both wastewater and drinking water, found that Alexandria Renew Enterprises is also an economic powerhouse, creating and generating jobs and commercial activity in the Alexandria community.

In fact, Alexandria Renew will create a projected 440 direct and indirect jobs over the next decade with an accompanying \$830 million in economic output for the Alexandria community.

Alexandria Renew is dedicated to making significant economic contributions to the citizens and community of Alexandria. Quality and consistent service, reliable infrastructure, and steady rates also provide certainty for long term planning, helping make the city a great place to run and grow a business, no matter what kind or size of business it is.

If you want to learn more, I encourage you to explore alexrenew.com, or call Alexandria Renew at 703-549-3381 to arrange a tour for any organization you belong to.



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OPINION



Marceline the pit bull in her glamorous new life.



Nine-year-old Marceline the pit bull gets comfortable in her new home.

PHOTOS BY GABE CHU

Adopting 'Senior' Pets

BY BARBARA S. MOFFET
 ANIMAL WELFARE LEAGUE OF ALEXANDRIA

Gabe Chu, a 35-year-old patent examiner in Alexandria, knew just what he wanted when he arrived at the Vola Lawson Animal Shelter a few months ago: an older dog, not too high-energy, one who would like hanging out with him at home.

Adoptions Manager Katie Faxon immediately thought of a 9-year-old black-and-white pit bull they were calling Rachael Ray. It was as if Chu already knew her.

The two met, they clicked, and Chu and the dog — whom he has renamed Marceline — are now daily companions. Faxon says it was a great match.

“A lot of people don’t know that they want a ‘senior’ animal — they may not realize what it’s like to cope with a puppy or kitten that needs tremendous amounts of attention and exercise,” she said. “Senior pets are especially great for young adults — people really can’t be at work all day and then go out for drinks with friends if they have a pet waiting for them at home in need of two hours of play.” She says older pets also can be right for senior citizens — and are free at the shelter to those 65 years and older.

The Vola Lawson shelter, which is operated by the Animal Welfare League of Alexandria, often houses “senior” pets — defined as age 7 or 8 and up for cats and dogs and younger for rabbits, guinea pigs and ferrets, which all have shorter life spans. And though it’s the kittens and puppies who tend to be in greatest demand from the adopting public, older animals, even those in their very last years, can make ideal pets. Faxon points to a friendly, energetic toy poodle called Midnight who found herself at the shelter after her owner died. Fourteen years old, she had a few minor health



Marceline poses for her human companion, who adopted her from the Vola Lawson Animal Shelter.

problems but enthusiastically greeted everyone she met. Senior pets like Midnight often get extra TLC at the shelter — Midnight spent her time in one of the shelter’s offices instead of a cage to ease the transition from her previous comfortable residence. She found a new home.

Older animals who arrive at the shelter can receive support from the AWLA’s Rosemary’s Seniors Fund, which pays for services like diagnostic tests and dental care that are sometimes needed before an animal can be put up for adoption. Faxon says the shelter does not euthanize pets because of old age, unless requested to do so by the owner. If an animal is found to be terminally ill, the shelter will seek help from outside foster groups for special “fospice” care for the pets’ last days.

“I have been pleasantly surprised by the number of people willing to take on an aging cat — or fall head over heels about a dog who needs brain surgery,” Faxon said. “We have lots of happy endings here; the last picture we saw of Marceline (Chu’s pit bull), she was wearing goggles and riding in Gabe’s convertible.”

Note: Animals are available for adoption at the Vola Lawson Animal Shelter, 4101 Eisenhower Ave., Alexandria. Visit www.alexandriaanimals.org or call 703-746-4774. Some of our senior animals have been identified as “Shelter Snowflakes” during our “Whisker Wonderland” adoption promotion Dec. 1-31. Adoption fees for these “Snowflakes” are waived during this time.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

FROM PAGE 10

1789, and the United Nations’ Universal Declaration of Human Rights of 1948.

Mason wrote the first constitution for the State of Virginia, which served us for almost 200 years. It was an important model for the U.S. Constitution, the oldest written constitution still in active use in the world, distinguished for its separation and balance of powers, a doctrine Mason adopted after careful study of contemporary thinking and the best features of all governments until his time. Mason was the genius who set the

framework for our Constitution, and his tenacity in insisting that a Bill of Rights be included ensured that a citizen’s rights are protected at all levels of government.

Mason recognized the moral and practical obligation of the nation to ensure freedom for all people and end slavery at the earliest opportunity. He advocated education and gradual emancipation for the slaves. Because the proposed Constitution put off starting to free the slaves for 20 years and lacked a Bill of Rights, although he fa

SEE LETTERS, PAGE 27

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NEIGHBORHOOD

Taylor Run

CAROLLERS TO WALK

It was 50 years ago that some of the young people who lived on the top of Shooter's Hill decided to enliven the Christmas holiday from school by singing carols around the neighborhood and collecting money for Children's Hospital. Marian Thomas, who, alas, no longer lives here, supplied sugar cookies and hot chocolate to sustain the singers: the children of the Hunt, Biache, Stelluto, and Klesius families. This event has continued ever since, collecting sometimes more than \$1,000 from our generous neighbors to support Children's Hospital.

Commercial interests have pushed the celebration

of Christmas back, back, back farther and farther from the actual day; our little caroling event is one of the few things actually happening within the 12 days of Christmas. Only once in all these years have we had to cancel the singing because it was 12 degrees outside. We hope that all our generous neighbors will be home and able to give us their checks for Children's Hospital when we show up on St. Stephen's Day, Dec. 26.

NO TO WOODBINE

Taylor Run Civic association voted unanimously to reject Woodbine Nursing Home's proposal to enlarge their facility.

— Lois Kelso Hunt

Come join us for our Christmas Activities This Week! All are welcome!

- **Wed., December 10th ~ Cookie Exchange 7 pm.** Bake 5 dozen of the same recipe, then we will exchange 4 dozen, and the remaining dozen will put smiles on the faces of our home-bound members!
- **Thurs., December 11th ~ Young-in-Heart 11:30 am.** Our monthly worship service followed by a seated luncheon and Christmas Caroling. This is for the senior members of our community.
- **Sunday, December 14th ~**
Traditional Services at 8:30 and 11:00
Contemporary Service and Sunday School at 9:45
Christmas Program 4:00 pm followed by a pot-luck dinner!

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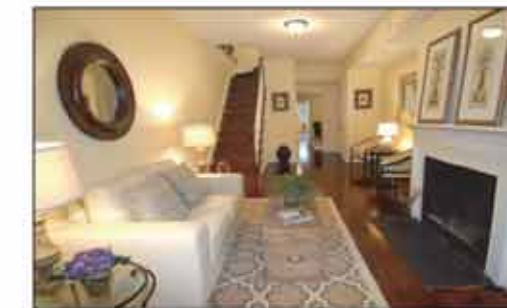
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ALEXANDRIA \$ 1,100,000 OPEN SUNDAY 1 - 4

#1250 S WASHINGTON ST #802 offers stunning panoramic views of the Potomac, Washington Monument and National Harbor. 2BR/1den/ solarium with 1,800-sq-ft, renovated kitchen with high-end appliances, remodeled baths, fireplace, hobby room (only one) and wine cellar.



Mike Lekas 703.927.9895
ALEXANDRIA / Old Town \$ 677,900

Charming and updated garage townhome just blocks from King St and Metro. 2 bedroom suites. Chef's kitchen has SS appliances, black granite, breakfast bar. Updated roof, HVAC and baths. Private rear courtyard with patio leads to heated garage.



Kristy Odend'hal 703.489.5941
SPRINGFIELD \$ 429,900 5703-BELFAST.flisting.com

Fully renovated 4BR/2BA on corner lot in Springfield Park. 1 mile to VRE + EZ to 96/36/456 and Lake Accotink Park. Remodeled kitchen/baths. Upgrades: refinished hardwoods, granite, ceramic tile, light fixtures. Fenced rear with 2 sheds. OdendhalGroup@LNF.com



Pat Tierney & Mary Taylor 703.850.5630 or 785.5619
ALEXANDRIA \$ 549,000 OPEN SUNDAY 1 - 4

3562 GEORGE MASON DR # 15 Move-in ready 4-level townhouse - recently renovated kitchen with granite, breakfast island, formal living/ dining rooms; LL rec room with gas fireplace. Hardwoods, fresh paint thru-out, new backyard patio. Garage parking. Convenient location.



Cindy Nelson 703.965.7562
ALEXANDRIA / Rose Hill Farm \$ 695,950

BRAND NEW HOME! No expense spared with this deceptively large, 4,268 sq ft, 5BR/4.5BA home. 1st floor and upper MBRs with full baths. 3 separate living spaces include an au-pair suite. Gas furnace and cooking. Main level laundry. Huge lush backyard/deck. Metro.



Michael Manuel 703.615.6317
ALEXANDRIA / Rivergate \$ 949,900

Semi-detached townhouse backing to 2 parks, bike path and the Potomac River. Wood floors thru-out, gas fireplace, private patio and open floor plan for entertaining. Master and loft have cathedral ceilings. 3BR/2.5BA. 2-car garage. The Best!

HOLIDAY ENTERTAINMENT

Visiting with Mount Vernon's Martha Washington

Mary Wiseman discusses the inspiration for interpreting the nation's first First Lady.

BY VERONICA BRUNO
GAZETTE PACKET

Imagine wearing five layers of clothing for your job. Well, that's exactly what Mary Wiseman does when she shows up for work as Martha Washington at Mount Vernon Estate every day.

"Thank goodness women didn't have to wear hoops and high heels at that time," she laughed as she described what goes into her dress as the very first First Lady of our country.

Wiseman also has to keep track of many accessories that go into all the details of being Mrs. Washington, including several shoes, mob caps, neckerchiefs, and ridicules (ladies purse).

"I got my car because it has a lot of room for my mob cap. Mrs. Washington wore a very high cap." You may see Mary driving her Kia Soul in historical dress while commuting to work.

Like you, she also orders new parts to her wardrobe every year, including a dress or two and gets her shoes repaired regularly. Wiseman has her own dressmaker and even more impressive, wears a corset every day. On top of that, the dress requirements are the same in winter as they are in summer. Imagine wearing all five layers in the Virginia heat. Like the original Martha did during the time, so does Wiseman as her interpreter.

But there is a lot more than dress that goes into playing Mrs. Washington.

"Her skills in the domestic art were amazing," as Wiseman explained all those requirements that went into being the household manager. "At that time, you had to be the family doctor, know every task, and had to have a lot of pride in being an accomplished housewife."

In addition to caring for the domestic duties of the household, Mrs. Washington traveled a lot during the presidency, which encompassed carriage travel—not an easy mode of transportation.

Described as the "soldier's best friend," Wiseman is proud to provide more clarity on her role for the nation. "There are a lot of misconceptions about her that I set straight. She could be up to her elbows in the nitty gritty and then put on the elegance of the presidency."

IN SPEAKING WITH Wiseman, there is a sense that there is a strong connection between the two ladies.

"Both of us were born in June. We have the same heritage—Welsh. We both moved to the area the same exact week. Washington brought Martha to Mount Vernon in the first week in April [the same week Wiseman moved to the Mount Vernon area from Williamsburg]."

And the similarities don't end there. "We were both left alone with young children."

Martha Washington became a widow at the age of 25 with two young children (her other children had already passed away) and five tobacco plantations to run. Wiseman was left with young children after her divorce (she has since remarried). She also sat in the Bruton Parish Church choir in Williamsburg, where the graves of Martha's grandfather and those of her children reside. She adds, "both of us have a love of company and conversation."

HOW DOES ONE become Martha Washington? Wiseman didn't start out portraying the first lady. She was the artistic director of women's history at Colonial



PHOTO COURTESY OF MOUNT VERNON

Mrs. Washington (Mary Wiseman) welcomes visitors to the candlelight tours at Mount Vernon.

Williamsburg where she created the character actor program.

"I gathered the heads of Colonial Williamsburg and designed the program 'The Women Beside the Great Men,' with special emphasis on beside as she described the newly created program that focused on the women.

She designed a young version of Martha Washington to tour sites she visited around Williamsburg, played by another interpreter.

"I was so inspired by her story." After this initial success, Wiseman was then asked to create the older Martha herself, which she brought to Mount Vernon.

And there's an American Girl doll connection. While in Williamsburg she collaborated with creator Pleasant Rowland on the Felicity doll storyline.

"I was the chief research person for the Felicity doll. We modeled a lot of Felicity on the young women's interpretive program at Williamsburg." As Martha Washington, she also served as inspiration for Miss Manderly in the story.

Details

Mrs. Washington will be leading candlelight tours of Mount Vernon Estate through Dec. 21 in the evenings on the weekend. Tickets are \$22 for adults and \$15 for children 11 and younger. Call 703-780-2000 or visit www.mountvernon.org for more.

For five years she was commuting between Williamsburg and Alexandria, where she performed Martha only on special occasions at first. After having lived in historical Williamsburg for 35 years, she decided to retire and move to the Mount Vernon area full time. She now resides in the Belle View area, where she frequents local restaurants such as Primo's Family Restaurant.

"I have my own table. It's one of the few places I feel comfortable stopping by after work [in full dress]."

Having performed Martha for more than 10 years now, she started out with the original General Washington historical actor, Bill Sommerfield. She has been interpreting with the current general, Dean Malissa, ever since he's been at Mount Vernon. "We interpret so well together now. People often ask us are they married in real life?"

If you are visiting the estate, you may find her performing needlework, much like Martha did, while conducting her tours or talks.

"My favorite part is every day when the kids sit with me."

In addition to being on the grounds regularly, Wiseman also participates in several distinct occasions for the estate. "I love the big events." A particularly busy day during the fall may include a local TV channel spot early in the morning at 7:45 a.m., a voiceover for public television for a Christmas special, interpreting on the grounds during the day for three hours, and participating in a special event in the evening for three and a half hours. As she joked, "I'm actually busier in my retirement!"

But she clearly enjoys her job. "It's been a wonderful journey."

Mary Wiseman is on site every day as Martha Washington and will be heading candlelight tours of the mansion during the holiday season.

CALENDAR

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

Mount Vernon Virtual Tour.

Website users can now transport themselves to George Washington's Mount Vernon in a click of a mouse or touch of a screen through a new virtual tour. Featuring 29, 360-degree panoramic images, more than 200 points of interest, and dozens of in-depth videos highlighting

architectural details, objects and anecdotes, the tour recreates the experience of being at the estate in an unparalleled way.

www.mountvernon.org/virtualtour

Tavern Toddlers. Weekly open playtime continues every Monday throughout holiday season. 10:30-11:30 a.m. Gadsby's Tavern Museum, North Royal Street, Alexandria. Caregivers, toddlers (walkers through 3 years) and visiting relatives are welcome to play, read, dance and color in the historic ballroom. No reservations required. Each week costs \$7 for a group of three, which must include one adult, and additional people are \$3. A three-visit pass costs \$18. On Monday, Feb. 16 Tavern Toddlers will be closed

due to President's Day.

www.gadsbystavern.org or 703-746-4242

Broadway Christmas Carol. Runs through Dec. 28 at MetroStage, 1201 N. Royal St. Enjoy the show Wednesday-Thursday, 8 p.m., Fridays, 8 p.m., Saturdays, 3 p.m. and 8 p.m., and Sundays, 3 p.m. and 7 p.m. Tickets are \$50. Visit www.metrostage.org for more.

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. Monday-Thursday 9 a.m.-5 p.m. and Fridays 9 a.m.-6 p.m. Visit www.AlexandriaLegends.com for

more.

"Friend Me" Exhibit. Through Monday, Jan. 5. Opening reception Thursday Dec. 11, 6:30-8 p.m. The Art League Gallery, Studio 21, 105 North Union St., Alexandria. Jeweler Whitney Staiger melds together her friends' public avatar with an aspect of their private selves on her handmade brass cameos in a solo exhibit. www.theartleague.org 703-683-1780.

Christmas in Mount Vernon.

Through Tuesday, Jan. 6, 9 a.m.-4 p.m. at 3200 Mount Vernon Memorial Highway, Mount Vernon. Mount Vernon decks the halls with themed Christmas trees on the estate and festive greenery in the Mansion. Visit www.mountvernon.org/

christmas for more.

Painting by John Trumbull. 9 a.m.-4 p.m. through Jan. 7. at Mount Vernon, 3200 Mount Vernon Memorial Highway. On loan from the Winterthur Museum, this portrait was painted by Washington's former aide-de-camp as a gift to Martha Washington in 1790. Regular admission rates: adults, \$18; senior citizens, \$16; children age 6-11, when accompanied by an adult, \$9; and children under age 5, free. Visit MountVernon.org for more.

"Beyond the Board" Art Exhibit.

Through Feb. 22. Prudential PenFed Realty, 4900 Seminary Road, Alexandria. Del Ray Artisans' presents "Beyond the Board." A portion of artists' sales go to the

HOLIDAY ENTERTAINMENT

PenFed Foundation, supporting active military families, veterans and their families. Visit www.thedelrayartisans.org/shows/gww/ 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 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.

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

Tavern Toddlers. Every Monday (except Federal Holidays) 10:30-11:30 a.m. Gadsby's Tavern Museum, 134 North Royal Street, Alexandria. Join other families with toddlers (walkers through 36 months) to have fun in Gadsby's historic ballroom. Playtime features a craft table, book corner, toys and group dancing. \$7 for a group of three. Visit www.alexandria.gov/gadsbystavern or call 703-746-4242.

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.

DECEMBER

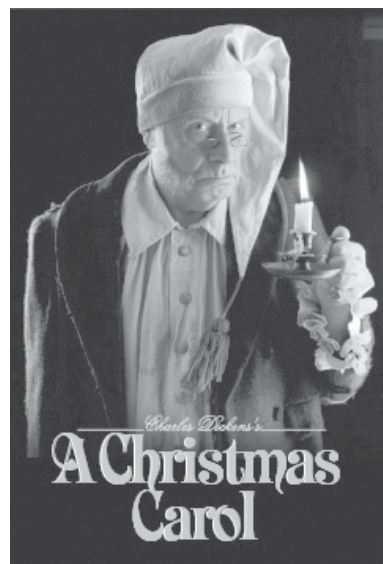
Tree Sale. Weekends through December, 9 a.m.-6 p.m. at St. Aidan's Episcopal Church, 8531 Riverside Road, Alexandria. Enjoy music, warm drinks and cookies by the fire, while surrounded by frasier fir trees. Sales benefit of community outreach programs and local schools. Choose to have 10 percent of the sale amount go to St. Aidan's Day School or a local, public elementary school. St Aidan's Episcopal Church, 8531 Riverside Road, Alexandria. Visit www.staidansepiscopal.com.

Alexandria's Holiday Market. At 300 John Carlyle St., Alexandria. Vendors will sell traditional European food, sweets and drinks combined with art and craft vendors to create a European holiday market shopping experience. The event also features the Holiday Sharing - Toy Drive program to support families in need, as well as the Hunger Free Alexandria initiative. Visit www.alexandriaholidaymarket.com for more.

❖ Dec. 12, 13, 14, 19, 20, 21, 22 and 23 — 11 a.m.-8 p.m.

❖ Dec. 24, Christmas Eve — 11 a.m.-2 p.m.

Studio 12. 11 a.m.-5 p.m. daily. About 20 artists will be showing their work in two-week exhibitions through the



Ring in the holiday season with a return of the classic by Charles Dickens. A must for the entire family!

December 5-20
2014



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HOLIDAY ENTERTAINMENT



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Please donate new toys, infant/toddler items, and grocery store gift cards to support Alexandria families.

Items to give to 0-13 years:
 Easy-to-use toys, Legos, educational toys, dolls, building blocks, stuffed animals, dolls of color, My Little Pony, Dora the Explorer, Anything Disney, Power Rangers, Batman, Sports items, Trucks, Cars, Action Figures

SUGGESTED ITEMS AGES 1-13:
 Toddler Toys, Legos®, LeapFrog®, Books, Educational Toys, Building Blocks, Musical Toys, Stuffed Animals, Dolls, Dolls of Color, My Little Pony, Dora the Explorer, Anything Disney, Power Rangers, Batman, Sports items, Trucks, Cars, Action Figures

Puzzles, Board Games, Watches, Jewelry, Craft/Bead Kits, Purses, Diaries, Movies, Store Gift Cards, Baby Items, Onesies, Sleepers, Musical Crib Mobiles, Interactive Crib Toys, Rattles

Toys are accepted every Friday-Sunday at the first Alexandria's Holiday Market starting Dec. 5 at 300 John Carlyle Street and at many locations within Alexandria THROUGH December 19. For a complete list of participating partners visit www.VolunteerAlexandria.org and click on Holiday Sharing. **THANK YOU very much for your support!**

Volunteer Alexandria, Your Community Resource for Volunteerism
 Contact us at mail@volunteeralexandria.org or 703-836-2176
www.VolunteerAlexandria.org

Special thanks to
Alexandria Gazette Packet

end of 2014. This dynamic pop-up gallery provides an opportunity for many of the associates to have their work on view. Visit torpedofactory.org/events/ for more.

♦ **Dec. 1-14:** Felicia Belair-Rigdon, collage; Liz Roberts, paintings; Val Proudtkii, photographs; and Carol Talkov, mosaic

♦ **Dec. 15-28:** Fritz Des Roches, paintings; Barbara Muth, paintings; Norma Hintze, ceramics; and Marilynn Spindler, paintings

THURSDAY/DEC. 11

"Friend Me" Opening Reception. 6:30-8 p.m. The Art League Gallery, Studio 21, 105 North Union St., Alexandria. Jeweler Whitney Staiger melds together her friends' public avatar with an aspect of their private selves on her handmade brass cameos in her first solo exhibit. Exhibit runs through Monday, Jan. 5. www.theartleague.org 703-683-1780.

Reception for show "5x5(x5)." 6-8 p.m. at the Torpedo Factory, 105 N. Union St., Alexandria. Back by popular demand, this small works show is a juried exhibition that invites artists to submit work that cannot exceed 5" in any direction. Juror is local curator and arts writer, Kayleigh Bryant-Greenwell. Gallery talk at 7 p.m. Call 703-838-4565 or visit www.torpedofactory.org.

Second Thursday Live: The Aloha Boys. 7 p.m. Athenaeum, 201 Prince Street, Alexandria. \$10 admission. The Aloha Boys have played Carnegie Hall, The Birchmere and The Kennedy Center. They bring the warm aloha spirit on a cold day. Visit www.nvfaa.org for more.

Whiskey Store Tour 2014. 7:30 p.m. at The Birchmere, 3701 Mount

Vernon Ave. Featuring Tab Benoit with Tommy Castro and Samantha Fish. Tickets \$35. Visit www.birchmere.com or call 703-549-7500.

Second Thursday Art Night. 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. at the Torpedo Factory, 105 N. Union St., Alexandria. "2nd Independence" will be performing jazz standards throughout the evening. Visit www.torpedofactory.org.

FRIDAY/DEC. 12

Washington's Rye Whiskey Available for Sale. 10 a.m. At Mount Vernon, 3200 Mount Vernon Highway, 1,800 bottles of the aged and unaged George Washington Rye Whiskey will be available for sale in-person only. The aged whiskey retails for \$185 per bottle; the unaged rye whiskey retails for \$95 per bottle. Visit MountVernon.org/Distillery.

Music performance by Woodlawn Elementary School, 10:30-11 a.m. at Reagan National Airport, Terminal C, across from Cosi. See www.flyreagan.com for more.

FRIDAY-SUNDAY/ DEC. 12-14

Sugarloaf Crafts Festival. 10 a.m.-6 p.m. at Dulles Expo Center, 4320 Chantilly Shopping Center Drive, Chantilly. Alexandria's Michael Heilman will be displaying his handmade rugs among more than 250 artisans who will display and sell their handcrafted work. Visit www.sugarloafcrafter.com for more.

SATURDAY/DEC. 13

Alexandria's Historic Breweries Walking Tour. 1-3 p.m. at Old Presbyterian Meeting House, 323 S.

Fairfax St. Garrett Peck, author of "Capital Beer: A Heady History of Brewing in Washington, D.C.," will discuss Alexandria's brewing past, present, and future based on the amusing and informative brochure, "Alexandria's Historic Breweries: A Walking Tour & Pub Guide," which highlights 19 historic sites and 15 Official Hops Stops. See www.eventbrite.com/e/alxbrewtour-tickets-14698787469 for more. Free but reservations are required, as space is limited.

Annual Holiday Cheerleading Invitational. 11 a.m. at T.C. Williams High School, 3330 King St. The competition features youth cheerleading teams from neighborhood recreation centers and the metropolitan area. Tickets available for purchase at the door. \$10 for ages 13 and older; \$5 for ages 5-12; and ages 4 and under are free. Call 703-746-5402 or visit www.alexandriava.gov/Recreation.

SATURDAY-SUNDAY/DEC. 13-14

Historical Candlelight Tour. Saturday, 6-9 p.m. and Sunday, 3-6 p.m. at various locations in Old Town. This holiday event blends chocolate and history through special tastings, seasonal decorations, period music and tours highlighting chocolate through time. Visit www.historicalexandria.org for more.

SATURDAY/DEC. 13

Civil War Christmas. Noon-4 p.m. at Fort Ward Museum and Historic Site, 4301 W. Braddock Road. Visitors will meet a Civil War-era Santa at this family-fun holiday event exploring how Christmas was observed during the Civil War. Visit

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HOLIDAY ENTERTAINMENT

apps.alexandriava.gov/Calendar.

Holiday Concert. 8 p.m. at George Washington Masonic Memorial, 101 Callahan Drive. Visit www.alexandriachoralsociety.org.

Annual Tree Trim. 2-5 p.m. at The Gum Springs Historical Museum, 8100 Fordson Road, Alexandria. The public is invited to this annual tree trim. Call 703-619-6967 for more.

Nutcracker in a Nutshell. 3 and 7:30 p.m. Rachel M. Schlesinger Concert Hall, Northern Virginia Community College, Alexandria campus, 3001 North Beauregard Street, Alexandria. A condensed version of the classic holiday ballet performed by The Ballet Arts Ensemble of Fairfax. Bring a new, unwrapped toy to any of the performances for the U.S. Marine's Toys for Tots program. Tickets are \$25 and are available in advance at www.thecenterforballetarts.com or 703-273-5344. Tickets will also be available at the door.

SUNDAY/DEC. 14

Colonial Favorites. 2-4 p.m. at The Lyceum, 201 S. Washington St. The Colonial English Handbell Ringers will return with their annual concert at the Lyceum, featuring a group of 12 performers. Visit www.alexandriahistory.org for more.

Decorate Gingerbread Cookies. 2 and 3 p.m. at The Athenaeum, 201 Prince St., Alexandria. Whole Foods Market, Old Town provides gingerbread cookies along with frosting, chips and sprinkles to decorate. Recommended for children 6 and older. \$10 suggested donation per child. Reserve for either timeslot by emailing admin@nvfaa.org.

MONDAY/DEC. 15

Annual Santa's Winter Wonderland.

5-7 p.m. at the Charles Houston Recreation Center, 901 Wythe St., Alexandria. The Alexandria Redevelopment & Housing Authority (ARHA), in association with the City of Alexandria Recreation Parks Cultural Activities (RPCA) and Toys for Tots will hold its Annual Santa's Winter Wonderland. Community welcomed to view the Winter Wonderland and enjoy *Euille Tide* reading by Mayor Euille at Charles Houston Center. Dreamdog Foundation mascot singing. Gift of an unwrapped toy appreciated. The public is cordially invited to stroll through this Wonderland be transformed by the scale model of the City with features such as City Hall, the Masonic Temple, the Torpedo Factory and rows of town homes. For donation information, contact Ian Hawkins at ihawkins@arha.us or call 703-549-7913.

TUESDAY/DEC. 16

Annual Santa's Winter Wonderland.

12:30-6 p.m. at the Charles Houston Recreation Center, 901 Wythe St., Alexandria. ACPS school and community performances for the Alexandria community. Gift of an unwrapped toy appreciated. The public is cordially invited to stroll through this Wonderland be transformed by the scale model of the City with features such as City Hall, the Masonic Temple, the Torpedo Factory and rows of town homes. For donation information, contact Ian Hawkins at ihawkins@arha.us or call 703-549-7913.

TUESDAY/DEC. 16

Chocolate Class. 12:45 p.m. at Gadsby's Tavern Museum, 134 N. Royal St. Learn how chocolate goes from cocoa bean to beverage in the 18th century. Participants will participate in the process and taste a final product. Tickets are \$8 per child. Call 703-746-4242 or visit shop.alexandriava.gov for more.

TC Williams Winter Choral Concert. 7:30 p.m. at T.C. Williams Auditorium, 3330 King St., Alexandria. Free. Visit www.acps.k12.va.us/tcw/ for more.

WEDNESDAY/DEC. 17

Annual Santa's Winter Wonderland.

9 a.m.-4 p.m. at the Charles Houston Recreation Center, 901 Wythe St., Alexandria. The public is invited to stroll through this Wonderland with a scale model of the City with features such as City Hall, the Masonic Temple, the Torpedo Factory and rows of town homes. Gift of an unwrapped toy will be appreciated. For donation information, contact Ian Hawkins at ihawkins@arha.us or call 703-549-7913.

Music performance by Carl Sandburg Middle School, 10:30-11:45 a.m. at Reagan National Airport, Terminal B, across from Cibo Bistro. See www.flyreagan.com.

THURSDAY/DEC. 18

Annual Santa's Winter Wonderland.

5-8 p.m. at the Charles Houston Recreation Center, 901 Wythe St., Alexandria. Gift distribution. Santa and the Grinch arrive at the event on an Alexandria

Fire Department fire truck. Gifts will be distributed to ticket holders. Children ranging in age from infant to 17 years old are welcome. For donation information, contact Ian Hawkins at ihawkins@arha.us or call 703-549-7913.

THURSDAY/DEC. 19

Carbon Leaf. 7:30 p.m. at The Birchmere, 3701 Mount Vernon Ave. Tickets \$35. Visit birchmere.com or call 703-549-7500.

SATURDAY/DEC. 20

Kwanzaa Celebration. 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m. at The Alexandria Black History Museum, 902 Wythe St. The museum's annual program explores the history and significance of Kwanzaa. Learn about the principles of Kwanzaa, a seven-day cultural celebration. Tickets are \$5. Visit www.alexblackhistory.org for more.

Art at the Center. 5-7 p.m. at 2804 Sherwood Hall Lane, Alexandria. Enjoy light painting. Bring a book or toy to donate to Rising Hope. Call 703-201-1250 or visit www.artatthecenter.org for more.

Christmas Illuminations. 5:30-9 p.m. Sip hot chocolate while watching fireworks over the Potomac. This is a limited capacity event. Advance ticket purchase is suggested. Tickets are \$30 adults, \$20 youth (6-11), children five and under are free. Visit MountVernon.org for more.

Orchestra. 7 p.m. at The George Washington Masonic Memorial Theatre, 611 King St. The Symphony Orchestra of Northern Virginia presents "Holidays in Paris." Visit www.sonovamusic.org for more.

SUNDAY/DEC. 21

Skincare Treatments from Garden and Kitchen. 1-2 p.m. Athenaeum, 201 Prince Street, Alexandria. Mellenie Runion of Truly-Life Eco Gifts explains how to use simple ingredients for a healthy skincare regimen. www.nvfaa.org

The T.C. Williams Choir, 8 p.m. The T.C. Williams Choir has been selected to participate in the annual Christmas Concert with the First Family, broadcast from the National Building Museum on TNT Channel 36 and Dish Channel 138.

MONDAY/DEC. 22

A John Waters Christmas. 7:30 p.m. The Birchmere, 3701 Mount Vernon Ave. \$49.50. Visit www.birchmere.com for more.

MONDAY-WEDNESDAY/DEC. 22-24

Breakfast with Santa. 8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Union Street Public House, 121 South Union St., Alexandria. Have breakfast with Santa and Mrs. Claus before they take off for the big night. \$10 per child (age 0-12) and \$15 per person (age 13+) includes a continental breakfast, visit with Santa and Mrs. Claus and tax. Tickets required. Limited amount for every seating. Reservations www.unionstreetpublichouse.com/breakfast.

SATURDAY/DEC. 27

Live Music. 7:30 p.m. at the Birchmere, 3701 Mount Vernon Ave. Performance by Southside Johnny and The Asbury Jukes. \$39.50. Visit www.birchmere.com for more.

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Frank Sinatra

Diana Vreeland

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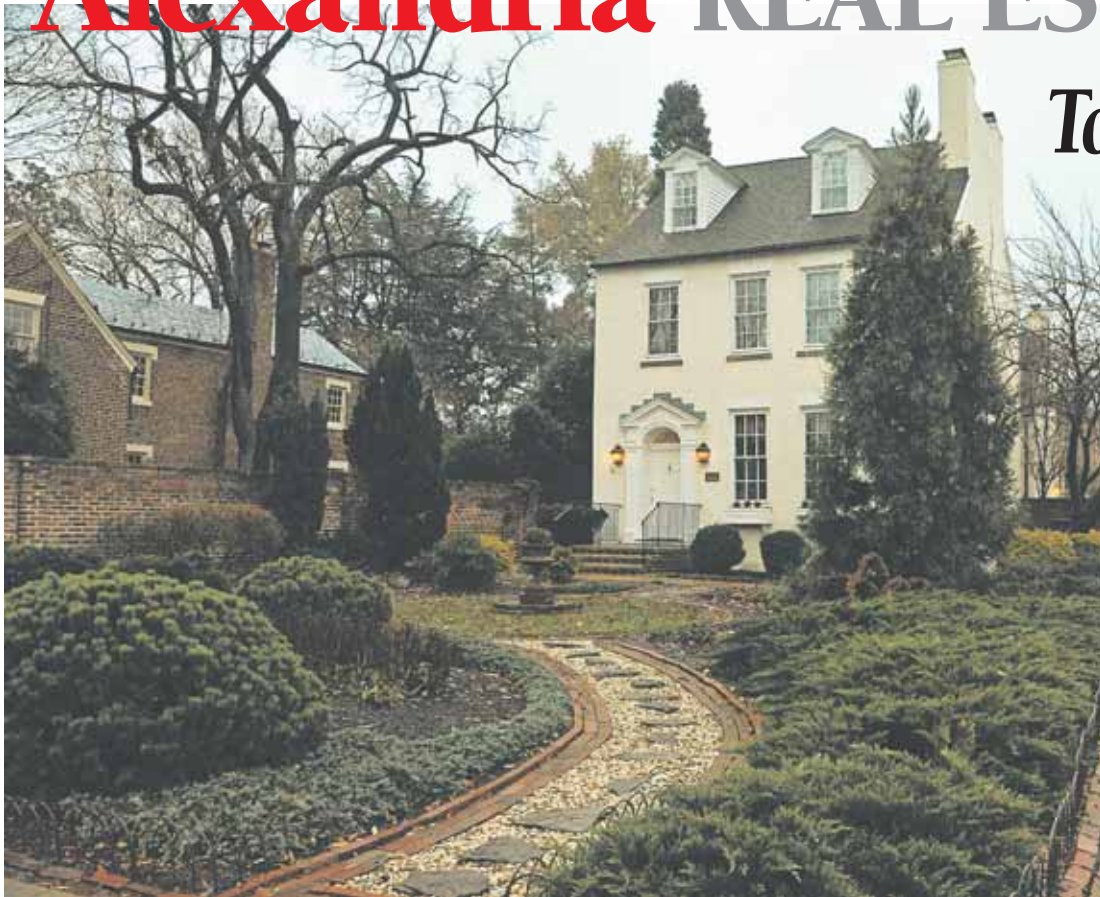


Alexandria REAL ESTATE

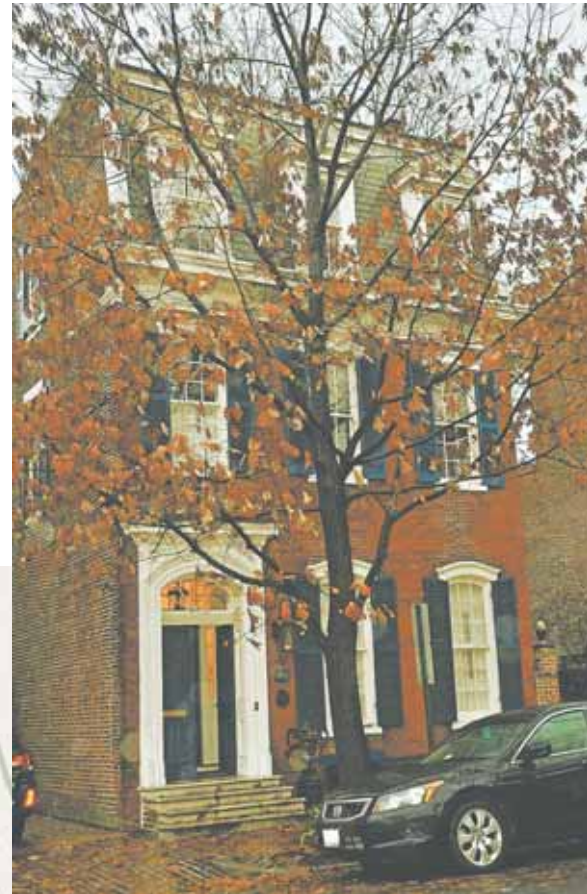
PHOTOS BY VERONICA BRUNO/THE GAZETTE

Top Sales in October, 2014

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1 700 Pitt Street South — \$2,700,000



2 208 Saint Asaph Street South — \$2,535,000



5 125 Queen Street — \$1,375,000



3 407 Prince Street — \$2,150,000



4 201 Duke Street — \$1,750,000



10 226 Union Street North — \$1,100,000

Address BR FB HB ... Postal City .. Sold Price Type Lot AC . PostalCode Subdivision Date Sold

1	700 PITT ST S	4	..	3	1	ALEXANDRIA	..	\$2,700,000	....	Townhouse	..	0.22	.....	22314	.....	OLD TOWN	.....	10/03/14
2	208 SAINT ASAPH ST S	5	..	3	1	ALEXANDRIA	..	\$2,535,000	....	Detached	....	0.12	.....	22314	.....	OLD TOWN	.....	10/06/14
3	407 PRINCE ST	5	..	3	1	ALEXANDRIA	..	\$2,150,000	....	Townhouse	..	0.09	.....	22314	.....	OLD TOWN	.....	10/20/14
4	201 DUKE ST	4	..	3	1	ALEXANDRIA	..	\$1,750,000	....	Townhouse	..	0.03	.....	22314	.....	OLD TOWN	.....	10/27/14
5	125 QUEEN ST	3	..	3	1	ALEXANDRIA	..	\$1,375,000	....	Townhouse	..	0.04	.....	22314	.....	BRANDT TOWNHOUSE	.....	10/06/14
6	1250 WASHINGTON ST S#711	4	..	3	1	ALEXANDRIA	..	\$1,355,000	....	Mid-Rise 5-8 Floors	.....		.....	22314	.....	PORTO VECCHIO	.....	10/28/14
7	12 ROSEMONT AVE W	4	..	3	0	ALEXANDRIA	..	\$1,275,000	....	Detached	.....	0.15	.....	22301	.....	ROSEMONT	.....	10/24/14
8	2504 CREST ST	5	..	5	1	ALEXANDRIA	..	\$1,275,000	....	Detached	.....	0.25	.....	22302	.....	BRADDOCK HEIGHTS	.....	10/08/14
9	1306 JANNEYS LN	4	..	4	1	ALEXANDRIA	..	\$1,125,000	....	Detached	.....	0.77	.....	22302	.....	JANNEYS LANE	.....	10/16/14
10	226 UNION ST N	3	..	3	1	ALEXANDRIA	..	\$1,100,000	Townhouse	..	0.03	22314	QUEENS ROW	10/28/14

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Gifts for the Home

Local shop owners offer suggestions to make holiday shopping easier.

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL
GAZETTE PACKET

While holiday shopping is part of the spirit of the season, for some choosing a present for everyone on their list can be overwhelming. Local small business owners come to the rescue with gift ideas for the home.

Give the gift that keeps on burning long after the holidays. Autumn Clayton, owner of Covet, a boutique in Arlington that specializes in local and handmade gifts, recommends hand-poured, soy candles by Sydney Hale in Purcellville, Va. Among the exotic fragrances are tobacco sandalwood and fir and blue sage.

"They are 100-percent soy and we carry a wide variety of scents," said Clayton. "10-percent of the sales from these candles benefit Lost Dog Rescue."

"The nice thing about these fragrances is that they smell great, but they're not overpowering," added Covet's Ximena Bryce.

At \$30 each, the candles have 50-hours of burn time and come in a glass that can be re-used for drinking when the candle is gone.

For the cook, Clayton also recommends hand-stitched kitchen towels by Nesta Home. "They make great hostess gifts and last longer than a bottle of wine," she said. "No one wants to come to a party empty-handed. You can even wrap a bottle of wine in the towel." The towels are \$14 each.

Wreaths with a nod to nature are among the top picks of Lauren Gregory of JT Interiors in Potomac, Md. "They will dry and turn brown and are made in such away that they can be stored and pulled out again next year," said Gregory.

They range in price from \$60 to \$185 and come in natural materials like pine cones, cinnamon sticks



Hand-poured, soy candles by Sydney Hale in Purcellville, Va., in fragrances like tobacco-sandalwood and fir and blue sage are available at Covet in Arlington.

and magnolia leaves.

Gregory also recommends electric hurricane lamps, which come on a strand and are priced at \$103 for a 90-inch strand, and prayer bowls. "They are made by a woman who survived cancer and had a family who was praying for her kept their prayer intentions in a bowl," she said. "When the woman found out about it she was touched. The prayer bowls make a great gift because they tell the story behind them."

Limited edition ornaments by Mark Roberts are the choice of John Brown of J Brown and Company in Old Town Alexandria. "They're beautiful and they're all jeweled and come in colors like red, green white and robin's egg blue" said Brown. Handcrafted with an old-fashioned flair and embellished with crystals, the figurine-ornaments are a collector's item.

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6:30 pm Vigil Mass (en Español)

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(en Español); 6:30 pm

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Educating Young Inmates

FROM PAGE 3
 attended class every day ... only to find out that their hard work would not count towards a high school diploma in spite of their hard work. These findings illustrate not only a failure on the part of our nation to live up to our stated commitments, but also a lost opportunity to intervene in the lives of incarcerated youth."

The package builds on the recommendations of the My Brother's Keeper report released in May of 2014 which identified an excess of youths incarcerated in juvenile detention centers and high barriers keeping youths from reintegrating into society and the workforce after graduating.

"The school to prison pipeline starts at [the ages of] three and four, which is crazy but that's the reality," said Duncan. "We need to have these hard conversations we need to have. Best help with a juvenile justice facility is keeping the students from ever having to reach that level."

Ultimately, Duncan noted, the cost of educating a child is not nearly as expensive as incarcerating an adult. The package also suggested that education continue into adult programs, one letter noting that inmates were half as likely to go back to jail if they participated in higher education.

In addition to classroom learning, Duncan and Holder spoke with students about what programs would help the students learn and what would have kept them from ending up incarcerated in the first place. Students in the facility requested additional opportunities to practice sports and yoga.

"[Students here] requested more access to after-school programs," said Duncan. "[There was a] big question about better breakfast."

For many students in the facility, one of the biggest challenges is moving back into a world without the same strict guidelines as the facility.

"While no one wanted to be here, some are scared about the transition back out. Because of the structure here they've been able to make some better choices and are building a plan to continue to make better choices. That was a sentiment we heard from a couple folks."

"Our office of juvenile justice ... has been collaborating to secure a re-entry model to youth in secure confinement that we will be pilot testing over the coming year," said Holder. "I'm pleased to announce today that the Departments of Justice and Education are taking the next step in this important effort by taking new guidance for strengthening the support of instruction offered in juvenile justice facilities."

With the package, the Department of Justice reissued a set of guiding principles laid out in January of 2014. The first principle emphasized identifying at-risk students and providing them with access to mental health professionals and social emotional learning programs. The second stated that schools should establish a fair and consistent system of punishment that gets the parents involved early in the process. The third emphasized that schools should continually reassess discipline policies to ensure fairness. The focus of these guiding principles were on actions meant to reform behavior rather than punishment.

"Young people make mistakes," said Holder. "I was young once, I made mistakes, and even when those mistakes are serious enough to require placement in a juvenile justice facility, youth should not be deprived of the chance to better themselves and improve their prospects for law abiding and productive futures."

City Budget Faces Structural Deficit

FROM PAGE 5
 budget director. "That's a pretty strong cash commitment to the 10-year plan. We look at every data point and we ensure that we're inside our debt ratios."

Some City Council members expressed concerns regarding increasing debt in the city.

"City debt around 2003, 130 million, in 2013 it's 530 million," said Vice Mayor Allison Silberberg. "While it is 'affordable' because of the tax base, that's still a lot, and it's a growth rate that I am still concerned about. I am proud of our AAA rating, I commend our city, but the fact is that number has grown a lot."

For others on City Council, the increase in debt and growth of the CIP was part a natural part of the city's expansion.

"It has grown a lot because we have done a lot," said Mayor William Euille. "We have built the police public safety facility, built two elementary schools and the high school. We've improved infrastructure. You can't build without cost."

"If you look back in the '80s and '90s, the city was 'pay-as-you-go' and we underinvested horribly in capital projects," said Councilman Timothy Lovain. "We've been making up ground ever since."

Euille advised that this discussion continue at a later date after a work session.

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Hill Drops Opener as T.C. Williams Head Coach

Wakefield dominates Titans in second half.

BY JON ROETMAN
GAZETTE PACKET

Bryan Hill faced a tough task in his first game as T.C. Williams boys' basketball coach. The Titans on Dec. 5 hosted a talented Wakefield team that had reached back-to-back state tournaments. Friday's contest started with Wakefield building a slim first-half lead and ended with the Warriors dominating the final 16 minutes. Wakefield senior Dominique Tham, the reigning 5A North region Player of the Year, scored 25 points, grabbed 22 rebounds and the Warriors cruised to a 74-46 victory at The Garden.

It was Wakefield's first win on T.C. Williams' home floor since 1996.

Long after the final buzzer sounded, Hill stood in the Titans' locker room and shared his thoughts on T.C.'s performance.

"Insanity," Hill said, "is doing the same thing and expecting a different outcome."

Hill, who came to T.C. Williams from Ballou High School in Washington, D.C., takes over a Titan program that was one of the area's best for years, but has fallen on hard times of late. TC won four games last season, just three years after winning the Northern Region championship under then-head coach Julian King.

While Friday's lopsided loss was just one game, it showed Hill, a standout at W.T. Woodson High School who played collegiately at Georgia Tech, has some work to do in order to reach his players.

"I know that what was displayed out there tonight was not what we coached," Hill said. "It's about breaking habits — really breaking habits and ... getting them to understand that you have to play as a team. If a team is a better running team than we are, then we've got to slow the game down. We've got to make five, 10 passes and slow the game down. But it's like talking to a wall sometimes."

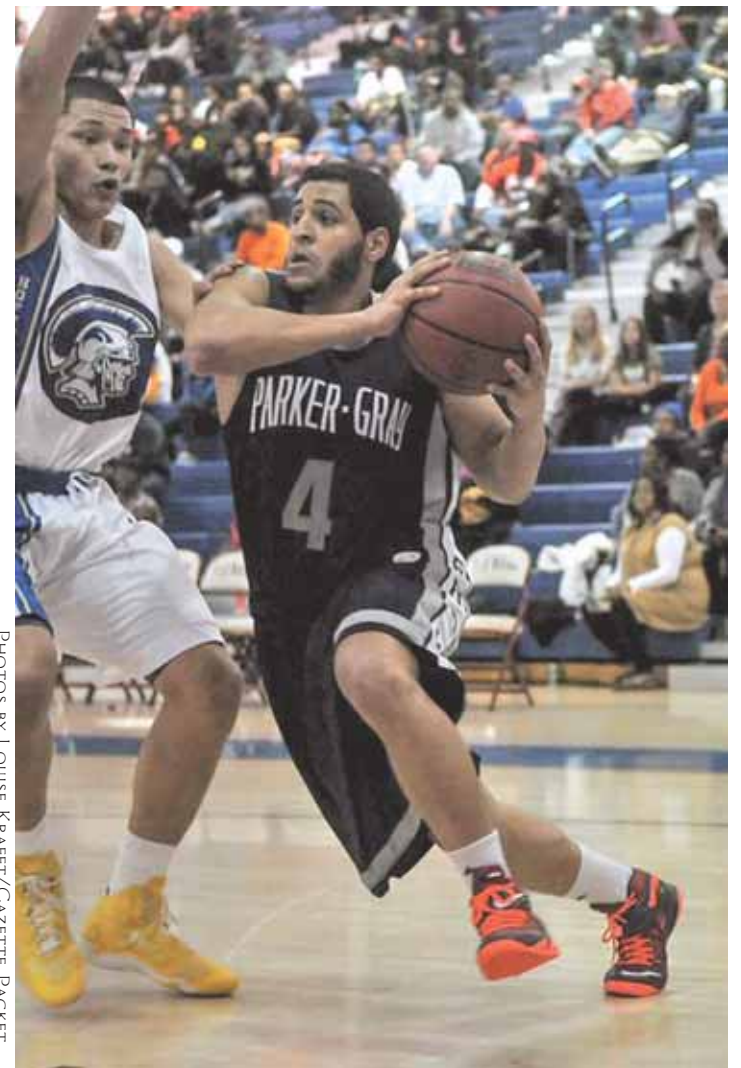
Led by the talented trio of Tham, senior sharpshooter Marqua Walton and sophomore transfer Alan Treakle, Wakefield outscored T.C. Williams 45-22 in the second half. Tham controlled the boards and was nearly unstoppable in the paint. Walton scored 14 points, including a trio of 3-pointers, and Treakle ran the offense and added 10 points.

The Titans had no answer.

"Our kids learned something tonight —



T.C. Williams guard Andrew Hill (2) goes up for a shot against Wakefield's Dominique Tham during a Dec. 5 contest in Alexandria.



T.C. Williams' Hazam Abbas scored four points against Wakefield on Dec. 5.

at least I hope they learned something tonight — that we've got to share the ball, we've got to play as a team the whole game, offensively and defensively," Hill said. "I give credit to Wakefield for how they played the game. They played the game the right way — to their strengths. We've got to learn to play to ours."

There were some bright spots for T.C. Williams. Junior guard Jordan James scored a team-high 13 points, and junior guard Tavaris James added 11. Hill, however, wouldn't hand out any individual praise following the loss.

"I take credit for losses," he said, "I give kids the credit for wins."

What did the Titans' leading scorer think about the team's performance?

"I feel like we got out-worked," Jones said. "We need to work harder in practice and be confident on ourselves."

The Titans' next opportunity will come on the road against West Springfield at 7:30 p.m. on Friday, Dec. 12.



Former Ballou High School coach Bryan Hill is in his first season as head coach of the T.C. Williams boys' basketball team.

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.

HOLIDAY GIVING

The Christ Child Project

opportunities for involvement include: adopting a child/children, shopping for gifts, pricing at the store, and working during the store

hours. Food elves are needed for the Ingathering of Gifts, Sunday, Dec. 7 and for volunteers working in the store on Dec. 12. To volunteer, contact Carolyn Carbaugh, cscarbaugh@verizon.net or call 301-292-2102. Visit

www.HistoricChristChurch.org.
Holiday Sharing Sponsors Wanted. The Alexandria Department of Community and Human Services (DCHS) invites the public to help make the 2014 holiday season brighter for the most vulnerable

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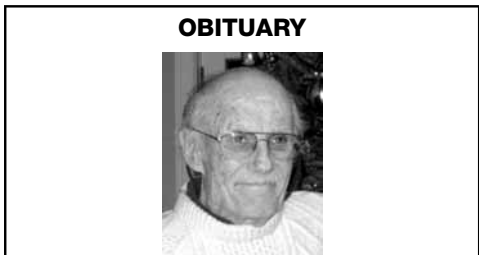
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OBITUARY

Edward A Delman passed away December 7, 2014 at the age of 86. He was born January 14, 1928 in Brooklyn, NY and enjoyed serving in the Merchant Marines and his time at sea. During a trip back on the train from his station at Fort Eustis in Virginia to New York, he met his wife, Edith Mortenson from Sioux Falls, SD who was traveling from New York back to Washington after visiting her sister.

Ed and Edie were married shortly after on May 12th, 1951 and settled in Maryland where Edward started working in electrical wholesale at Maurice Electric in Washington D.C. and Capitol Lighting in Alexandria. In 1961, he founded Alexandria Lighting & Supply with a partner, Irwin Goldberg, at the Powhatan Shopping Center in Alexandria. They moved the business to 701 N Henry St in 1964 where it still stands today. He credits all his success in business to his wife Edie who was the book-keeper and glue that held the company together.

Edward is well remembered for his engaging personality with anyone who came into the store. He affectionately greeted most customers with "kid" or "babe" and enjoyed learning about other people's backgrounds. Bagels and cream cheese became a tradition in the showroom on Saturdays in the "Electric Deli."

Edward was an excellent businessman and tough teacher. He was preceded in death by his wife, Edith in 1998. Edward is survived by his sister, Dorothy Solomon of Smithtown, NY; son Eric Delman (Danae) of Alexandria, VA, daughter Ellen Delman Rydell (William) of Alexandria, VA and five grandchildren; Zachary Delman of New Haven, CT, Samuel Delman of Fairfax, VA, Erika Delman of New York, NY, William Rydell of Alexandria, VA and Janna Rydell of Arlington, VA.

Memorial service will be private. In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations be sent to the Alzheimer's Foundation (3701 Pender Drive, Suite 400, Fairfax VA 22030) or Capital Caring (2900 Telestar Court, Falls Church, VA 22042).

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-Archimedes

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-Theodore Roosevelt

21 Announcements

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NOTE: Objections to the issuance of this license must be submitted to ABC no later than 30 days from the publishing date of the first of two required newspaper legal notices. Objections should be registered at www.abc.virginia.gov or 800-552-3200.

21 Announcements

NOTICE: Sale of Dental Practice; On November 14, 2014, the assets of George S. Pugh DDS, Ltd., at 8492 Richmond Hwy, Alexandria, Va., were sold to Woodlawn Family Dentistry, Inc., owned by Dr. Monique Nguyen. If any existing patient, or representative, would like their records sent to another dentist, or provided to the patient, please contact our office at 703-780-3300, before December 30, 2014. As usual, there will be a small charge for these copies, based on the number of pages.

21 Announcements

LEGAL NOTICE
Sealed proposals for the City of Alexandria per specifications will be received in the office of the Purchasing Division until the date and time designated as follows:
Title: Request for Proposals No. 00000480, Consulting Services for Review of Targeted Reimbursement Processes and Procedures Closing Date and Time: January 8, 2015, 4:00 p.m., prevailing local time.
For general inquiries contact Cynthia Davis, Contract Specialist at 703.746.3921.
The City of Alexandria reserves the right to reject any and all proposals, cancel this solicitation, and to waive any informalities or irregularities in procedure. THE CITY REQUIRES ITS CONTRACTORS TO BE EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYERS.

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21 Announcements

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

21 Announcements

ABC LICENSE
Stomping Ground, LLC trading as Stomping Ground, 2309 Mt Vernon Ave, Alexandria, VA 22301. The above establishment is applying to the VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL (ABC) for a Wine and Beer on Premises license to sell or manufacture alcoholic beverages. Erik Dorn Member
NOTE: Objections to the issuance of this license must be submitted to ABC no later than 30 days from the publishing date of the first of two required newspaper legal notices. Objections should be registered at www.abc.virginia.gov or 800-552-3200.

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26 Antiques

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21 Announcements

OBITUARY OF CAPT. ROBERT (BOB) PORTER RICE USN (RET.)



Robert Rice, 82 passed away peacefully at his home in Alexandria, VA on November 19, 2014 after a long struggle with COPD.
Bob was born March 5, 1932 in Lawrence, MA. He is the son of the late Willard and Ethel Rice of So. Yarmouth, MA. He is survived by his wife of 49 years Betty (Georgia) Rice of Alexandria; his brother George and sister-in law Moira of Osprey, FL; niece Kimberly and her husband Robert Hofeldt with daughter from Manchester, MA; and nephew Bob and his wife Jennifer and their 7 children from Steubenville, OH. Bob was a career Naval Jet Pilot who retired as Captain after 27 years which included five tours of duty in Vietnam, the last one as Commanding Officer of VF-111, flying the world famous F4B attack jet aircraft aboard the USS Coral Sea (CVA-43). During his lengthy career Bob flew a total of 3347 flight hours and had 687 Carrier Landings which included 315 Combat Missions in Vietnam. He was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross, Meritorious Service Medal, Air Medal "24" Strike Force Numeral with 2 Stars, the Navy Commendation Medal with Combat "V" Navy Unit Commendation, Meritorious Unit Commendation, Good Conduct Awards, the National Defense Service Medal, Navy Occupation (Europe) and the Vietnam Service Medal. He is a member of the Caterpillar Club. Bob, considered one of the best jet pilots in the Navy, was invited to fly with the famous Blue Angels but instead he opted to take his 5th tour of duty in Vietnam as squadron leader.
In addition to his flying time, for two years in 1963-1965 Bob was the Aide/Flag Lieutenant to Vice Admiral John T. Hayward in HI. In 1967 he attended the Naval War College in Newport, RI. In 1968 he attended the Naval Postgraduate School in Monterey, CA and in 1973 the National War College, followed by staff assignments in the Pentagon. Bob and Betty have lived in Alexandria since 1974 where Bob had a side activity as a docent at the Smithsonian Air & Space Museum where he could provide his great depth of military knowledge to visitors. Bob had a wonderful sense of humor and he truly loved life. He will be sorely missed by his family and his many, many friends.
Full military service and burial will be held at a future date at Arlington National Cemetery.

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21 Announcements

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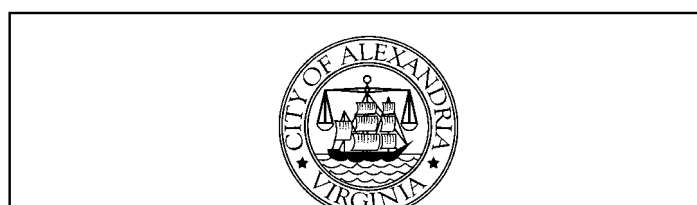
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Employment: 703-917-6464

E-mail: classified@connectionnewspapers.com

21 Announcements



Public Hearing will be held by the City Council of the City of Alexandria, Virginia, in the Council Chambers, City Hall, City of Alexandria, Virginia, on Saturday, December 13, 2014, at 9:30 a.m., or as soon as may be heard on the hereinafter described items.

AN ORDINANCE to amend and reordain Article B (FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE), Chapter 5 (OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES), of Title 2 (GENERAL GOVERNMENT) of the Code the City of Alexandria, Virginia, 1981, as amended.
This represents a drop in reporting of financial disclosure from annually (January 15) to semi-annually (December 15 and June 15).

AN ORDINANCE to amend and reordain Sheet No. 058.02 of the "Official Zoning Map, Alexandria, Virginia," adopted by Section 1-300 (OFFICIAL ZONING MAP AND DISTRICT BOUNDARIES), of the City of Alexandria Zoning Ordinance, by rezoning the property at 100 South Pickett Street from CRMU-M/Commercial Residential Mixed Use (Medium) with Proffer to CRMU-M/Commercial Residential Mixed Use (Medium) with an amended Proffer in accordance with the said zoning map amendment approved by city council on November 15, 2014, as Rezoning No. 2014-0006 for the Pickett's Place development. The proposed ordinance accomplishes the final adoption of Rezoning No. 2014-0006 to rezone the property at 100 South Pickett Street from CRMU-M/Commercial Residential Mixed Use (Medium) with proffer to CRMU-M/Commercial Residential Mixed Use (Medium) with an amended Proffer approved by city council on November 15, 2014 for the Pickett's Place development.

AN ORDINANCE to amend and reordain Sheet No. 074.03 of the "Official Zoning Map, Alexandria, Virginia," adopted by Section 1-300 (OFFICIAL ZONING MAP AND DISTRICT BOUNDARIES), of the City of Alexandria Zoning Ordinance, by rezoning the property at 1323 Wilkes Street from RB/Townhouse Zone to CRMU-L/ Commercial Residential Mixed Use (Low) with Proffer in accordance with the said zoning map amendment approved by city council on November 15, 2014 for the West-Parc Townhouse Project. The proposed ordinance accomplishes the final adoption of Rezoning NO. 2014-0004 to rezone the property at 1323 Wilkes Street from RB/Townhouse zone to CRMU-L/Commercial Residential Mixed Use (Low) with Proffer in accordance with the said zoning map amendment approved by city council on November 15 for the West-Parc Townhouse Project.

AN ORDINANCE authorizing the property owner of 906 First Street to construct and maintain an encroachment for a porch overhang at that address in the City of Alexandria, Virginia.
The proposed ordinance permits the property owner at 906 First Street to construct and maintain a porch that overhangs the adjacent public sidewalk right-of-way.

AN ORDINANCE to amend and reordain the Master Plan of the City of Alexandria, Virginia, by adopting and incorporating therein the amendment heretofore approved by city council to such master plan as Master Plan Amendment No. MPA 2014-0009 and no other amendments, and to repeal all provisions of this said master plan as may be inconsistent with such amendment.
The proposed ordinance accomplishes the final adoption of Master Plan Amendment No. MPA 2014-0009 to transfer density to Hoffman Block 2 from Hoffman Blocks 4 and 9B and to increase building height, as approved by the City Council on November 15, 2014.

PUBLIC HEARING and consideration of the Report on the recommended priorities and process for implementing recommended changes to Alexandria Fund for Human Services.

PUBLIC HEARING and consideration of adoption of an implementation plan for Alexandria Public Art Policy.

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

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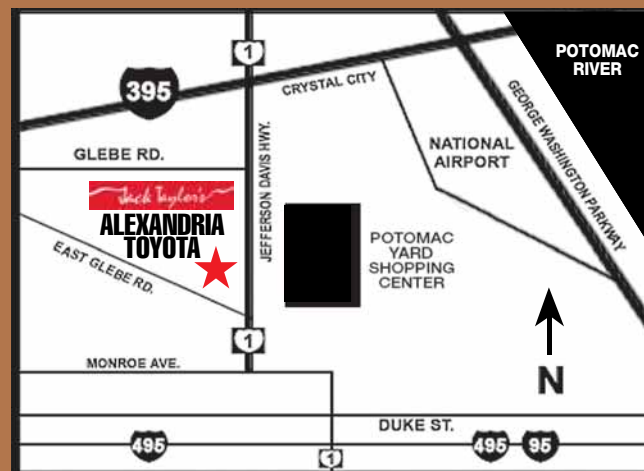
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Let's Go Places

LETTERS

FROM PAGE 12

vored a stronger central government, he voted against its adoption, incurring the enmity of his best friend and closest neighbor, George Washington.

Although Mason did not have a college education, he recognized the importance of continuing education by reading and thinking deeply throughout his life, for the benefit of his family, city, state and nation. It is very appropriate that we have an elementary school in Alexandria and a university and regional library in Fairfax which are named for him. The south-bound span of the 14th St. Bridge is also named for him.

In his personal affairs he set an example of practicality, order and honor. He was a faithful and active Christian, a loving husband to his childhood sweetheart and father to his nine surviving children, and a warm friend and host. His home, Gunston Hall, located off Route 1 at Lorton, is open to the public; there is also a museum on the property.

Let's celebrate Bill of Rights Day on Dec. 15 and his birthday on Dec. 11 (1725). Alexandria should declare and celebrate George Mason Week to honor this exemplary citizen.

Ellen Latane Tabb
Alexandria

Indicting the System

To the Editor:

The grand jury decision not to indict the officer in the Eric Garner case [police-re-

lated death in Staten Island] is a building block of misconduct within the system itself.

A senseless verdict of no indictment speaks loudly. It seems to be encouraging our law enforcement to become more of a terrorist against the African Americans throughout our nation.

The jury and the justice system failed Eric Garner. He was a person and a human, a husband and a child of God. He was not an animal which seems to have more rights than a human in the eyes of the justice system. The body of evidence/video alone spoke loudly of criminal violations without words when in fact a simple word was spoken by Eric Garner on how he couldn't breathe.

Geri Baldwin
Alexandria

Aesthetic Opposition

To the Editor:

A number of citizens have been critical of the new South Robinson Terminal development, but their remarks have barely touched on the numerous questionable architectural decisions already made by the developer EYA. Obviously, EYA is holding firm, and is only addressing the lesser points on the overall development, rather than the egregious mass, scale, and inappropriateness of this particular development.

Overall, the proposed design is definitely not appropriate for Old Town's historic

waterfront. Its large buildings will conceivably loom over this very constrained area. Viewing the three massive condo buildings from the river or the Wilson Bridge will seriously detract from the current river-scape (which will no longer be quite as charming), highlighting the fact that this development has absolutely no relevance to the Old and Historic District.

What the BAR and the developer are attempting to force upon us is reminiscent of the city's urban renewal program in the '60s, in which historic properties were razed for modern buildings of no consequence. Additionally, many others have characterized the EYA development as a European design of the same time period (the '60s), which is not necessarily a compliment.

The three massive condo buildings should be broken up in size, and should contain features using local materials. Additionally, the buildings should somehow connect with the rest of the Old and Historic District, which they currently do not. A good example of this connection is Harborside, a well-designed and well-built development that fits in nicely with the historic community. If one were to juxtapose a picture showing Harborside on the south side of Wolfe Street and the proposed 190-foot EYA building directly across the street, it is a stark and ugly contrast. The mass and scale of the EYA project needs to be in harmony with its neighbors.

Additionally, the two proposed buildings directly on the waterfront (one also being 190 feet in length), are not appropriate, and

also need to be diminished in scale. Although the designs for all of three of these buildings might well serve the denser areas of Alexandria's West End, their mass and scale are not appropriate for our waterfront.

The Edmondson Plaza on upper Duke Street is essentially the only all-glass building in the Old Town area. However, it appears to have served as the BAR's model for the use of glass on many of our future developments on the waterfront, especially at the two Robinson Terminals both North and South. Why are the BAR architects and staff so fixated and obsessed with glass and Art Deco in the historic area?

On South Union and Duke Streets, 26 town houses are to be aggregated into six townhouse groupings. However, the groupings are redundant, and without any real historic architectural merit. They resemble the Lofts development across from the Wythe Post Office, and provide no connectivity to the historic waterfront or historic district.

EYA has created two plans without a strong connection with the community in either one. This runs counter to the guidelines for buildings of genuine architectural merit. Regrettably, the EYA proposal is an unworthy one for this specific neighborhood. It has absolutely no support from the community, therefore EYA needs to regroup and give us something that we can all be proud of.

Townsend A. "Van" Van Fleet
Alexandria



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INTERNATIONAL NETWORKS AND OFFICES





Alexandria **\$569,000**

Charming Cape Cod with sunroom addition adjacent to a composite deck. Kitchen is updated with stainless steel appliances and granite counter tops. Ample storage in basement. Wonderful location near Old Town and 3 blocks from Four Mile Run Park! www.606owens.mceneaney.com

Sue Goodhart

703.362.3221
www.TheGoodhartGroup.com



Alexandria **\$1,350,000**

Vacation at home...this 5-bedroom, 4-bath beauty ticks all the boxes on your wish list. You'll never want to leave. Fabulous master bedroom suite! Custom finishes on ALL 4 levels. Large lot, walk-out lower level, open kitchen/family room, nanny suite & Charles Barrett school. 321 Kentucky Ave.

Betty Mallon

703.989.8548
www.BettyMallon.com



Alexandria **\$365,000**

Just a few minutes from Old Town, this completely updated home has a large yard, perfect for snowmen! Gorgeous kitchen with all new appliances and there are beautiful hardwood floors throughout. Close to shopping, parks and 95/495 for commuters. 3306 Elmwood Drive.

Elizabeth Lucchesi

703.868.5676
www.LizLuke.com



Old Town Alexandria **\$1,349,000**

Completed new construction! Downsize to Old Town without really downsizing. Spectacular and stunning with 3,500-SF of designer living space. Enjoy the walkable lifestyle Old Town offers. Large fenced patio and garden. Two parking spaces. 403A N Alfred St.

Susan Craft

703.216.4501
www.SusanCraft.com



Alexandria South **\$319,900**

The Best of Montebello - Thoughtfully updated 2-bedroom, 2-bath with 16th floor views of the Potomac and remarkable amenities. Details of 5904 Mt. Eagle #1616 at BetsyTwigg.com.

Betsy Twigg

703.967.4391
www.BetsyTwigg.com



Alexandria **\$169,999**

Beautiful 2-level condo with open floor plan, spacious living room connects to a covered, dual-entry balcony overlooking Alexandria. Updated kitchen and convenience of half bath, master bedroom has tremendous closet space and remodeled bath en-suite.

Kristie Zimmerman

703.786.6155
www.Kristieismyagent.com



Old Town Alexandria
\$5,500/month

Renovated historic house with high ceilings, original floors, fabulous chef's kitchen, 4 bedrooms, 3.5 baths, including luxurious master suite with beautiful white/gray marble master bath and great closets. All bedrooms are spacious and filled with sunlight. Lower level den can be used as an office or playroom. Pets case by case with deposit.

Babs Beckwith

703.627.5421
www.BabsBeckwith.com



Alexandria
\$619,900

Beautifully updated townhouse in convenient Governors Grove with all new stainless steel kitchen appliances and granite counters. Outstanding built-ins in the family and recreation rooms, and new carpeting on the upper level. HVAC updated in 2012. Just blocks to the Huntington Metro.

Bob Bazzle

703.599.8964
www.BobBazzle.com



Alexandria/Del Ray
\$619,000

Welcome in the New Year in your "new" 4-bedroom, 3.5-bath home. Natural light saturates all three levels of this move-in ready townhouse. Wood floors, 2 fireplaces, eat-in, updated kitchen with stainless appliances, covered parking & walkable to EVERYTHING in Del Ray. 55 W Del Ray Ave.

Betty Mallon

703.989.8548
www.BettyMallon.com