



# Lewis: Civil Rights Fight Not Over

Civil Rights icon addresses students for TC's 50th anniversary.

BY VERNON MILES  
GAZETTE PACKET

In the middle of Civil Rights movement, young Americans turned towards civil rights leaders like John Lewis for leader-

**“We need to thank the police for their service and we need to treat police officers with dignity, but they also need to treat citizens with dignity.”**

— John Lewis

ship and advice. Fifty years later, a room full of T.C. Williams High School students gathered in the school's au-



PHOTO BY VERNON MILES/GAZETTE PACKET

U.S. Rep. John Lewis tells stories from the Civil Rights movement to TC students.

ditorium to ask Lewis many of the same questions he fielded during the 1960s. How can students get involved in the fight for equality? What are the issues worth fighting for? How to fight for them? Lewis, now a congressman from Georgia, connected his historical experience with the struggles young minority students face today.

The event, run by TC students, is part of the school's celebration of its 50-year anniversary. Dr. Jesse Dingle, TC's new principal, explained to the students that Alexandria was facing its own unrest when the new school was desegregated. Racial tensions at the school were dramatized in the film "Remember the Titans," but for many students,

questions about race and Civil Rights aren't just issues of the past. The discussion with Lewis reflected that the Black Lives Matter movement and the protests at Missouri were very much on the mind of TC students. Lewis said he was deeply moved in seeing students come together and say that they

SEE LEWIS, PAGE 16

# The Great Journey Celebrating 100 years at St. Joseph Catholic Church.

BY VERNON MILES  
GAZETTE PACKET



The Rev. Michael Thompson blesses St. Joseph Catholic Church on its 100th anniversary.

The Rev. Michael Thompson had a problem. Sunday, Nov. 15, was the 100-year anniversary of the St. Joseph Catholic Church in Alexandria. The day was the end to a full year of events marking the struggle and perseverance of the historic and largely African-American community, and yet the scheduled church readings had vaguely apocalyptic overtones.

“Heaven and earth will pass away,” reads Matthew 24:35, “but my words will never pass away.”

But then Thompson thought a little more about the apocalypse and realized he had been looking at it all wrong. In the Christian theology, the “end times” isn't really an ominous destruction of the world, but the beginning of some-

thing anew. In the same way, the centennial celebrations for St. Joseph's were the end of one era for the community and the beginning of another.

“One hundred years ago, our ancestors expected today,” said Thompson. “They planned for it to bring dignity and respect to a people disenfranchised. It took a lot of work to build this church, but they wanted it to stand; to be what it is today. One hundred years have passed, and we've been journeying together in faith. It hasn't been easy, but nothing worth doing is.”

During the ceremony, Thompson blessed a new plaque outside the building from the Historic Alexandria Foundation commemorating the anniversary. Gail Rothrock, a member of the board of trustees for the Historic Alexandria Foundation, attended the ceremony

and said the award was as much for what the church has brought to the local community as it was for the building itself.

“It was built 100 years ago and the building has still managed to maintain its architectural character,” said Rothrock.

But 100 years ago, St. Joseph's future was far from certain. Char McCargo Bah, a local author and historian, said the St. Joseph's community originally started at the nearby St. Mary's Catholic

Church, where before the Civil War, many slaves came from around Maryland and Virginia to attend services with their masters. During the way, many of them moved to Alexandria as contrabands, escaped slaves affiliated with Union forces. But after the war, Jim Crow laws put increasing restrictions on the community. They were forced into the back of the church, then told not to sit with the main congregation.

SEE ST. JOSEPH, PAGE 16

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PHOTO BY VERNON MILES/GAZETTE PACKET

Map of the Eisenhower of 2040.

# Eisenhower's Latest Battle Transportation, development, and questions of authority precede approval.

BY VERNON MILES  
GAZETTE PACKET

**E**isenhower East is experiencing a bit of a renaissance. The AMC Hoffman is one of the city's most popular theaters and hosted the premier of "Mercy Street." Next door, the National Science Foundation is nearing completion and accompanying apartment towers across Eisenhower Avenue are taking form.

But on the far side of Telegraph Road, the majority of Eisenhower West is not experiencing the same levels of growth. Alongside the addition of a new TSA building, the Eisenhower Small Area plan hopes to push forward revitalization efforts. But the plan hit City Council at the Nov. 14 meeting with a rocky start.

Mindy Lyle, a member of the Planning Commission and the Eisenhower West Steering Committee, introduced the project and some of the adjustments made by the Planning Commission. The area covered by

the Eisenhower West plan is large compared to other "small area plans," with an anticipated 9.2 million square feet of development projects over the next 25 years. However, with limited amenities in the area, the Planning Commission voted to remove the required minimum amount of developer contributions suggested by staff and allowed developer contributions to be "extremely flexible."

Even before the staff presentation began, this caused trouble.

"The original recommendation came forward in the concept plan," said Councilman Paul Smedberg. "When additions are made by the Planning Commission, [you] essentially created policy."

Lyle justified the removal of a minimum contribution, saying that it left some housing areas with rents over \$3,000 per month.

"We felt if you were paying \$3,000 in rent, you were not going to be living in Eisenhower West," said Lyle. "You would be living in an area that's much more densely populated with amenities at your door.

Eventually we can reach those numbers, but not in the early development phase."

But the problem Smedberg and other members of the council had was twofold: one, that there should be a basic assurance that there would be a contribution, and two, that the Planning Commission was undermining the authority of the council by making policy.

"You can't make that blanket policy statement," said Smedberg. "That's what I'm concerned about. These things are veering into policy decisions that [the council] or [council and staff] should make. I'm concerned about where this is heading and the precedent it's setting."

Councilwoman Del Pepper asked for clarification on whether the early stages of the design approval process are where the council would have the opportunity to ask for contributions from developers. After a pause from Karl Moritz, director of Planning and Zoning, Pepper responded: "I don't like that silence there. That's telling me there's more than what you're saying."

"Whenever any special use permit comes forward, there is an opportunity for the council to consider and approve the contributions that would be expected from the individual private development," said Pepper.

Helen McIlvane, director of Housing, said the Eisenhower West Plan would have a major emphasis on affordable housing and was reliant largely on developer contributions.

Though tension lingered, city staff moved into the presentation.

"When it comes to housing contributions, we will seek units and or monetary contributions for affordable housing every time there is a development or redevelopment occurs," said McIlvane here, noting that some restraints in other parts of Alexandria do not apply in the sparsely populated Eisenhower West. "We can make maximize use of bonus density here. The advisory group is comfortable with a great deal more

SEE COUNCIL, PAGE 16

# New Faces on School Board Face Old Problems

Newcomers brace for coming budget and redistricting battles.

BY VERNON MILES  
GAZETTE PACKET

**W**hile incumbents held onto the City Council, the 2015 Alexandria election is bringing some new faces to the Alexandria School Board. In District B, three newcomers will fill the three empty seats left by incumbents Justin Keating, Marc Williams, and Kelly Booz. In District C, Ramee Gentry will replace



Cindy Anderson



Ramee Gentry



Margaret Lorber



Veronica Nolan

Patricia Hennig. But while the election is over, their work is just getting started. When the four new School Board members take office in January, it will be in the middle of the school system's redistricting and operating budget discussions.

Veronica Nolan, Cindy Anderson, and Margaret Lorber will represent District B. Some differences are already beginning to emerge among them. Nolan said she is very supportive of the work currently underway by the Alexandria City Public Schools'

(ACPS) redistricting committee.

"I appreciate and take seriously that the redistricting committee has such feedback," said Nolan. "We're working with hundreds of community members that want to be involved. That's one of those things that makes Alexandria such an incredible and unique community. We need to come up with solutions that will effectively meet the needs of students and their families."

Lorber, while also expressing her gratitude to the parents and the community's input, is less optimistic about the current redistricting plans. For Lorber, the better choice would be to wait and redistrict after the planned new schools can be accounted

SEE BRACING, PAGE 15

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# Serving Uninsured Residents

Many in city are at risk because of health insurance coverage gap.

BY EDEN BROWN  
GAZETTE PACKET

More than 100 medical and non-medical volunteers, including Amharic, Arabic and Spanish translators, gave their time to Alexandria's first Community Health Fair on Saturday, Nov. 14 at the Francis Hammond Middle School.

According to the fair's sponsors, roughly 275 adults, mostly uninsured city residents attended. The event was hosted by the City of Alexandria and the Alexandria City Public Schools, in partnership with Neighborhood Health, Inova Alexandria Hospital, and the Alexandria Health Department. Almost no city or taxpayer funding went into the fair; the majority of expenses were covered by individual donations of money and time.

The idea for the health fair be-

gan over a year ago with a group — "Joining Together for Alexandria's Uninsured" — congratulating Mayor Bill Euille and City Council for appointing the Special Advisory Panel on the Health Care Needs of the Uninsured. Seven individuals were instrumental: Dan Hawkins, Sara Rosenbaum, Ripley Forbes, Mary Riley, Mary Anne Weber, Arlene Hewitt and Richard Merritt.

The Health Fair attracted women, men, many old, many young, many unable to speak even one word of English, who came to pursue what they know is the foundation of any family and community: good health. Some of them had left jobs and status in a war-torn country to live here, some came because of gang violence or poverty.

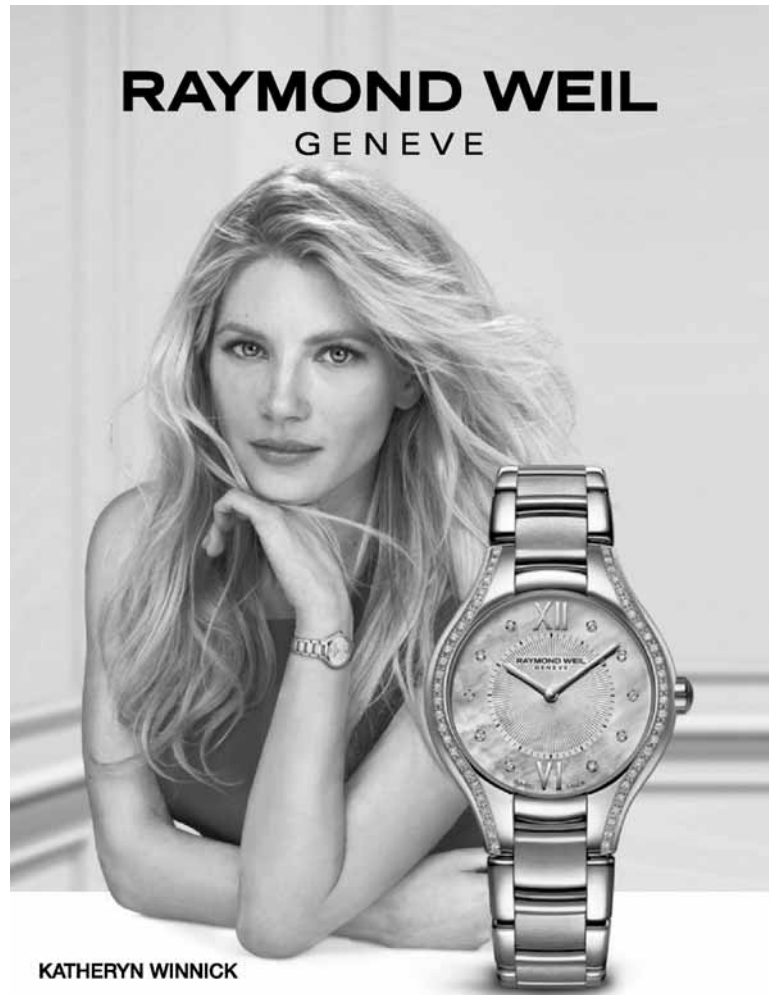
When Badyaa Likuray saw one older woman unable to communi-

SEE HEALTH FAIR, PAGE 8



PHOTO BY EDEN BROWN/GAZETTE PACKET

**Arlene Hewitt with Richard Merritt whose initial conversation with the Mayor Bill Euille in July 2014, about the need to pay attention to the health care needs of the low-income uninsured residents of Alexandria denied Medicaid coverage by the General Assembly, sparked the creation of the Mayor's Special Advisory Panel.**



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## PEOPLE

# Knowing Customers and Beers

BY SHIRLEY RUHE  
GAZETTE PACKET

**W**ill Bruder opens a tap at Rustico on Slater Lane. Beer slides down the side of the Pilsner glass. “This is very much a neighborhood beer bar,” Bruder said. Eight bar stools are full at 4 p.m. on a Tuesday.

“I know half of the clients. The most fun is when somebody trusts me enough to take my recommendation. I like it when they order a flight which is a sample of four different beer tastes. I start out by asking what they don’t like and then go from there,” he said.

But he likes to throw in a curve ball once in a while “just to see.” He knows the faces and names of the people on the other side of the bar. Bruder likes to establish a relationship with the guests.

### PEOPLE AT WORK

“Shel is over there but will move to the other end of the bar when he gets a chance. Someone else has taken his usual seat tonight.” David Bosetter and Lisa Schulz, two other regulars, are occupying that area. “That’s the spot where regulars like to congregate and chat.”

Bruder says, while this is very much a beer bar with over 300 bottles and with 30 beers on tap, probably IPAs, Pilsners and Belgium Wits are the most popular. Bruder adds that there is a lot of memory and recall making the service for the clients the most efficient. People also order hard liquor drinks. Martinis are popular with the Manhattan and Old Fashioned cocktails back in style and with gin and tonic a good choice in the summer. Carl Townsend, another bartender here, does a special drink of the month. Bruder looks down the bar to see if everyone seems to be fine or ready to fill up again.

Josh Edelman, manager of the Rustico at Ballston has stopped in to discuss the new Virginia cider selection for the upcoming Virginia Craft Cider Week. He sits at the bar, three open bottles of cider in front of him. Bruder says one of the ciders has a mineral like quality and one has a blue cheese-type aroma. “It should be interesting for the chef to pair with foods.”

Edelman says his favorite is Foggy Ridge Mouth. “But it’s all a matter of personal taste.”

A bar stool changes over as a customer wearing a white baseball hat and Sidwell Friends T-shirt requests a menu, “What is good?” He settles on the carrot humus topped with lamb ragu and served with fresh pita bread. Bruder says a lot of people come in to order food. They like the appetizer selections;



**Will Bruder takes a break between serving craft beers at Rustico and Bar on Slater Lane. Bruder said, “This is very much a neighborhood beer bar.”**

“you’ve got to try the cheese and herb risotto tots.” Bruder has been brewing draft beer at home for over three years. He said one of the interview questions for his present job asked whether he had ever brewed home beer “so I knew this job would be a fit.” Bruder remembers his first one gallon batch of nut brown ale. “I got chestnuts from a local farmer.” He pauses — “it was drinkable.” In the past year he was able to upgrade his equipment to a stainless boiling tank, a mash tun and a hot liquor (water) tank and a fermenting vessel that gives him more consistency over the product. He moved from his first effort, the nut brown ale, to a hoppy amber ale and then a tangerine vanilla blond ale that “was inspired.” Then on to a chocolate milk stout where “I split some of the batch off and conditioned it on oak cubes.” Each 5 gallon batch makes 48 bottles which he gives away to friends.

After college Bruder worked for the Transportation Security Administration (TSA) on the front line of security at the airport check point. He said, “I thought if I could change one person’s mind a day about TSA, but then government imposed sequestration (automatic across-the-board budget cuts) and reduced my salary so I got an extra job here.” Now Bruder works five days a week from 3 p.m. to midnight. Bruder is always reading beer books and three mornings a week he is an assistant brewer at Right Proper Brewing Company in the Shaw part of D.C. where he is learning the nuances of the craft. He says one day when he has paid his dues he imagines opening a brew pub. In the meantime he pours a stout and leans across the bar to continue his tasting. “I think you’ll like this one. Give it a try.”



**Will Bruder stands in front of the case of more than 300 bottles of beer at Rustico’s. He says they also offer 30 beers on tap with IPAs, Pilsners and Belgium Wits the most popular.**



**David Bosetter and Lisa Schulz, two regular Rustico bar customers, are sitting at the far end of the bar “where regulars” like to congregate and chat.**



**World War II veteran Warden Foley, left, with his wife Harriett and Chamber board member Matt Whitaker.**

## Salute to Veterans Chamber honors businesses.

BY JEANNE THEISMANN  
GAZETTE PACKET

**T**he Alexandria Chamber of Commerce honored six distinguished veterans at its inaugural Salute to Veterans breakfast reception. Held at George Washington’s Mount Vernon and presented by Grant Thornton, the event recognized businesses that demonstrate leadership in hiring and empowering veterans and transitioning service members, or are representative of the entrepreneurial success of a local veteran business owner.

“It is without a doubt that veteran entrepreneurs greatly

enhance our business community,” said Mayor Bill Euille. “These businesses provide our heroes with meaningful employment utilizing the skills they acquired during their service to our country.”

Honored as 2015 veteran businesses of the year were Fluet Huber + Hoang, NanoTech Computer Consulting, PHYLEO Private Investigation Services and Woods Pea

SEE SALUTE, PAGE 7



**Eleven-year-old Megan Warhurst sings the national anthem prior to the awards ceremony.**



**Bob Misch, a veteran and son of a WW II veteran, represented presenting sponsor Grant Thornton.**



**Theresa and Col. John Sims with honoree Fernando Torrez.**

# PEOPLE



**Dave Abdo, center, of PHYLEO Private Investigation Services with Andy Rogers and Nate Clark.**



**Joe Shumard and Henry Dorton enjoy the Salute to Veterans reception.**

## Salute to Veterans

FROM PAGE 6

cock Engineering Consultants. World War II veteran Warden Foley received a standing ovation as he was honored along with Bill McNamara with the Distinguished Patriot Award for their role as leaders of American Legion Post 24. The two led the preservation efforts of Gadsby's Tavern prior to the city taking possession of the building in 1972, the result of a gift by the members of Post 24. The T.C. Williams Army JROTC Color Guard presented the colors and the National Anthem was sung by 11-year-old Megan

Warhurst, whose father is serving overseas in an Army unit based in Turkey. Each of the honorees was presented with a personal letter and a flag that has flown over the U.S. Capitol on behalf of U.S. Sen. Mark Warner. "It is my honor to lead Alexandria as we honor these brave men and women who have selflessly served our country and risked their lives to protect our freedoms," Euille added. "We are a stronger community because they have chosen to continue to serve by making Alexandria a better place to live."

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#### THROUGH NOV. 20

**Visioning Session.** Various times at various locations. The City of Alexandria will hold a weeklong visioning session, also known as a charrette, to launch the Old Town North Small Area Plan Update process. The charrette, an interactive planning and design exercise, will include a variety of opportunities for public involvement, including three charrette public meetings and three

charrette open houses. Visit [www.alexandriava.gov](http://www.alexandriava.gov) for more. **Fall Coat Drive.** The Fund for Alexandria's Child invites Alexandria residents to help children in foster care or at risk of abuse or neglect keep warm this winter through its annual Fall Coat Drive. Call 703-746-5663 or email [thefundforalexchild@alexandriava.gov](mailto:thefundforalexchild@alexandriava.gov) to learn about donation options.

#### THROUGH NOV. 23

**Operation Christmas Child.** During National Collection Week locations will collect shoeboxes, packed with toys, school supplies, hygiene items and notes of encouragement, from donors. Visit [www.samaritanpurse.org/occ](http://www.samaritanpurse.org/occ).



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# Health Fair Serves Over 275 Uninsured Residents

FROM PAGE 5

cate in English, she offered to translate for the Arabic speaker. Likuray is a recent immigrant from Baghdad. She and her engineer husband decided to leave the country, with three teenaged sons, because she could not risk bringing them up in a climate of fear and uncertainty. She arrived in the U.S. two years ago, and gave birth to a fourth son. The family calls him a gift from God. Yasin is now 10-months-old, but because Badyaa does not yet have a green card, her baby does not qualify for Medicaid. Likuray's husband is working hard to support his family, but his engineering credentials aren't recognized here. Health insurance is a luxury he can't afford. Badyaa herself had an alarming health issue after Yasin was born, but she didn't go to the Emergency Room because she didn't have insurance. Eventually someone told her about Neighborhood Health, and she cobbled together health care for her family by going there and paying according to a sliding scale. Likuray, who left behind her



**Sarah Abdelrahim, whose parents immigrated from Egypt, decided to volunteer at the fair when she saw the opportunity on "Next Door," a neighborhood site. She translated Arabic and Spanish for the attendees.**



**Jennifer Taylor, who moved to Alexandria from Washington, D.C. a year ago, works for the National Association of Community Health Centers. When she heard about a chance to volunteer at the fair, she thought: "It's sort of what I do for a living, so I should do this."**



**Dan Hawkins, with the National Association of Community Health Centers, and Susan Nolan, a lawyer with Legal Services of Northern Virginia who volunteered to assist people in enrolling in Medicaid or ACA coverage alongside the Enroll VA volunteers, talk with a client at the Health Fair.**

PHOTOS BY EDEN BROWN



**Trista Johnson, a volunteer at the health fair who is a student from Northern Virginia Community College Dental Hygiene School, teaches Aldo, whose mother came here from El Salvador, the Dominican Republic, and New York, how to brush his teeth. Johnson said most of the children she worked with at the fair brushed twice a day.**

support network, comfortable lifestyle, friends, and her entire family to seek a better life for her children, was grateful to be at the fair.

Karima is a Moroccan immigrant, who, with two sets of twins, is entitled to some assistance from the government, but who is not able to afford health insurance. She stayed home to care for her children because paying for daycare for four children would have cost more than she earned. She now studies at Northern Virginia Community College in early childhood education, so she can get a decent job when she graduates. Karima was getting her family's vision and hearing checked, and was happy to see something like the Health Fair recognizing the uninsured.

The most popular screens and services among the attendees were blood pressure monitoring, glucose tests, flu shots (more than 180 flu vaccines were administered by Walgreens) and vision and hearing. At least 268 of the attendees underwent the majority of the 12 health screens and services that were offered at the fair. Nasima Khanam, from Bangladesh, was one of those. She has been in the U.S. for 13 years. She had ObamaCare insurance for two years, and paid \$199 a month for it. Then, the price raised to an amount she could not handle. She has diabetes and high blood pressure. Her children attend local schools.

Some attendees were able to receive advice on follow up services available to them. Hygienists with the Northern Virginia Community College Dental Hygiene Clinic were able to refer several attendees to their low cost (\$35 for adults, covering all treatment required for one year) dental screening and hygiene ser

SEE HEALTH FAIR, PAGE 9

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## Correction

In last week's Scottish Christmas Walk Weekend and Parade Guide, one of the addresses on the map accompanying the Holiday Designer Tour of Homes was incorrect: 312 S. Pitt Street should have been 321 S. Pitt St.

For details or tickets, visit [www.campaigncenter.org/scottishwalkweekend](http://www.campaigncenter.org/scottishwalkweekend).



# Health Fair

FROM PAGE 8

vices. One volunteer at the fair was so impressed with their services, he agreed to cover the fee for up to 25 low-income, uninsured individuals in need.

The Alexandria Lion's Club referred several individuals with poor vision to places where they could obtain eyeglasses for free or at a discount.

Attendees with elevated blood pressures were counseled by registered nurses and nurse practitioners on critical follow up care for reducing their risk levels for heart disease and diabetes.

At least 22 individuals were referred to Neighborhood Health's booth during the fair for follow up medical care; additionally, seven families requested an appointment to apply for state sponsored health programs like FAMIS — Virginia's health insurance program for children which makes health care affordable for children of eligible families — or Medicaid — for children. NovaSalud indicated that 26 attendees were tested for HIV and provided counseling.

When asked, "When you or someone in your family is sick, where do you go for health care?" Forty-two attendees indicated the hospital or the emergency room. A few more answered "urgent care."

The Department of Community and Hu-



PHOTOS BY EDEN BROWN/GAZETTE PACKET

**The Alexandria Lion's Club conducted 175 sight and hearing screens during the fair. Of that total, 128 were referred for vision follow up and 29 for a hearing check up. One hundred and sixteen individuals were screened for glaucoma and 36 were found to need further attention. All referrals must go initially to the Department of Community and Human Services, where individuals obtain a prescription for their eyes, and upon certification of income and need, they are then referred to a specific optician for free or discounted care.**

man Services was there to help individuals apply for SNAP, the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program; the Health Department helped individuals enroll in WIC (Women, Infants, and Children, a federal nutrition program); Enroll Virginia brought many volunteers to assist quali-

fied individuals to apply for the Affordable Care Act (ACA or "ObamaCare"). At the fair, Enroll Virginia enrolled 21 individuals in an ACA plan, helped one individual renew their ACA plan, and directed 14 individuals to apply for Medicaid.

Neighborhood Health reported

NovaSalud provided 26 attendees with mental health screening.

Every family that attended the fair was provided with a voucher from the Alfred Street Baptist Church to obtain a free Thanksgiving Turkey. Volunteers, many in their 70s or 80s, worked from 8 a.m.

through the end of the fair at 4 p.m. Many in their 20s did the same thing: Sarah Abdelrahim, a young American of Egyptian-born parents, saw the opportunity to volunteer at the Health Fair on "Next Door," a website organized by neighborhood. She works at the Interior Department and finds it hard to volunteer regularly, but because her parents were immigrants, she tries to help when she can. She speaks fluent Arabic and Spanish, and was reaching out to the many non-English speakers at the health fair.



**Yasin, 10-months-old, was born in the U.S. of Iraqi refugee parents.**

One hundred and fifty-one attendees, of the 158 who filled out an evaluation form about the fair, said if another Health Fair were offered next year, they would be there.

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**Alexandria—1130 Arcturus Lane 22308 \$1,295,000**

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# OPINION

# Holidays Are About Giving

Give thanks and share locally; tens of thousands of families around us are in need.

The holidays are about giving, and giving thanks. The holidays are about children and family. The holidays are about sharing, about joy. The holidays are about being thankful and about faith and appreciation. The holidays are about alleviating suffering for others.

**EDITORIAL** Northern Virginia is among the wealthiest areas in the country, and many if not most of us go through our usual routines without encountering evidence of needy families among us.

But more than 51,000 children who attend Fairfax County Public Schools are poor enough to receive free or subsidized meals, a significant measure of poverty. That's 28 percent of students in Fairfax County Public Schools.

In Arlington more than 31 percent of the students are poor enough to receive free or subsidized meals; that's 7,749 students at last count.

In Alexandria, 8,664 students are poor enough to receive free or subsidized meals. That's 59 percent of the 14,671 students enrolled.

These are children who are living in families who may be on the brink of homelessness, families who must choose between medical bills, car repair, heat and food. These are children who may not be sure that they will have a meal between the meals they get in school. School holidays can bring uncertainty and hunger, a far cry from the celebrations, gifts and plenty that we associate with Thanksgiving and Christmas.

Hundreds of homeless students attend the public schools, and their needs are greater.

There are literally hundreds, probably thousands, of ways to give locally this season. Here are a few ideas. We will rerun this list again

during the holiday, so let us know what we have missed.

— MARY KIMM

MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

## Alexandria: Where to Give Locally

- ❖ ALIVE! 703-837-9300 www.alive-inc.org, Emergency food assistance, emergency financial assistance, shelter, year-round preschool, furniture and housewares.
- ❖ Literacy Council of Northern Virginia, 703-237-0866, www.lcnv.org, Teaches adults the basic skills of reading, writing, speaking and understanding English. Offers one-to-one tutoring programs for adult learners as well as beginning-level ESOL and Family Learning adult programs.
- ❖ Senior Services of Alexandria, 703-836-4414, www.seniorservicesalex.org, Support services for elders enabling them to age with dignity.
- ❖ Tahiri Justice Center, 703-575-0070, www.tahiri.org, Legal services, public policy advocacy, and education for immigrant women and girls.
- ❖ Animal Welfare League of Alexandria, 703-746-4774, www.alexandrianimals.org, Pet adoptions, spay and neuter assistance, education and community service and outreach.
- ❖ Stop Child Abuse Now (SCAN) of Northern Virginia, 703-820-9001, www.scanva.org, Parent education, public education-re: child abuse and court advocacy for abused and neglected children.
- ❖ Rebuilding Together Alexandria, 703-836-1021, www.RebuildingTogetherAlex.org, Home repair and maintenance for vulnerable veterans, elderly, disabled and families with children.
- ❖ ACT for Alexandria, 703-739-7778, www.actforalexandria.org, Nonprofit and donor services.
- ❖ Arlington-Alexandria Coalition for the Homeless, 703-525-7177, www.aachhomeless.org.
- ❖ Carpenter's Shelter, 703 548 7500, www.carpentershelter.org, Homeless services and programs including education and case management.
- ❖ The Campagna Center, 703-549-0111, www.campagnacenter.org
- ❖ Center for Alexandria's Children, 703-838-4381, www.centerforalexandriaschildren.org, Child

- abuse & neglect and parent support.
- ❖ Child and Family Network Centers, 703-836-0214, www.cfnc-online.org
- ❖ Community Lodgings, Inc., 703-549-4407 Transitional and affordable housing, youth education, adult education, bilingual staff assistance.
- ❖ Computer C.O.R.E. 703-931-7346, www.computercore.org, Adult education, computer training and career development.
- ❖ Hopkins House, 703-549-8072, www.hopkinshouse.org, Preschool academy, family budgeting and literacy, family education and youth summer enrichment camp, Early Childhood Learning Institute.
- ❖ Volunteer Alexandria, 703-836-2176, http://volunteerallexandria.org, Volunteer recruitment and placement, court-referred community service placement, community awareness events, and volunteer management training. See www.achsova.org.
- ❖ Bethany House, 6121 Lincoln Rd #303, Alexandria, VA 22312, 703-658-9500, www.bhmv.org. Bethany House provides emergency shelter and supportive services to victims of domestic violence throughout Northern Virginia and the surrounding DC metro communities.
- ❖ Volunteer Alexandria, 123 N Alfred St., Alexandria, VA 22314, 703-836-2176, handsonconnect.volunteerallexandria.org.
- ❖ Friends of the Alexandria Mental Health Center raises funds to support the special and emergency needs of individuals receiving services for mental illness, substance use disorders, and developmental disabilities from the city's Department of Community and Human Services. Send donations to Friends of the Alexandria Mental Health Center, 720 North Saint Asaph Street, Alexandria, VA, 22314. Donations can be made online at Razoo.com.

## LETTERS

### Expect More Cars

To the Editor:

The proponents of Potomac Yard are correct that a rapid transit hub is essential to attracting many Class A office tenants and helping to ensure a vibrant mix of uses at Potomac Yard. A Metro station ensures that more people will work, live and shop at Potomac Yard; however, the vast majority of residents, workers and shoppers will still drive and accommodating these automobile trips is missing from the current dialogue. Route 1 is already over capacity during rush hour and on weekends and the plan is to add in excess of 1 million sf of office space as well as more residential and significant retail. Is there a plan to address the increase in traffic volume that will impact Route 1?

Metro will not solve the lack of vehicular capacity in the area and the development will grossly exacerbate the problem. How many of us actually find Metro a convenient means to commute to work everyday, to shop or to do many of our daily chores? How many current City Council members take Metro to work daily. How many residents of the D.C. area both live and work close enough to a Metro Station at each end to make a Metro commute feasible?

America's dependence on the automobile will not go away; in the future we will relish the freedom and flexibility of driving in our electric or hybrid vehicles. The big automakers are already well on their way to addressing the market needs of carbon averse consumers; I suspect they understand satisfying their customers exponentially better than WMATA.

SEE LETTERS, PAGE 13



STEVE ARTLEY/GAZETTE PACKET

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# LETTERS

FROM PAGE 10

When the million square feet of Class A office space is built at Potomac Yard, there will be considerably more, not fewer vehicles on Route 1; these vehicles will be more efficient and cleaner, but there will be more of them. What vehicular infrastructure improvements are planned and budgeted for Route 1 between the Pentagon on the North and 495 on the South? The automobile is not going away, and the volume of additional traffic converging on Potomac Yard on a daily basis needs to be addressed head on by the leadership that is elected to do so.

**Joe Demshar**

## Busing Inconsistency

To the Editor:

I am the grandmother and daycare of two children, enrolled at James K. Polk. I would like to know why there is not bus transportation for Polk students living on or close to Van Dorn Street. I have put five children through ACPS from kindergarten through 12th grade. I have also run the pick up line at St. Rita's for many years and been part of the pick up line at Queen of Apostles. I have never witnessed a more disorganized and careless (child safety-wise) method for school dismissal. I have spent a lot of time trying to find out who decided no buses was a good idea and, so far, have gotten no response. Particularly from the school principal. And the "must be more than 1 mile" for bus service is not followed. Ramsey students living on Armistead are .9 tenths of a mile from school and have bus service.

**Edith Clance**

## Superb Prosecution

To the Editor:

In support of family and friends, I sat through the Severance trial and came away with impressions that go beyond what has been reported. Local media conveyed a sense that the case against the defendant was less strong than the reality. Eyewitness accounts, unique automobile features, singularly rare ballistics, and disturbed writings may seem highly circumstantial to some, but most of us would conclude, as did the jury, that the summation of proof of Mr. Severance's guilt well exceeded the rule of "reasonable doubt."

Still, the defense team tried to confound the jury with its own interpretation of events. They

failed to prevail because of the inordinate talent of the prosecution team and the excellent work of the police and FBI. It is, however, the Office of the Commonwealth's Attorney that deserves special recognition. The prosecutorial team comprised the following members:

David Lord, senior assistant commonwealth's attorney from Alexandria, presented much of the case for the prosecution. He was unyielding in his pursuit of relevant facts, and his closing arguments were extremely effective.

Marc Birnbaum, assistant attorney general from Fairfax County, exhibited special skill in questioning witnesses and analyzing evidence.

James Entas, assistant attorney general from Norfolk, was able to disarm witnesses with a folksy, down-home demeanor that helped balance the cool deportment of his colleagues.

Bryan Porter, commonwealth's attorney for Alexandria and captain of this team, was stalwart in keeping the prosecution on message and exploiting each flaw in the defense. His passionate closing rebuttal effectively explained the imperative of keeping Mr. Severance confined to prison for the rest of his life.

Alexandrians can be proud that we were represented by this gold-star team of young lawyers who demonstrated skill, wisdom, and compassion in prosecuting a case that meant so much to our community and brought justice to the Dunning, Kirby, and Lodato families.

**Lyn Gubser**

## New Mayor, Same Council

To the Editor:

It is amazing to me that the residents of Alexandria ousted Mayor Euille only to reelect the same City Council representatives. These are the same council members who voted with the mayor favoring developers and builders over the will of the city residents.

I can only hope that the council will get the message sent by the residents that change is needed and that they will give Mayor Silberberg a chance to make those changes.

**Florence Foelak**

## Looking at Election Results

To the Editor:

On Friday, Nov. 6, the election results were certified and published by Wednesday, Nov. 11. A

SEE LETTERS, PAGE 24

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# Crafting Admissions Essays

Educators offer advice on writing effective essays.

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL  
GAZETTE PACKET

**C**inger Wilner spent almost every morning last month hovering over her MacBook Pro, at a window seat in Starbucks, scouring a series of essays. She was looking for fatal mistakes. Errors ranging from comma splices to illogical arguments could torpedo weeks of late-nights spent in front of a computer.

The words weren't hers, though. They were those of her 13-year-old daughter, who is in the midst of applying for a slot at one of the Washington-region's independent schools.

"I haven't spent this much time proofreading since I was in college," said Wilner, an Arlington mother of two. "She's a good writer and put a lot of effort into these essays. But that's probably true of the other type-A students who are applying to these schools, too."

That's right: 'Tis the season for independent school admissions. Families are scrambling to meet the application deadlines for local private schools. In addition to school tours, open houses, applicant interviews and standardized tests, many independent schools require prospective students to demonstrate their writing and critical thinking abilities in the form of an essay.



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**Students seeking admission to many of the area's private schools must write essays as part of the application process.**

"It ... gives the applicant another opportunity, beyond the interview, to share more about their passions, interests, character and creativity," said Lisa Knight, director of admission and financial aid at Flint Hill School in Oakton.

"We hope that the students will reveal something about themselves," said Clare M. Dame, director of enrollment management at Randolph-Macon Academy in Front Royal. "We want to get to know them and what motivates them. Hopefully some of their personalities will come through as they write about their goals or the person they admire."

In addition to writing abilities, admissions

committees review applicants' aptitudes for analytical thinking, creativity and intellectual curiosity. "Are they making a thorough and well-structured argument?" asks Mark Reford, D.Phil., of BASIS Independent School in McLean. "How intellectually resourceful are they? How do these kids think and are they able to express themselves thoughtfully and carefully and clearly in writing?"

"They should come ... with an ability to express arguments clearly and concisely," he continued. "Over the long term, what that involves is an education where the students are used to investigating topics where there isn't a right or wrong answer. They have to be used to thinking through a problem. What's important is the quality of their analysis."

Admissions officials look for applicants who demonstrate excitement about attending a particular school. "The ... essay gives us an idea of why they are considering our school," said Dame. "It helps us to know them and what motivates them to come to a college-prep, Air Force JROTC school."

Applicants should use specific examples that show they understand the school's culture and environment and how they would fit into it. "In writing why they want to come to Randolph-Macon Academy, they need to be able to talk about the school itself so that

we understand that it is an essay written specific to our programs, and not just a generic essay generated for all the schools that they might be considering," said Dame.

Admissions officers can spot essays for which applicants have received an abundance of help. Such assistance can become particularly apparent when a student's application includes a writing sample from a standardized test, such as the Secondary School Admission Test (SSAT), which requires students to organize and write essays in a limited amount of time without help.

"We really value the essay from the SSAT because you're seeing their thought process and how they express themselves in a first draft," said Terri Collins, director of admissions, Oakcrest School in McLean.

Applicants should not eschew all assistance, however. In fact, school officials encourage applicants to get help proofreading their essays. Many families actually seek guidance from an independent educational consultant.

"We follow a strict code of ethics, so we don't help them write the essays or help them pretend to be someone else," said Leigh Ann Cahill of Independent School Options, an educational consulting firm in Alexandria. "But we show them how to present their best selves."

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**AGENDA ALEXANDRIA**

**Taking A Look At Issues Without Taking Sides**

**Parking: Everybody Talks About It - What Can We Do?**

Yon Lambert, Alexandria T&ES | Nate Macek, Planning Commission | Charlotte Hall, Potomac Riverboat Co | Bert Ely

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Program at 7:15 p.m. (\$5 for non-members)  
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Special thanks to **Alexandria Gazette Packet**

**agendaalexandria.org**

# Bracing for Budget Battles

FROM PAGE 3  
for.

“Redistricting is going on now, but redrawing those lines before we know about the new capacity the new school brings is going to be difficult,” said Lorber. “We need to understand first where we’re going to renovate and rebuild. Right now, we’re just moving people from one crowded school to another.”

Anderson expressed similar concerns about the redistricting process, particularly that it might send the wrong message to the community.

“My concern is that the general public will think redistricting is a solution, and it’s not,” said Anderson. “We can reshuffle them all you want, but we don’t have enough seats. I don’t want us to lose the momentum for building onto the schools or building new schools. I don’t want that to hinder our finding new schools.”

In District C, Gentry agreed that redistricting will be the first big issue facing the new School Board members in the spring, but has higher hopes about its results.

“It’s a big priority for us,” said Gentry. “It will help with some of our capacity issues. We need to be dealing with out overcrowding problems.”

According to Lorber, the new board members are already being caught up on the details of issues like redistricting and the budget. The CIP budget was presented by Dr. Alvin Crawley on Nov. 12, but the main discussions and debates will be on the schools’ operating budget beginning in the spring.

“We have to hit the ground running on the budget process,” said Lorber. “Throughout the next two months, we’re meeting with orientation-type events so that we’re really up to speed.”

On the spring budget, Gentry says there needs to be better communication between the schools and City Council on school needs.

“We need to be having good, substantive discussions, and we want to make sure they feel like they have the information they need for this,” said Gentry. Part of this is accountability. Gentry says the schools need to be honest about areas where the school needs improvement or even have the courage to “course correct” around programs that don’t work.

In the budget discussions, Nolan says her priority will be on supporting and retaining top talent in

ACPS. Assistance to the schools’ teachers and administration was cited as a major budget goal for each of the newly elected board members.

“I’ll be pushing for extra personnel in classrooms,” said Lorber. “Whenever possible, to keep diverse group of learners together, you need more paraprofessionals and professionals supporting the people who are teaching.”

On redistricting and the budget, parting School Board members Booz and Hennig left their successors with some advice from their experiences. Hennig advised the new board members to make sure they really read everything they’re given, then read it again to make sure they understand, and to write down any questions that come up. Hennig said this is especially important in the budget discussions.

“Read it, read it again and get your questions written down,” said Hennig. “If you have a question on a program, ask what effect it has had on academic achievement as an example. Remember that parents and community sometimes have their own agenda on items — do not let that affect your judgment.”

Booz advised new board members to make sure they keep the budget discussions focused on the board priorities and specific issues that help student achievement. Both departing members also firmly stood by the necessity of redistricting.

“No board wants to tackle redistricting,” said Booz. “There are reasons why Alexandria has not revisited school lines since 1999. There are also reasons why schools are bursting at the seams in the West End. It’s important for board members and the community to understand the problem facing Alexandria school assignment and the need for redistricting. So many students cannot attend their neighborhood school on day one due to overcrowding. As a result, many students are transferred to other schools. My measure has always been to vote on what’s best for students even if that vote might not be popular among some. Voting on what’s right versus what’s popular should be a touchstone for decisions on redistricting.”

“Redistricting is necessary,” said Hennig, “not just for population distribution, but for equity among the schools. Again, listen, ask questions, make your own conclusions and judgments.”

**“Redistricting is going on now, but redrawing those lines before we know about the new capacity the new school brings is going to be difficult.”**

— Margaret Lorber

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<b>Saturday Evening</b> 5:00 pm Vigil Mass 6:30 pm Vigil Mass (en Español)	<b>Thursday &amp; First Friday of the Month:</b> 7:30 pm Mass (Español) preceded by 7:00 pm Eucharistic Adoration
<b>Sunday</b> 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 (en Español); 6:30 pm	

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ALEXANDRIA VIRGINIA logo

# Lewis Addresses Students for TC's 50th Anniversary

FROM PAGE 1

would not tolerate discrimination.

"Speak up," Lewis urged students, "speak out, and in a non-violent way."

One student asked about Lewis' response to the deaths of Trayvon Martin, Michael Brown, and the subsequent protests at Ferguson. Lewis said that during the Civil Rights movement, they had to be prepared to face violence and resistance, and attended workshops on how to face it in non-violent ways. Lewis added that he didn't see why police officers shouldn't go to the same types of workshops.

"We need to thank the police for their service and we need to treat police officers with dignity," said Lewis, "but they also need to treat citizens with dignity. We all need to be a little more human."

In response to a question concerning the recent attacks in Paris and Beirut, Lewis said this idea reaches out to an international scale.

"We're all shocked, but we can't continue to drop more bombs," said Lewis. "We need to give people hope."

Some students questioned whether non-violence was always the answer, even in situations where it seemed to achieve no results.

"For me, nonviolence is an immutable principle that you cannot deviate on," said Lewis. "If you want to redeem the soul of America, it must be through peace and



PHOTOS BY VERNON MILES/CAZETTE PACKET

love."

Alyssa Forbes and Rosie Cool, two students who introduced Lewis, said afterwards that they were inspired by his message.

"I was extremely nervous," admitted Forbes, but said that vanished completely once she met Lewis and felt at ease, "It was not what I expected."

"He and his message were both wonderful," said Cool, and said that there are aspects of the discussion she can implement in her everyday life. "It's a reminder that everyone comes from somewhere."

Cameron Donaldson, a TC senior, was part of the group that helped set up the event and described the discussion as riveting.



**U.S. Rep. John Lewis speaks with TC student Benton Lewis.**

**U.S. Rep. John Lewis at TC and in photo, on far right, at Selma.**

"There is definitely a correlation of the Civil Rights from 50 years ago and the Black Lives Matter movement of today," said Donaldson. "I really took away from this how the past issues related to the movement today. The way he said that violence can never be the answer, even in extreme circumstances, I think that's something we can apply today."

Lewis' stories, about the march in Selma and the speeches in D.C., were familiar to students as history. But Forbes and Cool said there was something special about hearing them as first-hand accounts.

Lewis recalled his family being scared when he was young, for good reasons. They warned Lewis "not to get in the way of things." But after reading about the acts of

Rosa Parks and some of the early struggles of Martin Luther King Jr., Lewis felt he couldn't sit back any more.

"I did get in the way," Lewis said, "I did get in trouble."

As Lewis began to get involved in the Civil Rights movement, those concerns only grew more dire. Lewis recounted that churches were being bombed, homes threatened.

"We were beaten," Lewis said, and told the students about having his legs knocked out from under him. "I thought I was going to die. But 50 years later, I'm still here."

But Lewis, and many students in attendance, believe the fight for Civil Rights is not over. Repeatedly, Lewis made reference to forces in America that are trying to pull the nation back into a segregated past, pointing to the 2013 decision by the Supreme Court to strike down key parts of the 1965 voting rights act as one of the most recent examples. "I felt like crying," said Lewis. "I gave blood on that bridge and almost died. Several people did die, including three young men I knew well."

Lewis told the students about Andrew Goodman, James Chaney, and Mickey Schwerner, three civil rights workers murdered by the KKK.

"They didn't die in Vietnam or in South America, they died here," said Lewis. "There are forces in America that want to take us back. Well, in 1965 I said I believe in one person, one vote, and I believe that today."

## St. Joseph Catholic Church Celebrates Its 100th Anniversary

FROM PAGE 1

Eventually the African-American community from St. Mary's broke off and formed their own church: St. Joseph's. Bah emphasized that this was not an easy feat.

"They were trying to raise the money themselves, and they almost didn't have enough," said Bah. "They had to struggle to get the money and get the land available. But many of them were very committed to their church and their religion."

"It wasn't easy building St. Joseph's," said Thompson. "It came with great difficulty. They were establishing a community of faith for a downtrodden people."

But 100 years later, the church, and the sense of community with which the founders infused it, remain standing.

"It's a great family atmosphere here," said

Joseph Brooks, and then after considering for a moment, "It really is like being among family."

The idea of St. Joseph's as family was a recurring one.

"It's the community that makes St. Joseph's," said June Majors. "It's my second home. It's my second family."

"St. Joseph's is ... life," said Lynn Reed with a laugh, who went to the nearby school with Majors. "I was baptized here, I was married here, I'll probably be buried here. It's family here, you know everybody."

Stephen Rochon said the church is about more than the priest or the building, it's about the fellowship.

"Look around the room," said Rochon, motioning around a reception area beneath the main church building. "[St. Joseph's]



**Aniya Mitchelle (left) cuts into cake at the reception with Beverly Thorton (right).**

BY VERNON MILES/CAZETTE PACKET

was founded by African Americans, but there's such a diversity here."

While many of the discussions and cel-

ebrations centered around the ancestors that founded the church, like Thompson, Deacon Albert Anderson said equal attention must be focused on the future.

"We're called to embrace and celebrate the future," said Anderson. "Our young people aren't our future, they are also our present."

Anderson grew up in another St. Joseph's church in Norfolk, and in the 1990s he and his wife joined St. Joseph's Church in Alexandria. Anderson said he really discovered how loving and supportive the community was as he worked to become a deacon, finally being ordained in 2011.

"This is a home," said Anderson. "People travel here from far outside the parish just to be here ... This church means everything to me."

## Council Unanimously Approves Eisenhower West Small Area Plan

FROM PAGE 3

height than we've seen in other places. In excess of 20 percent might be appropriate. We are also seeking opportunities to co-locate housing, including potentially a mixed income assisted living facility with municipal uses.

The plan also comes with transportation changes, though some on the council were hesitant to call them improvements. The two major changes are a straightening of Eisenhower Avenue, directing it slightly

away from its current end destination at the Van Dorn Metro, and a new bridge over the railroad. There were serious doubts from members of the council concerning about not ending Eisenhower at Van Dorn Street and whether the street plans, even with the bridge, would be able to support the traffic being pushed into the area.

The question of City Council authority was brought up again when Smedberg asked why some of the options for the bridge location had been taken off the table. Steve Sindiong, acting transportation plan-

ning division chief, said the location option had been removed because it passed through a park where there had been serious local opposition.

"We still have to have this discussion, even if it's not popular," said Councilman John Chapman. "That's what the planning process is about."

"Staff should bring all options to the table," added Smedberg.

Moritz responded that the staff would have presented those options if the current bridge locations had not met all of the trans-

portation needs, but it did.

Ultimately, the council decided to keep the Planning Commission's amendments, but added their own to the note about developer contributions: "The city's initial analysis assumes that at least 50 percent of the cost of planned infrastructure would be provided through developer contributions."

Smedberg said the new amendment allows room for flexibility but will still hold the developers accountable for Eisenhower West's future. The plan was approved by the council in a unanimous vote.



# HOLIDAY GUIDE

## Shop 'Til You Drop

Score local gifts on Small Business Saturday.

BY JEANNE THEISMANN  
GAZETTE PACKET

**Y**ou've made your list and checked it twice. If you aren't already one of the 57 percent of shoppers who have started their hunt for holiday gifts, circle Nov. 28 on your calendar for the sixth annual Small Business Saturday.

"Alexandria small businesses are the heart and soul of our economy," said Pork Barrel BBQ's Bill Blackburn, president of the Del Ray Business Association. "They are what makes our city unique and there is no better place to support small businesses than in Del Ray."

Alexandria will serve as the Washington region's Shop Small headquarters for this year's Small Business Saturday. Locally owned boutiques throughout the city will offer special promotions, including merchandise discounts, gifts with purchase, complimentary services, treats and special activities for shoppers to enjoy.

New this year, Random Acts of Holiday Cheer will surprise shoppers with an elf prize patrol, busker-style caroling in the streets, a swag bag giveaway and the "Spot a Bag" contest.

"The majority of our businesses are independently owned and face unique challenges in competing for shoppers," said Chamber of Commerce vice president Shari Simmans. "Small Business Saturday allows the chamber to help leverage the marketing dollars of small businesses to reach out



**Ladyburg owner Crystal Wellman stocks ready-made gift baskets in her shop on South Union Street. Custom gifts are also available.**

to more people."

The chamber will once again be handing out specially branded shopping bags filled with promotions from local businesses. About 100 random bags will have gift cards from retailers and restaurants such as A La Lucia/Hunting Creek, Port City Brewery, Society Fair, Teasm, Bastille and Valvoline. Office of Historic Alexandria Deputy Director Gretchen Bulova is providing discounts

PHOTOS BY JEANNE THEISMANN/GAZETTE PACKET



**The Christmas Attic is ground zero for shoppers during the holiday season, where nutcrackers are always popular.**

to The Museum Store.

"Our local businesses really stepped up to give lucky shoppers some special prizes," Simmans said. "From \$25 gift cards to free tastings at Port City Brewery, the Small Business Saturday promotions help keep shopping revenue here in the city."

Shopping Small Business Saturday still requires a bit of preparation, so be sure to write down the sizes, favorite colors and hobbies of gift recipients ahead of time.

**"Alexandria small businesses are the heart and soul of our economy."**

— Del Ray Business Association president Bill Blackburn

Know the return policy and ask for a gift receipt for easy returns or exchanges for the recipient.

Have a favorite store or boutique? Check it out now and ask about any upcoming holiday specials.

"Small Business Saturday is a chance for shoppers to revisit their favorite shops in town and also check out the many new businesses across the city," Simmans added. "You'll be able to find a unique gift for anyone on your list and experience a fun day to shop small for big rewards."

## Family Events

### SATURDAY/NOV. 21

#### Mount Vernon High School Turkey Trot.

8 a.m. at Mount Vernon High School, 8515 Old Mount Vernon Road. Mount Vernon High School Cares is a non-profit organization that helps the neediest children of the Mount Vernon/Route 1 Corridor. The race has been established for the last five years and has raised over \$20,000. The registration fee is \$20. Visit [www.facebook.com/MVCaresTurkeyTrot/](http://www.facebook.com/MVCaresTurkeyTrot/).

#### Family Fun: Turkey Hunt.

1-2 p.m. at Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road. Learn the history of the wild turkey and importance to early Americans. Track the bird through the gardens and natural spaces of Green Spring Gardens, then create a turkey-inspired decoration for your Thanksgiving table. Tickets are \$6 per person. Register online at [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/greenspring](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/greenspring) using code 290 487 5601.

### THURSDAY/NOV. 26

#### Alexandria Turkey Trot.

9 a.m. at George Washington Middle School, 1005 Mount Vernon Ave. The 40th annual Alexandria Turkey Trot features a flat, fast, USATF-certified five-mile course. Registration is \$5-25. Visit [www.alexandriaturkeytrot.com](http://www.alexandriaturkeytrot.com).

### FRIDAY/NOV. 27

**Tea With Santa Claus.** 3-5 p.m. at Union Street Public House, 121 S. Union St. Tea, cocoa, and other sweets will be served alongside storytelling and magic tricks. At the end of the tea, Santa and Mrs. Claus will lead a parade to Old Town's tree lighting ceremony. Tickets are \$10 for children under 12 and \$20 for adult or child 12 and older. Visit [www.unionstreetpublichouse.com](http://www.unionstreetpublichouse.com).

#### City of Alexandria Tree Lighting

**Ceremony.** 6-8 p.m. at Market Square in front of City Hall, 301 King St. The mayor and Santa Claus will visit the city tree. Mr. and Mrs. Claus visit, and more. Free. Visit [www.alexandriava.gov](http://www.alexandriava.gov) for more.

### NOV. 27-JAN. 6

**Christmas at Mount Vernon.** 9 a.m.-4 p.m. at George Washington's Mount Vernon, 3200 Mount Vernon Memorial Highway. Visit George

Washington's estate and see Aladdin the camel on the grounds, in honor of the camel that Washington paid to visit Mount Vernon in 1787. Stroll through Mount Vernon's modern buildings and view sparkling holiday decorations, featuring 12 dazzling Christmas trees, and historical chocolate-making demonstrations. Also visit the rarely-open third floor of the Mansion. All is included in the general admission price which is \$17 for adults, \$16 for seniors, \$9 for youth ages 6-11, and free for children 5 and under. Visit [www.mountvernon.org/christmas](http://www.mountvernon.org/christmas) for more.

### NOV. 27-28, DEC. 4-5, DEC. 20

**Mount Vernon by Candlelight.** 5-8 p.m. on Saturdays and Sundays, at George Washington's Mount Vernon, 3200 Mount Vernon Memorial Highway. Take character-guided tours, listen to caroling, watch 18th-century dancing, and see a reproduction of Martha Washington's "Great Cake" recipe. "Mrs. Washington" and Aladdin the Christmas camel will also be on site. Tickets are \$22 for adults and \$15 for youth. Visit [www.mountvernon.org/christmas](http://www.mountvernon.org/christmas) for more.

**FRIDAY-SUNDAY/DEC. 4-6 Scottish Christmas Walk Weekend & Parade.** Various times throughout

Old Town. In 1749, the City of Alexandria was officially established by three Scottish merchants and named after its original founder, John Alexander, also of Scottish descent. The weekend celebrates Alexandria's heritage with a parade, a taste of Scotland event, holiday marketplace and more. Visit [www.campaigncenter.org/scottishwalkweekend](http://www.campaigncenter.org/scottishwalkweekend).

### SATURDAY/DEC. 5

**Photos with Santa.** 10 a.m.-2 p.m. at @home Real Estate, 111 S. Alfred St. Families are invited for photos with Santa and hot cocoa. Free. Visit [www.athomedcmetro.com](http://www.athomedcmetro.com) for more.

**A Soldiers' Christmas at Carlyle House.** 1-4 p.m. at Carlyle House, 121 N. Fairfax St. The "Soldiers' Christmas" event will feature re-enactors from the First Virginia Regiment, who will highlight colonial life in Alexandria during the holidays at the time of the American Revolution. Free, \$1 suggested donations. Visit [www.carlylehouse.org](http://www.carlylehouse.org).

**16th Annual Alexandria Holiday Boat Parade of Lights.** 5:30 p.m. at Alexandria's waterfront at the foot of Cameron Street near the Torpedo Factory Art Center, 105 N. Union St. Dozens of illuminated boats cruise the Potomac River at the historic waterfront, led by Alexandria's fireboat The Vigilant and Washington, D.C.'s fireboat John Glenn. DC media personality Tommy McFly of 94.7 Fresh FM will be the



**Each year The Carlyle House, 121 N. Fairfax St. hosts a "Soldiers' Christmas" program featuring re-enactors. Visit [www.carlylehouse.org](http://www.carlylehouse.org).**

# HOLIDAY GUIDE

Del Ray Artisans 20th Annual  
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**Private tasting events with Sonoma Cellar owners Elizabeth and Rick Myllenneck, second and third from left, makes for a fun gift for wine-loving friends during the holidays.**

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parade announcer. At the marina before and after the parade, visit the "Holiday Festival: Take a Walk in the Woods" at the Torpedo Factory Art Center to find live music and holiday shopping at open studios. Free. Visit [www.visitalexandriava.com/holidays](http://www.visitalexandriava.com/holidays).

**Holiday on the Avenue.** 6 p.m. at Del Ray Farmers Market. Take a stroll down Mount Vernon Avenue and see the "luminarias." Free. Visit [www.visitdelray.com](http://www.visitdelray.com).

[www.alexandriapres.org](http://www.alexandriapres.org) for more.

**"A Christmas Carol."** 7 p.m. at The Athenaeum, 201 Prince St. NYC actor / playwright, Greg Oliver Bodine performs "A Christmas Carol." This one-man play is based on the condensed version Dickens himself used on his historic reading tours of the United States. Tickets are \$20 for adults, \$15 for children. Visit [www.nvfaa.org](http://www.nvfaa.org).

**SUNDAY/DEC. 6**

**Breakfast With Santa.** 10:30 a.m. and 1 p.m. at Hotel Monaco, 480 King St. Breakfast with Santa features the Metropolitan School of the Arts of Alexandria and Lorton's Frosty Follies show. Watch a Broadway-style revue, get pictures with the cast, and eat brunch with Santa. Tickets are \$45 for adults and \$35 for ages 9 and younger. Visit [www.metropolitanarts.org](http://www.metropolitanarts.org).

**Lessons and Carols.** 4:30 p.m. at Virginia Theological Seminary, 3737 Seminary Road. The public is invited to the annual Lessons and Carols with the Awarding of the Dean's Cross for Servant Leadership in Church and Society. Free. Visit [www.vts.edu/chapel](http://www.vts.edu/chapel).

**SATURDAY/DEC. 12**

**Breakfast with Santa.** 8:30 a.m.-10:30 a.m. at Mount Vernon High School, 8515 Old Mount Vernon Road. Eat a pancake breakfast, make crafts, and play games. \$5 per person, families of 5 or more pay a flat \$25 family rate. Visit [www.facebook.com/MVHSClassof2019](http://www.facebook.com/MVHSClassof2019).

**Civil War Christmas in Camp at Fort Ward.** 12-4 p.m. at Fort Ward Museum & Historic Site, 4301 W. Braddock Road. Visitors meet a Civil War-era Santa at this holiday event exploring how Christmas was observed during the Civil War. The program features living-history interpreters, a Victorian Christmas tree, refreshments, readings of The Night Before Christmas and a patriotic Santa Claus inspired by a Thomas Nast illustration for Harper's Weekly newspaper. Suggested donation is \$2 for adults, \$1 for children. Call 703-746-4848 or [www.forward.org](http://www.forward.org).

**Christmas Candlelight Service.** 5:45-8 p.m. at Alexandria Presbyterian Church, 2405 Russell Road. This service of lessons and carols will feature APC choirs, brass quintet and carol singing. Reception to follow. Free. Visit

**SATURDAY-SUNDAY/DEC. 12-13**

**Historic Alexandria Candlelight Tours.** 6-9 p.m. on Saturday, 3-6 p.m. on Sunday at Gadsby's Tavern Museum, 134 N. Royal St; Carlyle House, 121 N. Fairfax St; Lee-Fendall House, 614 Oronoco St.; and The Lloyd House, 220 N. Washington St. Tour Gadsby's Tavern Museum, Carlyle House, The Lloyd House and Lee-Fendall House. Seasonal libations may be purchased along the tour. Tickets are \$25 for adults, \$20 for active military and seniors (65 and older), and \$5 for children (ages 6-17). Visit [www.shop.alexandriava.gov](http://www.shop.alexandriava.gov) or call 703-746-4242.

**FRIDAY-SATURDAY/DEC. 18-19**

**Christmas Illuminations at Mount Vernon.** 5:30-9 p.m. at George Washington's Mount Vernon, 3200 Mount Vernon Memorial Highway. Enjoy choir performances, fireworks, visit with re-enactors, learn 18th-century dance moves, learn how chocolate was made in the 18th century, and more. Tickets are \$30 for adults and \$20 for youth. Visit [www.mountvernon.org/christmas](http://www.mountvernon.org/christmas) for more.

**TUESDAY-THURSDAY/DEC. 22-24**

**Meet Santa.** 8:30 a.m.-12 p.m. at Union Street Public House, 121 S. Union St. Children get approximately five minutes to meet and take pictures with Santa and Mrs. Claus. A \$20 fee reserves a time slot, professional photos with be available for purchase. Visit [www.unionstreetpublichouse.com](http://www.unionstreetpublichouse.com) for more.

**THURSDAY/DEC. 31**

**First Night Alexandria.** 2 p.m.-12 a.m. at venues throughout Old Town and Alexandria. This 21st annual New Year's Eve celebration will feature more than 175 performances at 29 indoor venues, with live music, dancing, children's face painting and games. The afternoon's Seventh

# HOLIDAY GUIDE

Annual Fun Hunt is accompanied by all-new activities for families and pets. There's an old fashioned carnival at the Mount Vernon Recreation Center in Del Ray. First Night's fireworks finale returns with a spectacular display over the Potomac River at midnight. Tickets are \$20 before Dec. 14, \$30 after. Admission for children 12 and under, seniors, military, and volunteers are free. Visit [www.firstnightalexandria.org](http://www.firstnightalexandria.org).

## Fine Arts

**NOV. 18-JAN. 3**

**Potomac Fiber Arts Gallery:** "Winter Wonderland." Gallery hours at The Torpedo Factory Art Center—Studio 18, 105 N. Union St. Artists working in textile focus on "sparkle and shine, clean and white." Free. Visit [www.potomacfiberartsgallery.com](http://www.potomacfiberartsgallery.com).

**FRIDAY-SUNDAY/DEC. 4-6**

**Artfête.** Various times at The Art League's Madison Annex, 305 Madison St. The Art League hosts an annual art celebration and open house featuring exhibits, live music, artist demonstrations, and refreshments, as well as a weekend-long ceramics and jewelry sale of handmade wares by Art League students and associates. Free. Visit [www.theartleague.org](http://www.theartleague.org).

## Performing Arts

**NOV. 25-DEC. 27**

**"A Broadway Christmas Carol."** Various times at MetroStage, 1201 N.



These silk-screened tea towels handmade by Supon Phornirunlit will be available for purchase at the annual Del Ray Artisans' Holiday Market, along with the work of dozens of other local artists. Visit [www.thedelrayartisans.org](http://www.thedelrayartisans.org) for more.

Royal St. Created by Kathy Feininger and directed by Michael Sharp, this MetroStage holiday tradition is a cross between the classic Dickens' tale and Broadway parodies. Tickets are \$50. Visit [www.metrostage.org](http://www.metrostage.org).

**WEDNESDAY/DEC. 2**

**Holiday Children's Magic Show.** 7-8:15 p.m. at Bishop Ireton High School, 201 Cambridge Road. Four children's magicians perform. Children and attending adults can bring a toy (preferred) or canned

food item to be donated to the Alexandria Citadel of the Salvation Army. Free. Contact Danny Selnick at 703-347-5540 or [daniel.selnick@yahoo.com](mailto:daniel.selnick@yahoo.com).

**THURSDAY-SATURDAY/DEC. 3-5**

**"The Nutcracker."** 7 p.m. on Friday and Thursday, 1 p.m. and 7 p.m. on Saturday at the Richard J. Ernst Community Cultural Center, 8333 Little River Turnpike, Annandale. Metropolitan School of the Arts, of Alexandria and Lorton, presents a classic performance of Clara and her Nutcracker in a magical journey from her Victorian home through the Land of Snow and into the Land of Sweets. Tickets are \$27 for adults and \$21 for seniors and students. Visit [www.metropolitanarts.org](http://www.metropolitanarts.org).

**DEC. 3-5, DEC. 7-8**

**"Snow Day."** 10:30 a.m. on Dec. 3, 4, 7, and 8; 10 a.m. and 11:30 a.m. on Dec. 5 at The Lab Theatre at Convergence, 1819 N. Quaker Lane. Arts on the Horizon will present "Snow Day" about a young girl's first snow. This play is nonverbal and will feature live music. Tickets are \$9. Visit [www.artsonthehorizon.org](http://www.artsonthehorizon.org).

**DEC. 4-19**

**"A Christmas Carol."** 8 p.m. Thursday-Friday, 3 p.m. and 6 p.m. Saturday-Sunday. The Little Theatre of Alexandria performs the classic Victorian tale of Ebenezer Scrooge who travels with ghostly guides through Christmas past, present and future to find the true meaning of the holidays. Tickets are \$15. Visit [www.thelittletheatre.com](http://www.thelittletheatre.com).

**WEDNESDAY/DEC. 9**

**"A Christmas Carol."** 6:30 p.m. reception, 8 p.m. performance at Little Theatre of Alexandria, 600 Wolfe St. Attend a fundraising performance of "A Christmas Carol" complete with a visit from Santa Claus. Proceeds benefit Gadsby's Tavern Museum. Tickets are \$25. Visit [www.gadsbystavernmuseum.us](http://www.gadsbystavernmuseum.us).

**THURSDAY/DEC. 10-13**

**"A Stable Christmas."** Various times at First Baptist Church Alexandria, 2932 King St. Join the cast, chorus, and orchestra of First Baptist Church of Alexandria's 2015 production of the Living Christmas Tree, "A Stable Christmas." The production features traditional and contemporary holiday music, a 25-foot Christmas tree filled with 110+ singers and 50,000+ synchronized lights and the story of Jim and Dot, as they begin their lives together. Tickets are \$7 each plus a \$1 service charge per transaction. Visit [www.fbcalexandria.org](http://www.fbcalexandria.org) for more.

**SUNDAY/DEC. 13**

**"Nutcracker in a Nutshell."** 1 p.m. at Nannie J. Lee Center—Kauffman Auditorium, 1108 Jefferson St. Metropolitan School of the Arts, of Alexandria and Lorton, presents a 30-minute Nutcracker performance for younger audiences, who are looking for an abbreviated version of the classic Nutcracker. Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$8 for ages 9 and younger. Visit [www.metropolitanarts.org](http://www.metropolitanarts.org).



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# HOLIDAY GUIDE



## Scottish Christmas Walk Weekend & Parade

The Scottish Christmas Walk Weekend benefits the Campagna Center. Visit [www.campagnacenter.org/scottishwalkweekend](http://www.campagnacenter.org/scottishwalkweekend) for more on the following events:

### FRIDAY/DEC. 4

**Taste of Scotland.** 6:30 p.m. at George Washington MAsonic Memorial, 101 Callahan Drive. This event features a Scotch tasting menu, Scottish ale sampling, as well as beer, wine and food. Tickets start at \$110.

### FRIDAY-SATURDAY/DEC. 4-5

**Heather & Greens Sale & Order.** 9 a.m.-5 p.m. on Friday, 9 a.m.-4 p.m. on Saturday at The Campagna Center, 418 S. Washington St. Purchase a variety of wreaths, garlands, fresh heather bundles and more. Plants are priced \$7-65.

### SATURDAY/ DEC. 5

**Scottish Walk Parade.** 11 a.m.-1 p.m. at Wolfe and Asaph streets. A concert will follow the parade at 1 p.m. at Market Square. Free.

**Holiday Designer Tour of Homes.** 11 a.m.-4 p.m. at various homes in Old Town. Tour homes decorated for the holidays by interior designers. Tickets are \$35 in advance, \$40 at the door.

**Holiday Marketplace.** 10 a.m.-4 p.m. at The Campagna Center, 418 S. Washington St. Shop the goods of regional artists, crafters, and boutique businesses. Free.

### SATURDAY/DEC. 6

**Deck The Halls With Santa.** 1 p.m. and 3:30 p.m. at The Campagna Center, 418 S. Washington St. Children will have an afternoon of arts and crafts, music, and a visit from Santa. Tickets are \$20-35.

## Holiday Shopping

### THURSDAY/NOV. 19

**Pohick Church Christmas Mart.** 10 a.m.-2 p.m. at Pohick Church, 9301 Richmond Highway, Lorton. Find arts and crafts, a consignment shop, and a pantry shelf. The Docent Guild will be leading tours of the church, and a luncheon will be served by women dressed in colonial costumes. Free to attend. Visit [www.pohick.org](http://www.pohick.org).

### SATURDAY/NOV. 21

**Holiday Shop at MVUC.** 9:30 a.m.-4 p.m. at Mount Vernon Unitarian Church, 1909 Windmill Lane. Buy gifts from 50 artisans in fiber arts, photography, wood, paper, metal, glass, and clay. Also find orchids, estate jewelry, and more. Free. Visit [www.mvuc.org](http://www.mvuc.org).

**Handmade Holiday Craft Fair.** 10 a.m.-4 p.m. at T.C. Williams High School, 3330 King St. The 6th annual T.C. Williams Charity Craft Fair will host more than 45 local vendors selling handmade goods such as jewelry, soaps, fabric items and more. All profits from this event are donated to an organization that promotes economic and social improvements in Kenya and Tanzania. Visit [www.facebook.com/TcWilliamsHandmadeHolidayCraftFair?fref=ts](http://www.facebook.com/TcWilliamsHandmadeHolidayCraftFair?fref=ts)

### FRIDAY/NOV. 27

**BlackFriday Alexandria and**

**Festivities.** 6 a.m. and all day at boutiques in Alexandria. More than 50 local boutiques will open early, offering once-a-year deals. Free. Visit [www.visitalexandriava.com/blackfriday](http://www.visitalexandriava.com/blackfriday).

### DEC. 4-20

#### Del Ray Artisans Holiday Market.

Various times at Del Ray Artisans, 2704 Mount Vernon Ave. Del Ray's annual Holiday Market offers handmade fine arts and crafts from local artists (including pottery/ceramics, photography, jewelry, fiber, paper crafts and glass). Find different artists each weekend. Free to attend. Visit [www.thedelrayartisans.org/holidaymarket](http://www.thedelrayartisans.org/holidaymarket).

### DEC. 4-23

#### Alexandria's Holiday Market.

Various Times at John Carlyle Square, 300 John Carlyle St. Visitors can enjoy live entertainment, traditional European food and sweets, wine and beer, while shopping for arts and crafts. Free. Visit [www.alexandriaholidaymarket.com](http://www.alexandriaholidaymarket.com).

### SATURDAY/DEC. 5

#### Holiday Festival: "Take a Walk in the Woods."

4-9 p.m. at the Torpedo Factory Art Center, 105 N. Union St. More than 140 artists will keep their studios open late for patrons to shop. The Alexandria Choral Society and the Braddock Brass Quintet will perform. Santa Claus will visit. Free. Visit

[www.torpedofactory.org](http://www.torpedofactory.org).

## Arts & Crafts

### THURSDAY/NOV. 19

**"Holiday Cheer: Innovative Ideas and Tips for Decorating in the Garden Style."** 10 a.m. at Plymouth Haven Baptist Church-Fellowship Hall, 8532 Fort Hunt Road. Laura Dowling, former White House floral designer, is presenting a program on home holiday decorations. Admission is free for members of the Garden Club of Wayneswood, \$10 for nonmembers. Contact Dorothy Raduazo at [dmraduazo@cox.net](mailto:dmraduazo@cox.net) or 703-360-2316.

**Holiday Container Gardening.** 7-8:30 p.m. at Mount Vernon Recreation Center, 2701 Commonwealth Ave. Cynthia Brown of the Smithsonian Gardens will be presenting on how to use container gardens to decorate for the holidays. Free. Email [AlexandriaBeautification@gmail.com](mailto:AlexandriaBeautification@gmail.com).

### SATURDAY/NOV. 21

**Workshop: Thanksgiving Table Arrangement.** 2-4 p.m. at Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road. Make a Thanksgiving centerpiece in a fresh pumpkin. Use seasonal flowers, dried materials and fresh fruit to create a table decoration to take home. The fee is \$38 per person, plus tax and a \$25 supply fee. Register online at

[www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/greenspring](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/greenspring) using code 290 484 6701 for the program and code 290 484 6702 for the supply fee.

### SATURDAY/DEC. 5

**Ornament Decorating Workshop.** 1-4 p.m. at the Alexandria Archaeology Museum, 105 N. Union St. Decorate and take home artifact-shaped ornaments. Free. Visit [www.torpedofactory.org](http://www.torpedofactory.org).

### TUESDAY/DEC. 8

**Handmade Holiday Card Making.** 7-8:30 p.m. at Beatley Central Library, 5005 Duke St. Learn card-making techniques. Free. Call 703-746-1754.

## Food & Drink

### THURSDAY/DEC. 10

**All That Glows.** 7 p.m. at Woodlawn, 9000 Richmond Highway. The Woodlawn Council invites the public to a holiday open house with a "reimagined" 19th century menu. Tickets are \$200. Visit [www.eventbrite.com/e/all-that-glows-tickets-19335619358](http://www.eventbrite.com/e/all-that-glows-tickets-19335619358).

### SATURDAY/DEC. 19

**"Downton Abbey Christmas Tea."** 1 p.m. at The Lee-Fendall House, 614 Oronoco St. Discuss what may happen in the show's final season over a traditional tea. Take a private

tour of the house showing the connections between the people and places of Downton Abbey and those of the Lee-Fendall House. Tickets are \$50 per person. Visit [www.leefendallhouse.org](http://www.leefendallhouse.org) for more.

## Live Music

### SATURDAY/DEC. 12

**Chanukah Concert.** 7 p.m. at Congregation Etz Hayim, 2920 Arlington Blvd., Arlington. Ein Lanu Z'man is the official band of Agudas Achim Congregation, located in Alexandria. Ein Lanu Z'man's music comes from the Jewish tradition, with a diverse repertoire that features folk, classical, and rock influences, among others. Tickets are \$15 in advance for adults, \$18 at the door, \$10 for students, and \$5 for preschool-aged children. Visit [www.focusmusic.org](http://www.focusmusic.org) for more.

### SUNDAY/DEC. 13

**Music in the Gallery: The Mount Vernon Flutes.** 2 p.m. at The Athenaeum, 201 Prince St. The Mount Vernon Flutes perform holiday classics. Free. Visit [www.nvfaa.org](http://www.nvfaa.org).  
**Colonial Handbell Ringers.** 2 p.m. and 4 p.m. at the Lyceum-Alexandria's History Museum, 201 S. Washington St. The Colonial English Handbell Ringers features performers clad in colonial attire, bringing a five-octave set of nearly 80 handbells from the world-famous Whitechapel foundry in London. Free. Visit [www.alexandriahistory.org](http://www.alexandriahistory.org) for more.

# Have a Great Thanksgiving!



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**Thanksgiving Dinner at Murphy's Grand Irish Pub**

Sit back, relax and let Murphy's do the cooking and cleaning this year. Join us November 26th, 2015 for a Thanksgiving feast, great football and live music by Mike Sutton starting at 8:30pm. Bring all your friends and family for a day filled with fun and laughter.

**Offering our famous Thanksgiving Dinner with all the trimmings for only \$16.95 starting at 1pm.**

Murphy's hours on Thanksgiving will be from 11am-1am



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# HOLIDAY GUIDE

**2015** Alexandria Chamber of Commerce  
**Annual Meeting**

Join the Chamber as we wrap up 2015 and give a sneak peek into 2016. The meeting will highlight our successes in 2015 and recognize outstanding Chamber members.

Early Bird Member Ticket price is \$45! Ends November 15th. Member Ticket price will be \$55 starting Monday, November 16th.

To register, visit [www.AlexChamber.com](http://www.AlexChamber.com).

**December 8**  
 7:30-9:30am  
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PHOTOS BY LAURA MANN

## Celebrate Christmas with Metropolitan School of the Arts

Metropolitan School of the Arts (MSA) will present three holiday performances in December:

### THURSDAY-SATURDAY/DEC. 3-5

**"The Nutcracker."** 7 p.m. on Friday and Thursday, 1 p.m. and 7 p.m. on Saturday at the Richard J. Ernst Community Cultural Center, 8333 Little River Turnpike, Annandale. Metropolitan School of the Arts presents a classic performance of Clara and her Nutcracker in a magical journey from her Victorian home through the Land of Snow and into the Land of Sweets. Tickets are \$27 for adults and \$21 for seniors and students. Visit [www.metropolitanarts.org](http://www.metropolitanarts.org).

### SUNDAY/DEC. 13

**"Nutcracker in a Nutshell."** 1 p.m. at Nannie J. Lee Center-Kauffman Auditorium, 1108 Jefferson St. Metropolitan School of the Arts presents a 30-minute Nutcracker performance for younger audiences, who are looking for an abbreviated version of the classic Nutcracker. Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$8 for ages 9 and younger. Visit [www.metropolitanarts.org](http://www.metropolitanarts.org).

### SUNDAY/DEC. 6

**Breakfast With Santa.** 10:30 a.m. and 1 p.m. at Hotel Monaco, 480 King St. Breakfast with Santa features the Metropolitan School of the Arts Frosty Follies show. Watch a Broadway-style revue, get pictures with the cast, and eat brunch with Santa. Tickets are \$45 for adults and \$35 for ages 9 and younger. Visit [www.metropolitanarts.org](http://www.metropolitanarts.org).



## CALENDAR

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

### ONGOING

**Mount Vernon in 3-D: Then & Now.** Through Nov. 20 during regular operating hours at George Washington's Mount Vernon, 3200 Mount Vernon Highway. Visitors will have the chance to travel back in time, and in 3-D, to see how the estate appeared more than 100 years ago through a special photography exhibition. The exhibition is included in the regular admission fee of \$17 for adults, \$16 for seniors, \$9 for youth and free for children younger

than 5. To view the historic stereoview images as well as the modern 3-D anaglyphs, visit [www.mountvernon.org/3D](http://www.mountvernon.org/3D).

### Young at Art Juried Art Show.

Through Nov. 20, Monday-Friday, 5-10 p.m. at Durant Arts Center, 1605 Cameron St. Artists 55 and older can contribute their artwork for the exhibition. Visit [www.seniorservicesalex.org](http://www.seniorservicesalex.org) or by calling Mary Lee Anderson at 703-836-4414, extension 111.

### NOV. 19-21

**"American Idiot."** 7 p.m. at West Potomac High School, 6500 Quander Road. West Potomac High School's Beyond the Page Theater Company presents Green Day's "American Idiot." The rock opera includes music from the "American Idiot" album as well as songs from the band's follow-up album, "21st Century Breakdown." The show follows the

story of three disgruntled men trying to find meaning in a post 9/11 world. This show features adult content, strong language, strobe lights, and loud rock music. Tickets are \$12 plus a service fee. Visit [www.westpotomactheatre.org](http://www.westpotomactheatre.org).

### THURSDAY/NOV. 19

**"Holiday Cheer: Innovative Ideas and Tips for Decorating in the Garden Style."** 10 a.m. at Plymouth Haven Baptist Church-Fellowship Hall, 8532 Fort Hunt Road. Laura Dowling, former White House floral designer, is presenting a program on home holiday decorations. Admission is free for members of the Garden Club of Wayneswood, \$10 for nonmembers. Contact Dorothy Raduazo at [dmdraduazo@cox.net](mailto:dmdraduazo@cox.net) or 703-360-2316.

**Pohick Church Christmas Mart.** 10 a.m.-2 p.m. at Pohick Church, 9301

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# HOLIDAY GUIDE

Richmond Highway, Lorton. Find arts and crafts, a consignment shop, and a pantry shelf. The Docent Guild will be leading tours of the church, and a luncheon will be served by women dressed in colonial costumes. Free to attend. Visit [www.pohick.org](http://www.pohick.org).

**AAUW Meeting.** 7 p.m. at Mount Vernon Government Center, 2511 Parkers Lane. Guest speaker is Lisa Maatz, Vice President of Government Relations at American Association of University Women (AAUW), on AAUW public policy. Open to the public. Free. Call 703-360-8678 or visit [www.mtvernon-va.aauw.net](http://www.mtvernon-va.aauw.net).

**Holiday Container Gardening.** 7-8:30 p.m. at Mount Vernon Recreation Center, 2701 Commonwealth Ave. Cynthia Brown of the Smithsonian Gardens will be presenting on how to use container gardens to decorate for the holidays. Free. Email [AlexandriaBeautification@gmail.com](mailto:AlexandriaBeautification@gmail.com).

**Beaujolais Nouveaus Celebration.** 7-9 p.m. at DelRay Tower, 3110 Mount Vernon Ave. This semi-guided wine tour will showcase three wine flights by sommeliers, accompanied by light fare. This event is also a formal introduction to the Living Legends of Alexandria's newly elected board members. Tickets are \$50 in advance, and \$65 at the door. Visit [www.alexandrialegends.com](http://www.alexandrialegends.com).

## FRIDAY/NOV. 20

**"Drumming Through the Neighborhoods."** 7 p.m. at The Athenaeum, 201 Prince St. Inspired by the diverse population of Alexandria, percussionist Tom Teasley will present a new work combining the rhythmic languages of Africa, The Middle East, The Far East, India and South America with

American jazz and funk. Tickets are \$10. Visit [www.nvfaa.org](http://www.nvfaa.org) for more.

**Third Friday Community Dance.** 7:30-9:30 p.m. at Hollin Hall Senior Center, 1500 Shenandoah Road. The Mount Vernon Swing Band performs live music conducted by Owen Hammett. Tickets are \$4. Call 703-765-4573.

## FRIDAY-SATURDAY/NOV. 20-21

**"The Lion, The Witch, and The Wardrobe."** 3 p.m. on Saturday, 7 p.m. on Friday and Saturday at Mount Vernon High School, 8515 Old Mount Vernon Road. MVHS Theatre Arts presents C.S. Lewis' classic. Tickets are \$7 for students, \$8 for seniors, military, and MVHS staff, and \$10 for everyone else. Visit [www.mvhstheatrearts.com](http://www.mvhstheatrearts.com).

## SATURDAY/NOV. 21

**Fort Hunt Fox Trot.** 7:45 a.m. at Fort Hunt Park, 8999 Fort Hunt Road. Fort Hunt Elementary School holds annual fundraiser. Registration Fees: \$20 per person/stroller/dog or \$75 max per immediate family of 6 or less. Visit [www.forthuntpta.membershiptoolkit.com/foxtrot](http://www.forthuntpta.membershiptoolkit.com/foxtrot).

**Mount Vernon High School Turkey Trot.** 8 a.m. at Mount Vernon High School, 8515 Old Mount Vernon Road. Mount Vernon High School Cares is a non-profit organization that helps the neediest children of the Mount Vernon/Route 1 Corridor. The race has been established for the last five years and has raised over \$20,000. The registration fee is \$20. Visit [www.facebook.com/MVCaresTurkeyTrot/](http://www.facebook.com/MVCaresTurkeyTrot/).

**Holiday Shop at MVUC.** 9:30 a.m.-4 p.m. at Mount Vernon Unitarian

Church, 1909 Windmill Lane. Buy gifts from 50 artisans in fiber arts, photography, wood, paper, metal, glass, and clay. Also find orchids, estate jewelry, and more. Free. Visit [www.mvuc.org](http://www.mvuc.org).

**Garden Sprouts: Zucchini Zoo.** 10-11 a.m. at Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road. Children ages 3-5 are invited to select a vegetable from the garden and turn it into a turkey or another animal. Also, read a veggie story and munch some healthful harvest treats. Tickets are \$6 per child. Register online at [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/greenspring](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/greenspring) using code 290 481 4201

**Handmade Holiday Craft Fair.** 10 a.m.-4 p.m. at T.C. Williams High School, 3330 King St. The 6th annual T.C. Williams Charity Craft Fair will host more than 45 local vendors selling handmade goods such as jewelry, soaps, fabric items and more. All profits from this event are donated to an organization that promotes economic and social improvements in Kenya and Tanzania. Visit [www.facebook.com/TcWilliamsHandmadeHolidayCraftFair?fref=ts](http://www.facebook.com/TcWilliamsHandmadeHolidayCraftFair?fref=ts)

**General's Tour.** 1 p.m. at the Lee-Fendall House, 614 Oronoco St. The Lee-Fendall House will offer "The General's Tour," a guided walking tour of Robert E. Lee sites in Alexandria's Historic Old Town. The tour will highlight locations and stories associated with the general's life in Alexandria, his hometown from the age of 5 and residence of his "earliest and oldest friends." Tickets are \$10. Visit [www.leafendallhouse.org](http://www.leafendallhouse.org) for more.

**Family Fun: Turkey Hunt.** 1-2 p.m. at Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road. Learn the history of the wild turkey and importance to early

Americans. Track the bird through the gardens and natural spaces of Green Spring Gardens, then create a turkey-inspired decoration for your Thanksgiving table. Tickets are \$6 per person. Register online at [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/greenspring](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/greenspring) using code 290 487 5601.

**Workshop: Thanksgiving Table Arrangement.** 2-4 p.m. at Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road. Make a Thanksgiving centerpiece in a fresh pumpkin. Use seasonal flowers, dried materials and fresh fruit to create a table decoration to take home. The fee is \$38 per person, plus tax and a \$25 supply fee. Register online at [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/greenspring](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/greenspring) using code 290 484 6701 for the program and code 290 484 6702 for the supply fee.

**Country-Western Dance.** 6:30-7:30 p.m. lessons and 7:30-10 p.m. open dancing at Hollin Hall Senior Center, 1500 Shenandoah Road. A DJ provides music. Couples and singles welcome. Admission for Northern Virginia Country-Western Dance Association members is free, \$12 for non-members, and \$5 for children with accompanying adult. See [www.nvcwda.org](http://www.nvcwda.org) or call 703-860-4941.

**Spring Modern Dance Concert.** 7 p.m. at BalletNova's Fredgren Studio Theatre, 201 Prince St. The Choreographers Collaboration Project, a modern dance company based in Alexandria, presents new work and improvisation. Tickets are \$10 for adults, \$5 for children ages 12-17, and free for children under 12. Visit [www.ccpdance.org](http://www.ccpdance.org).

**Cider Tasting.** 7-9:30 p.m. at Gadsby's Tavern Museum, 134 N. Royal St. This event is hosted by the Museum

in partnership with the Alexandria-Caen Sister Cities Committee and includes cider tastings, music, and light refreshments. During the course of the evening, learn more about the growing Virginia cider industry and its connection to the historic tavern and the Caen region of France, all while enjoying ciders from Albemarle, Blue Bee Cider, Cobbler Mountain Cellars, Corcoran, and Foggy Ridge Cideries. Tickets are \$45 per person. Call 703-74604242 or visit [www.shop.alexandriava.gov](http://www.shop.alexandriava.gov) for more.

**Burning Bridget Cleary and Ian Foster.** 7 p.m. at Focus Mount Vernon/St. Aidan's Episcopal Church, 8531 Riverside Road. Celtic and folk music group Burning Bridget Cleary is joined by Ian Foster, a Newfoundland-based songwriter. Tickets are \$15 in advance and \$18 at the door. Visit [www.focusmusic.org](http://www.focusmusic.org) for more.

**"Concerts at Saint Luke's:" Geoff Gallante Quartet.** 7:30 p.m. at St. Luke's Episcopal Church, 8009 Ft. Hunt Road. Geoff Gallante, a 15-year-old trumpet prodigy will perform songs from the American Songbook. Tickets are \$20, \$15 for seniors, and free for children 18 and under. Visit [www.geoffgallante.com](http://www.geoffgallante.com) for more.

## SUNDAY/NOV. 22

**Run for Shelter.** 8 a.m. at USPTO Madison Building, 600 Dulany St. Support the homeless by registering for the 5k, 10k or Fun Run that will raise money for Carpenter's Shelter. Registration is \$20-40. Contact Rebecca Hightower at 703-548-7500 or [rebeccahightower@carpentersshelter.org](mailto:rebeccahightower@carpentersshelter.org), or visit [www.carpentersshelter.org/run-for-](http://www.carpentersshelter.org/run-for-)




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# LETTERS

FROM PAGE 13

close look at the election details yields some interesting insights.

❖ A huge turnout of 28,583 suggest Democrat and Republican voters alike were motivated to come to the polls.

❖ Consequently, given the Democrats' numerical advantage among the electorate amidst an increasingly partisanly polarized polity, their candidates swept City Council contest comfortably despite the Republicans fielding a slate of higher-caliber candidates.

❖ If we compare each winning Democrat candidate's vote total to the overall turnout, we get a truer picture of the electoral results:

Total turnout	28,538	100%
Justin M. Wilson	15,852	56%
John Taylor Chapman	15,437	54%
Paul C. Smedberg	14,880	53%
"Del" Pepper	14,733	52%
Timothy B. Lovain	13,514	47%

Each candidate collected the support of about half the voters with Wilson and Chapman collecting decisively more. But Republicans Bob Wood and Monique Miles ran much better than the 30-35% their statewide candidates collect in Alexandria — even the ones who win statewide.

Total turnout	28,538	100%
John R. "Bob" Wood	11,566	41%
Monique A. Miles	11,291	40%
Fernando M. Torrez	9,383	33%
Townsend Van Fleet	8,407	29%

❖ These percentages make more intuitive sense than those the computer, programmed to divide each candidates' vote totals by the sum of all candidates' vote totals inflated by voters allowed to choose up to six candidates, can cough out election night.

❖ The election statistics, like a Cracker-Jacks box, contain a hidden surprise: Mayor Bill Euille received 9,170 votes (573 voters wrote in someone else). Surely, Mayor Euille's write-in effort received some Republican and independent votes, but even if one quarter — highly unlikely he was pushing the Democrat City Council slate — that would still strongly suggest Allison Silberberg was receiving more votes from voters supporting some or all the Republican candidates than from Democrat-slate supporters.

**Dino Drudi**

## From Vision To Reality

To the Editor:

Typically a school system must solely focus on dealing with the latest crisis or simply keeping everything running relatively smoothly. Rarely do they get a chance to make lasting and meaningful improvements that will affect many generations of students.

The ACPS 2020 Strategic Plan is an opportunity to be proactive, instead of reactive. The Plan is an amalgamation of the best ideas from those invested in Alexandria education — teachers, parents, community members, and policy experts. I was fortunate to be a part of this conversation, participating in discussions with many of my peers to ensure this plan represents the interests of perhaps the most important stakeholders — the students. We can hon-

estly say this plan represents the goals and visions of those whose lives are impacted by the School Board's decisions every day.

However, the recurring questions from students were: "What will it look like? When are we going to see the effects? What does it mean to me?"

This is where the challenge begins. It is easy think about what we want to happen, but considerably more difficult to put that into practice. The mission statement for this plan is straightforward: Every Student Succeeds. While the definition of success varies greatly from student to student, as it should for everyone, it must entail growth. That is exactly what we need from our school division — change being made not for the sake of change, but for pushing us forward as we move toward our future. With this thoughtfully crafted strategic plan, our vision for the future is nothing short of 20/20. Now it is up to the system to make that vision a reality.

**Amanda Eisenhour**  
Chair, Superintendent's  
Student Leadership Committee  
Junior, T.C. Williams

## Appreciating Mayor Euille

To the Editor:

Now that the vitriolic Democratic mayoral campaign is over and the leader baton is soon to pass to another, it behooves us all to recognize the extraordinary contribution that Bill Euille has made to the City of Alexandria.

As a resident, one cannot help but appreciate the scope and depth of his involvement in every aspect of the life of our city. The single-mother son whose positive development was largely informed by sports, mostly basketball, the adult Euille sponsored a baseball team for underprivileged youth; supported the building of a field near the Lee Center for children with special needs; and advocated that city pools not only serve the competitively well-to-do but also offer swimming lessons to beginners. At the other end of the age-group and socioeconomic spectra, the mayor became a tireless advocate for services for Alexandria's seniors and acted relentlessly to assure affordable housing so that the city could continue to accommodate all of us.

Over a dozen years with Euille as its leader, Alexandria (on occasion coupled with Arlington) has earned top ranking in countless categories among communities throughout the country: best for vets, top arts destination, best for walking/green spaces, most romantic on the east coast, best downtown, top for private-public partnerships, best for young people, second highest for per-capita giving, outstanding for historic preservation/architectural heritage, and second in the nation on the human development index based on life expectancy, income, and education metrics. No Williamsburg, Alexandria is a place that has managed to both respect its unique past and enable a thriving future. And while it takes an entire community, with its numerous parts and parties, to make a great community, leadership plays an outsized role, and Mayor Euille's has been peerless.

On a personal note, after decades working in the international arena, I retired to seek "repurposing" at the local level. In that process, Euille proved ubiquitous, keynoting seemingly every meeting I attended in the city. Eventually choosing to serve in officer positions on the boards of Alexandria's Sister Cities Committee and the YMCA, I directly experienced the mayor's tremendous support for everything both groups undertook. Even more personally, when my husband passed away, Euille came to his memorial service and followed up with a letter lauding his service as coach to a decade

of Alexandria's young athletes. And every time we meet, the mayor asks how my two sons are doing, by name and with knowledge of their where- and what-abouts. This white, senior, female, middle-class Republican will never forget his many kindnesses.

Living in Alexandria — with its history, art and architecture, nature, services, diversity — is a great pleasure and privilege. Today, for that and in good measure, we can all thank Mayor Bill Euille.

**Judy Navarro**  
Alexandria



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

## College Signing

**T.C. Williams senior Philomena Fitzgerald on Nov. 16 signed a national letter of intent to play field hockey at College of the Holy Cross in Worcester, Mass., which is about an hour from her grandparents' house. Fitzgerald, the Conference 7 Player of the Year, helped the Titans win their first conference/district championship since 1995 and secure a state tournament berth. Pictured from left: Maire Purugganan (sister), Karin Fitzgerald Purugganan (mom), Moses Purugganan (brother), T.C. Williams Principal Dr. Jesse Dingle, Fitzgerald, T.C. Williams field hockey coach William Heresniak, Eleanor Purugganan (sister), Alexander Purugganan (stepdad), Declan Purugganan (brother).**

## Rematch: Bishop Ireton to Face Benedictine

The Bishop Ireton football team will travel face Benedictine in the VISAA state championship game at 1 p.m. on Saturday, Nov. 21 in a rematch of last year's state final.

The Cardinals lost to the Cadets 23-7 in last year's championship game. This year, Ireton lost to Benedictine 49-0 during the regular season. The Cadets are 8-2 and defeated St. John Paul the Great 42-0 in the semifinals on Nov. 14.

The Cardinals earned a trip to the 2015 championship game and improved to 8-2 with a 43-20 over Flint Hill on Nov. 14 in the state semifinals at Bishop Ireton. BI running back Perris Jones carried 21 times for 279 yards and four touchdowns, had three receptions for 71 yards and completed 2 of 3 passes for 30 yards and a touchdown.

Walker Venable completed 8 of 12 passes for 129 yards for the Cardinals, and Chandler Wilder threw an 11-yard touchdown pass.

## TC's Mackay Finishes 27th at State Meet

T.C. Williams junior Jack Mackay finished 27<sup>th</sup> in the 6A boys' race at the VHSL state cross country meet on Nov. 13 at Great Meadow.

Mackay finished with a time of 16:57. Cox's Jonathan Lomogda won the boys' individual title with a time of 15:34, and Lake Braddock's Kate Murphy won the girls' championship (18:20). Lake Braddock won the boys' and girls' team titles.

## Girls on the Run 5K

On Sunday, Nov. 22, teams from Blessed Sacrament, Burgundy Farm Country Day, Matthew Maury, Samuel Tucker, Douglas MacArthur, Francis C Hammond, James K Polk, and Lyles-Crouch Schools will compete in the Girls on the Run 5K in Rosslyn.

Registration is available online at [www.getrun.org/](http://www.getrun.org/).

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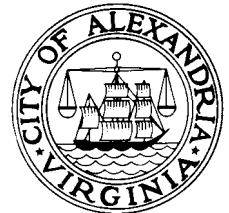
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Sealed proposals for the City of Alexandria per specifications will be received in the Office of the Purchasing Division until the date and time designated as follows:

Title: RFP No. 00000568, Development of a Fiscal Impact Analysis Model

RFP Closing Date and Time: December 16, 2015, 4 p.m., prevailing local time

A non-mandatory pre-proposal conference will be held on December 2, 2015, 3 p.m., at 100 North Pitt Street, Suite 301, Alexandria VA 22314

For general inquiries contact Michel F. Hauer, CPPO, CPPB, Acting Purchasing Agent at 703.746.4295.

The City of Alexandria reserves the right to reject any and all proposals, cancel this solicitation, and to waive any informalities or irregularities in procedure. THE CITY REQUIRES ITS CONTRACTORS TO BE EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYERS.

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**ALEXANDRIA CITY PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS NUMBER 15-11-01**

The Alexandria City School Board dba Alexandria City Public Schools is seeking competitive proposals from qualified Offerors to provide professional development for teachers of second language learners.

Sealed Proposals with the notation RFP# 15-11-01 Professional Development for Teachers of Second Language Learners will be received in the Central Procurement Office, 1340 Braddock Place, Suite 620, Alexandria, Virginia 22314, on or before 3:00 pm, December 2, 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 <http://www.acps.k12.va.us/financialservices/purchasing/bids.php>

ACPS reserves the right to cancel this RFP and/or reject any or all offers and to waive any informalities in any proposal.

Sharon Lewis  
Director of Procurement

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Notice is hereby given to members of the NY, nonprofit, American Society of Clinical Oncology, Inc., that eligible ASCO members may vote by proxy ballot from Nov. 3 to Dec. 3, 2015 to elect the President-Elect, four seats on the Board of Directors, and three seats on the Nominating Committee for service beginning on June 6, 2016. Eligible ASCO members may also vote on a proposed ASCO Bylaws amendment by proxy ballot from Nov. 3 to Dec. 3, 2015. Information about proxy ballots is available at [www.asco.org/election](http://www.asco.org/election). Completed proxy ballots will be delivered to the ASCO President or her designee for casting at a meeting to be held on Dec. 8, 2015, 9:30 AM – 10:00 AM at ASCO Headquarters, 2318 Mill Road, Suite 800, Alexandria, VA 22314. Members with questions can email [ascoelection@asco.org](mailto:ascoelection@asco.org) or call 571-483-1316.

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**ALEXANDRIA CITY PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS NUMBER 15-11-04**

The Alexandria City School Board dba Alexandria City Public Schools is seeking competitive proposals from qualified Offerors for Service/Recognition Awards.


Sealed Proposals with the notation RFP# 15-11-04 Service/Recognition Awards will be received in the Central Procurement Office, 1340 Braddock Place, Suite 620, Alexandria, Virginia 22314, on or before 3:00 pm, December 3, 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 703-619-8140, or by downloading the RFP from the ACPS website at <http://www.acps.k12.va.us/financialservices/purchasing/bids.php>

ACPS reserves the right to cancel this RFP and/or reject any or all offers and to waive any informalities in any proposal.

Francine Morris  
Buyer

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**Obituary**



**Richard Lee Allen**, born in the Old Town Alexandria Hospital on February 26, 1940, passed away on October 31, 2015 after fighting a long valiant battle with cancer (He was celebrated as the Baby King of the City the year he was born). He spent all his life in Alexandria, attending Maury School, GW High School and the University of MD. He is survived by his wife of 54 years, local realtor Martha Allen and their daughter, Nancy Ramsey. He also leaves behind his two brothers Bob Allen and John Allen and many friends and family whom he cherished.

He was a true Virginia gentleman who embraced and respected people from all walks of life, was kind, loving, faithful, and loved by all who came to know him. He was a man of few words, but meant every word he said.

After his 50 year career with Litton Industries and Raytheon, he enjoyed his retirement restoring their 300 year old historic home, Ashland Croft in the Waterford area, where he loved exploring nature and history and making friends with similar interests in Loudoun County. He was extremely knowledgeable about antiques and historic houses.

The many people he touched with his wit and wisdom will miss his insights and friendship.


There will be a Celebration of Life Memorial Sun. Nov.22 at 1:00-3:00PM at Silverbrook Farm, 15286 Woodgrove Rd., Purcellville, VA. 20132. Under direction of Northern Virginia Burial & Cremation Society. [www.novacrema.com](http://www.novacrema.com)

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**OBITUARY**

**Barbara Hall, 83**, of Alexandria died November 4, 2015 at Ft. Belvoir Community Hospital surrounded by her family. She was preceded in death by her husband Clayton J. Hall. She is survived by her children, Michelle Smith, Steven Keene, and Kathrine Small; grandchildren, Kerri Braswell, David Baldwin, and Jacob Baldwin; and great grandchildren, Christine Smith, and Grace Card. Mrs. Hall was an avid participant of all art projects, especially ceramics. In lieu of flowers the family request donations are made to the Alzheimer's Association, P.O. Box 96011, Washington, DC 20090-6011.

A Graveside service will be held at Arlington National Cemetery at a later date.

**21 Announcements 28 Yard Sales**

**ABC LICENSE**  
Burtons Grill of Alexandria, LLC trading as Burtons Grill, 6450 Old Beulah Street, Alexandria, VA 22315. The above establishment is applying to the VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL (ABC) for a Wine and Beer On & Mixed Beverage (seating capacity 151 seats or more) license to sell or manufacture alcoholic beverages. Kevin P. Harron, President

**21 Announcements 21 Announcements 21 Announcements**

**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](http://www.abc.virginia.gov) or 800-552-3200.

**21 Announcements**

**ABC LICENSE**  
Walkers Grille, LLC trading as Walkers Grille, 6909 Metro Park Dr. Alexandria, VA 22310. The above establishment is applying to the VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL (ABC) for a Wine and Beer on and off premises license to sell or manufacture alcoholic beverages. Usama Misleh, 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](http://www.abc.virginia.gov) or 800-552-3200.

**21 Announcements**

**LEGAL NOTICE**

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

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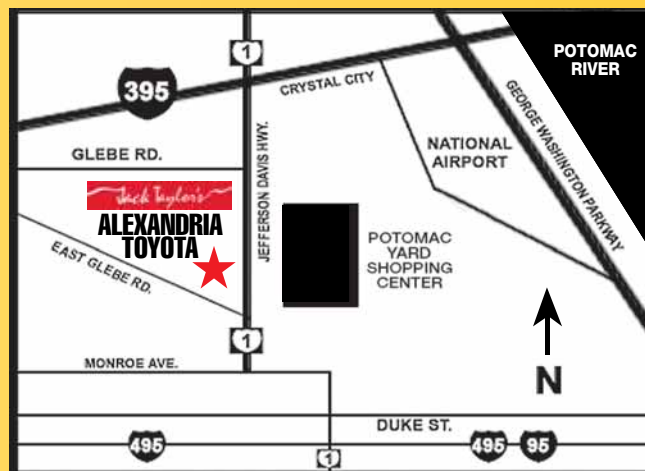
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**Del Ray**  
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**Old Town**  
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## A Visitor's View of Alexandria

Born and raised in a small town on the Hudson just above New York City, Private Robert Knox Sneden enlisted in the Union army with the 40th New York's topographical engineers and wound up posted to virtually every major scene of fighting during the Civil War, including Brandy Station, where his capture in 1863 by Mosby's irregulars led to a prison stint at Andersonville.

As artistically prolific as he was peripatetic, Sneden sketched and mapped everywhere he went. At his first posting, in Alexandria, he was assigned to Gen. Samuel Heintzelman's III Corps staff at Fort Lyon, now the elevated site of Metro's Huntington Station. From that hilltop aerie, Sneden busily sketched and mapped the city and its immediate surroundings as the defenses of Washington were taking shape.

The map above was drawn in September 1862 and found in Sneden's pocket sketchbook. It depicts an Old Town veined with stockades to

protect its dual railroad hubs and vital roundhouse. A major battery at over-scaled Jones Point covers the Potomac River. Forts Lyon and Ellsworth (on Shuter's Hill) monitor Duke Street, the city's main east-west thoroughfare. To the south, across the stone causeway built in 1810 where Richmond Highway now crosses Hunting Creek, lay *terra incognita*. Intelligence identified the marshland just below Hunting Creek as a den of swamp-dwelling secessionists; Sneden likely avoided it altogether. That may be why he made this particular map's several errors, misidentifying all of the major roads south of Old Town and mistaking Quaker-owned Walnut Tree Farm—later named Wellington Villa and now known as River Farm, just three miles below Alexandria—for George Mason's Gunston Hall, actually located another dozen miles downriver on Mason Neck.

*This and other maps and drawings can be found in "Rare & Historic Maps & Views of Mount Vernon, 1760 to 1910," a special exhibit and sale at The Virginia Florist, through January 1, 2016.*

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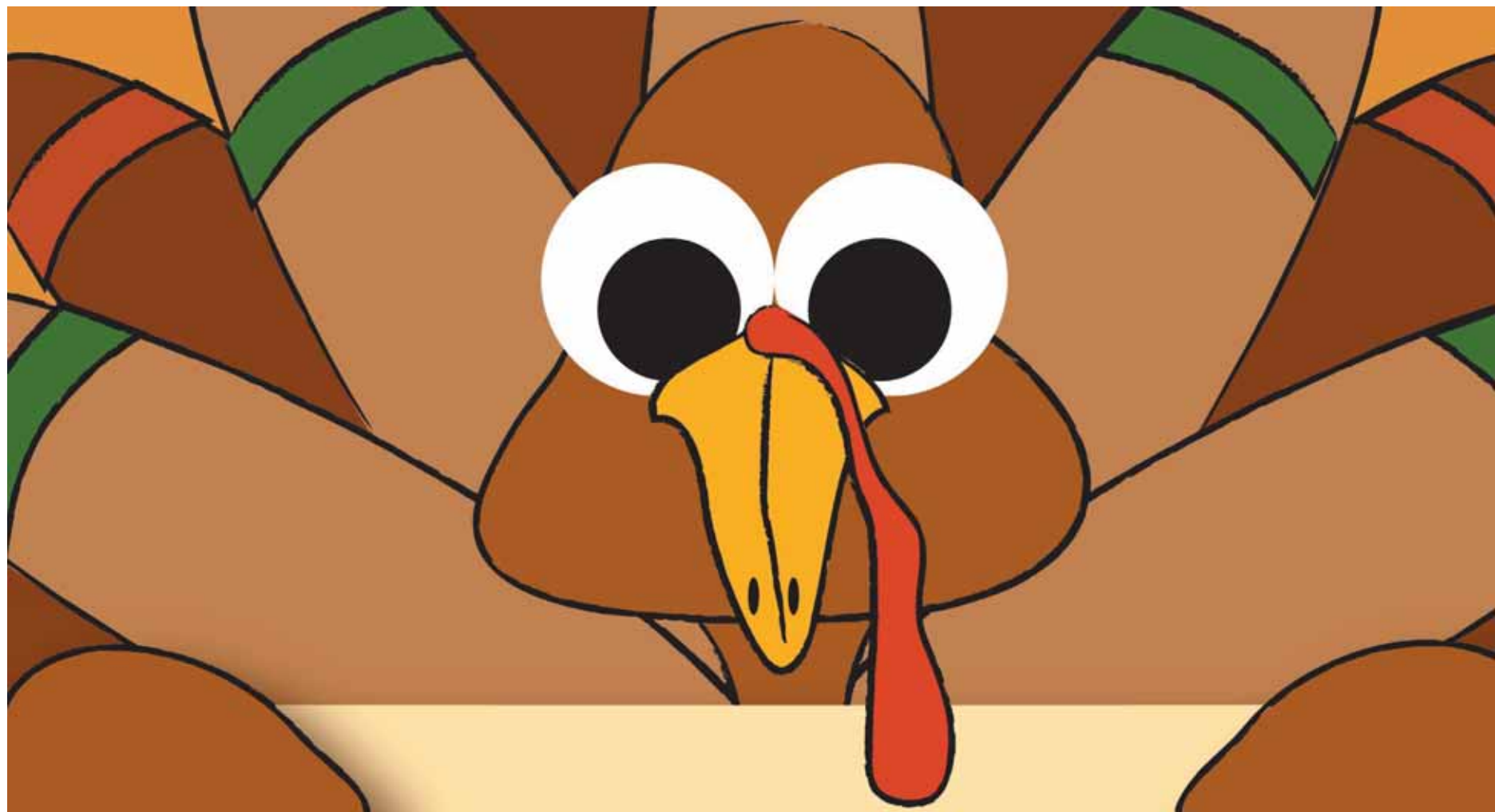
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Belleview@profeedpet.com

[www.profeedpet.com](http://www.profeedpet.com)

[ProFeed@profeedpet.com](mailto:ProFeed@profeedpet.com)



**\$5.00 OFF YOUR NEXT PURCHASE OF  
\$20.00 OR MORE**

Must present this coupon at time of purchase. One time use only. Expires December 24<sup>th</sup> 2015

# Buck's Shoe Repair



**Belle View's Favorite Cobbler  
Season After Season**

Mention this ad and get

**\$5.00 off  
Any Shoe Repair**

Offer expires 12/31/15

**SHOE  
REPAIR**

**Tuesday to Friday**

8:00 am to 6:00 pm

**Saturday**

8:00 am to 4:00 pm

**(703) 768-2358**

**1516 Belle View Blvd  
Alexandria, VA 22307**

# HOLIDAY SAVINGS

to make your future a whole lot clearer.

**25% OFF**  
A purchase of eyeglasses

When you mention this ad.  
Expires 12/31/15. Some restrictions apply.



## EYE CARE, EYEGASSES & CONTACT LENSES

Northern Virginia Doctors of Optometry have been providing patients with professional eye care for more than 40 years.



**NVDO**

### Belle View Shopping Center

1632-A Belle View Blvd  
Alexandria, Virginia 22307

Phone: 703-660-9494  
[www.novaeyedocs.com](http://www.novaeyedocs.com)

#### Mon, Tue, Thu, Fri:

9:00 am – 6:00 pm

#### Wednesday:

9:00 am – 7:00 pm

#### Saturday:

9:00 am – 4:00 pm

**Call our office today.**

**Time is running out, so hurry in to use your 2015 insurance and FSA benefits.**

# Make Music This Holiday Season

Sales • Rentals  
Instruction  
Repair



Bring or Mention this Ad for

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Instruments Sales

Expires 12/31/15

**703-660-6025**

[www.alexandriamusic.com](http://www.alexandriamusic.com)  
1502 Belle View Blvd., Alexandria VA

Hours:  
Mon-Fri 10am-9pm  
Sat 10-6  
Sun 12-5

Alexandria   
MUSIC COMPANY



**FREE 6" Regular Sub**  
with purchase of  
**\$25 Subway Gift Card!**

Order Online at  
[order.subway.com](http://order.subway.com)  
and pick up in 15 minutes!

Now Open  
Everyday At  
7am For  
Breakfast!

**\$6**  
Pick the  
PERFECT PAIR

PAIR ANY 6-INCH SUB  
AND A BOWL OF SOUP  
FOR JUST \$6.

TURKEY BREAST



POBLANO CORN CHOWDER



with \$6 Soup Combo (any six inch sub plus a cup of soup \$6 only). Soup flavors include Broccoli Cheddar, Poblano Corn Chowder & Home Style Chicken Noodle.  
Limited Time Soup Combo Offer Until December 31, 2015

**FREE**  
21oz. drink  
With purchase of any  
Footlong sub.

VALID AT THESE SUBWAY® LOCATIONS ONLY:  
6678 Richmond Hwy, VA Phone 703-373-3404 and  
1510 Belle View Blvd Alex, VA Phone 703-768-1734  
Not valid with any other offer.  
One coupon per customer per visit. ( double meat,  
guacomole & bacon extra) Expires 12/31/15

**\$6.00**  
Any 6" Fresh Value Meal

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1510 Belle View Blvd Alex, VA Phone 703-768-1734  
Not valid with any other offer.  
One coupon per customer per visit. ( double meat,  
guacomole & bacon extra) Expires 12/31/15

**FREE** Any  
Six inch or  
Footlong Sub

With purchase of Any six inch or  
footlong of equal or lesser value  
and 30oz drink.

VALID AT THESE SUBWAY® LOCATIONS ONLY:  
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1510 Belle View Blvd Alex, VA Phone 703-768-1734  
Not valid with any other offer.  
One coupon per customer per visit. ( double meat,  
guacomole & bacon extra) Expires 12/31/15

**\$6**  
Any Footlong

VALID AT THESE SUBWAY® LOCATIONS ONLY:  
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1510 Belle View Blvd Alex, VA Phone 703-768-1734  
Not valid with any other offer.  
One coupon per customer per visit. ( double meat,  
guacomole & bacon extra) Expires 12/31/15

**FREE**  
Coffee or Hashbrowns

With purchase of  
any breakfast sandwich.  
Valid everyday until 11am.

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1510 Belle View Blvd Alex, VA Phone 703-768-1734  
Not valid with any other offer.  
One coupon per customer per visit. ( double meat,  
guacomole & bacon extra) Expires 12/31/15

**\$1.00 OFF**  
Any Footlong,  
Salad or Pizza

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1510 Belle View Blvd Alex, VA Phone 703-768-1734  
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**15% OFF**  
Any Subway Catering  
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One coupon per customer per visit. ( double meat,  
guacomole & bacon extra) Expires 12/31/15

Beacon Hill Subway  
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Alexandria, VA 22306  
703-373-3404

Belle View Subway  
1510 Belle View Blvd  
Alexandria, VA 22307  
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# SNAP

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# Jump Start Holiday Savings



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(703) 299-9499

[oldtownalexandria@snapfitness.com](mailto:oldtownalexandria@snapfitness.com)



1628 Belle View Blvd  
Alexandria, Va 22307  
(703) 348-8507

[belleviewva@snapfitness.com](mailto:belleviewva@snapfitness.com)

**1st Month \$8.95**

**No Enrollment Fee**

Available at Old Town and Belle View Locations

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**Complementary  
Fitness  
Assessment**

With New Membership.

Expires 12/31/15

**24/7 Access to Over 1,500 Locations**



PLEASE JOIN US FOR OUR 2015 HOLIDAY OPEN HOUSE  
SATURDAY, DECEMBER 12, 10 AM TO 4 PM

**Annual Holiday Jewelry Event:**

Echo of the Dreamer, Mars & Valentine, Mabel Chong, Jill Schwartz Elements

**15% Off** All Christmas Ornaments & Decorations!

**Holiday Ribbon Extravaganza:** One Day Only, All Holiday Ribbon 40% Off!

**Extended Special Exhibit & Sale:** Rare Maps & Views of Mount Vernon, 1760 to 1910

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