



PHOTOS BY VERNON MILES / GAZETTE PACKET

Joyce Rawlings addressing the Braddock community.

Murder in Braddock

Death of Shakkan Elliot-Tibbs sparks community outrage.

BY VERNON MILES
GAZETTE PACKET

Shakkan Elliot-Tibbs had spent July 2 in Alexandria visiting his cousin. Elliot-Tibbs was on his way to the metro to meet his mother in Springfield when he was struck by gunfire. Police arrived at 11:30 p.m. responding to one of the many “shots fired” calls from the neighborhood, but that night found Elliot-Tibbs suffering from a gunshot wound. Elliot-Tibbs was transported to a hospital, but later died of his injuries. Elliot-Tibbs, a 22-year-

old from Woodbridge, is the first murder victim in Alexandria in 2015.

The police hosted a community meeting on July 6 at the Charles Houston Recreation Center, a little over a block from where Elliot-Tibbs was murdered. The meeting was attended by hundreds of local citizens, including Mayor William Euille. Elliot-Tibbs’ death ignited fears and tensions that many in the Braddock Road neighborhoods say have been bubbling under the surface for months or years. Some in the community said that local fears ran deeper than the murder; that the neighborhood was already on edge as a result of what they perceived as an underwhelming police reaction to the persistent calls of “shots fired.” Others in the Andrew Adkins public housing neighborhood, where the murder took place, believed that their neighbors’ fears were largely driven by racial mistrust.

While Deputy Chief David Huchler asked the audience for assistance in finding Elliot-Tibbs’ murderer, the most powerful testimony came from Elliot-Tibbs’ mother. Huchler was initially hesitant to hand the microphone over, but yielded after an overwhelming outcry from the audience.

“It’s easy to say ‘it’s not my child,’” said Linda Tibbs, “but when you close your eyes to the situation, you’re not helping. You’re sending the message to this group of criminals that this is OK.”

Linda Tibbs explained that her son had been preparing to go back to school on July 13 and that her son was an innocent bystander. Huchler had previously stated that the gunfire was largely being ex-

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When asked “Who has heard gunshots in the local community?” an overwhelming majority of the audience responded that they had.

Write-In Tightrope

Mayor Euille withholds support for either Silberberg or Write-In Euille.

BY VERNON MILES
GAZETTE PACKET

One month has passed since Allison Silberberg was nominated as the Democratic candidate for mayor of Alexandria over incumbent Mayor William Euille and former Mayor Kerry Donley.

The night of the election, Donley expressed his support for Silberberg and the need for the Democratic party to stay united. From Euille, however, there was no endorsement of Silberberg that night. Euille stated that his campaign staff would reevaluate their position over that weekend, but no endorsement emerged the next week or in the weeks that followed. Even in the Democratic Party’s post-election unity statement, Euille’s remarks skirted around endorsing Silberberg.

“I want to extend my congratulations to Vice Mayor Allison Silberberg for securing the Democratic nomination, as well as the members of City Council on the slate in November,” said Euille. “I would like to thank the voters for their participation in the election. I will continue to do my job as

mayor, as there is much unfinished business to work on collaboratively until Jan. 1, 2016. I look forward to continuing the fight for a great quality of life, exceptional schools and safe communities that we have found to know in my beloved hometown of Alexandria.”

When asked about the endorsement directly, Euille said that he has not made a decision on whether or not to endorse Silberberg. Euille’s lack of an endorsement has not gone unnoticed. Frank Shafroth, director of George Mason University’s State and Local Government Leadership Center, said that there’s a clear division in Alexandria’s Democratic party.

“The hard issue here is: what does the Democratic Party stand for?” said Shafroth. “Were there two Democratic parties voting in the primary or one? So what is the future and where is the vision for the future? [Alexandria Democrats] are going to have to look at how they deal with some very fundamental issues.”

But if Euille hasn’t endorsed Silberberg, he’s also been very careful not to directly state oppo-

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PHOTO BY VERNON MILES / GAZETTE PACKET

Mayor William Euille.

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Service Above Self Rotary donates over \$112,000 to local nonprofits.

BY JEANNE THEISMANN
GAZETTE PACKET

The Rotary Club of Alexandria, in partnership with the Alexandria Day Nursery and Children's Home, continued its decades-long tradition of awarding grants to local nonprofit organizations with the presentation of more than \$112,000 to 45 organizations at the annual Contributions Day luncheon June 30 at Belle Haven Country Club.

The Alexandria Rotary Foundation donated funds to local organizations dedicated to serving an array of needs in the community. The Alexandria Day Nursery and Children's Home, originally established in the 1930s as part of the Rotary Club, awarded grants to nonprofits primarily focusing on the needs of children. Grant applications are reviewed with consideration given to the sustainability of the project, how it is helping those most in need and how the project contributes to the community.

The Rotary grants support programs as diverse as the Campagna Center's Head Start program, Rebuilding Together Alexandria — providing safety improvements to allow seniors to age in their homes — and Volunteer Alexandria — connecting volunteers with nonprofits.

Grant funds are raised each year through Rotary's signature "Taste for Giving" event, a fundraiser featuring Alexandria restaurants, a wine tasting from local vineyards, live music and live and silent auction items donated by local businesses. This year's event will be held Oct. 23 at the U.S. Patent & Trademark Office.

"Taste for Giving is a highlight of each Rotary year and is a wonderful way for the community to support so many outstanding service organizations which help the needy in our community," said Alexandria Rotary Club president Joan Renner. "The evening exemplifies the Rotary mission of 'service above self.'"

The 45 Alexandria organizations receiving



Representatives of 45 local nonprofits gather for a group photo after being presented grants totaling more than \$112,000 from the Rotary Club of Alexandria June 30 at Belle Haven Country Club.



Jeanna Reidy of Emmanuel Episcopal School, right, receives a grant from Rotary Club president Joan Renner at the organization's annual Contributions Day luncheon June 30.



Rotary Club president Joan Renner, left, presents a grant to Bill Campbell of The Butterfly House at Virginia Theological Seminary.

ing Rotary grants include: Alexandria Police Foundation; Alexandria Police Youth Camp; Alexandria Seaport Foundation; Alexandria Symphony Orchestra; Alexandria Tutoring Consortium; ALIVE!; Arcadia Center for Sustainable Food & Agriculture; Arts on the Horizon; Beverly Hills Church preschool; The Butterfly House, Virginia Theological Seminary; The Campagna Center; The Campagna Center – Head Start; Carpenter's Shelter; The Center for Alexandria's Children; Child & Family Net-

work Centers; Community Lodgings; Computer C.O.R.E.; Concerned Citizens of Alexandria; Emmanuel Episcopal Preschool; Empowered Women International; First Night Alexandria; Goodwin House Foundation; Grace Episcopal School; KI Services; Liberty's Promise; The Literacy Council of Northern Virginia; Neighborhood Health; Rebuilding Together Alexandria; Resurrection Children's Center; RunningBrooke; St. Clement Episcopal School; SCAN (Stop Child Abuse Now); Scholarship Fund of

Alexandria; Space of Her Own; Arc of Northern Virginia; The Reading Connection; Together We Bake; Valley Drive Cooperative Preschool; Volunteer Alexandria; Washington Street United Methodist Church Preschool; Westminster Weekday Preschool; and Wright to Read.

For more information about Taste for Giving, the Rotary Grants Program or the Rotary Club of Alexandria, contact John Moorman at 571-255-0234 or jmoorman70@yahoo.com.

DEVELOPMENT

Last Stand for 226 The Strand

226 The Strand, recently approved for demolition, may get a second chance at life. A petition to appeal the Board of Architectural Review's (BAR) decision to approve demolition of the building has gained more than 25 signatures from local property owners in the Old & Historic District. The appeal will be taken to City Council in the fall.

At its June 17 meeting, the BAR approved, in a 3 to 2 vote, to approve of EYA's demolition proposal for 226 The Strand. As part of the demolition approval, EYA is required to document the interior of the building to identify 19th



The front exterior of 226 The Strand.

century materials and safely dismantle these materials for storage in a city facility. EYA's project manager Adam Hayes said that the aim was to demolish the building in conjunction with the developer's work on the nearby Robinson Terminal South with plans to use the site of 226 The Strand as a temporary sales office.

According to an archeological report submitted to the BAR, some of the building likely predates the Civil War. However, after a fire in 1897, much of the structure burned down and was rebuilt on the bones of the old building. Staff found that, while historic, the building has severe structural issues, lacks historical signifi-

SEE NEWS BRIEFS, PAGE 8

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‘Open Heart and Open Home’ KidSave hosts Summer Miracles program.

BY HANNAH GRIFFITH
GAZETTE PACKET

KidSave, a non-profit organization dedicated to finding forever-homes for foster children and orphans in foreign countries, is bringing Tatiana from Colombia to Alexandria for the summer.

With the ability to sponsor a child, fund a scholarship, or be a host family through this organization, many children can and have been helped out of poor living conditions in countries, such as Colombia, Russia, and Sierra Leone.

All it takes is an “open heart and open home,” said Delta Ninow, assistant manager of KidSave International. “After the kids go through the application and screening process, we [the workers] love to see the kids when they arrive.”

Because of the organization’s Summer Miracles program, Helene Mullaney is hosting Tatiana in her Alexandria home this July. Mullaney, a single business woman, will host the foster child for a four-week period, giving Tatiana a feel for American family life. During Tatiana’s time in the states, KidSave organizes events to not only give children like her the opportunity to meet each other, but to give local residents the opportunity to meet the boys and girls in need of a home.

Ninow expressed to me how deserving these children are of this opportunity; “After the kids go through the application and screening process, we [the workers] love to see the kids when they arrive.”

Jen Fulwiler, blogger, satellite radio show

host, wife, and mother of six, experienced being a host for the Summer Miracles program in 2009 and said, “Summer Miracles was as much of a blessing for our family as it was for our host child. It introduced us to a wonderful child, who remains a friend of the family, and helped us see the world through her eyes.”

KidSave began in 1993 and after the debut of the Summer Miracles program in 1999, has helped more than 1,700 children find families. Also during this trip, KidSave teams up with the local social workers, adoption agencies, health professionals, and government officials to ensure a good stay, exposure, and a potential permanent family for the child.

“I hope she has a summer she can look back fondly on,” said Mullaney, “I want her to feel special this summer.” She learned about the program through one of KidSave’s events a couple years ago and, ever since committing for

this summer, has been preparing for her arrival by buying some clothes, shoes, and workbooks for Tatiana to enjoy during her stay. Both Ninow and Mullaney say Tatiana is a very bright, dedicated, and curious young girl who is diligent in her school work.

If residents are interested in learning more about being a host family, contact Deltak@kidsave.org and visit www.kidsave.org/programs/orphan-hosting.

“When you sign up for this, you’re part of a community. There’s a whole world of resources you didn’t know were available to you,” said Mullaney.



Tatiana

Petroleum Spill in Four Mile Run

Cause and extent of petroleum spill remain unknown.

Four Mile Run is normally a scenic stream that divides Arlington and Alexandria, but on July 1, the public was told to stay away from the area due to contamination from a petroleum discharge. Arlington County Fire Department and the Department of Environmental Services (DES) set out containment booms but advised the public to remain out of the water until July 4. One week later, the full cause and size of the spill remains under investigation.

“The investigation is ongoing, so the exact quantity of [petroleum] is unknown, but this is considered a smaller spill,” said Jessica Baxter, a spokesperson with Arlington DES. “There is no evidence of new or continuing discharge.”

Baxter said the containment booms were sufficient to control the contamination.

While the DES continues to investigate the full extent of the spill, the Arlington County Fire Department is investigating the source of the spill. Sarah Marchegiani, a spokesperson for the Arlington County Fire Department, said that the nearby Automotive Express at 2705 South Oakland St. had been seen by Fire Department officials spraying a motor down with oil and improperly disposing of petroleum discharge. However, Marchegiani currently believes the incident with Automotive Express and the larger spill are unrelated.

“That was one source identified,” said Marchegiani, “but we don’t believe that it was the cause of the larger spill.”

According to a tweet by the Arlington Fire Department, the spill entered the stream through a nearby culvert and likely originated from being dumped or spilled into a manhole. The stream was re-opened to the public on July 4.

— VERNON MILES



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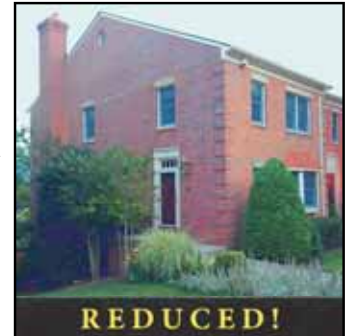
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PEOPLE

Walking Aboard History

BY EDEN BROWN
GAZETTE PACKET

Students from the Lycee Rochambeau looked up at L'Hermione and called it "a ship with feelings." The children in Marie Comninos' class at the Lycee had spent the year following the L'Hermione blog, studying the relationship between the U.S. and France, and learning sea shanties. Comninos said after months of trying, they "lucked out" in finding their way on board the ship after a parent at the school got them in touch with city of Alexandria contact, Gretchen Bulova; "Without her, the kids would not have gotten this chance," Comninos said.

The student greeted the French ship last month like an old friend, having studied the blog and followed its itinerary. They even recognized the faces of the seamen and women they had seen on computer screens over the past year.

"Last March, when she took her maiden voyage, there were French design experts who thought the Hermione wouldn't sail," said Adam Hodges-LeClaire, who was with L'Hermione when it set sail for the first time out of Rochefort, France. "But the ship was built according to the same design as the original Hermione, so the sailors had faith in her," he said. "There are very few things that are different about Hermione today: modern toilets and a few other items that were installed because of international maritime laws.

But it is very much the same ship, and there are very few like it. She sits much higher off the water than most frigates of the time, and was one of the fastest ships of her era, the first one to arrive during cam-



Lucas Krummenacher, from Alexandria, visited the ship dressed in the French tricolor colors.

Yoann Helard, from Rochefort, France, wants to make sailing tall ships his life now that he has crossed the Atlantic on L'Hermione.



Adam Hodges-LeClaire speaks to the French school students about the ship.

paign season in 1780." Hodges-LeClaire, who is an 18th century tailor and public historian in Lincoln, Mass., creates original clothing of the era in his workshop, and joined the ship last March with no knowledge of either French or sailing. He is now quite good at both.

Hodges-LeClaire explained the seaman's outfit he wore: layers, because one never knows about the weather; cotton, to absorb sweat; over-breeches, to keep clean the more fashionable breeches and act as an apron for tar and dirt. Dressed as he was, he said, he could go into any drinking establishment in Alexandria and people would know he was a sailor. It was a hot day; he said he was thirsty and ready to find such an establishment and test that theory.

On board with the crew of volunteers and professional sailors were a few Alexandrians

who decided to join the fun. Steve Diatz, looking like Captain Bligh, carried off a few revolutionary era grenades from the ship after a brief demonstration, and Lucas Krummenacher, a French-Alsatian, American-Swiss baby of 8 months, joined his Alexandrian parents on board. He, like the other children, was most interested in the quarter deck's lattice-work view down to the galley.

Yoann Helard, who is from Rochefort, joined the ship "as an adventure." He is 26, recently finished university, and having grown up with the construction of L'Hermione in his town, decided to take the "trip of a lifetime". He liked his time on L'Hermione so much, he has decided to take advantage of the French Navy's training program to sail tall ships, and make this a career.

Before disembarking, the middle-schoolers from Comninos' class gathered on the quarterdeck and sang "Santiano," about a ship setting sail from France to the U.S.:

"C'est un fameux trois mats, fin comme un oiseau.

Hisse et ho, Santiano.

Dix-huits noeuds, quatre cents tonneaux, je suis fier d'y etre matelot.

Hisse et ho, Santiano!"

(It's a famous three master, as delicate as a bird.

Heave ho! Santiano.

Eighteen knots, 400 tons,

I am proud to be a sailor on board.

Heave ho! Santiano).

For the hermine blog in French and English, see: www.hermione.com/blog-de-l-hermine/ and www.hermione2015.com/blog.html

Journey from France to America, With Pride

BY JEANNE THEISMANN
GAZETTE PACKET



Jean and Sylviane Dryja hold high a provincial flag of France as they welcomed L'Hermione to Alexandria on June 10. The French couple traveled to the U.S. from Rochefort, France, where the historic tall ship was built.

For nearly 18 years, Jean and Sylviane Dryja watched as a 216-foot-long, 1,260-ton replica of the 18th-century French frigate L'Hermione was constructed in the shipyards in Rochefort, France. On June 10, the French citizens joined hundreds of Americans in welcoming the historic tall ship to Alexandria.

"We watched L'Hermione being built," said Jean Dryja as he waved the regional flag from France. "She is like our baby so we had to be here to welcome her to America."

The Dryja's traveled from their home in France to participate in the welcoming ceremonies in Yorktown before arriving in Alexandria.

"It is very exciting for us to be here," Jean Dryja said through Carole Hoeveler-Bullock, a D.C. resident who also attended the ceremony and volunteered to act as a translator for the visitors. "We are part of the organization that raised money to fund the construction of L'Hermione and are proud



of this project."

The original L'Hermione, which took less than one year to build, was constructed in 1779 and gained renown when it took the Marquis de Lafayette on his second journey to the United States during the Revolutionary War in 1780.

The replica ship left Rochefort on April 18 and made landfall 27 days later in Yorktown. L'Hermione was available for tours during its three-day visit to Alexandria before departing for Annapolis in the early morning hours of June 13. Other stops in the itinerary included Baltimore, Philadelphia, New York, Greenport, N.Y., Newport, Boston, Castine, Maine, and Halifax,



Former U.S. Sen. John Warner tours L'Hermione, a 216-foot-long, 1,260-ton replica of the 18th-century French frigate that took the Marquis de Lafayette on his second journey to the United States during the Revolutionary War.

Nova Scotia.

"In France, we already know the significance of this historic ship," Jean Dryja said. "Today, we are very proud to be able to share it with America."

For more information on the L'Hermione project, visit www.Hermione2015.com.

WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

PEOPLE

Community Lodgings Opens Doors for Those in Need

Tours offered at Fifer Family Learning Center.

BY EMILY RABBITT
GAZETTE PACKET

Community Lodgings seeks to promote self-sufficiency and break the cycle of poverty in the city. In operation since 1987, the nonprofit founded by a collective of Episcopal churches works with families to create stability.

"I don't think anyone chooses to be homeless," said Jasmin Witcher, director of development. "If you are fortunate enough to have a roof over your head, not to have to worry about feeding your family, then it's your responsibility to help."

Participants in Community Lodgings have access to not just housing — the organization has six transitional housing units and 38 low-income housing units — but a variety of other services that set people up for long-term success. Residents have access to family counseling, budgeting and employment skills training. Children are able to attend the Youth Education programs, which provide enrichment and support services.

"I grew up in a single parent home in the inner city," said Executive Director Lynn Thomas, "and my mother relied on programs like Community Lodgings. It's important to know you have someone you can rely on."

Cindy Lopez, a program assistant in the after school and summer program, is in her second year serving youth with Community Lodgings as an AmeriCorps member. Attending NOVA for electrical engineering as well as working with the children, Lopez extended her year of service with AmeriCorps after seeing the difference she made.

She's also a graduate of the program.



Charlyne Braxton, the transitional housing case manager, and Board member Susan Fitzpatrick in one of Community Lodgings' transitional housing units.

"Cindy is the face of the Community Lodgings Youth Education Program," said Thomas. "The kids and families all respect her. If she says come here at this time, they show up, even if they don't know what it's for."

Alexandria residents are connected to Community Lodgings through their contact with domestic violence and homeless shelters, the courts and correctional facilities. The transitional housing units are available to families, often headed by single mothers who qualify for up to two years.

Community Lodgings benefits the people it serves by weaving together access to different services. Charlyne Braxton, the transitional housing case manager, oversees the residents participation in Community Lodgings' programs and connects them to municipal and faith-based organizations that distribute additional food when resources run low.

Instead of a lease, residents sign an agreement which outlines the pathways to independence that they will use — such as finding and maintaining employment, saving a percentage of their wages, utilizing the

counseling and life skills classes, and staying free of drugs and alcohol. The staff at Community Lodgings provides resources and tools for residents to gain a foothold as they cultivate these skills.

As the gap between poverty and the middle class widens, and the deficit of affordable housing units in Alexandria is estimated to be 3,650, Community Lodgings has extended its reach this year by adding two Youth Education Centers — the Fifer Learning Center Annex, just up the street from the original Fifer Learning Center on Notabene Drive, and Brent Place Learning Center facility in the West End.

The organization is also in its second year of offering a Youth Job Readiness Program headed by Braxton, which walks high school students through all the skills required to obtain employment with a series of workshops. They learn how to fill out an application, prepare for the interview process, how to understand paychecks, take deductions and save money.

Braxton says of the teenage students who participate that they come to her and say,



From left are Cindy Lopez, a program assistant; Jasmin Witcher, director of development; and Executive Director Lynn Thomas.

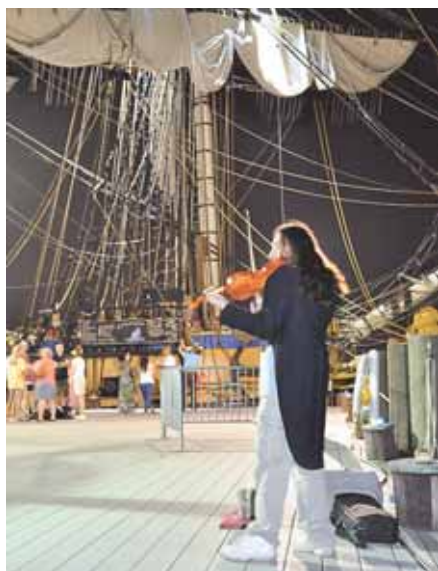
"I want to work, I want a job." They have found placement in jobs with Alexandria Services, working as receptionists, recreation aides, and other opportunities.

Board Member Susan Fitzpatrick, who has been involved with Community Lodgings for the past four years, as a volunteer and now a board member, is excited about the growth that Community Lodgings programming has seen, and believes that as it expands, it "stays true to the mission modeled after the original learning center here."

The staff of 12 at Community Lodgings functions with the support of AmeriCorps members and volunteers to carry out its mission, on an annual budget of \$1,655,409. They rely heavily on the involvement of volunteers to provide their services.

Open Doors Tours are held the first Wednesday of each month at 6:30 p.m. and the third Thursday of each month at noon at the Fifer Family Learning Center at 607 Notabene Drive, Alexandria. Call 703-549-4407 for more information or to register for an upcoming tour.

MORE SCENES OF A FRENCH VISITOR



Violinist Michael Francis Haley on E'Hermione.



On June 10, members of the Late Risers Rowing Group of Alexandria Community Rowers meets the E'Hermione.



E'Hermione attracts visitors.

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FROM PAGE 3

cance, and detracts from the waterfront's aesthetics.

Some in the community disagreed with this assessment. Bert Ely, co-chair of the Friends of the Alexandria Waterfront and the originator of the petition, acknowledged that the building was not in perfect shape, but said that it was salvageable.

"The building ought to be maintained until a decision is made as to what will go there," said Ely. In particular, he objected to the building being cleared to be replaced by a sales office. "That is a terrible reason to tear this down. Somewhere on the South Robinson terminal site they can't find sufficient space for a sales office as a model home? The idea that there would be some type of temporary use is a terrible reason to tear down this historic structure."

While other neighbors compared the structure to a scenic Scandinavian fishing shack, board member Al Cox was unconvinced.

"When you see the condition of the interior, and that none of the wood framing here predates mid-20th century, there's very little there to preserve," said Cox. "I don't think that leaving a vacant building in what we're redeveloping as public parkland benefits anybody, whether we tear that down now or tear it down later."

— VERNON MILES

Subdivision Divides Planning Commission

Despite its eventual approval, the subdivision of

lot 418 West Braddock drew concerns from neighbors and members of the Planning Commission at their July 7 meeting. Commission staff recommended approval of the subdivision, saying the lots meet all technical and zoning requirements and is in character with other nearby lots.

Abigail Wacek, one of the property's neighbors, argued that a large portion of the property sits at an 18 degree change of elevation, making the lot unsuitable for a single family dwelling. Furthermore, in an area already troubled by water runoff, Wacek argued that a development on that incline would create substantial problems for neighbors.

But while the commission recognized the neighbor's concerns, the commission is also legally forbidden from considering what could be built on the property as part of its vote.

"Sometimes the law does not always permit us to do things that are fair and balanced," said Commission Chair Stewart Dunn. "It's a tight lot, but my understanding is ... we don't have much leeway here."

Commission member David Brown said that he had visited the property and, after meeting with the Waceks, had actually encouraged them to attend the meeting and speak out about the problems the subdivided lot would create.

"I think it's important for the citizens, when they come into something that affects their property that they be heard, even if we can't immediately address those concerns," said Brown. "The theory that the stormwater laws will help with the runoff has to come out as true in practice, and I hope that's the case."

— VERNON MILES



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OPINION

Yes to Nonpartisan Redistricting

Politicians shouldn't be choosing voters.

Virginia's Congressional map is unconstitutional because African American voters are packed into District 3, according to the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Virginia. The problem will have to be remedied by drawing new boundaries.

The issue could be appealed to the U.S. Supreme Court.

In statewide elections, Virginia voters have chosen Democrats in the last two presidential elections, for U.S. Senate, for Governor, Lieutenant Governor and Attorney General. Every single official elected statewide is a Democrat.

Democrats won by a comfortable margin in most cases, but elections were close. In one case the margin was razor thin. (Attorney General Mark Herring beat Republican Mark Obenshain by 165 votes out of more than 2.2 million cast, and that was an election that had serious and immediate consequences, if you ever need an argument for the importance of your vote.)

It's reasonable to assume that a state so clearly leaning blue, but close to evenly divided would be about evenly divided in political representation.

But in fact, the Virginia House of Delegates consists of 67 Republicans and 33 Democrats.

Virginia's delegation to the U.S. House of Representatives consists of eight Republicans and three Democrats.

Virginia's 11 Congressional districts should be split about evenly. You could understand a split five Dems and six Republicans; or five Republicans and six Democrats. A four and seven split would smack of some unusual cir-

cumstance. But three and eight?

The problem is gerrymandering.

The solution, which the Supreme Court just OK'd, is allowing the lines to be drawn by a non-partisan commission.

Both political parties have been guilty of this when in power, although new technology and better data have made the process more egregious, the effects more damaging.

Political parties should not control the drawing of political districts. Gerrymandering thwarts the will of the electorate. It is especially damaging in a Dillon rule state, like Virginia, where localities have only the power explicitly granted to them by the General Assembly. This is particularly unfair to localities like Fairfax County, Arlington and Alexandria, whose electorate

EDITORIAL

Pet Photos for the Pet Gazette

The Pet Gazette, a twice-yearly special edition, will publish on July 22, and photos and stories of your pets with you and your family should be submitted by July 15.

We invite you to send us stories about your pets, photos of you and/or your family with your cats, dogs, llamas, alpacas, hamsters, snakes, lizards, frogs, rabbits, or whatever other creatures share your home or yard with you.

Tell us the story of a special bond between a child and a dog, the story of how you came to adopt your pet, or examples of amazing feats of your creatures. Do you volunteer at an animal shelter or therapeutic riding center or take your pet to visit people in a nursing home? Does your business have a pet? Is your business about pets? Have you helped to train an assistance dog? Do you or someone in your family depend on an assistance dog?

and local officials have views that differ greatly from those of the majority of Virginia's General Assembly.

The reason Virginia's Congressional map has been ruled unconstitutional is about race; packing all the African American voters in one district and conceding that district to Democrats in order to reduce the power of African American voters in the adjacent districts. A similar challenge is in the works concerning districts in Virginia's House of Delegates.

It's long past time to take these decisions out of the hands of the officials who use the redistricting process to choose their own voters and effectively grant themselves lifetime appointments.

— MARY KIMM

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Restore Community Policing

To the Editor:

The recent homicide of Shakkan Elliot-Tibbs at the Andrew Adkins public housing project one block from Braddock Metro is a tragedy for his family and friends. But in a sense it was also a death foretold.

For 18 months, neighbors in West Old Town have been calling police to report gunshots — sometimes on successive nights. The level and frequency of gunplay now exceeds anything heard in this neighborhood and borders on the unprecedented. Yet the Police Department's response till now has been inadequate. Even at Monday night's overflow community meeting, the Alexandria police claimed there was no change in the level

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STEVE ARLEY/GAZETTE PACKET

“... Sweet Land Se-cur-ity, of Thee I Sing”

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NEWS DEPARTMENT: gazette@connectionnewspapers.com

Steven Mauren

Editor, 703-778-9415

smauren@connectionnewspapers.com

Vernon Miles

Reporter, 703-615-0960

vmiles@connectionnewspapers.com

Jeanne Theismann

703-778-9436

jtheismann@connectionnewspapers.com

@TheismannMedia

Jon Roetman

Sports Editor, 703-752-4013

jroetman@connectionnewspapers.com

@jonroetman

Steve Artley

Cartoonist

artley@connectionnewspapers.com

ADVERTISING:

For advertising information

sales@connectionnewspapers.com

703-778-9431

Debbie Funk

Display Advertising/National Sales

703-778-9444

debfunk@connectionnewspapers.com

Julie Ferrill

Display Advertising, 703-778-9446

jferrill@connectionnewspapers.com

Tara Lloyd

Display Advertising, 703-778-9447

tlloyd@connectionnewspapers.com

Andrea Smith

Classified Advertising, 703-778-9411

asmith@connectionnewspapers.com

David Griffin

Marketing Assistant

703-778-9431

dgriffin@connectionnewspapers.com

Publisher

Jerry Vernon

jvernon@connectionnewspapers.com

Editor & Publisher

Mary Kimm

mkimm@connectionnewspapers.com

@MaryKimm

Editor in Chief

Steven Mauren

Photography:

John Bordner, Deb Cobb,

Louise Kraft, Craig Sterbutzel

Art/Design:

Laurence Foong, John Heinly

Production Manager:

Geovani Flores

Editor Emeritus:

Mary Anne Weber

CIRCULATION: 703-778-9426

Circulation Manager:

Ann Oliver

circulation@connectionnewspapers.com

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LETTERS

FROM PAGE 10

of shots fired reports between 2014 and 2015. The problem, however, started in 2014 and shows no improvement since then.

Neighbors are hearing gunfire and calling in reports in real time, just as police urge. The eNews releases about the possibility of firecrackers the week before the murder discouraged and annoyed many. West Old Town has a large contingent of military personnel who understand firearms and know the distinctive sound. Callers are also troubled by omissions and inconsistencies in eNews reporting on these incidents.

The neighborhood is fed up with excuses. Police Chief Earl Cook's hastily-organized community walk the week before the murder was simply a PR effort in the eyes of many here. It is also repugnant to tell residents that when victims and perpetrators know each other, there's nothing to worry about — as though bullets don't have the potential to go astray and hit bystanders, as recently happened in Southeast D.C.

Community policing as successfully practiced in this area in the past has atrophied and must be beefed up again. True community policing means giving cops the time and resources to intimately know the neighborhood and its residents, instilling familiarity and trust and thereby gaining strategic intelligence about community dynamics. Instead, the number of police in the community cops program has dwindled over the years and law enforcement offic-

ers are routinely pulled out for other duties elsewhere. What the community is given instead are a few days of ostentatious police cars patrols, usually immediately before or after public meetings, which then fade away.

City Council and especially the ARHA board are not off the hook either. The concentration of public housing at Braddock Road Metro and council's retreat from a scattered site policy means city leaders are deliberately perpetuating socio-architectural magnets for bad behavior. With new construction at Metro, there are more "eyes on the street" than ever, but what has been gained? There have been a number of homicides at Adkins and its environs in recent years.

Council has also given ARHA carte blanche to expand its holdings within the Braddock Metro area, with the acquisition of new properties like Pendleton Park, where last year police were witnessed in broad daylight bearing drawn shotguns. There has also been construction of massive new public housing buildings along Route 1, which may soon include the otherwise peaceful Ramsay Homes.

ARHA CEO Roy Priest has recently stated that conditions at Jefferson Village (now Princess Square) had been improved by retreating (i.e., evictions), thus confirming that ARHA and its board are not powerless with regard to the peace and quietude of its properties. But at Monday night's

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LETTERS

FROM PAGE 11

meeting we heard an ARHA resident criticize the authority's management for its unresponsiveness to her concerns.

In the last 30 years, the West Old Town Citizens Association has worked more closely with and been more supportive of the Police Department than almost any other civic group in Alexandria.

Now we ask for new approaches and fresh thinking. The police need to restore real community policing, explore technology such as security cameras, establish neighborhood watches in ARHA developments, and (for council and ARHA) return to the scattered public housing strategy when ARHA properties come up for redevelopment in the next few years.

West Old Town Citizens
Association Executive Board
**Leslie Zupan, Keil Gentry,
Peter Prahar, Heidi Ford,
and Donna Reuss**

Leave Confederate Statue Alone

To the Editor:

I am writing to respond to the article about the Confederate statue at the intersection of Prince and South Washington streets ("Confederate Concerns," July 2). Our local politicians that were quoted (Democratic mayoral candidates Donley,

Euille and Silberberg) should focus more on practical matters such as whether or not the city is being run efficiently and honestly. They should not be fantasizing about desecrating historic landmarks such as the Confederate statue.

To ensure that the statue would not be moved at some future date, the R.E. Lee camp of the United Confederate Veterans had legislation introduced into the Virginia House of Delegates on Jan. 9, 1890. The legislation read in part:

"And whereas it is the desire of the said Robert E. Lee camp of Confederate Veterans and also the citizens and inhabitants of said City of Alexandria that such monument shall remain in its present position as a perpetual and lasting testimonial to the courage, fidelity and patriotism of the heroes in whose memory it was erected ... the permission so given by the said City Council of Alexandria for its erection shall not be repealed, revoked, altered, modified, or changed by any future Council or other municipal power or authority."

Obviously any attempt by our local officials to have the Confederate statue removed would be a foolhardy gesture.

The article mentioned Governor Fitzhugh Lee speaking at the dedication ceremony on May 24, 1889.

Fitzhugh Lee remains the only governor of Virginia to have been born in Northern Virginia.

He was born and raised at the family estate called Clermont in the Franconia area of

Alexandria in Fairfax County.

He attended Alexandria's Episcopal High School before going on to the U.S. Military Academy at West Point.

Gregory G. Paspatis
Alexandria

Time To Rename Highway

To the Editor:

Regarding the unease over the Appomattox statue, the display of the Confederate flag on Lee-Jackson day, and the Jefferson Davis highway: to me, by far the most offensive, and indefensible, is the last. The statue, it could be argued, is part of Alexandria's history, and the gloomy and pensive demeanor of its subject could be viewed as someone contemplating a deserved fate. The flag, while unfortunate, is only on display for a short time every year. But the highway is a major thoroughfare and there is no reason it should be named after the one and only president of the Confederacy. It is an insult to all, especially African-Americans, who travel it every day. Let's support Adam Ebbin and our other representatives in Richmond in their efforts to expunge the name of a traitor to his country and a staunch defender of slavery.

Alan Chodos
Alexandria



Place Plaque In Museum

To the Editor:

It's about time we discuss whether the city should have a statue of a Confederate soldier facing south in the middle of Washington Street ("Confederate Concerns," July 1). While that debate proceeds, another and more offensive Confederate marker needs to be removed — a plaque (see photo) on King Street on the site of the Marshall House, now the Hotel Monaco, placed by the Sons and Daughters of Confederate Soldiers. It celebrates James Jackson for the murder of a Union soldier, Col. Elmer Ellsworth.

The plaque recalls the day the Union Army occupied Alexandria on May 24, 1861. After Confederate troops had withdrawn, Col. Ellsworth climbed the stairs of the Marshall House, on the corner of King and Pitt Streets, to remove a large secession flag on its roof put there by the owner, James Jackson. Col. Ellsworth was one of the famous soldiers in the Union Army,

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OPINION

Calling All Senior Artists

2015 Young at Art is coming.

BY MARY LEE ANDERSON
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
SENIOR SERVICES OF ALEXANDRIA

The 29th Young at Art Juried Exhibition is coming back to the Durant Arts Center later this summer. Goodwin House Foundation and Senior Services of Alexandria would like to invite senior artists aged 55-plus to participate in this annual event, which showcases works by some of our region's most talented senior artists. This year's esteemed juror is Chris Haggerty from Marymount University, who will select art for the show and choose the top winning entries.

Last year, 80 artists were featured in the exhibit,



which included a wide variety of art types including oil, acrylic, and water color paintings, clay and wood sculpture, digital composition, pastels and mixed media.

Artists interested in submitting their work will need to complete all forms and bring their entries to the Durant Arts

Center at 1605 Cameron Street in Alexandria, on Thursday, Aug. 20 from 10 a.m. until noon.

The forms and detailed information about the show and what types of artwork are eligible for submission are available on Senior Services of Alexandria's website at www.seniorservicesalex.org.

The public is invited to "Meet the Artists" at a free opening reception on Wednesday, Aug. 26, 5:30 – 7:30 p.m. at the Durant Center. The exhibition will run until Nov. 20 and may be viewed Monday-Friday, 5–10 p.m.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

FROM PAGE 12

known for leading the popular Zouave cadets and for having raised the first regiment for the Union Army from New York.

President Abraham Lincoln knew and felt great affection for him.

As Ellsworth came down the stairs with the flag, Jackson shot and killed him, who then was himself killed by other Union soldiers. Ellsworth's funeral was held in the East Room of the White House, attended by President and Mrs. Lincoln. His murder stimulated an outburst of patriotism and northern enlistment.

The plaque makes no reference to Ellsworth nor to the circumstances of his murder. Instead, it lauds Jackson as "the first martyr to the cause of Southern Independence" and celebrates his cold-blooded act of murder, noting that Jackson's death came about not "in the excitement of battle, but coolly, and for a great principle." That principle, of course, was slavery.

The Lyceum and Fort Ward Mu-

seum have each had exhibits about these events, and the plaque could be placed, with appropriate explanations, in one of them. But it doesn't belong in a highly visible spot along King Street, where thousands of citizens and visitors see it distort the record and equate what it calls "the justice of history" with the murder of a respected Union soldier. The city should take it down.

Leonard Rubenstein
Alexandria

Testimony To History

To the Editor:

The Appomattox soldier should be left where is. The Confederate flag has unfortunately come to symbolize racial hate. But this soldier, facing south, with his back turned on the source of his troubles, has nothing to do with hate.

He is expressing above all remorse. He mourns the thousands of his

comrades who have perished for a lost cause. "Appomattox" is hardly a triumphal label.

This is not the moment for him to think deeply on the political errors that caused the Civil War — and, not coincidentally, came close to ruining the City of Alexandria. That will come later.

This is the finest piece of public art in the city, not least because it teaches us about the sins and follies, as well as the heroism, of our past. This spot is where these men gathered, leaving their families behind, to join the Army of Northern Virginia.

Why did they do that? Were they right or wrong? Were States Rights really the cause of our most terrible conflict? Or was it slavery? These are the questions that the grieving soldier poses, for our teachers to answer.

It is a primary civic sin to destroy the evidence of our past. Leave him there, so others may remember and hopefully learn. With malice toward none, with charity for

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LETTERS

FROM PAGE 13
all, leave him be.

Robert Pringle
Alexandria

'Shots Fired' Not Whole Story

To the Editor:

This morning there was an alleged Navy Yard incident, a report of gunshots fired. The report was said to be in error.

Such situations do not excuse the Alexandria Gazette Packet's poor coverage of neighborhood "Shots Fired" (June 25). In a neighborhood which has military in residence it is hard to believe no one can tell the difference between gunshots and firecrackers. Not all situations are the same, but gunfire is gunfire.

"Shots Fired" began long before April 18, 2015. Then again, only a police department spokesperson was quoted. At least she acknowledged the "incidents are linked to certain crowds of people."

Police teams recently walked the neighborhood. The outcome was gunfire, or the distinctive sound of, 24 hours later. Calls came from across northwest Old Town, from a variety of locations, yet eNews specifically reported the incident as the 700 block of N. Fayette Street no evidence found. Who is hiding what? "We're not talking gang activity," said Nosal. "To be termed gang activity, there must be clear gang identifiers." Court records confirm gang members are among the proven perpetrators.

David Harrison
Alexandria

Work Together For Community

To the Editor:

This past Monday evening, July 6, I had the opportunity to attend a community meeting being

hosted by Alexandria Police at the Charles Houston Recreation Center regarding last week's deadly shooting of Mr. Shakkan Elliot-Tibbs.

Prior to the deadly shooting of Mr. Elliot-Tibbs last week, residents of Alexandria had been hearing shots fired throughout the city. Some residents mistook these shots as firecrackers when in fact they were gunshots, according to Alexandria Police. The firing of shots in our city and the culmination of Mr. Elliot-Tibbs losing his life has raised great concerns about safety and the quality of life throughout Alexandria. As a U.S. Air Force veteran, I commend our police force for doing a diligent job in not only doing everything that they can to find those responsible for the death of Mr. Elliot-Tibbs, but for also keeping our community abreast of what is happening in our city.

I live and walk to work in Alexandria. While I feel safe in our city, the increase in crime is concerning to me and my growing family. I am not alone in this sentiment, as there were over 50 residents that expressed the same concerns during the community meeting. I strongly feel that as residents of Alexandria, we need to do our part in policing our neighborhoods. If you see or hear suspicious activity, say something. We need to work together with our city police to strengthen our communities not only for ourselves and our neighbors, but for our future generations.

Having a strong and united community not only raises our city's safety but it also attracts entrepreneurs which help grow our city's economy. Growing our city's economy will allow city officials to properly equip our police force with all the tools necessary to keep our residents safe.

A city cannot work with limited resources, much less our police force. By ensuring that we have a strong community, economy and

Service and Brotherhood

BY HALEY BADER
AMERICORPS VISTA MENTOR
PROGRAM COORDINATOR



Ivan with mentor Alvaro Rodriguez.

is around Al, he "stands a little taller; he is really on top of his game and makes the most of their time together."

The Space of His Own program provides one-on-one mentoring relationships for 12 Alexandria boys each program year. Unfortunately, the program's great struggle has been finding men like Alvaro Rodriguez to volunteer as mentors with the program. This year, the program must find 12 men by the end of July, or Space of His Own cannot continue. In Al's words, "If you're the type of man who has an open mind and a willingness to give, this is a program worth doing." Please contact program coordinator Haley Bader if you are interested in transforming the life of a child in need. You can reach Haley by email: haley@spaceofherown.org or by phone, 703-746-4687.

Space of His Own is part of The Alexandria Mentoring Partnership (AMP), which was created in 2006 to ensure that quality mentors and mentor programs are available for Alexandria's youth and young adults in need. There are 11 professionally managed programs in the partnership that need adult mentors. To learn more about AMP, visit: <http://www.alexandriava.gov/Mentoring>.

Service and Brotherhood

BY HALEY BADER
AMERICORPS VISTA MENTOR
PROGRAM COORDINATOR

The most rewarding thing about Space of His Own was the interaction with the kids and seeing them transform from the beginning of the program where everyone's nervous and there's a sense of formality, and seeing it evolve to where there's a level of comfort between the mentor and the mentee."

— Alvaro Rodriguez, Space of His Own mentor.

Alvaro Rodriguez, or "Al" as he is known to Space of His Own mentors, mentees and program staff, was a serviceman by profession for over two decades, but retiring from the military hasn't

stopped him from giving back. Al, who served in the Marine Corps as an infantryman and in the Army as a drill sergeant, is now one of SOHO's outstanding mentors: Al exemplifies respect, empathy, and the ability to be responsible in his actions and words.

He and his mentee initially bonded over a mutual interest in the military. Ivan has expressed interest in the Marine Corps, and they visited the Quantico military base during one of their weekend outings. "One of my greatest moments with [my mentee] was when we went on a field trip to the Marine Corps museum in Quantico, and just seeing him light up. It's helped him understand what he wants to do when he grows up," Al said.

Ivan is grateful for the supportive relationship he has with his mentor: "My favorite part of SOHO is getting a mentor and them helping you with growing up. They give you really good advice, they help you in a lot of stuff, especially in school."

Program manager Ashley Snyder commends Al for creating a space where Ivan can feel free to express himself. Snyder describes how when Ivan

robust city services, we will be able to increase our quality of life and prevent incidents where our youth are losing their lives.

As a resident of Alexandria, I was proud to see the presence of several Alexandria residents during the community meeting this past Monday. The consensus of the

meeting is that we need to work together to keep our community safe regardless of the socioeconomics.

We all take pride in being residents of Alexandria and when a tragedy like this happens, we should all stand up for the safety of our community.

Fernando Torrez
City Council candidate

Learn from History

To the Editor:

SEE LETTERS, PAGE 26



Celebrating our 50th Anniversary

SANDS CASIO & RESORT, Bethlehem, PA Nov. 30 – Dec. 1\$216
Includes Motorcoach from Vienna or Rockville, Overnight Sands Casino with continental breakfast, \$40 Slot Bonus per person, Tony Orlando Show!.

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Includes Motorcoach from Vienna or Rockville, Orchestra Seating for "An American in Paris" Overnight Millennium Hotel in Theatre District.

COSTA DEL SOL, SPAIN, Nov. 7 – 21\$3199
Includes Air from Washington, 13 Nights 4-Star Melia Hotel with Sea View, Daily Breakfast & Dinners with wine, 5 Full Days of Touring, Transfers/Porterage/Taxes.

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Potomac Greens/Old Town 1742 Potomac Greens Dr, Alexandria, VA Elegant 4 BR TH – the largest model in Potomac Greens. Sunlit spaces, high ceilings, gleaming HDWS, MBR suite w/2 walk-in's & lux bath, 3 FPL, rooftop deck, 2-car garage. \$984,900 **Karen Leonard** CBmove.com/AX8657379



Old Town 310 South Saint Asaph Street, Alexandria, VA
Located on one of the loveliest blocks in Old Town, this brick 2 BR + den + 2 1/2 BA historic townhome boasts original pine floors, fp, exposed brick walls & a gorgeous courtyard. \$945,000 **Donnan Wintermute** CBmove.com/AX8671818



Huge Price Reduction! Old Town 618 South Alfred Street, Alexandria, VA
Great investment opportunity. Beautiful detached Victorian building in Old Town Alexandria. Can be used for residential or commercial. 3,000 sq. ft. of space with 5 off-street parking spaces. \$699,999 **Michelle Mitchell** CBmove.com/AX8668100



Open House, Sunday 1-4pm Old Town 335 N Royal St, Alexandria, VA
4 beautiful luxury townhomes in the heart of Old Town Alexandria! Off-street parking and an elevator are just 2 of the features! \$1,799,000 **Michelle Mitchell** CBmove.com/AX8423162



Wilton Woods Area 5904 Dewey Dr, Alexandria, VA Charming brick rambler nicely renovated. Beautiful pool and spa! Located near Metro, 3 BR, 2.5 BA, theater room, screened porch, deck www.RitaRealtor.com. Must see. \$499,900 **Rita McCauley-Redmond** CBmove.com/FX8681319



Open House Sunday 1-4pm Cameron Station 327 Fucci Court, Alexandria, VA
Sunny Cameron Station Bradley model. New hardwoods, carpet, paint, plantation shutters. Beautiful throughout w/4 levels, 3 very large Bedrooms and 3 1/2 Bathrooms. Built-ins, FP, deck, & kitchen with bump-out bay window & adjacent eat-in area. 2-car garage. Low HOA fee. \$645,000 **David & Stephanie Thorpe** CBmove.com/AX8623169



Gum Springs 7825 Belvedere Dr, Alexandria, VA Home has plenty of space with six bedrooms, three full baths and over 3,100 sq. ft. on two floors. Located approx. ten minutes south of the Beltway between Fort Hunt Road and Route 1. Close to public transportation, shopping, restaurants and more. \$489,000 **Mark Souder** CBmove.com/FX8669443



Sunny View/Mount Vernon 3460 Little Hunting Creek Dr, Alexandria, VA Gorgeous home on large lot surrounded by towering trees & beautiful green space! New kitchen, updated baths, hwd floors, huge master suite, enclosed patio, & garage, on cul-de-sac. \$475,900 **Karen Leonard** CBmove.com/FX8677538



Open House, Sunday 1-4pm Northampton Place 3101 Hampton Dr N, Unit #1412, Alexandria, VA
Great location. Minutes to I-395. Close to Mark Center, Pentagon, D.C. Spectacular view of Arlington and D.C. from this 14th Flr unit. 2 BR, 2 BA, Den, 2 parking garage spcs + upgrades. \$474,900 **Jaime Molinares** CBmove.com/AX8601296



River Towers 6631 Wakefield Drive #718, Alexandria, VA 1 Bed unit, 714 sq ft, hwd floors, tile bath, utilities included in condo fee. Fantastic commuter property close to G.W. Pkwy, Rt. 1, & Huntington Metro. Outdoor pool, playground, basketball court, tennis court, picnic area, exercise room and garden plot. \$174,000 **Jane King** CBmove.com/FX8524943

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PHOTOS BY HAL VERNON/THE GAZETTE

2 207 North View Terrace
— \$2,150,000



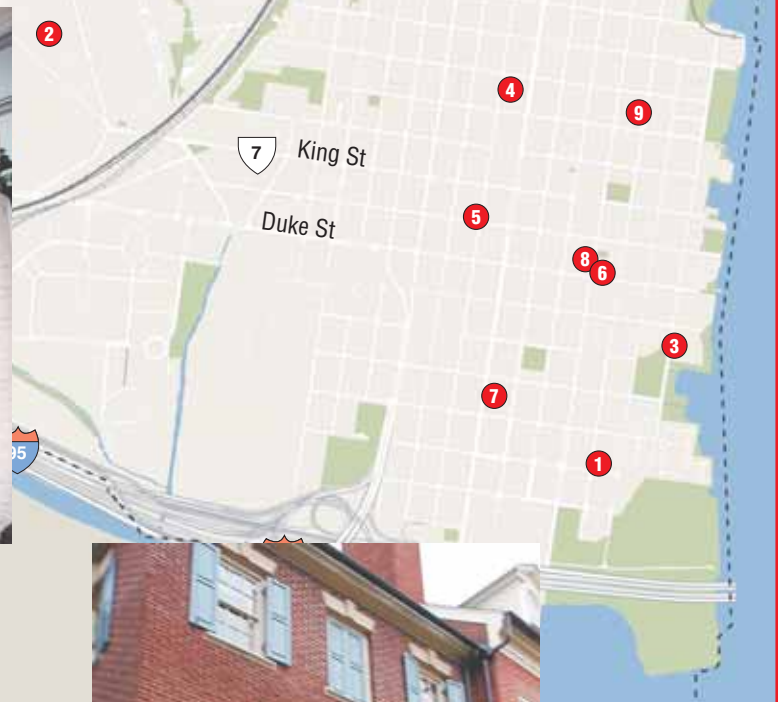
4 319 Columbus
Street North —
\$1,670,000



9 310 Fairfax Street North
— \$1,260,000



8 215 Royal
Street South —
\$1,350,000



1 215 Jefferson Street — \$3,100,000

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

1	215 JEFFERSON ST	4	..	3	1	.....	ALEXANDRIA	..	\$3,100,000	....	Detached	.....	0.31	.....	22314	.....	OLD TOWN	.....	05/18/15
2	207 NORTH VIEW TER	7	..	4	1	.....	ALEXANDRIA	..	\$2,150,000	....	Detached	.....	0.21	.....	22301	.....	ROSEMONT	.....	05/22/15
3	450 S UNION ST	4	..	3	1	.....	ALEXANDRIA	..	\$1,780,000	....	Townhouse	.....		.....	22314	.....	HARBORSIDE	.....	05/22/15
4	319 COLUMBUS ST N	4	..	3	2	.....	ALEXANDRIA	..	\$1,670,000	....	Townhouse	..	0.04	.....	22314	.....	OLD TOWN	.....	05/01/15
5	803 PRINCE ST	5	..	2	1	.....	ALEXANDRIA	..	\$1,640,000	....	Attach/Row Hse	0.07	.....	.....	22314	.....	OLD TOWN	.....	05/08/15
6	321 DUKE ST	4	..	3	1	.....	ALEXANDRIA	..	\$1,550,000	....	Attach/Row Hse	0.05	.....	.....	22314	.....	OLD TOWN	.....	05/27/15
7	610 WASHINGTON ST S	3	..	4	1	.....	ALEXANDRIA	..	\$1,465,000	....	Detached	.....	0.08	.....	22314	.....	OLD TOWN	.....	05/14/15
8	215 ROYAL ST S	3	..	2	1	.....	ALEXANDRIA	..	\$1,350,000	....	Townhouse	..	0.07	.....	22314	.....	OLD TOWN	.....	05/29/15
9	310 FAIRFAX ST N	4	..	3	2	.....	ALEXANDRIA	..	\$1,260,000	....	Townhouse	..	0.04	.....	22314	.....	FAIRFAX ROW	.....	05/01/15
10	3502 HOLY ST	6	..	3	2	ALEXANDRIA	..	\$1,220,000	Detached	0.22	22305	DEL RAY	05/08/15

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Big Upgrade in Little Package

Pair of luxury baths add comfort and charm to 30-year-old Arlington condo.

BY JOHN BYRD

Approaching retirement, Kathleen David and her husband decided it was time to sell their multi-level townhouse and find a suitable one-level living option. The plan was a condominium that could be purchased at a favorable price and upgraded within a budget.

Accustomed to urban living, the couple mainly wanted freedom from stairs, available parking, and a spot for a favorite China cabinet.

"We were quite satisfied with our choice," David said of the 1,300-square-foot unit conveniently situated in an 11-story, 30-year-old Crystal City complex. "After we had been in residence for about a year, we started looking for contractors to help us upgrade the master bath, which was terribly dated."

What came as a surprise as interviews got under way, though, was how few contractors were willing, or able, to work in a condominium.

"There are lots of rules and restrictions," David said. "Eventually, we learned that remodeling a room in a condo can take 20-30 percent longer than it takes to a complete a comparable project in a single family home. Several well-known firms wouldn't even meet with us."

As such, Sarah Wolf at Foster Remodeling Solutions was a breath of fresh air.

"We hit it off right away," David said. "She understood condo remodeling challenges

completely. She provided relevant, inspired ideas in the first meeting, and the collaboration only improved from there."

So much so, in fact, that the single full bathroom slated for improvement became two, and the interior design ideas grew progressively more sophisticated.

"Condos have always been interesting to me — partly because they require very precise space plans," Wolf said. "In a tight footprint, inches make all the difference and the design effects that add to that crucial sense of spaciousness must be expertly executed. Professionally, it's exhilarating to design out of the picture the apparent limitations in a room — so that only thing an owner is aware of is how attractive the space is, and how well it works."

BEGINNING WITH a "style preferences" photo slide show narrated by David (who had stockpiled ideas for close to a year), Wolf began by grappling with an unyieldingly compact 220 square feet that could not be enlarged in any direction.

Removing a wall between the vanity and tub in the master bathroom, for instance, added just two inches of floor space, yet the half-wall and frameless glass space divider that now surrounds the newly installed walk-in shower offers an open look that previously didn't exist.

More to the point, Wolf's softly textured interior design scheme provides the eye with something to enjoy:

- ❖ Oversized (12 inch by 14 inch) porcelain tile in the shower glazed to resemble soft white marble;
- ❖ Parallel bands of small-scale glass mosaic embedded in the shower walls at eye- and waist-level. The color accentuates the gray tones in the floor tile;
- ❖ Accent tiles capping the low-wall around the tub visually unify the rear of the room with the front-facing vanity while concealing grout lines. The effect: narrow spaces now seem much wider;
- ❖ A black and white art deco-style ceramic basket-weave pattern for the shower also prevents slipping;
- ❖ A blue-grey-black Cambria quartz countertop color-coordinated with vanity cabinet facings lacquered in a black-brush-applied mushroom gray stain.

Polished chrome plumbing fixtures, likewise, combine with metal surfaces to form a bright, reflective surface which is, in turn, offset by a charcoal gray porcelain tile streaked with white veining.

To heighten the room's visual rhythm, Wolf and team installed the 12" x 24" tiles diagonally across the floor from front to back.

On the walls, soft blue-gray paint high-

Details

Foster Remodeling Solutions periodically offers workshops on home remodeling topics. Call 703-550-1371 or visit www.fosterremodeling.com.



PHOTO COURTESY OF HOMEFRONTSNEWS

Recognizing that inches count in a tight footprint that can't be expanded, Sarah Wolf at Foster Remodeling Solutions gained just two inches of floor space by removing a wall between the vanity and the tub (left); the half-wall and frameless glass space divider that now surrounds the newly installed walk-in shower (right) offers a new open look.

lights reflected blue flecks in the countertops, a counterbalance to the bright white ceiling.

"Alternation and balance are important when you're working with small spaces," said Wolf. "In effect, you have a three dimensional canvas formed by walls, floors, ceiling — and each side is a critical part of the whole. When the design statement is well-made, the finished space feels peaceful, pleasant, a room you want to spend time in. Size becomes unimportant."

That said, Wolf applied considerable engineering skill in designing built-ins to satisfy precisely-measured storage requirements.

"There was nothing but an open cabinet under the vanity before," David said. "Sarah designed appropriately-sized drawers, shelves and recessed a storage spaces for everything we use in this space. The new sense of order in both bathrooms has been wonderful."

As an aging-in-place consideration, Wolf found room for an in-shower bench and grab bars. A hand-held shower head on a slide bar adjusts to the owners' different height requirements.

"Everything has been carefully tailored to our needs," said David. "We feel fortunate to have gotten such a winning result."



PHOTO COURTESY OF HOMEFRONTSNEWS

The black and white art deco-style ceramic basket-weave pattern for the shower prevents slipping. As an aging-in-place consideration, Wolf found room for an in-shower bench and grab bars. A hand-held shower head on a slide bar adjusts to the owners' different height requirements.

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ENTERTAINMENT

Beer, Barbecue And Bilbo Baggins

BY SHIRLEY RUHE
GAZETTE PACKET

Ancho chili pepper, garlic and onion powder are poured into the large aluminum pot already simmering with ketchup, vinegar and leftover pork drippings. “We don’t waste anything here,” Allie Barfield, chef at Bilbo Baggins on Queen Street said. “This BBQ sauce is very complex. Now I’m adding the sweet chili sauce. We put in cinnamon sticks, Worcestershire sauce, tamarind

IN THE KITCHEN

paste, sweet red curry paste and fresh coffee. People taste it and say

“what is in that.” She explains the recipe is half from her husband Garrett’s family, his uncle Barfield’s pig pickin’ sauce sold in North Carolina grocery stores and half from her family’s restaurant recipe.

“My parents have had this restaurant for many years. My father left home in Long Island at 16 and went to Switzerland where he was classically trained. He worked as a

chef in star restaurants in eight countries over 10 years. He taught me what I know. Garrett and I lived in North Carolina and one day he said we should start a restaurant. I said ‘Are you crazy?’ My family has had a successful restaurant for 30 years and we would probably go broke in less than five years if we started our own,” she said.

So they moved back to Alexandria where they are gradually taking over Bilbo Baggins. “I started in the back of the house (the kitchen) in 2012.” Now her husband is the bar manager and in charge of the front of the house.

“I have been working here since I was a teenager, out in front hosting. I would always be in the kitchen peeling carrots on days off from school or rolling silverware in napkins. When my class took a field trip they would stop here and my dad would make them lunch.” She picks up a large bottle. “See I’m putting in the molasses to give the barbecue sauce some thickness and the dark color.” It will cook for 2-3 hours.

Nine loaves of raisin bread are lined up on trays waiting to be sliced and delivered to lunch diners. “This is our famous raisin bread. I use seven different flours that I get from Pennsylvania. People come here just to get it.” On the rack below are homemade croutons for the white chocolate bread pudding. “We make everything from scratch here down to the mayo,” she said. A pot of onion soup sits on a back burner, steam filling the kitchen as she stirs the onions into the broth. Barfield has sliced the onions and sautéed them in canola oil until they are softened, added two casseroles of chicken stock as well as beef consommé. She will finish it off with fresh thyme. Today she had arrived at 8 a.m. to bake the bread and begin making the onion soup and lobster and shrimp bisque. Then on to the set up and prep work. The restaurant opens at 11:30 a.m. except Sunday when it opens at 10:30 for brunch.

Barfield has seen tastes change in the restaurant over time. “People don’t eat as much dessert because they are on a

diet. Also they look for small plates.”

She explains that a number of their dishes combine different ingredients than one would expect. “Years ago we made fried chicken wings but then people didn’t want to eat fried food.” But she says they reinvented the dragon wings marinated with spicy lime leaf sauce and finished with cilantro and crushed peanuts for texture. “These are popular in the bar.” She says her father added pizza a few years ago and thought they would sell a few. “But pizzas are very popular and we probably sell 500 a week. We get our pizza stones from Italy and they take a l-o-n-g time to get here, but they work really well. It only takes 2-3 minutes to cook this Shire pizza (shredded pulled pork, caramelized onions and that special BBQ sauce) in the 800-900 degree oven,” Barfield said. “We used to cook our pizza there, pointing to a large brick fireplace in the center of the dining room. “But then the fire marshal came ...”

Garrett interjects that one of his favorite dishes is the fettuccini with seafood, especially since they started adding the fresh clams and mussels.

Barfield said that 10 years ago when



PHOTOS BY SHIRLEY RUHE/GAZETTE PACKET

Steam wafts over the stove as Allie Barfield, chef at Bilbo Baggins on Queen Street, stirs the simmering onion soup that she is making for lunch.



Allie Barfield’s husband, Garrett, who handles the upfront duties and manages the bar, is loading up a plate with raisin bread made with seven different flours from Pennsylvania.



A final step in the preparation of the special BBQ sauce is the grating of lemon and orange peel. The sauce will simmer for 2-3 hours until it has thickened to desired consistency.

people asked her dad what he did and he said he was a chef, they shrugged their shoulders and said OK. Now with the advent of all of the food networks exploding, people think it is a glamorous job. But she reflected that most of the time it is not; it is hard work. A crab-asparagus quiche joins a Caesar salad on the top shelf ready to be delivered to the first lunch customers. Barfield double checks the pot, grates in fresh orange and lemon peel and stirs the barbecue sauce one more time.

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

“Saturate.” Through July 19 during gallery hours at the Athenaeum, 201 Prince St. Six artists use different mediums to convey moisture. Free. Visit www.nvfaa.org.

“Borders & Boundaries.” During gallery hours through July at the Target Gallery at the Torpedo Factory, 105 N. Union St. Artists were inspired the “outsider’s perspective” for this exhibit. Free. Visit www.torpedofactory.org.

“Magical, Mystical Animals.” Through July 25, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. daily at The Potomac Fiber Arts Gallery at the Torpedo Factory, 105 N. Union St. Studio 18. Artists will display art inspired by childhood stories and mythical creatures. Admission is free. Visit www.potomacfiberartsgallery.com.

Mt. Vernon Recreation Center Art Class Exhibit. Through July 28, Monday-Friday 6 a.m.-10 p.m.; Saturday 7 a.m.-10 p.m.; Sunday 7 a.m.-6 p.m. at Saint Elmo’s Coffee Pub, 2300 Mt. Vernon Ave. View drawings and paintings done by the senior art class. Free. Visit www.stelmocoffeepub.com.

Hollin Meadows Summertime Writing Nights. 6:30-7:30 p.m. Mondays through Aug. 17 at Sherwood Regional Library, 2501 Sherwood Hall Lane. Families and elementary students (grades kindergarten through third) can read,

write and talk with teachers. Free. Email Hollinmeadows.KeepInTouch@fcps.edu for more.

Paintings by Stanley Agbontaen. Through Aug. 28 at The Rachel M. Schlesinger Concert Hall & Arts Center, 4915 E. Campus Drive. The Maryland-based international artist’s depictions of scenes are painted on oil canvas. Free. Visit www.nvcc.edu/alexandria/schlesingercenter for more.

Cool Yoga. Wednesdays through Sept. 4, 6:30-7:30 p.m. at 1900 Mt. Vernon Ave. Participate in group

yoga sessions taught by Prasada Yoga’s Maureen Clyne and enjoy refreshments provided by St. Elmo’s Coffee Pub and other local eateries. Suitable for all levels. Bring mat, towel and water. Free. Call 703-671-2000.

Special Family Museum Tours. Saturdays through Sept. 7, 10 a.m.-1 p.m. at Gadsby’s Tavern Museum, 134 N Royal St. Flexible tours and hands-on activities provide a deeper experience into the social and political life of Alexandria in the 18th and 19th centuries. Tickets are \$5 for adults (\$4 with AAA card), \$3

WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

ENTERTAINMENT

children ages 5-12, and children ages 4 and under as well as Alexandria Public School and Blue Star families receive free admission. Coupons accepted. Call 703-746-4242 or visit www.gadsbystavern.org for more.

Baseball Boat to Nationals Park. Through Sept. 26 at various time. Leaves from the Alexandria Marina, 1 Cameron St. Baseball fans can avoid heavy traffic and cruise along the Potomac to Nationals Park. Tickets are \$20 one-way and \$25 round-trip. Visit www.potomacriverboatco.com/baseball-boat.php.

Doggy Happy Hour. Tuesdays through Oct. at 5-8 p.m. at Jackson 20, 480 King St. Enjoy discounted drinks and treats with one's dog. Free. Visit www.jackson20.com/buzevents_events.php.

Water Taxi to the National Mall. Through Nov. 1, at various times at Alexandria Marina, 1 Cameron St. Cruise from Old Town to D.C. on the *Miss Sophia*, while stopping view some of the area's most popular attractions. Tickets are \$28 roundtrip and \$14 one-way for adults. For children under 12, tickets are \$16 roundtrip and \$8 one-way. Visit www.potomacriverboatco.com/.

Journey to Be Free: Alexandria Freedmen's Cemetery. Tuesday-Saturday, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Alexandria Black History Museum, 902 Wythe St. A new exhibit tracing the 150-year history of the long-forgotten Freedmen's Cemetery, its rediscovery and how the new Contrabands and Freedmen's Cemetery Memorial was created at the site. Call 703-746-4356.

Their Fates Intertwined: The Lees of Alexandria in the War of 1812. Wednesday- Saturday, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Sunday, 1-4 p.m. Lee-Fendall House and Gardens, 614

Oronoco St. A new exhibit on the experiences of the Lee family in Alexandria during the War of 1812 examines the contributions of Alexandria's citizens during the conflict that led to the writing of our national anthem through the lives of this iconic Virginia family. Visit www.leefendallhouse.org or call 703.548.1789.

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

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

Fifty Years of Collecting. Tuesday-Saturday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Sundays noon-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 takes place weekly, rain or shine (except during electrical storms, strong winds, or icy trails), at 7 a.m. (8 a.m. November through March), is free, 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.

Art for Life. Third Thursday of every month. 4:30-7:30 p.m. at Torpedo Factory, 105 N. Union St. Hyatt Regency Crystal City has partnered will the National Kidney Foundation for a program highlighting a different artist each month for a year.

Civil War Sundays. 1-5 p.m. at Alexandria Archaeology Museum, 105 North Union St., #327. Learn more about the Civil War as it occurred in Alexandria. Find dioramas, newspaper articles and more. Free. Visit www.alexandriarchaeology.org.


CAMPS, CLASSES & WORKSHOPS

Tiny Dancers 2015 Summer Camps. Each session includes daily instruction in ballet, a snack, fine motor exercise through a theme- SEE CALENDAR, PAGE 20

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ENTERTAINMENT

Wine Cellar Needs a Little Help from Friends

Elizabeth and Rick Myllenbeck have a vision for 207 King St. They want to turn the historic 1810 Bartleman house in the heart of Old Town into the Sonoma Cellar, a wine-tasting room, bistro, and gift shop. Originally from Sonoma County, Calif., the newlyweds came to the area just short of four years ago on business; Rick Myllenbeck works with the U.S. Navy.

"We really missed the Northern California wine-tasting experience. So, when we came out here, we talked a lot about it and our friends said 'You know what? You should do that here,'" said Rick Myllenbeck. They plan to outfit the King Street location with 112 seats. Guests will find wine predominantly from Sonoma County and Virginia to be served in the upstairs dining room and in the outdoor "wine garden" alongside a full menu prepared by Chef Bernard Henry. Sonoma will be the first wine tasting room in Alexandria.

However, the couple must bring the build-



Elizabeth and Rick Myllenbeck in front of the future Sonoma Cellar.

ing up to code. "It's been left to ruin," Elizabeth Myllenbeck said. "The last upgrade to the building was 1989 ... Not only are we in the midst of trying to open a wine-tasting room, we are in the middle of historic preservation."

After some funding queries, the Myllenbecks launched an Indiegogo campaign to help with the costs of a \$88,000 HVAC system and industrial-strength



PHOTOS BY CONNOR ORTMAN/GAZETTE PACKET

The interior of the future home of the Sonoma Cellar Tasting Room. Sonoma Cellar is located at 207 King St. and the owners, Rick and Elizabeth Myllenbeck, plan to open in late July or early Aug.

kitchen hood. "We're doing everything we can to help make it right and not cut corners," said Rick Myllenbeck.

As of late June, the building is unfurnished and unfabricated, but with promising details. Industrial-style pendant lamps hang from soaring ceilings in the dining room, and the tasting room is equipped with a 20-foot-long tasting table built by local

craftsman KC Cromwell from a tree harvested in Mount Vernon.

"We're optimistic people," said Elizabeth Myllenbeck. The Myllenbecks plan to open by late July or early August. To contribute, visit www.indiegogo.com/projects/sonoma-cellar-historic-preservation-wine.

-SARAI JOHNSON

CALENDAR

FROM PAGE 10

related craft and a story with dress-up dance interpretation. The session culminates with a recital and reception. Tiny Dancers is designed for ages 2-12, featuring a performance based ballet, tap, jazz and musical theater curriculum. The studio is located at 621 S. Washington St., Alexandria. Call 703-739-0900 or visit www.tinydancers.com for more.

Art League Summer Camps.

Registration for Summer Art Camp 2015 is now open. Art Camps run Monday to Friday, June 22-Aug. 21. Camps are available for ages 5 and older, with morning, afternoon, or all day options. Subjects include: drawing, cartooning, painting, photography, ceramics, sculpture, jewelry, fiber arts, clay animation, and Basic Art Camp (a new medium each day). \$155-\$345. Visit www.theartleague.org/content/art-camp for more.

2015 Youth Summer Art Camp.

July 20-25 or July 27-31 at Del Ray Artisans Gallery, 2704 Mount Vernon Ave. Youth ages 8-14 spend one week creating art and learning creative techniques, followed by a one-day gallery show. All art supplies, lunch, and snacks are provided. \$300 per child. Scholarships are available. See www.TheDelRayArtisans.org/ArtCamp.

Grown-Ups Art Camp. June 29-July 17 at Del Ray Artisans, 2704 Mount Vernon Ave. Adult art instruction including 37 workshops and events. Classes range from working with resin to polymer clay; from creating a monotype or paper masterpiece to learning how to tango. Visit www.thedelrayartisans.org.

Summer of Smiles. The Recreation, Parks and Cultural Activities' Summer Fun Guide, is now available.

Summer camps and activities are available for youth ages 2-17 and include sports, dance, creative arts, computer, chess, enrichment, nature, adventure, Out of School Time (residents only) and classic camps. The guide has an index listing camps by week offered and age group. Register online or in-person at the Lee Center, 1108 Jefferson St. The Summer Fun Guide is available for download at www.alexandriava.gov/Recreation. Free printed brochures will be available at City Hall, recreation centers, and public libraries. Call the Registration and Reservation Office at 703-746-5414.

Photography Workshop. 10:30 a.m.-12 p.m. 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.

Community Dance. 7:30-9:30 p.m. every third Friday at Hollin Hall Senior Center, 1500 Shenandoah Road. Live music. Tickets are \$4. Call 703-765-4573.

Life Drawing. Del Ray Artisans offers a range of open life drawing sessions for anyone to develop life-drawing skills further. Drop-in for the session and bring 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.

Community Yoga. Wednesdays 9:30-10:30 a.m. and Sundays 7:30-8:45 p.m. at 532YOGA, 532 N. Washington St. Suite 100. No experience required to participate in weekly community class. Suggested \$10 donation. Visit www.532yoga.com.

Tween Yoga. Thursdays, May 28-July 16, 4-5 p.m. at 532YOGA, 532 N. Washington St. Suite 100. 532Yoga uses yoga to help tweens develop greater self-confidence. The workshop fee is \$125 or \$20 for drop-in classes. Visit www.532Yoga.com.

Drawing and Painting Lab for Teens. Wednesdays, June 24-July 15, 1:30-3:30 p.m. at Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road. Teens ages 13-17 may explore techniques including concepts of shape, line, texture and color blending. The fee is \$77 for four 2-hour lessons. Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/greenspring.

MONDAY/JULY 6-AUG. 24

Yoga for Gardeners. Mondays through Aug. 24, 9:45-10:45 a.m. at Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road. This class is a gentle introduction to the Vinyasa method which helps participants increase the strength, flexibility and endurance necessary for gardening. The class is held indoors. The class is \$86 per person. Register on-line at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/greenspring.

FRIDAY/JULY 10

Jason D. Williams and Dale Watson & The Lonestars. 7:30 p.m. at The Birchmere Music Hall, 3701 Mount Vernon Ave. Combining both country and rock, Jason D. Williams performs along with Dale Watson. Tickets start at \$25. Visit www.birchmere.com/calendar/ for tickets.

Tom Principato Band. 8 p.m. at The Carlyle Club, 2050 Ballenger Ave. Tom Principato performs his trademark guitar riffs live. Tickets

start at \$25. There is a \$25 minimum food and beverage purchase required per guest, except for general admission tickets. Visit www.thecarlyleclub.com.

Four Mile Summer Movie Festival.

Movies start at dusk and are shown at the Four Mile Conservatory Building, 4109 Mt. Vernon Ave. National Community Church's inaugural summer movie festival is co-sponsored by the City of Alexandria. Film schedule is as follows: Friday, July 10, "The Lego Movie;" Friday, Aug. 7, "McFarland USA;" Friday, Sept. 11, "Cool Runnings." Bring a blanket or chair. Free. Visit www.theaterchurch.com for more.

JULY 10-19

Alexandria Live Music Week.

Various times at venues throughout the city. Find music from almost every genre. Admission varies by venue. Visit www.livemusicweek.com for a full schedule.

SATURDAY/JULY 11

Alexandria's Historic Breweries Guided Tour and Tasting. 10 a.m.-12:30 p.m. in Old Town. Learn about the history of local breweries on a walking tour. Tickets are \$20. Visit www.visitalexandriava.com/things-to-do/summer-in-alexandria/.

Gardening Exposition. 10:30 a.m.-12 p.m. at Burke Branch Library, 4701 Seminary Road. The Master Gardeners of Northern Virginia provide a program on container gardening and composting with focuses ranging from selecting and potting plants to building a compost pile. Free. Enroll at mgnv.org.

Canine Cruise. 11 a.m. at Alexandria City Marina, 1 Cameron St. The family dog is welcome to join in on

an hour-long cruise through the Alexandria Seaport. Tickets are \$16 for adults and \$10 for children. Dogs ride free. Visit www.potomacriverboatco.com/canine-cruise.php.

Old Fashioned Cookout and Talent Showcase

11 a.m.-5 p.m. at Fort Hunt Park, 8999 Fort Hunt Road. Fun family event with lots of food, music, door prizes, games, face painting for children, a photo booth, and a talent show. Tickets are \$16 for adults, \$8 for ages 6-12, free for children 6 and under. For tickets, contact smiles0406@hotmail.com or lderamous@hotmail.com.

Music Performance. 6:30-9 p.m. at Torpedo Factory Art Center, 105 N. Union St. As part of Alexandria Live Music Week, Nomadic Jazz will be hosting saxophonist and composer Elijah Jamal Balbed. Admission is \$22. Visit www.torpedofactory.org/event/nomadic-jazz/.

Alexandria/USA Birthday Celebration. 7-10 p.m. at Oronoco Bay Park, 100 Madison St. Watch fireworks and live entertainment. Free. Visit www.visitalexandriava.com/alexandria-birthday-celebration/.

Old Time Banjo Festival. 7:30 p.m. at The Birchmere Music Hall, 3701 Mount Vernon Ave. 9th Annual Mike Seeger commemorative festival, featuring Cathy Fink, Marcy Marxer, Jayme Stone, David Reed, and Adam Hurt. Tickets start at \$29.50. Visit www.birchmere.com/calendar for tickets.

MONDAY/JULY 13

Gardening Program. 7-8:30 p.m. at Barrett Branch Library, 717 Queen St. The Master Gardeners of Northern Virginia present "Rebooting Your Summer Herb Garden," a session focused on maintenance and helpful

ENTERTAINMENT

tips. Free. Register at mgnv.org.

SUNDAY/JULY 12

Southside Johnny & The Asbury Jukes. 7:30 p.m. at The Birchmere Music Hall, 3701 Mount Vernon Ave. Closely associated with Bruce Springsteen, Southside Johnny and his band performs live. Tickets start at \$39.50. Visit www.birchmere.com/calendar for more.

TUESDAY/JULY 14

Bastille Day Wine Dinner. 7 p.m. at Gadsby's Tavern Museum, 134 N Royal St. Eat an 18th century-inspired five-course dinner paired with fine French wines. Tickets are \$100. RSVP by calling 703-747-4242 or by visiting shop.alexandriava.gov.

Toad the Wet Sprocket. 7:30 p.m. at The Birchmere Music Hall, 3701 Mount Vernon Ave. American alternative rock band perform with guest Derik Hultquist. Tickets start at \$45. Visit www.birchmere.com/calendar for tickets.

WEDNESDAY/JULY 15

Toad the Wet Sprocket. 7:30 p.m. at The Birchmere Music Hall 3701 Mount Vernon Ave. American alternative rock band perform with guest Derik Hultquist. Tickets start at \$45. Visit www.birchmere.com/calendar for tickets.

THURSDAY-SUNDAY/JULY 16-18

The Bacon Brothers. 7:30 p.m. at The Birchmere Music Hall 3701, Mount Vernon Ave. The Bacon Brothers is the American musical duo of Michael Bacon and Kevin Bacon. Although they have played music

together since they were boys, the brothers have only been a working band since 1995. Tickets are \$39.50. Visit www.birchmere.com for more.

FRIDAY/JULY 17

Musical Tribute to Frank Sinatra. 8 p.m. at The Carlyle Club, 2050 Ballenger Ave. Tony Sands celebrates 100 years of Sinatra's music. Tickets start at \$28. There is a \$25 minimum food and beverage purchase required per guest, except for general admission tickets. Visit www.thecarlyleclub.com.

SATURDAY/JULY 18

Folk Night Friday. 6:30-9:30 p.m. at Durant Arts Center, 1605 Cameron St. Featured artist ilyAIMY plays acoustic rock with mixed genre inspirations. \$10 for residents and \$15 for non-residents in advance, \$15 for residents and \$20 for non-residents at the door. Visit www.alexandriava.gov.

Tom Teasley: Sonic Saturation Performance and Sound Installation. 7 p.m. at The Athenaeum, 201 Prince St. This one-time installation, inspired and created with water, will include pre-recorded ambient sound combined with live performance on unusual instruments. \$15 admission. Visit www.nvfaa.org for more.

Marine Chamber Orchestra Concert Series. 7:30 p.m. at The Schlesinger Center, 4915 East Campus Drive. The United States Marine Chamber Orchestra continues its summer concert series. Free. Visit www.nvcc.edu/schlesingercenter.

Community Dance. 7:30-9:30 p.m. at Hollin Hall Senior Center, 1500 Shenandoah Road. The dance is open

to the public and features the Mount Vernon Swing Band. \$4 at the door. Call 703-765-4573.

FRIDAY-SATURDAY/JULY 17-18

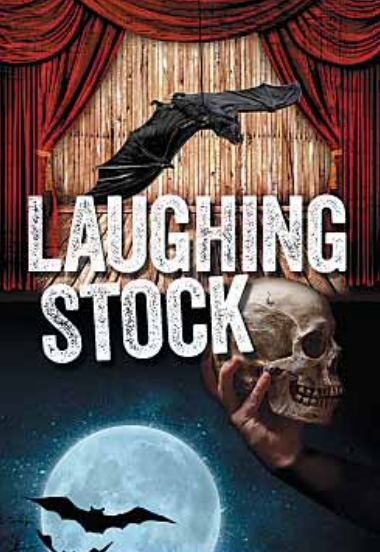
Comcast Outdoor Film Festival. 5:30 p.m. at Waterfront Park. Watch films on a 40-foot inflatable movie screen. Films are as follows: Friday, July 17 – "How to Train Your Dragon 2" (PG); Saturday, July 18 – "X-Men: Days of Future Past" (PG-13). Bring blankets and chairs. Free. Visit www.AlexandriaFilmFest.com, www.AlexandriaVA.gov or call 703-746-5592.

SATURDAY/JULY 18

"Sing for your Life" Free Vocal Workshop. 1–5 p.m. at Convergence Arts Initiative (Main Building), 1801 N Quaker Lane. The Alexandria Singers are offering a new program to anyone interested in developing his or her singing talents in a stress-free choral environment. The program will include one-on-one instruction from a trained teacher, group practice with experienced singers, and a chance to perform in front of friends and family. Open to all ages 12 and up (minors must be accompanied by an adult, who need not participate in the singing). Free. Email director@alexandriasingers.com to register.

"Solo Baroque." 3 p.m. at The Lyceum, 201 S. Washington St. Listen to Baroque violinist Michael de Sapio. Free. Donations accepted. Contact michaelmartind@gmail.com or call 703-409-5859.

SEE ENTERTAINMENT, PAGE 23



AUDITIONS:
Saturday July 11th, 2 pm
Sunday, July 12th, 7 pm

CALLBACKS:
 Tuesday, July 14th, by invitation

LAUGHING STOCK, a backstage farce, with a behind-the-scenes look at the world of Summer Stock Theatre that is nowhere close to Broadway in any and all aspects. All characters are stereotypical theater types that all of us have worked with, loved, and in some cases have been or will be. Details listed under the pull-down "auditions" button on our website.

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SPORTS

SSSAS Grad Competes in Under Armour All-America Game

Majure to play lacrosse at Duke, looking forward to watching Duke basketball.

Ellie Majure was a standout performer for one of the best girls' lacrosse programs in the country. A four-year member of the St. Stephen's & St. Agnes varsity, Majure helped the Saints to a 28-1 record and an ISL AA championship during her senior season, scoring 95 goals and distributing 19 assists. Majure, who also played field hockey for the Saints, was named an Under Armour and US Lacrosse All-America and will continue her lacrosse career at Duke University.

On July 3, Majure, a 2015 SSSAS graduate, played in the Under Armour All-America Game at Towson University, helping the South team to a 14-12 victory.

Majure recently participated in a Q&A via email with the Gazette Packet.

Q: You'll be playing lacrosse at Duke University next season. What made Duke the right choice for you?

Majure: Duke had everything I was looking for — a great lacrosse program and great academics. I loved the personality of the team, and when I walked around campus, I could really see myself there.

Q: What position(s) will you play?

Majure: We're not sure yet. It all depends on where I fit in with the team.

Q: What are you most looking forward to about going to college?

Majure: Duke basketball.

Q: At what age did you start playing lacrosse?

Majure: 10 — it was the summer going into fifth grade.

Q: When did you realize playing college lacrosse was an option for you?

Majure: The summer after seventh grade, I was playing in the U15 national tournament in Florida. That was the first time any coach had ever watched one of our games, and when I started receiving flyers from her school a week later, I realized that college lacrosse might be a possibility.

Q: How was the experience of playing in the Under Armour All-America game?

Majure: It was so much fun. I met a lot of new people and got to play with a whole team of incredibly talented players.

Q: The St. Stephen's & St. Agnes girls' lacrosse program is one of the nation's best. In your opinion, what makes the Saints such a consistently strong team?

Majure: It's a combination of coaching and girls willing to sacrifice to be a part of the tradition.

Q: What is your favorite memory of playing lacrosse at St. Stephen's?

Majure: There are too many great memories to choose one. But I'll never forget Coach [Kathy] Jenkins's 600th win and all the games I played against some of my best friends.

Q: Do you have any game day superstitions?

Majure: No superstitions, but my mom makes me a PB&J cut into a star on game days.

Q: What do you like to do when you're not playing a sport?

Majure: I like to read, bake, and work on art projects.

Q: Are you a pro sports fan? Which team(s) do you root for?

Majure: Not really. I think college sports are much more interesting.



GAZETTE PACKET FILE PHOTO

St. Stephen's & St. Agnes graduate Ellie Majure played in the Under Armour All-America Game on July 3.

Q: What location is the farthest you've traveled from the Washington, D.C metro area?

Majure: San Diego.

Q: What's your favorite food?

Majure: Macaroni and cheese — hands down.

Q: Who is your favorite music artist? Why?

Majure: Beyoncé, because she's awesome.

Q: What is your favorite movie? Why?

Majure: "The Lion King" — the soundtrack is killer.

— JON ROETMAN



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

National Honor

Travis J. Lake (above, against Gonzaga), son of Jim and Rhonda Lake and a senior at Bishop Ireton High School in Alexandria, was named as a 2015 Brine National High School All-America and selected to represent the Virginia 2016-2017 Team at the 2015 Brine National Lacrosse Classic held at the River City Sportsplex in Virginia, June 29-July 2.

BULLETIN BOARD

ONGOING

Old Town Pool, 1609 Cameron St., and **Memorial Pool** at Charles Houston Recreation Center, 901 Wythe St. are now open to the public. See www.alexandriava.gov.

Seeking Donations. Computer CORE, which is dedicated to helping low-income adults become computer literate is seeking donations. Visit www.computercore.org/contribute.

Senior and Job Programs. 8:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. Queen of Apostles Church, 4650 Taney Avenue, Alexandria. St. Martin de Porres Center offers senior and job placement programming Monday through Friday at the parish. The programming, operated by Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Arlington, was temporarily suspended after a fire damaged the center's main location. Email Kathryn Toohey, ktoohy@ccda.net.

Parent Support and Educational Group. Every Thursday starting Oct. 7. 6-7:30 p.m.

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.

Ladrey High-Rise, 300 Wythe St. A place where parents can share their daily parenting frustrations and triumphs in a supportive environment and learn new strategies from each other to deal with these challenges. Call Krishna Leyva at 703-824-6865 or email krishna.leyva@acps.k12.va.us.

Planned construction and renovation activities at the Hooffs Run Park Playground, 99 E. Rosemont Ave., begin Aug. 11. Weather permitting, construction will conclude in approximately eight weeks. The renovation includes removal and replacement of play equipment, new rubberized safety surfacing, drainage improvements and restoration of plantings. The playground will be closed. Visitors are encouraged to use nearby playgrounds, Sunset Park, 4 Sunset Dr., and Beach Park, 201 Rucker Pl. Visit

www.alexandriava.gov/recreation/info/default.aspx?id=27060#hooffs for more.

Mental Health First Aid Training. Visit survey.alexandriava.gov/s3/MHFARegistration for dated and times. Limit of 20 participants per class. Contact Donielle Marshall at 703-746-3623 or donielle.marshall@alexandria.gov for more.

Feedback Wanted. The City of Alexandria's Department of Recreation, Parks and Cultural Activities is looking for feedback to determine the best method to modify/expand their pool facilities at the existing Chinquapin Center. Visit studentvoice.com/p/?uuid=750b3323364547e9b16b319dc3494a37 to take the survey.

Information Technology Services. Open through Aug. 30. ITS is looking for feedback on its new online system of interactive maps. Visit www.alexandriava.gov/gis/info/default.aspx?id=76912 to leave feedback.

Preschool Registration. Register now for free ACPS preschool for eligible 4-year-old children. The program runs 8 a.m.-2:30 p.m. Monday. Contact Citywide Early Childhood Programs Coordinator Stacey Joyner at 703-578-0293. Registration will take place at the new central office located at 1340 Braddock Place, Alexandria from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Be Heard at the City's monthly Public Hearings. A schedule of the meetings can be found at www.alexandriava.gov. Voice opinions, speak about something on the docket or just speak about something you are concerned about.

SPORTS BRIEF

Ratcliff Thomas Foundation To Host Football Camp

The Ratcliff Thomas Foundation (Community Outreach/Sports Services Division) will hold a Youth Football Camp partnered with Fairfax County Neighborhood and Community Service (Bailey's Community Center) on July 18, 11 a.m.-1:30 p.m. at Bailey's Community Center, 5920 Summers Lane, Falls Church — the third and final

camp of the summer. Registration begins at 9:30 a.m.

The first pre-season clinic, partnered with the City of Alexandria's recreation department at George Washington Middle School, hosted 85 youth.

Camp registration is open with a \$7 registration fee. Email rthomas@ratcliffthomasfoundation.org.

ENTERTAINMENT

FROM PAGE 21

JULY 18-24

“Jon Meadows – A Soldier’s Voice.” Opening reception is on July 18, at 6 p.m. Gallery hours Monday–Saturday, 10 a.m.–6 p.m., Thursday, 10 a.m.–9 p.m., and Sunday, 12–6 p.m. at Torpedo Factory Art Center, 105 N Union St, Studio 12. Veteran Army Staff Sgt. Jon Meadows tells his story—the narrative of his war experience—through visual art. Admission is free. Visit www.theartleague.com or call 703-683-1780.

SUNDAY/JULY 19

Nasar Abadey Jazz Performance. 4–6 p.m. at Meade Memorial Episcopal Church, 322 N Alfred Street. Free with suggested donation of \$15. Call 703-549-1334 or visit www.meadechurch.org for more.

Ambrosia. 7:30 p.m. at The Birchmere Music Hall, 3701 Mount Vernon Ave. An American rock band from California performs live. Tickets start at \$29.50. Visit www.birchmere.com.

MONDAY/JULY 20

Jonny Lang. 7:30 p.m. at The Birchmere Music Hall, 3701 Mount Vernon Ave. Jonny Lang brings modern blues to the Birchmere. Tickets start at \$69.50. Visit www.birchmere.com/calendar.

MONDAY/THURSDAY/JULY 20-JULY 24

Summer Camp. 9 a.m.–3:30 p.m. at the Alexandria Archaeology Museum, 105 N Union St. Kids aged 12–15 are invited to apply to an archaeology camp hosted by Alexandria Archaeology where campers can participate in a real archaeological dig with professional archaeologists. The camp costs \$400 per session with full scholarships available. Visit www.torpedofactory.com.

TUESDAY/JULY 21

Genealogical Clues in Records. 1–3 p.m. at Hollin Hall Senior Center, 1500 Shenandoah Road. Learn how to find clues about your ancestors in legal documents in Chuck Mason’s talk: “Understanding the Hidden Clues in Records.” Free. Visit www.mvgenealogy.org or call 703-768-4101.

Steeleye Span Concert. 7:30 p.m. at The Birchmere, 3701 Mount Vernon Ave. British folk rock group Steeleye Span performs. Tickets start at \$35. Visit www.birchmere.com to buy tickets.

JULY 23-SEPT. 6

“Fields.” Gallery hours at The Athenaeum Gallery, 201 Prince St.

Abstract Artists David Carlson and Pat Goslee make art based on their interests in spiritual exploration and energy fields. Free. Visit www.nvfaa.org for more.

THURSDAY-SATURDAY/JULY 23-25

Summer Theatre Program Presents: “Bye Bye Birdie.” Thursday–Saturday, 7:30 p.m.; Saturday, 2 p.m. at Bishop Ireton High School, 201 Cambridge Road. See a production of the musical theatre classic, “Bye Bye Birdie,” put on by the Summer Theatre Program and directed by Andrew Curtin. Tickets are \$8 for seniors and students, \$10 for adults. Contact Katie Murray at katiel.murray@gmail.com.

THURSDAY/JULY 23

Peter White and Richard Elliot. 7:30 p.m. at The Birchmere Music Hall, 3701 Mount Vernon Ave. Jazz musicians perform live at the Birchmere. Tickets start at \$45. Visit www.birchmere.com/calendar.

FRIDAY/JULY 24

Golf Classic. All day at Old Hickory Golf Club, 11921 Chanceford Drive, Woodbridge. Alexandria Chamber of Commerce hosts its Annual Golf Classic. Tickets start at \$250. Visit www.alexchamber.com.

A Tribute to Earth Wind and Fire and The Emotions. 8 p.m. at The Carlyle Club, 2050 Ballenger Ave. The Brencore Allstars Band performs hits from Earth Wind and Fire and The Emotions. Tickets start at \$30. There is a \$25 minimum food and beverage purchase required per guest, except for general admission tickets. Visit www.thecarlyleclub.com.

JULY 25- AUG. 30

Leigh Merrill: “Cloud Seeding.” Gallery hours at Torpedo Factory Art Center, 105 N Union St. Texas-based artist Leigh Merrill shows photography and video in her solo exhibition Cloud Seeding. Merrill’s work examines the construction of desire, fiction and beauty in urban landscapes by digitally compositing thousands of images and videos into imaginary spaces. Admission is free. Visit www.torpedofactory.org.

SATURDAY/JULY 25

Exhibit Opening Reception. 6–8 p.m. at Rachel M. Schlesinger Concert Hall & Arts Center, 3001 N. Beauregard St. Celebrate the launch of new exhibit featuring Stanley Agbontaen’s oil paintings. Free. Visit www.schlesingercenter.com.



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Please support the Alexandria Police Foundation’s efforts to guarantee that every qualified, deserving child has an opportunity to benefit from this positive experience. \$500 will send one more child to camp per week and is 100% tax deductible.

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Sunday 7:30 am; 9:00 am (with Sign Language Interpreter & Children’s Liturgy of the Word); 10:30 am; 12:00 Noon; 2:00 pm	Thursday & First Friday of the Month: 7:30 pm Mass (Español) preceded by 7:00 pm Eucharistic Adoration

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News

Murder Sparks Community Outrage

FROM PAGE 1

changed by groups of individuals who were known to each other. But Linda Tibbs' testimony raised more questions; questions Huchler and the Alexandria Police were unprepared to answer.

"You're saying there's a group of individuals [who have been firing at each other] in all of these cases, but the mother is saying that he was an innocent bystander?" asked Hayes Lewis. "Which is it?"

Huchler responded that the police could not reveal the details of the ongoing investigation, which in the middle of a meeting ostensibly held to increase communication between the police and the local community, did not sit well with many in the audience.

Bethany Case, a local resident, asked the audience to raise their hands if they had heard shots fired in their neighborhood. Nearly all of them raised their hands. She asked how many had witnessed a crime or seen a drug deal take place and received a similar response.

"There's a leadership problem in the Alexandria police," said Case. "You're not making this a priority. Where is the police chief?"

Huchler explained that Police Chief Earl Cook was on leave and was travelling out of town, but that Cook had walked through the neighborhoods the week before. Huchler said that, since February, the police have been moving resources into the Braddock neighborhood to address the shots fired calls. Huchler noted that the department was utilizing high visibility tactics and enhancing their community outreach efforts while also working with plain clothes detectives and undercover assets. In relation to the recent rash of shots-fired calls, Huchler said the Alexandria police have made six arrests. However, Police Public Information Officer Crystal Nosal specified after the meeting that the reports of shots fired around the Braddock Metro are "not currently connected" to the murder of Elliot-Tibbs.

But for other local residents, the fears being expressed had a racial element. Gwen Pratt Miller was particularly upset that the conversation surrounding a dead African American man almost immediately turned to a conversation about drugs.

"We're still a divided city, it will always be that way," said Miller. "There is no evidence about who shot the boy, black or white ... Every [African American] in Alexandria is not a drug dealer or on drugs."

"We need to go back to the basics," said Joyce Rawlings in a plea to the community. "We're in a city, we're close to each other, and we see each other



By VERNON MILES / GAZETTE PACKET

Linda Tibbs, mother of Shakkon Elliot-Tibbs, and his aunt, Bernadette Tibbs.

every day. How many say hello or good evening? Now how many clutch your bags as you walk by? These people are invisible to you. The first thing you put up between the neighborhoods is a big fence. You are all in crisis mode because someone is coming to take your stuff. Stop being scared. You can throw all kinds of money at the police, but we have to learn how to police ourselves."

Judy Guse-Noritake, head of the Braddock Metro Citizens' Coalition, acknowledged that there is a divide between several neighborhoods in the Braddock Metro area, but believed it was more economic than racial.

"To say that there's not a separation based on economic would be hypocritical," said Guse-Noritake. "There is. [Ms. Rawlings] is right. Fayette is not a big street, but how do you reach across and try to form a community? It's difficult You can't just walk across the street but it's what needs to happen. Other places have done it, we want to do it, and we're trying to make that happen." At one point, a police officer lived in the Andrew Adkins neighborhood, and Guse-Noritake said she was happy to hear from the police department that they had an officer who may move into the neighborhood again. In the meantime, Huchler said the police will run some local operations out of a vacant property. Huchler also said that there would be increased community involvement and more communication with the public.

As the meeting ended, local Alexandrian Scott Carter urged the group to join hands in a prayer for more community and understanding. For some, though, it was a hollow gesture.

"We've been praying for years," said Miller. "Look where it's gotten us."

Anyone with information that can help police is asked to call 703-746-6689.

Primary Results Leave Divided Party?

FROM PAGE 1

sition to her. A twitter campaign, led by Alexandrian Glenn Klaus, called Write-In Euille, emerged in the days following the primary. But Euille stated that he has had nothing to do with that effort or any other write-in campaign. According to Shafroth, Euille running as a write-in is likely very troubling to party leadership.

However, according to Alexandria Democratic Party Chair Clarence Tong, unless Euille openly opposes Silberberg or declares his support for the write-in campaign, there's nothing Tong can do to remove him from the party.

"The Democratic Committee encourages members to support nominee and endorsees," said Tong, "but there is a different bar for actual removal from mem-

bership for office."

Article IX, Section 2 of the Alexandria Democratic Committee's bylaws, lays out a specific set of guidelines for what merits removal from the party. A Democrat may be removed due to any sort of malfeasance of their duties, for conduct "injurious to the good name of the Democratic Party or the Committee, using the Democratic name or party resources to promote a non-Democrat in a contested election, or publicly supporting a candidate opposed to a Democrat."

"Unless he supports the write-in campaign, there's no violation there," said Tong. Tong also mentioned that, while he would rather each of the candidates support the Democratic slate, he doesn't believe there is substantial evidence to indicate that the write-in campaign is going to be a concerted effort.

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21 Announcements

ABC License
GT Fort Belvoir, LLC trading as The Greene Turtle Sports Bar and Grille a/k/a The Greene Turtle, 7879 Heneska Loop, Alexandria, VA 22315. The above establishment is applying to the VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL (ABC) for a Wine and Beer On and Off; Mixed Beverage (seating capacity 151 seats or more) license to sell or manufacture alcoholic beverages. Larry L. LeDoyen, Jr., 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

21 Announcements

ABC LICENSE
Yates Restaurant Group, LLC trading as Lena's Wood-Fired Pizza & Tap, 401 E. Braddock Rd, Alexandria, VA 22301. The above establishment is applying to the VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL (ABC) for a Wine and Beer On Premises/Mixed Beverage license to sell or manufacture alcoholic beverages. Jason A. Yates, Sole 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.

21 Announcements

ALEXANDRIA CITY PUBLIC SCHOOLS REQUEST FOR INFORMATION NUMBER 15-06-06

The Alexandria City School Board dba Alexandria City Public Schools is seeking to gather information from qualified Vendors to provide a web based vendor self-service solution that manages vendor registration, solicitation notification to vendors and final contract management.

Sealed Responses with the notation RFI# 15-06-06 Vendor Self Service / Contract Management Systems will be received in the Central Procurement Office, 1340 Braddock Place, Suite 620, Alexandria, Virginia 22314, on or before 3:00 pm, August 6, 2015. The time of receipt shall be determined by the time clock stamp in the Procurement office. Responses appropriately received will be opened and the names of the firms responding will be read aloud. RFI documents may be obtained at the above Procurement Office or by calling 703-619-8181, or by downloading the RFI from the ACPS website at <http://www.acps.k12.va.us/financialservices/purchasing/bids.php>

ACPS reserves the right to cancel this RFI.

Chris Guy
Procurement Manager

21 Announcements

ALEXANDRIA CITY PUBLIC SCHOOLS REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL NUMBER 15-06-03

The Alexandria City School Board dba Alexandria City Public Schools is seeking proposals for Custodial Services.

Sealed Proposals with the notation RFP# 15-06-03 - Custodial Services, will be received in the Central Procurement Office, 1340 Braddock Place, Suite 620, Alexandria, Virginia 22314, on or before 3:00 pm, August 21, 2015. The time of receipt shall be determined by the time clock stamp in the Procurement office. Proposals appropriately received will be opened and the names of the firms responding will be read aloud. RFP documents may be obtained at the above Procurement Office or by calling 703-619-8343, or by downloading the RFP from the ACPS website at www.acps.k12.va.us, Administration, Financial Services, Procurement and General Services -Current Bids and Request for Proposals.

All questions should be submitted before 3:00 p.m., August 11, 2015. If necessary, an addendum will be issued and posted to the ACPS web site. All responses to this RFP shall be subject to the City of Alexandria's Living Wage requirement.

There is a non-mandatory pre-proposal conference for this RFP on Tuesday, July 28, 2015, at 10:00 AM, at the Alexandria City Public Schools Central Office, located at 1340 Braddock Place, in conference room 610, in Alexandria, VA 22314. All Offerors interested in providing the services in the RFP are encouraged to attend. The Conference will include a site visit to several school locations.

No RFP may be withdrawn for a period of ninety (90) days after the opening of proposals except as may be set forth in the RFP.
ACPS reserves the right to cancel this RFP and/or reject any or all proposals and to waive any informalities in any proposal.

Sharon T. Lewis M.P.S., CPM, CPPB, VCO Director of Procurement & General Services

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21 Announcements

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

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NANCY AITCHESON TAYLOR

Nancy Taylor, 90, died peacefully at her home on July 5 after a short illness. She was an accomplished artist and singer, avid gardener and lover of nature, and a warm and generous friend to all who knew her. She was active in the life of St. James Episcopal Church from its founding in the 1950s, and sang in the church choir, a strong clear voice in the soprano section until just months before her passing.

With her husband Bill, Nancy enjoyed seeing new places. Over the years they traveled to 47 states, Canada, Mexico, Puerto Rico, St. Thomas, St. Croix, Barbados, England, Scotland, Wales, Ireland, France, Belgium, Holland, Germany, Luxembourg, Austria, Italy, Switzerland and Spain. Many of these she commemorated in her art. Born February 19, 1925 in Alexandria, Virginia, to Virginia Dare and John Kenneth Aitcheson, Nancy had an older brother, John Kenneth Jr. She attended Alexandria public schools, graduating high school in three years due to hard work and an accelerated schedule at the start of World War II. In high school, she played varsity basketball. She graduated from Mary Washington College (now University of Mary Washington) in May 1945 with a bachelor's degree in Art. She and Bill married that June.

She worked in the art department of the Hecht Co. and as an art teacher in Alexandria public schools. She was an active artist all her life, exploring all subjects in media ranging from charcoal and oil painting to pastels and watercolor. She illustrated several books of poetry authored by Roberta Newton Taylor, her mother-in-law.

Nancy raised five children, imbuing them with a love of beauty, strength of purpose, and caring. In the fall of 1953 Bill contracted polio, and in many ways she assumed the duties of head of household. For a year that Bill spent in an "iron lung" at Walter Reed Hospital, she visited him daily, driving through Washington, DC and back to their home near Mt. Vernon to care for three small children. When Bill came home from the hospital and pursued a demanding recovery regime of physical therapy, Nancy supported him fully. He said later that his adjustment to life after that "would never have been possible without the daily support and love of my wife, Nance."

She is survived by five children and their spouses (William B. Taylor, Jr. and Deborah Furlan Taylor, Anne Taylor Cregger Patterson and George Patterson, Paul Kenneth Taylor and Robin Lee Taylor, Katharine Clarke Taylor, and David Aitcheson Taylor and Elizabeth L. Smith). She also leaves ten grandchildren and their spouses: Daniel (and Meg Hopkins) Cregger, Zachary, Jacob and Samuel Cregger; Christopher and Mary Morgan Taylor; Maxwell (and Amanda Sue) Taylor and Dana Taylor; and Mathias and Ian Nace; along with two great-grandchildren. Her family is grateful to the devoted care and friendship of many, especially Joshua Elliott.

A memorial service to celebrate Nancy's life will be held on Saturday, July 11 at 2 pm at St. James Episcopal Church, Old Mill Road, Alexandria. Interment with her husband at Arlington National Cemetery at a later date. In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations in her memory to the church.

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Angie's list

LETTERS

FROM PAGE 14

All of my ancestors arrived in the USA in the 20th century, so I don't have any emotional relationship with the Confederate flag, monuments, statues, etc, but I do understand their integral part in our history. Just as "hot" is a concept without "cold" or "wet" without "dry", the "United States" is meaningless without the various antitheses which comprised its founding. The United States, a plural word before the Civil War, fused disparate, even contrary, elements in an alliance of convenience against a common foe, Great Britain, until those contradictions become so intractable only the largest war ever fought in the Western Hemisphere could resolve them. Some small fringe of Confederate flag adherents, use it as a racist hate symbol, but to the vast majority it simplifies other things — family/ancestral heritage, rebellion against central authority, local anatomy, hierarchical rather than (Marsian) egalitarianism, social order, resistance to abuse of power, etc. It is an enduring symbol precisely because it is so multi-faceted.

Those who would remove these confederate symbols are closer than they might imagine to the Islamic State bulldozing Nineveh's and Palmyra's ancient ruins as "pagans." Both believe these things must go because they are morally offensive. But the proverb reminds us to "remove not the ancient landmark thy ancestors have set" precisely because we need to understand our history. If what our ancestors believed was important we find offensive, we still need to be reminded of it, if only so we know not to go that way in our own historic development. If we airbrush Alexandria's Confederate past, it will be largely lost to future generations. Those who forget the lessons of history are doomed to repeat the same mistakes.

Dino Drudi
Alexandria

Importance Of Camp

To the Editor:

Why is it important to send a youth to camp?

Seems like a simple enough question. For those of us that work, live and visit this extraordinary City called Alexandria, we do not want it to become the focus nor experience the events that occurred in cities like Ferguson and Baltimore. Therefore we need to work with the young people of Alexandria to stimulate their minds and engage in their future well-being.

There is not a better experience than having a young man or woman enjoy a week by the Chesapeake Bay and working directly with Alexandria Police officers that have dedicated themselves to enhancing the lives of those less fortunate. This quiet outdoor camp venue provides the perfect setting to allow these kids and our police officers to interact as equals.

The Alexandria Police Foundation Board is committed to heeding Chief Cook's message to advocate for this type of relationship between our officers and our citizens.

By starting with our youth and sending them to a week at Alexandria Police Youth "Camp Kekoka", also supported by the local Kilmarnock YMCA, we think this is a great beginning to keeping the tragic events of other cities from Alexandria.

Please consider supporting your extraordinary city and its youth. To learn more and make a donation, visit www.AlexandriaPoliceFoundation.org.

Willem Polak

Alexandria Police Foundation Board

Streets Safer For All Users

To the Editor:

I write in response to the letter to the editor titled "Revisit the Bike Lanes" in the July 2, Alexandria Gazette Packet.

The King Street Traffic Calming Project was aimed at making this portion of King Street safer for all users. The writer unfortunately focuses narrowly on the number of cyclists using the bike lanes during a two-hour period on one particular day. (I used the bike lanes on that day to bike to work, but, as I always do, I left earlier in the morning than the time period during which the writer observed the lanes.)

As someone who regularly walks and bikes on the portion of King Street at issue, the improvements, including the bike lanes, have been a huge success. Although the project included bike lanes, it was broadly aimed at making the street safer for pedestrians as well. When I walk to and from the King Street Metro Station, I no longer have to walk as close to cars coming down the hill, and, on rainy days, I am no longer splashed with water by passing cars. And I feel much safer on my bike with the bike lanes separating me from the traffic.

By coincidence, on the day I read the letter, I was listening to the radio and heard an interview with Colorado University Civil Engineering Professor Wesley Marshall about bicycling. Marshall noted that studies show the safest cities in the United States and the world are those that have a lot of bicyclists. Safety was the focus of the King Street Traffic Calming Project.

Alexandria is right to encourage walking and bicycling. In addition to safety, it is great for your health. People who engage in regular aerobic exercise, such as cycling, have health characteristics of those much younger in age.

So I say "Bravo" to the Alexandria City Council for making our streets safer for all users and encouraging us to get moving.

Sue Gunter
Alexandria

Write

The Gazette Packet welcomes
views on any public issue.
Include home address and
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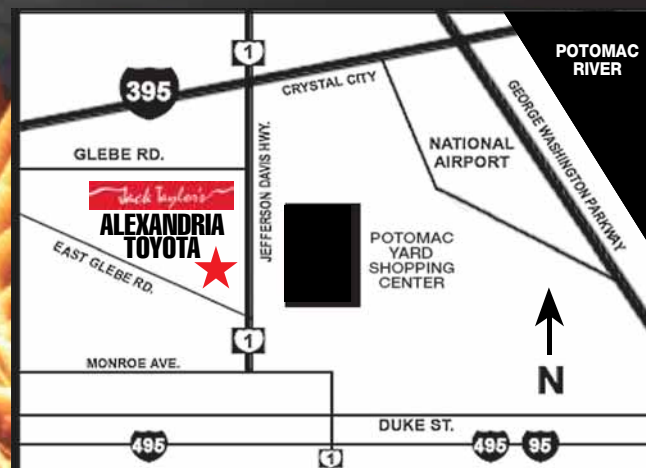
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Belle Haven \$1,899,000

Belle Haven's Grand Dame! 1930s majestic brick home! High ceilings; gracious formal rooms; 5 bedrooms, 4.5 baths and a 2-car garage all on one of Belle Haven's most beautiful streets! Classic and comfortable! 6118 Vernon Terrace.

Janet Caterson Price

703.960.5858

JanetPriceHomes.com



Del Ray \$599,900

Modern home in Del Ray with 2 bedrooms, 2 baths. Open & inviting layout with a spacious living room, dining area and updated kitchen. Enjoy a private back yard with mature trees and brick patio. Off-street parking and just steps to "The Avenue," 3333 Helen St.

Jen Walker

703.675.1566

JenWalker.com



Old Town \$565,000

Gorgeous 2-bedroom, 2-bath corner unit in sought-after 900 North Washington St Condos. High-end finishes throughout. Gourmet kitchen. Luxury baths including master bath with soaking tub and separate shower. 2 garage spaces. Walk to Metro.

Jennifer Halm

703.851.2255

JenniferHalmRealEstate.com



Alexandria \$640,000

Bright west-facing, 2-bedroom, 2-bath, balcony condo with gas fireplace, high-end kitchen appliances & upgrades including hardwoods, custom lighting & blinds. 2 garage spaces. Easy Metro/bus access. Steps to Trader Joe's, 621 St Asaph St N #210.

Barbara Cousens

703.966.4180

BarbaraCousens.com



Alexandria \$689,000

Dramatic 3-bedroom, 2-full & 2-half-bath townhome overlooks parkland and has 2 decks, enclosed yard and fantastic views. Renovated kitchen. Both full baths beautifully updated. Soaring ceilings, Palladian windows, fireplace, 2-car garage. 2527 Gadsby Pl.

Jodie Burns

571.228.5790

JodieBurns.com



Braddock Heights \$664,000

Solid brick 3-bedroom Cape Cod in George Mason District. Beautiful hardwood floors, HUGE lower level for play, hobby or home office. Eat-in kitchen, tons of storage, handsome wood finishes, fireplace. Minutes to DC, Pentagon & Old Town. 2709 Davis Ave.

Betty Mallon

703.989.8548

BettyMallon.com



Falls Church \$1,695,000

5,400 SF of luxurious living in this private, remodeled resort style home! This home offers gourmet kitchen, indoor & outdoor pools, sauna, extravagant master suite, 4 bedrooms with en-suite baths, plus separate guest house. 6529 Crosswoods Drive.

Kristie Zimmerman

703.786.6155

Kristieismyagent.com



Colecroft \$449,000

Walk one block to Metro from this adorable spacious condo. Parking space included, private patio and storage. Walk to King Street, Sugar Shack, Starbucks, dining galore and more. 2 spacious bedrooms & 2 private full baths, complete renovation!

Joan Shannon

703.507.8655

JoanHome.com



Arlington \$739,900

Classic brick colonial with all Arlington offers at your doorstep. Enclosed sun porch welcomes you to this 3-bedroom, 2-bath home with a gracious living room, family room addition, separate dining room, rec room and back deck. 1532 N Kentucky St.

Jen Walker

703.675.1566

JenWalker.com



Alexandria \$329,000

Just listed at The Plaza. This sunlit 2-bedroom, 2-bath & den corner unit offer over 1,300 SF of living space. Spacious new kitchen with granite counters and stone back splash. Garage parking, balcony, storage room, fitness center, and pool.

Bob Martini

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BobMartini.com



Alexandria \$1,189,000

Still Waters Run Deep - Down size or up size this house fits the bill! 4 bedrooms, 3 full baths, 1-car garage, main-level master suite, SPECTACULAR KITCHEN! Gardener's haven - this home is down to the studs PERFECT! 6223 Tally Ho Lane.

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