



**President Bill Clinton, speaking in support of his wife Hillary Clinton at the Durant Recreation Center on Feb. 24.**



**U.S. Sen. Mark Warner voting at Lyles-Crouch.**

PHOTOS BY VERNON MILES / GAZETTE PACKET

## Alexandria Votes Moderate

City residents favor Clinton, Rubio, and Kasich.

BY VERNON MILES  
GAZETTE PACKET

The ballots are hidden, but when he went to the polls at Lyles-Crouch Elementary School early on Super Tuesday, U.S. Sen. Mark Warner made no secret of whom he was supporting.

"I voted for Hillary Clinton," said Warner. "We need somebody with a sophisticated view of how we deal with terrorism and Russia re-emerging as a superpower."

Warner said he favored what he saw as Clinton's strengths in economic recovery and higher education. Warner wasn't the only one. Throughout

Virginia, Clinton won 64.3 percent of the vote, with Sanders coming in a distant second with 35.2 percent. In Alexandria, Clinton won 69.49 percent of the vote. With 16,281 votes, more than were cast for all of Republican candidates together, Alexandria fell decidedly into the Clinton camp.

Among the Republicans, Donald Trump won the state with 34.7 percent of the vote, prevailing over Marco Rubio's 31.9 percent. That popularity wasn't reflected in Alexandria though, where Rubio won the plurality of the city with 46.83 percent of the vote. With 18 percent of the vote, Trump fell to third in the city behind John Kasich's 23 percent.

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## At Hillary Clinton Rally in Durant Recreation Center

PHOTOS BY GALE CURCIO / GAZETTE PACKET



**U.S. Rep. Don Beyer**



**Alex Roberts**



**Sam and Noah Geller-Cheney**



**Mayor Allison Silberberg**

## Building on Giant's Bones

Despite traffic concerns, Planning Commission green lights North Old Town development.

BY VERNON MILES  
GAZETTE PACKET

Currently, the city block between in North Old Town that formerly housed the Giant grocery store sits empty except for a lone ABC store. Surrounded by hotels, restaurants, offices and community centers, the mostly vacant lot stands out, which is partly why city staff and the Planning Commission were pleased with a proposal from EDENS to

redevelop the plot for a mix of retail, townhouse-style units, and apartments. The Planning Commission voted to approve the proposal at its March 1 meeting, but not without objections be several local community members.

Building sizes in the new development range from two to six stories, with two levels of underground parking. For those worried about being cut off from the closest alcohol supply, the Virginia

SEE DEVELOPMENT, PAGE 22

## Opportunities For Alexandrians

City job fair centers around entry level positions.

BY VERNON MILES  
GAZETTE PACKET

If you host it, they will come. While 3.4 percent unemployment in Alexandria is slightly below the 3.9 percent average for Northern Virginia, it still leaves 3,381 Alexandrians unemployed. A 2010 census found that 15.6 percent of African Americans in Alexandria had been unemployed for over 12 months. In an effort to

push that number lower, various city departments and volunteer organizations partnered to hosted a job fair on Feb. 25 at the Charles Houston Recreation Center, with employers from around the city and country setting up booths to advertise jobs. By noon, two hours after the event had started, nearly 200 Alexandrians had attended the fair and picked up packets for

SEE JOB FAIR, PAGE 5

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## NEWS

# Music Is Magic

**SOLA gala bids farewell to Kluge.**

BY JEANNE THEISMANN  
GAZETTE PACKET

**T**he Symphony League of Alexandria held its 29th annual Symphony Ball and Auction Feb. 27, celebrating Maestro Kim Allen Kluge's 28<sup>th</sup> and final year at the helm of the Alexandria Symphony Orchestra.

Held at the Carlyle Westin Hotel, more than 300 people turned out for the annual black-tie event that raises funds to support the ASO and its programs.

"What an incredible journey this has been for me," said Kluge, who will step down at the end of this season. "But while it is time for me to pursue different opportunities and challenges, don't be surprised if one day I end up as your neighbor. My wife Kathryn was born here and there is no question my heart is here in Alexandria."

Entertainment was provided by Bruthers Plus One with man-about-town Shawn McLaughlin acting as auctioneer for a live auction that included a trip to Tuscany, a blue sapphire necklace, a private tour and

SEE SOLA, PAGE 7



**Maestro Kim Allen Kluge thanks attendees for their support at the Symphony Orchestra League of Alexandria's 29<sup>th</sup> annual gala Feb. 27 at the Carlyle Westin Hotel.**



**Longtime symphony supporter Donnan Wintermute chats with Kim Allen Kluge at the SOLA gala.**



**Auctioneer Shawn McLaughlin recognizes a bidder during the live auction.**



**Mayor Allison Silberberg, in back, visits with Ann Rector, Roger Parks and Shari Simmans at the SOLA gala Feb. 27.**



**Maestro Kim Allen Kluge embraces Symphony Orchestra League of Alexandria president Phyllis Sintay after a presentation marking Kluge's final season with the ASO during the 29<sup>th</sup> annual SOLA gala Feb. 27 at the Carlyle Westin Hotel.**

# Talking with Mrs. Washington

**Martha pays a visit to Lloyd House.**

BY JEANNE THEISMANN  
GAZETTE PACKET

**A**merica's first First Lady made a visit to Alexandria Feb. 27, holding court at Lloyd House as part of the Talking With Washington series and celebration of George Washington's birthday.

Portrayed by Mount Vernon character interpreter Mary Wiseman, Martha Washington regaled attendees with stories of her life with the father of the country and the challenges faced as a woman in the 18<sup>th</sup> century.

"I thought she was lovely," said 5-year-old Margaret Stoll. "Her great blue dress and fan and bonnet looked very elegant."

Margaret attended the event with her siblings, Timothy, 8, and Eleanor, 3, who learned the proper etiquette for using a fan.

"I liked the fan and the dancing girls on her fan," Eleanor said.

In the one-hour presentation, Martha Washington shared her observations about her life, including her courtship with George and life on a Virginia plantation.

"I loved her story about Vulcan stealing the ham," said Timothy Stoll. "If I had seen it I would have laughed my heart out. I also liked hearing about her childhood and siblings."

Wiseman, who has been portraying



**Three-year-old Eleanor Stoll inspects Martha Washington's fan during the Talking With Washington presentation Feb. 27 at Lloyd House. Mount Vernon character interpreter Mary Wiseman portrays Martha Washington.**

Martha Washington for more than 14 years, answered questions and posed for a "portrait" with the Stoll family before returning to Mount Vernon.

"The kids really enjoyed meeting Mrs. Washington and hearing her wonderful stories," said Jennifer Gniady, mother of Timothy, Margaret and Eleanor. "And Tim also enjoyed learning to bow properly to Mrs. Washington. It really was a great event for the family."



**Mount Vernon character interpreter Mary Wiseman as Martha Washington poses with Eleanor Stoll, 3, and siblings Timothy, 8 and Margaret, 5, following a visit to Lloyd House Feb. 27 as part of the Talking With Washington series.**

PHOTOS BY JEANNE THEISMANN/GAZETTE PACKET



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# City Job Fair Centers around Entry Level Positions

FROM PAGE 1  
local jobs.

Employers included various military branches and every city service, as well as companies like 7-Eleven, Passport Nissan, and Griswold Home Care. The job fair was aimed at 18-28 year old Alexandrians looking for entry level positions. Some were college students on a break from school or recently graduated looking for a temporary job, others hadn't attended college and were looking for a starting point for the workforce.

"We need to focus on early level opportunities," said Michael Johnson with the Alexandria Department of Recreation, Parks and Cultural Activities, who helped organize the event. "We noticed some young people were just hanging out. The people we talked to overwhelmingly said they needed employment. So we told them we'd have a job fair. Started with a conversation about 'what can we do' and it grew from there."

William Chesley, deputy director of the Department of Recreation, Parks and Cultural Activities, said community-based events like the job fair are some of the most helpful things the city can do for its citizens.

"We met with 20 or so folks who said they needed jobs about five weeks ago, so we pulled things together to make this happen,"



PHOTO BY VERNON MILES/GAZETTE PACKET

**From left are William Chesley, deputy director of the Department of Recreation, Parks and Cultural Activities, with local residents Ryan Harris, D'Angelo Griffin, Devon Griffin, Juwan Daniels, and Mayor Allison Silberberg.**

said Chesley. "We targeted at-risk youth and young adults. The people talking to us were sincere, so we responded sincerely."

Juwan Daniels was one of the young men at the job fair looking for potential employment and carried applications from several employers. "They all look good," said Daniels. "This is a good program, there's a variety of choices here."

"I like [the job fair] a lot, there is a lot of good opportunities," said Jasmine Dixie, who wants to join the Sheriff's department because it can offer a full career and she can give back to her community.

Deputy Marvin Pitts, who has worked in the Alexandria Sheriff's Department for 21 years, was at the job fair and encouraged

young Alexandrians to apply for a career in the department. Pitts said the job requires a polygraph test, a psychological test, and a medical exam, as well as a background check and meeting physical requirements. Pitts also noted that anyone who joins the department starts with two years or so of working in the jail before they can transfer to another position.

Lee Venable represented the Navy at the job fair, and shared the same pitch that he'd said had made him want to sign up. For Venable, the Navy was a chance to travel and find his independence. He said he was hooked as soon as he saw the list of bases around the world the Navy would pay to send him to, his favorite location so far be-

ing a stint in Thailand. At the job fair, Venable said the biggest obstacle has been that many people he talks to are afraid they don't qualify.

As with the Navy and the Sheriff's Department, many of the jobs at the fair were long-term positions. Some were thankful for the city for the job fair, but still said there's room to improve in the future.

Lynel Patton and Tanasia Strother sat at one of the tables where a company had said they'd attend but never showed up. Both expressed an interest in reception or retail work, where they could work with customer service and help others, and both planned on also attending a job fair hosted the next day at a new Holiday Inn nearby.

"Ideally, we'd like to see more options," said Patton. "Most of the jobs here are Army or police, some with nine-month waiting periods. That's too long for us; it's not feasible."

Though limited, there were a few employers at the fair representing more immediate jobs. J.D. Pittman, at the job fair representing Passport Nissan, said there were various entry level positions available.

"We take people for everything from sales associates to [working in] the call centers," said Pittman. "We train them. They don't need to have any experience to apply. We're just looking for people who are eager and with a desire to work."

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# Reynes Shares Something Sweet

BY SHIRLEY RUHE  
GAZETTE PACKET

**J**ulie Reynes walks down the ramp and pushes the buzzer at the side door of Harris Teeter on N. Saint Asaph Street. She checks in with Ashley Bigelow, the store's receiver, who verifies that the quantity of dates matches the invoice. Reynes pushes through a door that brings her out in the back side of the long glass deli case.

She speaks briefly with Luis Rivera, the Fresh Foods manager about the current supply of her packages of dates. "Oh," she says, "easy to spot."

They have been featured on the top shelf under an entertainment display in the cheese section. Reynes says that Luis has taught her a lot about the grocery business. Rivera points to the orange-labeled box of Simply Stuffed Dates. "Right now the pecan-stuffed dates are selling the best but it is seasonal." In the spring when the store features lemons, he thinks it may be the Almond Lemon. Reynes says this is her favorite.

Reynes says she currently produces boxes of four varieties of plump stuffed medjool dates that she gets shipped from California. Reynes used to work out of a kitchen in Alexandria but now uses a D.C. kitchen where she employs workers eight hours a day slicing open dates and filling them by hand with Pistachio Orange, Almond Lemon, Pecan Maple or Hazelnut Chocolate which is the most popular. She describes it as "the most decadent of our dates. We sell 2,000 boxes a month of all the dates combined." She says that the recipes came from playing around with different ingredients. The current selections have a shelf life of three months unrefrigerated.

When she started Julie's Datery business two years ago in the Alexandria Farmer's Market, she was ordering 32 two-pound boxes of dates from Costco. Now she gets a palette of 120 boxes of 15 pound cases of dates. Reynes says this is her third career after working in IT for over 15 years and holding leadership positions in several non-profits. "I always wanted to start a business; I wanted something unique." For a while she looked into modification of homes for elderly so they could age in place.

Then several things came together including a visit to Saudi Arabia where she was met with an abaya feast, then taken to what she thought was a coffee shop but turned out to be a store with dates of all kinds. "I fell in love and brought a lot back with me."



**Julie Reynes, owner of Julie's Datery, discusses the supply of dates and the best seller with produce manager, Luis Rivera, at Harris Teeter. The favorite at this store is the Pecan Maple, but he says it is seasonal.**



**Julie Reynes heads to the side door of Harris Teeter on N. Saint Asaph Street with a case of Simply Stuffed Dates to restock her store supply. Reyes started Julie's Datery business two years ago at the Alexandria Farmer's Market.**

By happenstance a friend served her gorgonzola stuffed dates for her birthday party. About this same time she dated a guy who had Latvian bread, and he taught her the process of how to set up a business.

Reynes reaches in the back of her car to pull out a carton of dates. She works out of her home, but her car serves as a makeshift mobile office since she routinely performs four demos every weekend that necessitate setting up a table with tablecloth, her "sell sheet" and extra dates in case they have run out at the store. In addition, she routinely checks groceries and shops for supply of her product, expiration dates, signage and location of the display. "As you can tell, I'm in my car a lot," Reynes said sales depend on where the dates are placed in the store. She has just stopped at the Whole Foods on Duke Street where the dates are in a "grab and go" section at the front of the store. Reynes thinks featuring them in the produce section of groceries could be a good display as well.

Currently she has dates in 17 Whole Foods stores, three Harris Teeters, six MOM's and some specialty stores such as Arrowline in Arlington, Society Fair on S. Washington Street and Glen's Garden Market at DuPont Circle in D.C. which is her biggest selling market in the D.C. metro area. Eventually she would like to get a distributor outside and expand beyond the Mid-Atlantic region. She also sells the dates on her website.

She says the hardest part is "the path to profitability." She balances a growing demand with viability. One of the challenges is financial because of the expense of her ingredients.

The organic dates are the best and the nuts are good quality and "we don't have much in terms of filler." Reynes says she always loved cooking and thought she would end up in the restaurant industry but other opportunities took over and "it took me a while to get back to it." Is she having fun? She pauses and smiles, "Well, it depends on the day, but most of the time."

PHOTOS BY SHIRLEY RUHE/GAZETTE PACKET



PHOTOS COURTESY OF LOREN DEPINA

**Cameron DePina of Alexandria was born one day shy of 31 weeks at Virginia Hospital Center on Sunday, Dec. 14, 2014. He was doing well in the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU) until he developed necrotizing enterocolitis, an infection common in preemies. Cameron was transferred to the level IV NICU at Children's National Health System for a higher level of care. There, doctors noticed he had an irregular heart rhythm and diagnosed him with supraventricular tachycardia (SVT).**

## A Survivor

**Mother keeps positive, trusting team of doctors, nurses.**

BY ASHLEY CLAIRE  
SIMPSON  
GAZETTE PACKET

**B**efore Loren DePina of Alexandria gave birth to her preemie son Cameron last year, who arrived a terrifying and alarming 10 weeks early, she assumed that her experience potty-training her oldest son would go down as one of the most challenging times in her personal parenting history. Today, DePina laughs at how much stress she felt during the toilet training process.

Cameron, who was born on Dec. 2, 2014, spent nearly the first two months of his life in hospitals not only due to his premature birth, but also because of his battle with supraventricular tachycardia (SVT), a congenital defect that causes the heart to beat at a rate faster than 100 beats per minute. DePina still marvels at how she and Cameron made it to the other side, today enjoying a happy and healthy life.

Cameron is a typical toddler today, but DePina said she will never forget the terror that SVT struck in her and the rest of her family. In February, National Heart Month, DePina celebrated one year since bringing Cameron home from Children's National Medical Center.

"It's hard to believe that Cameron will be 15 months old

in three weeks," DePina said. "He's doing really well. Over time, he has been taken off all the medications he was discharged with. Since October, he's been progressing in the right direction without meds."

She added that she's convinced that neither she nor her resilient young son would have survived without the team of doctors and nurses at Children's National Medical Center, including Dr. Charles Berul, division chief of Cardiology and co-director of Children's National Heart Institute.

Berul, who has been a pediatric electrophysiologist for more than 20 years, said that while SVT is relatively common, with 1 in 200 children affected by the heart defect, it is difficult to diagnose in infants.

"In infants it is more challenging to make the diagnosis, as they cannot tell you their heart is racing," Berul said. "Poor feeding, pallor and irritability are the signs to look for."

Luckily, he added, the treatment for SVT is "quite effective," and that if medication doesn't work, there is a curative procedure he performs and Children's National Medical Center.

SEE MOTHER, PAGE 23



# OBITUARY

## Alan Neal Rudd

Alan Neal Rudd, formerly of Alexandria, died Feb. 6, 2016. His family, friends, and professional colleagues remember him as a man of great kindness, sincerity, and integrity.

Alan is survived by his loving wife Elizabeth "Pat" whom he cherished faithfully for over 49 years; their daughter Michelle, her husband Eddie, their son Andrew, and Alan's loyal service dog, "Domino," all of whom were with him until the end.

Alan, the son of Benjamin W. Rudd and Rita Schlossberg, was born in Boston and came to the Washington, D.C. area at the age of five. He attended public schools and underwent both undergraduate and graduate studies at the American University. In 1966, Alan and Elizabeth were married by the late Rabbi Gerstenfeld at the Washington Hebrew Congregation. For 35 years, Alan served as an executive at the U.S. Department of the Navy, where he ultimately managed an expert team of professional contracting officials for the Navy's Undersea Warfare Program. These officials awarded annually billions of dollars in contracts in support of the Gulf War and subsequent top secret missions. Upon his retirement, the Secretary of the Navy presented to Alan the rarely granted and much coveted Distinguished Civil Service Award for Superior Performance in recognition of his many contributions to the department.

Following retirement, Alan served as a consultant to the U.S. Department of State. In that capacity, he traveled throughout the world counseling State Department employees in the U.S. Embassies in preparing and negotiating contracts for security protection of the embassy facility. In many instances, Alan represented the embassy in dealing with U.S. companies abroad, host country companies, and directly with senior officials of the host country government.

## SOLA Gala Honors Kluge

FROM PAGE 3

tasting reception for 12 at Port City Brewery and the ASO Wine Cellar.

SOLA president Phyllis Sintay made a presentation to Kluge, who was a young doctorate student at the University of Maryland when he took over as music director for what was then a fledgling amateur orchestra that performed in the old T.C. Williams High School auditorium. In only his second year, he professionalized the orchestra.



Concurrently, Alan served as the president of the Carlyle-Eisenhower Civic Association (CECA) in Alexandria where he again put his contracting skills to work. Together Alan and other members of the CECA Board negotiated a \$2 million grant between CECA and the Carlyle Development Corporation, a subsidiary of Norfolk Southern, that owned the land selected by GSA for the \$3.6 billion construction and lease of the U. S. Patent and Trademark Office. The purpose of the grant was to provide, upon completion of construction, a program of concerts and fine arts for Alexandria citizens in open spaces surrounding the large government facility. For this and other endeavors, the Mayor William Euille and members of the City Council presented to Alan and his wife a proclamation of recognition as well as keys to the City of Alexandria.

On Sunday, March 20, at 1 p.m., Rabbi Dr. Tsvi Schur will conduct a Memorial Service in honor of Alan in the Fireside Room at Harborview Towers. Friends are invited to join Alan's family for the service and open reception at 100 Harborview Drive, Baltimore, Md. Please advise Alan's wife, Elizabeth "Pat", by no later than the prior Monday if you will need valet parking. Elizabeth "Pat" may be reached at 828-638-3880.

In lieu of flowers, the family asks that gifts in memory of Alan be directed to support Dr. Amy DeZern of the Leukemia Department at the Johns Hopkins Kimmel Cancer Center. Make checks payable to Johns Hopkins University. Gifts may be mailed with a memo indicating that the gift is in memory of Alan Rudd to the Johns Hopkins Kimmel Cancer Center, PO Box 17029, Baltimore, MD 21297-1029. Alternatively, one may make a gift online at <https://secure.jhu.edu/form/kimmel>.

"There weren't a lot of people in the audience back then but we came together for the joy of performing," said Kluge when he was selected as a 2016 Living Legend of Alexandria. "It's very gratifying to look back and see what the ASO has accomplished and I hope I have made a lasting contribution to the city that I love so deeply. I truly have a sincere belief in the power of music to transform everyone's life."

See [www.alexsym.org](http://www.alexsym.org).

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## News



PHOTOS BY RICHARD MUMFORD/GAZETTE PACKET

## In Honor of Washington's 284th birthday

At the George Washington's birthday celebration on Feb. 22 at the Duncan Branch, Alexandria Library, are (from left) Thomas Darcy (portrayed by Terry Zerwick); a man in service to John Dalton, close friend of George Washington (Danny Smith); John Carlyle (Chuck Aldridge); and Adam Stephen, one of Washington's lieutenants in the French and Indian War (Philip Smucker).



Children eat ice cream and cake under the watchful eyes of John Carlyle, Washington's close friend, portrayed by Chuck Aldridge.

## City Establishes 12-Person North Potomac Yard Advisory Group

At the Feb. 23 City Council meeting, the council voted to establish an Ad Hoc North Potomac Yard Advisory Group. As the city moves forward with its North Potomac Small Area Plan, the group will develop potential amendments in areas such as land use, open space, transportation and connectivity.

The 12-person group will be split between six residents, five city commissioners and

committee members, and one at-large business representative. One representative in the residential group will be an at-large resident in Potomac Yard, while three others will come from across the city. All at-large representatives are appointed by the city manager based on nominations through eNews, the city website, and various local civic and community associations.

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

## THURSDAY/MARCH 3

**40 Hour Eucharistic Devotion.** St. Louis Catholic Church, 2907 Popkins Lane, Alexandria, is celebrating Pope Francis' 24 Hours of Mercy initiative with a beginning on at 7 p.m. Special prayers and devotions will take place from 4 p.m. Friday, March 4 until 4 p.m. Saturday, March 5. For more information visit [saintlouisparish.org](http://saintlouisparish.org)

## FRIDAY/MARCH 4

**Deadline for Nominations.** 12 p.m. The Alexandria Commission for Women seeks nominations of women, men and youth who have made a significant impact on women and girls in Alexandria. Winners will be honored at the Commission's 36th Annual Salute to Women Awards Banquet. Visit [www.alexandriava.gov/dchs/info/default.aspx?id=82658](http://www.alexandriava.gov/dchs/info/default.aspx?id=82658) for a nomination form or Contact Ellen Lamm at 703.746.3132 or [ellen.lamm@alexandriava.gov](mailto:ellen.lamm@alexandriava.gov).

## SATURDAY/MARCH 5

**Use Mediation to Resolve Conflict.** 1-3 p.m. at Charles E. Beatley, Jr. Central Library, 5005 Duke St. The Alexandria Library and the Northern Virginia Mediation Service will co-sponsor a panel of trained mediators. Differences of opinion and wrong assumptions are a part of daily life,

but sometimes they spin out of control. Learn how to resolve these issues through the mediation process. The program will include information on how and when to file a case in small claims courts in Alexandria, Arlington and Fairfax to help resolve disputes. Free, light refreshments will be served. Free parking is available. Call 703-746-1770.

## SUNDAY/MARCH 6

**The Guest House Speaker's Bureau Presentation.** 2-4 p.m. at Cameron Station Clubhouse, 200 Cameron Station Blvd. The Alexandria Branch of AAUW (American Association of University Women) will present a program on Guest House, a program in which women who have exited from prison/jail share their journeys about the origin of their difficulties, the nature of incarceration, and the steps they are taking to reenter society as responsible citizens. Free. Contact [marybier@comcast.net](mailto:marybier@comcast.net) or call. 703-548-1349.

## MONDAY/MARCH 7

**Ad Hoc Monitoring Group/ Waterfront Commission.** 5:30 p.m. at City Hall, Sister Cities Room 1101, 301 King St. Contact Jack Browand, [jack.browand@alexandriava.gov](mailto:jack.browand@alexandriava.gov), 703-746-5504.

**Ad Hoc Group on Digital and A-Frame Signs.** 7 p.m. at City Hall, Council Work Room, 301 King St. Contact Alex Dambach, [alex.dambach@alexandriava.gov](mailto:alex.dambach@alexandriava.gov), 703-746-3829.

**Environmental Policy Commission - Work Session.** 7:30 p.m. City Hall, Room 2000, 301 King St.



PHOTO BY JEANNE THEISMANN/GAZETTE PACKET

## Tis the Season

Members of Girl Scout Troop 2825 from Belle View Elementary School sell cookies in Old Town Feb. 27 as the organization's cookie drive gets underway across the nation. In front are Josie Palazzo, 6, Macy Cherrington, 7, and Heidi Schulte, 6. In back are assistant troop leader Leila Palazzo, Geoff Cherrington and Judith Schulte. To locate a schedule of area cookie sales, visit [www.girlscouts.org](http://www.girlscouts.org). An app is also available for Android and iOS.

Contact Khoa Tran, 703-746-4076.

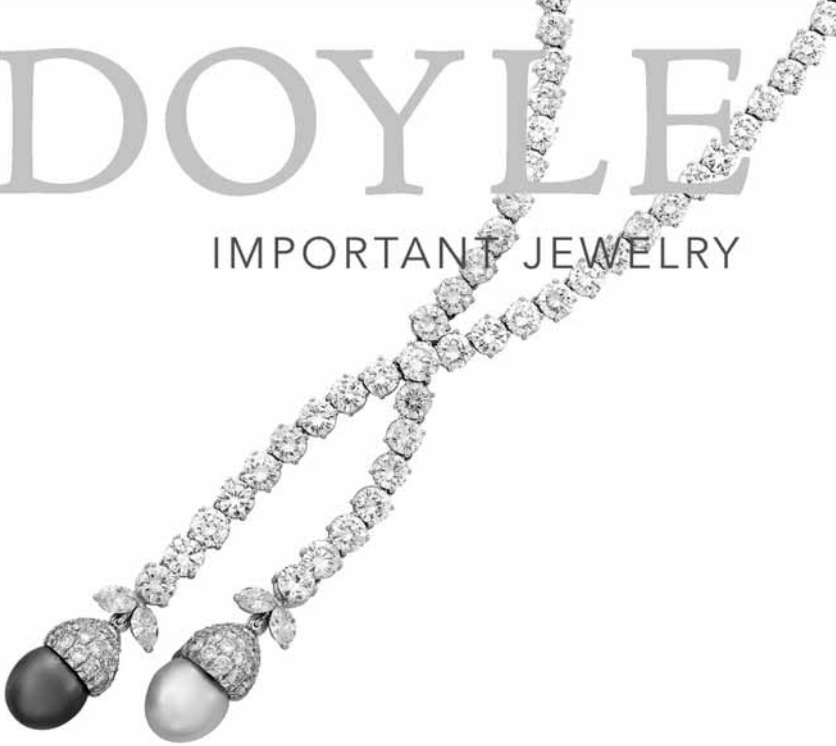
## TUESDAY/MARCH 8

**Herbs: From the Grocery Store to the Garden to the Kitchen.** 7-8:30 p.m. at Barrett Branch Library,

717 Queen St. Learn how to shop the produce aisles of the grocery store to supplement seed and plant purchases. Have a taste for ginger and new potatoes? Use a lot of garlic and shallots? This program will cover how to plant, grow and cook with the

many vegetables and herbs one can buy at the grocery store. Free and open to the public. Advance registration is requested at [mgnv.org](http://mgnv.org). Call 703-228-6414 or email

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# DOYLE

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# OPINION

## Duty, Honor, Country

### American Legion celebrates 97 years.

BY JIM GLASSMAN  
COMMANDER, AMERICAN LEGION POST 24

**A**s we celebrate the American Legion's 97th birthday on March 15, duty, honor and country are the three words that capture the story of the American Legion over its more than nine decades in existence.

The duty that we have as Legionnaires is spelled out in the Preamble to the Constitution of the American Legion. It's our duty to "uphold and defend the Constitution of the United States of America."

It's our duty to "maintain law and order, to foster and perpetuate 100 percent Americanism and to preserve the memories and incidents of our associations in the Great Wars."

You can see these duties carried out when we honor our Law Enforcement Officers of the Year, when we take positions to support our great Constitution and when we teach flag etic-



**Post 24  
Commander  
Jim Glassman**

ing majority of our citizens are proud of us as well.

It is an honor to assist wounded, injured and ill veterans through our Operation Comfort Warriors program. It is an honor to play roles in awarding a veteran with well-deserved benefits earned by military service.

It is for our country that the American Legion insists that our government deliver on President Lincoln's promise "to care for him who shall have borne the battle, and for his widow and his orphan." It is for our country and our communities that we advocate for a

quette to young people and sponsor the best youth programs in the country.

Honor is not just the way we live our lives but it is the emotion that most Americans feel when they see a Legionnaire wearing our cap and our emblem. We are proud to be veterans and the overwhelming

strong national defense. It is for our country that we insist that our flag be constitutionally protected from desecration.

It is for our country that many of our comrades made the supreme sacrifice while defending our freedom.

Duty, honor and country are the essence of our service as Legionnaires. They are attributes found among all American military veterans.

Are you a veteran and not a member of the American Legion? You should be. Legionnaires are the reason you have veterans benefits. It is our strong membership that fought to establish a Veterans Administration, won education benefits through the Post 9/11 GI Bill and secured veteran employment rights.

Membership also allows us to support our community through American Legion Baseball, Boys and Girl State, Legion Oratorical contests, Junior ROTC, Junior Shooting Sports and Junior Law Cadet.

As the American Legion celebrates its birthday, I urge my fellow veterans to join us. Remember that a strong membership is important to continue supporting our veterans and active military members and to ensure that the promises made to us for serving our country do not become empty promises.

### COMMENTARY

### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### In Playground Sandbox?

To the Editor:

I am appalled at the actions of some members of our City Council who appear to believe that incivility is the way to show that you are smart or clever. I do not recall this behavior ever happening when Bill Euille was mayor because council members showed

respect for him and his office, even if they disagreed with him.

It would appear now that the mission of at least a couple of our City Council members is to demonstrate their belief that Mr. Euille is actually still the mayor and to undermine our new mayor as she attempts to chart her course. It is time to realize that the citizens of Alexandria elected Allison Silberberg to be our mayor because they wanted a change. As I

recall, Mayor Silberberg received over 60 percent of the vote in the November election, despite a campaign well financed by developers who have come to view Alexandria as a place they could build virtually anything they desired with the support of Mayor Euille and most of the members of City Council.

Citizens like me feel that the rapid pace of development we have seen over the past decade has

exacerbated transportation problems, overcrowded our schools, and adversely affected our quality of life. As we look around our city and see numerous vacancy signs, whether it be for commercial space or residential apartments, we wonder why some are still clamoring for more building. I would argue that not one person at City Hall has ever been able to provide any metric or statistic regarding the net value of our enormous explosion of residential development when it comes to our tax base or costs to the city to provide services to thousands of new residents. I would assume that, based upon our tax bills, the promised tax revenue windfall has been swallowed up in new capital projects for our new residents. Already businesses and residents in the newly created special tax districts are arguing that such additional taxation is unfair to them and diminishes the value of their properties.

Our city faces huge budgetary issues that require the careful attention of all our council members. But as I watch council meetings, I see council members much more intent upon challenging our mayor at every meeting than focusing on the substance of matters before them. I wonder why, for example, Justin Wilson sits at the end of the podium next to the city attorney instead of the seat next to the

SEE LETTERS, PAGE 11

### Alexandria Gazette Packet

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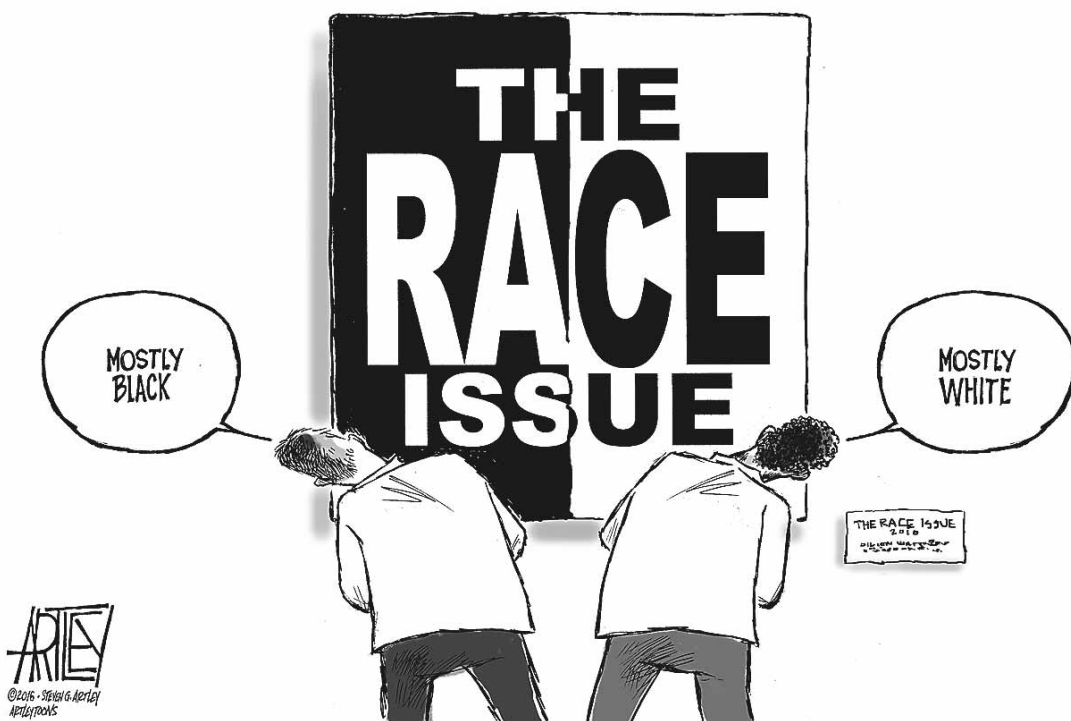
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STEVE ARTLEY/GAZETTE PACKET



## OPINION



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

The lights in the trees along King Street.

### Keep Tree Lights On

To the Editor:

I know there are very important projects happening around and in the city but I have an observation I would like to offer.

I sent a similar copy of this letter to City Council Monday.

Over the past 26 years I have been at 1400 King St. and in my store. This year I have heard more wonderful compliments about the tree-strung city lights and how beautiful they are strung this year and that they make the city look better more than ever! To my dismay I don't think those remarks or the number of those remarks ever make it to the council.

I thought I'd bear you the tidings about their effects on the city, residents, and the tourists. Everybody loves them no contest and that's why I am writing today.

I would like to tell you that sales are effected by their presence and, as I say, to sell something you light it up. That's what selling the city has done with those little lights and that is what helps sales and the tax-

able income grow and is so very important to businesses like me and Bittersweet, Imagine, restaurants like Vermillion and Landini's and all the other retail outlets others as well. And, yes my competition benefits as well.

A few years ago I helped raise enough cash to keep the lights lit through June .

Now I am asking the city to keep the lights on this year at least through April to help the city keep the income and sales flowing in an inviting, romantic environment. Did you know that the cost of those lights is less than you can imagine per month. Just thought I'd seed you thoughts about what you can do to help businesses in Alexandria prosper. I think it would be a great idea to send your favorite council member that suggestion for us to work together to sell the city better, to keep businesses here and growing.

**David Martin**  
Gold Works  
Alexandria

### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

FROM PAGE 10

mayor where the vice mayor has always sat. I presume he is sending a message that he is unhappy that she was elected mayor and wants to physically distance himself from appearing on camera next to her. Is this a way to show a determination to work for the betterment of our city? And John Chapman has apparently decided that the way to govern our city is by posting negative remarks on Facebook. Other council members then "like" these negative posts. This shows an immaturity that should be troubling to all our citizens.

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zens. Is this junior high school or the governing body of our city?

I would urge our council to get out of the playground sandbox and govern. Stop tossing barbs at each other and come together to build a better city for all of us. If you don't, I believe the citizens will do exactly what we did with our previous mayor — exercise our right to vote and vote many of you out of office. You may not think we are watching, but we are.

**Elizabeth Clark**  
Alexandria

SEE LETTERS, PAGE 12

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# What To Do To Create Lifelong Readers

BY COURTNEY KISSELL  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR  
THE READING CONNECTION



children in public school are eligible for free or reduced-price lunches — an indicator of childhood poverty. (Kids Count; Alexandria Public Schools, School Nutrition Services)

Here are some ways to ensure we support reading for all kids.

- ❖ Provide access to books at home, school and after-school and childcare settings. Visit the library, ask for books for birthday presents, comb yard sales and second hand stores for books. Have a book swap with friends and family members. Visit your child's school library or classroom and borrow books that interest your child. Kids need access to books in all the places they spend time, but low-income children often live in "book deserts," with only one book per 300 children. (Neuman & Celano, 2001). One of The Reading Connection's (TRC) primary goals is to provide new, free books to at-risk kids.
- ❖ While borrowing library books is important, owning books provides a different

experience for children. Owning books means that they never have to be returned and can be read again and again. But books are expensive and kids outgrow them and wear them out. Children whose families have no children's books miss out on crucial literacy-building opportunities. Last year, The Reading Connection provided more than 13,000 free, new, high-interest books to at-risk kids in metro Washington.

❖ One of the best ways parents can bond with babies, even before they are born, is to read to them. If you can set aside just 15 minutes each day to read with your child, your child will not only gain vocabulary and knowledge, she will gain the memory of a positive experience with books and her parents. Parents who are in housing crisis or at-risk in other ways may not have the time to read with their kids. The Reading Connection's Read-Aloud program in Alexandria at Carpenter's Shelter, Alive! House and The Alexandria Redevelopment and Housing Authority provides volunteers who read aloud weekly with at-risk kids. TRC's Reading Families Play Groups teach parents

how to share books with their children through the Center for Alexandria's Children and Healthy Families Alexandria.

❖ One of the ways we can show our kids we value reading is by embedding reading throughout the family's daily routines. This can be challenging with busy schedules and screens and phones competing for attention, especially for single parents or parents working more than one job. Let your child see you reading for fun and a purpose — reading the sports page, checking the paper for sales, reading signs or cooking. Add reading a book to your bedtime or morning ritual. That one book a day will build vocabulary, comprehension and special time with your child. The Reading Connection's Book Club and Reading Families Workshops and Play Groups help families make reading part of their routine by providing books for them keep and showing parents how to include reading in other daily tasks. Last year, 96 percent of parents reported that the Book Club has helped them make reading a part of their family's daily routine. These strategies can help every kid become a lifelong reader. Celebrate National Reading Awareness Month by giving them a try.

COMMENTARY

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

FROM PAGE 11

### Improve Notification

To the Editor:

Monticello Park is renowned for its great diversity of migrating warblers and is possibly the best place to see them and other neo-tropical migrant songbirds in the entire metropolitan area. How to manage, and even whether to manage, a natural place that continues to be so attractive to birds, despite the presence of many exotic plants, is not something that should be decided by a single city employee.

Thanks to Shirley Ruhe's story, the community now knows that for the first time a highly controversial chemical herbicide has been used at Monticello Park and the project was carried out with no input from the neighborhood or the greater birding community.

There was no advance notice. The active chemical, glyphosate, was declared by the World Health Organization to be a "probable carcinogen" last March, but it was used in our public park to kill English ivy and wintercreeper. A sign was posted at the park entrance on the day the spraying actually began but was vague on what was to be done, suggested people use an alternate route through the park implying some unidentified danger, and provided no name or phone number to call for information. It wasn't even clear that it was a city-sponsored project. I later learned that Rod Simmons, natural resource specialist for the city, was responsible for this operation.

When a single volunteer under Mr. Simmons' off-site supervision began killing honeysuckle and other exotic plants in the park in 2008, a resulting uproar from birders caused Mr. Simmons to call off the

activity. When the dust settled, Mr. Simmons wrote in an email to me, with CCs to officials in the Recreation, Parks and Cultural Activities Department, on Nov. 14, 2008: "And before conducting any large-scale invasive exotic plant removal work in the park, we would detail and make known such efforts well in advance, probably on the kiosk bulletin board, as well as other ways."

This written commitment to make known such plans for the park well in advance was broken. Mr. Simmons was quoted in the article as saying that public notification is not required, but "it is more of a policy because we care about community involvement." However, prior notification with an opportunity for interested users of the park to voice objections might have delayed or even cancelled the operation, and this is probably the reason no notification was given. Unless mandatory notification and procedures for public comment are in place, citizens will likely continue to be kept in the dark until it's too late for them to be involved.

What happened at Monticello Park is not acceptable in a city that has pledged itself to transparency and community involvement. The city manager should review the operations of the Office of the Natural Resource Specialist.

**Paula Sullivan**  
Alexandria

### Breaking Trust

To the Editor:

My home is two blocks from Ramsay Homes project. My neighbors and I had no problem with Ramsey Homes. We enjoyed

a harmonious relationship with the 15 tenant families, and the garden-apartment site was never a problem. Claims of racism are contemptible. A doubling of the number of units to 30 (per the Braddock Metro Small Area Plan) would have been acceptable to the community. It was the quadrupling of the density to 60 units and the consequent ballooning of the proposed structure size that has people alarmed.

The four-fold increase in density is contrary to the spirit of the Braddock Metro Neighborhood Plan (BMNP) and its sister the Braddock East plan that addressed the ARHA properties. This is just one more weakening of the plan that has been engineered by officials, city planners and developers — which ARHA most assuredly is.

I was an involved participant in the charrettes that led to the BMNP, and this case raises serious questions about the integrity of the planning process. It reduces citizen confidence that compromises worked out among a wide range of stakeholders will be honored, instead of continuously breached for the latest whim of politicians or their friends in the development community. In fact, the first egregious violation of the BMNP involved ARHA, which did not observe BMNP's design guidelines with regard to sidewalk width at Old Town Commons.

But council's answer to this is to nullify the plan(s). Really? There is absolutely no reason to do this unless it is to pack in more density that the politicians repeatedly deflect from their own backyards.

There are serious issues of equitable treatment involved. Those of us in the Parker-Gray Historic District are subject to regulations that ARHA is always permitted to shrug off. They can tear down historic struc-

tures and swathe the new ones in HardiPlank. But I live in a corner house and am forced to use maintenance-intensive wood for my siding.

The majority of the Resolution 830 units are still crammed into one area of Alexandria. The city has retreated from a commitment to integration. When the Berg was redeveloped as Chatham Square, 50 percent of the residents were moved to scattered sites with all the amenities — homes which police acknowledge had little crime and were scarcely distinguishable as public housing in appearance. Yet when James Bland was redeveloped a few years later, 30 percent of the residents were integrated into the larger community.

Now Ramsay Homes is becoming Ramsay Towers and we're also hearing that the Carpenter's Shelter wants to expand to include 100 units for individuals with serious drug issues that are not yet under control.

ARHA moans that there is nowhere to offsite residents anymore.

Yet read ARHA's strategic plan and you'll be startled to find that off-siting is planned for Hopkins-Tancil in Old Town but not at Andrew Adkins near Braddock Metro or at Samuel Madden Uptown. That illustrates that off-siting is a purely political issue, not a financial or economic one.

The latest "compromise" that seems to be on the table involves keeping one original structure on Wythe Street and turning it over to the Black History Museum as meeting space, a mere token. It shows that affordable housing is secondary to politics and audience positioning.

Not only are the museum's visitation num

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## OPINION

# Over 80 and Volunteering?

BY BETTY GENTILE  
VOLUNTEER AT VOLUNTEER  
ALEXANDRIA



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

**Volunteer  
Betty Gentile**

**A** poet/songwriter said, “Oh, how I hate to get up in the morning ... Oh, how I hate to get out of bed. But the hardest blow of all is to hear the bugler call, ‘You’ve got get up, you’ve got to get up, you’ve got to get up!’ It’s morning ...” That’s my midnight serenade every Wednesday evening as I drift off to sleep. You see, Thursday is my volunteer day at Volunteer Alexandria, here in my hometown, and though my

## COMMENTARY

heart is willing, the lure of sleeping in until the sun peeks over my window sill is very strong.

On Thursday mornings I wake to the sound of bells. My first sleepy thought is it’s the ice cream truck calling his customers, but no, the truck hasn’t been around in years. It’s my baby Ben alarm clock screaming at my conscience. I jump (or maybe limp) out of bed, begin to dress, make the coffee, create a brown bag lunch, go to the paint pots to brush a rosy glow upon my cheeks and rush to make my schedule of leaving home at 8:30 a.m. to be on the job on time. Now, a promise made is a debt unpaid, and I committed myself to volunteer on Thursdays at Volunteer Alexandria.

Perhaps I should mention that I am a retired domestic administrator and I am 85 years old. My Navy man father called me a “chief cook and bottle washer.” With a handsome ex-Marine sweetheart for a husband, and the speedy arrival of seven little critters, there was plenty of cooking and mucho bottles to wash so my life’s map seemed pretty clear. With so many children in different school locations and being a stay-at-home mother, I was always busy volunteering for lunch time and recess duty to give teachers a down time to eat their lunch in peace. Time flies and life’s ups and downs happen. My sweetheart is long gone now to a better place and

my little ones have long ago developed lives of their own, as it should be. Like Christopher Columbus, we keep sailing on and on through shine and storm.

So now on each reluctant Thursday morning, I open my door, sprint down the hall to the elevator and notice that I’ve got a surprisingly unusual pep in my step. As I drive “Old Bessie” out of the garage and join the fast moving commuter flow of cars down one-way Prince Street, I notice that I feel strong, almost electric and unafraid. Their wheels are humming in unison and my wheels are humming too. Stop, go, left turn, right turn, red light, green light. The golden sun flickers bright in between the tall colonial houses and I put on my shades. I feel so alive.

The women I work with here are very gentle to me. I stated on my first day on the job that I would happily do any kind of work they wanted me to try except follow and clean up after the mules. I thought it was hilariously funny but they just gave me soft, sad smiles. I am the receptionist and I enjoy greeting every person who enters our doors. I guide them to the person who can help them with their needs, answer all incoming calls, count a thousand pamphlets and papers, cut and bundle paint rags used by other volunteers who paint and sand, trim and weed around the city and help in ways that I can’t even imagine.

Wouldn’t you enjoy more pep in your step again? Wouldn’t you like some extra hum and zing and jango in your life again? Volunteering is one good way to get it. Try it. You’ll like it. Oh, and by the way, don’t spread around the 85-year-old part. One morning, Prince Charming might come into our office and smile and I might smile too ... and after all, I’ve been told I don’t look a day over 84. Whoopee!

*Executive director’s note: Volunteer Alexandria hosts the RSVP Northern Virginia, a regional volunteer program providing individualized support to connect adults 55+ with service opportunities that impact local needs and result in healthy and vibrant communities. RSVP-Northern Virginia is a local partnership sponsored by Volunteer Fairfax, Volunteer Alexandria and Volunteer Arlington. For details and to volunteer, call 703-836-2176 or visit [www.VolunteerAlexandria.org](http://www.VolunteerAlexandria.org). If you call on a Thursday, you might even get to talk to Betty.*

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

FROM PAGE 12

bers low, tourists are known to be turned away sometimes because there is a single employee to cover two buildings and the solution is to lock up when called away to meetings elsewhere. Add one more building that the city can’t afford to maintain and shove all the density up against Pendleton Street homes? No way.

Just flip the rendering so the preserved building is on the Pendleton Street and put families back in it — not tables and chairs.

**Charlotte Landis**  
Alexandria

## Battling Invasive Plants

To the Editor:

With regards to invasive plant management in Monticello Park, it is a mystery to me as to how some people can self identify as

“avid birders” and have no awareness of the importance of a healthy eco-system made up

of diverse native plants. It is not simply so-called “fanatics in the plant community” that recognize invasive plants as a huge problem, but rather federal, state, and local natural land managers as well as all

the best-regarded conservation organizations, to include the Nature Conservancy, the Audubon Society, and the National Wildlife Federation.

On one very basic level, English Ivy and Winter Creeper are a threat to birds because they are a threat to trees. But monocultures of non-native invasives are terrible for another reason — they crowd out the native plants that our birds need to reproduce and survive. Approximately 96 percent of North America’s terrestrial birds rely on native insects to feed their young. These native insects have co-

evolved with native plants and are largely unable to eat non-native exotic plants, invasive or not.

As a result, it is clear that caring about birds in any thoughtful and constructive way means also caring about native insects and native plants as well as working to improve the quality of what habitat remains.

So I applaud the city for taking the balanced measures it has taken in Monticello Park. I am familiar with Invasive Plant Control, Inc. through the company’s work in a park in my neighborhood. The professionals from IPC used the least amount of herbicide to do the job. The glyphosate product used was carefully chosen and did not contain the much more concerning “inert” surfactant ingredients that the well-known Round Up product does. Their treatments were targeted enough to kill the

SEE LETTERS, PAGE 14



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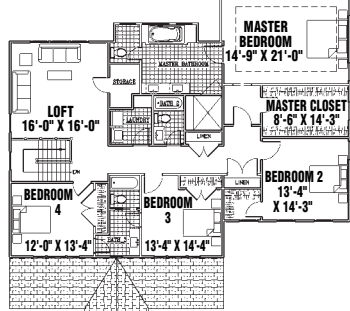
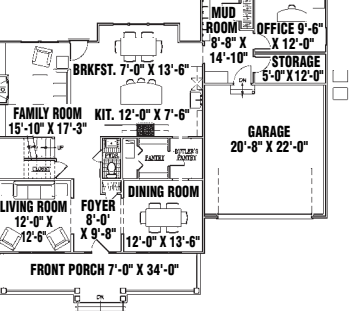
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## OPINION

# Exploring How To Live an Active and Rewarding Life

## Senior Services of Alexandria teams up with AARP.

BY MARY LEE ANDERSON  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR,  
SENIOR SERVICES OF ALEXANDRIA



Active and Rewarding Life”, on Wednesday, March 16.

Participants will learn about AARP’s “Life Reimagined” program, which looks at ways to write the next chapter of your life. Seniors may be in a time of transition from the workforce, parenting, or caregiving, and the “Life Reimagined” program takes a ho-

and energy. The March Senior Speaker Series Program is designed to provide some tools for making these types of decisions. Senior Services of Alexandria and AARP are cosponsoring the event, “Living an

listic approach to recognizing your enormous potential during the next phase of your life. The program offers unique, interactive exercises that will guide you in this new life phase and help uncover your special gifts.

**SENIOR SERVICES OF ALEXANDRIA** Many older adults derive a tremendous sense of purpose by focusing on helping others. Volunteer Alexandria and SSA will

focus on the many ways to get involved with important work in our community, and how to help those in need. The Alexandria YMCA will share information about the programs they have designed for seniors, and will demonstrate easy exercise tips that we can

all incorporate into our daily lives. We’ll also hear from Encore Learning about their wide variety of daytime college-level courses, clubs, special events, and activities, and how their members explore new ideas and develop new friendships. Come kick off spring by learning about fun and exciting ways to explore life’s possibilities.

Living an Active and Rewarding Life will be held on Wednesday, March 16 at Beth El Hebrew Congregation at 3830 Seminary Road in Alexandria from 10 a.m. to noon. Registration begins at 9:30 and light refreshments will be served. The event is free with ample parking. Please register online at [www.seniorservicesalex.org](http://www.seniorservicesalex.org) or call 703-836-4414, ext. 110.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

FROM PAGE 13

invasive plants and leave directly adjacent native plants in good health.

In conclusion, I would urge the “avid birders” quoted in last week’s article to learn the basic facts about the habitat needs of the birds they profess to love.

**Bonnie Petry**  
Alexandria

## Cheerful Lights

To the Editor:

I want to thank all my Old Town neighbors for keeping their Christmas lights on through the weary winter. The gift is greatly appreciated. The twinkling lights on the trees never fail to make me smile, even in the dark, even in the cold. Likewise the city and merchants along King Street have kept the holiday lights on and brought good cheer to so many.

**Diane Henry**  
Alexandria

## Council in Disarray

To the Editor:

For those who saw the City Council’s Public Hearing on Feb. 20, followed by a second meeting on the 23rd, they witnessed a group in total disarray. As of this date, the City Council has not found an alternate solution to the decaying Ramsey Homes in the Historic Parker Grey District. If these City Council sessions are a precursor of future meetings, we are in for a tumultuous three years.

As an example, at the Saturday Public Hearing meeting, Councilman John Chapman’s attempts to demean the new mayor were absolutely uncalled for. His remarks should have been directed to the source of the problem, which is the Alexandria Redevelopment Housing Authority (ARHA). Mayor Silberberg has only brought different parties together to solve the city’s critical issues, which is what former Mayor Bill Euille did in the past. Mayor Silberberg reminded Mr. Chapman that she had been respectful toward him, and that he owed her the same courtesies.

At the second council meeting, Councilman Smedberg reversed his dissenting vote,

which proved to be just as contentious. In addition, Councilmen Wilson and Lovain castigated the mayor for questioning the city attorney’s veracity, when it appeared that many of the council members and the city attorney were privy to Smedberg’s intent to reverse his vote. It is very apparent that the six council members are doing everything in their power be unsupportive to the new mayor. This tactic was used previously against the then Vice Mayor Andrew MacDonald who ended up resigning after being endlessly harassed by his erstwhile colleagues.

We are very disturbed that ARHA has all but ignored these 15 public housing units, resulting in their current “demolition by neglect” status. Current residents complain of having no heat, no air conditioning, and malfunctioning water pipes. These public housing units (and others having similar problems) need to be taken away from ARHA and managed by a more responsible entity, since ARHA has been an unsatisfactory landlord. The residents of these units continue to be treated in an inhumane manner, which is an absolute disgrace to our city. It is debatable whether the city and ARHA can work out a viable solution before their next public hearing on March 12.

If the former mayor of Charleston S.C., the Honorable Joe Riley, had been our mayor, he would have ensured that those 15 historic units were rehabilitated in an adaptive-use mode, thus preserving these units and their history. Former Mayor Bill Euille had plenty of time to address this, but he let this unresolved issue carry over to the new council.

Although voters had the chance in the last election to add more rational voices, they chose the status quo, and must now live with it. Since this City Council will never entertain the establishment of a ward system, and since this appears to be a one-party town, there is only one solution. In the next election, everyone must run as a Democrat. In this manner, perhaps voters will be more likely to choose some more responsive candidates, instead of voting for the incumbents. Drastic times call for drastic solutions.

**Townsend A. “Van” Van Fleet**  
Alexandria

## Renaming Streets

To the Editor:

In the late 1950s the city’s Civil War Centennial Committee was tasked with a way to “commemorate” the approaching event. The committee proposed the restoration of Fort Ward — one of the Union forts that had surrounded the city from 1861-1865.

And, to pay homage to both sides, the committee proposed that in the area west of Quaker Lane (just annexed from Fairfax County), the north-south streets be named for Confederate generals. City Council accepted this proposal with the condition that the officers were from Virginia and, that only the last name would be used with no military rank attached. Only where the last name did not match the city street alphabet grid required by the Planning Department, were non-Virginia names used. Therefore, with these exceptions and later added streets, most north-south streets south of Seminary Road from Quaker Lane to the city’s western border were named for Confederate generals. This practice was in effect until the 1970s.

The committee’s balanced effort in paying homage to both sides, resulted in Alexandria receiving its first All American City Award as well as, a Letter of Commendation from the National Civil War Centennial Commission that was appointed by Congress: only six cities received such accolades. This is not a simple change-street-signs issue. The population of Alexandria is now 150,000. If only one-half of these residents (75,000) live west of Quaker Lane and, if only one-half of those 75,000 live on these north-south streets, minimally some 37,000 residents will be affected. They will have to change their address on driver’s permits, vehicle registrations, bank accounts as well as other legal documents. Furthermore, consider the impact on the delivery of mail, 911 emergency/police/fire responses, DMV, IRS, GPS, existing maps, and the city tax office to change the addresses of all of these affected residents. Additionally, consider the impact it would have on hundreds of businesses on South Pickett, Van Dorn, Walker, as well as, Beauregard Street and Wheeler Avenue.

There are many other streets throughout

Alexandria named for Confederates such as Mosby, Morgan and Herbert Streets, Arthur Herbert, one of the founders of Burke & Herbert Bank, was a Confederate officer. Then, Maury Lane and Maury School, named for Matthew Fontaine Maury, a world-renown oceanographer known as the “Pathfinder of the Seas.” Maury was the first to chart the Gulf Stream and other ocean currents, modernizing navigation of the oceans. He was also an officer in the Confederate Navy. History always has its good, bad, ugly and painful sides — this can be found in any conflict. The men for whom these streets were named were veterans who just happened to be on the side that lost a war fought 150 years ago.

I have always been proud of Alexandria for preserving, all facets of its history — both the pleasant and unpleasant. Examples are:

❖ The restoration of Fort Ward, one of the forts that surrounded the longest Union-occupied City of Alexandria. Commander James Harmon Ward was a Union Naval Officer

❖ The Appomattox Statue, erected in memory of the men from Alexandria who died in the Civil War, and

❖ The restoration of Freedman’s Cemetery, where sadly not only civilians, but African-American soldiers (U.S.C.T.) who fought for the Union, were interred until Congress finally changed the law allowing these men to be re-interred in the Alexandria National Cemetery in 1864.

This is all part of our city’s history and it should all be acknowledged. We can’t change the facts by trying to move a statue or renaming streets — using the tax money of affected residents and businesses to pay for it. The costs could be astronomical to say nothing of the burden placed upon the residents and businesses.

I find it sad that after the passing of 150 years, we are focusing our time and financial resources on trying to change things connected to a tragic war fought in the 19<sup>th</sup> century — before anyone living today was even born. There are always rights and wrongs on both sides of any war — that is why it is called history. These funds could be better spent on the badly needed work at City Hall and other historic buildings.

**Wanda Dowell/Alexandria**





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## MEET RENEE REYMOND

Renee hails from the Windy City of Chicago. She attended Georgetown University where she earned a degree in Political Science and French.

Her time spent on Capitol Hill, as a business lobbyist and a RNC staffer, makes her a great conversationalist during this intriguing political season.

Renee has enjoyed living and working in Old Town for 35 years. She just sold her townhouse in Nethergate after 31 years and now resides in the Alexandria House with her Yorkshire Terrier puppies, Lou-Lou and Beau.

Stop in and say hello to this seasoned agent who helped open the Old Town Historic District office in 2003 with Wes Foster.



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**ARLINGTON / Courthouse Metro \$ 454,900**

Spacious condo with wood floors, fresh paint, and balcony. Large living room with separate dining area and open galley kitchen with eating bar. 2BR / 2BA, garage parking, fitness room, and pool. Just a few blocks to the Courthouse Metro. Call for an appointment.



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# ENTERTAINMENT

## A Fast-Paced Romp through the Bard's 37 Plays

LTA presents "The Complete Works of William Shakespeare (Abridged)."

BY STEVE HIBBARD  
GAZETTE PACKET

**T**he Little Theater of Alexandria (LTA) is presenting the "The Complete Works of William Shakespeare (Abridged)" through March 19. The show where the cast plays themselves is an irreverent, fast-paced romp through the Bard's 37 plays in 97 minutes. It was also London's longest-running comedy, having clocked nine years in London's West End.

Director Joanna Henry said she wanted to direct the play because she loves Shakespeare. "His plays were written for the people, and The Reduced Shakespeare Company's version brilliantly condenses all 37 of Shakespeare's plays and parodies them," she said. "This is a chance to have lots of fun with Shakespeare. His works are presented as a cooking show, a football game, a rap, and a fast-forward Hamlet that then gets replayed backwards. It's irreverent and fun."

She added: "This isn't your normal play with a plot line and character interactions and relationships. Three actors use their real names and play themselves acting out the characters in Shakespeare's plays. This is Shakespeare as you never expected to see him."

Long, serious topics are reduced to short, silly comedies, she said. "The comedies are presented in one convoluted reading justified by the idea that they all share the same plot devices. The histories are presented in a football game. The fourth wall doesn't exist. The actors will often speak directly to the audience and get them involved with what's happening on stage. My hope is that the audience will be engaged and vocal," she added.

She added: "One of the biggest challenges was rehearsing without actual people there to be a part of the audience. I actually asked friends to come by rehearsals so our three actors could practice interacting with an audience. Of course, part of the fun is that the cast will never really know what the audience will say or how they'll react from performance to performance."

She said she wants the audiences to be part of this show. "If you don't like Shakespeare, this play is for you. If you love Shakespeare, this play is for you. It's defi-



Hans Dettmar, Dave Wright, and Shawn G. Byers star in "The Complete Works of William Shakespeare (Abridged)."

nately Shakespeare for everyone," she said. "Hopefully, audiences will leave the theater smiling and thinking, 'I thought I didn't like Shakespeare, but this was fun.' I don't want to give too much away, but this play might change your view of the Bard."

Hans Dettmar is playing the role of himself, Hans Dettmar. "I play 20 characters, including myself, so I guess I can talk about the one I know the best (me!). I'm 6-foot-1, I'm a Leo ... just kidding ... um, well, I do play Juliet from "Romeo and Juliet," so I also like puppies and long walks on the beach but definitely not moonlight."

He said some of the challenges were running around the entire show from start to finish. "Some of the trickiest moments come at the very end of the show so you can't relax until literally after the final bow," he said. "It makes for an intense experience, but hey, that's why we do this."

As far as audience takeaways, he said, "Well, I hope that they don't think our Shakespeare is, to quote the script: 'dry, boring (and) vomitless.'"

Shawn Byers is playing the role of himself, Shawn Byers. "Essentially, in this show, I play myself," he said. "In the original production, the three playwrights were also the actors in the show. Our director wanted to stay true to this production, so each of us

are playing ourselves onstage."

He added: "In that light, I do play the 'Shakespeare expert,' which is quite a hard thing to live up to. While I did take Shakespearean courses, I would hardly characterize myself as an expert. Although, as I think audiences may pick up on, perhaps my character isn't as savvy as he likes to think."

He said the main challenge has been the weather. "We had to miss some rehearsals due to the snow storm," he said. "Another challenge was simulating all of the audience interaction moments in a rehearsal setting. Joanna (the director), however, anticipating this challenge, arranged to have people to sit in on our rehearsals. It's been a wonderfully fun process having people to interact and play off of in this manner so early in the rehearsal process, and was a brilliant idea from our fearless leader."

Dave Wright is playing the role of himself, Dave Wright. "So my character is basically me, so I guess I can tell you a bit about David Wright, according to Wikipedia. Wright was born in Norfolk, Va., the oldest of four sons of Rhon, a police officer in the



"The Complete Works of William Shakespeare (Abridged)" runs through March 19.

Norfolk Police Department, and Elsa Wright."

He added: "Wright was the 2001 Gatorade Virginia High School Player of the Year. Wright also earned All-State honors in 1999, 2000 and 2001, and was named Virginia All-State Player of the Year in 2001."

He said a big challenge was trying to make sure he captures the humor of the show while still remaining faithful to the Shakespearean text. "Also, being a man of larger carriage, just making it through the show is a win for me," he said.

*The Little Theatre of Alexandria (LTA) presents "The Complete Works of William Shakespeare (Abridged)" through March 19. The show runs Wednesdays-Saturdays at 8 p.m., with a Sunday matinee at 3 p.m. Tickets are \$19-\$22. LTA is located at 600 Wolfe St. Visit [www.thelittletheatre.com](http://www.thelittletheatre.com) for more.*

### CALENDAR

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

#### ONGOING

**"Shake Loose."** Through March 6, Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday at 8 p.m., Saturday at 3 p.m. and 8

p.m., and Sunday at 3 p.m. and 7 p.m. at MetroStage, 1201 N. Royal St. "Shake Loose" features music and lyrics by Thomas W. Jones II, William Hubbard and William Knowles. It features stories and songs from MetroStage productions including "Three Sistahs," "Cool Papa's Party," "Ladies Swing the Blues" and more. Tickets \$55-60. Call 703-548-9044 or visit [www.metrostage.org](http://www.metrostage.org).

**Art Exhibit: "Storytelling/Global Narratives."** Through March 13, gallery hours at Schlesinger Center's

Fisher Gallery at Northern Virginia Community College's Alexandria Campus, 4915 E. Campus Drive. Part of the regional project "Al-Mutanabbi Street Starts Here DC 2016," a book, arts and cultural festival through March throughout the Washington, D.C. area. "Storytelling/Global Narratives" will commemorate the 2007 bombing of Baghdad's historic bookselling street and celebrate the free exchange of ideas and knowledge. Free. Visit [www.nvcc.edu](http://www.nvcc.edu) for more.

#### "A Salute to Primary Colors."

Through March 13, 10 a.m.-5 p.m., 9 p.m. on second Thursday of each month. Potomac Fiber Arts Gallery presents primary colors in all forms including as gifts, jewelry, sculpture, clothing, and wall pieces. Free. Visit [www.potomacfiberartsgallery.com](http://www.potomacfiberartsgallery.com).

**"Wings from Chains."** Through March 13, gallery hours at The Athenaeum, 201 Prince St. Artists consider the roles and responsibilities in society. Free. Visit [www.nvfaa.org](http://www.nvfaa.org) or call 703-548-0035.

#### Solo Exhibit: Lynn Boggess.

Through March 15, gallery hours at Principle Gallery, 208 King St. Lynn Boggess paints landscapes from the West Virginian woods to Floridian seascapes with palette knives and cement trowels for texture. Free. Visit [www.principlegallery.com](http://www.principlegallery.com) for more.

**McMurry Artist Showcase.** Through March 23, gallery hours at Broadway Gallery, 5641-B General Washington Drive. The gallery will feature the stylized landscape paintings of local



## ENTERTAINMENT

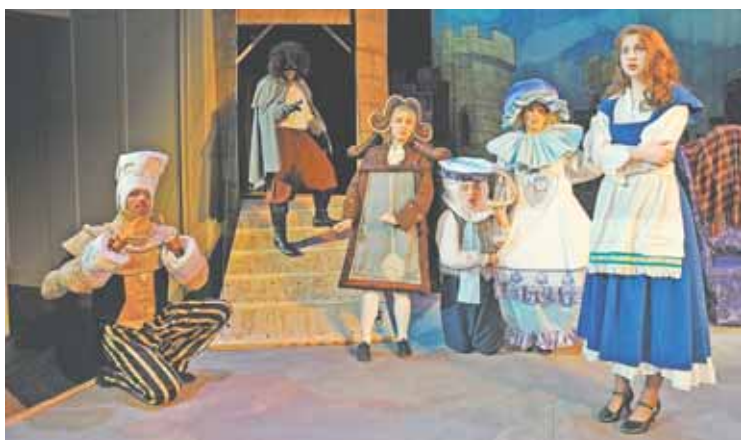


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### 'The Beauty and the Beast'

St. Stephen's & St. Agnes School will present "Beauty & the Beast: The Musical," March 4, 11, and 12 at 7:30 p.m.; March 5 at 2 p.m. Tickets are \$5 See [www.sssas.org/arts](http://www.sssas.org/arts) or call 703- 212-2950. Performers include (from left) Christian Corpening '18 as Lumiere, Darnell Clement '17 as the Beast, Sarah Wilton '16 as Cogsworth, Katie Connor '16 as Chip, Stephany Guadalupe '17 as Mrs. Potts, and Kyla Carney '17 as Belle.

artist, Richard McMurry. Free. Visit [www.broadwaygallery.net](http://www.broadwaygallery.net) for more.

**Art Exhibit: "Contradictions."**  
Through March 26, gallery hours at The Associates Gallery at the Torpedo Factory, 105 N. Union St. Working in the medium of encaustic Julia Dzikiewicz paints, prints and constructs three-dimensional objects with bold colors embedding crystals, pearls or even metals. Free. Visit [www.torpedofactory.org](http://www.torpedofactory.org) for more.

#### Art Exhibit: "Partnerships."

Through May 15, business hours at VCA Alexandria Animal Hospital, 2660 Duke St. All artwork is available for purchase through Del Ray Artisans. Artists are donating 20 percent of the purchase price of sold pieces in an equal split between Del Ray Artisans and the VCA Alexandria Animal Hospital's charity of choice, Veterans Moving Forward. Free. Call 703-751-2022 for more.

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# ENTERTAINMENT

**“Who The Wounded Are.”** Through July 11 at Carlyle House Historic Park, 121 N. Fairfax St. “Who These Wounded Are: The Extraordinary Stories of the Mansion House Hospital” is about people who lived and worked at this site in Alexandria and their real life stories that inspired the PBS show, “Mercy Street.” Tickets are \$2-12. Visit [www.carlylehouse.org](http://www.carlylehouse.org) for more.

**The Lyceum: 175 Years of Local History.** Ongoing, Monday-Saturday 10 a.m.-5 p.m. and Sunday 1-5 p.m. at The Lyceum, 201 S. Washington St. On view in the museum’s Coldsmith Gallery, the historical objects and images featured represent The Lyceum, the community at work, and commemorations and celebrations. Throughout the exhibition, visitors are invited to “be the curator” and think about why the various artifacts are in the museum’s collection, and about how tangible representatives of the past help tell the story of Alexandria’s history. Free. Visit [www.alexandriahistory.org](http://www.alexandriahistory.org) for more.

**Medical Care for the Civil War Soldier Exhibit.** Ongoing at the Fort Ward museum, 4301 W. Braddock Road. ongoing exhibit which features original medical instruments and equipment from the Civil War period and information on Union Army hospital sites in Alexandria. Free. Visit [www.alexandriava.gov/fortward](http://www.alexandriava.gov/fortward) for more.

**Alexandria’s Nurses & Hospitals During the Civil War.** Ongoing at The Lyceum, 201 S. Washington St. An exhibit on the life of Clarissa Jones, a nurse at The Lyceum hospital during the Civil War. The true story of a nurse in Alexandria during the war, drawing parallels with characters portrayed in the PBS drama “Mercy Street,” with references to the experiences of other nurses, such as Anne Reading, who worked in the Mansion House hospital, and Jane Woolsey, who served at the Fairfax Seminary hospital. Admission is \$2. Visit [www.alexandriava.gov/lyceum](http://www.alexandriava.gov/lyceum) for more.

**Occupied City: Civil War Alexandria Self-Guided Tour.** At The Lyceum, 201 S. Washington St. learn about the real history behind the show “Mercy Street” on this self-guided walking tour, which features significant Civil War Alexandria sites all within walking distance of The Lyceum, which was seized and used as a hospital during the war. Tickets are \$2. Visit [www.alexandriava.gov/lyceum](http://www.alexandriava.gov/lyceum) 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](http://www.latascausa.com).

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

**Journey to Be Free: Alexandria Freedmen’s Cemetery.** Through March, Tuesday-Saturday, 10 a.m.-4



PHOTOS CONTRIBUTED



p.m. Alexandria Black History Museum, 902 Wythe St. A new exhibit tracing the 150-year history of the long-forgotten Freedmen’s Cemetery, its rediscovery and how the new Contrabands and Freedmen’s Cemetery Memorial was created at the site. Call 703-746-4356.

**Their Fates Intertwined: The Lees of Alexandria in the War of 1812.** Wednesday- Saturday, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Sunday, 1-4 p.m. Lee-Fendall House and Gardens, 614 Oronoco St. A new exhibit on the experiences of the Lee family in Alexandria during the War of 1812 examines the contributions of Alexandria’s citizens during the conflict that led to the writing of our national anthem through the lives of this iconic Virginia family. Visit [www.leefendallhouse.org](http://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](http://www.fortward.org) or call 703-746-4848.

**National Inventors Hall of Fame Exhibit.** Through November 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](http://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](http://www.mountvernon.org) for more.

**Second Thursday Music.** Athenaeum, 201 Prince St. 7 pm. Second Thursday of every month. Visit [nvfaa.org](http://nvfaa.org) to view concert calendar and listen to upcoming Second Thursday Music artists.

**The Monday Morning Birdwalk** takes place weekly, rain or shine (except during electrical storms, strong winds, or icy trails), at 7 a.m. (8 a.m. November through March), is free, requires no reservation and is open to all. Birders meet in the parking lot at the park’s entrance at 3701 Lockheed Blvd. Direct questions to Park staff during normal business hours at 703-768-2525.

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

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

**CAMPS, CLASSES & WORKSHOPS**  
**Photography Workshop.** 10:30 a.m.-12 p.m. at Multiple Exposures Gallery on 105 N. Union St. Photographers of all skill levels are invited to share



PHOTO BY LOUISE KRAFFT

**Woodlawn’s 51st annual Needlework Exhibition opens Wednesday, March 2.**

## The 53rd Annual Needlework Exhibit Now Open to Public

The 53rd Annual Needlework exhibition opens on March 2 at the Woodlawn Mansion, 9000 Richmond Highway. The show and sale will feature both contemporary and traditional needlework, but this year it will also allow pieces to be sold and picked up after the final day. The exhibit is open every day 10 a.m.-4 p.m. through March 31 except Tuesdays. Tickets are \$15 for adults, \$6 for students, and free for children under 5. Visit [www.woodlawnpopeleighy.org](http://www.woodlawnpopeleighy.org) for more.

work, ideas, and questions at this free workshop held on the last Sunday of each month, except December. No reservations. Call 703-683-2205.

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

**Life Drawing.** Del Ray Artisans offers a range of open life drawing sessions for anyone to develop life-drawing skills further. Drop-in for the session and bring supplies to draw or paint live models. Fee ranges from \$8-\$12. All skill levels are welcome. Del Ray Artisans is located at 2704 Mount Vernon Ave. Visit [www.TheDelRayArtisans.org](http://www.TheDelRayArtisans.org) for a schedule.

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

### MARCH 2-6

**2016 Biennial Ikebana Show.** Gallery hours at The Art League Gallery, 105 N. Union St. The Art League welcomes back the Washington, D.C., branch of The Sogetsu School for our 16th Biennial Ikebana Show. Recognized as a sculptural form of art, Ikebana is the art of Japanese flower arranging. Free. Visit [www.theartleague.org](http://www.theartleague.org) for more.

### MARCH 2-31

**Woodlawn Needlework Exhibition & Sale.** 10 a.m.-4 p.m. at the Woodlawn Pope-Leighey House, 9000 Richmond Highway. The show

will feature both contemporary and traditional needlework. Tickets are \$15. Visit [www.woodlawnpopeleighy.org](http://www.woodlawnpopeleighy.org) for more.

### FRIDAY/MARCH 4

**Silhouette Artist.** By appointment at Robcyns, 3660 King St. Artist Erik Johnson cuts free hand silhouettes for a close likeness. Original silhouettes are \$25, duplicates are \$15, and framing is available for \$20. Call 571-386-4975 for more.

**Art Reception: “March Melee.”** 7-9 p.m. at The Del Ray Artisans Gallery, 2704 Mount Vernon Ave. Celebrate this exhibit inspired by Roald Dahl quote: “A little nonsense now and then is relished by the wisest [wo]men.” Free. Visit [www.TheDelRayArtisans.org](http://www.TheDelRayArtisans.org).

**Beer Dinner with Yards Brewery.** 7 p.m. at Gadsby’s Tavern Museum, 134 N. Royal St. History-inspired beers from Yards Brewery of Philadelphia get paired with a four-course meal. Tickets are \$85. Visit [www.gadsbystavern.org](http://www.gadsbystavern.org) for more.

### MARCH 4-27

**Art Exhibit: “March Melee.”** 12-6 p.m. Thursday, 12-9 p.m. Friday-Saturday, 12-6 p.m. Sunday at The Del Ray Artisans Gallery, 2704 Mount Vernon Ave. This exhibit features artists’ “boldest and wackiest art.” Free. Visit [www.TheDelRayArtisans.org/shows](http://www.TheDelRayArtisans.org/shows).

### SATURDAY/MARCH 5

**Sanctuary Studio Art and Quiet Day.** 9 a.m.-1 p.m. at St. Aidan’s Episcopal Church, 8531 Riverside Road. Inspired by Taiye Salasi’s TED talk, “Where are You Local?” this event will reflect on how the day’s exploration of practice can inform



# ENTERTAINMENT

## Renner: St. Patrick's Day Parade Grand Marshal

John J. Renner, II was installed as the 2016 Alexandria St. Patrick's Day Parade Grand Marshal on Friday, Feb. 26. Renner is owner of Renner and Co., a 35-person accounting firm that has been honored as the Alexandria Chamber of Commerce 2015 small business of the year, and one of Virginia Business Magazine's 2016 Best Places to Work. He represented the business community as the 2013 Chair of the Alexandria Chamber of Commerce and has overseen the Alexandria City Budget as Chair of its Budget and Fiscal Affairs Advisory Committee.

The Ballyshaners, organizers of the parade, held its annual Grand Marshal Dinner at the Embassy Suites Old Town. Mayor Allison Silberberg, City Manager Mark Jinks and Councilwoman Del Pepper attended the event. Ballyshaners Chairman Mike Pablo noted that the volunteer organization chose Renner because of his years of service and dedication to the city and many of its non-profit organizations: "The Ballyshaners work year-round to bring this event to Alexandria and its visitors. John's work as an ambassador for small business and his his-



**From left: Ballyshaners Chairman Emeritus Pat Troy, 2016 Parade Grand Marshal John Renner and Ballyshaners Chairman Mike Pablo.**

tory of service to Alexandria made him our obvious choice to serve as Grand Marshal."

After his formal induction ceremony, Renner noted that the Irish in Alexandria, and supporters of the parade have been a boon to the city. Comparing the parade's power to the horsepower in his classic Chrysler 300 convertible, which has been in the parade many times, Renner noted that March is "a whole month of Irish horsepower that makes our city stronger. This is the horsepower

that pays for the services, schools and public safety that make Alexandria the kind of place where we all want to live. Just as Irish Americans made our country strong, Alexandria's Irish community is making our city strong."

The 35<sup>th</sup> Annual St. Patrick's Day Parade will be held this Saturday, March 5 at 12:30 p.m., preceded by the Annual Antique Car Show at 9 a.m. in the 100 block of N. Pitt St., and the Fun Dog Show in Market Square at 10:30 a.m. See [www.ballyshaners.org](http://www.ballyshaners.org).

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# ENTERTAINMENT

opportunities for practice in our everyday lives. Free. Visit [www.staidansepiscopal.com](http://www.staidansepiscopal.com) for more.

**Cooking with Tinky.** 11 a.m.-3 p.m. at Williams-Sonoma Old Town, 825 S. Washington St. To celebrate maple month, writer/singer/TV personality Tinky Weisblat will cook from her “Pudding Hollow Cookbook.” Free. Visit [www.tinkycooks.com](http://www.tinkycooks.com).

**Flower Arranging Demonstration.** 2 p.m. at The Art League Gallery, 105 N. Union St. See a demonstration in the ikebana style. Free. Visit [www.theartleaguegallery.org](http://www.theartleaguegallery.org) for more.

**Tea with Lady Washington.** 2-3 p.m. at George Washington’s Mount Vernon, 3200 Mount Vernon Highway, Mount Vernon. Join “Lady Washington” for an intimate fireside tea and conversation. Tickets are \$30 for adults, \$20 for children. Visit [www.mountvernon.org](http://www.mountvernon.org) for more.

**Family Woodcock Walk.** 5:30 p.m. at Huntley Meadows Park, 3701 Lockheed Blvd. Listen for the call of the male woodcock and hopefully see his courtship dance and flight. \$6 for residents of Fairfax County, \$8 for non-residents. Visit [www.fairfaxcounty.gov](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov) for more.

## MARCH 5-20

**March150 Exhibition.** Gallery hours at The Target Gallery, 105 N. Union St. The two-week exhibition will feature more than to 150 square panels created by more than 100 regional artists, nearly 30 of whom are affiliated with the Torpedo Factory. Free. Visit [www.torpedofactory.org](http://www.torpedofactory.org) for more.

## SUNDAY/MARCH 6

**Beau Soir Ensemble.** 1 p.m. at The Lyceum, 201 S. Washington St. Violist Jennifer Ries and harpist Michelle Lundy welcome guest flutist David Lonkevich in a program of music by Respighi, Telemann and Puccini, as well as Irish jigs and Jewish folk songs. Free, but donations accepted. Visit [www.beausoir.org](http://www.beausoir.org) for more.

**Meet the Artist: “Contradictions.”** 6-8 p.m. at The Associates Gallery at the Torpedo Factory, 105 N. Union St. Working in the medium of encaustic Julia Dzikiewicz paints, prints and constructs three-dimensional objects with bold colors embedding crystals, pearls or even metals. Free. Visit [www.torpedofactory.org](http://www.torpedofactory.org) for more.

## MONDAY/MARCH 7

**Winter Warmer Tea.** 3-4:30 p.m. at Gadsby’s Tavern Museum, 138 N. Royal St. Drink a special blend of tea or a cup of American Heritage Chocolate, eat period-inspired delicacies, with “Martha Washington.” During the tea, “Mrs. Washington” will be sharing stories from her life and visiting with each guest. Also take a tour at 2:15. Tea is \$35 per person, all inclusive, reservations are required. To make reservations call 703.746.4242 or visit [shop.alexandriava.gov](http://shop.alexandriava.gov).

**“Build a Beast” Textile Workshop.** 6-9 p.m. at The Del Ray Artisans Gallery, 2704 Mount Vernon Ave. Learn how to construct a fantasy creature from your own doodles. The workshop fee is \$10 for members, \$15 for non-members, plus a \$5 supply fee. Visit [www.TheDelRayArtisans.org](http://www.TheDelRayArtisans.org).

**Lecture: Women of Alexandria.** 7 p.m. at The Athenaeum, 201 Prince St. “Women of Alexandria, from Antebellum to the 20th Century” will depict the effect of the Civil War on the lives of Alexandria’s women before, during, and after the war. Free. Visit [www.nvfaa.org](http://www.nvfaa.org) or call 703-548-0035.

## MARCH 7-14

**NOVA Restaurant Week.** The Arlington Chamber of Commerce again partners with the Virginia Restaurant, Lodging, and Travel Association to present the 2016 Northern Virginia Restaurant Week. Visit [www.rosslynva.org](http://www.rosslynva.org) for more.

## TUESDAY/MARCH 8

### Homeschool Day at Mount

**Vernon.** 9 a.m.-5 p.m. at George Washington’s Mount Vernon, 3200 Mount Vernon Highway, Mount Vernon. At the Pioneer Farm, watch costumed interpreters produce 18th-century goods and learn about George Washington’s innovative farming practices. Visit a reconstructed slave cabin, play colonial games, and see horses, mules, sheep, and oxen. Free for children 5 and under, \$9 for homeschool students ages 6-18, \$10 for adults.

Visit [www.mountvernon.org](http://www.mountvernon.org).

**Creative Exploration Open Studio.** 10-11:30 a.m. at Convergence, 1801 N. Quaker Lane. Learn simple watercolor techniques and doodle designs with your child. Tickets are \$30 for parent/caregiver and child. Contact 703-944-4381 or [info@metamorphosisaec.com](mailto:info@metamorphosisaec.com), or visit [www.metamorphosisaec.com/mama/classes](http://www.metamorphosisaec.com/mama/classes).

**Silhouette Artist.** 2-5 p.m. at Robcyns, 3660 King St. Artist Erik Johnson cuts free hand silhouettes for a close likeness. Original silhouettes are \$25, duplicates are \$15, and framing is available for \$20. Call 703-683-2918 or visit [www.purplegoose2016.eventbrite.com](http://www.purplegoose2016.eventbrite.com) for an appointment.

## WEDNESDAY/MARCH 9

**Sanctuary Studio.** 10:15-11:45 a.m. and 7-8:30 p.m. at St. Aidan’s Episcopal Church, 8531 Riverside Road. Using drawing, watercolor, and collage materials, explore line, shape, and color as a meditative process. Free, but donations accepted. Visit [www.staidansepiscopal.com](http://www.staidansepiscopal.com).

**Meet With a Professional Organizer.** 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. at Mount Vernon Presbyterian Church, 2001 Sherwood Hall Lane. A professional organizer will speak at the MOMS Club of Alexandria South monthly meeting. Children of all ages are welcome at the 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](mailto:Southalexmomms@yahoo.com) or visit [visitsouthalexandriamomscub.webs.com](http://visitsouthalexandriamomscub.webs.com).

**CryBaby Art Studio.** 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m. at Convergence, 1801 N. Quaker Lane. Learn simple art techniques and exercise your creativity with your baby by your side. Tickets are \$20. Contact 703-944-4381 or [info@metamorphosisaec.com](mailto:info@metamorphosisaec.com), or visit [www.metamorphosisaec.com/mama/classes](http://www.metamorphosisaec.com/mama/classes).

## THURSDAY/MARCH 10

**“Speak, Sister.”** 7:30 p.m. at The Athenaeum, 201 Prince St. Local actors will read from diaries and letters of women, Harriet Jacobs, Isabel Emerson and Anne Frobel, who lived in Alexandria during the Civil War, and bluegrass band Dead Men’s Hollow will play songs of the Civil War. Tickets are \$20. Visit [www.nvfaa.org](http://www.nvfaa.org) for more.

## FRIDAY/MARCH 11

**Spaghetti Dinner: Rising Hope Food Pantry.** 5-8 p.m. at St. Luke’s Episcopal Church, 8009 Fort Hunt



**Recognized as a sculptural form of art, Ikebana, the art of Japanese flower arranging, has over 300 schools of thought. The Art League welcomes back the Washington, D.C. branch of the Sogestu School for the 16th Biennial Ikebana Show, featured in The Art League Gallery, March 2-6. Free. Visit [www.theartleague.org](http://www.theartleague.org) for more.**

Road. St. Luke’s Episcopal Church is holding a spaghetti dinner to support Rising Hope’s Food Pantry and two other food programs in the community. Tickets are \$12 for adults, \$6 for children 12 and under, and \$30 for families. Call 703-298-5987 for more.

**Family Fun Night.** 6-9 p.m. at Chinquapin Park Recreation Center & Aquatics Facility, 3210 King St. Pool games include beach ball relays, water basketball, diving for prizes on the “Aqua Challenge” floating obstacle course. Participate in swimming skill assessments for youth, learn pool safety tips and more. Tickets are \$4. Visit [www.shop.alexandriava.gov](http://www.shop.alexandriava.gov) for more.

**Ladies Night Out: Painting Van Gogh Style.** 7-9:30 p.m. at Convergence, 1801 N. Quaker Lane. Tickets are \$45. Contact 703-944-4381 or [info@metamorphosisaec.com](mailto:info@metamorphosisaec.com), or visit [www.metamorphosisaec.com/mama/classes](http://www.metamorphosisaec.com/mama/classes).

## MARCH 11-APRIL 10

**All City High School Visual Art Exhibition.** 10 a.m.-5 p.m. on Fridays, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. on Saturdays at The Gallery @ Convergence, 1801 N. Quaker Lane. Convergence presents the “Alexandria City High School Art Exhibit,” a joint effort between Bishop Ireton High School, Episcopal High School, St. Stephen’s & St. Agnes School, and T.C. Williams High School. In an effort to recognize and encourage the creative pursuits of visual art students from across the city, art teachers from each of the four schools have collaborated in what they hope will be an annual event. Free. Visit [www.ourconvergence.org](http://www.ourconvergence.org) for more.

## SATURDAY/MARCH 12

**Talent Hunt.** 12-3 p.m. at Mount Vernon High School, 8515 Old Mount Vernon Road. Psi Nu Chapter, Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. of Alexandria hosts a talent hunt for high school with a \$400 first place prize. Free. Email [talenthuntpsinu@gmail.com](mailto:talenthuntpsinu@gmail.com).

**Tea with Lady Washington.** 2-3 p.m. at George Washington’s Mount Vernon, 3200 Mount Vernon Highway, Mount Vernon. Join “Lady Washington” for an intimate fireside tea and conversation. Tickets are \$30 for adults, \$20 for children. Visit [www.mountvernon.org](http://www.mountvernon.org) for more.

**“Her Story: Women in Action for Girl Scout Daisies and Brownies.”** 3-4:15 p.m. at the Lyceum, 201 S. Washington St. Girl Scout Daisies, Brownies, and their accompanying adults will participate in hands-on activities and add their own future goals to a timeline of Juliette Gordon Low’s story. Participants will talk with a panel of current and former Girl Scouts and discover how scouting empowered them. Tickets are \$6. Visit [www.alexandriahistory.org](http://www.alexandriahistory.org) for more.

**Generation to Generation Gala.** 6-11 p.m. at Hilton Alexandria Mark Center, 5000 Seminary Road. Support Senior Services of Alexandria. Find cocktails, dinner, and dancing. Tickets are \$150. Visit [www.seniorservicesalex.org](http://www.seniorservicesalex.org) for more.

**The Music of Ralph Vaughan Williams.** 7 p.m. at Rachel M. Schlesinger Concert Hall & Arts Center, 4915 E. Campus Lane. In collaboration with the Amadeus Orchestra, the Fairfax Choral Society Adult Symphonic Chorus, Youth Concert Choir, and Women of the Master Singers present “Quintessentially British.” Tickets \$20-45, \$5 discount if purchased in advance. Student tickets are \$10. Visit [www.fairfaxchoralsociety.org](http://www.fairfaxchoralsociety.org) for more.

**Wounded Warrior Bowl-O-Rama.** Fort Myers Bowling Center, 224 McNair Road, Fort Myers. Psi Nu Chapter, Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. of Alexandria hosts an event benefitting the Wounded Warrior Project. Tickets are \$20. Visit [www.woundedwarriorproject.org](http://www.woundedwarriorproject.org) for more.

## SUNDAY/MARCH 13

**The Architecture of Carlyle House: Behind the Scenes Tour.** 11 a.m.-12 p.m. at Carlyle House Historic Park, 121 N. Fairfax St. Learn about

the architectural history of the only stone mansion in Alexandria. Tickets for the general public are \$10; \$5 for Friends of Carlyle House. Visit [www.carlylehouse.org](http://www.carlylehouse.org) for more.

**Concert: “Nature’s Whimsy.”** 4-5:30 p.m. at George Washington Masonic National Memorial, 101 Callahan Drive. Join Virginia Bronze for a variety of handbell compositions. Tickets are \$5-10. Visit [www.vabronze.org](http://www.vabronze.org) for more.

## MONDAY/MARCH 14

**Generative Digital Art Program.** 7-8 p.m. at The Del Ray Artisans Gallery, 2704 Mount Vernon Ave. Presentation by computer engineer and artist Cameron Turner. Tickets are \$5 for members, \$10 for non-members. Visit [www.TheDelRayArtisans.org](http://www.TheDelRayArtisans.org).

## TUESDAY/MARCH 15

**Creative Exploration Open Studio.** 10-11:30 a.m. at Convergence, 1801 N. Quaker Lane. Learn simple watercolor techniques and doodle designs with your child. Tickets are \$30 for parent/caregiver and child. Contact 703-944-4381 or [info@metamorphosisaec.com](mailto:info@metamorphosisaec.com), or visit [www.metamorphosisaec.com/mama/classes](http://www.metamorphosisaec.com/mama/classes).

## MARCH 15-APRIL 10

**Art Exhibit: “Art into Fashion/ Fashion into Art.”** 10 a.m.-5 p.m. at Torpedo Factory Art Center, 105 N. Union St. Fiber artists explore art inspired by fashion designers and fashionable wearables inspired by artists. Free. Visit [www.torpedofactory.org](http://www.torpedofactory.org) for more.

## WEDNESDAY/MARCH 16

**Book Discussion.** 10:15-11:45 a.m. at St. Aidan’s Episcopal Church, 8531 Riverside Road. A discussion group for parents, grandparents, teachers, caregivers, and child advocates. Discuss “Children’s Imagination: Creativity Under Our Noses.” Free. Visit [www.staidansepiscopal.com](http://www.staidansepiscopal.com) for more.



# Managing Medication

**“Let’s Talk about RxSM” helps seniors avoid prescription drug mishaps.**

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL  
GAZETTE PACKET

It was around 2 a.m. on a frigid winter night when Janet Russell was awakened from her sleep by the sound of woman calling for help. The cries were coming from the front lawn of her Arlington home. She ventured out into the cold to find her 84-year-old neighbor lying on the ground, believing that dozens of bugs were crawling on her skin.

“She was having bad hallucinations, and it turns out that she’d taken the wrong combination of medicines,” said Russell. “She was on about 11 different medications, some for her blood pressure, and she was administering them to herself.”

**MEDICATION ERRORS** are not uncommon, according to a recent survey by Home Instead Senior Care. Their survey showed that 20 percent of seniors who take more than five medications had problems taking them as prescribed. Unintentional medication

**“... their medication is something that people generally like to have control over.”**

— Ian Lovejoy, Home Instead Senior Care

misuse, such as forgetting to take a dose or taking more or less than the required dose, can have devastating results. Home Instead is encouraging families to talk with their loved ones about medication management and are offering suggestions on how to approach such conversations.

“If you notice a change in personality or thinking, or if they’re having a mobility issue or if they seem sluggish, those are signs of medication mismanagement,” said Ian Lovejoy, director of operations of Home Instead Senior Care in Fairfax County.

Home Instead has created a program called “Let’s Talk about RxSM” (prescription self medication). This program is designed to inform seniors’ families about the dangers of medication mismanagement as well as offer tips for minimizing the risks and suggestions for starting a dialogue about taking medication as prescribed.

“Our goal is to keep seniors at home and safe,” said Lovejoy. “We want the daughter and the son not have to focus on the pill bottle.”

Discovering that an elderly patient is taking more than five medications could be a warning sign that they may lose track or get confused about the timing and dosage for each prescription.

“If an adult child sees that their parent is on many medications, I would suggest what I call brown bagging: putting all of the medications in a brown paper bag and taking them with you to the next doctor visit,” said Omobola Oyeleye, an assistant professor of nursing at Northern Virginia Community College who teaches a class in drug dosage calculations.

## For More Information

<http://www.caregiverstress.com/senior-safety/lets-talk-about-rx/risk-solutions-guide/>

WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM



PHOTO COURTESY OF HOME INSTEAD SENIOR CARE

**A new study shows that that 20 percent of seniors who take more than five medications had problems taking their prescription drugs as directed by their doctor.**

“They can go through each medication with the doctor and find out what it’s for. Sometimes, for example, someone might be taking a medication that was prescribed six months ago for a condition that has already cleared up.”

Oyeleye suggests a conducting what she calls a medication reconciliation in order to determine whether someone is taking multiple medications for the same condition. “What you might find is that one medication exacerbates or even negates the other,” she said.

Trisha Brechling Miller, 57 of McLean, has managed the medications for both her 85-year old husband, Larry, and her 84-year old mother. After Larry fell, broke his hip and became immobile, Muller began using a calendar to keep his medication schedule in order. “I have a calendar that helps keep me organized as to what he needs to take and when,” she said. “If it changes, I update it.” Miller, a Home Instead Senior Care client, is also assisting her mother in creating a medications calendar.

**CONVERSATION ABOUT MEDICATION** can be fraught with tension. A perceived loss of freedom is one factor that can make getting involved in managing family members’ medication complicated, says Lovejoy.

“It’s just one more thing that they’re losing control over,” he said. “Along with the car and their mobility, their medication is something that people generally like to have control over.”

Clear lines of communication are necessary, as families often play a critical role in intervening and preventing a possible negative outcomes.

“My husband is on 10 different medications, and we’re able to manage his medications, but there are people who can’t do that. Those people tend to rely on family,” said Sheila Moldover of the Potomac Community Village in Potomac, Md. “They need children or close friends who handle it for them.” The Potomac Community Village offers programs and services designed to help seniors lead healthy lives and remain in their homes as long as possible.

Gaining empathy from a parent and making it about the child’s feelings is one way to open communication, so Lovejoy suggests that caregivers start by finding a common ground. “It’s important to communicate the emotional stress that potential medication mistakes can cause for a loved one,” he said. “Let your parent know that you are concerned. Your parents don’t want you to be upset.”

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## COMMUNITIES OF WORSHIP

### Good Shepherd Catholic Church Mass Schedule

**Saturday:**  
5:00 pm Vigil Mass  
6:30 pm Vigil Mass (en Español)

**Sunday:**  
7:30 am; 9:00 am (with Sign  
Language Interpreter and  
Children’s Liturgy of the Word);  
10:30 am; 12:00 Noon;  
2:00 pm (en Español); 6:30 pm

**Monday-Saturday:**  
9:00 am Mass

**En Español:** Monday, 6:30 pm;  
Thursday, 7:30 pm;

First Friday,  
7:30 pm

**Eucharistic  
Adoration:**

Wednesday: 6:00 pm;  
Thursday: 7:00 pm; First Friday:  
following 9:00 am Mass & 7:00 pm

**Confession:**

Wednesday, 6:00 pm;  
Saturday, 8:00 am, 4:00 pm

**En Español:**

Sunday, 1:10 pm;  
Saturday, 6:00 pm

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PHOTOS CONTRIBUTED  
**Concept rendering for view of the property from Montgomery and N. Saint Asaph streets.**



**The redevelopment site in context within Old Town North.**

# Commission Approves North Old Town Development

FROM PAGE 1

ABC store will remain in place, though the other tenants for the complex have not yet been determined. The application calls for restaurants, small specialty grocery, and furniture or home goods stores as anchor tenants.

Agnes Artemel, a former president of the Old Town North Community Partnership, spoke in support of the proposal.

"It's not perfect, but it is the best we can get," said Artemel. "This [could be a] valuable asset for the neighborhood in the future... I think this project has the potential to bring the kinds of mixed uses that would be good for this neighborhood. We need to build on the fabric that's been building for the last 10 or 20 years."

Planning Commission member Maria Wasowski noted one email in particular from a local business owner highlighting the need for market rate rental units in order to entice employees to live in the city. Mary Catharine Puskar, the attorney representing EDENS, argued that residents attending the meeting in protest weren't representative of the whole community. Puskar also pointed to the developer's nearly full year of community outreach leading up to the Planning Commission meeting.

"I think we sometimes confuse people not liking the outcome with inadequate process," said Puskar.

The mood of the audience at the meeting was decidedly against the development. Criticism of the project centered around

transportation and scale concerns. Many of the opponents represented local civic associations, including Tom Soapes, president of the North Old Town Independent Citizens Association. In a seven-page letter sent to commission, Darrel W. Drury, Ph. D, and president of a group called Volunteers in Service to the Improvement of Old Town North (VISION), expressed concern that the project would exacerbate what Drury called the dangerous conditions at the intersection of First Street and North Washington Street.

Planning Commission chair Mary Lyman noted that she had not had time to read the letter before the meeting, and when Joan Drury began to read the letter to the commission, Lyman cut her off and insisted that the public hearing portion not be devoted to members of the group approaching the podium and reading the letter verbatim.

"The implications for traffic congestion in the future are daunting," said Darrel Drury in the letter. "Several pipeline projects throughout Old Town North that are currently in various stages of development are expected to generate about 5,510 daily trips by the year 2021. This, in turn, will increase the length of the queue at the left-hand turn lane of North Washington Street by about 27 feet. [This project], when completed, would generate 3,964 additional daily trips and extend the left-turn lane queue on North Washington street by another 100 feet."

Carrie Sanders, acting deputy director for Transportation and Environmental Services,

said that staff had reviewed the applicant's traffic study and found it consistent with the city's standards.

"You're going to see traffic conditions increase, but it wouldn't be substantial," said Sanders. "Certainly with a new development, we'll see an increase in trips, but those trips will happen regardless of this particular development. The general traffic [in the area] is increasing. [We're working] to mitigate these with signal timing changes and increasing walkability in this area."

Sanders said that the city had asked the developer to incorporate a contribution for signal timing changes, which she said would help with the traffic congestion, but that whether that contribution would be implemented before the project was completed was uncertain.

The letter goes on to express concerns about the project's parking reduction and the fact that the primary loading dock entrance for delivery vehicles and the entrance for the parking garage is on First Street. Among the citizens speaking at the meeting, however, one of the biggest concern seemed to be that development approval was a foregone conclusion before staff met with local residents.

"This whole thing is rigged," said Joan Drury.

It didn't escape the notice of Lyman that many of these complaints were similar to those in the discussion surrounding the nearby Old Colony Inn redevelopment.

"[I] share your concern that the perception that the neighbors are not being lis-

tened to," said Lyman. "We're hearing same things about Old Colony Inn, so we need to look at that."

"I think staff is a fine staff," said Planning Commission member Stewart Dunn, "but it is true that there is a perception that the staff isn't listening and that there's a set line on what we're going to do. That's what we're hearing from many of the people here."

Dunn said he thought it was a good project, but argued that the transportation and citizens concerns made him uncomfortable with approving of it so swiftly. However, despite some similar concerns, Dunn's fellow commission members did not feel the project approval needed to be deferred.

Planning Commission member Nathan Macek argued that property hadn't always been vacant, and that the transportation grid had been able to support the busy Giant. Planning Commission member Stephen Koenig said he understood the neighbors concerns, but felt that the project solved more problems than it hurt. In response to the citizens, Lyman said the city would continue to look for ways to make the process more transparent.

"We can promise that we'll listen, but we can't promise that we'll see eye to eye," said Lyman. "It doesn't mean we don't respect your opinion, we just can't always agree with it."

In a series of votes, all of which every member but Dunn voted in favor, the Planning Commission approved the redevelopment of the property.

# City Residents Favor Clinton, Rubio, and Kasich

FROM PAGE 1

Frank Shafroth, director of the Center for State and Local Government Leadership at George Mason University, wrote in an email that Alexandria's preference for Clinton and Rubio largely stems from Northern Virginia's need for federal stability.

"It should be noted that whomever is elected will have a disproportionate impact on [Northern] Virginia — because of the

vast federal complex, including DARPA, the Pentagon, etc.," said Shafroth, "so Virginia voters have tended to be both moderate — in both the Democratic and Republican parties — in their leanings which clearly work to Mrs. Clinton's and Sen. Rubio's benefits."

While Virginia still went for Trump, Shafroth says Northern Virginia still played a big role in making that a closer victory than it might have otherwise been.

"Sen. Rubio has made it a much tighter

race than many had predicted," said Shafroth. "A significant part of the surprise — especially compared to the other, earlier southern states (and Georgia tonight) appears to come from the significant increase in voter registration over the last year in more urban Virginia locales: nearly 50 percent in Williamsburg City, Harrisonburg City, Fredericksburg, Loudoun County, and Charlottesville. That means there are likely disproportionate numbers of graduate and

post graduate voters who participated in the primaries — and greater minority voting in the Democratic primary. In contrast, there were few increases, and actually some declines in voter registration in more rural parts of the state — places where, as in Georgia and Alabama, Mr. Trump ran in a commanding fashion. At least to date, Mr. Trump's appeal does not appear to have excited moderate, conservative voters: if anything, it seems to have scared them."



# Mother Keeps Positive, Trusting Baby's Medical Team

FROM PAGE 6

Call it mother's intuition, but DePina said she knew something was wrong with her son aside from the obvious issues that come with a premature delivery like Cameron's.

"It was the 11<sup>th</sup> of December, just over a week after Cameron was born," DePina said. "His dad and I went to visit him at Virginia Hospital Center in Arlington, where he was born. The doctors assured me everything was fine and that he would probably get to come home soon, but I told them, 'Something is wrong with him.' The doctors continued to assure me that everything was fine, but I knew it wasn't true. I've never cried so much in my whole life."

Sure enough, DePina's fear was confirmed a couple days later, when doctors called her with the news that Cameron had been rushed to Children's National Medical Center for an inexplicable, and potentially fatal, infection.

"I rushed to Children's not knowing if I would ever leave the hospital with a baby," DePina said.

Luckily, Cameron was diagnosed with SVT, and at the outset was told he was very likely to make a full recovery.

Still, however, Cameron battled reflux issues and apnea so severe that he turned blue one day while cradled in his mother's arms.

"He went through it all," DePina said. "He had acid reflux, and then apnea as well. The doctors explained to me that because he was such a small preemie, he didn't know how to get his breathing back on track when he lost rhythm from the apnea. When he turned blue, I lost it. A nurse at Children's Hospital saved his life. She's my savior. At one point, she noticed that his blood hadn't been checked in 22 days. If it weren't for her testing his white blood cell count, no one would have ever known he needed a blood transfusion."

Cameron's struggle with apnea prolonged his stay in the hospital to total more than seven weeks, but DePina said that the whole staff always made her feel so comfortable — every professional taking the time to answer each question both she and her then 4-year old son Jackson had.

"The whole staff at Children's is phenomenal," DePina said. "We got there two weeks before Christmas. I wasn't eating or sleeping and my breast milk was drying out because I was so stressed. I quit my job to stay by my baby's side. I was there every single day. Children's gave Jackson a huge bag filled with toys for Christmas.

Every time I would see a crying mother admitted to the hospital with her sick baby, I would tell them, 'If your baby has to be in a hospital, be glad it's here. This is where you need to be.' All of us — the other mothers and the doctors and nurses — we became a family. When we go back for check-ups, everyone remembers us by name. Sometimes staffmembers will call to check up on Cameron. I absolutely love Children's Hospital."

DePina said that while she is so grateful that Cameron made a full recovery and will live the life of a normal, active, rambunctious boy, she is still haunted by and heartbroken for the mothers who didn't have the opportunity to nurse their babies back to health at home. She said, however, she will always find a way to honor the babies who lost their battles.

"Cameron is our miracle baby," DePina said. "The staff at Children's introduced me to the March of Dimes Walk in May of last year. We decided to make it a family tradition in honor of Cameron. And, for the other babies who go to Children's and never get to go home. We met another family of a baby who passed away, so we walk for him, too. You can't help but hurt when you later find out that one of the moms you bonded with lost her child."

Even after spending nearly two months in hospitals, DePina still brought Cameron home two days before her due date. As long as Cameron's hospital stay was, it felt longer. Still, she remains grateful for the full, meaningful life that she knows Cameron has ahead of him.

"His daycare provider tells me that he is healthier than babies who were born full-term," she said. "No one believes me when I say he was born two months early. He's right on track with his height and weight. The doctors warned me that he could have turned out deaf or blind for how early he was born and all the issues he went through. But, I can't see any of that. You should see him now. He's the fastest little crawler and has taken his first steps."

It's hard for DePina to believe that the beaming, beautiful toddler she sees every day, unfazed by shots at the doctor's office, and always calm when his five-year-old big brother accidentally topples over him, is the same fragile preemie that she brought home just a year ago, hooked up to a breathing machine that would wail like an ambulance whenever he would stop breathing.

"He came home with medications he had to take around the clock," DePina remembered. "I had to wake myself, and Cameron, up in the middle of the night. My dad and I had a schedule and a chart, all to keep track Cameron's meds. I was so worried he was going to be on a machine much longer, or need surgery, or that somehow all of this trauma would

affect some aspect of his life."

She said that while she of course wouldn't wish Cameron's plight on any family, her advice for mothers with sick and suffering children is to remain as positive as possible — and to avoid the nefarious Internet search at all costs.

"You have to trust your child's physician and everything they are telling you," DePina said. "It was

so hard for me to not think of the worst case scenario. The social workers told me to stay offline. They could tell I was getting very engrossed in the situation, even though the whole time the doctors assured me that Cameron's case wasn't as bad as his original doctors thought it was. So, it is important to keep out that negativity."



## City of Alexandria FISCAL YEAR 2017 PROPOSED BUDGET



A summary of the City of Alexandria's proposed Fiscal Year 2017 budget is set out below. Notice is hereby given of a public hearing on the proposed Fiscal Year 2017 budget for the City of Alexandria. The hearing will be held in the City Council Chambers, City Hall, 301 King Street, Alexandria, Virginia, on Monday, March 14, 2016 at 4:00 p.m. Persons wishing to speak on the proposed budget may sign up prior to the public hearing by calling the Office of the City Clerk and Clerk of Council at (703) 746-4550. Presenters are requested to provide a copy of their text to the City Clerk and Clerk of Council. Persons with disabilities who wish to request an accommodation for this public hearing should contact the Office of the City Clerk and Clerk of Council at (703) 746-4550 (TTY/TDD (703) 838-5056) prior to March 14, 2016, if possible.

### SUMMARY OF PROPOSED BUDGET FY 2017

	General Fund PROPOSED FY 2017 (1)	All Funds PROPOSED FY 2017 (2)	FY 2017 Capital Improvements (3)
City Council	\$526,434	\$526,434	
City Manager	\$2,464,732	\$2,464,732	\$200,000
City Attorney	\$2,866,163	\$2,866,163	
City Clerk and Clerk of Council	\$445,562	\$445,562	
18th Circuit Court	\$1,662,220	\$1,662,220	\$80,000
18th General District Court	\$146,919	\$146,919	
Clerk of the Circuit Court	\$1,663,647	\$1,728,647	
Commonwealth's Attorney	\$3,220,905	\$3,509,078	
Court Service Unit	\$1,621,166	\$1,747,155	
Juvenile and Domestic Relations Court	\$80,415	\$80,415	
Other Criminal and Justice Services	\$4,246,268	\$4,430,445	\$356,506
Registrar of Voters	\$1,413,610	\$1,413,610	
Sheriff	\$31,014,177	\$32,159,463	\$643,000
Finance	\$13,098,450	\$13,908,066	\$300,000
General Services	\$14,082,850	\$14,312,141	\$4,707,500
Human Rights	\$789,655	\$835,177	
Information Technology Services	\$10,229,438	\$10,672,468	\$4,740,000
Internal Audit	\$315,991	\$315,991	
Management and Budget	\$1,301,434	\$1,301,434	
Non-Departmental - Debt Service	\$66,751,022	\$66,751,022	
Non-Departmental - Contingent Reserve	\$3,674,806	\$3,674,806	
Non-Departmental - Insurance, Memberships, Other	\$9,042,740	\$10,042,740	
Human Resources	\$3,512,923	\$3,512,923	
Communications & Public Information	\$1,306,061	\$1,306,061	
Performance and Accountability	\$622,641	\$622,641	
Fire	\$49,711,802	\$51,991,748	\$1,578,000
Code Administration	\$114,000	\$7,773,419	
Emergency Communications	\$7,158,590	\$7,187,117	
Police	\$60,067,761	\$62,272,025	\$1,100,000
Health	\$6,878,517	\$6,924,974	\$6,774,000
Community and Human Services	\$50,008,320	\$90,088,253	\$400,000
Other Health Activities	\$1,781,250	\$1,781,250	
Housing	\$3,114,823	\$3,823,543	
Economic Development Activities	\$5,415,493	\$5,415,493	
Project Implementation	\$1,895,590	\$3,349,975	\$975,000
Planning and Zoning	\$5,543,691	\$5,902,487	
Historic Alexandria	\$3,038,902	\$4,142,217	\$356,000
Library	\$6,849,201	\$7,387,075	\$312,000
Recreation, Parks and Cultural Activities	\$21,809,875	\$22,897,132	\$16,085,978
Transit Subsidies	\$20,472,378	\$31,076,378	\$275,800,000
Transportation and Environmental Services	\$30,777,399	\$51,507,421	\$28,804,200
Other Educational Activities	\$12,131	\$12,131	\$349,268
Schools	\$203,561,472	\$271,831,185	\$35,935,000
Cash Capital	\$17,277,504	\$17,277,504	
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>\$671,588,927</b>	<b>\$833,077,640</b>	<b>\$379,496,452</b>

Any person desiring to review the proposed budget may visit the City's website ([alexandriava.gov/budget](http://alexandriava.gov/budget)) or visit City Hall, Office of Management and Budget, Room 3400, Monday through Friday (excluding holidays), 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

#### PROPERTY TAXES

The proposed budget includes a \$0.01 cent increase in the real property tax rate from \$1.043 cents to \$1.053 per \$100 of assessed valuation based upon an assessment ratio of 100% fair market value. It should be noted that City Council will set the maximum tax rate to be advertised at its March 15, 2016, meeting at 9:00 pm in the City Council Chambers and that Council may not adopt a rate that exceeds this tax rate, but may adopt an equal or lesser tax rate. The proposed budget includes no change in the current motor vehicle personal property tax rate of \$5.00 per \$100 of assessed value. All other personal property tax rates, including vehicles specially equipped to transport persons with disabilities, which are proposed to be taxed at the present rate of \$3.55 per \$100 of assessed value; machinery and tools, which are proposed to be taxed at the present rate of \$4.50 per \$100 of assessed value and privately owned boats and water craft that are used for recreational purposes only which are proposed to be taxed at the present rate of \$0.01 per \$100 of assessed value, are unchanged. The amount of real estate tax rate dedicated for affordable housing and to support existing debt service related to affordable housing is 0.6 cents.



# SPORTS



Kesha Walton has won two conference titles in six seasons with the T.C. Williams girls' basketball program.

PHOTOS BY JEFF MCQUILKIN



T.C. Williams freshman guard Trinity Palacio was part of a Titans team that won a Conference 7 championship despite having just one senior on the roster.

## TC Girls End Season in Region Quarterfinals

The T.C. Williams girls' basketball team won the 2016 Conference 7 title, knocking off two-time defending champion West Springfield in double overtime, despite having just one senior on the roster. The Titans followed that win with a victory over Osbourn in the opening round of the region tournament.

But T.C. Williams' season came to an end on Feb. 25, when the Titans lost to eventual region runner-up Fairfax 55-43 in the quarterfinals in Alexandria.

Fairfax has a 27-2 record and enters the state tournament as the No. 2 seed from the 6A North region.

"I believe the Fairfax basketball team is a

very good team," TC freshman Trinity Palacio wrote in an email. "I do believe, however, we should have beaten them. Unfortunately, that particular game we had a few players who were sick, myself included and we had several crucial turnovers and missed rebounding opportunities throughout the game."

The Titans went 10-4 during conference play, earning the No. 3 seed in the conference tournament. They defeated Lake Braddock, 39-35, in the quarterfinals, and beat Mount Vernon, 43-32, in the semifinals before taking on West Springfield in the championship game.

Despite injuries and foul trouble leaving TC with just five players at the end of the

game, the Titans pulled out a 69-66 win in double overtime on Feb. 21, giving head coach Kesha Walton her second conference/district title in six seasons with the program.

"I really enjoy being a player under Coach Walton," Palacio wrote. "She is a very understanding coach that believes in all her players and gives us opportunities to get better. She is a coach that encourages me on and off the court."

Palacio scored 25 points against West Springfield in the conference final and earned tournament MVP honors. Junior forward Bhrandi Crenshaw scored 14 points and junior forward Keyana Roberts added 10. Senior guard Ajuanae Nelson, TC's lone

senior, scored eight points.

Palacio received second-team all-conference honors. Roberts, Crenshaw and sophomore forward Karemee Copeland received honorable mention.

With most of the roster coming back next season, Palacio has high hopes.

"As a team, I hope we are able to repeat our season with back-to-back [conference] championships and I also want to be able to make it to states next year," she wrote. "As for myself, I want to continue to improve my scoring and to also be able to get first team all-conference next year."

— JON ROETMAN



PHOTO BY JEFF MCQUILKIN

### IAC Championship

The Episcopal boys' basketball team defeated St. Stephen's & St. Agnes 56-55 on Feb. 20 at Episcopal to win the IAC championship. George Mawanda-Kalema led the Maroon with 24 points and Nicholas Reed added 12.

## Wilson Earns Third-Team All-AMCC Honors

Penn State Altoona junior guard/forward Javon Wilson, a 2013 T.C. Williams High School graduate, was voted to the third team of the Allegheny Mountain Collegiate Conference's All-Conference men's basketball squad, which was released on March 1.

Wilson ranked sixth in the conference in points per game (16.8) and 3-pointers made (57), as well as ninth in total points (370). Wilson also ranked fourth in the AMCC in points per 40 minutes (24.0), while finishing ninth in steals (34).



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED  
Javon Wilson

Wilson was named the AMCC Player of the Week once during the season, and he was also selected as the Eastern College Athletic Conference Division III South Region Player of the Week one time.

This marks the first time in Wilson's three-year collegiate career with the Lions that he has been an All-AMCC selection.

Penn State Altoona men's basketball was 7-15 overall in 2015-2016, including going 6-12 in the AMCC.

— PENN STATE ALTOONA ATHLETICS

### SCHOOL NOTES

Email announcements to [gazette@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:gazette@connectionnewspapers.com). Deadline is Thursday at noon. Photos are welcome.

**Diana Kathleen Simmons** graduated from Baylor University (Waco, Texas) December 2015. Simmons was awarded a B.S. in family and consumer sciences, child and family studies

**Megan von Kolnitz**, a senior majoring in psychology has made the president's list at Coastal Carolina University (Conway, S.C.) for the fall

2015 semester.

The following students have been named to the Champlain College (Burlington, Vt.) president's list for the fall 2015 semester: **Adella Francis**, majoring in cybersecurity; and **Robert Holbrook**, majoring in computer and information systems.

**Christopher Doyal** was named to the president's list at SUNY Canton (Canton, N.Y.) for fall 2015 semester. Doyal is a SUNY Canton management major.



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## BULLETIN BOARD

FROM PAGE 9

mgarlalex@gmail.com for more.

**City Council Legislative Meeting.** 7 p.m. at City Hall, Council Chamber, 301 King St. Contact Jackie Henderson, jackie.henderson@alexandriava.gov, 703-746-4500.

### WEDNESDAY/MARCH 9

**Going Native: Tried & True Plants for the Landscape.** 2-4 p.m. Beatley Central Library, 5005 Duke St. This program will focus on the characteristics of native plants, why they matter and how to incorporate them into a home garden. Best bets for particular settings—sun, shade or in-between—will also be discussed. Free and open to the public. Advance registration is requested at mgnv.org. Call 703-228-6414 or email mgarlalex@gmail.com for more.

**Kindergarten Registration Kick-off Event.** 3-7 p.m. at all Alexandria elementary schools. After March 9: visit your neighborhood school weekdays between 9 a.m. and 1 p.m. to register or call to make an appointment. If a language other than English is spoken in at home, or the child was born outside the United States, register the child for school at the Office of English Language Learner (ELL) Services at 1340 Braddock Place. Call 703-619-8003 for more information.

### FRIDAY/MARCH 11

**Nomination Deadline.** The Alexandria Environmental Policy Commission and Alexandria Renew Enterprises are seeking nominees for the 2016 Eighth Annual Ellen Pickering Environmental Excellence Award to honor and recognize Alexandrians who demonstrate a commitment to protecting the natural environment and keeping the City green.

# CLASSIFIED

## 21 Announcements 21 Announcements

### Alexandria Environmental Policy Commission and Alexandria Renew Enterprises Seek Nominees for 2016 Eighth Annual Ellen Pickering Environmental Excellence Award

The Alexandria Environmental Policy Commission and Alexandria Renew Enterprises are seeking nominees for the 2016 Eighth Annual Ellen Pickering Environmental Excellence Award to honor and recognize Alexandrians who demonstrate a commitment to protecting the natural environment and keeping the City green.

The Ellen Pickering Environmental Excellence Award is named in honor of Ellen Pickering, a long time Alexandria City activist dedicated to preservation and environmental conservation in the City.

**Qualifications:** Residents, groups, clubs, organizations or corporations may be nominated. To be eligible, nominees must live within the City of Alexandria and corporations, organizations and other groups must operate within the City of Alexandria.

**Nomination Requirements:** Submissions must include the following:

The nominee's name, address, and telephone number, or the key individual to contact if a nominee is an organization.

The name, address, and telephone number of the person nominating the candidate must be included.

A brief description (not to exceed one page) of the nominee's accomplishments and qualifications for the Ellen Pickering Environmental Excellence Award.

Submit online or mail:

- Online: <http://survey.alexandriava.gov/s3/EllenPickeringAward>
- Mail:

The Alexandria Environmental Policy Commission  
Office of Environmental Quality  
Alexandria City Hall  
301 King Street, Room 3000  
Alexandria, VA 22314  
Attention: Lisa Goldberg  
Nominations must be received by March 11, 2016.

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## 21 Announcements

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## 21 Announcements

## 21 Announcements

### ALEXANDRIA CITY PUBLIC SCHOOLS REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS NUMBER 16-02-03

The Alexandria City School Board dba Alexandria City Public Schools is seeking competitive proposals from qualified Offerors to provide Dental Services.

Sealed Proposals with the notation RFP# 16-02-03 Dental Services will be received in the Central Procurement Office, 1340 Braddock Place, Suite 620, Alexandria, Virginia 22314, on or before 3:00 pm, March 18, 2015. The time of receipt shall be determined by the time clock stamp in the Procurement office. Proposals appropriately received will be opened and the names of the firms responding will be read aloud. RFP documents may be obtained at the above Procurement Office or by calling 703-619-8181, or by downloading the RFP from the ACPS website at <http://www.acps.k12.va.us/financial-services/purchasing/bids.php>

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

Chris Guy  
Procurement Manager

## 21 Announcements

## 21 Announcements

### ALEXANDRIA CITY PUBLIC SCHOOLS REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS NUMBER 16-02-05

The Alexandria City School Board dba Alexandria City Public Schools is seeking competitive proposals from qualified Offerors to provide Professional Development on Differentiation, Instruction and Assessment for Immigrant Youth.

Unsealed Proposals with the notation RFP# 16-02-05 Professional Development on Differentiation, Instruction and Assessment for Immigrant Youth will be received via email at christopher.guy@acps.k12.va.us. Proposals shall be transmitted with a date and time stamp on or before 3:00 PM on March 14, 2016. RFP documents may be obtained at the above Procurement Office or by calling 703-619-8181, or by downloading the RFP from the ACPS website at <http://www.acps.k12.va.us/financial-services/purchasing/bids.php>

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

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Procurement Manager

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## 21 Announcements

## 21 Announcements

### LEGAL NOTICE

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

Request for Proposals No. 00000598, Sanitary Capacity Management Operation and Maintenance Program

RFP Closing Date and Time: April 7, 2016, 4 p.m., prevailing local time

For general inquiries contact Darryl K. Jackson, CPPB, Contract Specialist III at 703.746.4298.

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

## 21 Announcements

## 21 Announcements

## 21 Announcements

## 21 Announcements

### ALEXANDRIA CITY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

### and THE CITY OF ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA

### REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS NUMBER 16-01-02

The Alexandria City School Board dba Alexandria City Public Schools and the City of Alexandria, Virginia are seeking qualification proposals for Construction Manager at Risk Services for Patrick Henry PreK-8 School and Recreational Facility.

Sealed Qualification Proposals with the notation RFQ# 16-01-02 – CM@Risk Services PH, will be received in the Financial Services Department, Procurement Office, located at 1340 Braddock Place, Suite 620, Alexandria, Virginia 22314, on or before 3:00 pm, MARCH 8, 2016. The time of receipt shall be determined by the time clock stamp in the Procurement office. Proposals appropriately received will be opened and the names of the firms responding will be read aloud. RFQ documents may be obtained at the above Procurement Office or by calling 703-619-8343, or by downloading the RFQ from the ACPS website at [www.acps.k12.va.us](http://www.acps.k12.va.us), Administration, Financial Services, Procurement and General Services – Current Bids and Request for Proposals.

All questions should be submitted before 4:30 p.m., March 1, 2016. If necessary, an addendum will be issued and posted to the ACPS web site.

No RFQ may be withdrawn for a period of ninety (90) days after the opening of proposals except as may be set forth in the RFQ.

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

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

### Nicaragua.

In 1958, a mutual friend introduced her to Peter Keir, a recently divorced fellow economist, with two young children. Shortly thereafter, she embarked on a new and very different stage of life as a wife and mother. Although she officially "retired" from the work force in 1959, she remained active as a volunteer in the public schools, as a political campaign stalwart, and in a number of community activities and other recreational pursuits. Her home was always a welcoming place, where dinner was served promptly at 7 pm, with generous portions for all. Certain relatives and family friends were known to time their arrival in town for the seven o'clock hour in order not to miss the evening meal.

She is survived by her husband of more than 56 years, Peter M. Keir, of Hollin Hills; her sister, Kay Ryckman of South Boardman, Michigan; stepdaughter Ellen Keir and former son-in-law Mark Bobseine, both of Duxbury, Massachusetts; stepson Bruce Keir and daughter-in-law Patricia Wittbold Keir of Davie, Florida; and son David Keir and daughter-in-law Lorraine Predham Keir of Alexandria, Virginia, as well as six grandchildren, Haley, Sam and Peter Bobseine; Christopher and Heather Keir, and Caroline Joyce Keir. She was preceded in death by her younger brother Clayton C. Sherwood of Tekonsha, Michigan, who passed away last April at age 89, and her parents, Clayton and Mamie Sherwood, who each died in 1993, at the ages of 95 and 94 respectively.

The family wishes to thank the staff of Adult Companion Care in Alexandria who provided excellent care and friendship to Joyce and the entire family during the last years of her life, in particular caregivers Dionne Pressley, Willie Mae Batts and Lillian Opoku, and nurses Kathy Schrader and Lavonne Rolincik.

Joyce loved the springtime, when the countryside turns green and the flowers bloom. Accordingly, a Celebration of Life will be held at 2pm on April 23, 2016 at the Mount Vernon Unitarian Church. Further details of that celebration will be announced at a later date.

In lieu of flowers, please consider donations to the following organizations: the Alzheimer's Association, P.O. Box 96011, Washington, DC 20090-6011; the American Cancer Society, P.O. Box 22478, Oklahoma City, OK 73123; or the Esophageal Cancer Action Network, P.O. Box 243, Stevenson, MD 21153.



### Joyce Sherwood Keir

August 28, 1923 – February 20, 2016

Joyce Sherwood Keir passed away at her home in Hollin Hills in Fairfax County, Virginia, on Saturday, February 20, 2016, succumbing to kidney failure at the age of 92. She was born on August 28, 1923 in a town so small that it no longer graces the map – Leetsville, Michigan, a crossroads in Rapid River Township northeast of Kalkaska, Michigan. Her family moved into the town of Kalkaska when she was three years old, and she grew up there. One of her favorite pastimes was to climb a tree with a good book in the hope of avoiding a few household chores. Afternoons were often spent around the radio listening to Charlie Gehringer and Hank Greenberg play ball for the Detroit Tigers.

Joyce was an excellent student, and aspired to attend the University of Michigan. However, as a young woman in the Midwest at mid-century, she was constrained to attend the school that offered the most scholarship money, and attended Central Michigan University instead, graduating in 1945. Nonetheless, she remained an ardent fan of the Michigan Wolverines for the rest of her life.

After college, she moved to Detroit, where she taught middle school math, worked for the Wayne County Health Department, and ultimately got a job at General Motors. She left Michigan for Washington, D.C. in the early 1950s to attend graduate school at The George Washington University, where she earned a Master's Degree in Government and Economic Policy in 1954. Thereafter, she worked for five years as an economist at the International Monetary Fund, traveling on several missions to Costa Rica and

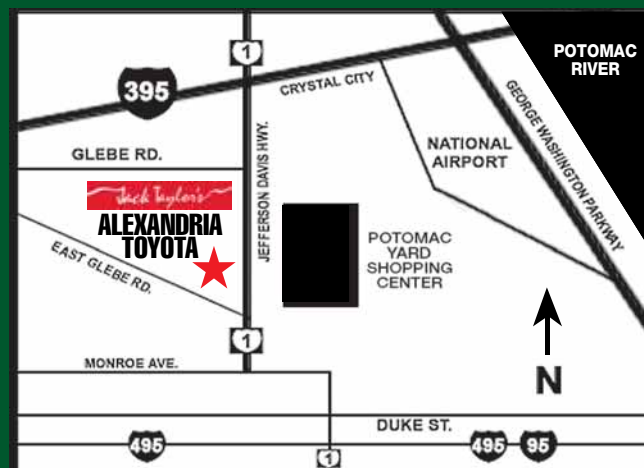


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dress tires, rubber molding & trim, clean dashboard,  
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• I-pad adaptors • All weather floor mats  
• Toyota bedliners

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\$159<sup>95</sup>**

**Synthetic \$10 More**  
**INCLUDES:** Change engine oil & filter (up to 5 qts.),  
rotate tires, inspect wear and adjust pressure,  
measure brake pad thickness & rotor runout,  
replace cabin air filter (if equipped), replace  
engine air filter, reset maintenance reminder light  
(if applicable) and multi-point vehicle inspection.

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**Let's  
Go  
Places**





**Old Town \$1,695,000**

Remarkable space & light permeate this traditional style brick Flounder with Charleston porch & serene garden. 5 bedrooms, 4.5 baths, reclaimed wood floors, 5 fireplaces add sophistication to this mid-20th C. reproduction with 2 off-street parking spaces.

**Joan Shannon**  
703.507.8655  
www.joanhome.com



**Alexandria \$629,900**

The quiet cul-de-sac sets the tone for this welcoming 5-bedroom, 2.5-bath home. 3 main level bedrooms, & the updated kitchen features granite & stainless. Remodeled basement has a wet bar. Sunroom & large wrap-around deck. 4213wiltonwoods.mceneaney.com

**Sue & Allison Goodhart**  
703.362.3221  
www.TheGoodhartGroup.com



**Alexandria \$727,500**

Single family home with 4 bedrooms and 3 baths. Kitchen opens to dining room and living room. Large bedrooms and master with en suite. Family room with fireplace. Main level bedroom and bath. Driveway. Walk to "The Avenue!" 205 W Mt Ida Ave.

**Jen Walker**  
703.675.1566  
www.JenWalker.com



**Braddock Heights \$712,000**

This 3-bedroom, 1.5-bath home has been well-maintained and updated. There are gorgeous hardwood floors, quartz counters in the kitchen, and an ideal rec room in the basement. New landscaping in front and back, just waiting for spring! 2809 Davis Avenue

**Elizabeth Lucchesi**  
703.868.5676  
www.LizLuke.com



**Hollin Hills \$499,900**

Expanded rambler features granite-cherry kitchen opened up to living/dining. Both full baths renovated. Not-your-usual addition adds a wonderful family room/bedroom suite. Carport, deck, and fenced yard. Waynewood School district! 2002 Shenandoah Rd.

**Peter B. Crouch**  
703.244.4024  
www.CrouchRealtyGroup.com



**Alexandria \$274,900**

Belle View condo with all of the important updates! Much sought-after B2 corner unit with charming deck! The kitchen is a stunner! This 2-bedroom, 1-bath is light & bright, given eastern, northern & southern exposures. 6624 E Wakefield Dr. #B2

**Cindy Clemmer**  
703.966.0403  
www.CindyClemmer.com



**Alexandria \$379,900**

Beautiful 2-level townhouse-style condo at Overlook. Spacious living room, family & dining area with gas fireplace, 2 master suites, hardwood floors on main level, newer appliances, extensive storage, sunny paved terrace, 1-car garage & driveway space. Community pool.

**Annette Hinaman**  
571.216.4411  
www.AnnetteHinaman.com



**Alexandria \$650,000**

Custom modern home in Randall Estates. 4 bedrooms, 3 full updated baths on .44 acres. 2700+ SF, 3-zone heating, wood floors on main level. Updated kitchen with granite counters. New roof. New A/C. Whole house generator. 2200 Shiver Drive

**Shirley Mattam-Male**  
571.220.9481  
www.SMattam.com



**North Old Town \$539,000**

Clean and contemporary, this 2-bedroom, 1-bath beauty is just 2 blocks from the GW Pkwy, perfect for commuters. Living room, dining room and kitchen are open for modern lifestyles. You'll love the fireplace & high-end kitchen appliances. 1229 Portner Rd.

**Elizabeth Lucchesi**  
703.868.5676  
www.LizLuke.com



**Del Ray \$499,900**

2-bedroom, 2-bath townhouse in sought-after Cliff Gardens. Courtyard location surrounds you with green space. Open floor plan & finished lower level perfect for family room, office or playroom. Private rear patio and assigned parking. 1725 Cliff St.

**Jen Walker**  
703.675.1566  
www.JenWalker.com



**North Old Town \$235,900**

Smart looking condo! Bright & open, 1st floor, 1-bedroom, 1-bath with hardwood floors (no carpet!), open kitchen with granite, floor-to-ceiling built-ins, cute bath & parking! Pool, tennis, gym. 1 block to GW Pkwy. Walk to river & bike trail! 1704 Abingdon Dr. #101

**Courtney DeVries**  
703.795.8311  
www.CourtneyD.com



**Arlington \$218,900**

Walk to public transportation, restaurants & Arlington life! Sunny ground floor unit with 2 bedrooms & 1 bath. Updated kitchen offers stainless appliances and granite counters. New carpet and fresh paint throughout. Large private patio and deck for entertaining.

**Sue & Allison Goodhart**  
703.362.3221  
www.TheGoodhartGroup.com