



PHOTO BY VERNON MILES/GAZETTE PACKET

## Higher Power

Power outage along Duke Street on Tuesday, April 19 interrupted Shiloh Baptist Church's service, so Pastor Taft Quincey Heatley organized his congregation and the visiting worshippers from Arlington's Macedonia Baptist Church to take the service into the adjacent parking lot. "We came to worship, so that's what we're going to do," said Heatley. "The church is not the building, it's the people."

# Battle at Torpedo Factory

Torpedo Factory hangs in balance between being an artistic enclave and a commercial asset.

BY VERNON MILES  
GAZETTE PACKET

Everyone seems to be in agreement: the Torpedo Factory is one of the star attractions of Old Town Alexandria. But when a report by an independent group found that the current management structure has compromised the site's financial viability, the city governance and arts community have fractured over questions about the site's future. Will the Torpedo Factory return to its roots as an artist-run enclave, or will it be swept up by the designs on the Waterfront as an independently managed and commercially successful cultural centerpiece of the new Old Town.

While controversy over leadership of the Torpedo Factory is long and storied, the latest bout started in 2014 when the Torpedo Factory management requested a rent rebate of \$137,500 from the city in order to finance capital improvements to the site. City officials first requested an outside consultant be brought in to review the management of the Torpedo Factory in its current iteration. The Torpedo Factory Art Center was renewing its lease in June 2016, and members of the city had expressed concerns that the current financial model was not sustainable.

What the report by The Cultural Planning Group (CPG) found was a bureaucratic mess. The Torpedo Factory, for several years, had been alternatively run by the City of Alexandria and by the Torpedo Factory Artists Association (TFAA). However, since 2010,



PHOTO BY VERNON MILES/GAZETTE PACKET

Artists practicing during an Art League program at the Torpedo Factory.

a fusion of the two methods was created: a board composed of members of the TFAA, the Art League, at large members, and members appointed by City Council. At the time, it was hoped that this system would equally represent all parties.

It didn't work out that way. "While the nonprofit was launched with good intentions, it has not been successful in achieving its goals due to a cumbersome and complex operating structure," said the report. "This structure has ultimately created an environment of distrust among the various entities, and there is no ultimate 'holder' of

SEE MANAGEMENT, PAGE 21

# 'Show Me the Money' SFA sets \$1 million goal for TC students.

BY JEANNE THEISMANN  
GAZETTE PACKET

Move over Jerry Maguire. The Scholarship Fund of Alexandria is turning 30 and is looking to celebrate big, with a goal of raising \$1 million for T.C. Williams students at its annual Spring Gala and Silent Auction April 23.

Inspired by the donations of Alexandria Toyota owner Jack Taylor, the SFA board decided to aim high and announced its own \$50,000 fundraising drive in the final week leading up to Saturday's gala.

"Jack Taylor has been so great

to us," said SFA executive director Beth Lovain. "He's helped us raise millions of dollars over the years. Because we want to meet the financial needs of our recipients for all four years of study, we are working harder this year to raise money for every student."

One of those students is Ross

Cooper, who was awarded SFA's largest 2016 scholarship — a \$40,000 award of \$10,000 per year toward his college expenses.

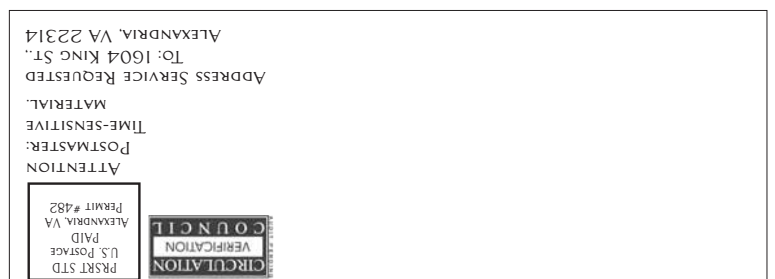
"This scholarship makes it completely possible for me to finance college," said Ross, who was presented the award April 6 during a

SEE \$1 MILLION, PAGE 20



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED/SFA

T.C. Williams senior Ross Cooper, center, is presented a \$40,000 scholarship April 6 from the Scholarship Fund of Alexandria executive director Beth Lovain, left, and T.C. Williams principal Dr. Jesse Dingle. It is the largest single SFA award for 2016.







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## Honoring Kirby

A plaque honoring Ronald F. Kirby, director of transportation planning at the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments and Alexandrian resident, will be installed at the entrance to the Woodrow Wilson Bridge he helped design.

At the City Council meeting on April 16, Councilwoman Redella “Del” Pepper noted that Kirby had played a vital role in making sure pedestrian, bike, and even train options were a central part of the transportation planning process.

The plaque describes Kirby as a “consummate public servant, role model, and leader whose tireless work for the metropolitan Washington council of governments, including planning for the new and multimodal woodrow wilson bridge, and the commotion of walkable / bikable communities is exemplified in this public space.”

On Nov. 13, 2013, Kirby was murdered in his home by convicted serial killer Charles Severance. Kirby was remembered as an advocate for Alexandria on regional transportation issues, as well as a husband and father of two children. The unveiling of the plaque will be held at a ceremony on Sunday, May 17, at 2 p.m.

— VERNON MILES

## Police Investigate Bank Robbery

Alexandria Police are investigating the robbery of a Sun Trust Bank located at 2809 Mount Vernon Ave. On Monday, April 18, at 10:09 a.m., a man entered the bank and passed the teller a note. He demanded money, the teller complied and the suspect fled with an undisclosed amount of cash. There were no injuries.

The suspect is described as described as an Indian male, approximately 5’5” tall with a thin build. He was wearing a baseball cap, glasses and a black vest.

The FBI is offering a reward of up to \$5,000 for information that leads to the identification, arrest and conviction of this bank robbery.

Police ask that anyone with information about this incident call Detective Brad Cecchetti at 703-746-6858.

In other incidents:

❖ The Alexandria Police Department is investigating a robbery of a taxi driver on April 18 in the 300 block of N. Patrick Street. Two male suspects displayed firearm and stole money. The victim was not injured.

❖ The Alexandria Police Department is investigating a robbery on April 10 near Commonwealth Avenue and E Maple Street. Three suspects brandished a firearm and stole from the victim. There were no injuries.

# Inside Alexandria Police Department

## Part 4: On the Job.

BY VERNON MILES  
GAZETTE PACKET

*The Alexandria Citizens’ Police Academy is a 10-week course hosted by the Alexandria Police Department (APD) to offer citizens a better understanding of how the department works. Throughout the course, participants sit in on emergency calls and ride along with police officers on patrol.*

*In the fifth week of the course, citizens got a chance to apply last week’s training in use of force in high-tension simulations and to see the 911 call center in action.*

### SIMULATION

I shot someone. I saw someone in jeans come out of the bushes with a gun drawn, aimed right at a man on his knees. I’m told the man with the gun was shouting but I couldn’t hear him, my mind was wholly focused on the gun. I was shouting at him to drop the gun, and when he finally heard me he turned, gun still in hand, and I pulled the trigger. The shot hit him in the chest, and the man on the ground immediately reached up to grab the other man’s gun, so I shot him as well, both fatally.

It was a tough situation, but I thought I’d made the right call: until the simulation ended and the inspector played the video back. On closer inspection, the other man with the gun had something on his hip: a badge.

The training program is set up in a small room in the lower floor of the Police Headquarters. The trainee stands in the center of the room, facing a one of countless video scenarios filmed in a police department somewhere across the country. Each video has several branching scenarios, which can be adjusted by the trainer sitting at the computer based on his evaluation of the trainee’s actions. In one scenario, for example, one of the citizens going through the training wasn’t being forceful enough with a person who came to an office to argue with his significant other. The situation continued to escalate as the trainee struggled to assert himself until eventually the other man drew a gun and fired at the police officer several times while the trainee fumbled with his holster.

Many of the scenarios involve use of force, both knowing how and when to escalate a situation, and knowing when to de-escalate. After each use of force, the officers have to articulate to the trainer why force was used in that situation.

The situation of pointing a weapon at another officer, or even firing at an officer, is called a “blue on blue,” and Sgt. Patricio Alvarez says it can happen in tense situations. At the Navy Yard shooting in 2013, police were slowed down by communications errors. In Prince George’s County, Md., a police officer was killed on March 14 by friendly fire from another police officer after the police station was attacked by gunfire.

“You have to understand de-escalating as



PHOTOS BY VERNON MILES/GAZETTE PACKET

**Ephorm Freeman attempts to peacefully resolve a domestic violence call in a training simulation.**



**At the 911 Police dispatch desk, Kimberly Welch screens calls for the police and sends coordinates with patrol officers.**

well as escalating,” said Sgt. William Mayfield after one training situation that originally involved a peaceful resolution ends, the second time, with the suspect

**“No call is routine. This is why the academy is so important. It’s vital to see this as a snapshot of police life.”**

— Sgt. William Mayfield

physically assaulting the officer. “No call is routine. This is why the academy is so important. It’s vital to see this as a snapshot of police life.”

### 911

Late on the evening of April 14, a call came into the 911 center that a family member was missing. The caller had, earlier that day, received a phone call from an unidentified number that a family member had been involved in an accident and was being taken to a hospital. However, after the caller had reached out to several nearby hospitals, it seemed that the family member was nowhere to be found. The caller had tracked down the family member’s

phone with an app, and discovered the car, undamaged, on the side of the road in Alexandria with no family member in sight.

So what happened? Unfortunately, there’s very little resolution to most calls in the 911 center. In some ways, it’s like picking up a mystery book with the last few pages torn out. Later, the 911 center gets a call back. The family member was eventually found at a local hospital in a different county, but why was the car in Alexandria? Who had made the phone call?

Kimberly Welch, a 911 operator, said that’s one of the most aggravating parts of the job.

“It can be frustrating because you hear the beginning of a story but not the end,” said Welch. “But other times, the whole story plays out across the 911 center.”

Noise complaints about a party, for instance, sometimes escalate into domestic violence calls later in the evening. One domestic violence call that evening started with a woman telling her husband she was leaving him and ended with her in the hospital and him in jail for assault. Welch says it’s the domestic calls that are the hardest,

especially ones where children are involved. The 911 operators are the first person many of the victims are reaching out to about these very sensitive issues, which requires the operators to be more than just a switchboard. Sometimes a call will come in with someone just asking them to send the police to an address without any further explanation, but Welch explains the system doesn’t work that way.

“We’re here to help, we’re not just working the phones,” said Welch. “Expect to answer a lot of questions, but it’s so that we can send the right resources. Every question has a purpose.”

It helps give the police a better idea of the situation.”



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*Elvira Jakovac 571-405-8058*

## OPEN HOUSE 1-4

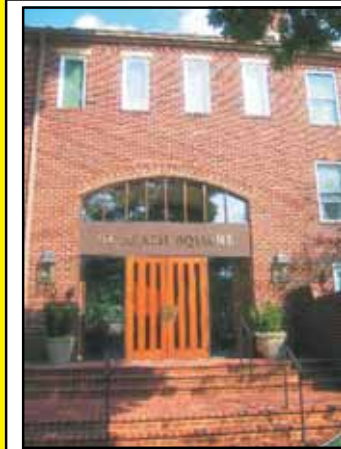


**Alexandria/Del Ray** **\$699,900**  
**121 Clifford Avenue.** Fabulous Del Ray farmhouse, 3 Bed/1.5 Bath w/inviting front porch & three upper level bedrooms maintains old-style charm w/modern updates. Features include double pane windows, hardwood floors & high ceilings. Separate dining room w/French doors leads large fenced-in backyard. *Bobi Bomar 703-927-2213*

## Alexandria \$329,900

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## COMING SOON



**Alexandria/King's Hundred**  
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*Christine Garner 703-587-4855*

## OPEN SUNDAY 2-4



**Alexandria/Ivy Hill** **\$849,000**  
**605 Melrose Street.** Classic 3 bedroom, 3 bath expanded colonial just 1 mile from the King St. METRO! Living room with fireplace, kitchen with granite counters, adjoining family room with breakfast area, wet bar and custom built-ins. Lower level recreation room with full bath. Fenced yard with patio, side porch and off-street parking. *Christine Garner 703-587-4855*

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**130 Prince St.** Historic 4 BR, 3.5 BA home on "Captain's Row" 1 block off King St. and 2 blocks from the river. Extensive restoration with nearly 3,000 sq. ft. of living space featuring spacious light-filled rooms with 10' ceilings, beautiful moldings, random width wood floors and 2 fireplaces. Eat-in kitchen with exposed beams and rear stairs to upper level. Main level bedroom with full bath plus half bath for guests. Upper level with 3 BR and 2 BA including the Master suite. Unfinished lower level with high ceilings and heat, back porch, roof-top deck and fenced yard with pergola and Koi pond.  
*Christine Garner  
703-587-4855*



## JUST LISTED • OPEN SUNDAY 2-4



**Alexandria** **\$648,000**  
**400 Madison St. #509.** This gracious 2 bedroom, 2 bathroom condo is perfect for relaxed living and entertaining. Completely renovated to include the finest details. Upgrades are a must-see to appreciate. Take advantage of all the amenities Alexandria House offers. A unique vertical village for a modern way of life. *Lib Willey 703-362-7206*

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**5503 Teak Court.** 4/5 Bedroom, 3.5 bath home on quiet cul-de-sac less than 2 miles from Ft. Belvoir; view of golf course; large house on expansive lot with mature trees; many updates; 2-car garage, tons of storage; dedicated office space.  
*Leslie Atkinson 703-967-1471*

## OPEN SUNDAY 1-4



**Alexandria**  
**909 Vicar Lane.** Fabulous in-town estate, light-filled and ideal for large-scale entertaining, sited on over one acre of land within the city. Quiet, private location on one of Alexandria's most sought-after streets.  
*Diann Hicks-Carlson 703-628-2440*

## OPEN SUNDAY 1-4



**Alexandria** **\$445,000**  
**6050 Estates Dr.** Spacious four-level end unit TH (2,070 SF) on a cul-de-sac in treed community, close 395/495, Metro (1.2 miles) & Kingstowne. Two master bedrooms. Wood floors, 3 full baths, 1 half bath, skylights, lg loft & fireplace. Updated kitchen. Fenced yard & deck.  
*Cindy Baggett 703-593-1418 Leslie Rodriguez 703-400-3010*

## \$15,000 PRICE REDUCTION

## WALK TO G.W. BIKE PATH



**S. Alexandria** **\$649,000**  
**8403 Morey Ln.** Cooking is a breeze in this remodeled kitchen. Host a crowd on the deck, slate patio or with games in the flat, fenced back yard. Low-maintenance living with an all brick exterior, wood floors, updated baths plus new family room carpeting & painting. Professionally maintained yard with sprinkler system so you can set & forget summer watering. Relaxing G.W. Parkway commuting. Waynewood Elementary School. Call for a private tour.  
*Greg Koons 703-209-7678 Joni Koons 703-209-7277*

## OPEN SUNDAY 2-4



**Alexandria/Chapel Hill** **\$1,399,000**  
**1120 Key Drive.** Fabulous 7 bedroom, 5.5+ bath custom home with approx. 7,000 sq. ft. of living space on 1/2 an acre with a 4-car garage! Impressive 3-story fieldstone fireplace in the living room, spacious gourmet kitchen with adjoining family room and breakfast room. Master suite with soaring ceiling and luxury bath. Screened-in porch, large deck and sports court. Quiet dead-end street steps to Chinquapin Park. *Christine Garner 703-587-4855*

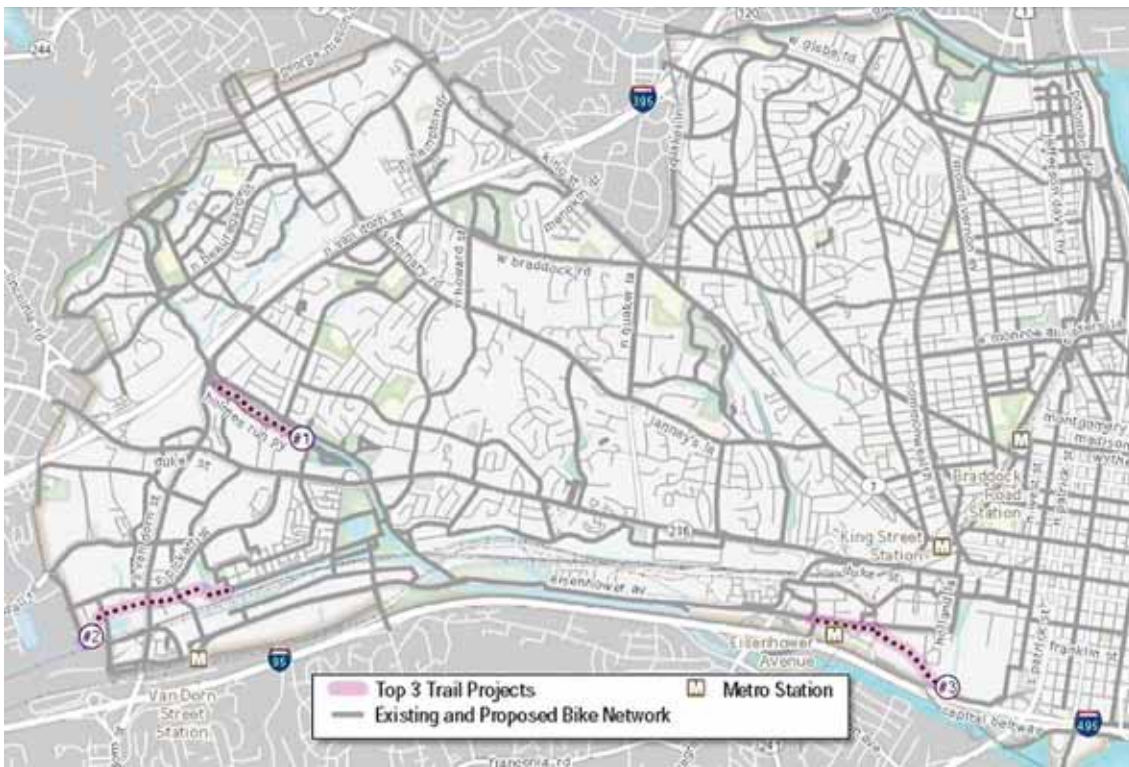
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Locations of new trails and trail extensions.

# City Council OKs Improvements

In an update to the Pedestrian and Bicycle Master Plan, the City Council approved on April 16 some major extensions and renovations to four miles of new sidewalks and 88 miles of bicycle improvements.

The pedestrian improvements aim to close the gaps in the sidewalk infrastructure with bicycle improvements, like additional bike lanes and shared lane

markings, making streets more feasible for bicycle traffic.

The plan includes three new trails or extensions: a northern continuation of the Holmes Run Parkway, a connection from Eisenhower Avenue to Old Town past the Alexandria Renew facility, and a connection between Fairfax and the end of the Backlick Run trail.

— VERNON MILES

IMAGES CONTRIBUTED

Sidewalk improvement priorities.



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# A Look Through the Camera

## Hunter creates video for Chamber of Commerce.

BY SHIRLEY RUHE  
GAZETTE PACKET

Jason Hunter points his video camera at the gazebo across the lake at Ben Brenman Park. He levels the camera so the image looks straight, checks the exposure and lowers the tripod to change the perspective. “I’ll try to get a couple of zooms to show the gazebo in relation to the rest of the park.” He said he likes to use zooming in and out or panning left and right to have a lot of motion with the camera. He stands a moment. “I don’t like it. The gazebo isn’t working out the way I thought with the apartment complex behind and the dead tree in front.” Hunter decides to walk closer to the gazebo and get a different angle. “Now this is looking a little better.”

Hunter is a senior video specialist working on a project for Mind and Media, Inc. on N. Pitt Street in Alexandria to get footage of notable areas in the City of Alexandria for the Chamber of Commerce. He started shooting last week and will finish in a couple of weeks depending on the weather if they can shoot every 2-3 days. Hunter looks at the bridge and waits to see whether the mother strolling her child is going to walk his way. No luck with this one.

Hunter says before the shooting process began, he sat with the producer and talked about what would be a good fit for the video including historic as well as recent updates. He adds that the Cameron Station and Ben Brenman Park area is a mixture of residential and business in one of the newer areas. He says it is built on a reclaimed military base. Meagan Lane stands on the corner shooting down the rows of shops on both sides of the street and any trucks that roll by to capture any activity. She is a senior at The Madeira School in McLean and is spending five weeks with Hunter for her school co-curriculum program. She says “this is a perfect match for me. Someday I picture myself as a female Walt Disney.”

Meagan bends over to adjust the focus on her video camera and waits for some people to walk down the street and into her picture. “Not much happening here today.” Hunter and Meagan have split up a list of things they want to shoot for a couple of hours at this location and “whatever else catches her eye.” Plans to proceed to Van Dorn today were cut short by the need to return to help meet a deadline with another co-worker.



Jason Hunter zooms in on the couple on a bench across the lake at 60-acre Ben Brenman Park at the east end of Cameron Station. He has filmed Old Town for his Alexandria video and will head to Del Ray and Mount Vernon later in the week.



PHOTOS BY SHIRLEY RUHE/GAZETTE PACKET

Jason Hunter checks the Panasonic video for exposure as he focuses on the gazebo across the lake at Ben Brenman Park. Hunter is creating a video for the City of Alexandria Chamber of Commerce of notable areas.

When today’s work is finished, Hunter will have Meagan take her footage back and watch it. “It’s a fantastic way to learn to review your own footage,” Hunter said. “And it’s best to do it right after you shoot it while you still have it in mind.” They were in Old Town on Friday and still have Del Ray and Mount Vernon on the list. “And the water taxi over to National Harbor. It’s a great thing to do; gives you a different perspective out on the water.”

Hunter explains when they are finished shooting the project he will organize it to see what they have and what is missing. “Sometimes you need to have a conversation with the client about their perspective on what you have produced.” Hunter slings his black bagful of extra batteries and fig bars over his shoulder and walks to the corner to catch up with Meagan. “So, tell me a little bit about your shots. Did you get the sign? OK, good.”

Hunter has been working at Mind and Media since 2001 where he came straight out of grad school from American University. He said when he started at Mind and Media he was running a second camera, setting up lights and equipment and watching the videotaping back to check for errors.

Now he is juggling several projects including preproduction phase on projects in Boston and Cincinnati for other clients. He remembers the most exciting and difficult filming he did was a documentary for the National Guard. “They still had to train but they weren’t going to stop for us. So we did it all, getting up early, live fire drills, running everywhere. It was hard to focus on lighting and composition and keep up the physical pace at the same time. They run everywhere.”



Jason Hunter confers on the video with Meagan Lane, a high school senior at The Madeira School in McLean, who is spending five weeks with Hunter as part of her co-curriculum program.



PHOTOS CONTRIBUTED

Alexandria’s Ryan Fannon, left, with Villanova Radio Network engineer Joe Gaines and color commentator Whitey Rigsby at the 2016 NCAA Final Four in Houston. Fannon has been the play-by-play voice of Villanova basketball for 18 years.

## The Thrill of Victory

### Ireton’s Ryan Fannon is the voice of Villanova.

BY JEANNE THEISMANN  
GAZETTE PACKET

For years, he has known the agony of defeat. But when Kris Jenkins’ 3-pointer slipped through the net as the final buzzer sounded, play-by-play announcer Ryan Fannon finally experienced first-hand the thrill of a Villanova Wildcats NCAA championship victory.

“After that dramatic rally by the [North Carolina] Tar Heels to tie the game at 74-all, half of me was thinking ‘I want this like any alumni,’” said

Fannon, who has been the voice of Villanova basketball for 18 years. “But I knew I needed to refocus and stay with the play — to do my job first then let the emotions come out after the play.”

And Fannon did just that. With 4.7 seconds left in the April 4 title game, Fannon calmly calls the final play as Jenkins inbounds to Ryan Arcidiacono, trails his teammate the length of the court

“I can’t even begin to describe what that moment felt like,”

— Ryan Fannon on calling the final play of Villanova’s NCAA championship victory.

then opens himself up to make the game-winning shot. Only then does Fannon let loose with an emotional “Cats win it all! Cats win it all! Cats win it all!”

“I can’t even begin to describe what that moment felt like,” said Fannon as friends and family gathered for a victory celebration April 9 at the

SEE THE THRILL. PAGE 22



Ryan Fannon, left, introduces the Villanova basketball team at the Philadelphia victory parade April 8 as Ryan Arcidiacono hoists the NCAA championship trophy.





PHOTOS BY JEANNE THEISMANN/GAZETTE PACKET

**Gant and Fran Redmon join Union Street Public House owners Jan and Jay Test at the Community Lodgings 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Spring Forward fundraiser April 10 at the Union Street restaurant.**

# Motown to Old Town

## Community Lodgings raises \$37,800 for homeless.

BY JEANNE THEISMANN  
GAZETTE PACKET

The Motown sound of The Intruders brought down the house while raising funds for Community Lodgings at the 11<sup>th</sup> annual Spring Forward Fundraiser April 10 at Union Street Public House restaurant.

More than 130 people turned out to hear the award-winning recording artists, who joined local entertainers Nancy Hines and DC Lou as the organization raised over \$37,800 to benefit homeless families.

Among those attending were Mayor Allison Silberberg, Vice Mayor Justin Wilson, City Council members Will Bailey and John Chapman and former Mayor Bill Euille.

"I was absolutely thrilled with how our Spring Forward event turned out Sunday night," said Community Lodgings Executive Director Lynn Thomas. "The food



**Emcee Matt Friedman auctions off a coffee with Mayor Allison Silberberg to raise funds for Community Lodgings.**

and service was fabulous and The Intruders gave an incredible concert. The entire restaurant was

SEE RAISING, PAGE 9



**The award-winning musical group The Intruders entertains the crowd at the Community Lodgings Spring Forward fundraiser.**

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# Becoming Aware of Child Sex Trafficking

## The problem extends throughout northern Virginia.

This story is part of a series focusing on sex trafficking in Northern Virginia.

BY SHIRLEY RUHE  
GAZETTE PACKET



PHOTOS BY SHIRLEY RUHE/GAZETTE PACKET

**Frank Wolf, former U.S. representative from Northern Virginia, reads from the study he commissioned from the Polaris Project in 2011. It identified 21 cities in Northern Virginia with 82 Asian massage parlors suspected of sex trafficking.**

She stands on the sidewalk outside the mall with her backpack full of 7th grade science and math books. An older man pulls up and she gets in the backseat of his car. He drives her to a nearby motel and sells her for sex a number of times that same afternoon before she returns to her unsuspecting parents. In the beginning, the victims often return home; later they may disappear and become part of a network, or be driven to other locations including massage parlors. Human trafficking of young teens, mostly girls, has become growing problem in Northern Virginia, according to those involved in the issue. Sometimes the girl is complicit, having been enticed by an attractive older man or teenage boy and slowly groomed until she thinks she loves him. Other times she has gotten herself unknowingly tangled in gang-related activity and is threatened if she wants out.

**THE PROBLEM** is complex: lack of awareness by teenagers at a vulnerable age, the skill of traffickers to manipulate and groom their victims, the ease of recruitment through the internet, a busy world where parents, teachers or friends don't ask enough questions about changing behavior, insufficient law enforcement penalties or resources and the denial that it couldn't happen here.

According to Melissa Snow, child sex trafficking specialist for the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children (NCMEC), this Alexandria-based organization has seen an increase in reporting of endangered and runaway children in Virginia. She says one out of five reported in 2015 became a victim of sex trafficking. Seventy-four percent of those were missing from child welfare care which means they already had experienced a fractured home life or came from abusive families.

"The victims often feel inside they are dirty and won't amount to anything. The biggest thing is to get them to understand victimization, what it is," said Deepa Patel, executive director of Trauma and Hope in Springfield.

While many may be puzzled about how a young girl, maybe even their neighbor, could get caught up in this web, Snow said, "We see constantly the importance of online traffickers. They can build trust so quickly because the victim is in her own home where she feels comfortable. The trafficker will spend incredible time finding out the teen's worries, hopes for the future and then use it against her."

Patel said: "We all have vulnerabilities, I'm a therapist and I have vulnerabilities; we all do on any particular day."

Beth Saunders, president of The Just Ask Prevention Project in Northern Virginia, said, "Trying to change is a cultural shift. We need to open up a dialogue, not making talking about human trafficking taboo." Just Ask concentrates on education and prevention working with businesses, schools and law enforcement to "put ourselves out of business by ending teenage sex trafficking."

Just Ask describes itself as "a public awareness campaign designed to expose the growing prevalence of teen sex trafficking in Northern Virginia and to inspire our community to end the scouting, manipulation and recruitment of our teenagers." Saunders says she was aware of international human trafficking in her prior role as a business executive. The moment she knew it was a local problem was when her good friend at George Mason University's Transnational Crime and Corruption Group discussed teenage sex traffic here in Northern Virginia. "There is still a mindset, and I was guilty as well, of thinking trafficking was bringing girls from another country," she said. "These girls aren't trafficked; we have the infrastructure set up right here."

**WHEN DID** then U.S. Rep. Frank Wolf (R-10) realize there was human trafficking of young girls and decide to do something about it? "I think it was gradual," he said. "Back in the 1990s on a congressional trip to Albania, we drove by a house where it was pointed out young women had been sexually trafficked." Wolf said, like many others, he assumed this took place in places like Albania. "Then I started to have people come and tell me sexual trafficking of young girls was happening right in our local neighborhoods."

Since Wolf was then chairman of the House of Representatives Appropriations Committee's Subcommittee on Commerce-State-Justice, he had money inserted in appropriations legislation for a study of local Asian massage parlors by the Polaris Project in 2011. The Polaris Project is an anti-trafficking organization that administers the national human trafficking hotline. Wolf and Polaris Project Executive Director Bradley Myles at the time acknowledged there are legitimate businesses performing massage therapy that are meeting all the rules and regulations and not offering sexual favors. But Polaris looked through Web sites where men post information on which massage parlors are most likely to provide sexual services and identified 82 in Northern Virginia.

Polaris did not do any further investigation but felt the circumstantial evidence was there to start a vigorous law enforcement probe. The Polaris Project listed 21 cities in Northern Virginia. Wolf held up the a copy of the study. "I can't give you this," but he began reading: "Alexandria, 6, Annandale, 7, Arlington, 2, Herndon, 8, Springfield, 7, Falls Church, 5, Vienna, 12." He read on. "Most people are stunned when they find out it is occurring right here in Virginia." The massage parlors are difficult to close down because they are sometimes large operations run by individuals who understand licensing and zoning regulations, who move women from place to place and, if under suspicion, just open a new massage parlor in a different location, he said.

Wolf also had money inserted into appropriations legislation setting up a Gang Task Force across Arlington, Alexandria, Fairfax and including the FBI, the U.S. Marshals Service and Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA). He noted the Brenda Paz case in 2003: "She was a 17-year-old girl in the inner circle of a local M-13 gang. She decided she wanted to get out and turned in a lot of information to law enforcement that they didn't have at the time. She was put in witness protection. But the gang found out and planned her killing in a Holiday Inn in Fairfax. They took her to Meems Bottom Covered Bridge in Shenandoah County and brutally slit her throat." Wolf said fear can be one of the factors that keeps young girls from exposing their situation.

When did recognition of the problem begin for U.S. Rep. Barbara Comstock (R-10) who was active on the issue of human trafficking in the state legislature representing the 34th District before filling Wolf's congressional seat in 2014? Comstock said she thought it was when she met a woman in her 20s or 30s who had been a victim when

## Resources

### National Human Trafficking Resource Center

1-888-373-7888  
nhtrc@polarisproject.org

### Just Ask

President Beth Saunders  
10660 Page Avenue #4161  
Fairfax, VA 22030  
FCPDHumanTrafficking@fairfaxcounty.gov  
1-888-373-7888

### National Center for Missing & Exploited Children

Charles B. Wang International Children's Building  
699 Prince St.  
Alexandria, VA 22314-3175  
24-hour call center: 1-800-THE-LOST  
703-224-2150

### Trauma and Hope

Deepa R. Patel CSOTP, LCSW  
Executive Director  
5415-C Backlick Road  
Springfield, VA 22151  
Cell: 571-366-0086  
deepa.r.patel1@gmail.com

she was a 13-14 year old. She learned that Virginia had one of the lowest ratings of enforcement against human trafficking in all the states. During 2012-13 she co-patroned a number of a bills in the state legislature addressing the growth of gangs and increasing the penalty from a misdemeanor for soliciting a minor age 16 or 17 and under for prostitution to a Class Six felony and soliciting a minor under 16 to a Class Five penalty. Comstock worked with Del. Tim Hugo (R-40) who sponsored Virginia's first stand-alone human trafficking statute. Hugo said last July after it went into effect, "Until today, Virginia was the only state in the nation without a decided human trafficking law and was one of only two states that did not specifically criminalize sex trafficking."

Comstock said Fairfax County Detective Bill Woolf was instrumental in recommending legislation to her that was needed. "He said we are on the street and we need legislation to increase penalties," she said. "Woolf is a knight in shining armor; he has done so much for this cause."

Woolf said, "I saw the need and started working it." He continued, "Traffickers work in the schools. Victims come from every high school in the county."

Sometimes it is a high school student recruiting in his own school. Elizabeth Payne, coordinator for Health, Family Life Education and Physical Education for Fairfax County Public Schools, said a new education program established in the county's middle and high schools in 2012 seems to be getting results. She said Woolf recently told her about a middle school student who heard about sexual trafficking in her class and realized this was happening to her friend. The girl told an adult teacher she trusted and the victim was recovered along with several other girls in the same school. "I think Detective Woolf was the first one to break a case, and they just kept coming. It involved so many of our students in high schools of different ethnicities and demographics. We knew we had to do something."

**"Most people are stunned when they find out it is occurring right here in Northern Virginia."**

**— Frank Wolf,  
former U.S. Representative  
from Northern Virginia**



# NEWS



**Councilman Will Bailey, right, talks with waterfront commissioner John Bordner at the Community Lodgings fundraiser April 10 at Union Street Public House.**



**Community Lodgings board chair Maria Muscella enjoys the entertainment with her husband Leon Parrott.**



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

## Food4thought

**Agents and staff of the Long & Foster Old Town office gathered on Friday, April 8 to put together 120 food packs for students at Woodley Hills Elementary School in Fairfax County as part of Food4thought, a program sponsored by Our Daily Bread. Food4thought, run by volunteers, compiles food packs to be sent home with children each Friday. For \$28 a month, anyone can provide one child a food pack to sustain them throughout the weekend for a month. See [woodleyhillsfood4thought.org](http://woodleyhillsfood4thought.org).**

## Raising \$37,800 for Homeless

FROM PAGE 7

packed and we were dancing with the band. It was a night that I will remember for a long, long time. My only concern is how to top it next year."

Union Street Public House owners Jan and Jay Test once again donated the use of

the restaurant and catering to Community Lodgings, a nonprofit that works to help families lift themselves out of poverty through affordable and transitional housing and youth education programs.

For more information visit [www.CommunityLodgings.org](http://www.CommunityLodgings.org).

### BULLETIN BOARD

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

#### THROUGH APRIL 28

**Donations Wanted.** The Princess For a Night project is collecting dry-

cleaned tuxedos, dresses, shoes, handbags, jewelry, unused make-up (for example, sample cosmetics), and "nice" shopping bags through Thursday, April 28. Cash and check donations are also needed. Checks can be made out to "Neediest Kids Fund" c/o Susan Parcell. Donations can be dropped off at the T.C. Williams Main Office, 3330 King St. Monday-Friday, 7:30 a.m.-4 p.m. Email [eleanor.muse@acps.k12.va.us](mailto:eleanor.muse@acps.k12.va.us).

#### THURSDAY/APRIL 21

**Science Night for Families.** 4:30-7:30 p.m. at Institute for Defense Analysis (IDA), 4850 Mark Center Drive. ACPS students, families, and teachers are invited for a night of raffles, games, prizes, and pizza. Participate in science games and contests and win prizes. Free food and parking or transportation will be provided. Register at [conta.cc/](http://conta.cc/)

1VqjV89.

**Public Meeting.** 6:30 p.m. at T.C. Williams High School, Rotunda Room, second floor, 3300 King St. (park in the garage and enter the building through door #1). The City's Department of Transportation and Environmental Services Division of Transportation Planning will hold a meeting to seek input on the City's recommended design option for the King Street corridor. Open to the

public. Visit the project at [www.alexandriava.gov/localmotion](http://www.alexandriava.gov/localmotion). **Camping for Families.** 7-9 p.m. at Unitarian Universalist Church of Arlington, 4444 Arlington Blvd. Hear what makes for a successful family excursion to the hiking and camping sites in the area. Free. Contact Rajae Nami at [rajaenami@yahoo.com](mailto:rajaenami@yahoo.com) or visit [www.facebook.com/events/984361098304687/](http://www.facebook.com/events/984361098304687/) for more.

## PRESCRIPTION FOR DANGER

Drop off medications on April 30 from 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

<p style="text-align: center; margin: 0;"><b>Properly Dispose of Medications</b></p> <p style="text-align: center; margin: 0;">April 30 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.!</p>	<p style="text-align: center; margin: 0;"><b>DID YOU KNOW?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Many people believe prescription drugs are safer than illegal drugs because a doctor prescribed them—they're not.</li> <li>• More people die accidentally from prescription drugs each year than all types of illegal drugs combined.</li> <li>• Combining pain killers or anti-anxiety drugs with alcohol multiplies the effect--your heart or breathing can stop.</li> <li>• Drug-induced deaths now exceed deaths from motor vehicle accidents in more than 17 states.</li> <li>• Most kids who abuse prescription drugs report they get them from their home medicine cabinets or from friends.</li> </ul>		
<p style="text-align: center; margin: 0;"><b>Alexandria Police</b> 3600 Wheeler Avenue</p> <p style="text-align: center; margin: 0;"><b>The Neighborhood Pharmacy of Del Ray</b> 2204 Mt Vernon Avenue</p> <p style="text-align: center; margin: 0;"><b>First Baptist Church</b> 2932 King St</p>	<p style="text-align: center; margin: 0;"><b>SYMPTOMS OF PRESCRIPTION DRUG OVERDOSE</b></p> <table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="vertical-align: top; width: 50%;"> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Abnormal pupil size</li> <li>• Agitation</li> <li>• Convulsions</li> <li>• Delusions</li> <li>• Paranoid behavior</li> <li>• Difficulty breathing</li> <li>• Drowsiness</li> <li>• Hallucinations</li> <li>• Nausea and vomiting</li> </ul> </td> <td style="vertical-align: top; width: 50%;"> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Non-reactive pupils</li> <li>• Staggering or unsteady gait</li> <li>• Sweating or extremely dry, hot skin</li> <li>• Tremors</li> <li>• Unconsciousness</li> <li>• Violent or aggressive behavior</li> </ul> </td> </tr> </table> <p style="text-align: center; margin: 0; color: red;"><b>Suspect Overdose? Call 911.</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Abnormal pupil size</li> <li>• Agitation</li> <li>• Convulsions</li> <li>• Delusions</li> <li>• Paranoid behavior</li> <li>• Difficulty breathing</li> <li>• Drowsiness</li> <li>• Hallucinations</li> <li>• Nausea and vomiting</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Non-reactive pupils</li> <li>• Staggering or unsteady gait</li> <li>• Sweating or extremely dry, hot skin</li> <li>• Tremors</li> <li>• Unconsciousness</li> <li>• Violent or aggressive behavior</li> </ul>
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<p style="text-align: center; margin: 0;"><b>SIGNS OF PRESCRIPTION DRUG ABUSE</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Changes in mood</li> <li>• Changes in sleeping</li> <li>• Curfew violations</li> <li>• Drug paraphernalia</li> <li>• Lack of grooming</li> <li>• Loss of appetite</li> <li>• Low energy</li> <li>• Missing work/school</li> <li>• Slurred speech</li> <li>• Unexplained weight loss/gain</li> </ul> <p style="text-align: center; margin: 0; font-size: small;">Suspect Problems? Call 1-800-662-HELP (4357)</p>	<p style="text-align: center; margin: 0;">Go to <a href="http://www.ondcp.gov/prescriptiondrugs">www.ondcp.gov/prescriptiondrugs</a></p> <p style="text-align: center; margin: 0; color: red; font-weight: bold;">Spread the Word . . . One Pill Can Kill</p>		

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# OPINION

## A Wake-Up Call for Alexandrians

### Protect children from sexual abuse.

BY TRACY LEONARD,  
SUSAN BRITTON, DOUG BROWN,  
AND ELIZABETH WILLINGHAM

**W**hen you hear about child sexual abuse, many thoughts might go through your mind:

"They should go to jail."

"Parents should keep a closer eye on their children."

"Who would do that to a child?"

These thoughts distance us from what has happened, making it easier to dismiss the sexual abuse because it happened to someone else. Maybe it involved someone with celebrity status, or it happened a long time ago, or it happened within a certain institution. These thoughts allow us to believe it will never happen to the children that we know.

But we need to shift our thinking because that simply is not true: 1 in 10 children will be sexually abused by their 18th birthday; 90 percent of victims are abused by someone they know and trust; and 80 percent of the abuse happens in one-on-one situations.

The thought that goes through your mind should be: "What can I do to prevent it from happening in the first place?"

As parents, professionals, or simply members of the community, we need to take action to protect the children in our lives from child sexual abuse. We need to learn to recognize the signs of child sexual abuse, react when child sexual abuse is disclosed, and respond in ways that keep children safe.

What else does it mean to you? To four organizations in Alexandria, it means we must act now to protect children. It means there is something we can do and we are not power-



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

**From left: Tracy Leonard, public education manager, SCAN of Northern Virginia; Susan Britton, Child Advocacy Center program director, The Center for Alexandria's Children; Doug Brown, Child Protective Services program manager, Alexandria Department of Community and Human Services; and Elizabeth Willingham, program supervisor, Healthy Families Arlington/Alexandria - Northern Virginia Family Service.**

less against those who would take away a child's innocence.

The Center for Alexandria's Children, SCAN of Northern Virginia, Healthy Families Alexandria (a division of Northern Virginia Family Service) and the Alexandria Department of Community and Human Services began a group called CAPCA (Child Abuse Prevention Coalition of Alexandria).

Although four distinct organizations, all exist and work together in our community to protect children, educate families, and provide services and supports to help families overcome trauma, such as child sexual abuse.

Through a series of trainings in April, National Child Abuse Prevention month, CAPCA provided opportunities for community members to learn about what it means to be a man-

dated reporter, the 5 Steps to Protecting Our Children using the Darkness to Light-Stewards of Children training curriculum, and how bystanders can protect children from boundary violations and sexual abuse.

CAPCA also hosted a public screening of "Breaking the Silence," a documentary film addressing the issue of child sexual abuse. You may also have seen CAPCA's pinwheel gardens "planted" around town, symbols of support for child abuse prevention.

It's been a busy month for CAPCA, but our work will continue all year long to prevent child sexual abuse in Alexandria. But what will community members like you do? Because prevention won't succeed until more of us change the way we think about child sexual abuse, and take action to do something about it.

### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

#### No Ethics Commission?

To the Editor:

On April 14, the Ad Hoc Code of Conduct Review Committee presented its Code of Conduct and Ethics Pledge recommendations to the Alexandria City Council. However, the Ad Hoc Code of Conduct Review Committee held no public hearing, thereby bypassing the citizens and showing a lack of transparency in the process. Although these appointed members may or may not be experts in the field of ethics, this demonstrates a clear lack of respect for the citizens.

This latest snub is symptomatic of a cynical mindset at City Hall, where certain groups have been demonized and ridiculed. If the former planning director can make fun of developers in a recent letter to the Washington Post, what

SEE LETTERS, PAGE 12



STEVE ARTLEY/GAZETTE PACKET

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# Decision Time on City Budget Deliberations

BY ALLISON SILBERBERG  
MAYOR



The vote for our city's budget is around the corner. This is the biggest vote of the year. Our decision will have a sizable impact on the quality of our lives as well as the pocketbook of each household in our beloved city.

It is a balance that we must seek — a balance between what we need and what we want. We must focus on what is mission critical such as education for our children, our crumbling roads, as well as our libraries, to name a few priorities. Our budget is a reflection of our core values. I would like us to envision together what an even greater Alexandria looks like and how we get there.

Friends from all over the country have come to visit me here in Alexandria, and they always marvel at how beautiful and historic our city is. We have a great deal for which to be grateful. We have inherited a phenomenal city that requires an eye on short-term and long-term goals.

The City Council has been holding work sessions to review all aspects of the bud-

get. In mid-March, we held a budget public hearing for four hours and heard from about 70 citizens. Last Saturday, during our monthly Public Hearing, approximately 60 citizens spoke to us about their concerns, including the need for

human services, more pre-K programs, library support, and bike trails, among other issues.

Every year, it is a tough set of choices. Many of you have taken the time to write us at City Hall, and we hear you. Your input is important to us.

We must do what we can for our schools, which are in serious need of our attention in terms of deferred maintenance, plus we are maxing out in terms of space and class size at a number of schools. We all want our children to have a great education.

Last year, the police pay was brought in line with neighboring jurisdictions, but that issue had festered for years. This year, we will tackle the firefighter pay issue.

I hope there will be unanimity among the council to bring back Sunday hours at three

of our libraries. The fourth library, Beatley, has been the only one with Sunday hours for many years.

Further, we can all see the deterioration of our roads. Let's tackle this together. In large part because of the economic downturn, the city has deferred maintenance and had growing infrastructure needs. Now is the time to pull it together.

As in recent years, this budget is extremely tight, and all of us are well aware of competing interests. Last fall, we directed our city manager, Mark Jinks, to come back with a budget proposal. After hard work with staff, he proposed in February that we could achieve our city's goals by imposing a 1-cent tax increase. He also provided a list of what we could achieve if we raised the tax rate by 2 cents. In mid-March, in order to have some leeway, the council set a maximum tax rate increase of 3 cents.

To provide perspective, if your home's value is \$521,000, then including the assessment, a two-cent increase would mean an additional \$223, and a three-cent increase would be an additional \$275.

First and foremost, a majority of our citizens saw their real estate assessments go up in value, and that is a tax increase in and of itself. We must be cognizant of this.

Second, given Mr. Jinks' budgeting expertise, I have stated that we ought to take heed of his recommendation of 1 cent.

Third, it is clear that the city's deferred maintenance and crucial infrastructure needs over a number of years have come home to roost. Mr. Jinks has tried to balance all of the above in his recommendation.

The 2-cent increase is a good compromise between Mr. Jinks' recommendation and the maximum of 3 cents, thereby enabling us to focus on more of our most urgent infrastructure needs.

Imagine sitting at your kitchen table when you have competing priorities. It is the same at City Hall. One answer over time is to diversify our revenue base, meaning increasing our commercial tax base.

So there is the dilemma. We must do what we can and be bold, but we must also be realistic about what our citizenry can handle financially. And we must live within our means. We cannot make up for lost time in one fell swoop nor in one year. But we must begin. We must make a commitment to envision what can be achieved together.

We would not fix everything in our own homes all at once, but we can begin today to make things better.

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**Parcel 8:** (Pennsbury) 1.149 +/- Ac.; Carrleigh Parkway; Cardinal Forest, Parcel 11, Section 3; Springfield District; Tax Map #0793-01-0009; Acct. #407975430

**Parcel 9:** (Second Carr) 2.65 +/- Ac.; Southern Oaks Place; Hooes Road; Newington Commons, Parcel B, Section 1; Mt. Vernon District; Tax Map #0983-14-B, Acct. #407685462

**Parcel 10 (Improved):** (Uwazie) 9325 Maybrook Court, Alexandria, VA 22309; Mt. Vernon Grove, Lot 499; Mt. Vernon District; Tax Map #1104-02-0499, Acct. #407715885

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# Good Childcare Has High Economic Returns

BY ROBERT H. DUGGER, PH.D.



COMMENTARY

I want to go on record favoring a property tax increase to pay for upgrading Alexandria public schools in line with the School Board's 10-year \$291 million request — with two conditions.

I applaud the City Council and the School Board's attention to the deepening capacity problem in our public schools. It seems no action gets taken until there is a crisis, and this crisis has been long anticipated and it's here now.

But crisis is also opportunity. Yes, our public schools need additional classrooms, and yes, to do this sensibly something has to be done about pre-k. But before we go leasing empty office space and busing 4-year-olds far from their neighborhoods to make-shift classrooms, we should use this opportunity to pause and think carefully about what young kids and their working parents need.

So you understand my perspective — two years ago, research I was involved in showed that high-quality prenatal counseling for at-risk mothers reduces Medicaid costs enough to pay for the counseling. South Carolina just announced they're scaling-up their main prenatal home visiting program and they're paying for it in this way. Data is being gathered in Richmond to see if we can do the same in Virginia.

Four years ago, similar research I was in-

involved in showed that high-quality 3- and 4-year-old prekindergarten reduces public school special-education costs enough to pay for the pre-k. Last year, Salt Lake City provided pre-k to almost 600 at-risk kids and is paying for it with special-ed savings. More than 20 other states are looking into how they can do the same.

Ten years ago I co-founded ReadyNation. It's now the premier business early-childhood advocacy organization in the U.S.

Here's the problem. America has organized its workforce so it's now impossible for low and moderate-income moms and dads to maintain an adequate living standard without both of them working. It's no longer possible for one parent to stay at home and care for and educate a young child. However, we expect these parents to raise school-ready children who'll graduate from high school and be productive citizens, with virtually no help from the rest of us.

Get to know parents who are trying to do this. You'll see what research shows — they're under enormous stress. If we did this on purpose it would be cruelty. But we're not doing it on purpose. It's just stupidity.

The research on this is absolutely clear. Parent stress affects their children. Highly stressed parents are less productive at work

and raise less academically successful children. We pay for our stupidity in the form of higher taxes for social services and crime, fewer profitable businesses, and weaker school performance.

Pre-k is important, but nationally and here in Alexandria, education-enriched child care is what's most urgently needed.

Like pre-k and home visiting, good childcare has high economic returns. A study conducted by the W.E. Upjohn Institute for Employment Research, a leading economic development institute, shows that there's no sports stadium, office park or tax give-away that's better for regional economic development than good childcare.

Why? Businesses find it's easier to attract and keep good employees. Parents are less stressed and immediately more productive. Children are more ready for school. With better prepared kids, the schools are more productive. Graduation rates are higher. And crime, drug use and teen pregnancies rates are lower.

Earlier I said I support a property tax increase with two conditions. Here they are:

First, plan for early learning from infancy through pre-k. Provide enough education-enriched childcare resources to meet the needs of all working parents. Good childcare has all the lower-stress benefits I mentioned earlier plus one more. Brain science is telling us the earlier a dollar is invested in a child's life, the higher the return is. If you think pre-k for 4-year olds is

a good idea, keep in mind that only 3- and 4-year old pre-k has been shown to significantly pay for itself in lower special education costs. If you want to lock in a child's curiosity, trust and ability to work with others, a dollar invested at 6 months is more effective than one invested at age 3.

Second, involve the private sector. Broaden the discussion to include all the city's non-profit, for-profit, public and faith-based childcare providers and see if these early care and learning professionals can accommodate with existing capacity, or open new facilities to handle the 400 kids that concern you today and the roughly 1,500 that are right behind them. I will be very surprised if they cannot come up with a way to meet the needs of our working parents at lower cost than now projected. Use the proposed \$3 million capital investment to structure a financing plan that expands quality childcare in Alexandria. This is the way to truly strengthen our economy, help parents do what we need them to do, and help kids arrive at school ready-to-learn.

*Robert H. Dugger, with a Ph.D. in economics, is a venture capital investor, managing partner at Hanover Provident Capital and retired partner in the hedge fund Tudor Investment Corporation. He co-founded ReadyNation and now chairs its Advisory Board. ReadyNation is a business leader organization working to strengthen business through better policies for children and youth. His main interest is early child development and organizing strong business coalitions in states to support high-return investment spending in children prenatal to 5 years old. He is also a member of the Board of Trustees of Hopkins House.*

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

FROM PAGE 10

must City Hall think of its citizens, since developers are the lifeblood of City Hall, and are considered its most important constituents?

Moreover, there are ethics practices that need revision. First, regarding the Code of Conduct, when a project comes before City Council for approval, City Council members need not disclose an interest in a development if it is under 10 percent, although there was a suggestion to lower it to 3 percent. The ethical bottom line is that if a member of City Council owns any part of a development project, even if it is only one tenth of one percent, they should declare this interest.

Next, although the Ad Hoc Committee has specified that the Mayor, Council, City Manager, City Attorney, City Clerk and those citizens sitting on boards and commissions be required to take the ethics pledge, the city staff is not required to do so. However, they prepare staff reports that are used by all of the aforementioned individuals, thus having a great deal of influence over the eventual decisions that will ultimately be made, and should also be required to take the ethics pledge.

Since the Ad Hoc Committee has failed to establish an Ethics Commission or create an ombudsman, there is no oversight of ethics violations that do not require legal adjudication but do merit some sort of compliance standard. Some sort of moral com-

pass is needed to ensure that any fraud, waste and abuse violations are adequately addressed, but can ensure that ethic complaints are resolved to the satisfaction of the entire citizenry.

**Townsend A. "Van" Van Fleet**  
Alexandria

## Financial Aid And No Fee

To the Editor:

Some T.C. Williams High School students have been receiving letters from private companies offering to help determine college admission and financial aid eligibility. A parent of a TC junior contacted the school for advice saying, "We received a letter informing us about an upcoming appointment for our son with the company; however, no one in our family had requested a meeting. It was confusing, so we contacted the school."

Parents are urged to "do their homework" before scheduling an appointment with a for-profit company that offers financial aid services for a fee. Additionally, families should not have to pay or provide a credit card number to apply for scholarships or academic honors. It is a concern that families will be misled to believe they can only receive college and financial advising if they pay a fee. That is simply not the case. The Scholarship Fund of Alexandria provides all

TC families with free support for completing scholarship and college applications as well as federal financial aid forms.

The Scholarship Fund of Alexandria, a nonprofit organization located in T.C. Williams High School, has two dedicated college advisers, Margaret Feldman and Samantha Karp, who work with students to find the best fit college, edit college essays, help with résumés, understand the financial aid process, and more. The Scholarship Fund also offers presentations and workshops for ACPS families on Finding Free Money for College, Financial Aid 101, and Completing the FAFSA, among other programming.

The next workshop, Junior College Planning Night, will be held on May 18 in the T.C. Williams auditorium. This program is held in conjunction with the College and Career Center and the Counseling Department.

Most importantly, the Scholarship Fund awards scholarships strictly for graduates of T.C. Williams High School, the City of Alexandria's only public high school. In 2015, the Scholarship Fund awarded \$944,000 in new and renewal scholarships to 332 T.C. graduates. One in two applicants received a scholarship valued at an average amount of \$2,700 and many awardees are eligible to receive a scholarship all four years of their undergraduate program. Since 1986, SFA has awarded \$11.5 million in scholarships, making college dreams come true for 4,200 students.

Contact the Scholarship Fund of Alexandria at [scholarshipfund@acps.k12.va.us](mailto:scholarshipfund@acps.k12.va.us) or 703-824-6730, or visit [www.AlexScholarshipFund.org](http://www.AlexScholarshipFund.org).

**Beth Lovain**  
Executive Director  
Scholarship Fund of Alexandria



PHOTO BY VERNON MILES/GAZETTE PACKET

## Spring Fun

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**ALEXANDRIA - DEL RAY**

## OPINION



Volunteers for a previous National Rebuilding Day.

# Heroes at Home

BY KATHERINE DIXON  
PRESIDENT & CEO  
REBUILDING TOGETHER ALEXANDRIA



**H**eroes are people we hold in high regard. Those who serve and protect our nation are among these heroes. At Rebuilding Together, we have the privilege of helping people maintain and repair their homes — many of whom are veterans.

During National Rebuilding Day on April 30, Rebuilding Together volunteers across the nation will be making neighborhoods stronger by repairing and restoring homes for low-income and struggling homeowners.

### REBUILDING TOGETHER ALEXANDRIA

A special focus for this national day of service is Heroes at Home, a collaboration between Rebuilding Together and Sears, a program to improve the lives of veterans and their families through extensive home renovations. Already through this effort, Rebuilding Together affiliates have helped nearly 2,000 veteran homeowners by helping make veterans and their families' homes safe and healthy.

Locally, Sears will be joining with Rebuilding Together Alexandria to provide free repairs at the home of Seymore\*, an Army veteran and grandfather who would like to remain living in his long-time home where he is raising two young grandchildren. Seymore receives dialysis and walks with a cane, and his poor health and limited income prevent him from maintaining his home. But he knows that having a stable environment for his grandchildren is impor-

tant to their future success.

Research supports this too. According to a white paper by National Association of Realtors, homeownership and stable housing “go hand-in-hand [as] homeowners move far less frequently than renters, and hence

are embedded into the same neighborhood and community for a longer period.” The paper also pointed out that homeowners have a “significant effect on their children’s success,” including keeping teenagers in school and helping younger kids perform better in math and reading and experience fewer behavioral problems.

That’s why helping Seymore is so important. During National Rebuilding Day, volunteers will be doing significant roof work due to an active leak, repairing and replacing handrails on two porches and wooden window trim, patching drywall in ceilings, repairing light fixtures, and more, ensuring his home is a safe place to raise his family.

In addition to Seymore’s home, our 800 volunteers will spread out around the city and help other neighbors with repairs and upgrades to their homes. In all, we expect to perform repairs on 60 Alexandria homes.

It’s an important way we as neighbors can help each other while revitalizing our community and preserving affordable housing.

It’s also a way we can honor those like Seymore who have served us. If you know of any other heroes who want to stay home, contact us at 703-836-1021.

\* It is Rebuilding Together Alexandria’s policy to not disclose full names.





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# ENTERTAINMENT

## LTA Stages 'To Kill a Mockingbird'

Tackles classic play set in 1930s Alabama.

BY STEVE HIBBARD  
GAZETTE PACKET

The Little Theatre of Alexandria is staging "To Kill a Mockingbird" from April 23 to May 14. Based on Harper Lee's Pulitzer Prize-winning novel set in Alabama during the Great Depression, the play follows the journey of Jem and Scout Finch, whose father has been appointed to defend Tom Robinson, a black man framed for a crime he didn't commit. As the trial progresses, Jem and Scout witness their community in a tense tug of war between justice and racism.

Director Frank Pasqualino said "To Kill a Mockingbird" is one of the greatest American stories ever told. "It is a timeless story of coming of age, small town Southern life during the Depression, and the ever prevalent struggle of Black Americans. I believe that as a country we are still struggling with many of the situations depicted in this story," he said.

When he first read the book as a 14-year-old back in 1969, it touched him so deeply that he has never been without a copy of the book since. "I have re-read 'Mockingbird' at least once every five years since 1969, and in doing so during these different stages of my life and maturation, I have gained new insight and life lessons from the story each time," he said.

He said the biggest challenge is doing justice to the Harper Lee story as adapted by playwright Christopher Sergal. "Atticus, Scout, Jem and Boo are iconic figures in American literature. The challenge is bringing these characters to life on stage while trying to stay true to both Harper Lee's inspired words and the audience's preconceived notions of these characters," he said.

Richard Fiske plays the main role of Atticus Finch who can be described as a man with integrity. "Scout's coming of age story is the heart of the show," he said. "Atticus helps her grow through his example and his instruction and his interpretation for her, of things, sometimes terrible things, she sees in Maycomb, (Ala.). Atticus shows us all what we can be."

Because Atticus is an iconic role model,

he said the greatest challenge was to portray him as a human, with human failings and emotions, while maintaining the impossibly high character standard set by author Harper Lee. "Fortunately, Frank Pasqualino's direction and the terrific cast make working on this project a joy," he said.

While much remains to be done, he wants people to see how far we have progressed on racial issues since 1935.

Olivia McMahon, age 9, plays the role of the young Scout in her first lead role in community theater. "Scout is open-minded and curious; she is loving but a bit stubborn and opinionated," she said. "Overall, she is curious because she asks a lot of questions, wonders about everything and is rarely content."

She hopes the audience learns from this play to defend the innocent, to put oneself in other people's positions and don't judge people from their looks, she said — and also to take care of each other.

Melissa Dunlap plays the role of Jean Louise Finch, the adult Scout. "She is reflecting on her childhood, sharing her thoughts and experiences, all while trying to make sense of what happened and how those events shaped her and those she loves," she said.

She said the challenge is that her primary scene partner is the audience. "I am interacting more with the audience than with the other actors; thus, my scene partner won't even show up until our first performance. At present, I am talking, quite literally, to the wall," she said.

She hopes the cast and crew are able to transport the audience to Maycomb, Ala. in 1935. "I hope that they can see the events through the eyes of the characters and explore what it means to stand in someone else's shoes," she said.

Robert Heinly plays the role of Sheriff Heck Tate, a community fixture in Maycomb County. "He has been in Maycomb all his life and knows everyone and everything that goes on in the town; he is not a tremendously educated man but doesn't need to be to perform his job well," he said.

He said when presented with the challenge of deciding the fate of Boo and Jem at the end of the play, he is not afraid to



The cast in rehearsal for LTA's production of "To Kill a Mockingbird," which will be staged from April 23 to May 14.

stand up to Atticus and insist on "the right thing" even if it does not follow the letter of the law.

He also played the same sheriff in Firebelly Productions in 2006, but added: "This cast is larger, the set more realistic, and the freedom to include further moments from book and film, I think will help the audience to feel at ease in the world Ms. Lee created."

Erin Gallalee plays the role of Maudie Atkinson, the neighbor of the Finch family. "She loves life and the simple beauty in the world around her," she said. "She is a friend to the children and doesn't 'protect' them from the world as many adults would instinctively do, but encourages them to think bigger than their own perspective."

She said she feels a little more pressure when performing either a well-known play or one based on real people. "It's a balance to try to make it your own while still being true to the original story or person and managing audience expectations who are waiting for those pivotal moments," she said. "Most audiences know this story, either by the book or the movie, so it's trying to break through something they might

have seen (or read) dozens of times and still make it new."

She added: "We've made a lot of progress since 1935 but we still have a long way to go in our society in efforts for equality and acceptance. It'll take all of us to exact change."

Frank Riley plays the role of the Rev. Sykes, a compassionate man who has seen a lot of injustice in his time. He said one of the biggest challenges of this role was making people sense the true spirituality in his character.

He added: "I hope the audience feels a true connection to what life was like in small town Alabama. I hope the audience longs for more after our performance is done. I feel like all of the cast members have brought these classic characters to life, and with a lot of heart."

*The Little Theatre of Alexandria is staging "To Kill a Mockingbird" April 23-May 14. Show times are Wednesdays-Saturdays at 8 p.m.; Sunday matinees at 3 p.m. Tickets are \$19-22. The Venue is located at 600 Wolfe St. For tickets, call 703-683-0496 or visit [www.thelittletheatre.com](http://www.thelittletheatre.com).*

### 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

**Duncan Library Book Sale.** Through April 23, 7-9 p.m. Wednesday preview, 10 a.m.-6:45 p.m. Thursday, 10 a.m.-5:45 p.m. Friday, 1-3 p.m. Saturday at Duncan Library, 2501 Commonwealth Ave. Thousands of books for sale, most between \$1-\$3. Adult, teen and kids books, plus CDs

and DVDs. New selections put out daily. All proceeds benefit the Duncan Library; sponsored by Friends of the Duncan Library. Free. Email [duncanbooksale@gmail.com](mailto:duncanbooksale@gmail.com).

**Georgia Nassikas: "Oils and Encaustics."** Through April 24, Thursday, Friday, Sunday 12-4 p.m., Saturday 1-4 p.m. at The Athenaeum Gallery, 201 Prince St. In her wax and oil paintings, artist Nassikas explores the intersection of the abstract and the representational. She focuses on the elemental lines, shapes, and colors at the core of nature. Free. Visit [www.nvfaa.org](http://www.nvfaa.org).

**Art Exhibit: "It's Black and White!"** Through April 24, gallery hours at The Associates Gallery

(TAG), 105 N. Union St. The Associates Gallery will feature two member artists in "It's Black and White!" in a complementary scheme of black and white rendered in two-dimensional and three-dimensional work. Free. Visit [www.torpedofactory.org](http://www.torpedofactory.org) for more.

**Art Exhibit.** Through April 24, gallery hours at St. George Gallery, 105 N. Alfred St. Ethiopian artist Daniel Taye will display his art. Taye is known for landscape, abstract and figurative work. Free. Call 703-299-9495 for more.

**Broadway Gallery April Artist Showcase.** Through April 27, gallery hours at Broadway Gallery, 5641-B General Washington Drive.

Featured will be the pastel and mixed media paintings of local artist, Lynn Goldstein. Free. Visit [www.broadwaygallery.net](http://www.broadwaygallery.net) for more.

**Art Exhibit: "The Shape of Water."**

Through April 30, gallery hours at Sonoma Cellar, 207 King St. "The Shape of Water" features paintings by Oenone Hammersley. Free. Visit [www.oenonehammersley.com](http://www.oenonehammersley.com) for more.

**Exhibit: "Creatures from the Sea."**

Through May 1, gallery hours at Del Ray Artisans Gallery, 2704 Mount Vernon Ave. Del Ray Artisans interpret real and imagined "Creatures from the Sea." Free. Visit [www.thedelrayartisans.org](http://www.thedelrayartisans.org) for more.

**Art Exhibit: "Misfits."** Through May

1, gallery hours at The Art League, 105 N. Union St. Artist Teresa Oaxaca's latest paintings blend portraiture and still life in tightly cropped compositions. The artist poses 21st Century individuals in Victorian and Baroque costumes, paired with dolls, bones, teacups, fresh flowers, and masks. Free. Visit [www.theartleague.org](http://www.theartleague.org) for more.

**Spring 2016 City of Alexandria**

**Tree Sale.** Through May 7, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. at Jerome "Buddie" Ford Nature Center, 5750 Sanger Ave. Trees and shrubs available for purchase include White Oak, Scarlet Oak, American Holly, Flameleaf Sumac, Eastern Red-Cedar, Maple Leaf Viburnum, Blackhaw Viburnum,



# ENTERTAINMENT

and American Sweetgum. All trees are \$20. Visit [www.alexandriava.gov](http://www.alexandriava.gov) for more.

**DASH for the STASH.** Through May 15. Learn about investing with DASH for the STASH, an investor education contest hosted by the Alexandria Library. Read four game posters at any Alexandria Library location, get a quiz question related to each, and submit your answers to have a chance at winning a \$1,000 retirement investment. Game posters are on display at all Alexandria Library locations. Visit [www.alexandria.lib.va.us](http://www.alexandria.lib.va.us).

**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.

**APRIL 21-MAY 29**

**"Black Pearl Sings!"** 8 p.m.

Wednesday-Friday, 3 p.m. and 8 p.m. Saturday, 3 p.m. and 7 p.m. Sunday at MetroStage, 1201 N. Royal St. Black Pearl Sings! is about two women in Depression-era Texas: an ambitious Library of Congress musicologist, searching for the African roots of slave songs, and the discovery of the musical gifts of an African American woman. Tickets are \$55-60. Visit [www.metrostage.org](http://www.metrostage.org).

**FRIDAY/APRIL 22**

**Litter Bugs.** 2 p.m. at Martha Washington Library, 6614 Fort Hunt Road. Learn how your family can create a creature of your own using recycled materials in honor of Earth Day. Free. Visit [www.fairfaxcounty.gov](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov) for more.

**Family Fun Night.** 6-9 p.m. at Chinguapin 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).

**"Phantom of the Opera."** 7:30 p.m. at Immanuel Chapel, Virginia Theological Seminary, 3737 Seminary Road. Watch the restored 1929 silent horror masterpiece "The Phantom of the Opera" with live improvisation by acclaimed organist Dorothy Papadokos. Not for children younger than 10. Free. Visit [www.vts.edu](http://www.vts.edu) for more.

**Concertos by Mozart.** 8 p.m. at Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church,

1427 W. Braddock Road. The Blessed Sacrament Festival Orchestra will be joined by hornist Tim Huizenga, clarinetist Parker Gaimas and pianist John McCrary. Each will perform a concerto by Mozart. Free, but donations accepted. Call 703-998-6100 Ext: 103.

**FRIDAY-SATURDAY/APRIL 22-23**

**"Hairspray Jr."** 7 p.m. Friday and Saturday, additional 1 p.m. performance on Saturday at George Washington Middle School, 1005 Mount Vernon Ave. GWMS presents Hairspray Jr. inspired by Baltimore's John Waters original film, adapted for the stage by Thomas Meehan, Mark O'Donnell, Marc Shaiman, and Scott Whitman and directed by Robert McDonough. Tickets are \$5. Contact Robert McDonough at [robert.mcdonough@acps.k12.va.us](mailto:robert.mcdonough@acps.k12.va.us).

**SATURDAY/APRIL 23**

**Fort Hunt Preschool Rummage Sale.** 8 a.m.-12 p.m. at 1909 Windmill Lane. Find baby and children's clothes, toys, books, and more. Free to attend. Visit [www.forthuntpreschool.com](http://www.forthuntpreschool.com).

**Carlyle House Herb & Craft Sale.** 8 a.m.-4 p.m. at Carlyle House Historic Park, 121 N. Fairfax St. Stock up on herbs and other plants grown in Mount Vernon greenhouses. Check out the selection of items offered by local artisans and crafters. Browse through gently used coffee-table, children's and audio books. Enjoy performances by local musicians. This event is free, however admission to the Carlyle House museum is \$5 for adults; \$3 for children. Visit [www.novaparks.com](http://www.novaparks.com) for more.

**West Potomac Car Show.** 9 a.m.-2 p.m. at West Potomac High School, 6500 Quander Road. All proceed from the event benefit the West Potomac all night graduation party. Car entries are \$20. Visit [www.facebook.com/events/1049966178410530](http://www.facebook.com/events/1049966178410530) for more.

**Raptor Rapture.** 10 a.m.-12 p.m. at Belle Haven Park, 1201 Bell Haven Road. See live raptors that were injured and have been rehabilitated, but cannot survive on their own. Free. Visit [www.fodm.org](http://www.fodm.org) for more.

**83rd Annual Alexandria Historic Homes & Garden Tour.** 10 a.m.-4 p.m. at Old Town Alexandria. Celebrating the 83rd anniversary of Historic Garden Week in Virginia, this tour features privately owned Old Town homes and gardens plus historic properties like the Lee-Fendall House Museum & Garden, Carlyle House Historic Park and George Washington's Mount Vernon. Tickets are \$40 in advance, \$45 day of, \$25 for single-site tours. Visit [www.vagardenweek.org](http://www.vagardenweek.org) for more.

**Nu Xi Zeta Honors Luncheon.** 11

a.m.-2 p.m. at Ft. Belvoir Officer's Club, 5500 Schulz Circle, Fort Belvoir. Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc., Nu Xi Zeta Chapter and the Nu Xi Zeta Helping Alexandria Virginia Excel Foundation will award scholarships to deserving graduating seniors from Arlington County or the City of Alexandria at their annual luncheon Nu Xi Zeta Honors, "30 Years and Counting: A Celebration of Partnership, Leadership, and Friendship." Tickets are \$65. Email [nuxizetahonors@nuxizeta.org](mailto:nuxizetahonors@nuxizeta.org).

**Civil War Medicine Living History.** 11 a.m.-4 p.m. at Fort Ward Museum and Historic Site, 4301 West Braddock Road. Fort Ward Museum & Historic Site will sponsor a Civil War medical living history program presented by Civil War medical historian and interpreter Von Barron, who portrays U.S. Army Regimental Surgeon Captain Turner Kitt. Free. Visit [www.alexandriava.gov/FortWard](http://www.alexandriava.gov/FortWard).

**Screening: "An American in Paris."** 1 p.m. at Beatley Library, 5005 Duke St. Watch 1951 Gene Kelly musical. Free. Visit [www.alexsym.org](http://www.alexsym.org) for more.

**Program: Herb Gardening.** 1:30-3 p.m. at Martha Washington Library, 6614 Fort Hunt Road. Green Spring Master Gardeners will teach participants how to choose and care for the best annual and perennial herbs that will flourish in your garden or container. Free. Visit [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library).

**String Players of the National Symphony Orchestra Youth Fellowship.** 7:30 p.m. at St. Luke's Episcopal Church, 8009 Fort Hunt Road. A string quartet, solo, and a large string ensemble. Tickets are \$20, \$15 for seniors, free for students 18 and under. Visit [www.saintlukeschurch.net/events](http://www.saintlukeschurch.net/events).

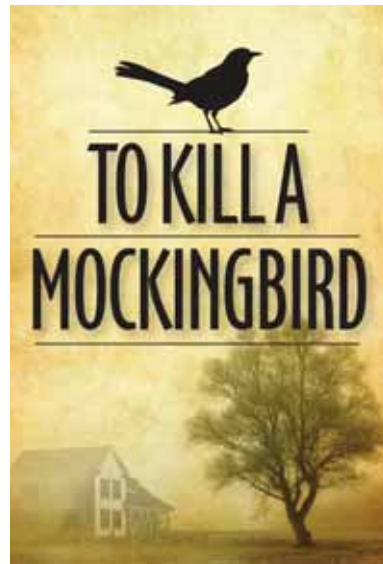
**Lloyd Cole.** 7:30 p.m. at The Birchmere, 3701 Mount Vernon Ave. Performer Lloyd Cole presents a show titled "2016: My Retrospective Year." \$25. Visit [www.birchmere.com](http://www.birchmere.com)

**APRIL 23-MAY 22**

**Mount Vernon Historic Plant Sale.** 10 a.m.-6 p.m. at Mount Vernon, 3200 Mount Vernon Highway, Mount Vernon. At the Mount Vernon Historic Plant and Garden Sale, historic trees, shrubs and plants as well as a wide variety of annuals, perennials, heirloom tomatoes and herbs — each carefully nurtured in the Mount Vernon greenhouses—will be available for purchase. Admission is free. Visit [www.mountvernon.org](http://www.mountvernon.org).

**SUNDAY/APRIL 24**

**Annual George Washington Parkway Classic.** 8 a.m. at Old Town Alexandria, starting places SEE CALENDAR, PAGE 18



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**SHOW DATES: April 23-May 14**



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# Don Taco: New Take On Longtime Favorite

Newcomer to King Street offers wealth of innovative options. Think surf-n-turf tacos.

BY HOPE NELSON  
GAZETTE PACKET

Walk the length of King Street from Route 1 to the river, and you'll see a brand-new restaurant on your stroll. Nestled between Alfred and Columbus streets on the southern side of King, Don Taco Tequila Bar beckons to passersby, inviting the neighbors in for a taco or three and a frosty margarita.

What used to be the Flat Iron Steak and Saloon has morphed into an entirely new identity, eschewing heavy steak dinners in favor of a lighter, leaner variety of dishes ranging from tacos to rice bowls to chips and guacamole. Owned by the same group as its predecessor, Don Taco offers up a fresh take on a family favorite.

Flat Iron "never really hit the mark we wanted it to," said Don Taco co-owner Scott Parker. "Instead of continuing our run at Flat Iron, why not try a ... new concept?"

Parker, who also co-owns Don Tito in Arlington among other restaurants, knows his audience. And his space in Arlington set the course for what Don Taco turned out to be.

"What we realized when we opened Don Tito is that people love tacos and te-

quila and beer," he said. And so far, Don Taco has capitalized on that market with great success.

"That redesign (from Flat Iron) for us has been just as successful as we thought it would be," Parker said, adding that Don Taco aimed to improve its curb appeal from its predecessor's. "... We added a huge bar to the first floor, so that when you look in you see a bar that goes all the way down the left side of the first floor."

But what diners are really here for are the tacos. And Don Taco has them in ample supply.

"Really the goal for our success ...

is tacos, tacos, tacos," Parker said. And the restaurant doesn't disappoint: From banh mi pork to roasted chicken Sriracha, from chipotle quinoa sweet potato to fried avocado, Don Taco's namesake offerings are plentiful.

"My personal favorite is the Mexican short-rib taco. The short rib is just smoked to perfection," Parker said. "I could just eat them over and over and over again."

One thing you'll notice upon sitting down at a booth or table is the sushi-like way you'll or-



From Mexican short rib to fried avocado, find a wide array of taco options.

## Details

**Don Taco, 808 King St.**

**Hours:** 11 a.m.-2 a.m. daily

**Try this:** The Sweet Heat cocktail. "That has jalapeno-infused vodka, blueberries, and house-made lemonade," co-owner Scott Parker says.

**Hidden gem:** "I wish more people would try our desserts, especially the Nutella banana split tacos," Parker says. "They're in a really soft but crunchy cinnamon sugar shell. ... People are just over the moon for them when they do try them."

## CALENDAR

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vary. This course, with lush scenery and river views, takes runners down the George Washington Parkway and through the iconic brick buildings lining the streets of Alexandria. Registration is \$10-80. Visit [www.RunPacers.com/race/parkway-classic](http://www.RunPacers.com/race/parkway-classic).

**Birding for Beginners.** 8 a.m. at Huntley Meadows Park, 3701 Lockheed Blvd. Learn about the park's birds and some basic identification skills. Program begins with an indoor discussion. Fee is \$8 county residents, \$10 non-county. Visit [www.fairfaxcounty.gov](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov).

**Carpenter's Shelter Cook Off.** 12-3 p.m. at The Birchmere Music Hall, 3701 Mount Vernon Ave. During the cook off, 25 area restaurants will offer samples and compete for four different awards determined by judges and guests. Special guest judges include Emily Sprissler, a former Top Chef contestant, and Vikram Sunderam, a James Beard Award winner. Tickets are \$50 for adults and \$15 for children. Visit [www.carpentersshelter.org/cook-off](http://www.carpentersshelter.org/cook-off).

**Take a Stroll in Simpson Gardens.** 1-3 p.m. at Simpson Gardens, 420 E. Monroe Ave. VCE Master Gardeners who maintain the Simpson Park

Demonstration Gardens will be in the garden to welcome visitors, show off spring blooms and provide information and handouts on pollinators, native plants, herbs and other garden-related topics. Free. Call 703-228-6414 or email [mgarlalex@gmail.com](mailto:mgarlalex@gmail.com).

**Georgia Nassikas Gallery Talk.** 3 p.m. at The Athenaeum Gallery, 201 Prince St. The artist will give a gallery talk where she will discuss, among other things, her organic beekeeping and the process of using the wax from her hives in her encaustic works. Free. Visit [www.nvfaa.org](http://www.nvfaa.org) for more.

**An Evening of Poetry and Music.** 5 p.m. at Christ the King Anglican Church, 1801 N. Quaker Lane. An Evening of Poetry and Music with Dana Gioia, Poet Laureate of California and The U.S. Army Chorus; guest soprano Nancy Scimone. Gioia will read from his new collected works, "99 Poems: New & Selected," interspersed with the choral music of Morten Lauridsen, sung by The U.S. Army Chorus. Book signing to follow. Free. Visit [www.ctkalexandria.org/events.html](http://www.ctkalexandria.org/events.html).

**A Benefit Performance for Lakota Mission 2016.** 6 p.m. at Fairlington United Methodist Church,

3900 King St. The concert is to benefit the Lakota Mission Team, a long standing Mission team that is sponsored by the Church of the Good Shepherd-United Methodist. The Dominion Brass ensemble will perform. Free. Visit [www.chapelhillchurch.com](http://www.chapelhillchurch.com).

### MONDAY/APRIL 25

**Managing and Maintaining the Vegetable Garden.** 7-8:30 p.m. at Beatley Library, 5005 Duke St. The program, intended for new gardeners, will emphasize best practices for managing and maintaining a healthy garden. It will cover the importance of pollinators and other beneficial insects and how to identify them; how crop rotation and intercropping can help control garden pests; how to identify diseases and weeds; and how to maximize harvests with space-saving techniques. Free. Visit [www.mgnv.org](http://www.mgnv.org) for more.

### TUESDAY/APRIL 26

**Train Like an Astronaut.** 3:30 p.m. at Charles Houston Recreation Center, 901 Wythe St. Get moving with NASA-inspired activities used to exercise the same body parts as

astronauts do in training and on missions in space. Grades K-5. Free. Call 703-746-1721.

### APRIL 26-JUNE 16

**"Nature's Palette: Paintings of the Potomac Valley Watercolorists."** Gallery hours at Green Spring Garden's Horticultural Center and Historic House, 4603 Green Spring Road. The exhibition brings together watermedia floral and landscape painters from the area. Free. Visit [www.fairfaxcounty.gov](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov) for more.

### WEDNESDAY/APRIL 27

**Book Signing and Discussion.** 5-7 p.m. at Woodlawn & Frank Lloyd Wright's Pope-Leighey House, 9000 Richmond Highway. Historian David Plater focuses on the family living at Woodlawn in a discussion called, "Nelly and Lawrence; Frances and Edward; A First Family?" Free, but books will be for sale for \$30. Visit [www.woodlawnpopeleighey.org](http://www.woodlawnpopeleighey.org).  
**Meet the Artist: "The Shape of Water."** 6-7:30 p.m. at Sonoma Cellar, 207 King St. "The Shape of Water" features paintings by Oenone Hammersley. Free. Visit [www.oenonehammersley](http://www.oenonehammersley)

tomato to keep the avocado lively.

And, finally, the cocktail menu contains some must-trys, as well – this is a tequila bar, after all. The restaurant sports 33 different kinds of tequila, Parker says, and they make up some of the best drinks on the cocktail list. Don't miss the jalapeno margarita, which brings plenty of spice to every sip without overpowering the rest of the drink.

After six weeks in Old Town, Parker says his team is feeling the love.

"The reception from Old Town has been so warm and so loving," Parker said. "... We are so excited to be a member of the neighborhood and to get to know everybody locally."

Hope Nelson owns and operates Kitchen Recessionista, [www.kitchenrecessionista.com](http://www.kitchenrecessionista.com). Email her at [hope@kitchenrecessionista.com](mailto:hope@kitchenrecessionista.com).

contemporaryart.com for more.

**History of 18th Century Foodways.** 7 p.m. at Gadsby's Tavern Museum, 134 N. Royal St. Ellen Donald, consultant for Gadsby's Tavern Museum's recent faux food project, will examine the layers of this complex project, from selecting the new faux food menu to how and by whom food would historically be prepared. Tickets are \$12. Visit [www.shop.alexandriava.gov](http://www.shop.alexandriava.gov).  
**Historical Society Annual Award Presentation.** 7:30 p.m. at The Lyceum, 210 S. Washington St. The Alexandria Historical Society will present their annual awards to individuals who have made major contributions to understanding and appreciation of local history. The T. Michael Miller Alexandria History Award will be presented to an adult scholar. Free. Call 703-746-4144.

### APRIL 28-MAY 7

**Musical: "Starlight Express."** 5 p.m. Thursdays, 7 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays, 1 p.m. Saturdays at West Potomac High School, 6500 Quander Road. West Potomac's Beyond The Page Theatre presents an Andrew Lloyd Webber musical based on the imagination of a young boy and his toy trains. Tickets are \$12 plus a



# ENTERTAINMENT

service fee. Visit [www.westpotomactheatre.org](http://www.westpotomactheatre.org).

## APRIL 28-JUNE 12

**Judith Seligson: "A Gap Frame of Mind."**  
Gallery Hours at The Athenaeum Gallery, 201 Prince St. The abstract works in this show reflect Seligson's interest in the importance of what lies between objects, events, words, shapes and thoughts. Free. Visit [www.nvfaa.org](http://www.nvfaa.org) for more.

## FRIDAY/APRIL 29

**Art on the Rocks.** 7-10 p.m. at The Art League at the Torpedo Factory Art Center, 105 N. Union St. The Art League challenges mixologists from local restaurants to each select a piece of artwork as inspiration to whip up a new, artistic cocktail and pair it with an appetizer. Early-bird tickets are \$55, \$65 regular priced. Visit [www.theartleague.org](http://www.theartleague.org) for more.

**Spring Benefit: The Child & Family Network Center.** 7-11 p.m. at 165 Waterfront St., National Harbor, Md. Based in Alexandria, The Child & Family Network Centers (CFNC) provides bilingual, high-quality, free education and intensive social services to at-risk children and families in their own neighborhoods. This event is "An Evening in Venice." Tickets are \$250. Visit [www.cfnc-online.org](http://www.cfnc-online.org) for more.

## SATURDAY/APRIL 30

**Jefferson Manor Community Yard Sale.** 7-11 a.m. at 6020 Monticello Road. More than 30 houses in the neighborhood will be participating. Maps and the communal area will be at 6020 Monticello Road. Free. Email [khfloyd@gmail.com](mailto:khfloyd@gmail.com) for more.

**Native Plant Sale.** 9 a.m.-2 p.m. at 1701 N. Quaker Lane. Vendors from four states sell native perennials, shrubs, and trees for sun or shade. Free. Call 571-232-0375 or visit [www.NorthernAlexandriaNativePlantSale.org](http://www.NorthernAlexandriaNativePlantSale.org) for more.

**The West Potomac High School Marching Band Car Wash.** 9 a.m.-2 p.m. at Belle View Elementary School, 6701 Fort Hunt Road. Help

raise money to cover band expenses for the 2016-2017 school year. Donations accepted. Call 254-931-5249.

**Hollin Hills House & Garden Tour.** 12-6 p.m. at the Hollin Hills Historic District. Attend a self-guided tour of the mid-century modern neighborhood. Tickets are \$25 in advance, \$30 starting on April 29. Visit [www.hollinhills.net](http://www.hollinhills.net) for more.

**"Kids Helping Kids: A Little Music Goes A Long Way."** 5 p.m. at St. Aidan's Episcopal Church, 8531 Riverside Road. West Potomac High School sophomore and trumpet prodigy, Geoff Gallante, will headline a benefit concert. Free, but donations accepted. Visit [www.aliceskids.org](http://www.aliceskids.org) for more.

**New Hope Housing: Let's Dance Two.** 6:30 p.m. at 600 Dulany St. Five dancers compete for votes and donations to New Hope Housing, which provides program to help end homelessness. Tickets are \$125. Visit [letsdancetwo.splashthat.com](http://letsdancetwo.splashthat.com).

**Hollin Meadows Neighborhood Gala.** 7-11 p.m. at Hollin Meadows Elementary School, 2310 Nordok Place. Proceeds benefit the school's STEM Lab and outdoor education programs. Tickets are \$100. Visit [biddingowl.com/HMPGala](http://biddingowl.com/HMPGala).

**Civil War Ball.** 8-11 p.m. at Gadsby's Tavern Museum, 134 N. Royal St. The ball will include live music, dance instruction and period desserts. Period attire, either civilian or military, is encouraged. Tickets are \$45. Visit [www.alexandriava.gov/GadsbysTavern](http://www.alexandriava.gov/GadsbysTavern) for more.

## SATURDAY-SUNDAY/APRIL 30-MAY 1

**Revolutionary War Weekend.** 9:30 a.m.-5 p.m. at Mount Vernon, 3200 Mount Vernon Memorial Highway. Meet hundreds of Revolutionary War military re-enactors, learn more about life in the 18th-century, discuss military techniques, and watch battle re-enactments. Tickets are \$17 for adults age 12-61, \$9 for youth age 6-11, \$16 for seniors age 62+ and free for children 5 and under. Visit [www.mountvernon.org](http://www.mountvernon.org) for more.

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## ALEXANDRIA EARTH DAY

SATURDAY, APRIL 30, 2016

LENNY HARRIS MEMORIAL FIELDS AT  
BRADDOCK PARK, 1005 MT. VERNON AVENUE  
10 A.M. — 2 P.M.

\*Rain Site: George Washington Middle School, 1003 Mt. Vernon Avenue\*

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PHOTOS CONTRIBUTED/SFA

The Scholarship Fund of Alexandria awarded \$436,000 in college scholarships to 159 T.C. Williams High School seniors, who gathered for a group photo April 6. The SFA 30th Anniversary Gala and Silent Auction will be held April 23 at the Hilton Alexandria Mark Center.

## \$1 Million Goal

FROM PAGE 1

surprise visit by Lovain to his AP French class. “It has been a long four years in high school and I am very grateful for this scholarship.”

Ross, who plans to pursue a career in water resource management and policy, is the winner of the Madelyn Anderson Memorial Scholarship. Former Washington Post reporter John W. Anderson established

the scholarship in 1992 in memory of his wife, who was a former teacher for Alexandria City Public Schools.

The announcement was the culmination of the awarding process for SFA during which \$436,000 in scholarships was awarded to 159 TC seniors. Approximately 85 percent of the scholarship amounts are given to students with financial need in addition to showing merit. SFA will also award approximately \$500,000 in renewal applications to previous TC awardees.

“Our Fall Fund Drive and Spring Gala are

our two signature fundraising efforts,” Lovain said. “Approximately 93 cents of every dollar goes right to the scholarship fund. If we are able to raise \$400,000 this weekend, we’ll be able to give out over \$1 million this year.”

Since it was established in 1986, SFA has awarded \$11.5 million to 4,200 students. In 2015, TC graduates were awarded \$944,000 in scholarships.

According to Lovain, tickets are still available to the April 23 Spring Gala, which will be held at the Alexandria Hilton Mark Cen-

ter. “So far we have more than 475 people attending,” Lovain said. “It’s still the biggest party in Alexandria.”

Lovain also noted that online bidding as already begun for “some really cool” silent auction items.

“We owe our thanks to the community,” Lovain said. “Knowing they are there for the kids and want so much for them to succeed inspires us all.”

For tickets or more information, call 703-824-6730 or visit [www.AlexScholarshipFund.org](http://www.AlexScholarshipFund.org).



## Annual Senior Prom

The T.C. Williams School Student Government Association and the Alexandria Successful Aging Committee co-sponsored the recent annual “Senior Prom – a Dance for All Ages.” More than 100 seniors attended the event, with grandchildren and great-grandchildren, and over 30 TC students in attendance at the inter-generational evening.

PHOTOS CONTRIBUTED



The “Electric Slide” gets the party started.

T.C. Williams students serve a light fare to area seniors.





# Management Misfiring at Torpedo Factory?

FROM PAGE 1  
the mission and vision of the Torpedo Factory.”

The CPG report claimed that no sound economic strategy could be suggested without first restructuring the entire leadership and management of the Torpedo Factory, ideally into a “single, self-perpetuating operating entity with a governance structure that is independent of the City of Alexandria.”

Despite the Torpedo Factory managing to tread water each year with a net profit ranging from \$14,784 to \$52,955, the CPG report noted that it does not earn enough to make long-term financial investments, like a cash reserve or building maintenance.

“Bold and dramatic change is necessary to reinvigorate the Torpedo Factory and to create an operating structure that can focus successfully on a future of vitality, relevance, and sustainability,” said the report. “[The current structure] has yielded distinct factions that result in near paralysis in decision making and have made it nearly impossible for the [Torpedo Factory Art Center Board] to focus on long-term planning/strategy and productively approach situations that require consensus. Consensus decision-making is based on cooperation, collaboration, inclusiveness, participation, and seeking agreement — qualities that are

not currently strong on the board of directors.”

Since the release of the report, the city, the Torpedo Factory management, and the Artist’s Association have all been working to find a way forward. The Arts Center Board, as well as the Arts Commission, voted to go forward with the recommendations of the CPG report, but Deputy City Manager Emily Baker noted that the city ultimately has to approve changes to the structure of the Torpedo Factory and the vote was far from unanimous.

“Our role is to hear from all the stakeholders and try to find a way forward,” said Baker. “We are helping to support that work and to use the input we’re getting from different stakeholders.”

“Some of the actions require city approval, like streamlining the management,” said Diane Ruggiero, deputy director of the Office of the Arts. “It’s about trying to find a balance. Change is frightening for some folks, I get it, but the city is completely committed to the Torpedo Factory.”

Suzanne Bethel, executive director of the Art League, the largest single tenant of the Torpedo Factory, said that the Torpedo Factory board is still very much in the plan-

ning stages of figuring out governance of the building. Even if the city approves the recommendations of the CPG report, questions still remain about how those changes would be implemented.

“It’s going to be all about how this is instituted, how we get from where we are to

on in the form that it is now,” said Don Viehman, president of the Torpedo Factory Artists’ Association. “My desire is that, whatever the new form of management is, the artists who are in the studios retain some decision-making authority about what happens. It’s a community we built, and it’s the artists who did the work and built the institution.”

If the CPG report recommendations are approved, which specifically reference the artists and management as central to the “culture of dysfunction,” keeping artists at the helm of the Torpedo Factory seems unlikely. But Viehman argued that the findings of the report are built on a faulty premise and poor research.

“In understanding the Torpedo Factory, it’s important to understand that it’s a complex institution,” said Viehman. “That’s one of the problems with the CPG report, that understanding was not really achieved.”

Viehman argued that there’s three layers to understanding the financial sustainability of the Torpedo Factory. The first is that the building is old, and the repair of it was the central piece that kicked off the whole CPG study process, but that’s a capital expense

SEE TORPEDO FACTORY, PAGE 26

**“The board is very divided between artists and non-artists. The question now is: which group is more open to change and which group is more determined to do what it wants.”**


— Don Viehman, President, Torpedo Factory Artists’ Association

there,” said Bethel. “That’s going to be where the rubber hits the road. I’ll be curious.”

The moves to streamline the Torpedo Factory management have faced stiff opposition from the artists in the Torpedo Factory, who feel the new structure would cut them out of the decision-making process for a community they built.

“My hope is that the Torpedo Factory goes

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# The Thrill of Victory

FROM PAGE 6

Alexandria home of Frank Fannon, Ryan's older brother. "Ever since I was a kid, this is what I have wanted to do,"

A 1989 graduate of Bishop Ireton High School, Fannon began working at the student radio station while studying at Villanova. When he graduated in 1993, he was asked to throw his name in the hat for an opening on the sports broadcast team.

"I have been doing Villanova football for 23 years now," Fannon said. "Five years later I was asked to join the basketball broadcasts."

Despite the time and travel commitment, this is a part-time job for Fannon, who is the director of Advancement for Bishop Ireton. A wife and three young children add to Fannon's balancing act.

"My wife Laura is incredible," said Fannon as his eyes welled up. "She's amazing. When we got married she said 'Ryan, I know this is what you have always wanted to do. So even though it might get crazy and chaotic, I'll always support you.'"

The couple, who married in 2007, met when Laura Fannon was working at Bishop Ireton as the director of Student Activities.

"Ryan was already doing play by play when we met," she said. "It has always been a part of our relationship. It's something he loves so much so I was prepared to find a way to make this work."

When Villanova advanced to the Final Four, Laura Fannon was in Florida for Easter break with her 88-year-old father and three children: Ryan Jr., 8, Maggie, 6, and Grace, 18 months.



**Ryan and Laura Fannon with Laura's father Gene Finnegan following Villanova's victory over Oklahoma to advance to the NCAA championship game.**



**Brothers Ryan and Frank Fannon celebrate following the Villanova victory in the NCAA championship game April 4 in Houston.**



**Ryan Fannon and his family gather for a photo prior to the April 9 victory party at the home of his brother Frank Fannon. With Ryan are his wife Laura and children Ryan Jr., 8, Maggie, 6, and Grace, 18 months.**

"You can only be so spontaneous when you have three small children," Laura Fannon laughed. "But my dad is from Upstate New York and had never been to a Final Four. So when Syracuse beat Virginia, I called Ryan, packed up the kids and together we drove 22 hours over two days to get to Houston."

Laura Fannon admits she was "a nervous wreck" the last five minutes of the championship game.

"I thought the momentum had switched to North Carolina," she said. "But when Jenkins hit that 3-pointer, I was jumping up and down and crying at the same time. My kids had never seen me react that

way. There was so much emotion in that one shot — 18 years of preparation for Ryan and then this perfect ending to his story."

The storybook week continued when Villanova coach Jay Wright asked Fannon to emcee the team's victory parade April 8 in Philadelphia.

"It was such an honor to see Ryan up there introducing the mayor of Philadelphia," Laura Fannon said. "So many of Ryan's dreams came true this week — calling a national title game then seeing his team win it all. I am so proud to be his wife and happy that we were able to share this experience as a family."

Calling the week "surreal," Fannon agreed.

"Outside of my wedding day and my kids being born, my family being with me on this run has made it the greatest week of my life," he said.

Fannon is a fan of Wright, who was able to keep the players focused on the "name in front of the jersey, not the back of the jersey."



**Ryan Fannon, sporting his Final Four ring from 2009, recalls his experience as the voice of Villanova basketball during the team's championship run.**



"All year Coach Wright got these kids to focus on the team and not themselves," Fannon said. "So even though I sounded excited at the end of the game, I actually felt calm because I knew Archie [Arcidiacono] would make the right play. What an ending to an incredible journey."



**Villanova '94 graduate Henry Wallmeyer, second from right, celebrates the Wildcats win with his wife Jonelle and children Mary Francis, 10, and Nicklaus, 8, at the Alexandria home of Frank Fannon.**

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# A Pathway to Success for Low Income Students

**Program offers private school education to gifted underserved children.**

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL  
GAZETTE PACKET

**S**areth Meas says that her daughters, Alicia and Reaksa Keo, are bright students, but they were not reaching their full academic potential in their local public school. Because of her limited finances, private schools were not an option for her family.

After Meas learned about a program designed to promote academic achievement for deserving students, she was able to send Alicia and Reaksa to Alexandria County Day School (ACDS). Since then she has seen a world of difference in her daughters' learning environment and their academic success.

"[Public school] classes were a lot bigger and kids tended to become a lot more distracted, rather than at ACDS, where classes only have 12-14 kids in the room," said Meas.

Meas' daughters are enrolled in the Emerging Scholars program, which is based in Arlington. It was founded in 2002 by a group of educators from local independent schools. Its current executive director, Ruth Hazel Little, realized there were many talented students who would benefit from a private school education, but were not able to afford their tuition due to financial constraints.

"At that time, I was the admission director at a local independent school. We found that those students who had been admitted with significant financial need never fully assimilated to the environment and never felt part of the community," said Little. "Our goal was to welcome this group of diverse students into our schools and provide them with a platform for their success."

Emerging Scholars identifies students who demonstrate academic promise, prepares them both academically and socially for the rigors of some of the area's top independent schools and assists them with the application process.

Candidates apply and are admitted during fourth grade. To prepare for an academically demanding private school environment, students complete several requirements, including participation in a seven-week session during the summer before their fifth grade year. They also attend Saturday classes during fifth grade at their current school. After completing the requirements, the students will be eligible to enroll in one of the independent schools with which Emerging Scholars partners.

Students are given need-based financial aid and are assisted with the application process by Emerging Scholars staff. Local educators say the program helps remove some of the barriers to receiving a top quality education that some underserved students might face when transitioning to a private school.

"When they arrive they're prepared both socially and academically for engagement within an inde-



PHOTO COURTESY OF ALEXANDRIA COUNTY DAY SCHOOL

**Sixth grade student Alicia Keo and her sister Reaksa Keo, who is in eighth grade, attend Alexandria County Day School as part of the Emerging Scholars program.**

pendent school community," said Scott Baytosh, Head of School at Alexandria Country Day School. "The students view themselves differently and value a community where being a good student and learning are highly valued. Their perspective changes and they have an opportunity to blossom."

Little says that Emerging Scholars partners with independent schools because she finds they offer a combination of high academic standards, personal accountability and small class sizes which allow for individual attention. Part of the training and preparation includes parents as well as students.

"We also require that a family member participate in the program," said Little. "We truly believe parents are an integral part of the process, so we hold parent workshops, which help to reinforce our academic and leadership expectations. As a result, we've found that we're actually changing a family, not just the child."

Statistics and success stories underscore the validity of the Emerging Scholars philosophy. "The proof is that we've graduated almost 200 students from Emerging Scholars," said Little. "Our oldest ... scholars are now seniors in college. They are attending top colleges and universities. One hundred percent of our students who graduate from independent schools are accepted into college, compared to the national average of about 70 percent."

One recent Emerging Scholars graduate was accepted into all of the 13 colleges to which she applied. "Many were Ivy Leagues," Little said. "She ended-up accepting a full scholarship at Columbia University, where she is on the dean's list."

Little shared two other success stories. "We have a young man who graduated from Thomas Jefferson High School and is currently studying medicine at UVA." And a female student who is interested in studying neuroscience received early acceptance to Northwestern University.

Meas says that Reaksa has been accepted into two local Catholic high schools and is close to making a decision.

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# TC Boys' Lax Comes Back to Beat Mount Vernon

**Titans outscore  
Majors 4-0 during  
final 5:29.**

BY JON ROETMAN  
GAZETTE PACKET

**A**s senior members of the Mount Vernon boys' lacrosse team were honored prior to Tuesday's game against T.C. Williams, some of the Majors' favorite memories were shared with those in attendance.

On more than one occasion, a player's memorable moment was last year's 12-11 victory over the Titans, during which the Majors overcame a 7-1 deficit at Minnie Howard. The victory was part of a 10-win season for Mount Vernon that included a trip to the Conference 13 championship game.

On this night, however, it would be T.C. Williams overcoming a deficit to win on its opponent's home field.

The Titans outscored the Majors 4-0 during the final 5 minutes, 29 seconds and pulled out an 8-5 victory during the Majors' senior night at Mount Vernon High School.

The win improved T.C. Williams' record to 6-3 overall and 4-2 in Conference 7. The Titans are assured of a first-round home game in the conference tournament for the first time since 2007.

"I pointed it out to them before the game that they should take notice of when a team says their lasting memory is a come-from-behind win last year against you," T.C. Williams head coach Mike Mulherin said. "[I told them] 'You need to pay them back' and they did."

The Majors entered the fourth quarter with a 5-4 advantage but failed to add to their lead. With 7:29 remaining, a Mount Vernon player received a two-minute, non-releasable penalty for slashing, which



**T.C. Williams junior Sammy Zang finished with three goals against Mount Vernon on Tuesday.**

opened the door for T.C. Williams.

Playing a man up, TC junior midfielder Sammy Zang's goal with 6:56 on the clock tied the score at 5 and ended a Titan scoreless drought of nearly 27 minutes.

Near the end of TC's man advantage, senior Dillion Smith assisted senior Billy Donohue with what proved to be the game-winning goal with 5:29 remaining.

"I thought it would get them energized because they're pretty confident in those situations when they're a man up," Mulherin said. "We hadn't had a penalty really all night long to capitalize on, so [it was] a huge momentum swing when we got that second goal from Billy. Once we got that and recaptured the lead, you could see the momentum coming our way."

Four days earlier, the Titans took advantage of a non-releasable penalty during a 16-4 win over Forest Park.

"When you're man-up, it's nothing else but goals," Zang said. "You've got to score every single time. That's what we want to do. We don't accept anything less."

Mount Vernon head coach Dan Convery didn't agree with the penalty.

"That was the biggest swing of the game," Convery said. "That's what cost us the game.

... It shouldn't be a two-minute, non-releasable call. He didn't swing it like a baseball bat, he didn't come down hard on it, it should have just been a one-minute, releasable penalty. ... [It was a] horrible call."

Zang led T.C. Williams with three goals. Sophomore attackman Brody Dickson finished with two goals, and senior midfielder Scott Passalugo, senior attackman Phillip Reilly and Donohue each had one.

Junior goalie Pat Clark had seven saves.

T.C. Williams has five regular season games remaining. The Titans haven't had a winning season since 2007 and haven't qualified for the region tournament since 2011.

Mulherin said this year's team has improved its skill level through offseason work.

"[There is a] reputation of TC being a physical team and just a bunch of guys that are out there playing tough lacrosse," Mulherin said. "We wanted to be a skill team and I think they've shown that this year and the win-loss record has kind of demonstrated it, as well."

Donohue said the Titans have a different attitude this season.

"In past years, it's really been kind of a

down-on-you team," Donohue said. "When we make mistakes we kind of dog each other on it. This year, we're definitely doing different things with that. We've got young leadership with Sammy and then the rest are [senior] captains. ... We're over .500 because we're not yelling at each other. ... We're encouraging rather than scolding."

Zang, Reilly, Passalugo, Donohue and Smith are TC captains.

The loss dropped Mount Vernon's record to 1-8 overall and 1-5 in the conference. It's the Majors' first season competing in Conference 7.

Junior KeShawn Downing led the Majors with three goals during Tuesday's loss to T.C. Williams.

"I think he played great," Convery said. "I think he's been having a great year. [He is a] second-year player. [I'm] definitely looking forward to him next year."

Junior David Gibbs and senior Rick Dobson each scored one goal for the Majors.

Senior goalkeeper Trey Fulmer had 12 saves for the Majors.

T.C. Williams will travel to take on Potomac Falls at 7:15 p.m. on Thursday, April 21. Mount Vernon will travel to face Annandale at 7:15 p.m. on Friday, April 29.



**Sophomore attackman Brody Dickson, left, scored T.C. Williams' first two goals during the Titans' 8-5 win over Mount Vernon on Tuesday.**

## T.C. Williams Crew Racks Up Wins

**T**he T.C. Williams crew team turned in another powerful performance on April 16, with seven Titan boats winning their races at the Darrell Winslow Regatta in Lorton.

Raced on the Occoquan Reservoir 15 miles south of Washington, the Darrell Winslow is one of the largest regattas of the early spring season. About 1,700 rowers took to the water this past Saturday representing schools from around the area. Against this large, competitive field, the Titan Crew excelled. T.C. boats won seven races, capturing top honors in four categories: men's second four, women's second varsity eight, women's varsity lightweight eight,

and women's freshman eight.

Leading the way for T.C. Williams was the boys' first varsity 4 boat, which sprinted down the 1,500-meter course to win its heat and later took fourth place overall in the category, with a time of 5:28.0. The boys' second 4 boat, with four rowers and a coxswain, then powered down the course to claim victory overall in its category, with a time of 5:39.7, 2 seconds ahead of Langley.

Leading for the Titan girls was the girls' first varsity 8, which won its heat and took fourth overall in the category of top female boat in the region. The girls' second varsity 8 then proved its strength with a strong finish that earned it an

impressive first-place finish, with a time of 5:09.4, about three seconds ahead of McLean High School. Continuing the winning streak, the girls' varsity lightweight 8 charged down the course to win the most decisive victory of the day, with a time of 5:26.1, almost twenty seconds ahead of closest competitor Lake Braddock. The girls' freshman 8 turned on power as it raced down the 1,500 meter course, capturing first place in its category with a time of 5:40.3, about 9 seconds ahead of Lake Braddock. The girls' junior 8 also clinched first place in its heat, taking third overall in its category, with a time of 5:51.5.

Showing the depth of the Titan



**The T.C. boys' second 4 boat celebrates its win at the Darrell Winslow regatta: Kai Linehan (coxswain), Anthony Burke, Kevin Maldonado Aguilar, Asher Elkins, and Julien Depeyrot.**

crew team, the girls' fourth 8 captured second place in its category, the girls' novice boat won second place in its flight, and the boys' novice 8 powered down the course for a third place in its flight.

The Titan girls are returning to St. Andrew's School in Middletown, Delaware, next weekend for their third competi-

tion at Noxontown Pond. Both the T.C. crew boys and girls will be competing at the Charlie Butt Regatta on the Georgetown waterfront on Saturday, April 30. For more information on the team and the schedule, visit [www.tcwcrow.org](http://www.tcwcrow.org) or Facebook page at [www.facebook.com/alexandria.crewboosters](http://www.facebook.com/alexandria.crewboosters).



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21 Announcements

21 Announcements

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Notice is hereby given to members of the NY, nonprofit, American Society of Clinical Oncology, Inc. (ASCO), that eligible ASCO members may vote by proxy ballot on a proposed set of amendments to the ASCO Bylaws through ASCO's official website, [www.asco.org/bylaws-vote](http://www.asco.org/bylaws-vote) between April 22 and May 23, 2016. Completed proxy ballots will be delivered to the ASCO President or her designee for to be cast at a special members' meeting to be held on Thursday, May 26, 2016, from 9:30-10:00 AM, Eastern Time, USA, at ASCO Headquarters, 2318 Mill Road, Suite 800, Alexandria, VA 22314. Members with questions can email [ASCOBylaws@asco.org](mailto:ASCOBylaws@asco.org) or call 571-483-1316

21 Announcements

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21 Announcements

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

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21 Announcements

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OBITUARY



Retired US Army CW3 Walter R. Fabinsky, age 99, died Saturday, April 16, 2016, at INOVA Alexandria hospital, following a brief illness.

He was a veteran of WWII and the Korean Conflict.

Mr. Fabinsky is survived by his son, Walter, Jr., and daughter-in-law, Betsy, of Sewalls Point, Florida. He also leaves behind a grandson, Christopher.

An open-casket viewing will be held Saturday, April 23, at Everly-Wheatley Funeral Home, 1500 W Braddock Road, Alexandria, VA, from 3 to 5 PM.

He will be interred at a future date in Arlington National Cemetery.

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OBITUARY  
Sandra Lee Conley

On April 13, 2016 Sandra Lee passed away peacefully and gently at her home surrounded by her loving, faithful friends and her devoted son, Rudy. She bravely struggled with adult lymphoblastic leukemia for the past year and she was valiant in her efforts. A proud Kentucky woman and educator, Sandra significantly touched the lives of all she met. Services were held at Christ Church on Wednesday, April 20, 2016 at 11 a.m., 118 N. Washington St., Alexandria, VA. Interment will be at Highland Memorial Park in Kentucky at a later date. In lieu of flowers memorial donations may be made in Sandra's name to a charity of your choosing. Additional information may be found at [www.everlywheatley.com](http://www.everlywheatley.com).

21 Announcements

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ALEXANDRIA CITY PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL NUMBER 16-03-07

The Alexandria City School Board dba Alexandria City Public Schools is seeking proposals for a Recording, Archiving, Encoding & Streaming Video at ACPS Schools.

Emailed Proposals with the notation RFP# 16-03-07 Recording, Archiving, Encoding & Streaming Video will be received in the Central Procurement Office, 1340 Braddock Place, Suite 620, Alexandria, Virginia 22314, on or before 3:00 pm, May 6, 2016. The time of receipt shall be determined by the time clock stamp in the email. RFP documents may be obtained at the above Procurement Office or by calling 703-619-8162, or by downloading the RFP from the ACPS website at <http://www.acps.k12.va.us/financial-services/purchasing/>

All questions answered will be posted as an addendum to the ACPS web site. No submitted proposal may be withdrawn for a period of ninety (90) days after the opening of proposals except as may be set forth in the RFP.

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

Gerald W. Amacker (Jerry)  
ACPS Senior Buyer

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## Torpedo Factory

FROM PAGE 21

and isn't really tied to ongoing expenses. "If viability means capital improvement of the building, there are a number of ways to achieve that," said Viehman, "but that's not what most people mean when they think about viability. They think about operating costs, which on a day-to-day basis are currently covered. Nobody is in the red, it's all in the black, and most of that comes from artists' rent."

The third point, and the one Viehman said was not considered in the report, is creative economy.

"People come to the Torpedo Factory and enjoy the space, they use the facilities of the building, but the entrance is free," said Viehman. They spend their money on parking or food and lunch. We provide the service that entertains them but we don't necessarily get the economic benefit of that. That's a broader benefit that we help to provide."

So why the CPG study? While the Torpedo Factory breaks even on operating costs, Viehman said he believes the city wants to make the site more profitable as the city redevelops the entire area as part of the upcoming Waterfront redevelopment plan.

"The city is looking to make more money off of this building, and that's something we can all discuss and work towards, but they need to be specific about what they need," said Viehman.

There's one area where Viehman agrees with the report, and seemingly with the city: the current structure is not ideal, but

**"... That's something we can all discuss and work towards, but they need to be specific about what they need."**

— Don Viehman, President, Torpedo Factory Artists' Association

Viehman believes improvements can be made without eliminating the entire system.

"The board is very divided between artists and non-artists," said Viehman. "The question now is: which group is more open to change and which group is more determined to do what it wants."

Currently, a working group is examining the potential implementation of the CPG report's suggestions.

"The working group is trying to break down some of that distrust and come up with a plan," said Viehman. "It's hard work and it's time consuming, and there are people who would not want [that compromise] to happen."

Baker said no schedule has been established, but that a recommendation to the city will likely be forthcoming soon.

"It's a flexible [time frame]," said Ruggiero. "It doesn't have to change tomorrow, but we also don't want it to linger."

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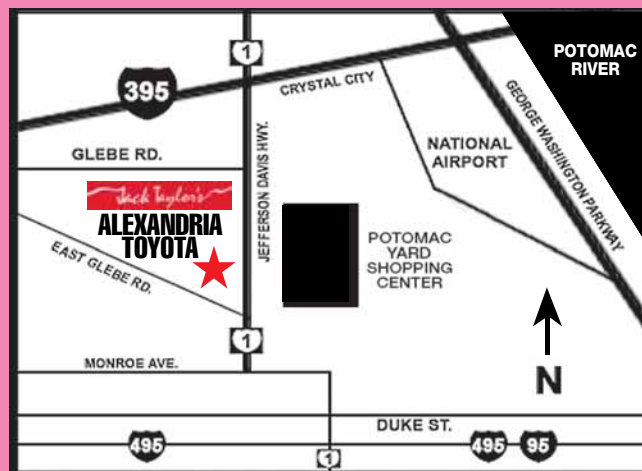


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The Scholarship Fund of Alexandria  
and their 30th Anniversary Spring Gala.

Saturday, April 23, 2016 • 6:00 pm - Midnight  
Alexandria Hilton Mark Center

A formal evening of dining and dancing to celebrate the generosity of Alexandrians and honor the achievements of past scholarship recipients. There will also be both silent and live auctions. All proceeds go to the general fund of The Scholarship Fund of Alexandria.

For more information, visit  
[www.alexscholarshipfund.org](http://www.alexscholarshipfund.org)



**Alexandria \$729,000**

Spotless, move-in condition! 4-bedroom, 3.5-bath near Springfield Metro boasts stunning rear yard. Generous play and garden space. Quiet cul-de-sac. Your home search ends here!

**Laura Fall**  
703.967.9987  
McEneaney.com



**Alexandria \$539,900**

Warwick Village 3-bedroom, 2-bath, all-brick townhouse. Updated kitchen, open and bright layout. Deck off main level and fully finished walk-out basement to private yard. Enjoy living in this wonderful setting near Landover Park. 229 Aspen Street

**Jen Walker**  
703.675.1566  
JenWalker.com



**Old Town \$375,000**

Historic pied-à-terre with loads of charm! 1-bedroom, 1-bath condo with exposed brick, original hardwoods, fireplace, open kitchen & dining area.

Floor-to-ceiling built-ins in bedroom & living room. Walk to King St Metro, Whole Foods, shops and restaurants. 1014 Prince Street #4 (second floor)

**Lisa Groover**  
703.919.4426  
LisaGroover.com



**Fairlington Towne \$375,000**

This updated 2-bedroom, 1.5-bath townhome sparkles with refinished wood floors on both levels, updated baths and kitchen with Silestone counters & honey maple cabinets. Beautifully landscaped & fenced brick patio. TONS of storage, large closets throughout and fully floored attic. 3911 Keller Avenue

**Kate Crawley**  
703.888.8141  
KateCrawley.com



**Alexandria \$539,900**

Stunning 4-bedroom, 3-bath Island Creek townhouse in serene location that backs to woods. Upgraded & renovated throughout

including kitchen, baths, windows, A/C & more. Close to Ft. Belvoir, Metro & Kingstowne Center. 7741 Sullivan Circle

**Wendy Santantonio**  
703.625.8802  
WendySantantonio.com