



PHOTOS BY PRESTON JONES/GAZETTE PACKET

Summer Reading Kickoff

The Alexandria Library launched its summer reading program, SummerQuest, with a kickoff party at Charles E. Beatley Jr. Library on June 27. Participants enjoyed a variety of fun crafts, games, snacks and prizes as they prepared to pursue their summer reading goals. Following the party activities, children were able to search for books on the adjacent shelves. Above, the parachute quickly became a party favorite as children began to arrive.



A young reader hopes to get in on the arts and crafts.

Two Guilty Pleas In Homicides

Love triangle and gangland hit go to court.

BY VERNON MILES
GAZETTE PACKET



Boris Elias Rosa Castro **Alvaro Enrique Saenz Castro**

The two murders were unrelated, happening a month apart, but they share similarities. All involved members are Salvadoran immigrants living illegally in the United States, many involved in some way with MS-13. The murders took place one mile apart, one in Beverley Park and another in Four Mile Run, both with repeated stabings. Both occurred in November of 2016 and both went to trial June 23, two unrelated defendants named Castro pleading guilty to murder. But while the Beverley Park homicide was the violent end to a love triangle, the other was a planned hit against a witness in a previous case.

Alvaro Enrique Saenz Castro, 21, is a member of MS-13, but according to his plea that's not why he murdered 24-year-old Jose Luis Perez Ferman. Saenz Castro murdered Perez Ferman because the latter had been making sexual advances towards Saenz Castro's girlfriend over social media.

According to Assistant Commonwealth Attorney David Lord, Perez Ferman was in National Harbor earlier on Nov. 8 with friends when he got on the phone, after which his friends said he began to act withdrawn and wanted to go home, saying he was feeling ill. When he arrived home, Perez Ferman told his girlfriend that he

Alvaro Enrique Saenz Castro,

SEE TWO GUILTY, PAGE 8

Open Space Trumps Preservation

Council weighs options for Ramsey redevelopment.

BY VERNON MILES
GAZETTE PACKET

Three of Alexandria's top priorities are historic preservation, open space, and affordable housing. At the June 28 City Council meeting, a decision over the future of Ramsey Homes found these interests, and the council, pitted against each other.

The original proposal was to construct two buildings on the site, offering mixed income housing and 53 affordable units. The proposal was unpopular when it went to City Council in March and was still unpopular at Tuesday's meeting. The alternative proposal was to consolidate the new affordable housing unit into one building and leave one of the original Ramsey homes intact. However, as the City Council discussed the project, a third alternative emerged: keeping the consolidated one-building proposal but demolishing the preserved home to offer

more open space at the site.

During the discussion, the majority of the City Council showed preference for the consolidated one-building design over the original proposal, but differed over preserving the building or clearing it to create more open space.

"We're still committed to historic preservation," said Mayor Allison Silberberg. "I see that you came back with options. If we can save [the building], great, but if not, [can we] make it open space?"

The suggestion seemed to surprise staff, given that the alternative was proposed following discussion in May over council efforts to find a way to save the building.

In the end, City Council was unanimously in favor of the alternative proposal with the removal of the historic structure.

"This surprised me," said Vice Mayor Justin Wilson. "This is not what we expected, and that's fine. The work group was

tasked at looking at preservation alternatives. This is a different trade off. We've always known it was three things pitted against each other: open space, preservation, housing. We're going to be able to pick

SEE THE GOOD, PAGE 4

"We've always known it was three things pitted against each other: open space, preservation, housing."

— Vice Mayor Justin Wilson

Police Chief To Retire

Earl Cook to step down Oct. 1.

BY JEANNE THEISMANN
GAZETTE PACKET

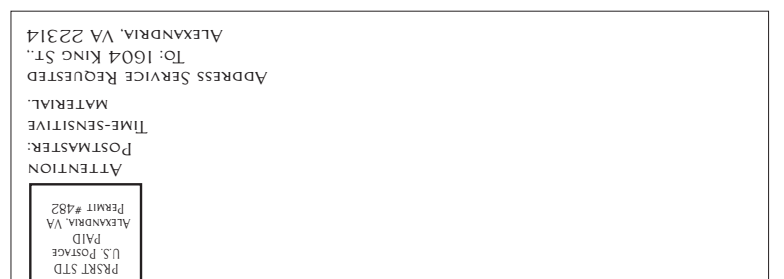
After a 37-year career in law enforcement, Alexandria Police Chief Earl Cook has announced his retirement from the force effective Oct. 1.

"It is with mixed emotions that I announce my retirement from our Department," Cook said in a June 24 email to his officers and staff. "Oct. 1 will be my last day of work with the Agency."

Cook, a native Alexandrian, is the first African-American to serve as chief of police in the city's history. He was appointed chief of police in August of 2009 after serving in an acting capacity following the retirement of Chief David Baker earlier that month.

"I have dedicated two-thirds of my life to what I consider the most honorable of professions," Cook went on to say. "It has been challenging, exciting and rewarding all

SEE POLICE CHIEF, PAGE 8



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Disability Awareness Awards Honor Companies, Residents

Commission, Chamber praise recipients.

BY SEAN JONES
GAZETTE PACKET

The Alexandria Commission on Persons with Disabilities met with the Alexandria Chamber of Commerce at City Hall to recognize two local companies who have worked to improve the lives of those with disabilities, and two Alexandria residents for their experiences with disabilities and disabled students. Members of the City Council were in attendance as Mayor Allison Silberberg spoke to honor the recipients.

Great Harvest Bread Company was honored for its commitment to hiring students with disabilities from T.C. Williams High School. Silberberg recognized Great Harvest for providing “tangible and transferable skills” to persons with disabilities through their internship programs.

Rebuilding Together Alexandria was recognized for providing free home modifications and repairs to Alexandria residents. The organization installs upgrades such as wheelchair ramps, chair lifts, hand rails, grab bars and safe flooring for low-income

residents. Last year they served more than 100 clients with almost 60 percent of those clients having a self-diagnosed disability. CEO Katherine Dixon received the award: “We didn’t do it for the awards, but it’s swell to be recognized.”

Silberberg then awarded the Gerry Bertier Scholarship to Ariel Marie Coburn, a recent graduate of T.C. Williams High School. The Bertier Scholarship is awarded based on merit to a city resident with a disability who is seeking a post-secondary education. The award is given in memory of Gerry Bertier, the co-captain of the Titans 1971 football team who became disabled and was a strong advocate for disability rights. Coburn stood out from other applicants as being a “self-reliant and responsible” student. She will continue her education at Northern Virginia Community College in the fall and hopes to pursue a career in art therapy.

The John Duty Collins III Outstanding Advocate Award was given to Sister Anne Tardiff, who is one of the founders of the Academic Enrichment Program at Bishop Ireton High School. She has worked for 20 years with “passion and dedication” to im-



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Mayor Allison Silberberg; Amanda Chandler, Board Chairman, Rebuilding Together Alexandria; ACPD Awards Chair Jonathan Mook; Chamber President & CEO Joe Haggerty; Lauren Unger, Linden Resources; and Katherine Dixon, president and CEO, Rebuilding Together Alexandria.

proving the lives of students with ADD, ADHD and learning disabilities.

The award includes a \$500 donation in the recipient’s name to an organization of their choice that contributes to promotion of equal opportunity for persons with disabilities within Alexandria. It is provided by the Collins family in memory of John Duty Collins who was founder and vice chair of the Alexandria Commission on Per-

sons with Disabilities. He worked to improve the accessibility in facilities throughout Alexandria.

“It’s great to recognize companies and people who are quietly working to better the lives of other people,” said Jonathan R. Mook, chair of the awards committee for the Alexandria Commission on Persons with Disabilities. “They deserve some credit for the hours they put in.”

Senior Services Bids Farewell to Retiring Board Members

At its annual luncheon.

BY JEANNE THEISMANN
GAZETTE PACKET

Senior Services of Alexandria held its 2016 Annual Meeting at Goodwin House Alexandria June 22, recognizing past and current board members and welcoming new ones to the organization.

“As our city’s population of seniors grows, so do their needs,” said SSA board chair Donna Shaw. “It’s the incredible staff, caring volunteers and our community partners that allows us to continue moving forward with new ideas and programs.”

Attendees included volunteers and supporters of the organization along with and past, present and future board members. Outgoing board members Carter Flemming, Gordon Kromberg, Mike McCaffree Jr., and Council Member Del Pepper were recognized. Mayor Allison Silberberg was the featured speaker.

“During my term, my top commitment is to do all I can for the seniors of this city,” Silberberg said. “We owe our seniors a debt of gratitude that can never be repaid.”

For more about Senior Services of Alexandria, call 703-836-4414 or visit www.seniorservicesalex.org.



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Current and past board members for Senior Services of Alexandria gather for a photo at the SSA annual luncheon June 22 at Goodwin House.



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Past SSA board presidents Donna Shaw, David Baker, Carl Behnke, Gregg Murphy and Donnie Wintermute pose for a photo following the annual luncheon.



PHOTO BY JEANNE THEISMANN

Retiring SSA board member Mike McCaffree enjoys his farewell gifts from the SSA staff.



PHOTO BY JEANNE THEISMANN

Walter Clarke, Deborah Matthews, Lynnwood Campbell, Linsday Hemphill and Gregg Murphy at the SSA Annual luncheon.



Alternative Ramsey redevelopment proposal



FACTORS FOR CONSIDERATION	ORIGINAL PROPOSED CONCEPT—53 new units in two multifamily buildings	ALTERNATE CONCEPT—52 new units in one multifamily building and one preserved building with two 3 BR units
Resolution 830 replacement units (existing 15 Ramsey)	+	+
Resolution 830 replacement units (future RFP redevelopment)		+
Ground level open space		+
Rooftop amenity space	+	
Section 106 Mitigation		+
Mix of incomes	+	+
Parking/Underground garage	+	+
HUD disposition		+
Consistency with Braddock Metro Neighborhood Plan	+	++
Financial Feasibility	+	+
Long term sustainability	+	+
City subsidy	+	+
Efficient Use of Resources	+	+
Family-sized units	+	++
Deeply subsidized units	+	++
Accessible units	+	+
Closed alley ends		+
Low Income Housing Tax Credit (LIHTC) competitiveness	+	++
Efficient design	+	+
Contribution to "civic space"		+
Total Cost	+	+
Cost/cost per unit	+	++
Operational efficiency	+	++
Height/Massing	+	+
Green building	+	+
Community support		+
Consistency with BAR guidance		+

City's evaluation of benefits for each site

Original Ramsey redevelopment proposal

IMAGES CONTRIBUTED

'The Good, the Bad, and the Ugly' of Ramsey Redevelopment

FROM PAGE 1

two. What I'm hearing is we want to prioritize housing and open space, and I'm OK with that. We weren't going to be able to get these all on the site."

In terms of cost, the consolidated building is nearly \$1 million cheaper. The original proposed building would have cost \$18,035,204 while the new proposal costs \$17,269,045. During discussions with the affected residents, Helen McIlvane, director of Housing, said the alternative proposal was the most popular.

If kept, McIlvane indicated that the city had been looking at non-residential options for the preserved building; particularly as a daycare or child care center. The facility would be able to handle up to 40 children, with an annual operation cost of \$15,000 per child. On the council, there was some question over whether or not the historic preservation of segregated housing was necessary. "Grew up on a farm, I walked past crosses burning. If you did a survey, I

don't think [African American residents] would care at all about keeping something around that would remind them how they were treated in the past," said Councilman Willie Bailey, adding that he wasn't too keen on using the lot as open space either, instead hoping there would be a way to add more open space. "I've got one of the best rec centers across the street, that's where I want to take my kids. I'm not worried about open space We constantly talk history, history, history. We need to find more affordable housing. With all the affordable we've lost, the historical is trumping the affordable." Others on the council argued there was value to either preservation or open space at the site.

"Sad as the occasion may be for why they were built, it's still part of our history: the good, the bad, and the ugly," said Councilwoman Redella "Del" Pepper.

"I understand what you're saying about open space," said Silberberg, "but I think it's important ... for quality of life. I love

the Charles Houston Recreation Center, but this will provide more open space To me, that's an important quality of life issue for the people in this building."

As city staff and the Alexandria Redevelopment and Housing Authority move forward with a design that converts an existing Ramsey building to open space, other questions linger about the site's future. As the site is being redeveloped, the city code would require the utilities on the street to be undergrounded. McIlvane said the city is continuing to look at utility undergrounding, but some on the council had doubts. "Financially, undergrounding is not going to happen," said Councilman Paul Smedberg. "\$700,000 to underground half a block of wires? Let's get real. Is that the best use of that money? In terms of affordable housing, probably not."

But Pepper noted it would be hypocritical of the city to require developers to underground utilities for a development but not do it when the city was building.

"We require that of every other development. We can't just say 'oh, but not for us,'" said Pepper. "[And] the wires, where they exist, are ugly as sin." Ultimately, Pepper supported clearing the Ramsey home to add open space to the site, especially if the home wound up being renovated for residential use rather than used as a daycare.

"I wonder if people, living in these renovated apartments next to new developments, would feel like second-class citizens," said Pepper. "I would like to preserve [the building], but if it can't be used for nursery or office and is to be used for residential, that brings up this issue for me, and it is very hard to resolve that."

Following City Council's choice, the consultant team on the project will begin work on the preferred concept. The Parker Gray Board of Architectural Review will hold a work session in July on the subject, and the Planning Commission and City Council will review the development special use permit for the site in December.



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Just a Tap Moves Bones

BY SHIRLEY RUHE
GAZETTE PACKET

Maria Balfour stands on the end of the upright padded treatment table and is slowly lowered face down to a horizontal position. “This is the kind of treatment table that goes with the technique I use,” says Dr. Julia Hollinger Wray. “I use this activator; I don’t do any of that kind of bone cracking.”

Although Activator Methods will celebrate its 50th anniversary next year, the activator Wray uses is based on a device invented three and a half years ago by a dentist who was wearing out his thumbs.

**PEOPLE
AT WORK**

When you fire the activator, it simulates thrust and moves the bone on contact.” She says it is based on speed, not weight, the opposite of manual chiropractors. It moves the bone about a millimeter.”

“Maria, place your arm on your back. Bring it back. The other arm. Without bending your knees, raise up you leg as high as you can.” She points to shoes she has placed on Balfour’s feet. “These shoes allow me to measure her leg length, to figure out how to balance her alignment.” Wray says, “When I saw you last time you were 10 mm short on the left and today you are aligned. That’s a big improvement.”

Wray routinely does isolation and stress tests to see if a patient’s lower back and pelvis are in order. Every three years she does another complete history to see if things have changed that would necessitate a modification of treatment. She asks, “Are you having any pain? On a scale of 1-10, how would you rate it?”

Balfour answers “2-3 constantly.”

Wray says, “I always ask if the pain has improved. Today I will focus on the sacroiliac problem area to figure it out. You can have a muscle problem without your bones being out of adjustment.” After her diagnostic evaluation, Wray has decided to work on the lateral sacrum, making a medial adjustment.

Wray sets the activator at 200 Newtons and carefully places it on the spine. “You have to know anatomy well. “She pushes the lever and a loud pop rings out. She says, “It feels like a little tap.”

Balfour adds, “It sounds scary, but it doesn’t hurt.”

Wray explains she uses a specific line of drive. In this case a whole bone can go superior so you place the activator on the top of the spine to make it move where you want it.” Wray asks, “How does that feel



PHOTOS BY SHIRLEY RUHE/GAZETTE PACKET

Dr. Julia Hollinger Wray is diagnosing the back pain of Maria Balfour before deciding on the treatment. She will decide to work on the lateral sacrum, making a medial adjustment with her activator. She says this is the most used low force technique for chiropractors.

now?” Balfour indicates it feels better but is a little sore. In this case Wray will often add cold laser treatment based on using light therapeutically. “It reduces the inflammation. Or I may massage the tissue.”

Wray says the most common ailments are neck pain and back pain. “The biggest cause of neck pain is people looking at their cell phones.

Wray says she has patients from 6 years old to their 80s. Sometimes this generation would not have been open to a chiropractor because they are afraid of a stranger cracking their neck. “So when they learn about the activator moving the bones instead, they are happy.” Wray says chiropractors were familiar to her because she has been adjusted her whole life since she was 4-years-old. “I was raised Mennonite with a conservative approach to medicine. I was having recurring nightmares.” She explains back then there was no child psychology but they thought chiropractors were the solution to everything. So her parents sent her to a chiropractor and her nightmares went away, “although we’re really not exactly sure why.” When she got to about 18 and decided she was not going to stay home and marry a Mennonite man, she started thinking, “What should I do?” She settled on being a chiropractor, which took five years of school and a perceptorship where she observed for a few months, then board exams.

She has operated Cornerstone Chiropractic on S. Columbus Street since 1992 where she sees about 15 patients on an average day. She says when she decided what to do, her mom was worried. “I was tall and skinny so my mom wondered how I was going to move all of those big men. Luckily,” she said, “I found the activator technique which is the most widely used low force technique. It’s good for people of all sizes and I don’t have to move anybody.”



Dr. Julia Hollinger Wray has put shoes on her patient, Maria Balfour, that will allow Wray to measure Balfour’s leg length in order to figure how out to balance her alignment.



Dr. Julia Hollinger Wray uses an activator to make her bone adjustments. It was invented by a dentist three and a half years ago and is based on speed, not weight, the opposite of manual chiropractors.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF CIVIL AIR PATROL

Cadet Airman Jonathan Hernandez, Cadet Senior Airman Haseeb Khan, Cadet 1st Lt. Kurt Finkenstaedt and Senior Member Cindy Halim bring groceries to a senior citizen in Alexandria on June 25 as part of a food program with Alive!

Civil Air Patrol Trains Future Leaders

BY RIKKI GEORGE
GAZETTE PACKET

The hour is 1900 on Wednesday, June 24, at the Nannie J. Lee Recreation Center. Nearly 20 cadets, ages 12 to 17, step in opening formation. All are in uniform save one teenager, who awaits his gear after recently joining the Challenger 1 Cadet Squadron in Alexandria.

At 1910, drill practice starts and then testing. By 1930 hours, Squadron Commander 1st Lt. Bebe Finkenstaedt announces cadet and senior promotions.

Since March 2014, Finkenstaedt has grown her urban squadron membership from a handful to 39 cadets and 15 senior members. Most live within walking distance of the Lee Center. And all seem to have no regrets except not joining sooner.

“I wish I joined earlier,” said Sarah Himes, cadet chief master sergeant, 17, who is home

schooled, born and raised in Alexandria. “I joined at 16. I was looking for a challenge and jobs exposed to the military.”

“Cadets are very egalitarian,” Himes said. “All start as airman. I wish more kids would know about this structured environment. We develop as individuals. We live by an oath and higher ethics, the Air Force ethics.”

The local squadron is a diverse group, representing civilian and military, men, women, seniors and youth. Members come from many backgrounds, religions and economics. They share an interest in aerospace and volunteer service. Seven are from T.C. Williams High School.

Mentorship is key. “Senior members take vows of cadet responsibilities. Cadet protection is part of the process for seniors,” said Paul Cianciolo, Lt. Col., Volunteer Public Affairs Officer for the Civil Air Patrol.

Finkenstaedt says there are lots
SEE CAP TRAINS, PAGE 7



1st Lt. Bebe Finkenstaedt (far left, front) dancing with cadets in one of the squadron’s alternative physical training nights.

PEOPLE

CAP Trains Future Aerospace Leaders

FROM PAGE 6
of opportunities for adults. They are guided to develop on a track of their choice: finance, leadership, emergency services, character development instructor, public affairs and this is just squadron management duties. "Parents must really be thanked, especially the ones who can give a little more as CAP members. They drive a program like ours," said Finkenstaedt.

Cadets' duties parallel the senior member staff. Cadets are photographers, logistics coordinators and command staff. They also perform research and rescue operations, and they are trained to look for missing people.

While not first responders, they perform Air Force missions. Alexandria's squadron, one of 40 in Virginia, is part of Civil Air Patrol, the all-volunteer civilian auxiliary of the U.S. Air Force in active service for the country since 1942.

Everyone works closely with its five sister squadrons from the National Capital Wing and collaborate on activities ranging from color guard to wilderness first aid survival training. They participate



Cadets in uniforms include (from left) Jonathan Galo, Ryan Hynes, Sarah Himes, Sebastian Renda, and Isaac de Souza. They display their team's brainstorm for concepts that signify leadership.

in orientation flights, hands-on science and technology, including robotics and building a blimp, fitness and nutrition activities.

Cameron Ellis Sellers, cadet chief master sergeant, 16, from Hayfield Secondary School in Fairfax County, has been with the cadets for over two years. He enjoys solo gliding and hopes to attend Georgetown University's diplomatic school. "The cadet program has helped me with disci-

pline, aerospace and public speaking."

"This is a real job that is different than the Boy and Girl Scouts whose focus is on leadership," said Col. Jayson A. Altieri, U.S. Army, National War College.

Cadet work is a career path for air pilots, computer scientists and engineers.

"Ultimately, we aim to be of use in missions," said Cianciolo.

This includes being of use at the



PHOTOS COURTESY OF CIVIL AIR PATROL

1st Lt. Bebe Finkenstaedt at the Nannie J. Lee Recreation Center where her local squadron meets on Wednesday evenings. Her post as commander is a full-time volunteer position.

Lee Recreational Center. Says Jackie Person, therapeutic manager, of the Department of Recreation, Parks and Cultural Activities, "They teach our kids about airplanes and assist us with projects."

For more information, see www.DC060.NatCapWing.org.

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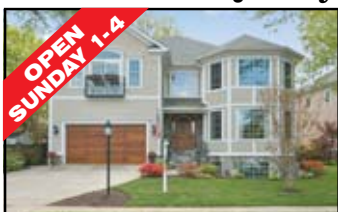
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Arlington North

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Tree-Lined Streets of Tara




Deceptively large Cape Cod with well-integrated 2011 addition and renovation by Michael Holt. Kitchen features Christiana custom cabinets, Bosch, SubZero, Wolf appliances; main level bedroom and bath with accessible shower; 3 bedrooms and 2 new bathrooms upstairs; complete lower level suite with 5th bedroom, 4th bedroom, rec room, and separate entry. McKinley, Swanson, Yorktown district. Details of 5526-18th Street, North at betsytwigg.com


Arlington North

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Leeway Heights Space



Expanded colonial with large family room and breakfast area opening to deck and private yard. Huge master bedroom has en suite bathroom, sitting area, two closets - one walk-in; three more bedrooms and another renovated bathroom. Lower level rec room and bath. Move-in condition. McKinley Swanson Yorktown schools. Details of 1927 N Kenilworth St. at betsytwigg.com



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Police Chief Earl Cook announced his retirement effective Oct. 1.



Police Chief Earl Cook, right, and Sheriff Dana Lawhorne served together as APD patrol officers in 1980.



Police Chief Earl Cook, left, and Sheriff Dana Lawhorne taking a lunch break as APD officers in 1985.

Police Chief Earl Cook To Retire in October

FROM PAGE 1

at once. I chose to work and serve in my home town and I have never regretted that decision.”

Cook began as a police academy recruit in January 1979. One of his fellow classmates was Dana Lawhorne, now sheriff of Alexandria.

“I met Earl in 1979 when we both started as Alexandria Police officers,” said Lawhorne, who served with Cook in uniform patrol, the fugitive unit and as detectives. “We spent a lot of time together on and off duty and became good friends. I have always admired Earl for his passion to help others, his loyalty to family and friends and his determination to serve with honor and integrity. His is a great story about a local kid who rose all the way to the top in one of the country’s best police departments.”

Upon graduation, Cook worked in patrol

and criminal investigations through 1989. Over the next six years, he was promoted to sergeant, lieutenant, captain and assistant chief. As assistant chief, he managed the criminal investigations bureau and was named deputy chief in that role three years later.

In 2006, he rose to the position of executive deputy chief, serving as second in command and acting for the chief in his absence. Upon his appointment as chief in 2009, Cook assumed command of more than 400 officers and civilians.

Willem Polak, president of the Alexandria Police Foundation board of directors, worked closely with Cook to get the Fallen Officers Memorial built. It was dedicated in March of 2015.

“Working with Chief Cook on behalf of the Alexandria Police Foundation as well as a business owner in Alexandria for 30-plus years has been a joy,” Polak said. “I think all

of us on the foundation and those in business as well as our citizen groups have had the benefit of his great leadership. The Fallen Officers Memorial and the Community policing programs (COPS) are just two of his many accomplishments. As a public servant, he leaves with a job well done.”

Cook was born and raised in Alexandria. He grew up on Princess Street and attended Lyles-Crouch Elementary School, Mt. Vernon Elementary School, Parker-Gray Middle School and George Washington High School through 10th grade. He transferred to T.C. Williams High School and became a member of the famed 1971 Titans football team.

After graduating from TC in 1973, he attended Duke University, where he earned a bachelor’s degree in history and education. Cook is a graduate of the Federal Bureau of Investigation’s National Academy Program. In addition to his law enforcement

career, he has been a champion of youth initiatives and mentoring.

“The thing I have enjoyed most about Earl is his wonderful sense of humor,” Lawhorne said. “He really has meant a lot to me and to this city.”

The city has retained the International Association of Chiefs of Police to recruit Cook’s successor. The search will include input from stakeholders throughout the community; additional details will be announced as they are developed.

“The citizens I’ve worked with, the many friends in the community allowed us to work together to make this a safe city with an enviable quality of life,” Cook said. “I’m grateful for the opportunities I’ve had to pursue a rewarding career and work with some of the finest men and women in law enforcement. My retirement is bittersweet; however, I look forward to the future challenges in my life.”

Two Guilty Pleas in MS-13 Homicides

FROM PAGE 1

was going out for a smoke and left the house. According to police, Perez Ferman had been communicating with Leidi Granados Gutierrez, Saenz Castro’s 16-year-old girlfriend. When Saenz Castro discovered their communications, Lord says Saenz Castro had Gutierrez set up a meeting with Perez Ferman in Beverley Park under sexual pretenses. In the plea, Saenz Castro says he only intended to meet Perez Ferman with other members of the gang and intimidate him, to get him to stop messaging Gutierrez, but that when he saw Perez Ferman he lost control. Perez Ferman tried to run, but prosecutors say Saenz Castro and Mauricio Membreno Portillo, 17, chased him down and began to attack him near the playground. According to Lord, there were 21 chop and stab wounds across Perez Ferman’s body, all from a knife and a machete, and Perez Ferman was left nearly decapitated.

Saenz Castro will face sentencing on Oct. 20. In April, a grand jury indicted Portillo

on charges of first degree murder and conspiracy to commit murder. Portillo is being tried as an adult. Gutierrez pled guilty to destroying evidence in April in a case that detailed Gutierrez’s long history of abuses in El Salvador and in the United States at the hands of MS-13. Gutierrez was committed to the Department of Juvenile Justice.

GANG-AFFILIATED

Later that day in the same courtroom, Boris Elias Rosa Castro, a 19-year-old Fairfax City resident with no relation to Alvaro Saenz Castro, pled guilty to the murder of Eduardo David Chandias Almendarez. Unlike the murder of Perez Ferman, the Almendarez case entirely centers around MS-13. Almendarez was a witness in a July 2015 malicious wounding case related to MS-13. After Almendarez testified, Commonwealth Attorney David Lord said the gang planned retribution. On Nov. 28, Boris Castro and Edwin Alexander Guerrero Umana, 18, lured Almendarez to a McDonalds near Four Mile Run under the guise of buying marijuana from the victim.

After the deal, the two suspects invited Almendarez to smoke with them behind the Cora Kelly School nearby. When they were secluded, prosecutors say Umana began to stab the victim. Boris Castro took the knife afterwards and stabbed Almendarez as well. In total, Almendarez suffered 96 stab wounds, including 45 to the head and neck. While the cause of death was the stabbing, Almendarez also suffered blunt force trauma and drowning, which indicated Almendarez was still alive after the stabbing. Prosecutors said Boris Castro and Umana then hid Almendarez’s body in a nearby drainage pipe, stripped out of their bloody clothes, and threw them into the creek tied to a rock. Almendarez was reported missing on Nov. 30, and his body was discovered on Dec. 4. In January, Boris Castro was spotted by an off-duty police officer in Fairfax and recalled that he was wanted in connection with the homicide.

Boris Castro will face sentencing on Oct. 27. Down the hall, Umana waived the right to a speedy trial, with a status hearing set for July 14.

CRIME REPORT

Homicide Suspect Arrested

Alexandria Police have charged a suspect with the homicide of Shakeel Baldon, who died from injuries sustained during a stabbing that occurred in the 6100 block of Lincoln Road on Thursday, May 5.

Clarence Terry, 53, of Alexandria, was charged with murder on June 27. He is being held without bond in the William G. Truesdale Detention Center in Alexandria.

Anyone with information about this investigation is asked to contact Detective Loren King with the Alexandria Police Department at 703-746-6689.

The following incidents were reported by the Alexandria Police Department:

JUNE 27

The Alexandria Police Department is investigating a robbery in the Unit block of S. Reynolds Street. Two suspects brandished a knife and stole a phone from the victim. The victim sustained minor injuries.

JUNE 25

The Alexandria Police Department is investigating a felonious assault in the 3600 block of Edison Street. The victim received non-life-threatening cut on the arm and was transported to the hospital.

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Mary Hurlbut 703-980-9595

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Alexandria House Condo #204. A unique, renovated open floor plan in the largest 2 BR, 2 BA, condo. The 81-foot balcony provides for outdoor living and grilling. Enjoy 24/7 concierge, garage parking, roof pool, 2 lights to D.C.
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5901 Mount Eagle Dr #514. Serene view of trees from large, enclosed & private balcony! Spacious 1525 SF, 2 bedroom + den, 2 baths. Newer kitchen, windows & fresh paint. Garage space. Resort-like gated community 2 lights from Old Town; pet-friendly, w/ 35+ wooded acres & many amenities. Financially strong; no special assessments ever.
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7030 Stanford Dr. Three levels, semi detached, 3 BR, 2 BA located on a quiet cul-de-sac, driveway, backing to woods. Hardwood floors, updated kitchen, newer windows, home warranty. Huge fully fenced backyard for entertaining and expansion. Conveniently located close to major roads, library, shops, Metro, bus service.
Elvira Jakovac
 571-405-8058

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Alexandria City – West End **\$318,800**
200 North Pickett Street, Unit #1204. Renovated with Views! LARGE 2 BR/2 BA – 1,295 sq. ft. New windows/SGD. Well-run Hallmark. New kitchen – granite. New baths. HUGE rooms, walk-in closet. Full-size W/D. Large balcony – electric grills OK! Great garage+visitor parking. Pool, tennis, exercise, party room. Commuter dream – bus stop in front – easy Metro. Creek and park across street. Foxchase Shops including 24-hour Harris Teeter and new Aldi one block too! Come see or call me. www.bxrosen.com
Barbara Rosen 703-407-6481



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4561 Stratfield Lane #3117. Palazzo at Park Center condo! Charming end unit that does not share walls w/neighbors! 2 bedroom, 1 full bath, w/2 balconies! New carpet & fresh paint throughout. Large kitchen w/eat-in kitchen area. Home gives ton of natural light! One garage space included, plus gym facility on site and pool! Amazing location to 395, easy access!
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OPINION

Getting Home Safely on Independence Day

Independence Day is a national celebration, and for many, that celebration includes alcohol. The summer overall and July 4 in particular are times of greater risk for drinking and driving.

This is true for the young adults over 21 living with you, and unfortunately also for many teens who are under 21. More on that below.

For all revelers: Make a plan. Plan to celebrate with access to public transportation. Plan to have a designated driver. Plan to celebrate in a place safe and comfortable to spend the night.

But in case those plans go awry, here is an alternative safety net.

EDITORIAL On the night of Monday, July 4, the Washington Regional Alcohol Program will offer free taxi rides home (up to \$30), beginning at 10 p.m. for six hours until 4 a.m. the morning of Tuesday, July 5. Participants must be at least 21. Call 1-800-200-TAXI.

On July 4, 2015, more than 230 people used WRAP's SoberRide service rather than possibly driving home impaired.

In summer, 44 percent of all U.S. traffic deaths are caused by alcohol-impaired drivers, according to statistics provided by WRAP. SoberRide is a way to help keep local roads safe from impaired drivers during this traditionally high-risk holiday.

On July 4, historically, more than 40 percent

of traffic deaths in the U.S. are caused by drunk drivers; more than 20 percent of the drunk drivers involved in those deaths had blood alcohol concentrations of nearly twice the legal limit, said Kurt Erickson of WRAP.

SoberRide is only available for those over 21. For parents of young adults who may be living at home and parents of those under 21, this is time to talk. Ask about plans, ask spe-

cifically about getting home. Let your younger family members know that you would much rather pay for a cab or come get them yourself than run the risk of losing them.

This is a message important for the tail end of graduation season and good for the whole summer, which is the time of the highest risk for teen drivers.

Visit www.soberride.com for more.

Submit Photos to Pet Gazette

The Pet Gazette, a twice-yearly special edition, will publish on July 27, and photos and stories of your pets with you and your family should be submitted by July 17.

We invite you to send us stories about your pets, photos of you and your family with your cats, dogs, llamas, alpacas, ponies, hamsters, snakes, lizards, frogs, rabbits, or whatever other creatures share your life with you.

Tell us the story of a special bond between a child and a dog, the story of how you came to adopt your pet, or examples of amazing feats of your creatures.

Do you volunteer at an animal shelter or therapeutic riding center or take your pet to visit people in a nursing home? Does your business have a pet? Is your business about

pets? Have you helped to train an assistance dog? Do you or someone in your family depend on an assistance dog?

Or take this opportunity to memorialize a beloved pet you have lost.

Just a cute photo is fine too. Our favorite pictures include both pets and humans.

Please tell us a little bit about your creature, identify everyone in the photo, give a brief description what is happening in the photo, and include address and phone number (we will not publish your address or phone number, just your town name).

Email to gazette@connectionnewspapers.com or submit online at www.connectionnewspapers.com/pets.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Saint Jane?

To the Editor:

I hereby nominate Dr. Jane Grayson for sainthood. All those in favor, say "Aye!"... I was picking up records at Alexandria Hospital and, stopped by the Cancer Center to leave a note for Dr. Grayson just to say, "Hi!" and that I'm doing well. She had a few minutes between appointments and it was so good to see her —

the same vivacious dynamo that I used to see routinely before I "graduated" and became an alumnus of the Cancer Institute.

Dr. Grayson is the chief of Radiation Oncology there. And for oh, so many of us who've walked reluctantly through those doors, she's an angel in white. I hadn't been by in a year or so but just knew she'd always be there, the compassionate, empathetic wonder of a lifeline that I first encountered in 2009 when

faced with a dreaded diagnosis. As it turns out, I was wrong. I was stunned, incredulous, angry, horrified, dumbstruck (yes, all of those and more) to learn that she'll be leaving next month. How any hospital system could let her go is simply beyond belief. I'm devastated that she's leaving but not to have learned of her departure until afterward would have been worse. It was just happenstance that I stopped in.

I know that there are hundreds (thousands, maybe?) of her patients, past and present, who would want to know she's leaving and call her, drop her a note to wish her well, or stop by for a hug to thank her and let her know how much she means to us and how sorely she'll be missed. A letter to the editor was the best way I could think of to get the word out Ah, just as I suspected, it's unanimous — the "Ayes!" have it. Henceforth, she's "Saint Jane."

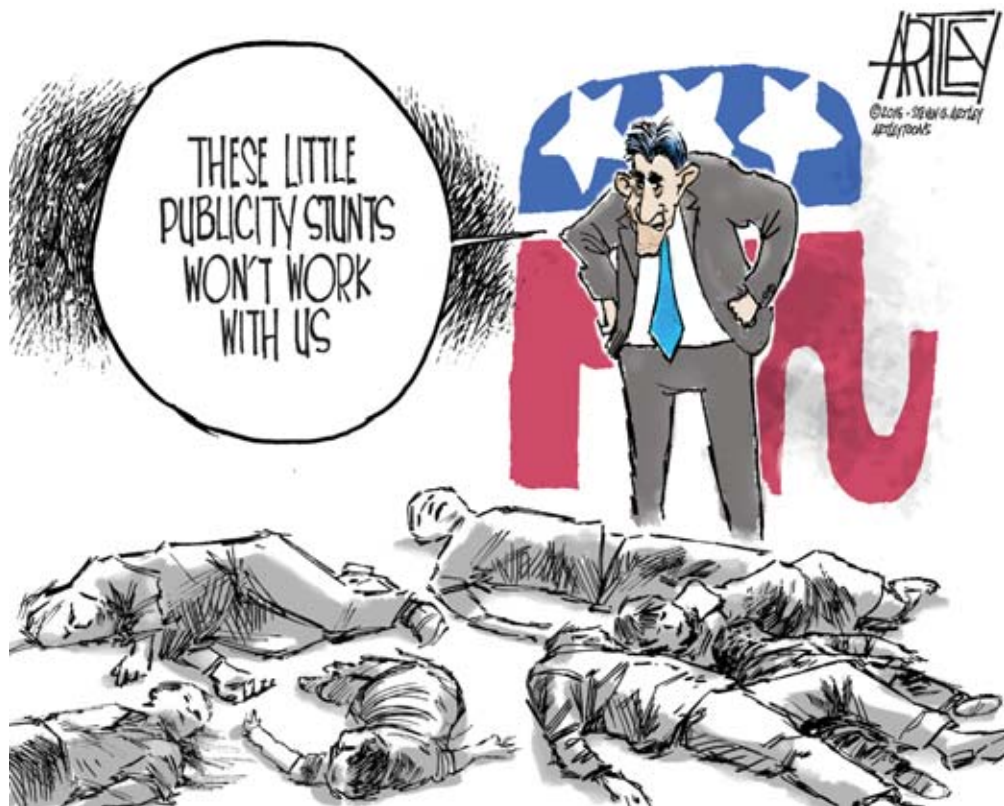
Sherry Caward
Alexandria

Another View Of Jefferson Davis

To the Editor:

At its June 13 meeting, two members of the Ad Hoc Advisory Group on Confederate Memorials and Street Names made mistaken statements about Jefferson Davis. Chairwoman Lyman, a Massachusetts native who earlier noted she does not know much history, declared that he was not a Virginian and was guilty of "egregious behavior." She gave no sub-

SEE LETTERS, PAGE 13



STEVE ARTLEY/GAZETTE PACKET

Alexandria
Gazette Packet

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An independent, locally owned weekly newspaper delivered to homes and businesses.

Published by
Local Media Connection LLC

1606 King Street
Alexandria, Virginia 22314

Free digital edition delivered to your email box. Go to connectionnewspapers.com/subscribe

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A Connection Newspaper

The Alexandria Gazette Packet is distributed weekly to selected homes in the City of Alexandria.

Any owners or occupants of premises that do not wish to receive the paper can notify the publisher by telephone at 703-778-9426

or by email to

circulation@connectionnewspapers.com,

and the distributor will be notified to discontinue service.





PHOTOS BY JEANNE THEISMANN

Staff and friends from Everly-Wheatley Funeral Home enjoy the Board of Lady Managers annual brunch June 12 at Union Street Public House. Pictured are Carl and Maureen Albrethsen, brunch-co-chair Janet Barnett, Scott Sanderford and Frank Sarley.

Brunch Raises Funds For Surgical Services

BY JEANNE THEISMANN
GAZETTE PACKET

The Board of Lady Managers held its annual Spring brunch June 12 at the Union Street Public House Restaurant. The brunch is part of the organization's current fundraising pledge to raise \$640,000 for the purchase of two state-of-the-art neurology microscopes for Inova Alexandria Hospital Surgical Services.

"Our only mission is to raise money for the hospital," said

Board President Connie Blood. "To date we have paid \$243,000 of our current pledge and whatever money we make today will go towards our 2016 payment to the hospital."

The board's current pledge will fund two Leica OH-5 neurology microscopes to support the hospital's goal of achieving accreditation as the first Comprehensive Stroke Center in the region. Neurosurgeons use the microscopes in brain, spine and microvascular surgeries. They may also be used for coronary bypass, aneurysm, plastic and reconstructive surgeries.

Founded in 1872, the Board of Lady Managers established the city's first medical facility with the charter of the Alexandria Infirmary. The board managed the Infirmary until 1941 when administration was turned over to a professional staff.

"For over 140 years, the Board has worked to build and strengthen the hospital and provide significant improvements in its medical technology and patient care," Blood said. "Your support here today will help us reach our goal."



Board of Lady Managers President Connie Blood updates attendees on the status of the organization's fundraising campaign for Inova Alexandria Hospital.



Old Town Alexandria
\$899,000

Historic Captain's Row

Located on the cobblestone portion of Prince Street, one block from the river and one block from the shops and restaurants on King Street. This renovated 1890s brick end town house offers a walled patio for both gardening and al fresco dining and relaxing; a renovated kitchen, bathroom, and powder room. Recent roof and furnace. Three upstairs bedrooms with built-ins, bookcases in living room, and kitchen. Details of 112 Prince Street at betsytwigg.com.



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Convergence Hosts Naku Penda Fundraiser

BY MCKENYA DILWORTH
DIRECTOR, MBTP
(THEATRE OF PURPOSE)

Last Saturday, many Alexandrians, and visitors to the area showed up for the girls of Alexandria in need. In one evening, we raised enough money to ensure that 10 girls in need would be able to participate in STEAM activities this summer.

Lady Sax came all the way from Gary, Ind. to donate her time, energy and amazingly impressive talent towards the cause of girl empowerment in Alexandria. The art gallery of Convergence was filled with enthusiastic and generous people who came to support our cause of helping girls find their internal power and purpose.

Lady Sax filled the room with impressive musical skill and command while a pleased audience moved around, smiling and reminiscing in the memory of the songs.

Naku Penda is Swahili for “I Love ...” which is the aim of the

program to encourage girls to love themselves, their families and their communities by investing in their intellectual and social development.

The program was designed as a three-week intensive summer STEAM program, meeting three days a week. Breakfast, lunch, and snack were to be given along with SOL math and science preparation.

Since we were not funded to run the program independently, we will provide additional programming to girls participating in other summer programs within the city. Girls are selected based on the recommendations and permission of parents, school counselors, and community youth workers. We are still grateful to all those who donated funds and in-kind services. We are also grateful for the partnerships and collaborations like that of Concerned Citizens Network of Alexandria, Alexandria City Public Schools, Department of Recreation, Parks and Cultural Activities, and Convergence Arts Initiative.

The Morning Bishop Theatre



Lady Sax

(Theatre of Purpose) is in an artist residency with Convergence. The mission of the Convergence Arts Initiative is to provide artists and creatives with the framework, principles and practices necessary to become imaginative visionaries, prophetic critics and culture cre-

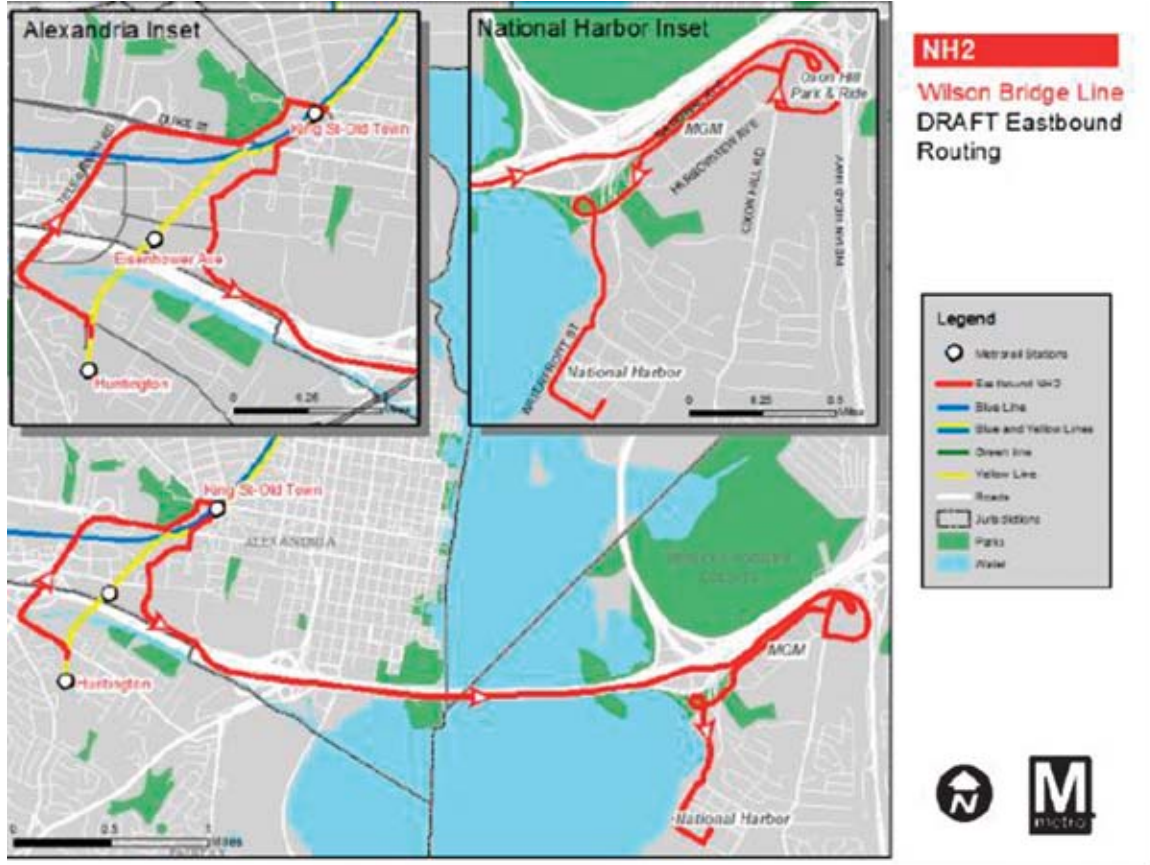


The crowd at Convergence, 1801 N. Quaker Lane, Alexandria, on Saturday, June 25.

ators. To learn more about Convergence, please visit their website at ourconvergence.org/arts.

To learn more about the Naku Penda Girls Empowerment Pro-

gram and Theatre of Purpose and how you can assist us with our mission visit our website at <http://theatreofpurpose.wix.com/mckenna-dilworth>.



The new Wilson Bridge bus line

New Bus Line Planned to National Harbor

Starting in October, a new bus route could make it easier for Alexandrians to get to and from National Harbor and the new MGM Casino. A pilot program is set to launch later this year for a bus route between King Street and the National Harbor area, with buses traveling in each direction every 30 minutes. Service would start at 6 a.m. and continue until 1

a.m. At the June 28 City Council meeting, the council approved \$566,000 for the pilot program. In spring 2017, the pilot's ridership, cost recovery, future demand and demographics of the riders will factor into an assessment for whether to make the route permanent.

— VERNON MILES

BULLETIN BOARD

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

SOBER-RIDE FOR JULY 4TH

Free Cab Rides. Monday, July 4, 10 p.m. through Tuesday, July 5, 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. Visit www.soberride.com.

WMATA SAFETRACK

The City of Alexandria is working with the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (WMATA) and the region's localities to assist travelers during WMATA's SafeTrack initiative. Major delays are expected on Metrorail and other modes of transit. SafeTrack's 15 "Safety Surges" – long-duration track outages for major projects in key parts of the system – will cause delays throughout the region. Visit alexandriava.gov/SafeTrack. The next three surges in particular will impact Alexandria travelers:

- ❖ Surge #2, through July 3, there will be no Metrorail or Metrobus service on the Blue Line between the Arlington Cemetery and Rosslyn Metro Stations.
- ❖ Surge #3, July 5-11, there will be no Metrorail service on the Blue and Yellow Lines between the Braddock Road and National Airport Metro Stations.
- ❖ Surge #4, July 12-18, there will be no Metrorail service on the Blue and Yellow Lines between the National Airport and Pentagon City Metro

Stations.

SATURDAY/JULY 2

Blood Donations Needed. 8 a.m.-1:30 p.m. at Alexandria Chapter House, 123 North Alfred St. Every two seconds, someone in the U.S. requires blood or platelets. Donors of all blood types are needed now. Schedule an appointment to give blood by downloading the free Red Cross Blood Donor App, visiting redcrossblood.org or calling 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767).

MONDAY/JULY 4

Blood Donations Needed. 8 a.m.-1 p.m. at Alexandria Chapter House, 123 North Alfred St. Every two seconds, someone in the U.S. requires blood or platelets. Donors of all blood types are needed now. Schedule an appointment to give blood by downloading the free Red Cross Blood Donor App, visiting redcrossblood.org or calling 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767).

TUESDAY/JULY 5

Blood Donations Needed. 2:30-8 p.m. at Alexandria Chapter House, 123 North Alfred St. Every two seconds, someone in the U.S. requires blood or platelets. Schedule an appointment by visiting redcrossblood.org or calling 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767).

THURSDAY/JULY 7

Blood Donations Needed. 12:30-6 p.m. at Alexandria Chapter House, 123 North Alfred St. Every two seconds, someone in the U.S. requires blood or platelets. Schedule an appointment by visiting redcrossblood.org or calling 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767).

OPINION



PHOTOS BY GERI BALDWIN

Respected

Old Glory, on the first day of summer (left) at Old Towne West, replaced the old, worn version flown on Flag Day, June 14 (right). — Geri Baldwin

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

FROM PAGE 10

stantiation for either allegation. Mr. Thompson's objection to honoring him deserves close scrutiny.

Although Kentucky-born Davis was one of the Senate's most distinguished members while representing Mississippi, his family chose to be buried in Richmond's Hollywood Cemetery. Thus, Davis has been in Virginia longer than anywhere else. Virginians who cherish our history proudly claim this American hero and regularly celebrate his June birthday with ceremonies.

Mr. Thompson objected that Jefferson Davis was unworthy of having a street named in his honor because after the war he failed to pledge allegiance to the Union like others, including RE Lee. However, Davis' case was unique. Lincoln had openly declared that he would pardon all others, but never Davis (despite "with malice toward none and charity for all ..."). Such bitter hate is all the more lamentable because Davis gave decades of outstanding service to the U.S. before the war: distinguished West Pointer, hero of the Battle of Veracruz, persuasive orator in the U.S. Senate who tried to avert war, and visionary who as Secretary of War created the formidable military machine Lincoln used.

Davis' health was poor so he declined to be President of the Confederate States, but was persuaded by an appeal to his sense of duty. That onerous burden further damaged his health, and he almost died under the two years of persistent 24-7 torture at Fort Monroe, Va., at the direction of President Johnson,

vengeful Cabinet members and the U.S. Army. Only his wife's persistent public statements about his outrageous mistreatment and pleadings from the public saved his life.


Notably, Lincoln's successors never pardoned Lee, although he was beloved in both North and South after the war. Davis expected the same fate. Should a man pledge allegiance to an obviously corrupt government wreaking additional ruin with impunity on his helpless countrymen? Why give his enemies fodder for ridicule? What would Mr. Thompson or any of us do in these circumstances?

No Ad Hoc Advisory Group member asked and no one reported how many businesses and residents would be affected before voting to change the name of Jefferson Davis Highway in the city. Members declared that fewer people would be inconvenienced (time and a minimum of hundreds of dollars) than by changing other Confederate street names. Kudos to Ms. Fannon, the only "No" vote, who thought the majority's inability to state a guiding principle for treating this street name differently from others made a change inappropriate.

Shame on members who thought forcing occupants into a name change — without a statement of their approval and based on members' incomplete/mistaken statements of relevant facts — is justified. Because of these serious errors, this recommendation's validity and usefulness is greatly compromised. Council should reject it.

Ellen Latane Tabb
Alexandria

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Planning Memorable, Meaningful Family Vacations

Tips for turning summer trips into a lifetime of memories.

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL
GAZETTE PACKET

As summer gets underway, vacation-bound families are packing their bags and heading out of town. Vacations often fly by — months of planning and anticipating can be over in the blink of an eye. With a little advance planning and forethought, however, even a quick weekend trip or a visit to relatives can become meaningful and memorable.

To begin with, give all family members an opportunity to be part of the travel planning. “Let kids have some input into what the plan is,” said Linda Guly, professor of psychology at Marymount University in Arlington. “For instance, if you want to take them to the beach, let them choose something that they want to do at the beach, something that’s important to them. That creates a balance between each kid’s interests and the family’s interest.”

Allowing children to have a say in the plan sets the stage for a memorable vacation. “You can show them pictures in a guide book of age-appropriate activities that you would be willing to do as well,” said Karen Prince, LCSW, a Bethesda, Maryland-based psychotherapist. “It’s important to give kids

a voice because it’s their vacation, too.”

Indulging in some screen time on a family vacation is fine, said Guly, as long as there is a balance between screen time and family time, and screen limits are set before the vacation begins.

“Try to be positive about it instead of punitive,” she said.

“Negotiate screen time and make it reasonable. Always get the kids’ input to reduce family stress. You don’t want the family vacation to be dominated by these issues if you can negotiate them ahead of time.”

Don’t rule out allowing a child’s friends to join the family vacation. “I think what happens as kids get into adolescence they want to form an identity outside the immediate family,” said Guly. “Including a friend is a nice balance because the family unit gets respected and the family gets to know and spend time with the friend.”

From family group shots to picturesque scenery of mountain tops and oceans, documenting a trip with photographs will help preserve your favorite memories. This is made easier with the ubiquity of smart phones and tablets, and the entire family can participate.

“Encourage kids to take pictures of the event on their phone as opposed to just messing around with it,” said Guly. “Social media is very picture oriented. If kids have the job of taking the family pictures, that’s cool.”

“You can give [children] an inexpensive camera that you get for \$10 at CVS,” said

Prince. “That way they can capture memories as they go.”

Discuss expectations and hopes for the vacation so each family member can clarify his or her own interests and hear other family members’ ideas, and the family can set realistic plans that keep everyone’s needs in mind. “I’d recommend a wish list and perhaps agree everyone gets to have at least one wish fulfilled,” said Amy L. Best, Ph.D., professor and chair of the Department of Sociology and Anthropology at George Mason University.

Make a plan for mediating conflicts that are likely to arise in even the most easy-going families. “It’s easy to get bogged down in small conflicts that can cast a dark shadow,” said Best. “Doing some anticipatory work is a good idea.”

At the end of each day, take stock of how the vacation is going and make adjustments along the way as necessary, said Prince. “That way you don’t have the whole vacation go by and find out that the kids didn’t enjoy it,” she said. “There is often the expectation that a vacation is going to be nirvana the entire time and it doesn’t happen

that way. Things come up unexpectedly and you adjust.”

“Family vacations are an opportunity to teach kids how to be part of a team and how to cooperate,” said Prince.

“Be prepared for activities that you enjoy but they don’t,” said child psychologist Stacie Isenberg, Psy.D., “If you love viewing art but your kids don’t, bring drawing pads and books to keep them occupied while you admire

the artwork for just a little longer. Create challenges and games for them during less exciting outings, such as ‘I Spy’ or scavenger hunts.”

It’s a good idea to create some family vacation rituals, advises Best. “If it’s a place you return to frequently, try some new things, but do the round of traditions,” she said. “This will strengthen kids’ attachments to the place and create lasting positive memories.”

Remember to schedule time for rest and food breaks. “Even the best travelers need some time to replenish themselves,” said Isenberg.



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED
Allowing children to choose age-appropriate activities from a travel guidebook is one way to include them in the vacation planning process.

Continuing Education

Online classes offer flexible options.

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL
GAZETTE PACKET

Interested in learning to landscape your yard using sustainable practices? Want to practice Spanish before traveling to South America? Didn’t take philosophy seriously in college, and want to take a refresher course? Looking to get an advanced degree or certification to secure a job promotion?

Opportunities for continuing and professional education abound for the intellectually curious.

One trend in continuing education that local educators say is on the rise is online learning. A study by the Babson Survey Research Group shows the number of students enrolled in distance learning courses increased each year for the past 13 years.

Driven by advancements in technology, the explosion of online learning is making education — once available only to those with extra time and funds — accessible to anyone with a tablet or laptop computer.

“Our online courses have increased at about 20 percent a year for about three years,” said Stephen Nodine, Ph.D., associate vice president for E-Learning and director of Distance Education at George Mason University.

One of the reasons for the rapid growth of online courses is the flexibility that they offer working adults. “Students are able to schedule a course that they couldn’t work into their daily schedule,” said Nodine. “People who are looking to advance in their career or change careers can earn a graduate certificate and have a new credential without having to come to campus.”

The demand for courses that enhance professional marketability is another factor behind the popularity of online continuing education. “One example of how this works is in the [information technology] field,” said Jennifer Lerner, associate vice president for e-Learning at Northern Virginia Community College. “One program that is in demand is cyber security if someone needs an additional certificate to prepare them for the new kinds of IT roles, like Cyber Security.”

The flexibility that online courses offer does not mean that they are less challenging than courses taught at a university, said



Online and professional education courses, such as this landscape design class offered at The George Washington University’s Arlington campus are growing in popularity.

PHOTO BY WILLIAM ATKINS
COURTESY OF GWU

Lerner.

“Students need to be really organized and really self-motivated,” said Lerner. “Online courses aren’t for those who take an out-of-sight-out-of-mind approach to learning. Students need to just be committed with online courses as they would for an on campus class. “They shouldn’t be the last thing on your priority list that you expect to fit in without a time commitment.”

Jennifer Webb, senior associate director of Graduate Enrollment for New Student Graduate Admissions at Marymount University, said that while traditional online programs are best suited for students who have strong time management skills and adequate technology literacy, “many programs now have support and format opportunities which offer additional structure and engagement, and are, therefore, well suited for all types of learners.”

The reasons that some students choose

online courses vary, said Nodine. “There are some students who might be in Iowa and want to take a class that we offer and they can’t get to a university near them,” he said.

Universities strive to make their online classes accessible and relevant. For example, The University of Virginia’s School of Continuing and Professional Studies has academic centers in Falls Church. The George Washington University offers courses on campuses in Arlington, Alexandria and Ashburn, as well as more than 100 degree and certificate programs online.

“Online education remains an extremely high priority for both faculty and administration at GW,” said Geneva Henry, George Washington University’s dean of libraries and academic innovation. “Because of the success of our current online offerings, we will continue to grow our online courses as the demand from faculty and students is currently very high.”

OPINION

Join in Effort To Reduce Gun Violence

BY DON BEYER
U.S. REPRESENTATIVE (D-8)



We simply must move forward on gun policy in America. We must find a way to stop the mass shootings, we must find a way to lower the suicide rate, we must find a way, as our Founding

Fathers did, to be a thoughtful, structured, fair society. We must not sell guns to those under investigation by the FBI for terrorism. We must have background checks and we must somehow limit the sale of weapons of war that are not needed by ordinary citizens.

I was heartened to see the op-ed by General Stan McChrystal urging veterans to add their voices to the chorus for sensible gun policy in America. I am heartened by Republican Senator Susan Collins and some of her colleagues who are trying to find a compromise, a beginning, across party lines.

I urge you to add your voice in any way you can, and I thank those of you who have contacted my office to lend support. We will persevere.

I was moved and inspired last week by my colleagues — starting with the great civil rights icon Congressman John Lewis — who had the tenacity and creativity to launch a sit-in on the floor of the House of Representatives to demand a vote

COMMENTARY on solutions to gun violence.

In the shadow of the June 12 Orlando shootings, members of Congress gathered almost spontaneously on the House floor. When the Republicans shut off the cameras, members of Congress broke House rules to live-stream the events from their phones.

I was impressed when I heard Representative Jim Clyburn — also a powerful figure in the world of civil rights and of gun safety, not only because his district includes Charleston, the site of another horrific shooting — say that our sit-in was his proudest moment in 46 years of public service. It was my proudest moment in 18 months in the House, and I was there all night.

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SPORTS

Batter Up

Titan Red wins 6th annual alumni baseball game.

The T.C. Williams Baseball Boosters played host to the 6th annual T.C. Williams Alumni Baseball Game June 17 when players from Alexandria public high schools gathered at Simpson Field for the match-up between teams Titan Blue and Titan Red. The team rosters brought together alumni players from as far back as 1968 to recent 2016 graduates.

On the field, the Red team prevailed behind the strong pitching of Jimmy Rhoades (Hammond '68) and Andrew Tovsky (TCW '16). Dan Bates (TCW '87) and Aaron Tovsky (TCW '12) pitched well for the Blue team but they were betrayed by some defensive lapses that handed Titan Red enough unearned runs to provide the margin of victory. George Rose (TCW '84) and the Mannel brothers, Robert (TCW '10) and Ryan (TCW '16) paced the Red team at the plate while Trav Clark (TCW '11) chipped in with a pair of doubles for Titan Blue.

Following the game the players gathered at the field for a post-game meal courtesy of Pork Barrel Barbeque.

— JEANNE THEISMANN



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Players pose for a group photo following the 6th annual T.C. Williams Alumni Baseball Game held June 17 at Simpson Field. Front row (from left): Jeff Manthos (TCW '72), Aaron Tovsky (TCW '12), Perry Rivera (TCW '85), JJ Moylan (TCW '88), Jimmy Rhoades (Hammond '68), Chris Mackay (TCW '89), Gordon Shelley (TCW '80), Ryan Mannel (TCW '16) and Robert Mannel (TCW '12). Back row (L-R): Trav Clark (TCW '11), Jon Safren (Hammond '71), Jim Clark (TCW '68), Dan Bates (TCW '87), George Rose (TCW '84), Pete Lawson (TCW '83) and Andrew Tovsky (TCW '16).



UPCOMING GAMES AT FRANK MANN FIELD

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ENTERTAINMENT

Junction: A Crossroads of New Food, Old Favorites

The new bakery and bistro aims to open shortly after Independence Day.

BY HOPE NELSON
GAZETTE PACKET

On the corner of Monroe and Mount Vernon avenues, a landmark building has been given new life. What's most noticeable to neighbors and frequent visitors through Del Ray is the new mural: "Junction Bakery and Bistro, Serving Del Ray and Abroad," it reads in gray paint, splashed across the side of the building that used to house Mancini's at 1508 Mount Vernon Ave.

And there, at a major junction into the neighborhood — the gateway of Del Ray, really — is where chef Nathan Hatfield and his team are looking to make inroads with Alexandrians.

"We wanted to try to stay true to Del Ray" and its history, Hatfield said, from its days as a railroad junction to its newer life as a bustling, booming neighborhood that Hatfield himself has been a part of for years (he lives a stone's throw away from his new restaurant). "... We're hoping to become a part of this community, really."

Junction, which is scheduled to open shortly after the Fourth of July holiday, will aim to be many things to many people. From breakfast sandwiches to dinner and

drinks, the restaurant's hours will be long — and, Hatfield hopes, its scope wide.

"In the morning you'll be able to find fresh coffee from Commonwealth Joe Coffee Roasters down in Culpeper," Hatfield said. Lunch will bring with it mostly locally purveyed salads along with sandwiches and small plates. And though some perennially well-known favorites — BLTs, turkey sandwiches, pastries — will be on the menu, look for some new twists on old favorites as well.

To wit: A breakfast sandwich starring "a fried egg and bacon and kimchi on a steamed bun," Hatfield said.

The look and feel of a restaurant is nearly as important as the service and food. The ambience at Junction aspires to be a blend of old and new, of modern and traditional, Junction's Lauren Belisle says. Natural lighting, marble, granite, and glass all combine to make what Belisle hopes will become a "second home" for visitors.

"We preserved some of the tin ceiling tiles from when the building was a grocery store in the 1950s," she said. Also, the exterior



Junction chef Nathan Hatfield: "We wanted to try to stay true to Del Ray."

mural "has been getting a lot of love and buzz. And that definitely ... is a great embodiment of the look and feel of what the interior will look like as well."

But in the end, Hatfield aims for the food to be the star of the show. And he's striving for Junction to take hold of the neighborhood in short order.

"I'm most proud of the fact that I get to hopefully be a part of this community and show everybody some new fresh ideas," Hatfield said. "Hopefully we'll turn on some people to new food."

Hope Nelson runs the Kitchen Recessionista blog, www.kitchenrecessionista.com. Email her any time at hope@kitchenrecessionista.com.

CALENDAR

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

ONGOING

Exhibit: "A Retrospective Exhibit of Florals and Still Life." Gallery hours at Goodwin House Alexandria Art Center, 4800 Fillmore Ave. Artist Concetta C. Scott presents her work. Call 703-578-1000 for more.

Caribbean-American Jubilee Arts Exhibition. Through July, gallery hours at The Torpedo Factory Arts Center, 105 N. Union St. The Second Art Impact USA Caribbean Jubilee Arts Exhibition is in honor of National Caribbean-American Heritage Month. Free. Visit www.artimpactusa.org for more.

Alex Tolstoy: "Watermarks." Through July 3, gallery hours at The Art League, 105 N. Union St. Artist Alex Tolstoy's past life as an ocean acoustics mathematician subconsciously informed and inspired her present life as a watercolor artist, as she now paints the moods and forms of the oceans, seas, lakes, ponds, and storms. Free. Visit www.theartleague.org for more.

"Who The Wounded Are." Through July 11 at Carlyle House Historic Park, 121 N. Fairfax St. "Who These Wounded Are: The Extraordinary Stories of the Mansion House Hospital" is about people who lived and worked at this site in Alexandria

and their real life stories that inspired the PBS show, "Mercy Street." Tickets are \$2-12. Visit www.carlylehouse.org for more.

Grown Ups Art Camp. Through July 15, various times at Del Ray Artisans, 2704 Mount Vernon Ave. Del Ray Artisans is offering more than 30 workshops and sessions to choose from. Prices vary. Visit www.delrayartisans.org for more.

Indoor Arts Supplies Yard Sale. Through July 15, various times at Del Ray Artisans Gallery, 2704 Mount Vernon Ave. Art supplies will be for sale a half-hour before and immediately after each Grown Ups Art Camp workshop. Free to attend. Visit www.TheDelRayArtisans.org/GUAC.

Target Gallery: "Please Touch." Through July 17, gallery hours at Target Gallery, 105 N. Union St. Sixteen national and international artists, including four people from Virginia, were juried into this group show. This all-media exhibition features 20 works with which audiences are invited to engage. Free. Visit www.torpedofactory.org for more.

Art Exhibit: "Out and About." Through July 17, gallery hours at The Associates Gallery – Torpedo Factory Art Center, 105 N. Union St. TAG member artist and oil painter Ellen Kolansky presents a grouping of her landscape paintings. Free. Visit www.torpedofactory.org for more.

Potomac Fiber Arts Gallery: "Circuses." Through July 24, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. at 105 N. Union St. Potomac Fiber Arts Gallery announces the juried show

"Circuses." Artists' derive inspiration from clowns, animals, trapezes, jugglers, ringmasters, sideshows, crowds and other big house trappings. Free. Visit www.potomacfiberartsgallery.com for more.

Summerquest. Various times at various libraries in Alexandria. SummerQuest is divided into three groups: SummerQuest, Jr. (ages 0-5), SummerQuest (ages 6-12) and Teen Summer Reading (ages 12-18). This year's theme is "Read for the Win!" Free. Visit www.alexandria.lib.va.us.

"Violent Grace: A Retrospective." Through July 30, gallery hours at Convergence, 1801 N. Quaker Lane. This exhibit is a survey of five decades of paintings by Edwards Knippers. Free. Visit www.ourconvergence.org for more.

"The Beauty of Inflection." Through July 31, gallery hours at The Athenaeum, 201 Prince St. Julia Bloom and Susan Hostetler have created complementary bodies of work, in both two and three dimensions, inspired by nature; murmurations and birdsongs, and organic grids of color and light. Free. Visit www.nvfaa.org for more.

Art Exhibit: "Streets Meets Glass." Through Aug. 15, business hours at the Vola Lawson Animal Shelter, 4101 Eisenhower Ave. The exhibit features the work of two Del Ray Artisans artists, Joshua Oliveira and Betsy Mead. Free. Visit www.TheDelRayArtisans.org/GWW.

Fort Hunt Concerts. Through Aug. 28, Sundays 7-8 p.m. at Fort Hunt Park, 8999 Fort Hunt Road. A different band performs each week.

Free. Visit www.nps.gov/gwmp for more.

Collage and Ceramics – Kathryn Horn Coneway. Through Aug. 28, gallery hours at Huntley Meadows Park, 3701 Lockheed Blvd. Free. Visit www.kathrynconeway.com for more.

Women of Civil War Alexandria Tour. Through Sept. 3, 7 p.m. Fridays-Saturdays at The Lyceum, 201 S. Washington St. Learn more about women's roles during the Civil War in Alexandria. Presented by the National Women's History Museum (NWHM). Tickets are \$15, \$12 for NWHM members. Visit www.nwhm.com/get-involved/event/walking-tours.

Mercy in Alexandria Walking Tour. Sundays at 1:30 p.m. at Alexandria Visitors Center, 221 King St. Experience an inside access tour of 19th century Alexandria. Inspired by the PBS mini-series "Mercy Street," accompany a trained military historian through Civil War-era Alexandria and learn the actual history behind the TV show. Short tours are \$15, private tours for five are \$149. Visit www.dcmilitarytour.com for more.

The Lyceum: 175 Years of Local History. Ongoing, Monday-Saturday 10 a.m.-5 p.m. and Sunday 1-5 p.m. at The Lyceum, 201 S. Washington St. On view in the museum's Goldsmith Gallery, the historical objects and images featured represent The Lyceum, the community at work, and commemorations and celebrations. Throughout the exhibition, visitors are invited to "be the curator" and think about why the various artifacts

are in the museum's collection, and about how tangible representatives of the past help tell the story of Alexandria's history. Free. Visit www.alexandriahistory.org for more.

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

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

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

ENTERTAINMENT

non-center members. To continue lessons, a yearly membership to all Senior Center programs is \$48. Call 703-765-4573 to sign up.

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

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

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

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

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

CAMPS, CLASSES & WORKSHOPS

Olympic Champions Camp. July 25-Aug. 26, 7 a.m.-6 p.m. at Boys & Girls Club, 401 N. Payne St. The Olympic Champions Camp incorporates "Triple Play" to engage mind, body, and soul. Campers participate in reading, STEM, sports, meditation and more. Prices vary. Visit www.bgcgw.org for more.

Theatre Camp. Through Sept. 2, various times at The Little Theatre of Alexandria, 600 Wolfe St. Offering a variety of camps for age 3 through 8th grade, covering creative play, acting, singing, dancing, musical theatre and improv. Sessions also include comedy, scene study, Shakespeare and drama. Tuition prices vary. Visit www.thelittletheatre.com for more.

Photography Workshop. 10:30 a.m.-12 p.m. at Multiple Exposures Gallery on 105 N. Union St. Photographers of all skill levels are invited to share work, ideas, and questions at this free workshop held on the last Sunday of each month, except December. No reservations. Call 703-683-2205.

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

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

Community Yoga. Wednesdays 9:30-

10:30 a.m. and Sundays 7:30-8:45 p.m. at 532YOGA, 532 N. Washington St. Suite 100. No experience required to participate in weekly community class. Suggested \$10 donation. Visit www.532yoga.com.

TUESDAY/JUNE 28

Family Fun Day: Shaping Our City. 10-11:30 a.m. at The Lyceum, 201 S. Washington St. Explore how shapes are used in buildings, in the classroom and on the streets of Alexandria. Families are encouraged to bring recycled materials to share during a building workshop and should be prepared for a short walk outdoors, including walking shoes, sunscreen, and clothing appropriate for the weather. Tickets are \$8 for children, free for adults. Visit shop.alexandriava.gov/events.aspx for more.

Cat-tastic Craft Night. 7-8:30 p.m. at Beatley Central Library, 5005 Duke St. Free. Visit www.alexandria.lib.va.us.

THURSDAY/JUNE 30

Film Screening: "House Maid." 6-8 p.m. at The Alexandria Black History Museum, 902 Wythe St. The Alexandria Black History Museum hosts a series of programs from the pages of Port Of Harlem Magazine. All programs open with a 20-minute reception with light refreshments. Set in Gambia, West Africa and written by Gambian Bubacarr Jallow, this 90-minute culturally reflective, sometimes comedic film is about a wife who loses her man to their maid. Free. Call 703-746-4356 for more.

FRIDAY/JULY 1

Tribute to Earth, Wind, and Fire. 6:30-9:30 p.m. at The Carlyle Club, 2050 Ballenger Ave. Tickets are \$30-35. Visit www.carlyleclub.com for more.

JULY 1-31

Art Exhibit: "Generations." Gallery hours at Torpedo Factory Art Center - Studio 306, 105 N. Union St. Realist artists James Dean and Kara Hammond bring together their space related works to celebrate the early days of space travel and exploration. Free. Visit www.karahammond.wordpress.com for more.

SATURDAY/JULY 2

Independence Fireworks. 6 p.m. at Mount Vernon, 3200 Mount Vernon Memorial Highway, Mount Vernon. Greet "General and Mrs. Washington" in the historic area before trying a turn at bocce ball and 18th-century dancing demonstrations. Mount Vernon's colonial artisans will reveal how 18th-century ice cream was made in the days before freezers. Enjoy a performance by Yorktown Fife & Drum and the National Concert Band. Also enjoy a fireworks show. Tickets are \$30 for adults, \$20 for youth. Visit www.mountvernon.org for more.

MONDAY/JULY 4

An American Celebration. 8 a.m.-5 p.m. at Mount Vernon, 3200 Mount Vernon Memorial Highway, Mount Vernon. Watch made-for-daytime



Above: "Whispering Wave," Michael Jasinski King Street Art Festival Scheduled

King Street Art Festival, returns to historic Old Town Sept. 17-18 with an array of eclectic art created by more than 250 artists from all over the country. Admission to the gallery is free. Visit www.artfestival.com for more.

fireworks shoot off over the Potomac River. Admission is \$9-20, free for children 0-5. Visit www.mountvernon.org for more.

Plant Sale. 9 a.m.-1 p.m. at Waynewood Recreation Park, 1027 Dalebrook Drive. Features plants that are known to thrive in this area. Members from the Garden Club of Waynewood will be available to answer questions on plants. There also will be a children's table to help them start plants. Free. Call 703-549-4245 for more.

TUESDAY/JULY 5

Simpson Park Garden Stroll. 11 a.m.-12 p.m. at 420 E. Monroe St. VCE Master Gardeners who maintain Simpson Park Demonstration Gardens invite Alexandria residents and others to stroll by the gardens. Free. Call 703-228-6414 or email mgarlalex@gmail.com.

WEDNESDAY/JULY 6

Swing Dance. 9-11 p.m. at Nick's Nightclub, 642 S. Pickett St. The Crawstickers play blues music with jazz and soul influences. Tickets are \$10. Visit www.gottaswing.com.

THURSDAY/JULY 7

Let's Grow Garden Club: "Dig In." 1-2:30 p.m. at Green Springs Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road. Children will visit Green Spring's greenhouses and nursery areas to see the garden staff at work, help them start some seeds for late summer planting, and trek down to the veggie patch to talk about what plants need to grow. Make a plant marker for the garden and pot a plant to bring home. Tickets are \$15 per child. Call 703-642-5173 or visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/greenspring/.

Artist's Reception. 6-8 p.m. at The Associates Gallery, Studio 311, The

Torpedo Factory Art Center, 105 N. Union St. TAG member artist and oil painter Ellen Kolansky presents a grouping of her landscape paintings "Out and About: Environs of DC." Her style is loose, noted for its rhythm, color, and grace. In the current show, scenes depict the C & O Canal, Potomac river, Frederick Maryland train station and Great Falls and more. Visit torpedofactory.org/ for more.

SATURDAY/JULY 9

Civil War Kids Drill Day. 9 a.m.-12 p.m. at Fort Ward, 4301 W. Braddock Road. Children ages 9-12 can learn more about the daily life of the Civil War soldier. Tickets are \$25. Visit www.fortward.org for more.

Herb Container Workshop. 10-11:30 a.m. at Green Springs Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road. Learn how to care for and harvest your herbs and share some of your favorite herb recipes. Tickets are \$35. Call 703-642-5173 or visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/greenspring/.

Beyond the Battlefield Walking

Tour. 10 a.m. starting at the Lyceum, 201 S. Washington St. Discover the real-life stories and locations of soldiers, citizens, and former slaves that inspired the PBS drama "Mercy Street" in this walking tour of Old Town. Tickets are \$15. Visit www.leeendallhouse.org for more.

Film Screening: "This Little Light of Mine." 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m. at Alexandria Black History Museum, 902 Wythe St. Director Robin Hamilton will discuss her work to shine a light on the life of Fannie Lou Hamer, an often-overlooked heroine of the Civil Rights Movement in this documentary film. A question and answer session with Hamilton follows the film. Tickets are \$5. Call 703-746-4356.

"Eating Right on the Run." 11:30

a.m. at Williams-Sonoma Old Town, 825 S. Washington St. Presented by Certified Wellness Master Ruvi Makuni. Free. Visit <https://ruvi.typeform.com/to/x2ioCE>.

Carlyle House 40th Anniversary Open House. 12-4 p.m. at Carlyle House, 121 N. Fairfax St. Birthday festivities will take place throughout town that afternoon and evening. Free. Visit www.carlylehouse.org for more.

Our American Girl. 1-3 p.m. at Mount Vernon, 3200 Mount Vernon Memorial Highway, Mount Vernon. Join Mount Vernon's own American girl, "Nelly Custis" on a tour of George Washington's estate. Enjoy refreshments with "Lady Washington" and create colonial crafts. Bring your favorite doll. Tickets are \$35 for youth, \$25 for adults. Visit www.mountvernon.org for more.

Alexandria/USA Birthday Celebration. 6-10 p.m. at Oronoco Bay Park, 100 Madison St. Visitors celebrate America's 240th birthday and Alexandria's 267th along the Potomac waterfront at Oronoco Bay Park and enjoy live music by the Alexandria Symphony Orchestra, patriotic birthday cake, food vendors and a fireworks display. Free. Visit www.VisitAlexandriaVA.com/alx-bday.

TUESDAY/JULY 12

"Casablanca." Garden reception at 6 p.m., show at 7 p.m. at Woodlawn-Pope Leighey House, 9000 Richmond Highway. The Picnic Theatre Company returns to Woodlawn estate for a one-act garden party theatre performance of "Casablanca." Tickets are \$15-25 plus a service fee. Visit www.facebook.com/PicnicTheatre.

THURSDAY/JULY 14

Rejuvenate the Midsummer Herb Garden. 7-8:30 p.m. at Burke Branch Library, 4701 Seminary Road. Learn how to keep your herb garden going strong in hot summer weather through good maintenance practices and occasional replanting. Learn tips and techniques to use and preserve herbs, including how to flavor vinegars. Free. Call 703-228-6414 or email mgarlalex@gmail.com.

FRIDAY-SATURDAY/JULY 15-16

Alexandria Comcast Outdoor Film Festival. Gates open at 5:30 p.m. at Waterfront Park, 1A Prince St. Two movies will show on a 40-foot inflatable movie screen, with the Alexandria Waterfront as the backdrop. Free. Visit www.VisitAlexandriaVA.com/summer.

SATURDAY/JULY 16

Family Fun Day: The Wright Flight. 10-11:30 a.m. at The Lyceum, 201 S. Washington St. Celebrate the 107th Anniversary of Orville Wright's historic flight from Fort Myer to Alexandria and test the basic principles of flight. Like the Wright brothers, work together as a family to create a hypothesis and conduct test flights to learn which design is the best. Tickets are \$8 for children, free for adults. Visit shop.alexandriava.gov/Events.aspx.

Canine Cruise. 11 a.m. at Alexandria City Marina, 1 Cameron St. With four-legged friends in tow, board a Potomac Riverboat Co. cruise and tour the Alexandria Seaport on this popular 60-minute waterfront excursion. Dogs must be on 6-foot

ENTERTAINMENT

flat leash at all times. Tickets are \$16 for adults, \$10 for children, free for dogs. Visit www.PotomacRiverboatCo.com/canine-cruise.php.

SUNDAY/JULY 17

Presidential Salon with James Madison. 3-4:30 p.m. at Gadsby's Tavern Museum, 134 N. Royal St. Join President Madison as he discusses and engages guests about political and personal issues of 1816. Reservations are recommended. Tickets are \$15, \$10 for students. Visit www.VisitAlexandriaVA.com/summer.

MONDAY-FRIDAY/JULY 18-22

Del Ray Artisans Art Camp. 9 a.m.-4 p.m. at Del Ray Artisans Gallery, 2704 Mount Vernon Ave. Del Ray Artisans invites young campers to spend a week creating art with professional artist instruction. All artist supplies, as well as lunch and snacks, are provided. There will also be a one-day only gallery show held on July 23 1-3 p.m. The fee is \$300. Visit www.delrayartisans.org.

TUESDAY/JULY 19

Searching Adoption Records. 1-3 p.m. at Hollin Hall Senior Center, 1500 Shenandoah Road. Genealogist and adoptee Susan Palma talks about adoption records through time and gives tips on finding family. Free. Visit www.mvgenealogy.org or call 703-768-4101.

THURSDAY/JULY 21

Let's Grow Garden Club: "Bee Quest." 1-2:30 p.m. at Green Springs Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road. Test your pollinator spotting skills in the gardens with our pollinator game. Figure out how pollinators help us grow food and what plants they like to visit. Visit bee hives and sample flower honey. Take home some pumpkin seeds for planting. Tickets are \$15 per child. Call 703-642-5173 or visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/greenspring/.

FRIDAY/JULY 22

Closing Reception: "Violent Grace." 6-9 p.m. at Convergence, 1801 N. Quaker Lane. This exhibit is a survey of five decades of paintings by Edwards Knippers. Celebrate the exhibit and meet the artist. Free. Visit www.ourconvergence.org for more.

SATURDAY/JULY 23

Del Ray Music Festival. 3-8 p.m. along Mount Vernon Avenue. The 9th Annual Del Ray Music Fest is a celebration of local talent. Free. Visit www.DelRayMusicFestival.com.
Summer Concert. 7-9 p.m. at Carlyle House, 121 N. Fairfax St. Surprise band performs. Free, \$5 suggested donation. Visit www.carlylehouse.org.

MONDAY-FRIDAY/JULY 25-29

Del Ray Artisans Art Camp. 9 a.m.-4 p.m. at Del Ray Artisans Gallery, 2704 Mount Vernon Ave. Del Ray Artisans invites young campers to spend a week creating art with professional artist instruction. All artist supplies, as well as lunch and snacks, are provided. There will also be a one-day only gallery show held on July 30 1-3 p.m. The fee is \$300. Visit www.delrayartisans.org for more.

JULY 26-AUG. 28

Potomac Fiber Arts Gallery: "Explorations Part I." 10 a.m.-5 p.m. at 105 N. Union St. Artists' take

www.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM



"Edge," watercolor, Alex Tolstoy

'Watermarks' Now Open at Art League

Alex Tolstoy's "Watermark" exhibit will be on display at The Art League through July 3. Tolstoy's past life as an ocean acoustics mathematician subconsciously informed and inspired her present life as a watercolor artist, as she now paints the moods and forms of the oceans, seas, lakes, ponds, and storms. Admission to the gallery is free. Visit www.theartleague.org.

inspirations from the early explorers: Vikings, Phoenicians, Marco Polo, tall ships, discovery of the New World and other. Free. Visit www.potomacfiberartsgallery.com for more.

THURSDAY/JULY 28

Jane Austen Dance Class. 7:30-9:30 p.m. at Gadsby's Tavern Museum, 134 N. Royal St. In preparation for the Jane Austen Ball on Aug. 13, learn 18th-century English country dancing. Tickets are \$12 each or \$30 for the series. Call 703-746-4242 for more.

FRIDAY/JULY 29

Film Screening: "Back to the Future." Movie starts at dusk, activities start at 6 p.m. at Four Mile Conservatory Center, 4109 Mount Vernon Ave. Free. Visit www.fourmilemovieseries.com.

SATURDAY/JULY 30

Children's Art Workshop: "The Beauty of Inflection." Through July 31, gallery hours at The Athenaeum, 201 Prince St. Julia Bloom and Susan Hostetler have created complementary bodies of work, in both two and three dimensions, inspired by nature. The artists will conduct a workshop for children ages 8-12, to explore various media including making stencils and create work reflecting the nature of the show. Free. Visit www.nvfaa.org.

SATURDAY-SUNDAY/JULY 30-31

Harry Potter Birthday Weekend. At Stabler-Leadbeater Apothecary Museum, 105-107 S. Fairfax St. Saturday features adult-only tours of the museum from 7-10 p.m. that includes an adult beverage, make-and-take activity, photo opportunities and time to explore items familiar from the Harry Potter series and their real-world uses. Event ends in time to join the midnight release of "Harry Potter and the Cursed Child - Parts I & II" at Hooray for Books. On Sunday, celebrate Harry Potter's birthday with family-friendly tours of the apothecary from 1:30-6 p.m. Hooray for Books will sell Harry Potter merchandise and leading Harry Potter trivia. Tickets are \$15 for Saturday, \$6 for Sunday. Visit shop.AlexandriaVA.gov.

THURSDAY/AUG. 4

Let's Grow Garden Club: "Sunny Days." 1-2:30 p.m. at Green Springs Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road. Kids will learn why the sun is important to photosynthesis and cook garden-fresh pizzas in a solar oven. Tickets are \$15 per child. Call 703-642-5173 or visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/greenspring/.

Jane Austen Dance Class. 7:30-9:30 p.m. at Gadsby's Tavern Museum, 134 N. Royal St. In preparation for the Jane Austen Ball on Aug. 13, learn 18th-century English country dancing. Tickets are \$12 each or \$30 for the series. Call 703-746-4242.

Le Refuge was rated #1 in Alexandria on TripAdvisor. Thank you for your continued support.

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- Fresh Jumbo Softshell Crabs
- Cold Salmon Platter
- Beef Wellington
- Rack of Lamb
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OUT & ABOUT



PHOTO BY ANTONELLA NICHOLAS

Residents line up for food and wine at Vine on the Waterfront. Thirty restaurants, vendors and wineries participated.



Justin Trawick and the Common Goods perform during the fifth annual Vine on the Waterfront at Oronoco Bay Park in Alexandria.



Vine on the Waterfront included a children's corner where youngsters played on a moonbounce and got their faces painted.

Festive Times at Oronoco Bay Park

An estimated 10,000 people were expected to attend the fifth annual Vine on the Waterfront, formerly known as the Alexandria Food and Wine festival, at Oronoco Bay Park in Alexandria on Saturday, June 25.

The weather was warm but breezy as the festival got in full swing.

Residents of all ages lined up for hot dogs, cupcakes, and, for those over 21, wine. Thirty restaurants, wineries, and vendors, from Old Town and elsewhere, participated.

Sandrika Berthias, whose company, S and B Events, produced the festival, described the festival as inclusive and family friendly.

"This is really a welcoming event," Berthias said. A children's corner with a moonbounce and face painting was available for the younger participants. Admittance was free, but tickets were required to purchase food and wine.

Justin Trawick and the Common Goods and the Allan Scott Band provided musical entertainment.

Proceeds go toward defraying the cost of the event, according to Berthias. Additionally, S and B Events extends grants to nonprofits that focus on the environment, health, and women's empowerment.

— ANTONELLA NICHOLAS

Pool Preparedness: Tips to Get Pool Ready

BY AMY RUTHERFORD
OWNER, RED BARN MERCANTILE

As of last week, school is officially out. If I may borrow a line from Harold Hill ... that means summer break with a capital B, that rhymes with P and that stands for Pool. Unlike the pool in "The Music Man," the only trouble with the swimming pool is knowing what to bring. Here is the ideal packing list for a swell summer.

FROM THE OLD TOWN BOUTIQUE DISTRICT Sun Safety: Sunscreen with a sun protective factor (SPF) of 15+ with UVA and UVB protection is first on your packing list. Be sure to check the expiration date first. According to the CDC, sunscreen without an expiration date is good for three years if it hasn't been subjected to high temperatures. To further protect yourself from the sun, add a wide brim hat. Wallaroo's Casual Travel hat is 50+ spf and recommended by the Skin Cancer Foundation. Pick your favorite color from Gossypia. Finally, don't forget to protect your eyes from UVA and UVB rays. Mint Condition and 529 Kids Consign both have a wide selection of new and gently used sunglasses for mom and her littles.

Pool Bag: A canvas tote like the striped beauty by Baggu, found at Curated, is perfect for monogramming. Add your name, initials, or whatever brings a smile to your face so that it doesn't get lost in the sea of totebags.

Towels: The latest trend in pool towels comes from The Beach

People. These colorful round cotton Towels, available at The Shoe Hive, measure 60 inches in diameter, making them perfect for drying off, spreading out, or draping over the table for lunch.

What to wear: Start with your bathing suit and add a fun and comfortable cover up like the Keahi Mini Dress from Show Me Your Mumu available at Bishop Boutique. Don't forget a plastic bag to carry home wet things and a change of clothes for when you're ready to leave, because no one wants to drive home in wet clothes.

Snacks: Be sure to pack healthy snacks and lots of water for a full day at the pool. Keep your cut fruit, cheese sticks, granola bars, and veggies cool with Packits from La Cuisine. These ingenious lunch totes have gel liners that you freeze overnight then slip in to keep your treats chilled all day. Also, keep a little extra money in your pocket for the snack bar. A little frozen something is the perfect occasional treat for a long day of swimming.

Funtime: Don't forget to pack some fun when you aren't swimming. During adult swim, keep the kids occupied with Spot It Splash from Hooray for Books! With waterproof cards and fun sea creature illustrations, your kids will be thoroughly entertained. While the kids swim you can enjoy summer's hottest reads like "Before the Fall" by Noah Hawley or "Single, Carefree, Mellow" by Katherine Heiny, also available at Hooray for Books!

If you're prepared, the community pool can be the perfect place to entertain the entire family all summer long. Enjoy and happy swimming.

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3 RE for Rent

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Charming historic Old Town home circa 1880 in great area near shops and restaurants. One block from express Metrobus to DC and Lyle Crouch school. 3 Bedrooms/2.5 bath, with brand new kitchen. Landscaped front garden and private rear patio. \$3450 per month, avail July 1. Email Mark at mdn605@aol.com or call 202 230 4305

3 RE for Rent

3 RE for Rent



Country living in popular Waywood school district (22308), two lots, fenced yard for kids and pets, between West Blvd & Ft Hunt Rd, 5 minutes to Old Town and Fort Belvoir, walk to bike trail, Potomac River and Mount Vernon parkway-- 4BR, 3BA, country kitchen, 2 car garage, breezeway, large basement, fenced yard, generous parking and storage, updated custom built brick home, \$2990/mo, pets considered, credit approval required, available 6/25, 703-862-7240.

21 Announcements

21 Announcements

ABSOLUTE REAL ESTATE AUCTION TRUSTEE ORDERED SOLD

Wednesday - July 6th



<p>2208 Elmington Cir Va Bch 23454</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4 Bedrooms & 2.5 Baths • 1,778 Sq. Ft. • Garage -Attached; 288 Sq. Ft. <p>On-site: 1:00pm</p>	<p>1225 Mullholand Ct Va Bch 23454</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4 Bedrooms & 2.5 Baths • 1,865 Sq. Ft. • Garage -Attached; 240 Sq. Ft. <p>On-site: 2:30pm</p>	<p>1321 Kasba Ct Va Bch 23464</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3 Bedrooms & 2 Baths • 1,635 Sq. Ft. • Garage -Attached; 226 Sq. Ft. <p>On-site: 4:00pm</p>
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OBITUARY



Sandra Jurgan Ferretti, beloved wife of 51 years to Peter Eugene Ferretti, passed away on June 17th at the age of 74. She was born in Jersey City, New Jersey, the second youngest of nine children, to John and Anne (Wojtowicz) Jurgan. Sandra graduated from Hackensack High School (New Jersey) in 1960, where she was a cheerleader and she and Peter were voted class couple. Sandra got her college degree in English while on scholarship at Farleigh Dickinson University where she was a member of the Olympic squad fencing team. After graduation, Sandra taught English and Physical Education at New Milford High School in New Milford, New Jersey. Peter and Sandra then settled in Hingham, Massachusetts where they lived for 22 years and raised their children, Peter and Catherine. The family spent many happy summers and winter vacations at Lake Winnepesaukee, New Hampshire. Sandra was active in Saint Paul's Catholic Church in Hingham where she continued to work with young people as the Parish Youth Minister. Sandra also worked for many years as an Office Administrator at the Hingham Health Department. After moving to Alexandria in 2007, Sandra joined the staff of the Northern Virginia Family Practice as a Receptionist.

Sandra was fun loving, smart, athletic, loved to work on New York Times crossword puzzles and an avid follower of Jeopardy. In more recent years, Sandra devoted much of her free time to her passion for cooking and to doting on her beloved grandchildren and her two cats.

Sandra leaves behind her husband, Peter, her son, Peter Ferretti, daughter-in-law Andreae, and granddaughters Sophia and Isabella of Sammamish, Washington and her daughter Catherine Ferretti Munson, son-in-law, Steven, and granddaughter Sara and grandson Tyler of Alexandria, Virginia.

OBITUARY

Richard Bruce Neuhart, age 65, passed away peacefully Sunday, June 20, at an Alzheimer's Care Facility in Annandale, VA.

A native of Bellaire, Ohio, Bruce was preceded in death by his mother, Betty Lou Dickens Neuhart and his father, Richard Frederick Neuhart, both of Bellaire. He attended Bellaire public schools, and Linsly Military Institute in Wheeling, W.VA. He subsequently graduated from Fort Hunt High School in Alexandria, VA, and the College of Wooster in Wooster, OH. He was a member of the Rock Hill Presbyterian Church in Bellaire, OH.

Bruce had retired from an outstanding career in the federal government including positions with the U.S. Department of Energy at the U.S. Pavilions at the World's Fairs in Spokane, WA, and New Orleans, LA. He last served as a manager with the Federal Emergency Management Agency in Washington, DC.

A lifelong sports fan, Bruce was an avid supporter of the Washington Redskins, Ohio State University, Fort Hunt High School and Bellaire High School. He loved the outdoors and his dog, Sam, and finished the prestigious Marine Corps Marathon in Washington, DC.

A devoted son and loving brother, he is survived by his brother, Capt. Mark D. Neuhart, USN (Ret.) (Pam) of Knoxville, TN; his sisters, Paige Harrell (Stan) of Alexandria, VA, and Brooke Neuhart Toth of Phoenix, AZ. Bruce has five nieces and nephews: Sara and Matthew Neuhart, Elizabeth and Jonathan Harrell and Thomas Toth.

There will be a private graveside service held on Saturday at the Greenwood Cemetery in Bellaire, Ohio with the Rev. David Demarest presiding.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests that donations be made to the Alzheimer's Foundation of America (alzfdn.org).

Arrangements by Bauknecht-Altmeier Funeral Home and Crematory Bellaire, Ohio.

Online condolences at www.bauknechtaltmeier.com

21 Announcements

21 Announcements

PUBLIC NOTICE

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

Monday, July 4, between 1:00 p.m. – 1:15 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.

21 Announcements

21 Announcements

LEGAL ADVERTISEMENT

The Board of Equalization and Assessment Review for the City of Alexandria will convene at 4:00 PM on Friday, June 30, 2015, at 301 King Street, City Hall, Room 3008, Alexandria, Virginia, for the purpose of equalizing real estate assessments. The purpose of this meeting will be to discuss meeting dates, docket order and processing, and other administrative issues. There are no scheduled public hearings for this meeting, however members of the public are welcome to attend. Additional information about this meeting may be obtained by contacting the Department of Real Estate Assessments, 301 King Street, City Hall, Room 2600, Alexandria, Virginia 22314, between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday in person, in writing, or by calling 703.746.4180. The deadline for filing an appeal is June 1, 2016, however this appeal deadline is not applicable to appeals of assessments made pursuant to Virginia Code § 58.1-3292.

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.

Joseph Milton Harmon



HIGH POINT, NC - Joseph Milton Harmon, 67, died after a 4-year illness of COPD (Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease) followed by pneumonia on June 27, 2016, at Select Specialty Hospital - Greensboro, NC. He served a 20-year career of distinction in the US Army in Vietnam,

with the 3rd Armored Division in Germany, and later at the Pentagon in the Adjutant General's Office for Information Systems Command, where he trained and supervised up to 10 personnel accountable for more than 200,000 NATO documents. Harmon received the Meritorious Service Medal, Army Commendation Medal, Army Achievement Medal, National Defense Service Medal, Vietnam Service Medal with 4 Service Stars, and the Republic of Vietnam Gallantry Cross with Palm Unit Citation, among other honors.

Previous to residing in High Point, Harmon lived 21 years in Spring Lake, NC, and at Ft. Bragg. As a computer programming and data collection expert, Harmon in his later years worked for Sears in High Point, Lockheed Support Systems, Inc., in Fayetteville, and Test and Experimentation Services Co. at Fort Bragg. He was a member of the Noncommissioned Officers Association, an organization fighting for the service benefits and rights in Congress for Armed Forces members in need, and of the Independent Order of Foresters, which helps people in need in all walks of life.

Harmon followed the death of his wife of 33 years, Mary Ella Teague, who passed in 2002. He is survived by his daughter and devoted caretaker, writer Mary Angela Harmon of High Point; two sons, Joseph Milton Harmon Jr. of Denver, CO, and Jonathan Mark Harmon of Rocky Mount, NC; sisters Faye Dean Parnell and Darlene Annette Bryant; and brothers Michael Eugene Harmon and Kevin Andrew Harmon.

Friends and family will remember Joseph Harmon as enjoying playing the piano and guitar, listening to his collection of 50s/60s and military music, taking care of his vehicles and riding his 1981 Kawasaki motorcycle when he could, and using his professional computer knowledge for fun and for teaching those skills to his children.

Visitation will be held from 6:00 - 8:00 pm (1800-2000 hours) on Friday, July 1, 2016, at Cumby Family Funeral Service, 1015 Eastchester Drive, High Point, NC 27262. Funeral services will be held at 2:00 pm (1400 hours) on Saturday, July 2, 2016, at Abbotts Creek Missionary Baptist Church, 2817 Abbotts Creek Church Rd, High Point, NC 27265, with Reverend Mark Hollar officiating. Interment with full military honors will follow at Abbotts Creek Missionary Baptist Church Cemetery.

Memorial contributions may be made to the USO, Donor Services, 2111 Wilson Blvd., #1200, Arlington, VA 22201 or online at <https://www.uso.org/donate/next>.

Online condolences may be shared at www.cumbyfuneral.com.

Obituary



Mrs. Margaret Bixler Howell, age 94 of Wallace, NC, died on June 23, 2016 at Pender Memorial Hospital. Burial will be at Mt. Comfort Cemetery in Alexandria, VA on Wednesday, June 29 at 12:00 p.m. Memorial services will be held on Saturday, July 16, at Mt. Vernon United Methodist Church at 11:00 a.m. and on Monday, July 25 at Wallace United Methodist Church at 4:00 p.m.

Margaret is survived by two sons, Robert Lyndon Howell and wife Elaine Merrey Howell of Williamsburg, VA and Thomas G. Howell, Sr. and wife Kathryn Ann Howell of Wallace, NC, her sister, Louise Bixler Griffith of Corinth, TX, six grandchildren, Thomas G. Howell, Jr., Stephanie E. Howell, Catherine H. Maiberger, Amy J. Redwine, Martha E. Howard and Alison J. Harlow and ten great grandchildren.

Margaret was born on April 30, 1922 in Washington, DC to the late Walter Glen and Ruth Harris Bixler. Her husband, Odie Robert Howell, Jr., also predeceased her.

Margaret or "Bickie" as her friends knew her lived in Northern Virginia for almost all of her life. She was a longtime resident of the Ft. Hunt area for over 62 years. Margaret graduated from Washington Lee High School in 1939 and matriculated to Madison College that same year. On December 22, 1942, she married her high school sweetheart, Odie R. Howell, Jr.

Margaret graduated from Madison College with a teaching degree in 1943. While her husband was overseas during the war, she taught for 3 years at Henry Clay Elementary School in Arlington County, VA.

Margaret was a living example of Christianity throughout her life. She accepted Christ at the age of 12. Margaret was a powerful influence on bringing others to Christ as her sister and parents joined Calvary United Methodist Church with her at Christmas in 1934.

Throughout her life, Margaret was involved in the work of the church. She joined Mt. Vernon United Methodist Church in 1953, the year it began, and was a member until her death. Among her many activities, she taught Sunday School for over 30 years, served as President of the Women's Society, sang in the church choir, and led the Prayer Group. When she moved to Wallace, NC with her son in 2013, she attended Wallace United Methodist Church. Once again Margaret was a living example of Christianity, as she loved to attend the Bible Study sessions each Tuesday morning. She could recite the names of all 66 books of the Bible by memory in less than one minute.

Margaret also donated her time to many community outreach activities. She was a volunteer at the American Red Cross, The United Community Ministries and up to her late 80's, she volunteered at the Mt. Vernon Hospital.

Margaret was very active in the Order of the Eastern Star. She was a Past Worthy Matron of the Martha Washington Chapter OES #42 and a member for over 63 years.

Margaret was truly an example of Christianity acknowledging the Lord every day of her long life. Her caring, outgoing personality, ready smile, boundless energy, helping hand and unselfish service to her church and community made her well known and endeared her to her friends and fellow citizens. She truly lived her favorite Bible verse of Proverbs 3:5-6 "Trust in the Lord with all thine heart and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge Him and He shall direct thy paths."

In lieu of flowers, please send memorials in Margaret's memory to Mt. Vernon UMC, 2006 Bell View Blvd, Alexandria, VA 22307 or Wallace UMC, 303 S. College Street, Wallace, NC 28466.

To sign the guest book, go to www.padgettfuneralhome.com. A service of Padgett Funeral and Cremation Services, Wallace.

Memorial Service
Mt. Vernon United Methodist Church
Saturday July 16th, 2016
11:00am
2006 Belle View Blvd
Alexandria, VA 22307

Memorial Service
Wallace United Methodist Church
Monday July 25th, 2016
4:00pm
303 South College street
Wallace, NC 28466

21 Announcements

21 Announcements

PUBLIC NOTICE

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

Saturday, July 2 between 9:30 p.m. and 9:45pm. (15 minutes)

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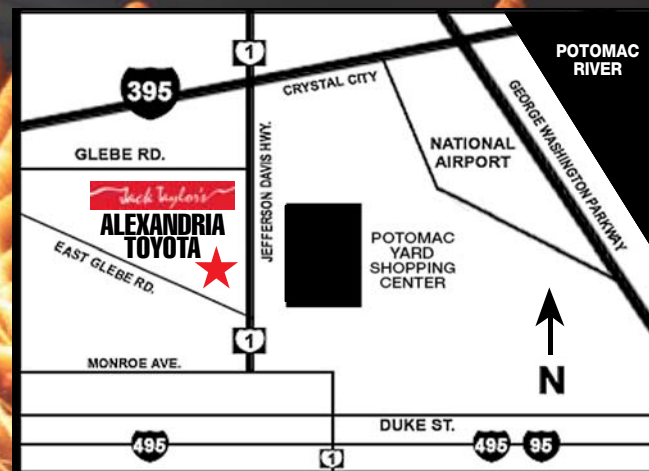
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