



PHOTO BY VERNON MILES/GAZETTE PACKET

Joyce Rawlings at the center of the prayer circle.

The Gospel of the Berg

Neighborhood gathers in prayer for victims of violence.

BY VERNON MILES
GAZETTE PACKET

The courtyards of the Berg neighborhood were busy late on Nov. 20 with chants of “Victory is Mine.” More than 50 residents and visitors came together to honor local victims of violence, with more filtering in as the night went on.

On the other side of Route 1, only a few months apart, two men were gunned down on Alexandria’s streets at almost the exact same location. Across town at Beverly Park, another murder victim was found in a playground. But if the police are any closer in solving the murders of Shakaan Elliott-Tibbs, Leon Williams, or Jose Luis Ferman Perez, they’re not sharing it with the community. The three unsolved homicides, two of them in an Alexandria Redevelopment and Housing Authority neighborhood, has had an effect on the residents of the Berg.

“I grew up around here in the Berg,” said Kevin Calloway. “Tonight, it’s about coming together in prayer and remembering those we lost.”

“These young brothers are out here dying,” said Theodore Brooks. “We need to protect each other and learn to love. We have to iron out our differ-

ences.”

The minister leading the prayer circle was Lucky Jackson, a young preacher from the Christian Community Center Church, though he prefers to evangelize on Alexandria’s streets. Jackson believes the violence in their community is part of a pattern of social decay.

“The kids nowadays don’t have what we used to have,” said Jackson. “We want to bring God back into the community. Prayer has the power to shift lives here. Pray for our young men. We have to come together in unity and put our differences aside.”

Jackson has his own theories on the end destination of the social decay: the end of the world. But for others in his impromptu congregation, the more immediate concern is the end of the community. Joyce Rawlings, celebrating her 67th birthday, stepped into the center of the circle and appealed, not just to those in the ring around her, but to those who might be listening in the houses outside the circle.

“We have to be bold,” said Rawlings. “We’ve had tragedy after tragedy, death after death. We have to stop waiting and asking for the city to do stuff for us. I’m not saying they don’t care, but it’s not a high priority.”

Rawlings’ message was largely focused on Alexandria’s African-American community, whom she says she’s seen lose a sense of unity in recent years.

“We have to do this for ourselves,” said Rawlings. “We have to keep moving forward. That’s what we’ve always done.”

IMParting Hope

Art therapy helps veterans recover from PTSD.

BY VERNON MILES
GAZETTE PACKET

“I was messed up,” said Tor Peery. “I still am. I have some bad days, but this helped me to use another medium to express myself without having to use words. It’s amazing what art can do.”

Peery isn’t alone. He’s one of 70 active duty and retired military personnel whose found a new hope for recovery with IMPart, a program run by Alexandria’s Art League which helps victims of Post Traumatic Stress Disorder. The program has been gaining national attention, from First Lady Michelle Obama in October to a visit Nov. 18 from Jane Chu, chairman of the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA). The recovering soldiers displayed their work for Chu, from

clay sculptures to pictures of water garden ornamentation.

The IMPart program, run by the ceramics department chair Blair Meerfeld, meets on Wednesdays at the Art League’s Madison Annex in North Old Town. The program was started in 2012, but Suzanne Bethel, executive director of the Art League, said its roots stem from the 2007 Walter Reed Army Medical Center neglect scandal.

“I wanted to see if there was something we could do at Walter Reed,” said Bethel. “We learned that there was a burning need and it wasn’t being well filled. So we looked at Ft. Belvoir, which was becoming an epicenter for army medical treatment. It was right in our backyard, and with our ceramics program, it seems like a natu-

SEE ART THERAPY, PAGE 4

Legacy of Euille

A celebration of accomplishments.

BY VERNON MILES
GAZETTE PACKET

Over the past 12 years in office, Mayor William Euille has won a fair share of friends, and they showed up to the Mayor’s Legacy Reception at the Carlyle Club on Nov. 23. In the 2015 Mayoral race, Euille lost the Democratic primary, and ultimately the general election, to Vice Mayor Allison Silberberg. At the Mayor’s Legacy Reception, friends and supporters reminisced over the Euille-era of Alexandria.

Lavern Chatman, president and

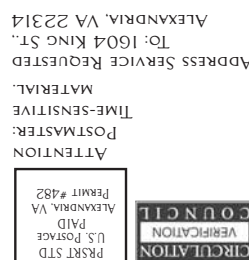
CEO of the Northern Virginia Urban League, praised Euille for leaving Alexandria a better place than he had found it. Like many others that night, Chatman encouraged Euille to continue his work in Alexandria.

“There are things our children’s children will talk about regarding Bill [Euille],” said Chatman. “And the best is yet to come.”

Chatman teased 8th District U.S. Rep. Don Beyer, who spoke after her, that his seat wasn’t safe.

“I didn’t realize this was a campaign kickoff,” Beyer responded.

SEE LEGACY, PAGE 7





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PHOTO BY VERNON MILES/GAZETTE PACKET

Christina Mindrup speaks to the Eisenhower Partnership.

TSA Move's Insecurity

In the middle of a year of ups, the latest down came as a bit of a shock to the Eisenhower Partnership. There was a lot for Frank Cole to brag about at the group's annual meeting on Nov. 19: the film festival earlier in November, the unveiling of the new police memorial outside the headquarters on Wheeler Avenue, and the new AlexRenew facility at the eastern end of Eisenhower Avenue were some of the highlights. But positive as these were, it doesn't address the elephant in the room: the Transportation Security Administration's lease to move to Alexandria has been voided by a federal judge.

At this point, there are more questions about the move than answers, and even the city's business leaders seemed in the dark. In an only half-joking manner, Cole and Christina Mindrup, vice president of Commercial Real Estate for the Alexandria Economic Development Partnership, repeatedly passed the microphone back and forth and expressed their unease about answering the audience.

"The lawsuit didn't go in our favor," said Mindrup, "We don't have a position to comment on at this time."

On Nov. 11, an order from U.S. Court of Federal Claims Judge Charles Lettow blocked the move, but the order itself is currently under seal, leaving the reason for the decision a mystery. The TSA's arrival at the Victory Center was a key part of the recently approved Eisenhower West Small Area Plan.

— VERNON MILES

Redistricting Pushed Back

The redistricting of Alexandria's Public Schools, originally slated to go into effect for the 2016-2017 school year, may be delayed until the 2017-2018 school year. The School Board voted on Nov. 23 to delay the vote on redistricting, originally slated for February, until late spring.

According to Stephanie Kapsis, School Board member and chair of the Redistricting Steering Committee, the delay allows more time for community engagement and processing feedback.

Crime Report

The Alexandria Police Department responded to the following incidents:

NOV. 22

- ❖ A robbery of a gas station in the 2800 block of Duke Street. One suspect displayed a gun and stole cash.
- ❖ A purse snatch/robbery in the 3800 block Florence Drive; it occurred at approximately 6 pm. There were no injuries and the suspect fled on foot.
- ❖ The robbery of a gas station in the 500 block of S. Van Dorn Street. One suspect displayed a gun and stole cash.

NOV. 20

- ❖ A robbery from person in the 200 block of S. Reynolds Street. Two suspects with one gun robbed the victim. There were no injuries.

NOV. 17

- ❖ The robbery of a business in the 4300 block of King Street. There was no weapon and no reported injuries.

NOV. 12

- ❖ The robbery of a convenience store in the unit block of Jordan Street. Two suspects armed with one gun robbed the store. There were no injuries.

NOV. 11

- ❖ A robbery from a person in the 4500 block of Kenmore Avenue. Two suspects displayed one gun during the robbery. There were no injuries.

NEWS

Thanksgiving in Alexandria

Please pass the Jollof Rice, injera, shiro and turkey.

BY EDEN BROWN
GAZETTE PACKET

Kadijatu "Katie" Sesay has been in the U.S. for 12 years. She is a nursing student at Chamberlain College of Nursing in Arlington and lives in Alexandria. She came from Sierra Leone as a young woman, leaving her son behind. Now her son is here with her, with her 4-year-old daughter. There is much for which she is thankful. So this year, she will celebrate with a full Thanksgiving dinner, as she did once before in 2012.

Other years, she has been invited to the homes of Sierra Leonians in the area. Her friends and family love this holiday, because they feel kinship to the pilgrims who came to the U.S., endured hardship, and prevailed. They always serve turkey, but the rest of the meal is usually African food: cassava leaf, plantain, couscous, and "Jollof Rice," a West African staple of spicy rice and chicken.



PHOTO BY EDEN BROWN/THE CONNECTION

Kadijatu Sesay, a student at Chamberlain College in Arlington will celebrate Thanksgiving with Jollof Rice ... and turkey, but most importantly, with her daughter (pictured with her) and her son.

Kadijatu works part-time as a caregiver to support herself and her family. Her sister, Isata, makes it possible for her to work and study by helping out with the children. So among all the blessings she will count on Thanksgiving, her sister Isata is one of the most important.

Dawit Mulugeta is a 23-year-old Ethiopian refugee living with his parents, brother, and sister in Alexandria. He came to the U.S. almost two years ago. Mulugeta works seven days a week to support his family and goes to college at NOVA in the evenings and early mornings. Ethiopians love to celebrate Thanksgiving with turkey, spicy chicken sauce on injera, and shiro, which is a spicy pea stew. But Ethiopian Christians rarely celebrate Thanksgiving on the last Thursday of the month because they have already be-

SEE THANKSGIVING, PAGE 8

'La Dolce Vita'

AHA honors senior advocate Sultane.

BY JEANNE THEISMANN
GAZETTE PACKET

Senior advocate Amber Nightingale Sultane, state associate director for AARP Virginia, was presented with the Community Spirit award by At Home in Alexandria at the organization's fourth annual benefit Nov. 8 at Laporta's Restaurant.

"Amber regards the older volunteers she works with as her friends and as the interesting, experienced, fun-loving and very competent people that they are," said AHA board vice chair and Commission on Aging member Jane King in presenting the award.

With the theme of "La Dolce Vita," the event featured a cocktail reception, silent auction and live music provided by the Christophe Ludet Trio. The event emcee was Julie Carey, Northern Virginia bureau chief for NBC4.

In addition to her work with AHA, Sultane provides support to Senior Services of Alexandria, Alexandria's Division of Aging and Adult Services and other organizations that serve the senior population in the city.

Ernie Lehmann, one of the original founders of AHA, gave a tribute to co-founder Richard Moose, who died on Sept. 25. Lehmann regaled the crowd with humorous anecdotes about Moose, ending with the words, "If my life is a banquet, Dick Moose was



PHOTO BY HEATHER REITZE

Amber Nightingale Sultane, left, was honored by At Home in Alexandria with the Community Spirit Award Nov. 8 at La Porta's Restaurant. Jane King, right, vice-chair of the AHA board, presented the award.

the dessert."

Founded in 2011, AHA is part of the "village" movement designed to meet the needs of the city's aging

SEE AHA HONORS, PAGE 8

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NEWS

Art Therapy Helps Veterans

FROM PAGE 1

ral fit."

Meerfeld said the program has benefitted greatly from the recent addition of Jackie Jones, an art therapist working at Fort Belvoir on an endowment from the NEA, but volunteers with IMPart

"We benefitted by having Jackie in the room," said Bethel. "She knows what's going on ... she can see things from a therapy side."

Jon Meadows joined IMPart in 2013 and is one of the program's longest outstanding participants. Jon Meadows was beginning to create art that the doctors he was seeing were concerned about and didn't understand. When it was announced that Jones would be volunteering at IMPart, Melissa Meadows kept pushing for her husband to see Jones. She said that as soon as they found out an art therapist would be joining the program, she began pressing on the people who ran the program, asking when she would arrive. Jon Meadows was the first patient Jones worked with when she started at IMPart.

"It's helped me out with my vision and dexterity," said Jonathan Meadows. "Is saved my life."

Melissa Meadows said her husband used art therapy in conjunction to other treatments.

"I don't know where he would be without it," said Melissa Meadows.

Jon Meadows said he was skeptical at first, and others agreed that they had been as well, but each of them now said that Jones' sessions was the therapy they looked forward to.

"I thought it was crazy, 'drawing my feelings,' but this works," said Peery.

Jones said the reluctance isn't uncommon. "Pretty much everyone who walks in is hesitant," said Jones, "but most leave the first day feeling the benefits."

Peery described one of the exercises he worked through with Meadows. Jones told him to imagine a box, and to put all of his happy memories inside the box while leaving all of the dark thoughts outside. For Peery, it's a way of separating out the bad moments from the good.

"It's not about forgetting," said Peery, "it's about processing."

Jones said this type of processing is at the center of the art therapy work.

"You can see moments of insight and self understanding," said Jones. "Many find something they've suppressed. You also notice progression through emotions; depression to hope and acceptance. We do a lot to honor and celebrate aspects of career and self."

Jones said that the art can sometimes be jarring, but that it's all based in personal experiences. According to Jones, the clay is also a very helpful part of that process.

"It's great for frustration tolerance," said Jones. "You don't know what your chemical changes will be, so sometimes you have to just be willing to let [your preconceptions] go."

Meerfeld says clay is the perfect medium for those

SEE RECOVERING, PAGE 5

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Tor Peery shows one of his ceramic mugs to National Endowment for the Arts Chairwoman Jane Chu.



Jon Meadows with one of his clay sculptures.

PHOTOS BY VERNON MILES/GAZETTE PACKET

Recovering from PTSD

FROM PAGE 4

surviving with PTSD.

“Clay is very tactile,” said Merrfeld. “It activates so many senses that can help the healing process.”

For Jon Meadows, the clay helped him regain many of the fine motor skills his injuries had taken from him.

“It really helped me,” said Jon Meadows. “If you didn’t like it, you can squish it and redo it again. You can sit there and play with the clay, feel it with your fingers through it.”

Since the program’s inception, Bethel said the pro-

gram has served between 60 and 70 victims of PTSD with an average of 18 regular patients each week. With many of them stationed in Ft. Belvoir, Bethel said they regularly see soldiers cycling through. Many are discharged from active duty. Bethel said she tries to follow up with the local areas the soldiers move towards afterwards, but many locations don’t have programs like IMPart.

“For many of them, [these programs] haven’t taken off in their home towns,” said Bethel. “But with NEA making this a focus point, maybe in the future there could be stronger focus on networking with those local groups.”

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PEOPLE

Owens Found His Passion

BY SHIRLEY L. RUHE
GAZETTE PACKET

It was the Saturday before Thanksgiving. Justin Owens, butcher and one of the managers at Society Fair, said, "Today starts the crazy four days. People woke up this morning and realized Thursday is Thanksgiving and we have been getting panicked phone calls asking if it is too late to order their Thanksgiving dinners."

He says they have sold 30-40 whole turkeys and have at least 300 pounds of turkey breasts in the meat locker. Currently the whole turkeys are sold out but with more expected on Monday.

Suzanne Laporte steps up to the glass meat counter and chooses four boneless chicken breasts and two strip steaks. "I live in Maryland and drive here every weekend because the meat is so good," she said. Laporte also orders a plastic bag filled with the olive oil crackers made in-house. "They don't even need cheese. I just eat them as a snack."

PEOPLE AT WORK

Owens has been at Society Fair on S. Washington Street since it opened four years ago. He got on-the-job training as a butcher at Restaurant Eve where he worked before he came to Society Fair. He said his first job there was as a server.

"I started learning about food. I was looking for a passion and found a talent I didn't know existed," he said.

Owens pulls out "a good local pork loin from Pennsylvania" and a glistening sharp knife. He said, "I'm going to french the chops and what I trim will be used for sausage" as he piles chunks of fat on the cutting board. "This small one is actually an oyster knife," he explains as he scrapes around the bones. He said, "This is the stuff people want these days — natural and organic has become the norm again, the way it used to be. We make sure we know where our meat is coming from; we take field trips."

He says his customers want a lot of steaks such as rib eyes and New York strips and "the things we make ourselves, the patés and terrines and sausages and the pasta salad and other sides. A sign for pork with mustard greens sausage sits on the front of an empty white platter. "This has become a signature meat, famous in a way." He adds, this sausage was featured in Garden and Gun Magazine under "Home-made in the South" awards. Owens says he teaches as much as he sells. "That's why I do the butchering



Justin Owens hands over a package of two strip loins with four boneless chicken breasts to Suzanne Laporte who says she drives from Maryland every weekend to buy her meat at Society Fair: "It is so good."



Justin Owens, butcher at Society Fair on S. Washington Street, wears his trademark leather apron while preparing some pork chops. He says he teaches as much as he sells: "That's why I do it out here in the front of the store."

out here in the store so people can watch and ask questions."

Next to the butcher block is the cheese case filled with Prairie Breeze cheddar made by Mennonites, Pipe Dreams Ash log and Black Betty described as "sleek and sexy with deep caramel and fruit aroma." Owens said, "I wrote that. Cheese people think they are very poetic." Owens says he started the cheese program at Society Fair and helped create "what we were going to do here." He works with a local person in buying cheeses and does his own research. "I like to start people with something easy, for instance like Maytag blue cheese from Iowa until they get used to that taste and then move to something more complex." He says cheese is finally becoming a little more mainstream and people are more adventure-some. "Some people specifically search for raw-milk cheeses." His own favorite: "I love soft, young goat cheese." One of the staff volunteered that they call him the "curd nerd."

A staff member walks by and Owens said, "You'll need to make more punch. The bourbon is in my office." He explains they are currently making seasonal autumn harvest punch which gets bottled and sold online and in the wine bar. "The idea really started with my signature dish, apple-raisin stuffed pork chops. I had the syrup left over from soaking the raisins and it ended up in the punch." He said it has become sort of a cliché "but we do use everything nose to tail."

Owens says he grew up with two younger brothers but, "mom and I were the adventuresome eaters, even as a kid. My brothers and dad were meat and potatoes." Now when he goes back to Maine his mother has saved up a lot of new places for them to try. Also he recalls his grandmother's sauerkraut soup. "I remember the smell, the bay leaf. She loved making egg salad so I went to her house for lunch every day. So one day — and she hates me telling this story — I found her chewing gum in my sandwich. I never let her forget it."



Sheriff Dana Lawhorne, left, with the Senior Services of Alexandria honorees Kathy Stenzel, Gary Hacker, Diane Stoy, Mary Pat Woodman and SSA board member Councilwoman Del Pepper.

Soul Providers

SSA volunteers honored.

BY JEANNE THEISMANN
GAZETTE PACKET

Senior Services of Alexandria held its Volunteer Appreciation luncheon Nov. 12 at the Durant Center, recognizing volunteers from across the city and honoring individuals who have made exceptional contributions to the well-being of seniors through SSA programs.

"I guess I'm just naturally a person who likes to serve," said Alice Devins, a 10-year Meals On Wheels volunteer with the USPTO Federal Credit Union team. "I like giving back. It's something we should all do."

Honored for their service to SSA programs were Kathy Stenzel for Meals on Wheels, Diane Stoy for the Friendly Visitor program, Mary Pat Woodman for the new Groceries to Go program, and Gary Hacker for his Education and Outreach efforts.

"You are the heart of soul of what we do," SSA executive director Mary Lee Anderson told



Senior Services of Alexandria chair-elect Lynnwood Campbell, left, with board member Cathy Puskar at the SSA volunteer luncheon.

the volunteers. "You don't just deliver a meal or some groceries, you provide compassion and companionship to the seniors of our city and see that they are in a safe environment. We are so grateful to you for your selfless service."

For more information on Senior Services of Alexandria programs, call 703-836-4414 or visit seniorservicesalex.org.



Meals on Wheels volunteers from the USPTO Federal Credit Union, from left, are Michele Peyton, Larry Williams, Stephone Allen, Sarah Goodall and Alice Devins.

PHOTOS BY JEANNE THEISMANN/GAZETTE PACKET



Mayor Bill Euille at his legacy reception.

PHOTO BY
VERNON MILES
GAZETTE PACKET

Legacy of Bill Euille

FROM PAGE 1

“There is much good left to come.”

Beyer, referring to his failed 1997 campaign for governor, said that he was no stranger to involuntary political retirements, but urged Euille not to wait 17 years before running for office again, as Beyer had.

When Euille stepped up to the podium, there was a cheer from the audience, to which the mayor fired back jokingly, “Where were you all when I needed you a few weeks ago?”

Euille said his immediate plans after his time in office has ended is to continue to advocate for the youth and aging populations in the city, and to continue to fight for affordable housing.

“I don’t want this city to lose it’s diversity and character,” said Euille. “That’s what keeps me up at nights.”

But from his comments, it would seem the friends who expressed concerns about Euille fading into obscurity post-election have little to worry about.

“There’s so much work to be done,” said Euille. “I’m not tired. I’m not done.”

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HUME RD, HUME, VA - Perfectly maintained! 4000+ sf on 3 levels. 10.2 ac with paddocks, pond, horse stable. Stunning outdoor living spaces: large deck overlooks Cobbler Mtn/valley, kitchen flows to covered porch, extensive hardscaping, perennial gardens, 1st floor master, lrg great room, LL family, guest room. **\$690,000**
Carole Taylor 703-577-4680

MIDDLEBURG, VA - Excellent condition! Minutes from town, private & protected, all brick Georgian built in 1998. 10' ceilings on first floor, coved ceiling, lovely molding, 2 gas fireplaces, 4 BR, 4.5 BA, new sunroom, great kitchen, 3 car garage w/ workshop, circular asphalt driveway on 7.75 acres. Perennial gardens with stone walls, flagstone terraces and views. **\$1,385,000**
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MANOR VIEW, PURCELLVILLE, VA - Stunning custom home in the heart of Loudoun County's Wine Country next-door to Hillsborough Vineyards. Sunset views! The grand foyer with HW floors opens into the living room and formal dining room. Enjoy the views from the gourmet kitchen! **\$1,199,000**
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PEOPLE

Being Thankful

From the streets of Alexandria.

PHOTOS BY
SHIRLEY RUHE
GAZETTE PACKET



Sydney Bolling is grateful “for her family, friends and coworkers who are just down the street.”



Darla Brittain, 70, from Baltimore is in Alexandria with her friend Toni. She says she is grateful for her daughter and granddaughter “and that I wake up every morning.”



Gabe Seiden is in Alexandria for a meeting on website design. “I have great friends, health, family and new beginnings. I hope that doesn’t sound too sentimental but I got divorced and have a new girlfriend.”



Jeff and Natalie Regan lived in Alexandria on and off for 14 years. Jeff is grateful “just for my family, is pretty simple, especially my daughter Brigid.” Natalie is “thankful for the community we have built in our new home.”



Toni Null, here from Pennsylvania, is in Alexandria for a time-share meeting. She says she is grateful for her two children and 3 grandchildren and to have a wonderful church. “I am especially thankful I am able to play bells at my church because I don’t read music.”



Barbara Kinosky on her way to lunch on the waterfront said, “I’m glad my relatives were smart enough to immigrate here from Eastern Europe when I was in high school. I’m happy to be in the United States.”



Du Hyun Choe is grateful for his big family — wife and two children, father-in-law and brother with children who all get together on Thanksgiving. They eat turkey “but on New Year’s Day we eat South Korean food.”



Kevin Riley is “thankful for my four daughters, two are here in Alexandria and the other two in the metropolitan area.”



Nancy Camm is thankful that her nephew in the Special Forces has returned safety from Afghanistan and very proud of his wife who met him when she in the Civil Forces. “And, of course, my 2-year-old nephew Mason who makes you smile and glad you are alive.”

Vice Mayor Allison Silberberg, left, joins Cele Garrett Exec director, Barbara Rosenfeld board chair and Helen Desfosses at the At Home in Alexandria La Dolce Vita celebration Nov. 8 at La Porta’s Restaurant.



PHOTO BY JEANNE THEISMANN/GAZETTE PACKET

Thanksgiving in Alexandria

FROM PAGE 3

gun their month-long fast prior to Christmas, and they cannot eat meat and often don’t eat until late in the day.

This year, he will celebrate with his employer in Arlington: the table will be full of Thai, American, Ethiopian, and Bangladeshi guests, and each will bring dishes from the East. Even the turkey will have a spice rub.

Nasima Khanam, originally from Dhaka, Bangladesh, has been in the U.S. for 13 years, and is a resident of Alexandria. Recently both she and her husband were unemployed, and she is struggling to take care of her family working as a part-time cashier. She wasn’t going to celebrate Thanksgiving this year, because she cannot afford to buy a turkey. Luckily, she went to the Alexandria Health Fair on Saturday, and after completing her physical, received a coupon for a free turkey courtesy of the Alfred Street Baptist Church. Khanam said



PHOTO BY EDEN BROWN/THE CONNECTION

Dawit Mulugeta, a student at NOVA and a Nursing Assistant, will celebrate Thanksgiving with traditional Ethiopian foods ... and turkey.

in her religion, Islam, one gives thanks every day to God, so she will be doing that, too.

AHA Honors Senior Advocate

FROM PAGE 3

population. A village provides a variety of practical support and social opportunities to make the daily lives of older residents more pleasant and to help them remain independent in their home and their community. AHA, the only “village” serving the city

of Alexandria, is one of more than 30 non-profit neighborhood villages in the Washington region and nearly 200 villages nationwide.

In the past year, AHA met over 659 individual requests for help and hosted 126 social and educational events. For more, visit www.athomeinalexandria.org.

BULLETIN BOARD

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

THROUGH NOV. 29

Deadline to Provide Feedback on Enclosure Forms of Potomac Yard Metrorail Station. 11:59 p.m. Comments will be compiled and discussed at the next Potomac Yard Metrorail Implementation Work Group. This feedback will inform the conceptual design process for the Metrorail station and amendments to the parks that are needed to build the

station. Visit www.alexandriava.gov/engage for more.

THROUGH DEC. 5

Syrian Refugee Blanket Drive.

Various times at City Hall, 301 King St., or Beatley Central Library, 5005 Duke St. The goal is to fill several shipping containers to be sent to a local relief agency in Turkey for delivery to the refugee families. Visit www.helpsyrianrefugees.us.

THROUGH DEC. 10

Winter Scarf Drive. 10 a.m.-5 p.m. at Beatley Central Library, 5005 Duke St. Donate a handmade or store-bought scarf. Call 703-746-1751 for more.

Annual Holiday Door Decorating Judging

An Old Town tradition will get underway the week of Dec. 6, when residents of the Old and Historic District of Alexandria will display their holiday spirit on their doors and a team of judges from the Old Town Walled Garden Club will select the winners of the 48th Annual Holiday Door Decorating Contest.

Contest rules are as follows: Except for bows and ribbons, decorations must be made from natu-

ral materials by the homeowners themselves; purchased professional arrangements are not eligible to win. Judging criteria include originality of design, scale, color, contrast, and attractiveness from the street.

The Old Town Walled Garden Club will be doing the judging the week of Dec. 6. For more information, contact the Old Town Walled Garden Club at OTWGClub@gmail.com.



One of the 2014 winning wreaths featured dried lotus pods, quince and citrus fruit slices and nuts on a boxwood wreath.

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Hand & Upper Extremity
Thurs., Dec. 10, 2015 • 6 to 7 p.m.
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Attendance is free but registration is required.
Space is limited. To register call **855-788-6464**. Light refreshments will be provided.
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OPINION

Celebrate, Shop, Dine Locally

Every day can be “small business day.”

There is a joy to participating in community traditions and celebrations during the holidays, from walking along a sidewalk with the streets decked out for the holidays, to shopping in local stores, to being greeted by someone likely to be the owner of the store, to finding gifts that are not mass-produced.

One way to be sure holiday shopping comes with some holiday spirit is to do a portion of your shopping in some of the area's locally owned stores. There is special holiday ambience available by shopping in the heart of a town that is decked out for the season. Small retail shops are part of defining any community. Their livelihood depends on the livability and quality of the neighborhoods around them. A small business owner pays attention to every detail in his or her business in a way that is otherwise unmatched.

We all benefit when local stores thrive, when local business districts beckon. An effort to support locally owned businesses has resulted in the recognition of Small Business Saturday, the Saturday after Thanksgiving, also called Shop Small. This year that day is Nov. 28.

EDITORIAL

Locally owned retail shops, services, restaurants depend on vibrant local communities to thrive, and communities depend on those businesses as well. Most small, locally owned businesses invest in community, helping to transform our towns and communities with a sense of place.

Frequently, it is the small retail person who is active in fundraising for local charities, advocating for improvements, for fire and rescue service, for local schools and in organizing holiday events.

Local retail stores, mom-and-pop stores, face tough challenges right now.

Competition from big box stores and online sellers makes the holiday shopping season all the more important to locally owned retailers. But local families will literally spend millions of dollars to shop and exchange gifts during the next month in a variety of places.

Everyone will do some of their shopping at the mall. Everyone will shop online. Many will answer the call of the big box. But local shoppers should be sure to do some celebrating, shopping and dining locally. We promise it brings more joy.

— MARY KIMM

MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

Children's Gazette Packet

During the last week of each year, The Gazette Packet devotes its entire issue to the creativity of local students and children. It is a keepsake edition for many families. The annual Children's Gazette Packet is a tradition of well over a decade.

We publish artwork, poetry, essays, creative writing, opinion pieces, short stories, photography, photos of sculpture or gardens or other creative efforts.

We ask that all submissions be digital so they can be sent through email or delivered on CD or flash drive. Writing should be submitted in rich text format (.rtf). Artwork should be photographed or scanned and provided in jpeg

format.

We welcome contributions from public and private schools, individuals and homeschoolers. To be published, we must have first and last name of the student. Please include the student's age and/or grade, school attended and town of residence.

Identify each piece of writing or art, including the student's full name, age, grade and town of residence, plus the name of the school, name of teacher and town of school location. Please provide submissions by Friday, Dec. 4.

Email submissions for the Children's Gazette Packet to gazette@connectionnewspapers.com.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Major Events Need Parking

To the Editor:

Today I am writing in reference to our newest school building. The building that was built to hold more than 700 students. The other

night there was a very big event for all of ACPS. Many people were bused in from other parts of the city. The parking lot was so crowded, cars were circling the block to find whatever parking they could. When the building was built, they made the cafeteria area very small, maybe to hold only

about 50 students at a time. The parking lot had 126 parking spaces, now the spaces are fewer and the spaces are closer together making it difficult for some of the oversize vehicles to park.

The event was advertised as the launch of “ACPS 2020: Every Student Succeeds.” No one who or-

ganized this event ever took into consideration how many people they were bringing to this school. Nor to the neighborhood for an event. The event was even worse than the “First Night Out” events that always overcrowd the city streets and neighborhoods.

ACPS needs to take into consideration how much parking is needed for such events, they need to take into consideration how much space is actually available at this school. Even if there is enough class space for up to 700 students, there is not that much open space within the building. The halls were so crowded one could barely walk through. They advertised free pizza, popcorn, and hot chocolate. People were just crowding everywhere trying to get whatever they could. The cafeteria was overcrowded, the lobby was overcrowded.

The after-school program is usually based out of the cafeteria until 6 p.m., they had to go to an upper level of the school moving their equipment, games, etc. It was difficult maneuvering through the building to get to the upper floor to retrieve my child. Such large school events should be sponsored at the larger schools, maybe at T.C. Williams where they have a larger parking area. Anywhere but at

SEE LETTERS, PAGE 11



STEVE ARTLEY/GAZETTE PACKET

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LETTERS

FROM PAGE 10

Jefferson Houston Elementary School.

Bea Porter
Alexandria

Tour Bus Issue

To the Editor:

I recently was a houseguest on the 200 block of S. Lee Street in Alexandria. On Nov 2, my hostess's car, parked near the NW corner of S. Lee and Duke streets, against the curb and well behind the stop sign white line, was hit and badly damaged on its left front fender by a very long tour bus that was attempting to turn left from Lee onto Duke St. The accident was witnessed by a passerby walking her dog and the police were called. Within 15 minutes the police located the bus at the waterfront, where the driver professed, probably truthfully, to be unaware that the right rear bumper of his bus had hit a car. He readily gave the police his insurance information, and the car has since been repaired at their expense.

I soon learned that this was not the first such accident involving a huge motor coach at that intersection — that in June the exact same thing happened to another resident's car, and that often the buses making that turn become wedged between cars parked on both Duke and S. Lee. Which raises the question, why are the huge buses

allowed on S. Lee St. in the first place? The answer, I was told, is that they are trying to get to the unit block of Prince Street but when they reach the prohibitive cobblestoned 100 block they must turn onto Lee, which is far too narrow for them. Then, after just one block, they again try to reach the waterfront via a left turn onto Duke Street. Most of the buses are from out of town and their drivers, if not lost, are confused because they've been given no set route to follow nor have they seen a posted bus route. Most of them hate having to drive in Old Town.

I also learned that many nearby residents, almost none of whom have off street parking, are afraid that the city, instead of establishing a set, safe route for the motor coaches, will simply remove all the corner parking places at S. Lee and Duke. That would only exacerbate an already terrible residential parking problem in the area.

I may not be an Alexandria resident, but I visit regularly, usually driving my own car which I try to park near the intersection of S. Lee and Duke.

I hope it won't be the next victim of a bus, but rather that Alexandria will follow the lead of other U.S. cities with historic districts by banning large buses from its oldest and narrowest streets.

Mary Megalli
Titusville, Fla.

SEE LETTERS, PAGE 12

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Sited on a large flat lot high up the hill from the Potomac River in the established Belle Haven Terrace neighborhood is this lovely well-maintained and beautifully upgraded brick rambler. \$615,000
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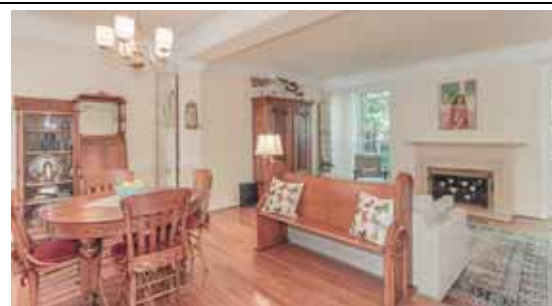


Potomac Yard 1434 Van Valkenburgh Lane, Alexandria VA

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LETTERS

FROM PAGE 11

Thanksgiving In Virginia

To the Editor:

Virginians can rightly claim our forebears first celebrated and established the custom of celebrating Thanksgiving on these shores. Their 1619 Thanksgiving celebration at Berkeley Hundred, Va. was the first one the English colonists celebrated which was intended to be observed annually, although many textbooks that mistakenly give the Pilgrims' 1621 celebration at Plymouth, Mass. that honor. Also, Alexandria's own George Washington was the first President to set aside a special day for the nation to offer Thanksgiving to God.

On Dec. 4, 1619, when the Margaret, sailing from Bristol, England, reached her destination 20 miles upstream from Jamestown at Berkeley Hundred, now Berkeley Plantation, Captain John Woodliffe opened the sealed orders given him in London. They directed that the first act of those 38 settlers and eight crewmen should be to have a religious service of thanksgiving to God for

their safe arrival, and the settlers and crew did so. Indians, curious about the newcomers and familiar with the settlers and religious services at Jamestown, probably watched. Woodliffe's orders also provided that the day of the ship's arrival was to be "yearly and perpetually kept holy as a day of Thanksgiving to Almighty God." The voyagers then enjoyed eating fresh food.

In 1622 in a surprise attack, Indians massacred almost everyone at the Berkeley settlement. Thus the custom of thanksgiving was observed there for only a few years. After that tragedy the area was abandoned, and the Jamestown settlers did not feel like celebrating. Many years later colonists returned to the site, and the Harrison family built a beautiful home there, Berkeley Plantation. Benjamin Harrison IV signed the Declaration of Independence. His grandson, William Henry Harrison, was elected President, and so was his grandson, Benjamin Harrison. Both wrote their Inaugural Addresses at Berkeley. Today Berkeley is open to the public. A marker on the James River shore indicates the site where the 1619 Thanksgiving was held, and there is an annual historical reen-



PHOTO BY MICHAEL MCMORROW/GAZETTE PACKET

Snapshot

Turkeys on King Street at Janney Lane last winter.

actment of the first thanksgiving there.

For those who might have forgotten, the Pilgrims did not land on the rocky coast up north until December 1620. They had intended to come to Virginia, but were blown off course by heavy winds. They starved for the first year, so were most grateful for

their bountiful harvest in 1621. According to the Pilgrim Hall website, "In ... 1621, the 53 surviving Pilgrims celebrated their successful harvest, as was the English custom.... (It was a social occasion, a festival of food.) The Pilgrims did not call this harvest festival a "Thanksgiving," although they did give thanks to

God. For them, a Day of Thanksgiving was purely religious. Their first recorded religious Day of Thanksgiving was held in 1623 in response to a providential rainfall."

Virginians have another tie to our modern Thanksgiving celebra

SEE LETTERS, PAGE 13

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LETTERS

FROM PAGE 12

tion. Alexandria's famous son George Washington issued his first Presidential proclamation on Oct. 3, 1789, which called for day of public thanksgiving, fasting (not feasting) and prayer on Thursday, Nov. 26, for the many blessings God had bestowed on our country, asking pardon for our national transgressions, and seeking His aid in our future endeavors. Later presidents and governors continued this tradition of setting aside a day for thanksgiving.

It is appropriate for us, like our predecessors, to celebrate with attendance at a thanksgiving service to God as well as feasting and fun with family and friends. We Virginians are proud to tell our story and claim our heritage as the first English-speaking people to observe a thanksgiving for our blessings which was intended to be done annually.

Ellen Latane Tabb
Alexandria

Easing Congestion

To the Editor:

Every afternoon, Route 1 traffic is generally backed up at Henry Street, which is a one way road going south. Drivers who do not complete the turn will remain in the intersection, which does not allow those of us going east on Prince Street to proceed in

an orderly and timely manner. During this time period, this event is replayed at a number of other intersections, greatly impeding the flow of traffic.

During my first run for City Council in 2000, one of my major initiatives was to put uniformed police to direct traffic on the main thoroughfares, which resulted in no one impeding the flow of traffic during peak morning and evening traffic hours. Although I did not win that election, my idea took hold, since the City Council adopted this suggestion. For several years, the Alexandria police force was very diligent in directing traffic, and preventing cars from blocking intersections. However, somewhere along the way this critical service ceased, so we are facing the same problem 15 years later.

Other communities have proactive traffic regulation during peak traffic hours. Nearby examples are D.C. (notably, Capitol Hill) and Baltimore, whose police forces are actively engaged to ensure that traffic flow is maintained, and that no one blocks traffic.

The decline of Metro and the densification of Alexandria are rapidly altering commuter patterns. There has a never been a better time to make a difference than now.

Townsend A. "Van" Van Fleet
AlexandriaCorrect Totals

SEE LETTERS, PAGE 14



In this season of sharing and gratitude, we give thanks to the Alexandria community for investing in our work with families for the past 70 years. We celebrate the power of your generosity. You help us transform the lives of 2,000 children, teens and adults each year through exceptional educational and social development programs throughout Alexandria. Please consider sharing your blessings with us and the families we serve by a year-end donation. We wish you joy this holiday season.



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Fairfax Water

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON WATER RATE AND PROPOSED 2016 BUDGET

At 6:30 p.m. on Thursday, December 17, 2015, Fairfax Water will conduct a public hearing on its proposed Schedule of Rates, Fees and Charges and its proposed 2016 Budget. The hearing will be held in Fairfax Water's offices at 8570 Executive Park Avenue, Fairfax, VA.

The proposed changes to the Schedule of Rates, Fees and Charges, to be effective April 1, 2016, include the following:

1. An increase in the Availability Charge from \$3,950 to \$4,100†.
2. An increase in the Local Facilities Charge from \$9,750 to \$10,240.
3. An increase in the Service Connection Charge from \$1,090 to \$1,150†.
4. An increase in the Account Charge from \$36 to \$37.
5. An increase in the Quarterly Billing Service Charge from \$9.80 to \$10.10†.
6. An increase in the base Commodity Charge from \$2.55 to \$2.68 per 1,000 gallons of water.
7. An increase in the Peak Use Charge from \$3.55 to \$3.80 per 1,000 gallons of water.
8. An increase in the Turn Off / Turn On Charge from \$50 to \$52.
9. An increase in the Fees for Use of Fairfax Water Fire Hydrants to include the increase in the Commodity Charge and Peak Use Charge.
10. A decrease in the Overhead Charge for Labor from 110% to 104%.
11. A decrease in the Overhead Charge for Materials from 25% to 16%.
12. An increase in the Installation of Sewer Use Meter Charge from \$45 to \$46.

†Charges reflect fees associated with a standard 5/8" residential meter. Changes in charges for larger residential and commercial meters are reflected in the proposed Schedule of Rates, Fees, and Charges.

Fairfax Water is proposing a \$170.4 million budget for calendar year 2016*. Revenues are expected to be \$170.4 million in 2016. Water sales are expected to provide \$147.3 million. Approximately \$23.1 million is expected from connection charges, investment income and other sources.

The major areas of operation and maintenance expense are:

Category	-- \$1,000s --	
	2015	2016
Personal Services & Employee Benefits	\$ 53,891	\$ 55,581
Power and Utilities	10,677	10,750
Chemicals	6,335	7,857
Purchased Water	6,717	6,090
Supplies and Materials	4,985	5,113
Insurance	1,017	1,050
Fuel	781	880
Postage	637	664
Contractual Services	9,930	10,422
Professional Services	1,146	1,046
Other	2,363	2,447
Sub-Total	98,479	101,900
Transfer to Improvement Fund	(9,669)	(9,616)
Total	\$ 88,810	\$ 92,284

Net revenues are expected to be appropriated as follows:

Debt Payment	\$41,417,000
Improvement Fund	\$11,000,000
General Fund	\$24,131,000

*Fairfax Water's Board will continue to monitor economic factors and review revenues and expenditures at mid-year to determine if additional action is needed.

A copy of the proposed changes to the rates and the 2016 budget can be viewed on our Web site at http://fairfaxwater.org/current/public_hearing_2015_12_17.htm. Those wishing to speak at this hearing or desiring a copy of the proposed changes should call Mr. Ken Lasso at 703-289-6194. Interested parties also may submit written comments to PublicHearingComments@fairfaxwater.org or mail written comments to:

Fairfax Water
Public Hearing Comments
8570 Executive Park Avenue
Fairfax, VA 22031

All written comments must be received by close of business on **Wednesday, December 16, 2015** to be included in the record of the public hearing.

Morning Mindfulness and Gratitude

BY NINA TISARA

Mindfulness is a serious discipline for me. It's hard work and I can only manage it for a little while at a time. I try to be aware of the many, many technologies in my life, some small, others big, things I could not begin to replicate on my own.

Most mornings I start when I first awake. I stretch and ask myself what day it is and what's on the calendar. The calendar. Its creation was a very big thing.

COMMENTARY

Sometimes I awake to the sound of music on the clock radio. And I think clock, radio, electricity, music. I am in a comfortable bed — mattress, pillows, sheets and blanket. I think fabrics and weaving. I head for the bathroom and think indoor plumbing, toilet paper.

I step on the scale — scale. I keep a log of my weight. Pencil. Paper. Writing. Reading. I dress. Clothing, fabric again and the art of sewing. Shoes and shoelaces. Someone thought to make laces with hard tips and put holes in shoes to thread them through. Hearing aid. Eyeglasses. Wristwatch. Earrings. Comb and brush. Make up. Mirror. I usually stop at the computer first thing



most mornings, even before, I'm ashamed to say, breakfast. The computer — a whole other technology that I don't even begin to understand. Morning pill and a glassful of water. Medical System.

Glass. Water again and at a touch of the tap. Breakfast. A refrigerator (electricity again) and food. An entire efficient food distribution system. Often at this time of year we are aware of and thankful for the bounty of food available to us and sometimes at gatherings we thank the unknown people who plant and harvest the vegetables and drive the trucks that bring them to us. It is hard to remember them at the supermarket where there are so many things and so many brands of the same thing to choose from but that is another meditation.

This morning I treated myself to a scrambled egg sandwich. Bread in a loaf. Eggs in a carton. Coffee. Electric coffee maker. Mug. Plate. Knife, fork, spoon. Breakfast table and chair.

I have breakfast by a window from where I watch the birds. Windows. Glass.

I step outside to fetch the newspaper. The

morning newspaper. Printing, writers, photographers and the distribution system again.

The car waits on the drive, ready to take me — wherever. Automobile. Gasoline at a pump. Roads. Traffic lights. Street signs.

The mailbox is out front too. Mail and its wondrous distribution system. Write a letter or pay a bill and it is delivered virtually anywhere in the world.

A little more than an hour has passed since I stretched into wakefulness.

I have only made it out of the door and I am overwhelmed with the magnitude of the gifts to me from unknown minds and hands. I am knocked down to my knees with gratitude for the comforts I enjoy only because of where and when I was born. I have done nothing to deserve them. I can only be aware and grateful for them.

The writer began her photographic career in 1981 as a part-time photojournalist and became known for her portrayal of Alexandria people and places. She opened Tisara Photography in 1985 and was soon joined by her son, Steven Halperson and daughter, Lynn Mills. Tisara served on the board of directors of the Alexandria Chamber of Commerce for six years and was a founding member of KSMET, the association of businesses in the King Street Metro area.

LETTERS

FROM PAGE 13

Correct Totals

To the Editor:

I appreciate your running my letter making sense of the statistics and I know how hard it is to transcribe from my handwritten letters.

Several folks have wondered why, in the election statistics, Willie Bailey was omitted. Either I was sloppy or there was an editorial transcription error or doing data distribution in a letter to the editor is akin to fitting a round peg into a square hole, but Willie Bailey's totals seem to be paired with Tim Lovain.

Regardless of whose errata, the correct totals for these two should be:

	Total	Percent
Tim Lovain	14,597	51
Willie Bailey	13,514	47

Hopefully by next election, either I'll have figured out how to use e-mail on my personal computer or elections officials will have figured out how to compute meaningful percentages for multi-position contests.

Dino Drudi
Alexandria

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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.

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Mt. Vernon - 7609 Richmond Hwy - (703) 768-2000

ENTERTAINMENT

For Buzz Bakeshop, Fresh New Season

Maggie Austin takes the helm as culinary director of newly renovated Buzz Bakeshop.

By HOPE NELSON
GAZETTE PACKET

There's a new buzz at Buzz these days. The first thing regular customers will notice upon walking in the door is the new name: What was once Buzz Bakery has transformed into Buzz Bakeshop. Step into the shop, and it's easy to see that the name change has manifested into a wholesale renovation of the space itself.

As the bakeshop settled into its first decade in existence, it was time for a change, says Neighborhood Restaurant Group's Megan Bailey. The time had come "to make it a little more modern ... to make it feel a little more elegant," she said.

But the changes aren't only façade-deep. There's a new culinary director at the helm, as well: haute couture cake artist Maggie Austin, of Maggie Austin Cake. And Austin's influence is already being felt throughout the shop, from the menu to the décor.

Buzz's display case overflows with Austin's creations, from a soft, decadent pumpkin muffin that has a cream-cheese filling hiding inside to a s'mores cupcake that just screams out for a nearby campfire. The cornmeal thumbprint cookie is Austin's mother's recipe, and the tiny bumblebees that adorn many of the sweets are quickly becoming one of Austin's signatures.

Sweet treats aren't the only offerings Austin has debuted since she took the helm. Buzz has just unveiled its new quiche, as well, to give the menu a more savory tone.

"Breakfast is busy ... and what I've noticed is people are coming in and really wanting something savory," Austin said.



"Our quiche just came out — the quiche is so good. It is so good."

Baked with Gruyere and caramelized onions and served in a "real-deal crust," the quiche is indeed proving itself worthy of the morning display case. And new items are on the horizon — just in time for the holidays.

"We're just starting to brainstorm about what we can offer through the holidays. One

of the things that we're really excited about ... (is) a 'Buzz Bites' kind of line," Austin said. "We're going to have miniature tastes of things," such as muffins made in bite-sized portions, presented in a "clear, beautiful case" — perfect for holiday gifts.

Also on the Christmas list: decorated sugar cookies. "I love just good-eating food, but a little part of me is like, 'I just want to make something a little bit fancy,'" Austin



Couture cake artist Maggie Austin has brought her own flavor — and recipes — to the bakeshop's menu. (Left) Buzz Bakeshop sports a new name and logo alongside its renovated interior and new culinary director Maggie Austin.

laughed.

The recent facelift at Buzz — both in structure and taste — is only Phase 1 of the staff's plans for the future. Given Austin's vocation, it only makes sense that cakes will begin to emerge in various ways in the coming months, from holiday rum cakes to what Austin is calling Buzz's "celebration cake line," catering to offices, birthday festivities, and the like. And the menu itself will continue to move with the seasons.

"Food is such a subjective thing, so that in developing all of these recipes ... it's a really tough thing because you can't please everyone. And you just have to kind of go with what you believe is the best representation of any of these products. Our chocolate-chip cookie is not going to be everyone's chocolate-chip cookie. But it's my chocolate-chip cookie. And I think it's really good."

If the empty plates and steady orders are any indication, that opinion isn't Austin's alone.

Hope Nelson owns and operates the Kitchen Recessionista blog, located at www.kitchenrecessionista.com. Email her any time at hope@kitchenrecessionista.com.

CALENDAR

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

ONGOING

Torpedo Factory's Post-Graduate Studio. Through Nov. 29, during gallery hours at the Torpedo Factory Art Center, 105 N. Union St. To wrap up the inaugural year of the Torpedo Factory Art Center's post-graduate in-house residency program, the Target Gallery will feature the work of the four participating artists in a group exhibition. Free. Visit www.torpedofactory.org for more.

PHOTO '15. Through Nov. 29, gallery hours at Multiple Exposures Gallery, 155 N. Union St. Senior Curator and Head of the Department of Photographs at The National Gallery of Art Sarah Greenough will jury the "PHOTO '15" exhibit. Thirty-one fine art photographers will display their work. Admission to the gallery is free. Visit www.multipleexposuresgallery.com

for more.

Mike McConnell: "Flip Side." Through Dec. 13, during gallery hours at The Athenaeum, 201 Prince St. Mike McConnell was a commercial illustrator who recently dedicated himself to fine art. Free. Visit www.nvfaa.org for more.

Green Spring Gardens Art Show. Through Dec. 27, gallery hours at Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road. Artist Carol Higgs works in batik, oil, watercolor, and collage. Painter Joan Wolfe works with acrylic and Erik and Caroline Hottenstein use watercolors. Free. Call 703-642-5173 for more.

"A Broadway Christmas Carol." Through Dec. 27 at various times at MetroStage, 1201 N. 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.

"Not-So-Modern" Jazz Quartet Performance. Thursdays through Dec. 31, 7:30-10 p.m. at St. Elmo's Coffee Pub, 2300 Mount Vernon Ave. Not So Modern Jazz Music plays music from the glory days of traditional jazz, including tunes from

traditional Dixieland and the Swing era. Free. Visit www.stelmoscoffeepub.com.

Tag on 3rd: Gallery 311 Opening Exhibit. Through Dec. 31, 11 a.m.-6 p.m. at The Associates Gallery at the Torpedo Factory, 105 N. Union St. The Associates' Gallery is re-opening in a renovated space on the Torpedo Factory's third floor, studio 311. The exhibit will honor Robert Rosselle, a sculptor who died in July. He occupied Studio 311 for many years, and two of his sculptures will take center stage in the group's new show. Free. Visit www.torpedofactory.org.

"Nature's Journey." Through Jan. 2, at American Horticultural Society, 7931 East Boulevard Drive. Darlene Kaplan will exhibit more than 60 of her original oriental brush paintings in a one-person art exhibition. Free. Visit www.darlenekaplan.com for more.

Potomac Fiber Arts Gallery: "Winter Wonderland." Through Jan. 3, 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.
"George Washington's

Thanksgiving Proclamation."

Through Jan. 6, 9 a.m.-5 p.m. at George Washington's Mount Vernon, 3200 Mount Vernon Memorial Highway. This exhibit will detail the history of Thanksgiving at Mount Vernon. On October 3, 1789, Washington issued his Thanksgiving proclamation, designating for "the People of the United States a day of public thanks-giving." Admission to the exhibit is included in Mount Vernon ticket prices. Tickets are \$17 for adults, \$9 for children, and free for children ages 5 and younger. Visit www.mountvernon.org/thanksgiving.

VCA Alexandria Animal Hospital Art Show. Through Jan. 31 at VCA Alexandria Animal Hospital, 2660 Duke St. The artwork is on display in waiting areas and examination rooms as a part of Del Ray Artisans' Gallery Without Walls program. Free. Visit www.TheDelRayArtisans.org for more.

"Ancient Art of Movement." 1 p.m. at Hollin Hall Senior Center, 1500 Shenandoah Road. Carmen Shippy, retired professional dancer, teaches a series designed for ages 50 and above. Movements are designed to strengthen core muscles and increase flexibility. Adjustments will be made

for those with physical limitations. First lesson in the series is free for non-center members. To continue lessons, a yearly membership to all Senior Center programs is \$48. Call 703-765-4573 to sign up.

Flamenco Show. Wednesdays and Thursdays, 7:30-8:30 p.m. at La Tasca, 607 King St. Watch dancers and guitarists perform traditional flamenco. Free to attend. Call 703-299-9810 or visit www.latascausa.com.

French Movie Night. Every Thursday, 7 p.m. in the back room of Fontaine Caffé & Creperie, 119 S. Royal St. View a French film. Free, no reservation necessary. Call 703-535-8151 or visit www.fontainecaffe.com/reviews.html.

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

Their Fates Intertwined: The Lees

ENTERTAINMENT



IMAGE COURTESY OF VISIT ALEXANDRIA

Each year, the City of Alexandria holds a formal ceremony celebrating the illumination of the city tree that stands in front of City Hall, 301 King St. Free. Visit www.alexandriava.gov for more.

of Alexandria in the War of 1812.

Wednesday- Saturday, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Sunday, 1-4 p.m. Lee-Fendall House and Gardens, 614 Oronoco St. A new exhibit on the experiences of the Lee family in Alexandria during the War of 1812 examines the contributions of Alexandria's citizens during the conflict that led to the writing of our national anthem through the lives of this iconic Virginia family. Visit www.leefendallhouse.org or call 703-548-1789.

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

Fifty Years of Collecting. Tuesday-Saturday 10 a.m.-5 p.m., Sundays 12-5 p.m. Fort Ward Museum, 4301 W. Braddock Road. An anniversary exhibit of objects from the Fort Ward collection. Free. Visit www.fortward.org or call 703-746-4848.

National Inventors Hall of Fame Exhibit. Through November 2016 at The National Inventors Hall of Fame-USPTO campus, 600 Dulany St. The exhibit features the stories of Inductees of the National Inventors Hall of Fame who served their country during World War II and returned home to help build the nation with their innovations. Free. Visit www.inventnow.org.

Dinner for the Washingtons. 12 p.m. at George Washington's Mount Vernon, 3200 Mount Vernon Memorial Highway. A walking tour that goes behind the scenes to find out how food was prepared and served before the era of microwaves and TV dinners. \$5 in addition to estate admission. Visit www.mountvernon.org for more.

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.

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.

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 light the city tree. Mr. and Mrs. Claus visit, and more. Free. Visit 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 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 for

more.

SATURDAY/NOV. 28

Pete Kennedy. 7:30 p.m. at The Birchmere, 3701 Mount Vernon Ave. Pete Kennedy performs with his wife Maura and Seldom Scene. Tickets are \$35. Visit www.birchmere.com for more.

MONDAY/NOV. 30

Meditation Classes. 7 p.m. at James M. Duncan Branch Library, 2501 Commonwealth Ave. Learn how to meditate or renew a stalled habit. Terri Carr will lead a class on the benefits of group meditation with guided breathing, concentration and visualization exercises. Free. Call 202-489-3619.

Kirkin of the Tartan and Evening Prayer. 7:30 p.m. at St. Andrew & St. Margaret of Scotland Anglican Church, 402 E. Monroe Ave. The service will include a blessing of Scottish tartans, a bagpiper, and Scottish music. It will be followed by a reception with Scottish foods and beverages. Free. Call 703-683-3343.

TUESDAY/DEC. 1

Open House & Mary Thonen Awards Ceremony. 4-7 p.m. at El Paso Mexican Restaurant, 6151 Richmond Highway. Learn more about the Southeastern Fairfax Development Corporation, over complimentary drinks and appetizers. The winners of the Mary Thonnen Highway Beautification Awards will be announced. Free. Visit www.sfdc.org for more.

WEDNESDAY/DEC. 2

Movie Screening. 6:30-9 p.m. at Duncan Branch Library, 2501 Commonwealth Ave. This is the next installment of the "Classic Screwball Comedies of the Thirties and Forties" series. Free. Call 703-746-1705 for the film title.

Holiday Children's Magic Show. 7-8:15 p.m. at Bishop Ireton High School, 201 Cambridge Road. Four children's magicians perform.



Holiday Ceramics Sale

The Art League's Madison Annex, December 4-6, 2015

Purchase one-of-a-kind ceramic vessels & sculptures created by students & associates of The Art League. These handmade creations by more than 30 artists are perfect for holiday gift giving.

Location:

The Art League's Madison Annex
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Hours:

Friday, December 4: 12:00 noon-9:00 pm
Artfête holiday party, 6:00-9:00 pm!
Saturday, December 5: 10:00 am-6:00 pm
Sunday, December 6: 12:00 noon-5:00 pm

Information:

theartleague.org@theartleague



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December 4-19
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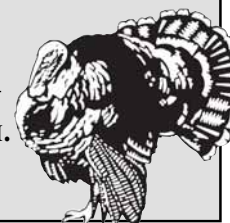


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ENTERTAINMENT

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.

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 journey from her 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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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 for more.

Book Sale and “New Look” Open House.

10 a.m.-4 p.m. at The Barrett Branch of the Alexandria Library, 717 Queen St. Hundreds of gently used books, cds, and dvds will be available for purchase. All ages can make a holiday card for a retired veteran (supplies provided) and listen to the G.W. Middle School Choir. Free. Call 703-746-1713 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.

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

‘True Colors: Like a Rainbow’

In “True Colors: Like a Rainbow” Del Ray Artisans interpret colors from the rainbow. “True Colors” will be on display in the Del Ray Artisans Gallery Jan. 8-30. The opening reception will be held on Friday, Jan. 8, 6-9 p.m. Admission to both the exhibit and reception is free. Visit www.thedelrayartisans.org for more.



“True Colors Shining Through,” Elizabeth Guerry Mead

www.torpedofactory.org.

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.

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 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.

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.

John Gorka. 7:30 p.m. at The Birchmere, 3701 Mount Vernon Ave. Folk musician John Gorka is touring in support of his 12th studio album

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ENTERTAINMENT



PHOTO BY KEVIN LANGAN

Folk/rock band **Carbon Leaf** will celebrate the release of their new album “Love Loss Hope Repeat Reneaux,” a complete re-recording of a 2006 album titled “Love Loss Hope Repeat” on Dec. 17-18 at 7:30 p.m. at the Birchmere Music Hall, 2701 Mount Vernon Ave. Visit www.birchmere.com for more.

“Bright Side of Down.” Tickets are \$35, \$10 for students. Visit www.birchmere.com for more.

SATURDAY-SUNDAY/DEC. 5-6

Christmas Tree Sale. 7 a.m.-5 p.m. at 2911 Cameron Mills Road. Find 4-13 foot fresh-cut Fir trees. Trees priced \$35-175. Cal 304-703-1350.

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, 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.

Del Ray Studio and Sale Show. 12-6 p.m. at Studio of Del Ray Arts, 8 East Howell Ave. Find carved/turned wood creations, jewelry, pottery, fiberwork, paintings, and more. Free. Email slallypottery@gmail.com for more.

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.

MONDAY/DEC. 7

Dance Class: The Art of Ballroom Dance. 7-7:45 p.m. class and 7:45-8:30 p.m. dancing at The Athenaeum, 201 Prince St. Ballroom dance professional Gary Stephans teaches the Fox Trot, Waltz, Tango, Swing, Salsa, Meringue, Rumba, Cha-Cha, and Samba. Tickets are \$15. Contact garystephans@me.com.

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.

Bell's Beer Dinner. 7-10 p.m. at Union Street Public House, 121 S

Union St. Find a special menu paired with beer from Bell's Brewery. Tickets are \$65. Visit www.unionstreetpublichouse.com.

FOURPLAY: Bob James, Nathan East, Chuck Loeb, and Harvey Mason. 7:30 p.m. at The Birchmere Music Hall, 3701 Mount Vernon Ave. Bob James and Nathan East celebrate the release of “The New Cool” with band members. Tickets are \$55. Visit www.birchmere.com for more.

WEDNESDAY/DEC. 9

Parent-Child Music Class. 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. at Mount Vernon Presbyterian Church, 2001 Sherwood Hall Lane. Accelerando Music is offering a free parent-child music class at the MOMS Club of Alexandria South monthly meeting. MOMS Club of Alexandria South serves at-home parents as well as parents who work part-time or have home-based businesses and who reside in zip codes 22303, 22306 and 22307. Free. Email Southalexmomms@yahoo.com or visitsouthalexandriamommsclub.webs.com.

“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.

“The Historical Impact of Military Chaplains in Shaping the Ethical Climate.” 7:30 p.m. at Church of St. Andrew and St. Margaret, 402 E. Monroe St. The Rev. John Weatherly will explore the roles of armed forces chaplains before, during and after the Civil War, including the foundation of the Chaplain Corps. Free. Call 703-963-9616 for more.

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.

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.

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.

Brunch with Santa. 9-11:30 a.m. at The Pub by Wegmans, 7905 Hilltop Village Center Drive. Families are invited to a breakfast with a special brunch menu and a visit from Santa. Free to attend. Call 571-527-2465.

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.fortward.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 www.alexandriapres.org for more.



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SPORTS

BI Football Falls Short

Cardinals lose to Benedictine in second straight state final.

By JON ROETMAN
GAZETTE PACKET

After taking a punishing hit from a Benedictine defender and suffering a concussion during Saturday's first half, Bishop Ireton junior running back Perris Jones stood on the sideline without his helmet and encouraged his teammates.

After suffering a right ankle injury in the first half, defensive lineman Trey Lovisone had the ankle taped and attempted to go back in. Later in the game, he was helped off the field by his teammates and would spend the remainder of the contest navigating the Cardinals sideline on crutches.

Senior linebacker/running back Bernie Hayes dealt with a shoulder injury during the game, later describing the pain as "hell."

By the end of the VISAA Division I state championship game, the Bishop Ireton football team was beat up both physically and on the scoreboard, losing to the Cadets 35-6 at Benedictine College Preparatory in Richmond.

While the Cardinals fell one win shy of a state title for the second year in a row, head coach Tony Verducci told his players following Saturday's game that the pain will fade with time.

"I told the boys in the huddle at the end of the game that I'm proud of them and that the bonds that they built over the course of this year transcend sport," Verducci said. "The result, it's not the one that we wanted, [but it] doesn't in any way shape or form reduce the significance of the accomplishments. And I told them that over time the pride will overcome the disappointment."

The accomplishments included making back-to-back playoff appearances for the first time in 13 years, and playing in consecutive state championship games (Ireton lost to Benedictine 23-7 in the 2014 state final). After finishing 1-9 in 2012 and 4-6 in 2013, the Cardinals posted records of 8-4 in 2014 and 8-3 in 2015.

"We've worked really hard," said Lovisone, a four-year varsity player. "This senior class turned a 1-9 program into a two-time state-championship appearance program. That means a lot. Right now it stings, but I'm sure we'll get over it and I will love these guys for the rest of my life."



Bishop Ireton running back Perris Jones, right, consoles lineman Gavin Webster during Saturday's loss to Benedictine in the state championship game.

Benedictine defeated Bishop Ireton 49-0 in their regular-season meeting on Oct. 17. Lovisone said the Cardinals went into Saturday's game wanting to prove the Cadets weren't 49 points better — and for one half, Ireton held its own.

After a Lovisone sack forced a Benedictine punt in the first quarter, Ireton drove deep into Cadets territory and faced fourth-and-one at the 2-yard line. The Cardinals ran a quarterback sneak, but lost a yard and turned the ball over on downs.

On the ensuing play, Benedictine quarterback Scott Bracey raced 96 yards down to the 1-yard line. He scored on the next play, giving the Cadets a 7-0 lead.

Ireton's next drive reached the Benedictine 13-yard line, but after three straight incompletions — including a fade pass that Corey Johnson nearly brought down in the end zone — the Cardinals settled for a 29-yard David Cooper field goal.

After forcing a Benedictine punt, Ireton again drove inside the 5-yard line. Facing fourth-and-goal at the 2, Cooper made a 19-yard field goal to cut the Benedictine lead to 7-6.

Benedictine, however, would eventually pull away. The Cadets took a 14-6 lead on a 1-yard touchdown run by Ellis Brooks with less than a minute remaining in the first half, and extended their advantage to 21-6 when Brooks returned a fumble 20 yards for a score on the first play of the second half.

Ireton had won four straight games prior to Saturday's loss, including a 43-20 victory over Flint Hill on Nov. 14 in the state semifinals.

"Right now, [I'm] just a little disappointed," Lovisone said. "I also love every one of these guys and I know we all worked our butts off for that trophy, we just came up a half-step short, like Coach Verducci said."



Elite runner Michael Wardian, along with his dog Rosie, will return to defend his title.



Women's champion and course record holder Susanna Sullivan.

Talking Turkey

Del Ray race celebrates 40th anniversary.

By JEANNE THEISMANN
GAZETTE PACKET

Defending champions Michael Wardian and Susanna Sullivan will return to Del Ray Nov. 26 in an attempt to defend their titles in the 40th anniversary of the Alexandria Turkey Trot. Wardian will again run with Rosie, his 2-year-old Vizsla training partner, in the Doggie and Masters Division.

"We would not want to be anywhere else in the world on Thanksgiving morning," Wardian said in a pre-race interview. "We plan to push the entire race and hope to be nipping at the heels of the other elites in the race, like we did in 2014."

A four-time USATF Ultra Runner of the year, Wardian, 41, has set world records for the fastest marathon and fastest 50K on an indoor 200-meter track.

A resident of Arlington, Wardian participated in the 2004, 2008 and 2012 U.S. Olympic Trials Men's Marathon, recording a personal best of 2:17:49.

Sullivan, 25, is the defending women's champion and course record holder of the 5-mile race. She describes the race as "one of her favorites of the year" and will be tough to challenge after having recently set an 8K (4.97 miles) personal best of 25:57.

Following the Alexandria Turkey Trot, she will begin preparation for the 2016 Olympic Team Trials for the marathon, to be held in Los Angeles in February.

Former member of Congress and Del Ray resident Jim Moran will serve as Grand Marshal of the race, which began in 1975 with 244 runners. First place that year went to Jack Mehurin with a time of 25:07.

Presented by the Del Ray Business Association and sponsored by Realtor Jen Walker and Speck Cauldron Investment Group of Wells Fargo Advisors, this year's race will have more than 4,000 runners, including participants in the Doggie and Stroller division, take to the streets of Del Ray with \$2,000 in prize money offered to the top finishers.

Registration is still open and can be completed online at www.alexandriaturkeytrot.com or on race day morning at George Washington Middle School on Mount Vernon Avenue.

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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 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.

21 Announcements

ABC LICENSE
Braddock Place Deli, LLC trading as Sophias Cafe, 1320 Braddock Pl, Alexandria, VA 22314. 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 or 800-552-3200.

21 Announcements

Public Notice Availability of a Supplemental Environmental Assessment (SEA) and Draft Finding of No Significant Impact (FNSI) for the Fort Belvoir Residential Communities, Fort Belvoir, Virginia

The U.S. Army has prepared a SEA that evaluates the construction of new family housing and related amenities with a proposed 102 housing units including recreation areas and related facilities on approximately 53.5 acres known as the Woodlawn East/Berman Tract at Fort Belvoir. The proposed residential community is located on North Post east of Woodlawn Village of Fort Belvoir. Implementation of the proposed action is not expected to result in significant environmental impacts; therefore, preparation of an environmental impact statement is not required in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act. Copies of the EA and draft FNSI are available for review and comment at the following libraries: Fort Belvoir Van Noy Library, Lorton Branch, Sherwood Regional Branch, and Kingstowne Branch. The documents are also available at:

http://www.belvoir.army.mil/envirodocssection2_ArmyRCI.asp. Comments on the EA and draft FNSI should be submitted to Mr. Felix M. Mariani, Fort Belvoir DPW Environmental and Natural Resources Division, Building 1442, 9430 Jackson Loop, Fort Belvoir, VA 22060, or usarmy.belvoir.imcom-atlantic.mbx.enrd@mail.mil. Comments must be received no later than 30 days after publication of this Notice of Availability.

The biggest things are always
the easiest to do because there
is no competition.
-William Van Horne

21 Announcements

OBITUARY
Alma Deane MacConomy, 96, retired editor and head of book publishing at the National Wildlife Federation, died November 13, 2015 in Alexandria, VA. She taught one-room country schools in Kansas from age 16 to 19, then worked her way through Kansas State University and earned a degree in journalism.

Mrs. MacConomy came to Washington in 1944 as a reporter covering the Senate for Congressional Intelligence. Later she held public relations posts with the American National Red Cross, American Forest Products Industries, and the Campfire Girls.

As a free lance writer following her marriage to Edward N. MacConomy in 1957, she launched the Merry Go Round, a weekly children's calendar of events, now known as the Capital Carousel, for The Washington Post in 1966 and published a children's book, Odd Jobs in Lumbering, in 1967.

In 1970 she helped the National Wildlife Federation create the Conservation Summit, a popular nature vacation for families.

As a young woman, she was an active member of the New York Avenue Presbyterian Church in Washington, setting aside her professional career for four years to be housekeeper for the manse for Dr. Peter and Catherine Marshall during the latter's long illness. As well as research assistant to Catherine Marshall for her books Catherine Marshall's Story Bible and the novel Christy. Since 1979 she has been a member of Grace Episcopal Church in Alexandria where she served on the vestry and as chairperson of Outreach and Ordination Committees.

She is predeceased by her husband. She is survived by their son, Scott and his wife Kelly of Alexandria, granddaughter, Kiera Thompson of Boston, MA, and a grandson, Cameron of Los Angeles, CA.

The family will receive friends on Sunday, November 29th from 5-8 pm at Everly Wheatley Funeral Home, 1500 W. Braddock Rd., Alexandria, VA 22302. A service will be held on Monday, November 30th at Grace Episcopal Church, 3601 Russell Rd., Alexandria, VA. Interment will immediately follow at Ivy Hill Cemetery. Online tributes can be made at www.everly-wheatley.com. Donations may be made in honor of Alma Deane to the Campagna Center in Alexandria, VA.

21 Announcements

ABC LICENSE
EMS Food Group, LLC trading as Chickpea and Olive, 529 E. Howell Ave. Alexandria, VA 22301. The above establishment is applying to the VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL (ABC) for a Wine and Beer on Premises license to sell or manufacture alcoholic beverages. Erik Dorn Member/Manager
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Alma Deane MacConomy, 96, retired editor and head of book publishing at the National Wildlife Federation, died November 13, 2015 in Alexandria, VA. She taught one-room country schools in Kansas from age 16 to 19, then worked her way through Kansas State University and earned a degree in journalism.

Mrs. MacConomy came to Washington in 1944 as a reporter covering the Senate for Congressional Intelligence. Later she held public relations posts with the American National Red Cross, American Forest Products Industries, and the Campfire Girls.

As a free lance writer following her marriage to Edward N. MacConomy in 1957, she launched the Merry Go Round, a weekly children's calendar of events, now known as the Capital Carousel, for The Washington Post in 1966 and published a children's book, Odd Jobs in Lumbering, in 1967.

In 1970 she helped the National Wildlife Federation create the Conservation Summit, a popular nature vacation for families.

As a young woman, she was an active member of the New York Avenue Presbyterian Church in Washington, setting aside her professional career for four years to be housekeeper for the manse for Dr. Peter and Catherine Marshall during the latter's long illness. As well as research assistant to Catherine Marshall for her books Catherine Marshall's Story Bible and the novel Christy. Since 1979 she has been a member of Grace Episcopal Church in Alexandria where she served on the vestry and as chairperson of Outreach and Ordination Committees.

She is predeceased by her husband. She is survived by their son, Scott and his wife Kelly of Alexandria, granddaughter, Kiera Thompson of Boston, MA, and a grandson, Cameron of Los Angeles, CA.

The family will receive friends on Sunday, November 29th from 5-8 pm at Everly Wheatley Funeral Home, 1500 W. Braddock Rd., Alexandria, VA 22302. A service will be held on Monday, November 30th at Grace Episcopal Church, 3601 Russell Rd., Alexandria, VA. Interment will immediately follow at Ivy Hill Cemetery. Online tributes can be made at www.everly-wheatley.com. Donations may be made in honor of Alma Deane to the Campagna Center in Alexandria, VA.

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OBITUARY



Margaret A. Lawler (Nov 20, 1913-Nov 19, 2015) passed away peacefully in her sleep. She was a lifetime resident of the City of Alexandria and the only child of Nicholas (an Alexandria City Council member) and Annie Lawler. She grew up in the historic French-Lawler House at 517 S. Wash. St., which she eventually inherited from her parents. Margaret attended Trinity College in Washington, DC, where she studied foreign languages and history, receiving a Master of Arts degree in 1937. She worked for the Federal gov't her entire career. She cared for her parents, her dear friends, her church, and her cats. She travelled a good deal. Everyone who met Margaret felt like they were her best friend. She lived a prayerful life and she was very charitable, both in word and in deed. A funeral mass will be held at noon on Sat. Nov. 21 at St. Mary's Catholic Church. A private burial will take place at a later time at St. Mary's Cemetery, Alexandria, VA.

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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. 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 or call 571-483-1316.

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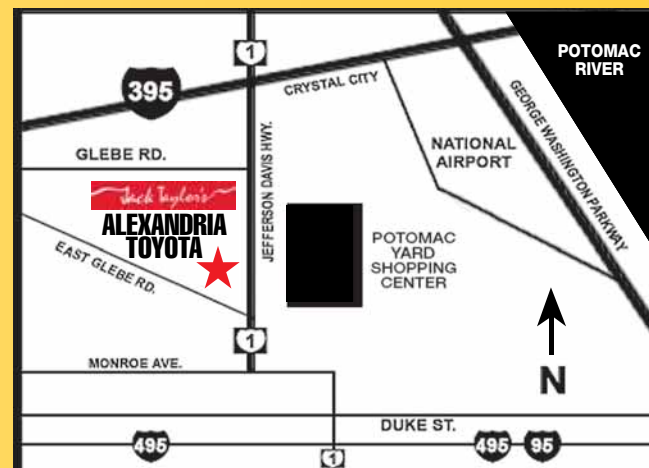
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