

## Too Far?

Opposition to Old Colony Inn proposal turns personal.

BY VERNON MILES  
GAZETTE PACKET

**A**fter nearly a full year of back and forth through boards, commissions, and community engagement, the Old Colony Inn is one step away from redevelopment. Hot on the developer's heels, however, were local neighbors objecting to the zone transition allowances by staff. But when some residents began spreading allegations of corruption, arguments suddenly backlashed against the neighbors when commission members said the personal attacks had hurt the local cause.

Throughout the last year, the expansion of the Old Colony Inn stirred controversy among neighbors throughout Old Town North, who argued that the added height would overshadow their properties.

The initial designs for the expansion were presented to the Board of Architectural Review (BAR) in June 2015. At that time, the BAR asked the developer, CIA Colony Inn LLC, to consider additional setbacks. The BAR eventually approved the design unanimously in December.

However, at the May 3 Planning Com-



**Planning Commission Vice Chair Nathan Macek points to the building scale on a display model, finding it appropriate with the height of nearby buildings.**

mission meeting, it was clear that many of the nearby residents have not been satisfied with the changes. Resident Chris Newbury asked those in attendance in the City Council Chamber to stand if they disagreed, and the people in the back half of the room stood. Objections generally centered around the scale of the building, in particular the staff recommendation that the city waive a setback requirement for what was referred to as "minimal encroachment."

Cathy Puskar, an attorney for the applicant, noted that each of the surrounding

properties, including the homes that were protesting the development, had all been granted setbacks and exceptions during their development.

"Someone is trying to murder our neighborhood," said resident Jim Herring. "Don't buy into the self-defense argument."

But as the meeting went on, many of the attacks from the public turned personal. Before the meeting, local resident Morrill Marston circulated an email calling Planning Director Karl Moritz a "dis

SEE OPPOSITION, PAGE 22

## Accomplice In Homicide Sentenced

Teen's attorney details background of abuse.

BY VERNON MILES  
GAZETTE PACKET

**O**n April 28, the family of Jose Luis Ferman Perez met the girl who was at least partially responsible for his death. The defendant, 16-year-old Leidi Granados Gutierrez, is one of three MS-13 affiliated suspects connected with last year's Nov. 9 homicide of Ferman Perez. Gutierrez was charged with one felony count for destruction of evidence of murder. This was the first of three trials in connection with the Beverley Park homicide, but Gutierrez's role in the gang and in the homicide was complicated.

According to the prosecution, Gutierrez lured Luis Ferman into the park with the promise of sexual favors, where police allege Reinaldo Mauricio Portillo Membrano and Alvaro Enrique Saenz Castro struck Ferman Perez with a knife and a machete until he had been nearly decapitated. But Gutierrez's attorney, Phoenix Ayotte Harris, argued Gutierrez's long history of abuse at the hands of MS-13 had left her another

SEE ACCOMPLICE, PAGE 22

## Design Supported as Patrick Henry Moves Forward

N. Latham Street controversy resolved; auditorium questions loom.

BY VERNON MILES  
GAZETTE PACKET

**A**fter a series of back and forths between the School Board, an advisory group, and project staff, Patrick Henry Elementary School is moving forward with a compromise that seems to have satisfied most parties. Questions and concerns remain about the site, including a looming discussion about the exclusion of an auditorium from the design, but

at the April 27 meeting of the Patrick Henry Advisory Group, the group agreed to support the Op-

**"We don't need to have more discussions about entrance on Latham Street. The community has spoken."**

— Patrick Henry Advisory Group member Alissa Oram

tion C.1 design. Bill Brown, managing principal at Moseley Architects, said that C.1 is a more costly design, with more underground structural needs and longer driveway paving costs and associated stormwater management, but the design met other needs the group had identified in previous meetings, like avoiding overlap with the

existing building, separation of vehicles and buses, and improved outdoor green space. Most notably, option C.1 keeps buses off of N. Latham Street

Since the project design began in summer, 2015, some of the controversy centered around designs that showed parking and bus routes entering and exiting off of

N. Latham Street, a two-lane residential street. Option A.1, which was also presented to the advisory group, would have included the bus access to and from N. Latham.

Some on the advisory group expressed concerns that a small group of local residents held dis-

proportionate sway over the needs of a school. Ultimately, however, the group decided that it was more important to build a consensus with the community.

"We don't need to have more

SEE DESIGN, PAGE 20







### Old Town Alexandria

A waterfront gem at Harborside offers handsome appointments, an interior elevator and an attached 2-car garage. Enjoy breathtaking water views from the private terrace and every room of this 3-bedroom, 3-full and 3-half-bath residence with high and coffered ceilings, hardwood floors throughout, distinctive architectural details and 4 fireplaces. The chef's kitchen with custom cabinetry, wood ceiling, Thermador double ovens, Sub-Zero refrigerator and Juperana granite adjoins a breakfast room/den overlooking the glistening water. Grand yet comfortable spaces for living and entertaining are light filled and tastefully designed.

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This classic 3-bedroom, 1.5-bath brick colonial, freshly painted, with an open kitchen/family room addition, refinished hardwood floors, updated baths and fireplace sparkles, as does the pool with pool house. Beautifully landscaped plus off-street parking. 2802 Cameron Mills Road

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**\$545,000**

Warwick Village townhouse converted to 2 bedrooms and 2 baths. Completely renovated throughout - kitchen with granite counters and stainless appliances opens to dining and living room. Finished lower level with family room, full bath and storage. Beautifully landscaped yard complete with private backyard and deck. Walk to "The Avenue." 220 Tennessee Avenue

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Charming end unit townhouse in picturesque Yates Gardens with dedicated parking, 3 bedrooms on upper level, 2.5 baths, fireplace, large fenced patio, screened back porch, updated baths and kitchen. Just blocks to Lyles Crouch school, river, parks, restaurants, and shops. 921 S Saint Asaph St.

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### Old Town

**\$795,000**

This end unit townhome, built in 1870, offers the elegance of yesteryear and the modern amenities of today. Entry foyer leads to stylishly updated kitchen, powder room, full-size dining room, living room with fireplace, French doors to the charming garden. 2 spacious bedrooms and 2 full baths upstairs including master with fireplace. Lower level family and laundry room.

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## NEWS BRIEFS

### Police Investigate Bank Robbery

The Alexandria Police Department is investigating the robbery of a Wells Fargo Bank located at 1711 Fern St. On Thursday, April 28, at 11:40 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.



**Suspect**

The suspect is described as a male with a medium complexion, approximately 5'6" tall with a thin build. He was wearing a baseball cap, glasses and a gray coat. Investigators believe this is the same suspect from the bank robbery on April 18.

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 Christine Deibes at 703-746-6819.

### Business Settles Fraud Allegations

Agape Health Management, Inc., which operates under the name Agape Adult Day Healthcare Center, in Alexandria, has agreed to pay \$385,917 to settle federal and state civil fraud allegations that claimed Agape submitted false claims for reimbursement to the Virginia Medicaid Program.

According to the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Eastern District of Virginia:

Agape operates a facility that provides adult day health care primarily for Virginia Medicaid recipients. The services provided include community-based health, therapeutic, and social services designed to meet the specialized needs of elderly and disabled recipients. Agape also provides transportation services to and from their facility. The allegations include claims that Agape knowingly submitted false or fraudulent claims for transportation services purportedly provided to Virginia Medicaid recipients that were not present or transported to the Agape facility on the claimed dates of service.

The civil claims settled by this Federal False Claims Act and Virginia Fraud Against Taxpayers Act agreement are allegations only; there has been no determination of civil liability.

## CRIME REPORTS

The following incidents were reported by the Alexandria Police Department.

### MAY 2

A strong arm robbery in the 100 block of S. Van Dorn Street. The suspects assaulted and robbed one male victim.

### APRIL 30

A felonious assault in the 500 block of John Carlyle Street, the suspect is in custody. The victim was taken to the hospital.

## NEWS

# Maestro's Magic Kim Allen Kluge to conduct farewell ASO performance.

BY JEANNE THEISMANN  
GAZETTE PACKET

For 28 years, Kim Allen Kluge has held the baton for the Alexandria Symphony Orchestra, his energy pulsing before signaling the opening downbeat for each performance. With his charismatic enthusiasm, he brought national acclaim to the fledgling community orchestra he transformed nearly three decades ago.

When he takes to the stage May 7, it will signal the end of an era as he conducts his final performance as music director of the ASO, a position he took over while still a doctorate student at the University of Maryland.

"There weren't a lot of people in the audience back then but we came together for the joy of performing," said Kluge, the young Korean American student with a vision for a world class orchestra in Alexandria. "But there was a magic here from the very beginning. I sensed immediately the enormous opportunity to create an organization that could serve Alexandria in a new and powerful way."

In his second year, Kluge professionalized the ASO, and in defiance of skeptics, decided to perform at the Kennedy Center.

"Some thought there was no way we could fill 2,800 seats," Kluge said. "But we did. We got rave reviews and ended up performing a whole series of concerts at the Kennedy Center, which instilled a new kind of pride in the community and a new sense of possibilities for us."

Over the years, Kluge contributed to the cultural fabric of Alexandria through his artistic leadership, a commitment to education and a strong connection to the local community.

In his first season, Kluge greatly expanded the educational offerings not only to school children but also to adults. The ASO became a national leader in arts education by integrating music with art, literature, mathematics history and social sciences.

Under his leadership, the ASO moved from the old T.C. Williams High School auditorium to its current home at the Rachel M. Schlesinger Center. Because of Kluge, the ASO has attracted high-profile guest artists including Branford Marsalis, Sarah Chang



PHOTO BY CAROL HOLLINS PRATT

**Kim Allen Kluge was named a 2016 Living Legend of Alexandria. After leading the Alexandria Symphony Orchestra for 28 years, he will conduct his farewell concert May 7.**



PHOTO BY JOHN BORDNER

**Maestro Kim Allen Kluge, shown leading the Alexandria Symphony Orchestra at the city's 2015 birthday celebration in Oronoco Bay Park, will conduct his final concert with the ASO on May 7 at the Rachel M. Schlesinger Concert Hall.**

and Midori, who in 2012 selected Alexandria as one of only two communities in the nation to participate in her Orchestra in Residencies program. The Washington Post heralded this as "a major coup" for Kluge, the ASO and high school musicians in Alexandria.

In 2003, Kluge founded the Children's Arts Festival, which tied public concerts and activities to in-school, curriculum-based programs. For Alexandria City Public School students, he developed mentoring programs and side-by-side concerts, which paired aspiring young musicians onstage with ASO professionals. In 2013, the ASO announced the Kluge Young Composers Competition to celebrate the emerging talent of composers age 18 and under in Virginia.

A valedictorian of Oberlin Conservatory of Music, Kluge pursued doctorates in piano and conducting from the University of Maryland and participated in the Tanglewood Music Center Conducting Program. In 2006, he received the Wammie

Award for Best Conductor, given by the Washington Area Music Awards, bringing additional accolades to the ASO.

Under his music directorship, the ASO developed the first El Sistema-inspired program in the Washington, D.C., region, ASO Sympatico, which has been honored with a 2015 Yale Distinguished Music Education Partnership Award.

Kluge's final performance with the ASO will feature a pre-concert chat with Kluge, his wife Kathryn Kluge, and pianist Thomas Pandolfi. The concert itself will feature the premiere of American Concerto for Piano and Orchestra, composed by Kluge and his wife, and Kluge will be honored as the ASO's first Maestro Emeritus.

Following his tenure with the ASO, Kluge and his wife will continue to write scores for film and live performance, including the score for a film version of Eckhart Tolle's "Milton's Secret."

Kluge was recently named music advisor for The Hollywood Film Festival and serves

on the advisory board for Digital Hollywood. He is also the music advisor for CineCause, a global organization dedicated to filmmakers and change agents who want to have a positive social impact on the world.

"It's very gratifying to look back and see what the ASO has accomplished," Kluge said. "I hope I have made a lasting contribution to the city that I love so deeply. I truly have a sincere belief in the power of music to transform everyone's life."

For more information or to purchase tickets, visit [www.alexsym.org](http://www.alexsym.org) or call 703-548-0885.



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

**Kim Allen Kluge, along with his wife Kathryn, composed the American Concerto for Piano & Orchestra, which will make its world premiere May 7 at Kluge's final performance with the Alexandria Symphony Orchestra.**



# Inside the Alexandria Police Department

## Part 6: Specialists in Action

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 seventh week of the course, citizens saw the Special Operations Team and K-9 teams in action.*

### SPECIAL OPERATIONS TEAM

In 1989, a hostage situation was unfolding at 316 Hopkins Court. A man trying to collect on a drug debt had taken hostages at gunpoint inside a house and the Special Operations Team (S.O.T.) was called out to the site in response. The suspect emerged from the house with a sawed off shotgun pressed to the head of a hostage. A police sniper shot and killed the suspect, but not before he'd managed to get off two shots that killed Corporal Charles W. Hill and injured Officer Andrew M. Chelchowski, who died four years later in an apparent suicide connected to psychological trauma from that day. Now, all Alexandria S.O.T. patches bear the number 316, the address of the call, and a reminder of the potential cost.

S.O.T. is responsible for the tactical response for critical incidents. To that end, the team is equipped with a variety of tools and equipment for situation assessment and response. These devices range from the simple, like a two-man battering ram for opening doors, to the high tech, like a range of mobile, remote control camera units that sent live feedback to the S.O.T team in the field.

### K-9 UNIT

In the 1980s and '90s, one of the principles of a K-9 unit was keeping them separate. Though inaccurate, there was a widespread perception of the dogs as vicious tools.



Citizens test out hand-sized rolling camera.



Special Operation Team rappels off the Alexandria Police Headquarters parking garage.



The larger mobile surveillance devices, demonstrated by Officer Tim Kyburz, are capable of looking down on a site from two stories height.



XigXag with his handler, Officer Carlos Rolon. As a Special Operation Team K-9, XigXag has an array of special skills, including rappelling.

They're still professional and willing to bite when necessary, but the modern Alexandria Police K-9 is a social animal. Officers don't just leave them at the headquarters with the rest of the equipment, they're brought home. They're part of the family.

"[We] do not select, train, or tolerate nastiness," said Officer Douglass Serven (K-9: Trajan). "We train them for their nose."

They're still working animals, so it's advised not to approach them and begin petting without the officer's explicit permission. At \$7,000 each, without the cost of training or manpower, the dogs have to be versatile. In addition to the basic patrol school, the dogs can also undergo specialized training for detecting narcotics, bombs, or even to be used in the Special Operations Team.

On patrol, K-9s can be called out to a scene for a variety of reasons, usually tracking or subduing a suspect.

"People would rather fight an officer than a dog," said Officer Carlos Rolon (K-9: XigXag).

The dogs and the officers go through extensive mental and physical training, after which the two share a lifelong bond. With rare exceptions, a K-9 sticks with its handler for the duration of its service. According to Sergeant Cindy Scott, the officers and the dogs do everything together.

Scott says her K-9, Gage, is slowly approaching retirement. The K-9s are well trained and intelligent animals, and once they retire, they need to continue to be active, otherwise the dogs can become depressed. This can be especially true once the officer takes on a new dog, so Scott says she has to continue to keep her dog involved with amateur sleuthing adventures in the backyard.

In the field, the ability for the dogs to immediately obey the commands of their handler is crucial. Each Wednesday, the dogs and handlers undergo obedience training to test for lapses and response times.

"Obedience is the foundation of everything we do," said Scott.

PHOTOS BY VERNON MILES/GAZETTE PACKET





## 2016 Contest Winners Announced

**“What can you do to improve your local watershed?”**



**Lanier Middle School**  
*students won top honors for their idea to grow sea grasses in science labs and planting them in the Chesapeake Bay*

**Thank you to all the students, teachers and partners who participated this year!**

**Agrium provided nearly \$20,000 in cash prizes and school awards!**

Caring for Our Watersheds is supported by international nonprofit Earth Force, whose mission is to engage young people as active citizens who improve the environment and their communities, now and in the future. The program empowers students to imagine, develop, and create solutions in their local watersheds, developing problem-solving, budgeting, community-involvement, and presentation skills.

**Turning ideas into realistic solutions is the key to improving our local watersheds.**

### Alexandria/Arlington/Fairfax Finalists, Grades 4-8

Final Place	Award	Proposal Name	School
1	\$1,000	Classes Plant Grasses	Lanier Middle School
2	\$900	The Effect of Nutrient Pollution and Algal Blooms on Our Local Watershed	Dogwood Elementary School
3	\$800	Ban the Bottle Continued	Lanier Middle School
4	\$700	Pesticides AVA	George Washington Middle School
5	\$600	Going Green 2K16	George Washington Middle School
6	\$500	Journey to a Jolly Watershed	Lanier Middle School
7	\$450	Ban the Bag!	Lanier Middle School
8	\$400	Green Roofs for VA; Development the Green Way	Lanier Middle School
9	\$350	Nitrate and Phosphate Levels in the Potomac River	George Washington Middle School
10	\$300	What Can We Do?	Meridian Homeschool Club



**CaringForOurWatersheds.com**

## PEOPLE

# The Father of Mother's Day

BY JEANNE THEISMANN  
GAZETTE PACKET

In the late 1800s, Frank Hering was the University of Notre Dame's star quarterback, coach and captain of the football team before becoming a history professor and the school's first athletic director. But even if his name is not familiar, mothers everywhere will be celebrated this weekend with the holiday he championed more than 100 years ago.

"Throughout history the great men of the world have given credit for their achievements to their mothers," Hering said of his desire to get formal recognition for a day dedicated to celebrating mothers.

While the first national observance of Mother's Day took place in 1914, Hering began his public appeals 10 years before President Woodrow Wilson signed the holiday into law. As Grand Worthy President of the Fraternal Order of the Eagles, he called on Aeries across the country to join in his effort.

"This was before women even had the right to vote," said Alexandria FOE Aerie 871 Worthy vice president Dave McDermott. "Frank Hering rallied Aerie's across the country to celebrate mothers."

Hering's idea for Mother's Day was inspired by a visit to a fellow Notre Dame professor's classroom. He observed his col-

league handing out penny postcards and asked what the students were writing. The professor replied: "Anything. Anything at all as long as it's to their mothers. We do this every month in this class. One day a month is mother's day."

On Feb. 7, 1904, Hering suggested establishing a national day honoring mothers to a gathering of the Fraternal Order of Eagles in Indianapolis. The service organization jumped on the idea and began a grassroots campaign among the Eagle membership, enlisting several states and municipalities to establish local Mother's Day observances.

"Hering was the Grand Worthy President in 1909 and 1911 and used his influence to continue to help spread the idea," McDermott said. "Thanks to his efforts, President Wilson signed the act into law in 1914."

The Eagles went on to play a similarly prominent role in helping launch Social Security and Medicare, among other causes, and currently endow the Fraternal Order of Eagles Diabetes Research Center at the University of Iowa.

"Despite Hering and the Eagles being credited with establishing Mother's Day, we don't plan any special events at our local Aerie," McDermott said. "We'd rather encourage everyone to spend the day with their mothers and celebrating the holiday with their family."

**Fraternal Order of the Eagles leader credited for national holiday.**



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

**Frank Hering, center, is considered the "Father of Mother's Day," a holiday he championed in the early 1900s as Grand Worthy President of the Fraternal Order of the Eagles.**

# Health Coach Writes 'The Karma Sense Eating Plan'

**Alexandrian Dave Hellman focuses on food and wellbeing.**

BY SENITRA T. MCCOMBS  
GAZETTE PACKET

In his new book, "The Karma Sense Eating Plan," Dave Hellman, an Alexandria tech entrepreneur / health coach, shows readers how to cultivate mindful eating habits through combining food-related activities and performing good deeds.

Like many people, Hellman was frustrated by the conflicting information about health developments and nutrition in scientific reports, the news media and other venues.

Then, one night, he woke up with a realization that all this information is complementary. That night he created his vision of a technique that links performing good deeds with individual's actual activity of consuming food along with making them more conscious of those foods they were consuming.

"The trick for most individuals to be healthy is to find the right path for them. There is no one size fits all," he said.

In early March, "The Karma Sense Eating Plan" was released nationwide. It is available at Amazon and Barnes and Noble. The book's title is not only a play on the term common sense, but it also serves as a vi-

sual reference for the book's layout. "It has a very serious mission of helping people be happy and healthy and making the world a better place, but it does not take itself too seriously," he said.

Colorful graphics helps the reader navigate through the book's four sections: Karma, Sense, Eating, and Plan.

In the Karma section, Hellman connects healthy eating habits with individuals performing an intentional good deed outside of their normal routine. For instance, a Karma act for a vegetarian who normally does not buy sustainable vegetables would be to buy sustainable or organic vegetables once a week or daily.

"It is called the Karma component because when you do that [good deeds], you are creating good karma. When you do good for others, it just makes life better in general," he said.

The Sense section is based upon the popular concept of "Mindful Eating," a method of approaching eating in a focused and curious way that incorporates fully feeling the sense of the food being eaten.

He also asked readers to shake up their normal dining habits by thinking over three things before they dig in:

❖ Think about the good deed that they



Dave Hellman

did and how it made the other person feel.

❖ Think about something good that someone did for them and how they want to demonstrate this appreciation.

❖ Think about the food they are about to eat and the process that went into preparing it.

"Research shows that if you intentionally reflect on the good things you've done, it actually makes you happier. There is a whole list of health benefits you'll see in the book," he said.

In the Eating section, Hellman describes five basic rules for "how to eat healthy in a very nutritious way" such as eating more vegetables and fruits, eating slowly and stopping before you are full, and eating protein at every meal.

The last section called The Plan gives readers a set of tools on how to implement all of the tips, research and other guidance from the previous three sections into their daily lives.

Hellman also plans to use "The Karma Sense Eating Plan" to perform a "good deed" of his own by donating all the profits to charities that fight poverty and hunger. He has composed a Karma Sense Advisory Board to assist him in setting up criteria for the choosing the charities.

"Whatever money it does make, I want it to be effective as possible," he said.

One charity in the running is DeWorm the

World, which works to rid children of parasitic worms. Eighty cents can deworm a child in Africa for a year.

On his website, <http://www.daveyhealth.com/karma-sense/board/>, readers can keep up with the book's financial progress and see the list of possible charities.

He hopes to write a whole Karma Sense Series — one on physical activity, mindfulness/stress management and a children's Karma Sense Series.

Hellman and his wife, Susan, moved back to Alexandria in 2011. He has a Bachelors in computer science and psychology from Duke University and is a certified exercise nutrition coach with a certificate from Duke University's Integrative Health Coach Professional Training program. He has worked for 30 years in a high tech field. Recently, he started a healthcare software business, which he sold to a larger company.

## SCHOOL NOTES

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

Harris Teeter donated \$5,000 each to 10 local schools in February 2016. Alexandria-area schools included **Glasgow Middle School** and **Queens of the Apostle**. This donation is made possible

SEE SCHOOL NOTES, PAGE 7

[WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM](http://WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM)



## PEOPLE

# Speck Named to Top 400

Financial advisor among nation's best.

BY JEANNE THEISMANN  
GAZETTE PACKET

**D**avid Speck, managing director of Investments for the Speck-Caudron Investment Group of Wells Fargo Advisors in Alexandria, has been named one of the top 400 financial advisors in the country by the Financial Times.

This is the second year that the former City Councilman and member of the Virginia House of Delegates has been recognized by the Financial Times.

To qualify for the list, advisors had to have 10 years of experience and at least \$300 million in assets under management. Qualified advisors were then graded on six criteria: AUM, AUM growth rate, compliance record, experience, industry certifications and online accessibility.

Speck has 34 years of experience in the financial services industry. He is a nationally recognized authority in the field of wealth management and a specialist in individual investment planning and tax-advantaged investments. He has been named one of the top 10 financial advisors in Virginia and one of



David Speck

the top 1,200 advisors in the U.S. by Barron's magazine.

Speck attended the University of Virginia and received his bachelor's, master's and doctoral degrees from The George Washington University, where he was also a member of the administration and faculty for 10 years.

He is a graduate of the Securities Industry Institute program at the Wharton School and was a faculty member of that program from 1988 to 2001. Speck is a member of the International Association for Financial Planning and is the author of College Savings Rx: Investment Prescriptions for a Healthy College Fund.

A former member of the board of directors of the Metropolitan Washington Airports Authority, Speck currently serves on the boards of Carpenter's Shelter, ACT for Alexandria, the Alexandria Economic Development Partnership and the Northern Virginia Health Foundation. In 2010, he was named a Living Legend of Alexandria and in 2013 he was honored by the Alexandria Chamber of Commerce as Alexandria's Business Leader of the Year.

## SCHOOL NOTES

FROM PAGE 6

partially by the Virginia Lottery and is in addition to the dollars a school receives from Harris Teeter through its active

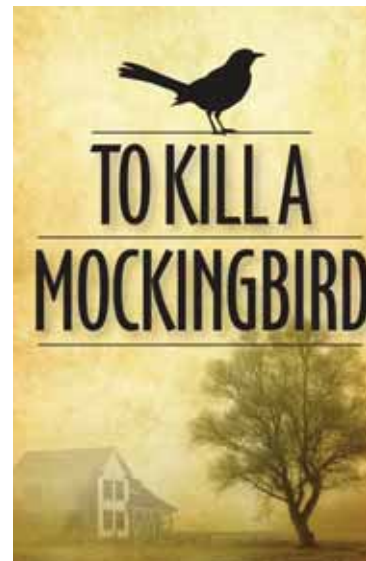
participation in the company's Together in Education program. The Virginia Lottery provides incentive payments to retailers who sell winning tickets in scratch-off games. Harris Teeter has

chosen to donate its incentive awards back to local schools. This most recent \$50,000 incentive award comes from a winning ticket which was sold at the Barcroft Plaza store in January.

## Energetic Dog or Couch Potato? I can help!

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This timeless classic compels us to take an honest look at our nation's past and our moral responsibility to each other.

- This show contains hurtful language and mature themes.
- Talk Back with cast/crew/designers after the performance on Friday, May 6.

SHOW DATES: April 23-May 14



Little Theatre of Alexandria  
600 Wolfe Street • 703-683-0496  
www.thelittletheatre.com



- 909 Vicar Lane -

On one of Alexandria's most sought-after streets, uniquely sited down a gravel drive, this stately manse of nearly 7,000 square feet is now for sale. Reconstructed in 2008, yet retaining its 1940s charm, the home and lushly landscaped acre-plus grounds are certain to delight.

Its banquet-sized dining room, commodious living room, and light-filled transverse hallways, make large-scale entertaining easy and gracious. The well-appointed kitchen and family room raise the bar for relaxing at home; the stone fireplace is ideal for winter evenings.

Summer afternoons will be cherished relaxing on the very private covered terrace. A sumptuous owner's suite is joined by four additional bedrooms to comfortably accommodate family and guests. This is an in-town estate, like no other. \$3,795,000

Diann Hicks Carlson

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

## DONATIONS WANTED

**National Foster Care Month.** For the month of May, Embrace Treatment Foster Care is partnering with the Alexandria YMCA and holding a luggage drive for children in foster care. Embrace Treatment Foster Care wants to ensure each child has a piece of luggage and not a garbage bag for their belongings. We are asking the community to help by dropping off new or gently used pieces of luggage to the Alexandria YMCA at 420 E. Monroe Ave. Visit [embracetfc.com/](http://embracetfc.com/) for more.

## SUMMER 2016

**Host Families Wanted.** The Alexandria Aces will be playing in their ninth season in Port City, this year, and are actively seeking host families for the upcoming 2016 season. Players need a spare bedroom with access to a washer or dryer during the upcoming months of June, July, and early August. Contact Amy Goodrich at [amy\\_goodrich@](mailto:amy_goodrich@)

comcast.net for hosting information. Visit [www.AlexandriaAces.org](http://www.AlexandriaAces.org) for more.

## SOBER-RIDE FOR CINCO DE MAYO

**Free Cab Rides.** Thursday, May 5, 4 p.m. through Friday, May 6, 4 a.m. Area residents, 21 and older, celebrating with alcohol may call the toll-free SoberRide phone number 1-800-200-TAXI (8294) and receive a free (up to a \$30 fare) safe way home. AT&T wireless customers can dial #WRAP for the same service. Visit [www.soberride.com](http://www.soberride.com).

## THURSDAY/MAY 5

**How to Research Buildings in Alexandria.** 7 p.m. at Lloyd House, 220 N. Washington St. "Who Built This, Who Lived Here and More: How to Research Buildings in Alexandria." Lance Mallamo, Director of the Office of Historic Alexandria, and Julia Claypool, Historian and Cultural Resource Planner at History Matters, will show participants how to perform thorough research on buildings in Alexandria, using resources found at Special Collections and other repositories. Advance registration is highly recommended. Visit [alexandriava.gov/Historic](http://alexandriava.gov/Historic).

## FRIDAY/MAY 6

### Building Safety Month Kick-Off

**Event.** 11 a.m.-2 p.m. at Market Square, 301 King St. Building Safety Month is a public awareness campaign offered each year to help individuals, families and businesses understand what it takes to create and sustain safe and sustainable structures. This year's theme is Building Codes: Driving Growth through Innovation, Resilience and Safety. The event also features a free training session, from 9:30-11:30 a.m., on the current International Swimming Pool and Spa Code, issued in 2012, provided by the Association of Pool and Spa Professionals. To attend, RSVP to [quenten.giles@alexandriava.gov](mailto:quenten.giles@alexandriava.gov). Visit [alexandriava.gov/Code](http://alexandriava.gov/Code).

## SATURDAY/MAY 7

### Volunteer Training Meeting.

9-10:30 a.m. at the Stabler-Leadbeater Apothecary Museum, 105-107 S. Fairfax St. The Stabler-Leadbeater Apothecary Museum is seeing record numbers of people taking tours and needs more volunteers to meet the growing interest. Ideal volunteers should enjoy meeting and talking with people of all ages, love American history, and want to learn more and share this knowledge with others. Complete an application online through [www.apothecarymuseum.org](http://www.apothecarymuseum.org) or email [Michele.longo@alexandriava.gov](mailto:Michele.longo@alexandriava.gov).

## SUNDAY/MAY 8

**Input Deadline.** Provide input on the draft statements for Strategic Plan FY SEE BULLETIN, PAGE 22

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## Correction

The article "Honoring Ronald Kirby" in the April 20 Alexandria Gazette contained an incorrect date. The dedication is Sunday, May 15, at 2 p.m at the Alexandria pedestrian entrance to the Woodrow Wilson Bridge.

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# OPINION

## Patrick Henry: Auditorium Matters

To the Editor:

Alexandria is about to make a multi-million dollar, much-needed investment in the West End to build the new Patrick Henry K-8 School and Recreation Center. This cannot be just a stop-gap measure to increase capacity for our city. We must look at this, and every project our community is investing in, as an opportunity for a transformational capital investment that will draw people to Alexandria.

The community has been advocating to include an auditorium that would be part of the new shared space to be utilized by both the K-8 school and the recreation center. The current school has an auditorium that will be demolished, and the specs for the new school replace it with a cafeteria with movable stage and a black box theater.

Including a shared-space auditorium instead would expand Alexandria City's performing arts recreational offerings, as well as support the performing arts culture that is being cultivated at Patrick Henry.

It also presents a revenue-generating opportunity for the City of Alexandria as the auditorium can be utilized by local performing groups on the evenings and weekends. Performance space is expensive and difficult to find in our area, especially at the caliber of a proper auditorium. A proper au-



Students on the stage at Patrick Henry Elementary School with signs about plans for a cafetorium.

ditorium — with real seating, a sloped floor for comfortable viewing and acoustics designed for the performing arts — is a true commodity these days.

The current Patrick Henry auditorium has always been a well-utilized and well-loved space at the school. It is used throughout the day for music and dance classes as well as general assemblies, and in the evenings for meetings and performances, and this is while currently only serving a K-5 population. The majority of the time the cafeteria is also in use. What will happen if there is only a cafetorium moving forward while simultaneously we are expanding to K-8?

Not only will this create challenges for space during the day and evening, it will also break down the community we are working so hard to build at Patrick Henry because school-wide events will no longer be possible.

Cafeteriums are a passing trend. We should be building a school

that will serve us for generations. Including an auditorium in this project will create a center for performing arts on the West End of Alexandria that will benefit the entire community.

Alissa Oram  
Alexandria

## Rebuilding Patrick Henry

To the Editor:

I am a West End resident living near Patrick Henry School who strongly supports arts education in our schools because it has such a high value, both in terms of helping children enjoy school and because, as the research shows, arts education stimulates creativity, helps children learn new skills and improve their academic performance.

I am disappointed because Alexandria City Public Schools (ACPS) staff have not taken into



Expressing an opinion about the auditorium.

account local residents' interest in including an auditorium in the new school.

When discussions about this project began, people who raised this issue with planners were told it should not be brought up until the issues relating to the footprint for the buildings for the site were resolved. Many thought providing input on this issue from the public was important because it could impact the buildings and site.

At the last meeting of the Patrick Henry Project Advisory Committee this matter became a major point of disagreement. A clear majority of the people on the advisory committee indicated they wanted a real auditorium not the shared use cafetorium, being promoted by ACPS which would serve as a cafeteria, meeting space and performance space. All of the representatives of three civic associations, as well as those from the Patrick Henry PTA, local community members and Councilwoman Del Pepper all indicated that they wanted an auditorium. School Board Vice Chairman Christopher Lewis indicated he would see what could be done to raise the issue with policy planners.

SEE LETTERS, PAGE 11



**NEWS ITEM:** Senate bill limiting further reduction of passenger space on commercial flights — defeated.

STEVE ARTLEY/GAZETTE PACKET

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## OPINION

# May Is Older Americans Month

## “Blaze a Trail” at the Senior Health and Fitness Fair.

BY MARYANNE BEATTY  
DIRECTOR OF COMMUNICATIONS  
SENIOR SERVICES OF ALEXANDRIA

May is a month of fresh beginnings with flowers in bloom, blazing a trail of color around the city. May is also when we celebrate Older Americans Month by acknowledging older adults as a growing and increasingly vital part of our country. The contributions they make to our communities are varied and deeply rooted, including influential roles in the nation's economy, politics, and the arts. From 69-year-old NASA Administrator Charles Bolden, Jr. to 84-year-old actress Rita Moreno to 83-year-old Ruth Bader Ginsberg, who took her seat as a Supreme Court Justice at age 60, older adults are blazing trails in all aspects of American life.

### SENIOR SERVICES OF ALEXANDRIA

The theme for this May is “Blaze a Trail,” and gives us the opportunity to raise awareness about important issues facing older adults. Health and fitness remains a top priority for aging adults. The Older Americans Act was recently amended to include support for modernizing senior centers and highlighting the need for promotion of healthy living and disease prevention.

The theme for this May is “Blaze a Trail,” and gives us the opportunity to raise awareness about important issues facing older adults. Health and fitness remains a top priority for aging adults. The Older Americans Act was recently amended to include support for modernizing senior centers and highlighting the need for promotion of healthy living and disease prevention.



Senior Services of Alexandria and the Successful Aging Committee will be celebrating this month at the annual Senior Health and Fitness Fair on Wednesday, May 25 from 10 a.m.-noon at the Lee Recreation Center, 1108 Jefferson St. in Alexandria. This free event will showcase local experts talking about the importance of being prepared: How to maximize your doc-

tor visits, the benefits of a personal emergency home response system, and simple ways to keep safe and healthy, plus fun cooking and exercise demonstrations, including tai chi and line dancing, and free health screenings. Register for this free event by calling Senior Services of Alexandria at 703-836-4414, ext. 110 or at [www.seniorservicesalex.org](http://www.seniorservicesalex.org).



Please take time this month to acknowledge the contributions that seniors are making to Alexandria by reinventing themselves through new work and new passions, engaging in our community, and blazing a trail of positive impact on the lives of people of all ages. For more information on the Older Americans Act go to [acl.gov/olderamericansmonth](http://acl.gov/olderamericansmonth). To learn more about trail-blazing older adults, visit [oam.acl.gov](http://oam.acl.gov).

Please take time this month to acknowledge the contributions that seniors are making to Alexandria by reinventing themselves through new work and new passions, engaging in our community, and blazing a trail of positive impact on the lives of people of all ages. For more information on the Older Americans Act go to [acl.gov/olderamericansmonth](http://acl.gov/olderamericansmonth). To learn more about trail-blazing older adults, visit [oam.acl.gov](http://oam.acl.gov).

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

FROM PAGE 10

Parents, teachers, neighbors, members of the PTA and students have signed a Petition to Save the Auditorium at Patrick Henry. The matter is to go before the School Board on Thursday, May 5, at the 7 p.m. meeting. The Alexandria Commission for the Arts voted to support the community in their petition for an auditorium.

Advocates suggested when the auditorium was not in use it could be rented out to performing arts groups thus increasing support for this venture by providing a benefit to the local community, especially if arts groups work with the school and local residents to plan

programs and a facility of benefit to all.

Hopefully others will share their views with School Board and City Council members to support the inclusion of the auditorium in these plans.

Shirley Downs  
Alexandria

## Food Trucks Not the Problem

To the Editor:

I am eager to see food trucks in Old Town and I think the concerns

SEE LETTERS, PAGE 12

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# LETTERS

FROM PAGE 11  
by

the local businesses are two separate problems.

First off, competition is to be expected in any business. Brick and mortar stores are struggling to compete with online retailers. Likewise, local restaurants are already competing with the plethora of new restaurants that have opened up in and around Old Town in the past few years.

There have been at least half a dozen new restaurants between the new Parker Gray area, Del Ray and Old Town, which are all competition for the existing restaurants who do not want food trucks competing with them. I don't think it is fair to allow one type of business but not another when it comes to competition. Why are food trucks such a threat?

The advantage of a food truck is that if it is not profitable or if business is slow, it will move and there goes your competition. And if I'm not mistaken, food trucks would only be around during lunch hours leaving the rest of the day competition free.

Instead of looking at food trucks as competition, restaurants can see this as an opportunity to enhance their menus with lower-priced to-go lunch items that would be appealing to people who would also be looking at grabbing a bite to eat from a food truck.

I certainly would opt for calling in a quick pick-up for under \$10 instead of standing in line at a food truck, if I knew those op-

tions were available and I'm sure other locals would be interested in them too. In places like North Old Town and the Patent Office/Carlyle area, I'm sure people would be happy to have other options since their choices are limited to begin with. I've worked in North Old Town and the food choices are slim pickings compared to elsewhere in Old Town.

The second issue of parking goes beyond food trucks. Parking in Old Town has no discernible reason or pattern. One side of a street is paid parking while the other side is two-hour. The next block is three-hour parking with unlimited parking on the other side of the street. On one street, you can park all the way to the corner. On another street, you can't park within 30 feet of the corner and it's not because there is a crosswalk, driveway, fire hydrant, or anything else there.

Most importantly, all the meters are active until 9 p.m. when they used to stop at 6 p.m. Like the signs on many shops in Old Town state, "Parking is the new tax." Instead of just adding on a local tax, like the restaurant tax, paid parking essentially punishes locals who want to eat and shop in Old Town, not the tourists who are coming by Metro or staying in local hotels and don't park at the meters.

I used to go down to Old Town with my boyfriend at least once a week to walk around, shop, and eat. We don't do that anymore because it's too frustrating to deal with parking. We'll go maybe once a month

to eat dinner and that's it. We can easily go out walking and eat without paying or fighting for parking in many other places in the area.

City Council needs to find a way to make the tourists pay for eating and shopping in Old Town and not shift the burden on the locals by way of increasing parking. More people will come back to Old Town and there will be room for everyone and their food trucks.

**Deb Fuller**  
Alexandria

## Recipe for Disaster?

To the Editor:

It seems that incidents on the Metro System are on the rise, and most of them can be attributed to little to no dedicated maintenance and a poorly funded operation over the past 40 years.

Now we hear that some segments of the Metro network will be shut down at various times to make these much needed repairs. This is at the same time that our city staff and the Potomac Yard Metro group are feverishly pushing a new Metro Station for Potomac Yard, even though the Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) system is already in place and operating. Therefore, there is really no reason a Metro Station in Potomac Yard is even needed. It certainly won't be the only means

of transportation to the District, and it is not one that the current residents would even use.

At this juncture, too many loose ends still exist. First, the funding stream is questionable and contentious. Initially, the developer promised to sink \$70 million into the project, but has since reneged on that pledge. Next, the city established two special residential tax districts, one for 10 cents per \$100 of real estate value and the other for 20 cents per \$100.

If this project is so economically important to the entire city (as former mayors Euille and Donnelly have espoused), then every taxpayer in the city should chip in. In addition, the decisions to destroy the Potomac Greens Parkway and to take various properties through eminent domain are being lambasted at every planning session by the current residents living in Potomac Greens.

The Alexandria City Council is planning to build the Potomac Yard Metro Station despite all of the red flags such as the Metro System problems as a whole, the Potomac Yard Metro Station funding stream, the redundancy of the BRT, and the concerns within our own community. This is a recipe for disaster.

No station should even be entertained for this location until the Metro System is righted, the funding stream is assured, the concerns of the residents are addressed, and the impact of the BRT is considered. To do

SEE LETTERS, PAGE 21

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**Woodland Stream** 6106 Woodland Stream Drive, Alexandria VA 5,000 sq. ft, 2-car garage on a quiet cul-de-sac. 5 large br, 4.5 ba, gourmet kitchen with all the upgrades, screened porch overlooking 3/4 acre treed lot, deck, patio. AMAZING! \$919,000  
Cathy D'Antuono 703-660-6772 MLS # FX9640472



**Ivy** 521 Janneys Lane, Alexandria VA  
Sited on a professionally landscaped lot, this lovely 3 br + 2 1/2 ba brick colonial boasts hdwd fls, 2 fps, plaster walls & archways. Updated kitch w/SS appliances + granite counters. \$845,000  
Donnan C. Wintermute 703-608-6868 MLS # AX9639192



**Fort Hunt** 2201 Londonderry Road, Alexandria VA  
This home has been almost completely updated from the kitchen to the bathrooms to the roof to the HVAC! Absolutely move in condition with a private location. 4 bedrooms and 2.5 baths plus a Two-car garage. \$612,000 Liz Bucuvalas 703-626-8400 MLS # FX9640921



**Townes at Cameron Parke**  
3819 Watkins Mill Drive,  
Alexandria VA  
Over 2,000 sq. ft. garage TH w/lots of upgrades in fabulous neighborhood. 3 BR, 2.55 BA, HW floors on 2 levels, granite, Gas FP, walkout to private patio, deck, close to two Metros. \$499,000  
Cathy D'Antuono  
703-819-3077  
MLS# AX9627678



**Open House Sunday 2-4 pm Belle View Condos**  
6601 E. Wakefield Drive C-1, Alexandria VA 3 bedroom tree-top condo w/stunning updates: renovated bath w/heated floor & glass enclosed walk-in shower, kitchen w/granite & SS appliances, beautifully refinished hardwoods. \$289,000 Heidi Burkhardt 703-217-6009 MLS # FX9646650



**Broyhill Crest** 7110 Murray Lane, Annandale VA  
Pristine 4 br, 2 ba w/many updates. Bright updated kitchen. Hardwood floors throughout upper level. Traditional knotty pine lower level w/walk-out access to lush backyard & patio. \$519,900 Mary Cay Harris 703-981-9976 MLS # FX9636294



**Open House Sunday 2-4 pm Belle View Condos**  
1202 Belle View Blvd B-2, Alexandria VA Fantastic Belle View location: light & bright 1 br, 1 ba condo with renovated bath, new carpet, new refrigerator, classic retro stove, laundry & additional storage in same entry. \$182,000 Heidi Burkhardt 703-217-6009 MLS # FX9642159

## Proud Sponsor of the Junior Friends of the Campagna Center 2016 Bowties & Belles Derby Party

**Alexandria** 310 King St. | Alexandria, VA 22314 | 703.518.8300

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## ME & MY MOM

A Mother's Day photo gallery submitted by readers.



Mother, Maudy W. Mays, age 96, and daughter, the Honorable Blanche Mays, Manass coming home after attending church service at Alfred Street Baptist Church on Mother's Day, May 2014.



Family picnic at Renzie Park, McKeesport, Pa., in 1953, from right to left: Nicky, age 4; Peggy, age 6; Mom (Rita); Billy, age 5; and Rita, age 3. Our dear Mom turned age 99 in 2016 and still resides in McKeesport, Pa.

— RITA DEFELICE



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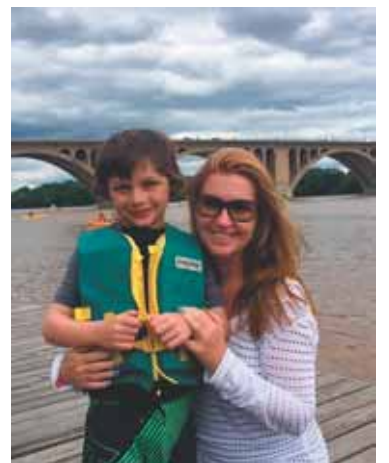
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PHOTO BY BRIAN MARQUIS

Mom, Margaret Hagood, with 20-year-old son Collin Marquis by the big pile of wood mulch that had recently been delivered by the city, and getting ready to take on the annual spring ritual of spreading around the yard.



Sally Hurley and son Eli Hurley Fathelbab paddleboarding at the Washington Canoe Club during the summer of 2015 along the Potomac River.



Mother, Ruth T. Woods, age 92; (60-year resident of Alexandria, raised her family here); daughters (from left) Randy Woods, Renee Stramel, Robin Woods, and Rebecca Woods.

— ROBIN WOODS

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## GIFTS

# Mother's Day In Alexandria

BY AMY RUTHERFORD  
OWNER OF RED BARN MERCANTILE

**F**rance, India, Ethiopia, Peru, the United States — Mother's Day is universal. It is celebrated in each country, city and town differently, but there is one universal sentiment. Thank you.

In Alexandria there are many ways to say thank you to Mom.

### FROM OLD TOWN BOUTIQUE DISTRICT

Flowers and candy are a wonderful way to say thank you and the list of florists and confectioners is long, but if you really want

something special look no further than to the moms that make up the Old Town Boutique District.

According to Working Mother magazine, mothers own nearly one in every three small businesses. And with women-owned businesses generating \$3 trillion for the economy that adds up to a lot of mom power. The Old Town Boutique District once again breaks the mold. More than half of the District's members are moms. These women know what a mom needs.

So for this Mother's Day we went straight to the experts and scoured some of our favorite mom-owned Old Town Boutique District stores for the perfect gift.

Prepare Mom to hit the pool in style this summer. She can look effortlessly cool wearing Rebecca Minkoff tassled



**T-Shirt and jewelry from The Shoe Hive**



**Jewelry is from Curated**

sandals and toting towels and sunscreen in a Mar Y Sol raffia bag from Bishop Boutique. For the mom-to-be summer maternity wear from 529 Kids Consign is affordable and adorable.

The mom who loves to cook will enjoy a seat in a La Cuisine knife skills class and a gift certificate for the chef's knife of her choice. One could pair that with delightful olive oils and vinegars from Olio tasting room and a hand thrown Farmhouse Pottery olive oil bottle from Red Barn Mercantile and mom will know how much you appreciate her cooking.

To commemorate the new mom or mom-to-be, how about knitting them a beautiful baby blanket with some of the abundant hand-dyed wools found at fibre space. Or perhaps an heirloom quality Christmas ornament commemorating the day she became a mom. Both are equally sweet and a loving lasting gift that can be passed down through the generations.

Finally, what mom doesn't deserve a bauble or two. Available at The Shoe Hive mom makers Twine and Twig create statement necklaces made of found natural materials like antlers, burrs, and shells. Curated has hand made, fair trade jewelry from 31Bits that is made by mothers for mothers in Uganda. The fair wages allow women to earn an education so that they too can be entrepreneurs one day.

This Mother's Day remember to thank your mom by shopping locally.

## Enjoy the Carefree Lifestyle You Deserve

**D**iscover why many people like you have come to call the Hermitage home—the chance to experience a new lifestyle with an array of services and amenities.

The residents at the Hermitage stay busy. Just ask Helena Scott, who was confined to wheelchair for 30 years because of Multiple Sclerosis and with regular physical therapy at the Hermitage, can now walk a mile a day when the weather permits. In her spare time, Helena knits scarves for fellow residents, volunteers in the beauty salon, sits on the Health Center Committee and delivers mail. Our residents also rave about our superb dining service, our courteous and helpful staff, and an overall feeling of caring and security that comes with living at the Hermitage.

You'll also gain peace of mind knowing that health care and supportive services are available right here, if you ever need them.

For more information, call 703-797-3814.

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[www.Hermitage-Nova.com](http://www.Hermitage-Nova.com)

## Fill a Bag. Help Feed Families.

### 1. Collect and bag nonperishable\* food items

Coloque los alimentos no perecederos en una bolsa junto a su buzón de correo

### 2. Place by mailbox for letter carrier to deliver to a local food bank or pantry

El cartero las entregará a un banco de alimentos local

\*Donate items like canned meats, fish, soup, juice, vegetables, pasta, cereal, peanut butter and rice. Please do not include items that have expired or are in glass containers.



**Saturday, May 14, 2016**



## Have Fun. Make College Dreams Come True. Honor A Teacher.

**Honor Orzel and Clap for Kiyak!**  
Andrew Orzel and Sarah Kiyak  
T. C. Williams H. S. Teachers  
Friday, May 13, 7 - 9 pm

**An English Honor Roll!**  
Hon. Mark Eaton and Matthew Zahn  
T. C. Williams H. S. Teachers  
Saturday, May 21, 7 - 9 pm

**She's Simply Irresist-zabal!**  
Laura (Saunders) Aristizabal  
George Mason E. S.  
Retiring Teacher  
Friday, June 17, 4 - 8 pm

**Eine Kleine Nacht Party!**  
Jonathan Jones  
George Washington M. S.  
Orchestra Director  
Tuesday, May 31, 7 - 8:30 pm

For more info, to buy tickets, or to host an Honor a Teacher Party:  
Visit [alexscholarshipfund.org](http://alexscholarshipfund.org), or contact [scholarshipfund@acps.k12.va.us](mailto:scholarshipfund@acps.k12.va.us) or 703-824-6730.



# ENTERTAINMENT

## MetroStage Presents 'Black Pearl Sings!'

Play set in 1930s Depression-era features 19 American folk and spiritual songs.

BY STEVE HIBBARD  
GAZETTE PACKET

**M**etroStage is presenting "Black Pearl Sings!" by playwright Frank Higgins now through May 29.

The story centers around musicologist Susannah Mullally who works in a Texas prison during the 1930's Depression-era who discovers inmate Alberta "Pearl" Johnson who might have information about the origin of a song that can be traced back to its original roots in Africa. Susannah is an ambitious Library of Congress musicologist searching for the African roots of slave songs. Pearl is a strong-willed African American inmate with a soulful voice and steely spirit. The two develop a fascinating relationship that arises from an unlikely partnership that features 19 American folk and spiritual songs.

Some of the musical numbers include: "Little Sally Walker," "Six Feet of Earth," "This Little Light of Mine," "Do Lord, Remember Me," and "No More Auction Block for Me." The music director is William Hubbard and the director is Sandra L. Holloway.

MetroStage Producing Artistic Director Carolyn Griffin said that she is always looking for "little gems" that will showcase some of their favorite actors, so when Roz White mentioned "Black Pearl Sings!" to her last season, it seemed to completely fit the bill, she said.

"Roz is one of our favorite, versatile actors, and the role of Alberta 'Pearl' Johnson is perfect for her: rich dramatic acting and a capella singing," she said. Playing opposite her in this two-person show is Teresa Castracane, an actor making her MetroStage debut.

"But in addition to these great roles for two actors, this play has such an interesting historical base, given the fact that in the '30s there was such an interest by



Roz White and Teresa Castracane star in MetroStage's production of "Black Pearl Sings!" now through May 29.

ethnomusicologists searching for the origins of American slave songs and other indigenous music," said Griffin.

And with the Library of Congress right here, there are tens of thousands of recorded songs from the 1930s that are fortunately preserved for history because of this research, she added.

Griffin said she finds it interesting when a playwright is influenced by some historical fact (remember last fall in MetroStage's "Uprising," which used John Brown's raid on Harper's Ferry as a jumping off point, leading to a fascinating story with a historic base, she added).

"The playwright in the case of 'Black Pearl Sings!' has created two very memorable characters both on important journeys, depicted by two very interesting, accomplished actors," said Griffin. "And that is

what we do at MetroStage."

Actress Teresa Castracane plays the role of Susannah, a Depression-era musicologist who travels the country looking for folk songs to record for the Library of Congress. "She's driven, ambitious, and has sacrificed some personal relationships for the sake of her ambition," she said. "But she has also suffered setbacks due to being a woman in her field, at a time when it was expected she would marry and have babies. Through the play, she learns some lessons that begin to open her up a bit."

She said the two actors spent a good deal of time calibrating the initial tension between the two characters. "It was important to see some friction between these two strong-willed women, so that there would be room for their relationship to grow," she said. "At the same time, we didn't want to go so far that audiences would feel alienated or put off. There was a lot of wiggle room in the script on this point, and it was fun to fine-tune our work on that first scene

to start the story off on the right foot."

She thinks the play is for anyone interested in seeing strong female characters and relationships on stage. "It also provides a lot of food for thought on the topic of race relations and the troubled history of this country," she said.

She added: "Most of all, though, I'm hoping that audiences will be moved — by the story, but especially by the music. There are songs of every emotional color in this play, and so far, I'm really enjoying watching our audiences enjoy those musical moments."

*Performances for "Black Pearl Sings!" are Wednesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays at 8 p.m.; Saturdays at 3 p.m. and 8 p.m.; and Sundays at 3 p.m. and 7 p.m. Tickets are \$55 to \$60 with student and active military discounts available. For ticket reservations, call the theatre at 703-548-9044 or go online to [www.metrostage.org](http://www.metrostage.org). The venue is located at 1201 North Royal St., in North Old Town. There is free parking and fine dining nearby. The theatre is handicap accessible.*

### 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

**Visitor Appreciation Week.** Through May 6, 11 a.m. at Green Spring Garden's Horticultural Center and Historic House, 4603 Green Spring Road. Free gardening and history events each day, and afterwards enjoy afternoon refreshments. Visit with the gardeners at the edible garden on Thursday, and on Friday learn about Green Spring past and present on a tour led by a Master Gardener docent. Visit

[www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/greenspring](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/greenspring) or call 703-642-5173.

#### Musical: "Starlight Express."

Through May 7, 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 service fee. Visit [www.westpotomactheatre.org](http://www.westpotomactheatre.org).

#### 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,

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) or call 703-746-1751.

#### 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.

#### Art Exhibit: "The Hand Speaks."

Through May 22, gallery hours at The Associates Gallery, 105 N. Union St. The Associates Gallery at the Torpedo Factory Art Center presents work of Kara Hammond and Drew Parris in an exhibit entitled: "The Hand Speaks." Recently juried into the Torpedo Factory, TAG newcomer Parris is primarily self-taught in the medium of graphite drawing. His subjects, often family and friends, offer the viewer an emotional connection to his work. Hammond will feature new ink wash drawings each a story unto themselves. Free.

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

#### Mount Vernon Historic Plant Sale.

Through May 22, 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).

**May Artists Showcase.** Through May 28, gallery hours at Broadway Gallery Fine Art & Framing, 5641-B General Washington Drive. Find paintings of several local artists, celebrating the colors of Spring. Free. Visit [www.broadwaygallery.net](http://www.broadwaygallery.net).

#### Exhibit: Ethiopian Crosses.

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



## ENTERTAINMENT



Above: John McFarlane, Emily Carbone, Delaney Claussen, Frankie Mananzan, David Jarzen. Right: Emily Carbone and David Jarzen

### West Potomac High Presents 'Starlight Express'

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. Shows are April 28-May 7, 5 p.m. Thursdays, 7 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays, 1 p.m. Saturdays at West Potomac High School, 6500 Quander Road. Tickets are \$12 plus a service fee. Visit [www.westpotomactheatre.org](http://www.westpotomactheatre.org).



PHOTOS BY LAURA MARSHALL

Through May 29, gallery hours at St. George Gallery, 105 N. Alfred St. With their elaborate lattice work and geometric patterns, Ethiopian Crosses have a variety of form, and are a decorative artistic emblem. Free. Call 703-299-9495 for more.

**"Black Pearl Sings!"** Through May 29, 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).

#### THURSDAY/MAY 5

Winterthur and Mount Cuba. 6:30

a.m.-7:30 p.m. at Green Spring Garden's Horticultural Center and Historic House, 4603 Green Spring Road. Travel to Wilmington, Delaware, to see woodland gardens at Mt. Cuba Center and Winterthur Gardens, both former DuPont family estates. Tickets are \$120 per person. Register online at [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/greenspring](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/greenspring) using code 290 292 1901 or call 703-642-5173.

#### Mentor Recruitment Boat Ride.

6:30-8:30 p.m. at Alexandria City Marina, 0 Cameron St. The Alexandria Mentoring Partnership (AMP) is seeking community members to help make a difference in the lives of the City's youth. Wine and hors d'oeuvres reception. Free, but donations accepted. To RSVP, contact Lily Rowny at [lily.rownny@alexandriava.gov](mailto:lily.rownny@alexandriava.gov) or 703-746-4455 by Saturday, April 30.

**"An Extraordinary Young Man: The Early Years of George Washington."** 7 p.m. at Gadsby's Tavern Museum, 134 N. Royal St. Dr. Peter Henriques, Professor Emeritus of History from George Mason University, will explore various facets of our early national history through the lens of George Washington and his childhood. \$12 per person, \$10 for members of the Gadsby's Tavern Museum Society and Gadsby's Tavern Museum volunteers. Visit [shop.alexandriava.gov](http://shop.alexandriava.gov).

#### Choral Evensong for Ascension Day.

7:30 p.m. at St. Paul's Episcopal Church, 228 S. Pitt St. The church's adult choir performs music by Josef Rheinberger and Ralph Vaughn Williams. Free. Call 703-549-3312 for more.

SEE CALENDAR, PAGE 18

Share the Excitement! @40Under40\_ACOC • #acoc40

## Call for Nominations!

**Dedicated. Results-oriented. Giver. Leader. Volunteer. Hard-worker. Advocate. Grower. Thinker. Doer.**

Do these words describe you or someone you know? Alexandria's future leaders are working hard to make our city a better place to live, work and play. Recognize their efforts by nominating them to Alexandria Chamber of Commerce's Inaugural 40 Under 40 Class.

Nominees must live, work or volunteer in the City of Alexandria to be considered, and be under 40 years of age. Membership in the Chamber is not required. Individuals may nominate themselves or others.

Submit nominations online by May 20, 2016 at: [www.alexchamber.com](http://www.alexchamber.com).

Join us Mother's Day, Sunday, May 8th.  
Three seatings available.  
Call soon for reservations.

## Le Refuge Restaurant

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- Cold Salmon Platter
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## ENTERTAINMENT

# Celebrate Cinco de Mayo at These 3 Spots

Whether Mexican or Tex-Mex, these restaurants will hit the spot.

BY HOPE NELSON  
GAZETTE PACKET

To be sure, Cinco de Mayo's origins are often misunderstood in the United States. Often incorrectly referred to as Mexico's independence day, the fifth of May is actually the anniversary of the Mexican army's victory against France in 1862. (Mexico's independence day is actually in September — a date not nearly as well-known in America.)

Regardless, diners are all too eager to commemorate the occasion, and Mexican restaurants of the region stand at the ready to assist. Here are three spots to lift a glass — and some guacamole — this week.

### El Paso Mexican Restaurant 6151 Richmond Highway

Just past the Beltway, El Paso (one of four in the locally owned chain) sits unassuming on Route 1, but it's a mistake to drive by without stopping in.

**APPETITE** Step in the front door and leave the highway behind; the restaurant is welcoming and homey from the start.

A helpful hint when visiting El Paso: Come hungry. To say the portions are “generous” is a vast understatement. But in this case, quantity does not negate quality; the food is authentic and fresh, a perfect slice of Mexican comfort food.

Case in point: The burrito selection at El

Paso is second to none. Both Jose's Super Burrito — featuring meat, beans, rice, and veggies — and the Super Vegetarian version (featuring all of the above sans meat) pack a flavor punch, and the size of the meal is as “super” as advertised. Looking for something a little lighter? Give the baja chicken salad a try — or, if you're after the illusion of a lighter meal without following through, the fajita taco salad is a top pick.

### Los Toltecos 4111 Duke St.

Los Toltecos sits at the gateway to the West End of Alexandria, well up Duke Street past Old Town and close to Cameron Station. By dinnertime, the tiny parking lot is often filled to capacity — always a sign of a popular spot.

So many Mexican restaurants in the area split their menu into Something-Mex – Tex-Mex, say, or Salvadorean and Mexican. But Los Toltecos sticks to its purest knitting and the food sings as a result.

To try several samplings of what Los Toltecos has to offer, consider ordering a combination dinner. Choose from tamales, tacos, enchiladas, burritos, and more, and mix and match the fillings to suit your tastes. Be sure to get a taste of the velvety



Feeling indecisive? Try a combination dinner at Los Toltecos.

refried beans, which provide a wonderful texture contrast to the rice and tortillas. Wash everything down with a margarita – and take advantage of the evening happy hour prices.

### Austin Grill 801 King St.

Hang out around Old Town for any length of time and you're sure to know about Austin Grill. The venerable Tex-Mex restaurant has undergone a facelift — and a menu tweak — in recent years, turning it into more of a “tequila bar” than it had been before. The revamp added a little extra pizzazz to the upstairs dining room, making it

a bit more modern while still maintaining a welcoming vibe.

Munch on some hot, crispy chips and ponder your options. The fajitas always hit the spot — whether carnitas, vegetable, or something in between, the final product is a sizzling success. The enchiladas are another gem: Each variety served with an accompanying sauce to match the flavors, the options are plentiful.

Kick back with a Tecate or Corona — or a margarita or mojito — and ring in Cinco de Mayo in style.

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

## CALENDAR

FROM PAGE 17

### FRIDAY/MAY 6

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

**Reception “Surrealism: A Photography Exhibition.”** 7-9 p.m. at Del Ray Artisans Gallery, 2704 Mount Vernon Ave. Del Ray Artisans and Union 206 Studio present a surrealist photographic exhibition pushing the conventions of reality. Free. Visit [www.delrayartisans.org](http://www.delrayartisans.org) for more.

### MAY 6-29

**“Surrealism: A Photography Exhibition.”** Gallery hours at Del Ray Artisans Gallery, 2704 Mount Vernon Ave. Del Ray Artisans and Union 206 Studio present a surrealist photographic exhibition pushing the conventions of reality. Free. Visit [www.delrayartisans.org](http://www.delrayartisans.org) for more.

### SATURDAY/MAY 7

### Mount Vernon Garden Party and Bazaar.

8 a.m.-1 p.m. at Mount Vernon Community School, 2601 Commonwealth Ave. Families can shop for plants and flowers for Mother's Day. Organic heirloom seedlings, plants and bouquets of flowers will be available for purchase. You can also enjoy lemonade, baked goods, raffled prizes, children's crafts, music and more. Proceeds from the event will benefit the MVCS Playground Revitalization Fund. Free. Visit [www.mvcspta.org/playground](http://www.mvcspta.org/playground).

### Stabler-Leadbeater Museum Volunteer Tour Guide Training.

9-10:30 a.m. at Stabler-Leadbeater Apothecary Museum, 105-107 S. Fairfax St. Ideal volunteers should enjoy meeting and talking with people of all ages, love American history, and want to learn more and share this knowledge with others. Free. To apply to become a docent, complete an application online through [www.apothecarymuseum.org](http://www.apothecarymuseum.org).

### Chintz Room at Mount Vernon Reopens.

9 a.m. at George Washington's Mount Vernon, 3200 Mount Vernon Memorial Highway. The Chintz Room, formerly known as the Nelly Custis Bedchamber — a space that more than one-million visitors experience every year during their visit to George Washington's

Mount Vernon — will re-open to the public after being closed for almost two years. Tickets are \$17 for adults, \$16 for seniors, \$9 for youth ages 6-11, free for children 0-5. Members of the military and their dependents are eligible for a \$3 discount off adult general admission tickets. Visit [www.mountvernon.org](http://www.mountvernon.org) for more.

### Great Plants for Wildlife Gardens.

10-11:30 a.m. at Green Spring Garden's Horticultural Center and Historic House, 4603 Green Spring Road. Horticulturalist Brenda Skarphol reveals choice annuals and perennials and gives design tips for planting so a garden looks great into fall. Tickets are \$15 per person. Register online at [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/greenspring](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/greenspring) or call 703-642-5173.

**Spring Art Market.** 10 a.m.-4 p.m. at Del Ray Artisans gallery, 2704 Mount Vernon Ave. Del Ray Artisans' Spring Art Market showcases original artwork from local artists in a wide range of mediums. Rain or shine. Admission is free. Visit [www.TheDelRayArtisans.org/ArtMarket](http://www.TheDelRayArtisans.org/ArtMarket).

**Del Ray House & Garden Tour.** 11 a.m.-5 p.m. throughout the Del Ray neighborhood. A biennial project of the Del Ray Citizens Association, the tour serves as a fundraiser for neighborhood projects and the Alexandria Scholarship Fund. The 11

homes on this year's tour range from a house featured on the cover of “Country Living” magazine to one with a modern addition and a rooftop garden. Tickets are \$20 each until May 1, then \$25. Visit [www.delraycitizens.org](http://www.delraycitizens.org) or the Del Ray Farmers Market for tickets.

**Mother's Afternoon Tea.** 1-4 p.m. at Meade Memorial Episcopal Church, 332 N. Alfred St. An afternoon tea service, games and live music. \$20 suggested donation. Call 703-549-1334 for more.

**Fungi in our Forest.** 1:30-4:30 p.m. at Jerome “Buddie” Ford Nature Center, 5750 Sanger Ave. Biologist Amy Milo will give a short introduction of the basics of fungi types and their life cycles before taking to the woods to find and identify spring fungi. Free. Call 703-746-5525 for more, use code Activity #66980.

**Monopainting Family Art Workshop.** 2-3:30 p.m. at Convergence, 1801 N. Quaker Lane. Create a work of art using one color and it's different shades. In the workshop you and your child will learn a simple art technique called monopainting. Workshop fee is \$30 parent/child (all art supplies included). Visit [www.metamorphosisaec.com/mama/classes](http://www.metamorphosisaec.com/mama/classes).

**Secretive Salamanders.** 4 p.m. at

Huntley Meadows Park, 3701 Lockheed Blvd. Participants will be guided on a 1.5-mile walk through salamander habitat to try to spot salamanders and learn about the role they play in promoting healthy forests. The cost is \$6. Participants should remove all dirt and mud from their shoes before arriving to help prevent the spread of pathogens. Visit [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/huntley-meadows-park/](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/huntley-meadows-park/).

**Bowties & Belles.** 4:30-8 p.m. at Belle Haven Country Club, 6023 Fort Hunt Road. The Junior Friends of The Campagna Center present an annual fundraiser featuring food, mint juleps, wagering, silent auctions, hat and bowtie contest, and more. Tickets are \$100. Visit [www.campagnacenter.org/events/bowties-belles](http://www.campagnacenter.org/events/bowties-belles) for more.

**Country-Western Dance.** 6:30-7:30 p.m. lesson, 7:30-10 p.m. dancing at Hollin Hall Senior Center, 1500 Shenandoah Road. A DJ provides music. Couples and singles welcome. Admission for NVCWDA members \$10; non-members \$12; children under 18 accompanied by a paying adult \$5. Visit [www.nvcwda.org](http://www.nvcwda.org). **“The Transformative.”** 8 p.m. at Rachel M. Schlesinger Concert Hall, 4915 E. Campus Drive. Listen to Gershwin, Zimmer, and more. Tickets are \$20-80, \$10 for students, \$5 for youth. Visit [www.alexsym.org](http://www.alexsym.org).

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# ENTERTAINMENT

## SUNDAY/MAY 8

**Mother's Day Tea.** 12 p.m. and 2:30 p.m. at the Carlyle House, 121 N. Fairfax St. Relax in the Magnolia Terrace and attend educational program "First Lady Firsts." Find personalized tableside service and food catered by Calling Card Events. The event is \$40 for adults; \$20 for children ages 5-17; free for children 4 and younger. Call 703-549-2997.

**Mother's Day Tea.** 1:30-3 p.m. and 4-5:30 p.m. at Green Spring Garden's Horticultural Center and Historic House, 4603 Green Spring Road. Find a Mother's Day-themed tea menu. Take the Mother's Day quiz to learn all about this traditional rite of spring and earn the opportunity to take home a door prize. Tickets are \$47. To make reservations, call 703-941-7987.

## MONDAY/MAY 9

**Workshop: "Developing Willpower for Artists."** 6-9 p.m. at Nicholas A. Colasanto Center, 2704 Mount Vernon Ave. The workshop is sponsored by Yoga in Daily Life Alexandria. Instructor Vedrana Josipovic (Madhu) will provide tools needed to assess and make a plan to achieve goals. The fee is \$40 for Del Ray Artisans members and \$50 for non-members. Register at [www.TheDelRayArtisans.org/Willpower](http://www.TheDelRayArtisans.org/Willpower).

## TUESDAY/MAY 10

**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.

**Excellence in Aging Awards.** 5:30 p.m. at Vola Lawson Lobby of City Hall, 301 King St. Five awardees will receive awards in four categories. Free. Call 703-746-5694.

**All About Composting.** 7-8:30 p.m. at Barrett Library, 717 Queen St. Learn how to turn yard and garden clippings and kitchen waste into "black gold" that will enrich the soil in your garden. Free. Register at [mgnv.org](http://mgnv.org).

## MAY 10-JUNE 19

**Multiple Exposures Gallery: New Photos by E. E. McCollum.** Gallery hours at The Torpedo Factory, 105 N. Union St. McCollum's work explores familiarity, simplicity, and the commitment to place in a series of photographs made over the course of a year at a small, suburban pond. Working in black and white, McCollum brings a sense of intimacy to a small, and easily dismissed, landscape. Free. Visit [www.multipleexposuresgallery.com](http://www.multipleexposuresgallery.com).

## WEDNESDAY/MAY 11

**Parent Child Art Class.** 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. at Mount Vernon Presbyterian Church, 2001 Sherwood Hall Lane. Metamorphosis will present a free parent child art class at the MOMS Club of Alexandria South monthly meeting. Children of all ages are welcome at the meeting. MOMS Club of Alexandria South serves at-home parents as well as parents who work part-time or have home-based businesses and who reside in zip codes 22303, 22306 and 22307. Free. Email

[Southalex moms@yahoo.com](mailto:Southalex moms@yahoo.com).

**Storytelling and Sacred Space.** 7 p.m. at Immanuel Chapel, 3737 Seminary Road. Students present stories connected to the theme of sacred space in Scripture. Free. [www.vts.edu](http://www.vts.edu).

**The Wonders of Wildflowers.** 7:30 p.m. at Huntley Meadows Park, 3701 Lockheed Blvd. A presentation on Virginia's native wildflowers by Laura Beaty and Alan Ford of the Virginia Native Plant Society. The speakers will highlight many native plants. Free. Visit [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks) or call 703-768-2525.

**Swing Dance.** 9-11 p.m. at Nick's Nightclub, 642 S. Pickett St. Attend a DJ swing dance featuring the great recorded music of the 1930s, '40s, '50s, and even some contemporary songs. Tickets are \$6. Visit [www.gottaswing.com](http://www.gottaswing.com).

## THURSDAY/MAY 12

**Garden Tour & Tea.** 1-3 p.m. at Green Spring Garden's Horticultural Center and Historic House, 4603 Green Spring Road. Tour some of the demonstration gardens with a master gardener docent who will share stories of Green Spring past and present. Afterwards, enjoy a traditional English afternoon tea served in the 1784 historic house. Tickets are \$32. To make reservations, call Historic Green Spring at 703-941-7987.

**"Digging In: Understanding Archaeological Protection in Alexandria."** 7 p.m. at Lloyd House, 220 N. Washington St. The City Archaeology team will explain how archaeological resources are protected and update attendees on current findings. Free. Visit [alexandriava.gov/Historic](http://alexandriava.gov/Historic).

**Artist Meet & Greet.** 7 p.m. at The Torpedo Factory Art Center, 105 N. Union St. The Torpedo Factory Art Center has a brand new mural on the loading dock door, facing Union Street. DC-based artist Erin Curtis finished her newest work, "Beaded Curtain," last week. Free. Visit [www.torpedofactory.org](http://www.torpedofactory.org) for more.

**How Bugs Make the World Go Around.** 7:30-9 p.m. at Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road. Michael J. Raupp's presentation will explain how insects and their relatives help make the world go around by providing important ecosystem services, linking members of food webs, pollinating plants, and providing biological control. Free. Visit [www.vnps.org/potowmack](http://www.vnps.org/potowmack).

## THURSDAY-FRIDAY/MAY 12-13

**Unplugged: A Night of Dance, Film and Theater.** 7 p.m. at West Potomac High School, 6500 Quander Road. West Potomac Academy Dance and Professional Television Production students are teaming up with West Potomac High School's Beyond the Page Theater Company to produce a dance, theater, and film festival—Unplugged. Free. Contact [cjbetzl@fcps.edu](mailto:cjbetzl@fcps.edu).

## FRIDAY/MAY 13

**The Howard Gardner School Not-So-Silent Auction.** 6:30-9:30 p.m. at The Howard Gardner School, 4913 Franconia Road. Join The Howard Gardner School community for our annual auction to benefit the Fund-A-Student program. Free. Call 703-822-9300 or visit [hgsauction.weebly.com](http://hgsauction.weebly.com).

**Hunger Free Alexandria Benefit Concert.** 7:30 p.m. at St. Paul's Episcopal Church, 228 S. Pitt St. The

benefit concert will feature Stetson University's Concert Choir. Free, donations accepted. Visit [www.hungerfreealexandria.com](http://www.hungerfreealexandria.com).

## FRIDAY-SUNDAY/MAY 13-15


**Spring Wine Festival & Sunset Tour.** 6-9 p.m. at Mount Vernon, 3200 Mount Vernon Highway. Mount Vernon's Spring Wine Festival & Sunset Tour celebrates the history of wine in Virginia with evening tours of the Mansion and cellar, appearances by "George and Martha Washington," and live jazz on the east lawn. Historic interpreters will conduct tours of the Mansion throughout the evening. The interpreters will discuss Washington's attempts at creating a vineyard and highlight various wine-related items inside the Mansion, including the basement's brick vaults where Washington stored his wine. Tickets are \$40 for Friday, \$48 for Saturday, and \$36 for Sunday. Visit [www.mountvernon.org](http://www.mountvernon.org).


## SATURDAY/MAY 14

**In Their Shoes 5K Run/Walk.** 7 a.m. at United States Patent and Trademark Office, 600 Dulany St. The Iraqi Children Foundation (ICF), a 501 (c) (3) charity, is hosting its Fourth Annual In Their Shoes 5K Run/Walk to benefit Iraq's most vulnerable children, orphans, street children and those fleeing ISIS. Registration is \$30 in advance, \$35 starting April 1. There is a discount for groups. Visit [www.iraqichildren.org/in-their-shoes-5k-2016](http://www.iraqichildren.org/in-their-shoes-5k-2016) to register.

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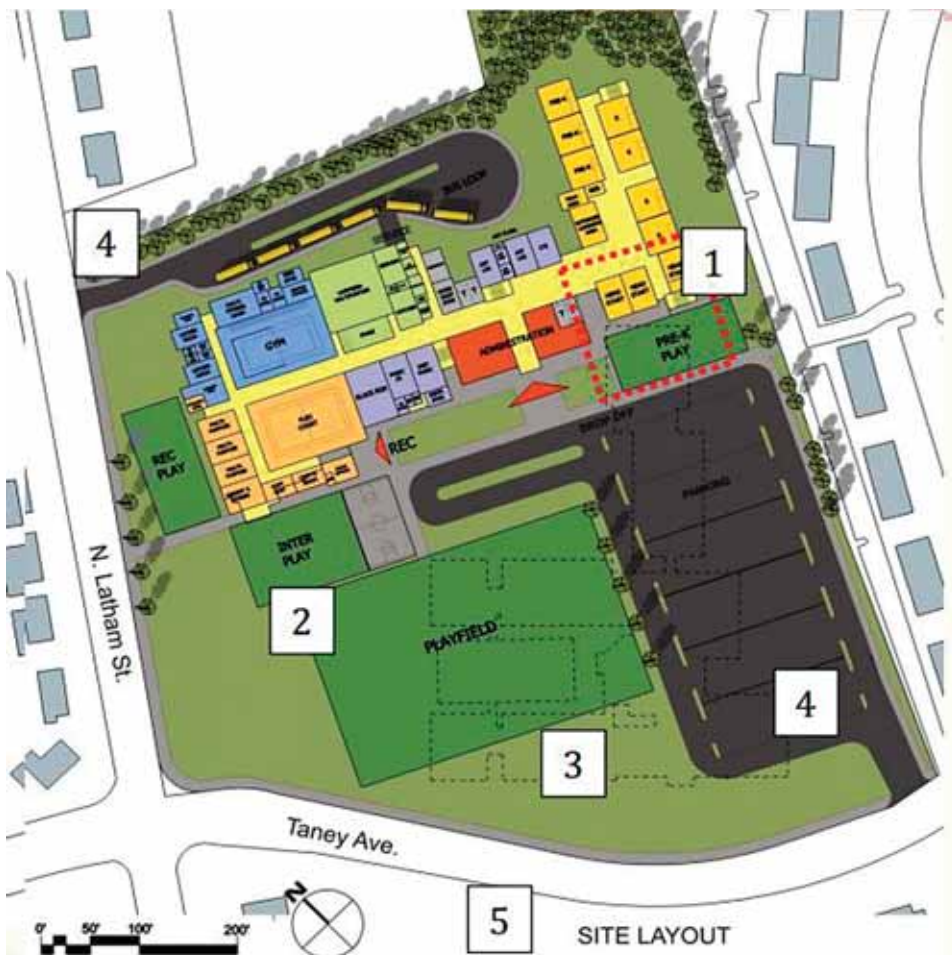
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A.1 design, which included primary bus access from N. Latham Street.



C.1 design, which incorporates all traffic to and from the school from Taney Avenue except emergency vehicle access from N. Latham Street.

PHOTOS CONTRIBUTED

# Design Supported as Patrick Henry Moves Forward

FROM PAGE 1  
discussions about entrance on Latham Street,” said group member Alissa Oram. “The community has spoken.”

Others noted that, in the two occasions the current plans had been presented to the School Board, the response had been to work with the community to find an option that didn’t include N. Latham street access.

“I don’t think A-1 is a real option here,” said Mary Biegel, a group member representing the Seminary Hill Civic Association. “We’ve received guidance at two School Board meetings now that we’re only to look at emergency access if that’s possible, and here it is. It’s possible.”

Pending School Board review at a May 5 meeting and future approval, Option C.1 seems to be the frontrunner in the debate over the design of the new Patrick Henry

school. However, while the N. Latham Street controversy dies down, another gets ready to build. The advisory group raised an issue that had been circulating through local

Parent Teacher Associations: neither design includes an auditorium for the school.

“The auditorium is not something in the specs or the dollars,” said Clarence Stukes, chief operations officer for the schools. “We’re going to have to address that. It

**“The whole idea of cafeteria serving as an auditorium when they need to have a large gathering is a fad. We build our schools that are expected to last forever, and that fad will die.”**

— City Councilwoman Redella “Del” Pepper

would change the footprint and the timing [of the project].” The sites include a small black box theater for some productions, which is shared with the recreation center,

but for larger events the plan is to use the cafeteria as a flexible space: a cafeteria.

This did not sit well with members of the advisory group. “The whole idea of cafeteria serving as an auditorium when they need to have a large gathering is a fad,” said City

Councilwoman Redella “Del” Pepper. “We build our schools that are expected to last forever, and that fad will die.”

Some in the group suggested approving two potential designs, one with a separate auditorium drawn in and one without, so that a feasibility study can be done and the group can continue to discuss the topic without having to move back into the basics of the project design.

“We’ve heard the concerns about the auditorium, but the architect can’t just go back in and draw it,” said Elijah Gross, director of Planning, Construction and Design for the schools. “We’re looking at a seriously impacted schedule. It’s not as simple as I think it’s being stated to be.”

Adding an auditorium would require changing the specifications for the school through the School Board.

**HAPPY TEACHER APPRECIATION WEEK**

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Alexandria Early Care & Education Work Group convened by ACT for Alexandria.

[www.actforalexandria.org/early-care-education](http://www.actforalexandria.org/early-care-education)

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# LETTERS

FROM PAGE 12

anything less is fiscally and morally irresponsible.

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

## Preserving History, More than a Month

To the Editor:

May is Historic Preservation month, and I want to make it a meaningful month for Preservation in Alexandria. Recently the Alexandria Archeology Commission held an event at the city's history museum, The Lyceum, welcoming nominations to the first-ever list of threatened and endangered sites in Alexandria. This was an important event that was long overdue on a local level to help save places that help us tell the story of Alexandria. Not one member of the press was there, and no elected officials, just citizens, some of whom have been active for decades in preservation, each with a place that they wanted others to know is important to them.

There were obvious sites like the Appomattox Statue on Washington Street that is currently being studied by a task force, and then there were new discoveries like a section of railroad track along the original stretch of the Norfolk Southern Railway.

The three sites I nominated were the

Ramsey Homes, 226 South Strand (Alexandria Marine Building), and the Old Town Movie Theater.

Ramsey Homes has already been approved for demolition by the City Council, who has also rezoned the property for greater density and there is a plan to redevelop it for affordable housing. But one building could be saved, restored and added as a resource to the Black History Museum, the only museum in the Parker Gray Historic District.

The Old Town Movie Theater, after changing ownership, has languished, with seemingly no concern from elected officials, and combined with other vacancies on King Street is a drag instead of a draw for visitors.

Lastly, The Alexandria Marine Building is slated for demolition, only to be replaced by some sort of visitor facility, because both the city and the developer of Robinson Terminal South lack the creativity and imagination to re-purpose it to something that would add to the waterfront instead of removing a historic piece of it. All they see is a neglected building that doesn't fit in the polished waterfront that has been proposed.

And, as far as I know, Bert Ely's suggestion to preserve, instead of demolish the existing Old Dominion Boat Club building at the foot of King Street — when the club moves to its new location, (<http://www.connectionnewspapers.com/news/2016/apr/07/alexandria-column-proposal->

SEE LETTERS, PAGE 26

Year-Round Admissions, Two Locations, AML since 1965

## Aquinas Montessori School

Parent information Session

**Parent Panel: "Parents, Teachers, and Alumni  
TALK MONTESSORI"**

Listen, learn, and ask questions about Montessori Education and

Aquinas Montessori School

Thursday, May 12, 7:00 to 8:30 pm

Please RSVP

## OPEN HOUSE

Tuesday, May 31, 7:00 to 8:00 pm



8334 Mount Vernon Highway, Alexandria, VA 22309  
(703) 780-8484 or [info@aquinasmontessorischool.com](mailto:info@aquinasmontessorischool.com)



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# Accomplice in Beverley Park Homicide Sentenced

FROM PAGE 1  
victim of the gang.

Harris said Gutierrez grew up in El Salvador, where she was kidnapped and abused twice by MS-13 as a child. According to Harris, the encounters resulted in severe trauma and both physical and psychological scars, stunting some aspects of developmental growth and leading to two attempted suicides. Harris provided a psychological report to the court, but because Gutierrez is a minor, the report was sealed from public record. During the second abduction, Harris said Gutierrez was held for months, but eventually stole money from the gang and made her escape. But when she came to Alexandria, Gutierrez met and began dating the 21-year-old Castro, also charged in the murder. Castro was affiliated with MS-13 and introduced her to other members, who knew about her past in El Salvador and that she had stolen money, and used the knowledge to coerce her into participating in gang activities.

A part of the verdict centered around whether or not Gutierrez, an undocumented immigrant, would receive a protected immigration status sometimes offered to someone found guilty of a minor crime. Given Gutierrez's past in El Salvador, Harris argued that putting a conviction like this on the defendant's record would make her a target for immigration sweeps and could result in Gutierrez being deported back to the country where she'd been repeatedly kidnapped and abused.

"She's terrified for her life," argued Har-

ris. "Putting this conviction on her record could be a death sentence."

Instead of being placed into the Juvenile Justice system, Harris argued she should be sent to the Gang Intervention and Prevention Program, to eventually be moved with her father to an area outside of MS-13's reach.

But the prosecution argued that those protections would deny justice to the family of Luis Ferman.

"She took her tragedy and made it someone else's. She passed that violence on," said David Lord, Senior Assistant Commonwealth's

Attorney. "If not for the choices the defendant made, Ferman would be here. With all of the trauma she experienced at the hands of MS-13, she knew what they were capable of and she delivered him like a lamb to the slaughter to a pack of wolves."

Lord didn't argue that Gutierrez killed Luis Ferman or even that she knew the gang would kill him, but that she did know Luis Ferman would come to some kind of harm as a result of her actions. The only witness called before the court was Carmen Ferman, the victim's mother. She was flanked in the

galley by family and friends of Luis, all with white shirts bearing messages of love and remembrance for the deceased. Of Carmen Ferman's seven children, Luis was the oldest, and she said he had helped make her life in this country something special.

"This has been very hard. He was a beautiful, good person," Carmen Ferman said with the help of a translator. "He was the most beautiful thing in my life. He was the best thing we had in this country. We dreamed of a future here. Now three children will be left behind who won't know their fa-

ther."

Carmen Ferman said her son used to send her text messages every day, asking her "how's the most beautiful woman in the world?"

"He was my support as a single mom," said Carmen Ferman. "He was my right hand; emotionally, physically, financially. Not having my son in my life, it's like my life has been taken. He's the only one I had in this country. I have lost all my happiness. Every moment, every minute, every hour, I don't believe he's dead. I believe he's going

to stop by and say 'what's up, mom?'"

Afterwards, Gutierrez wept and apologized to the family.

"I was in a difficult situation and I didn't know what to do," said Gutierrez. "I made a bad decision, I made a serious mistake. I am so sorry something so horrible happened to Luis ... I didn't know what was going to happen to him."

But despite being moved by Gutierrez's apology and the description of her upbringing in El Salvador, Judge Nolan Dawkins decided that the Commonwealth had already shown enough leniency in not charging her in the murder.

"I recognize your youth and your trauma," said Dawkins. "Part of that trauma was with MS-13 and it taught you about violence. I'm certain you had no belief that he would lose his life, but I do believe you knew what the gang was capable of. At the minimum, you knew he would not leave that park in the condition he came in."

Dawkins committed Gutierrez to the Department of Juvenile Justice for an indeterminate sentence, with three years of adult incarceration suspended but under supervised probation upon her release from the juvenile system.

Judge Dawkins argued that the gravity of Gutierrez's crime made her ineligible for the protected status.

"I recognize the potential harm if returned to [El Salvador], but I have no control over that," said Dawkins. "Whoever makes that decision will have to decide if you have suffered enough."

**"I'm certain you had no belief that he would lose his life, but I do believe you knew what the gang was capable of. At the minimum, you knew he would not leave that park in the condition he came in."**

— Judge Nolan Dawkins

# Opposition to Old Colony Inn Proposal Turns Personal

FROM PAGE 1

grace to City Hall" for suggesting that the city waive a setback requirement for the building.

After being told by Planning Commission Chair Mary Lyman that personal attacks on the staff would not be tolerated, Marston stood in the audience and shouted that the commission was naive.

According to the Planning Commission members, it may have been these types of arguments that helped seal the decision.

"I've heard three types of arguments tonight," said Commission Member David Brown. "One was an attack on the good

faith of the planning staff as beholden to the developers. I reject those types of arguments. The other arguments are not helped by that type of argument."

Additionally, Brown said that he heard and to an extent agreed with arguments from some residents that it was not ideal.

"But we're not the Politburo, we don't get to dictate what type of application comes before us," said Brown. "We vote thumbs up or thumbs down. I believe that it's a legitimate argument that zone transition should be applied more strictly, but that's a policy argument. It has not been strictly applied [in the past] ... Reiterate those ar-

guments to the City Council as a policy decision."

As for the overshadowing of the nearby residences, Brown said that he had not found it to be a significant detriment.

In keeping with Brown's advice, Newbury says many residents do plan on continuing the fight all the way to the City Council on May 14.

"I'm disappointed but not surprised," said Newbury. "We made our best argument."

Elizabeth Chimento said that residents had spoken to individual members of the Planning Commission and said two had already openly made up their minds before

the meeting.

"They're supposed to approach the citizens with an open mind," said Chimento. "But they didn't listen to us. It creates an unequal playing field."

But for those on the commission, listening to the feedback from the public doesn't always mean agreeing with them.

"This has been a successful community engagement, and with due respect to the dissatisfaction in the room, this project has been refined and thoughtfully addressed," said Commission Member Stephen Koenig.

The decision passed with a unanimous 7-0 vote.

## BULLETIN BOARD

FROM PAGE 9

2017-2022 by visiting AlexEngage through Sunday, May 8. Comments received will inform the draft FY 2017-2022 City Strategic Plan to be presented to Council in the fall. Visit alexandriava.gov/StrategicPlan or sign up to receive eNews notifications on this project.

### MONDAY/MAY 9

**Credit Report Workshop.** 6:30-8:30 p.m. at Burke Branch Library, 4701 Seminary Road. Virginia Cooperative Extension Master Financial Volunteers lead a session discussing how to obtain a free copy of your

credit report and how to decipher and understand it. Free. Visit bit.ly/VCEFinancePrograms for more.

### TUESDAY/MAY 10

**Doing Business in the City.** 9-11 a.m. at The Lyceum, 201 S. Washington St. This forum will be an opportunity for new and seasoned small businesses owners in Alexandria to hear from and interact with the City officials and staff who administer small business regulations in the City. The format will be a panel discussion, Q&A, and time to talk individually. Free. Visit alexandriasbdc.org/event/doing-business-in-alexandria/ for more.

### POTOMACYARDMETRORAILSTATION

The Potomac Yard Metrorail Station Development Special Use Permit will go to the Planning Commission and City Council for approval in June. Leading up to the public hearing, there will be numerous opportunities to learn about the project. Visit www.alexandriava.gov/PotomacYard.

❖ **Community Meeting 2:** May 11, 6:30-8:30 p.m. at the Durant Center, 1605 Cameron St. This meeting will focus on potential construction impacts and ways to minimize or avoid those impacts.

❖ **Open House 1:** May 17, 6-8 p.m. at the Charles Houston Recreation

Center, 901 Wythe St. This meeting will provide information about the project, including design, environmental impacts, and construction impacts. It will be an open house format, designed so the members of the community can drop in on their own schedule.

❖ **Potomac Yard Metrorail Implementation Work Group:** May 23, 6:30-8:30 p.m. at the Charles Houston Recreation Center, 901 Wythe St. This meeting will focus on station design.

❖ **Open House 2:** June 2, 6:30-8:30 p.m. at the Charles Houston Recreation Center, 901 Wythe St. This meeting will provide information about the project,

including design, environmental impacts, and construction impacts. It will be an open house format, designed so members of the community can drop in on their own schedule.

### WEDNESDAY/MAY 11

**School Tour.** 10-11:30 a.m. at Burgundy Farm Country Day School, 3700 Burgundy Road, Alexandria. School serves pre-kindergarten to 8th grade. Childcare available. Call 703-329-6968 to RSVP or schedule a personal tour. Visit www.burgundyfarm.org.

SEE BULLETIN BOARD, PAGE 26

WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM



## WELLBEING



PHOTO COURTESY OF ALZHEIMER'S ASSOCIATION

Teams work to raise money for the Alzheimer's Association during the annual Longest Day event.

# Working to End the Longest Day

Event to raise awareness and funds for research programs of Alzheimer's Association.

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL  
GAZETTE PACKET

Emily Rusch says her mother died a slow and heartbreaking death from Alzheimer's Disease. The experience felt continuous and excruciating.

"Caring for someone with Alzheimer's is really like one never-ending day," said Rusch, office manager for Strength & Performance Training, Inc. (SAPT) in Fairfax.

This June, she and her team of SAPT colleagues will join with teams of people around the world to participate in The Longest Day, a sunrise-to-sunset challenge to raise awareness and funds for research programs of the Alzheimer's Association. The name of the event honors the strength, passion and endurance of those facing Alzheimer's.

Held annually on the summer solstice, The Longest Day symbolizes the challenging journey of those living with the disease and their caregivers. Teams are encouraged to create their own experience as they fundraise and participate in an activity they love to honor someone facing the disease.

SAPT will hold a fundraising event on June 18 by offering free workouts and classes for 16 continuous hours. "We're open for all of the daylight hours on the 18th, and in return, we're asking for donations that will go to support the Alzheimer's Association's mission," said Rusch.

The SAPT team is also taking donations in advance and has raised nearly \$1,000 of their \$5,000 goal.

**"Caring for someone with Alzheimer's is really like one never-ending day."**

— Emily Rusch

Rusch hopes to do her part to halt the disease's cycle which she has experienced first-hand.

"My daughters were 8 and 11 when my mother died. They never really knew because she was in the advanced stages of Alzheimer's," she said. "When I was a child, my grandmother had Alzheimer's so I never knew her either. I'm doing the Longest Day because research is important to finding a cure or viable treatment."

Yen DeAnda of Alexandria, whose father has Alzheimer's, is participating in The Longest Day and is the captain of Springfield's Team Bridge Heroes United. The team, which is based out of a retirement community in Springfield, is intergenerational. There are high school students who play alongside seniors.

This June will be their fourth year participating in the event. In the last three years, the team has raised more than \$58,000 for the Alzheimer's Association. In 2013, the team's first year, they finished in the top 20 teams in the nation. In 2014 and 2015, they finished in the Top 10.

"The [seniors] need exposure to different people to stay engaged and alert. The kids light up the room when they are there," said DeAnda. "Some kids have brought their grandparents to play."

The bridge club helps seniors in two ways. Club members raise money for Alzheimer's research by playing the game, and the game itself is an activity that keeps seniors engaged.

"You're forced to interact with other people and that helps you keep your sanity," said DeAnda. "Social connection is huge."

While June 20 is the official date for The Longest Day event, the Alzheimer's Association encourages activities and fundraising around this date.

Cindy Schelhorn of the Alzheimer's Association says that teams across the nation develop creative ways to raise money. "We've seen ... Rocking Chair Marathon ... writing letters to loved ones, yard sales [and] yoga."

For information, visit [alz.org/thelongestday](http://alz.org/thelongestday) or call 800-272-3900.

## The Longest Day: June 20

To learn more and to start or join a team, visit [alz.org/thelongestday](http://alz.org/thelongestday) or call 800-272-3900.

### SAPT Strength

[act.alz.org/site/TR?team\\_id=325449&fr\\_id=8480&pg=team](http://act.alz.org/site/TR?team_id=325449&fr_id=8480&pg=team)

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**Sunday:**  
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**Monday-Saturday:**  
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**Monday, May 16, 2016**  
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VIDEO SCREENSHOTS BY JON ROETMAN/GAZETTE PACKET

Woodson's Sean Garin, right, defends against T.C. Williams' Kevin Nunez.

T.C. Williams' Jose Bonilla Sosa scored two goals and nearly had a third during the Titans' 2-1 win over Woodson on Monday.

# TC Boys' Soccer Secures No. 2 Seed in Conference 7

## Bonilla Sosa's 2 goals lead Titans past Woodson.

BY JON ROETMAN  
GAZETTE PACKET

A second-half goal by Jose Bonilla Sosa and a persistent thunder storm helped the T.C. Williams boys' soccer team secure second place in Conference 7 and left the Woodson Cavaliers wondering what could have been.

Bonilla Sosa's header in the 45th

minute — his second goal of the match — gave T.C. Williams the lead and the Titans held on for a 2-1 victory in a weather-shortened contest in Alexandria.

Inclement weather forced teams off the field in the 64th minute with TC leading 2-1. Thirty minutes must pass after the last sign of thunder or lightning before play can resume. About an hour passed before the match was called and

the result became official. Darkness was also a factor as T.C. Williams does not have lights on its field.

The win improved T.C. Williams' record to 11-1 overall and 5-1 in the conference, and the Titans secured the No. 2 seed in the conference tournament. TC's lone loss this season came against No. 1 seed and defending conference champion West Potomac.

Woodson fell to 5-7 overall and 4-3 in the conference.

"They were taking it to TC," Woodson head coach Andrew Peck said about the Cavaliers' performance. "[TC] killed everybody else but West Potomac and then we come out here and they're 1-1 for 60 percent of the match and then it gets called. ... This is something to build on."

Bonilla Sosa's first goal gave the Titans a 1-0 lead in the 15th minute. Woodson junior Sam Reeves netted the equalizer in the

35th minute.

"We kind of shot ourselves in the foot, came out flat in the first half," TC head coach Peter Abed said. "It's kind of been a little theme of ours we've got to correct. You can't always just out-play teams, you've got to out-work teams and the West Po game and this game I don't think that happened, and Woodson took advantage. They're a good team, they organize, they play hard and they came at us hard."

Not all of the Titans had an issue with working hard.

"Luckily Jose came to play today," Abed said. "He was playing for the full time."

What makes Bonilla Sosa a dangerous player?

"I think one of his best attributes is his work rate," Abed said. "He's able to get up and down the field at a phenomenal rate. He's all over the place. Today, he really came energized and ready to go. ... He just has ... impeccable timing of when to arrive on the far post for balls coming across, corner kicks, things like that. He just knows exactly when to get there ..."

T.C. Williams faced West Springfield on Wednesday, after the Gazette Packet's deadline. The Titans will host McLean at 4:30 p.m. on Friday, May 6.

Woodson will host Westfield at 7 p.m. on Friday, May 6.

"The hallmark of a good team is you win when you don't have your best day, for sure," Abed said. "That's something we always preach. We want them to have that mentality of, 'OK, even if we're not playing our best, we can at least work our absolute hardest,' and then no matter what happens you've worked as hard as you possibly can to achieve the result."



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

T.C. Williams senior attacker Meredith Hyre signed a letter of intent on April 13 to play lacrosse at Butler University.

## SSSAS to Host Draper Invitational

St. Stephen's &amp; St. Agnes School will host the 35th Annual Draper Track &amp; Field Invitational May 6 and 7. Events begin at 2 p.m. on Friday and 1 p.m. on Saturday.

More than 30 schools will be competing, including Bishop Ireton and Episcopal.



On April 19, St. Stephen's & St. Agnes School congratulated two more student-athletes who have made commitments to play at the collegiate level next year. The seniors gathered with their families and coaches to celebrate: Max Gallahan (left), Virginia Military Institute, wrestling, and Ian Thompson (right), College of William & Mary, swimming. Twenty-three Saints from the Class of 2016 have made commitments to play in college next year.



## 21 Announcements

**ABC NOTICE**  
Tabitha Monet, Inc trading as Monet Gogh Sip, 1101 Queen St, Alexandria, VA 22314. The above establishment is applying to the VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL (ABC) for an Art Studio license to sell or manufacture alcoholic beverages. Tabitha Monet, owner  
NOTE: Objections to the issuance of this license must be submitted to ABC no later than 30 days from the publishing date of the first of two required newspaper legal notices. Objections should be registered at [www.abc.virginia.gov](http://www.abc.virginia.gov) or 800-552-3200.

## 21 Announcements

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

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**\*Two block walk to Waynewood school and pool park\***  
\*Best offer over \$649,999 as is\*  
Updates to Dover model on large corner lot include kitchen expansion, baths, hvac, double garage, master br/ba addition, 3/4 bedrooms, 2 full and 2 half baths, landscaping, adjoining yards for pets and children, spacious family room with fireplace, cathedral ceiling and matching Anderson atrium doors leading to 2 of 3 hardscape decks.  
\*Call 703-862-7240\*  
\*Commission to seller agent.\*

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\*Call 703-862-7240\*  
\*Commission to seller agent.\*

## 21 Announcements

### PUBLIC NOTICE

May 7  
Please be advised that a brief fireworks display will take place as part of a private event at George Washington's Mount Vernon on the following date:

Saturday, May 7, between 8:30 p.m. and 9:00 p.m. (5 minutes)

The Mount Vernon Ladies' Association thanks you for your tolerance and apologizes for any disruption. To receive Mount Vernon fireworks notifications via e-mail, write to [Events@MountVernon.org](mailto:Events@MountVernon.org)

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## OBITUARY



**Virginia "Gina" Irene Flanagan** passed away peacefully from kidney failure April 21, 2016 in her Mount Vernon, Virginia home of 40 years. With her were her husband Earl Layton Flanagan and eldest son John Layton Flanagan.

Gina was born on August 7, 1927 in Hammond, Indiana to Harold Bruggeman and Gunhild (Holden) Bruggeman. She is survived by an older sister Dorothy Lloyd Weis and younger brothers Harold and Kenneth. She was preceded in death by younger brothers Richard and Jan.

Gina is also survived by her husband of 57 years, Earl Flanagan, sons John, Brett and wife Karen Flanagan, daughter Julia Flanagan, and 2 grandchildren Irene and David Flanagan.

Prior to moving to Virginia Gina grew up in Cudahy, Green Bay, and Milwaukee, Wisconsin and Harvey Illinois, where she married Earl on Valentines Day in 1959. Originally employed by Trane, Gina was then the Prudential Insurance Company Construction Office Manager during the erection of the Prudential skyscraper on the Chicago lakefront, and Head of the Prudential Reception Staff. Upon moving to Virginia in 1973 Gina was Executive Secretary for Commonwealth Scientific in Alexandria, Va, and retired in 1988 as Executive Secretary to the Red Cross Eastern Headquarters in Alexandria, VA.

Cunningham Turch Funeral Home in Alexandria is in charge of the funeral arrangements. A Memorial Service will be held Friday, May 6 at 11AM in the Mount Vernon Presbyterian Church, 2001 Sherwood Hall Lane, Alexandria, Virginia 22306. The Service will be followed by a luncheon reception in the adjacent Fellowship Hall.

Inurnment will be at a later date in the Arlington National Cemetery, Arlington, VA.

Contributions in her memory can be made to the Mount Vernon Presbyterian Church where Gina was an Elder, to WETA Public Broadcasting or to the Viola Lawson Animal Shelter, Alexandria, VA.

Please post condolences at <http://www.cunninghamfuneralhome.net>.

## OBITUARY



**Joseph (Joe) Gary Figliola, (age 52),** passed away unexpectedly on March 25, 2016, in Alexandria, VA. He was born on June 21, 1963, in Schenectady, NY, to Joseph and Marie Figliola. Joe grew up in Scotia, NY, and graduated from Scotia-Glenville High School. He attended The Citadel in Charleston, SC, and graduated in 1985 with a Bachelor of Science degree in Mathematics. He was awarded The Citadel's highest mathematics award, The George E. Reves Award for Superior Mathematical Ability and Outstanding Achievements. Joe continued his education, earning a Master's of Science Degree in Computer Systems Management from the University of Southern California. As a member of the U.S. Air Force, Joe was Chief of the System Design and Analysis Branch at Boerfink Mountain in Kaserne, Germany. There he was awarded the Air Force Achievement Medal for meritorious service. Following his military service, Joe worked in the field of computer science in the Washington, D.C. area. At the time of his passing, he was a Computer Systems Manager for Digital Management, Inc. in Bethesda, MD. Joe loved supporting his sons' music and sports activities, hiking and camping in the Adirondacks and playing golf. Joe is survived by his sons, Joseph (Joey) C. Figliola and James (Jimmy) M. Figliola of Alexandria, VA; his former wife, Mary C. Figliola of Alexandria, VA; his parents, Joseph and Marie Figliola of Scotia, NY; his brother, Shayne (Guida) Figliola, of Austin, MN; and his neices, nephews, great nieces and nephews. Joe was preceded in death by his infant son, Stuart Michael Figliola. A memorial service will be held at Aldersgate Methodist Church, 1301 Collingwood Road, Alexandria, VA 22308 at 11:00 a.m. on Saturday, May 14, 2016. In lieu of flowers the family requests memorial donations be made to Fort Hunt Youth Athletic Association, James Madison University School of Music, or a charity of your choosing. Demaine Funeral Home, Alexandria, Virginia is handling the arrangements. [www.demainefuneralhomes.com](http://www.demainefuneralhomes.com)

## 28 Yard Sales

**GIANT YARD SALE**  
Washington Farm United Methodist Ch, 3921 Old Mill Rd. Sat, 5/7, 8am to 1pm  
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## LETTERS

FROM PAGE 21

interim-fitzgerald-squa/) — has been ignored, even though as he suggested it would be the perfect place to display the ship found on the waterfront which is currently being preserved.

He suggests that the Alexandria Seaport Foundation could use the building. I also think this is where the Archeology Museum should move from its present location on the third floor of the Torpedo Factory, where probably far fewer people can find it. Alexandria is known for its extensive archeology, which has added greatly to our knowledge of American history.

On Jan. 8 of this year, I sent an email calling for a Preservation Roundtable to a number of people, including several city officials and I only heard back from one person. With all the excitement of Mercy Street, the 18th century ship and other issues like the Appomattox statue, I thought, as I still do, that preservationists must join forces, not just work and pursue our individual projects, but work together.

Alexandria is known for its history, and the exciting thing about history is it never ends. As Churchill said when asked what history is, "It's just one damn thing after another." Perhaps that is why we are always making new discoveries.

History should matter not just to preservationists, but to residents, businesses and our elected officials. It is why people visit Alexandria, so it drives our economy. It is why people live here, so it increases our home values. If we continue to create a walkable, livable environment celebrating our historic sites, across the city, than we are improving our economy, our businesses and enhancing where we live. You can participate by printing a sign saying "This Place Matters" and using the hashtag #thisplacematters, and sharing it on social media. You can download the materials at [SavingPlaces.org](http://SavingPlaces.org).

Do what Jane Jacobs would do, as we celebrate the 100th anniversary of her birth this year, and walk around and observe what you love about the city you live in.

Boyd Walker  
Alexandria

## BULLETIN BOARD

FROM PAGE 22

**Public Hearing.** 5:30 p.m. at Alexandria City Hall, 301 King Street, City Council Workroom, Room 2410. A public hearing on proposed DASH bus service changes. Email questions or comments to [dashbus@alexandriava.gov](mailto:dashbus@alexandriava.gov) or call 703-746-3274.

**Foster Parent Orientation.** 6-7:30 p.m. at Duncan Library, 2501 Commonwealth Ave. The City of Alexandria will hold a free, no obligation information session for prospective foster parents. An agency representative will be on hand to answer any questions and explain the requirements to foster and/or adopt. For questions or to RSVP, call 703-746-5858 or email [Christine.Levine@alexandriava.gov](mailto:Christine.Levine@alexandriava.gov).

## FRIDAY/MAY 13

**Community Service Day.** 12:30-4:30 p.m. Hundreds of volunteers, individuals and groups, are needed to work in various locations around Alexandria to paint, plant, build and much more. Call Volunteer Alexandria at 703-836-2176 or visit [www.VolunteerAlexandria.org](http://www.VolunteerAlexandria.org). Register at 2016springforalexandria.kintera.org. **All Libraries Closed for Staff Training.**

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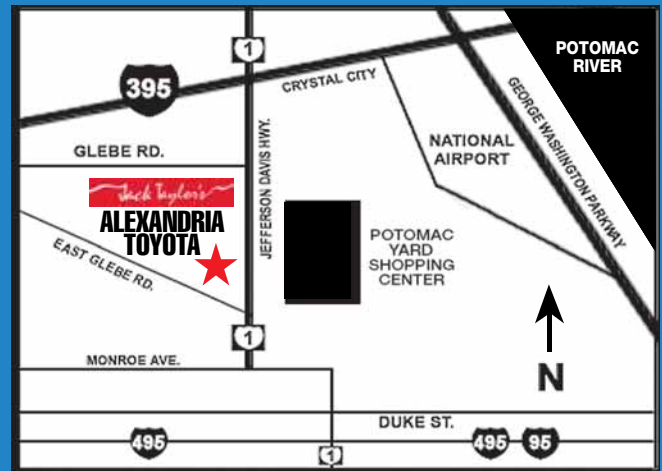
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