

Chuck Cardiss tells the John Trust story of the Female Stranger at Gadsby's Tavern.

Ghost Stories of Old Town

Mysteries, phantoms, and Devil-Bats lurk through city streets.

BY VERNON MILES
GAZETTE PACKET

Many Old Town Alexandrians are protective of their city. For some, that defensiveness continues beyond the grave. With 267 years of



St. Paul's Episcopal Church Cemetery, final resting place of the Female Stranger.

history, Alexandria is a city fraught with supernatural hauntings.

2016 marks the 200th anniversary of Alexandria's most enduring mystery: The Female Stranger.

Liz Williams, museum director of Gadsby's Tavern, said there's at least four or five different versions of the story, ranging from those based largely in historical fact to some that are truly bizarre.

"The most popular, and the most widely used, is about this woman whose very ill," said Williams. "She and her travelling companion came to Gadsby's in September or October of 1816. She arrived to the building sick and was brought upstairs to a lodging room. Her companion asks for a doctor, whom he asks to swear to secrecy for their identity. Doctor Richards tries to help, but she passed away."

The Female Stranger reportedly died in the tavern's Room Eight and the site has become the center of Female Stranger-related hauntings. She was taken to St. Paul's Episcopal Church Cemetery, where an elevated marble slab marks her grave. The grave marker's inscription only identifies her as "Female Stranger," accompanied by an inscription as cryptic as it is lovingly written.

The identity of the Female Stranger has been the subject of rumor and speculation throughout the city.

"There are some fairly wild theories," said Williams. "The most popular is that she was Theodosia Burr [daughter of Aaron Burr], but the dates don't really match up. She was shipwrecked off the coast of North Carolina. In some stories she passed away in the shipwreck. In others pirates captured her but she escaped and made her way to Alexandria."

SEE MYSTERIES, PHANTOMS, PAGE 8

PHOTOS CONTRIBUTED

Marathon Milestone

RunningBrooke hits \$1 million mark for local charities.

BY JEANNE THEISMANN
GAZETTE PACKET

If the journey of a thousand miles begins with a single step, then Brooke Sydnor Curran has completed many journeys since founding the RunningBrooke Fund seven years ago. With the goal of completing a marathon a month, she has traveled the world running for local charities and will cross a milestone finish line Oct. 30 when she competes in the 41st annual Marine Corps Marathon.

"I'm in total disbelief this week," said Curran as she prepares for her 100th marathon for the RunningBrooke Fund. "I haven't had time to think about the huge accomplishment this is. I'm more worried about the 100 runners coming into town that will run as part of the RunningBrooke team. Each one has individually raised nearly \$1,000, which will have a huge community impact and I want them to have a great experience."

Curran, a self-described former chain smoker who had never run anything more than the local Turkey Trot, ran her first marathon — also the Marine Corps Marathon — in 2004.

"My decision to run a marathon was a sort of post-9/11 reaction," Curran said. "I wondered along with many others 'are we going to wake up tomorrow?' I wanted to start leading my life rather than let life lead me so I thought I'd run a marathon and check it off the list."

But as soon as she crossed the



PHOTO BY JEANNE THEISMANN
GAZETTE PACKET

RunningBrooke founder Brooke Sydnor Curran, shown at the finish line of the 2010 Turkey Trot, will complete her 100th marathon for charity when she runs the Marine Corps Marathon Oct. 30.

finish line, Curran was hooked.

"When I crossed that finish line, I immediately thought 'I can do better,'" Curran recalled. "I wanted to get faster, qualify for Boston, win my age group — but the better I got the less it meant to me."

Curran was waiting at a stoplight on Mount Vernon Avenue when she locked eyes with a young woman struggling while pushing a stroller. It was then that the idea for RunningBrooke hit her.

"I knew then that my life's purpose was to work to make a difference to those moms and kids who live so close to me," Curran said.

Since its inception, RunningBrooke has raised \$1 mil

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Young At Art

Senior art show celebrates 30 years.

BY JEANNE THEISMANN
GAZETTE PACKET

Young At Art, a juried art exhibit featuring the works of artists 55 years and older, celebrated its 30th anniversary with a reception and awards ceremony Oct. 19 at the Durant Arts Center in Old Town.

Artists from throughout the region submitted 174 pieces of art for consideration. Ninety works representing 49 artists were selected for the exhibit, which is jointly sponsored by Goodwin House Foundation and Senior Services of Alexandria.

"We are proud to be the organizers of this major art show in the greater Washington area," said Jeanne Jacob, executive director of Goodwin House Foundation. We also are grateful to our generous sponsors for helping to make this show a reality."

Sponsors for the Young At Art exhibit and reception include ACC Family, Fiske Law Group, GoldWorks, USA - David Martin Design, Sue and Allison Goodhart, Goodwin House Foundation, Redmon, Peyton & Braswell, Renner & Company, Senior Services of Alexandria, The Art League, Tisara Photography and Donnan C. Wintermute.

"Senior Services of Alexandria is proud to be part of this annual event," said Mary Lee Anderson, executive director of SSA. "This year's exhibition represents the talent of many senior artists in our area and I know everyone will enjoy viewing their work at the Durant Arts Center."

Works were submitted by teachers, professionals and amateurs in mediums ranging from oil and acrylics to digital composition, fiber and mixed media.

The 2016 Young At Art Winners include: First Place - Nilo Santiago, Orphan in the Sky (Acrylic); Second Place - Kyras Drasheff, In the Depths (Mixed Media); Third Place - Michele Reday Cook, Nightfall (Oil); Honorable Mention - Michele Reday Cook, Urban Renewal (Acrylic/Mixed Media); Francesca DiLorenzo, Holding Onto Her Hat (Terra Cotta); Vicki Doyle, Colorful Illusions (Oil); William Moffett, The Orionids Shower (Photograph Manipulated); Gloria Spellman, Three Pears (Digital Photography); and Richard Starr, Lady in Bun (Ceramic).

The Young At Art exhibit will remain at the Durant Arts Center, 1605 Cameron St., through Nov. 18. and many pieces are for



Winners of the 2016 Young at Art juried art show celebrate with exhibit sponsors Oct. 19 at the Durant Arts Center. The works of artists 55 years of age and older will be on display through Nov. 18.

PHOTOS BY STEVEN HALPERSON



A glimpse of some of the Sculpture entries in the Young At Art exhibit.

sale by the artists. For information regarding the Durant Arts Center's hours of operation, call 703-519-3494. For more information about the exhibit or to purchase art on display, contact Jeanne Jacob, executive director, Goodwin House Foundation at 703-824-1200 or Mary Lee Anderson, executive director, Senior Services of Alexandria at 703-836-4414- ext. 111.



Mayor Allison Silberberg, second from right, joins board members and sponsors at the opening reception of the 2016 Young At Art show Oct. 19 at the Durant Arts Center. Pictured are (from left): Young At Art sponsor Joan Renner; Goodwin House Foundation executive director Jeanne Jacobs; Senior Services of Alexandria board chair Lynnwood Campbell; Silberberg; and SSA executive director Mary Lee Anderson.

Alexandria Issues Seeking Statewide Solutions

BY VERNON MILES
GAZETTE PACKET

City reviews 2017 legislative package.

From the ongoing debate over Confederate statues to the cutting edge of body-camera technology, Alexandria's City Council considered a series of local and statewide topics to be addressed in the upcoming state legisla-

tive session.

At its Oct. 25 meeting, the City Council received Alexandria's 2017 legislative package. The package is a list of requests and recommendations made by the City of Alexandria to the Virginia State Legislature.

Several of the items are local efforts to weigh in on controversial statewide decisions. Item A-5 reaffirms the city's annual request for Medicaid expansion under the Affordable Care Act to include all individuals with incomes up to and including 133

percent of the federal poverty index. The current federal poverty index for an individual is roughly \$11,000 a year or \$19,000 for a family of three. According to the legislative package, the expanded coverage will be paid for entirely by the

SEE WHAT SHOULD STATE DO.
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Running

FROM PAGE 1
lion, built two playgrounds in the Taney Avenue and Hume Springs neighborhoods and worked with more than 30 charity partners to provide services to more than 5,000 children in the City of Alexandria. During this time, Brooke has run one marathon every month to raise awareness and funds for RunningBrooke. She has run at least one marathon in every state and on every continent.

"I look at myself then — a naïve runner who knew nothing about what she was about to encounter," Curran said. "I had no idea what it was going to be like to run with 30,000 other people then suddenly I'm in a competitive field of runners from around the world. It was overwhelming."

Curran, whose fastest marathon was a time of three hours and nine minutes, will be running Sunday's marathon with her 23-year-old daughter Clare.

"I'm feeling strong," Curran said of her final week of preparations.

"I am looking forward to sharing this experience with her. Runners are coming across the United States to run with our team and I am excited to bring that revenue to Alexandria."

Sunday's milestone will not be the end for Curran, who plans to continue running a marathon a month for local charities.



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Through her RunningBrooke Fund, Brooke Sydnor Curran, center in back, has helped build two playgrounds in the City of Alexandria.

"I was given a thumbs up in life and never had to worry about much," Curran said. "Since 2009 it has been my desire to put meaning into my running, to make a difference and to level the playing field for so many kids in Alexandria."

Sunday's race culminates seven years of

fundraising for Curran, who hopes to expand RunningBrooke in Alexandria and beyond.

"I know it sounds trite to say 'it takes a village' but it's true," Curran said. "Through Spring2Alexandria, thousands of donors are helping and my goal is to get every kid

moving before, during and after school. I want each child to have a playground to walk to and for each of them to be able to lead a great life in our great city."

For more information on the RunningBrooke Fund, visit www.runningbrooke.org.

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Man Pleads Guilty to Robbing Two Alexandria Banks

Budder Khan, a 26-year-old resident of Arlington, pleaded guilty on Oct. 20 to two counts of bank robbery.

According to police, on April 18, 2016, the defendant entered the Suntrust Bank located on Mt. Vernon Avenue in the City of Alexandria. The defendant approached a teller and handed her a threatening note that stated it was a robbery and that she

needed to give him all of her money. She did so, handing him \$3,309. The defendant left the bank before the police arrived.

On April 28, the defendant entered the Wells Fargo on Fern Street in Alexandria and handed the teller at the bank a note, against stating that it was a robbery and that she needed to give him her money. This teller also complied and the defendant again left before the police arrived. The defendant

stole \$1,195 in this robbery.

The defendant was identified by both tellers as the man who had robbed them. The defendant also made statements to law enforcement officers following his arrest stating that he had thrown away the clothing he was wearing because he knew the police were coming for him and that he had committed the robberies because of his heroin habit.

After the guilty plea was accepted by the court, the matter was continued to Dec. 15, for sentencing. No plea agreement was extended to the defendant by the Office of the Alexandria Commonwealth's Attorney in this case. The maximum possible penalty for bank robbery is life in prison. The defendant is being held in the William G. Truesdale Adult Detention Center pending sentencing.



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(Left to right) Ted Johnson, Erik Dorn, Shannon Catlett, Charlie Collum, Pam De Candio and Kerry Donley

PEOPLE

Sharing Food and Conversation

BY SHIRLEY RUHE
GAZETTE PACKET

The telephone is ringing; customers line up at the counter for large white carry-out plastic bags of scrambled eggs and pancakes; the cash register clinks. Nick Kapetanakis says, "This is the command center."

Kapetanakis is a manager at Table Talk Restaurant on Duke Street. He says his parents owned the restaurant in 1976, and he worked there cleaning and painting. "Then I went off to school." Now Kapetanakis has come back in a different role as a manager where he has been for 17 years.

Gloria Connor, a waitress at Table Talk, refills a cup with decaf coffee. Two couples are meeting for breakfast, one from Arizona. "We lived down the block at Carlyle Towers and used to come here. Our son lives in Alexandria and when we came back to visit we wanted to come back here."

PEOPLE AT WORK

Today she got eggs Benedict. "I wanted to splurge."

Connor has been working at Table Talk for three and a half years where she came after working 24 years at a different restaurant. She says many of her customers followed her to Table Talk. She switches to a carafe of regular coffee and heads for the corner. A customer volunteers, "Wednesday is reunion day. Eight of us who knew each other meet every week for breakfast."

A couple of the regular 30-year customers sit at the next table, each eating an egg sandwich tailored to their own taste. Brenda Gough, also a waitress at Table Talk says, "Some days people are picky and take out something from their order and put in whatever they want." Connor says that nothing is weird these days. "People add peanut butter to pancakes, to everything." Gough has been working at Table Talk for nearly a year, also having brought along customers from her previous job. Her favorite menu items are the ham and cheese omelet "and the turkey sub is really good at lunch." Connor observes that people are habit forming and a lot of people order the same thing every time.

Gough pushes the swinging door open with her hip, arms balancing a platter of pancakes with a plate of eggs and grits. Gough says she works Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday. She says Tuesdays aren't too busy but things start to pile up on Thursday and there is a line out on the sidewalk on the weekends." The phone rings again. "Can I help you?" She says, "We get a lot of orders on the



PHOTOS BY SHIRLEY RUHE/GAZETTE PACKET

Brenda Gough, loaded with dishes, pushes in the swinging door to the kitchen with her hip. Gough is a waitress at Table Talk Restaurant. She says Tuesday is a light day, but she says weekends the customers are lined up out the door on the sidewalk.

phone."

Laurence McGee, a regular customer, is waiting to pay. "I stop here 1-2 times a week to pick up breakfast and take it down the street to work. Today it's eggs, grits, and sausage. I usually get bacon. The food here is really good."

Connor pulls out her book of tickets and adds up the bill while keeping an eye on the room in case a customer needs something. Gough says, "It's different here because I was used to a computer. I had to get used to tickets." Gough interjects that the biscuits and gravy is the best. "And," Connor adds, "we refill coffee or sodas. We make sure they get as much as they want. Some people drink a lot of coffee."

"Finished?" Gough head off to bus a table. She piles her arms with a stack of plates, silver and glasses and heads for the kitchen. "Usually we have someone who does this for us but they aren't here today. We all help each other out."



Laurence McGee stops by on his way to work and picks up his carry-out breakfast order. McGee says this is a regular trip for him 1-2 times a week because "the food is really good here."



Gloria Connor, waitress at Table Talk Restaurant on Duke Street, fills up a cup of coffee as she chats with customers. One couple has returned from Arizona for a visit and is having breakfast with friends. They used to live just down the street at Carlyle Towers and wanted to return to a favorite spot.



Phyllis Johnson, volunteer coordinator for the new West End pantry. Volunteers are preparing the space for the opening of the pantry in Church of the Resurrection on N. Beauregard Street on Oct. 24.



Julie Duke, a volunteer assisting to refurbish a room in Church of the Resurrection, stretches up to the ceiling with the first swatch of blue paint. By Oct. 24 this room will be transformed into the first food pantry in the West End of Alexandria. This pantry will be open on Monday from 7-9 p.m.

PHOTOS BY RIKKI GEORGE/GAZETTE PACKET

PHOTO BY SHIRLEY RUHE/GAZETTE PACKET

West End Pantry Tackles Food Desert An ecumenical project.

BY SHIRLEY RUHE
GAZETTE PACKET

A volunteer sticks the wooden paddle in a quart of blue paint and swirls it around. Melanie Gray, director of Outreach and Mission for Historic Christ Church, says, "We did a lot of research on the color, and we learned blue calms people and suppresses the appetite."

Eleven volunteers from local churches are at Church of the Resurrection on Beauregard Street to refurbish a room that is about to become the first food pantry on the West Side of Al-

exandria.

Gray, who currently manages the "pop up grocery" food pantry at Christ Church says, "We're going to create a mini-store in this food desert. There is no grocery store you can walk to and until now, no food pantry."

Phyllis Johnson, the volunteer coordinator for the new West End pantry, says, "This is really exciting. We're going to create mini-aisles. Traffic flow will be important." She looks around the empty space. "I see it; don't you see it?" Johnson is a member of St. Joseph's Catholic Church in Alexandria. "This

SEE CHURCHES. PAGE 15



Alexandria has citywide support in helping people put food on the table. From left are Mayor Allison Silberberg; Diane Charles, executive director of Alive!; Allen Lomax, chair, Partnership for a Healthier Alexandria; the Rev. Sharon E. Williams; and the Rev. Jo J. Belser, both of the Church of the Resurrection.

What Should State Do?

FROM PAGE 3

federal government for the first three years of the program; after which the federal government will cover 90 percent of the cost, and the state is responsible for 10 percent of the coverage. The expansion has been blocked in previous years by the legislature's Republican majority over concerns that the state would gradually become responsible for more and more of the expanded Medicaid coverage.

"The governor is likely to propose [the expanded coverage] this year," said Bernard Caton, the legislative director for the city, "but I don't think it will be successful."

Caton expressed similar views on efforts for the state to provide funding to localities to cover the cost of body worn cameras for the police. The legislative package does not recommend any legislation on body worn cameras, but states that the city will review any bills that arise and will make recommendations to the local delegation.

"There still is a need for a legal framework around body worn cameras in the Commonwealth," said Vice Mayor Justin Wilson. "Some jurisdictions piloting them are finding gaps. I think additional clarity from the state as far as standards and, frankly, financial assistance are all desired things with body worn cameras. Anything the state can help us do to pave that road is positive."

Caton said bills had been proposed in previous years to apply legal standards on issues surrounding body worn cameras, but they came from localities

across the state and weren't widely applicable.

"It would be better for legislation to come out of Virginia Association of Chiefs of Police rather than out of one locality, but we will look at anything that comes forward," said Caton. "And last year there was a bill that would have provided funding [to localities for body worn cameras], but don't hold your breath."

The legislative package also includes recommendations supporting undocumented immigrants being allowed to obtain driver's licenses and supporting the restoration of voting rights for felons.

Locally, the question of moving the Appomattox statue is raised again in the legislative package. Legislation passed by the state in 1890 requires the statue to remain in its current location. As part of the city's review of Confederate iconography in Alexandria, the City Council voted on Sept. 17 to seek authorization from the General Assembly to move the Appomattox statue to the nearby corner of the Lyceum. At the time, both Wilson and members of the Ad Hoc Advisory Group on Confederate Memorials expressed doubts that the legislature would approve the move. Silberberg had proposed at the time that the city reach out to statue's owners, the local chapter of the Daughters of the Confederacy, to support the move. At the Oct. 25 meeting, Silberberg said that despite cordial discussions between herself and members of the local members of the Daughters of the Confederacy, the city did not get their support on the proposal to move the statue.

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HALLOWEEN

"I've never experienced a ghost in the tavern myself, but you never know."

— Liz Williams, museum director of Gadsby's Tavern

Mysteries, Phantoms, and Devil-Bats Lurk in Old Town

FROM PAGE 1

But the Theodosia Burr theory isn't the strangest speculation about the Female Stranger. "The Narrative of John Trust," written in 1883 by William Francis Crane and purportedly based in fact, depicts an elaborate love triangle between two men competing for the affections of a woman named Blanche Fordan. A magician and hypnotist named John Rowe steals Fordan away from John Trust, absconding with the beautiful young Fordan to Alexandria, where she grows ill and on her deathbed pleads with Rowe to tell Trust that he was the true love of her life.

Williams says there's been several deaths that occurred around the tavern over the years, from murders in the street to the death of a famous 19th century actress inside.

"I've never experienced a ghost in the tavern myself," said Williams, "but you never know."

While the story of the Female Stranger is one of the city's most popular myths, it's difficult to find a street in Old Town that doesn't have its own haunting or legend. Wellington Watts, who runs Alexandria Colonial Tours, has given tours through the city for 17 years. Watts' favorite is the story of the Female Stranger, but he says there's plenty of other good ones throughout the town. In one privately owned home in Old

Town, which he refuses to identify for the sake of the current occupants, Watts says a murder went undiscovered for over a century before its haunting nearly drove the upstairs neighbors mad.

In the story, sometime in the early 1800s a doctor or dentist is murdered in the home for reasons unknown. He's carried into the basement well, where his body is dumped and left to decay. Years pass, residents come and go, until in the 1970s the apartment has new owners living in the home above. These owners begin to have horrific nightmares night after night, and eventually one tenant decides to go down into the basement of the house to snoop around. He opens the lid of the well and peers inside, seeing a skeleton in a crumpled heap at the bottom, the knife still lodged in his eye.

Murders and tragic loves are popular themes in Alexandria's hauntings. Another favorite of Watts' roams the dark alleyways of St. Asaph Street. Around the early 1900s, a man named Clem loved a woman named Rose, but his feelings were not reciprocated. As she developed a relationship with a local butcher, Clem descended further into madness and paranoia. He swore revenge on Rose, saying he wouldn't let any other man have her. He went to her home and cut her throat, and after doing so slit his own, thinking he would join her in the spirit world. But Rose had only fainted from the

shock and the blood loss. She survived the attack, leaving Clem stranded alone on the other side.

"It's said Clem comes back, prowling the streets with a bloody razor looking to finish the job," said Watts. "If you hear footsteps behind you on St. Asaph's street, you have to turn around quickly to look. Sometimes, every now and then, people might see faint splashes of blood on the sidewalk."

For local historian and former Alexandria Gazette reporter Michael Lee Pope, the supernatural side of ghost stories is just the icing on the historical cake. Pope, the author of "Ghost Stories of Alexandria," the fascination with ghosts stems from actual historical accounts.

"They're good stories, that's what it comes down to," said Pope. "That's why they endure. The events that lead to the haunting are what's so fascinating, the ghosts themselves are almost secondary. Ghost stories are just a way we tell our history."

While many Alexandrians argue over the Civil War, some Alexandrian ghosts are still fighting an older war. Pope's book begins with the story of 210 Prince St., where in the 1930s a real estate agent was showing the home to a visiting British woman. As the two began to move upstairs, the British woman found herself suddenly stopped mid-step. She was rooted in place, unable to take any steps further up into the build-

ing. Over the years, other supernatural hauntings were reported at the site, including walking specters of a man dressed in full colonial garb. Most of the hauntings were cordial enough, except the ghost is said to have a hatred of all things British.

According to Pope, there are different accounts of the ghost's identity. Some say the specter is Colonel Michael Swope, an American commander captured and severely mistreated on a prison barge. When he was finally released, he was forced to walk hundreds of miles from his place of release to his Alexandria home. Pope says other legends attribute the ghost to John Dixon, a wealthy Alexandria merchant who once owned the house and was executed by the British as a spy.

In another home a few doors away, the cycle of British vs American violence against spies continued in the War of 1812. As the British were preparing to invade Alexandria, two British spies were reportedly captured and dragged into the building, where they were hanged in the living room and left as a message to the British forces. Pope attributes the telling of the ghost story to Watts, who says a little boy approached him on one tour and confessed that he'd seen the ghosts in the house. The boy reportedly told Watts that he'd seen the ghosts, pre-

SEE MYSTERIES, PAGE 26

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OPINION

John Porter Shares Whimsical Poetry

BY WENDI R. KAPLAN

"You must not ever stop being whimsical."
— **Mary Oliver** (Pulitzer Prize winning poet)



I met John Porter in 1982 when he was the assistant principal at T.C. Williams High School. I was young and wanted to help the world and was working with the Alexandria Office on Women. I was helping a family, a mother and her children who had sought sanctuary at our Domestic Violence Shelter. They had come here from southern Virginia, and we were trying to get the eldest into school to begin to re-establish some rhythm and order to her life.

When I took this young person to TC to register, we ran into many obstacles that we did not anticipate and were unsure of how to deal with, such as the transfer of school and medical records. John Porter overheard our conversations, introduced himself and invited us into a private room where her sad and frightening story of domestic violence and escape emerged. John gently and clearly assured her that she was welcome here in Alexandria and at T.C. Williams, and then he escorted her to class himself. His kindness and responsiveness to a chal-

lenging situation and absolute support and lucidity were a lifesaver to this girl and a beacon of right action and inspiration to me.

Over the years I have heard many stories about John Porter that fall into the same category. John is a leader who cares, who makes sure to establish real relationships with students

and others, who pushes people to be the best they can be while also showing authentic care and concern.

When I met with John this September, we were sitting outside a coffee shop in Old Town and about every third person who walked past waved and called out a greeting to him. Some stopped to talk. Most had been students during his tenure in the Alexandria School System. His legacy goes on and on. Even now John Porter continues to serve us as the CEO of ACT for Alexandria, an organization that helps channel resources to our schools and other organizations to help with their good work. ACT's tagline also reflects just who John Porter is: Turning ideas into action and resources into results.

And of course we talked about poetry. I confess I expected John to share a poem with me that was deep and profound. Instead he shared a whimsical poem that rolled off his tongue and was clearly an "old friend." Some of you may know it:

*I never saw a purple cow,
I never hope to see one,
but I can tell you anyhow,
I'd rather see than be one*
— **Gilett Burgess**

Why this poem? I asked him and he shared that his mother often recited it and that it made him chuckle. It is a poem that connects him to his childhood and to his mother. It is also the kind of poem that makes us laugh, that reminds us that whimsy is an important part of life. That whatever serious matters we must address, we must also be aware of the levity, that both are ballasts on the journey.

It reminds me how necessary poetry is to children and how familiar poetry touches us and how we carry it. How words can be anchors and remind us of our connections and therefore connect us to what is most important. How whimsy provides perspective and illustrates that life contains polarities and juxtapositions that are filled with hardship as well as humor.

It reminds us all to share poetry. Share the whimsical, the silly, the serious. We all need some "Jabberwocky" (C.S. Lewis) and "Jellyfish Stew" (Jack Prelutsky) and "Tell Me" (Shel Silverstein).

I never met John's mother but I am grateful that she gave him a fun poem to carry with him all his life. And, knowing of all of his good work, I am grateful for the man she raised who is a true lighthouse in our community.

Wendi R. Kaplan is poet laureate of Alexandria.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Traffic Lawlessness

To the Editor:

Almost 10 years ago, I expressed my concern about Alexandria's apparent 10-year hiatus on traffic law enforcement in the Gazette. Needless to say, it fell on deaf ears. The City Council and the Police Department do not seem to understand the correlation between non-

enforcement of traffic laws and loss of life and limb.

As an example, it is not possible to traverse many Alexandria streets without seeing bicyclists whizzing right through stop signs. Some of these cyclists are downright profane when challenged, often responding with the digitus impudicus, also known as the "bird."

A few months ago, the police did issue tick-

ets to a few traffic offenders for several days, but since that time, there has been little enforcement of traffic laws. A targeted enforcement is especially needed on Union Street, since high speed bicycle desperadoes race through all nine stop signs before they hit the bike path. If anything, the bicycle traffic violation rate is now higher than ever.

Bike riders aren't our only traffic problem, since cars have also grabbed the spot light. The Alexandria Police Department needs to get out and start ticketing traffic violators. They could start with enforcing stop signs, since many drivers either go right through them, or do a "California roll," which is a little bit slower. Another very serious problem is cell phone use while driving, since these distracted yakkers pay no attention to stop signs, and turn on right without even stopping. Since a large number of accidents are attributable to using cell phones while driving, Alexandria should emulate the District of Columbia by outlawing the use of hand-held cell phones while driving a motor vehicle.

Still another problem is the blocking of traffic at key intersections. I can't even drive down Prince Street during peak traffic hours due to cars blocking traffic at the Jefferson Davis Highway intersection, which would result in a very large fine in some other jurisdictions. In cities elsewhere (e.g., Baltimore or Washington, DC), uniformed officers direct and expedite traffic at critical junctures during peak traffic periods. It would be wise for Alexandria to emulate this practice by having Alexandria police officers stationed daily at a number of key locations in



STEVE ARTELEY/GAZETTE PACKET

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SEE LETTERS, PAGE 22

OPINION

Beyond Books

BY JAYLAN

I find it helpful to have a mentor so I can get extra help with reading. I've been working my mentor, Ms. Jill, for more than three years. Now my reading, comprehension and spelling are better. She is the best mentor.

I put stickers on a little chart for every session we do. When I have filled up my sticker chart, we go out and have lots of fun, like go to the movies or a museum or go to a café to get cupcakes. Sometimes Ms. Jill goes on trips and brings me back small gifts, like a little shadow puppet from Indonesia.

One of the things we have in common is that we both have a type of arthritis, which is an auto-immune disease. I have SLE lupus and she has rheumatoid arthritis. We can talk about what's going on with our bodies in relation to these conditions. We can talk about how we both need to manage pain, must be sure to take our medications, need to avoid certain foods such as drinks that contain caffeine, and do exercises that help us feel better.



Jill Ahrold with Jaylan

BY MENTOR JILL AHROLD

Jaylan is a very dedicated learner. Even on days when she is having some pain, she comes to session with a positive attitude and does her best. I have seen so much improvement in her language skills because of all of her hard work. I also am very impressed with her maturity in educating herself about lupus and helping raise awareness with her peers and teachers about the particulars of this condition.

SEE SHARING, PAGE 12



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OPINION

A Safe Place To Play

BY BREANNE DRISCOLL
REBUILDING TOGETHER ALEXANDRIA



Last month, 80 Fannie Mae employees volunteered to revitalize Taney Avenue Park in the City of Alexandria. Rebuilding Together Alexandria facilitated this volunteer day that included making paths for park users, cutting down large amounts of brush, building 10 birdhouses, and assembling a park sign, among other improvements.

REBUILDING TOGETHER ALEXANDRIA

The Taney Avenue Park revitalization project was a collaborative effort between Rebuilding Together Alexandria, Alexandria's Department of Recreation, Parks and Cultural Activities, and RunningBrooke. From community parks and gardens, to schools and homeless shelters, we partner with organizations to renovate these critical community resources. Because of the nine projects we completed in FY16, children now have safe areas to play, neighbors have gardens in which to grow their own food, and whole neighborhoods have been revitalized.

Taney Avenue Park is situated in an area where 59.2 percent of the households have incomes of less than \$60,000, living at 50 percent of the Area Median Income. Within a quarter mile of Taney Avenue Park there are 110 children between the ages of 10

and 14, 137 between the ages of 5 and 9, and 237 under 5 years old with another 1,048 children within another half a mile.

Through discussions with community residents in the area surrounding Taney Avenue, we found that they wanted a safe place for children to play and explore, a place to create social connections with neighbors, and an opportunity to explore nature. Sixty-seven percent of

those surveyed wanted the "open lawn" enhanced and transformed: "It would be awesome to have a playground in this area. We do not have any playgrounds within easy walking distance." Given this, two playground areas have been slated for Taney Avenue, to support varying age groups and physical activity. Others added that they would like to see more walking paths, so we made that happen too.

Our goal in renovating Taney Avenue Park was to create access to a safe, high-quality park in which in-need families and children of Alexandria may gather, play, and exercise daily. When families and individuals live in neighborhoods with enhanced common spaces, in housing they can afford, they put down roots, which then creates the opportunity for community stability and more socially, culturally, and economically diverse neighborhoods throughout Alexandria. For more information about Rebuilding Together Alexandria, please visit www.RebuildingTogetherAlex.org.

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Sharing Value of Mentoring

FROM PAGE 11

BY JAYLAN

This year, I started sixth grade. Ms Jill and I decided that we both wanted to continue doing sessions. We're excited about starting new journeys!

Wright to Read provides volunteer-based one-on-one sustained literacy tutoring and mentoring relationships to City of Alexandria elementary school children in need, and collabo-

rates with families, schools and community partners to create a comprehensive support network that guides each child to success. Wright to Read is a member of the Alexandria Mentoring Partnership (AMP). AMP was created in 2006 to ensure that quality mentors and mentor programs are available for Alexandria's youth and young adults in need. To learn more about Wright to Read, visit www.wrighttoread.org or to learn more about AMP, visit: <http://www.alexandriava.gov/Mentoring>.

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NEWS

Police Investigate Industrial Accident

The Alexandria Police Department is investigating an industrial accident in the 700 block of Wythe Street. On Wednesday, Oct. 19, around 7:30 a.m., a crane struck a live electrical wire at a construction site. The wire fell, striking a 44-year-old male construction worker. The victim suffered electrical burns and was transported to a local hospital. He is in critical but stable condition. Detectives continue to investigate the incident. Anyone with information about this incident is asked to call Detective Loren King at 703-746-6689.

In other incidents reported by the police:

TUESDAY, OCT. 25

The Alexandria Police Department is investigating a robbery in the 3400 block of King Street. Two suspects implied a weapon and stole items from the victim. There were no injuries. Expect police activity in the area.

WEDNESDAY, OCT. 19

The Alexandria Police Department is investigating the robbery of a gas station in the 500 block S Van Dorn Street. A suspect brandished firearm and stole cash; there were no injuries.

MONDAY, OCT. 17

The Alexandria Police Department is investigating a shots fired call in the 1200 block Wythe of Street. The initial investigation has not located anyone with injuries.

BULLETIN BOARD

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

THROUGH DEC. 1

Financial Literacy Video

Scholarship Contest. Burke & Herbert Bank, 100 S. Fairfax St. Northern Virginia teens can win up to \$5,000 by creating a 90-second video promoting the value of saving money. Burke & Herbert Bank is accepting entries for the 2016-17 Lights, Camera, Save! video contest through Dec. 1. Sponsored by the American Bankers Association Foundation. For more information burkeandherbertbank.com.

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SEE BULLETIN, PAGE 26

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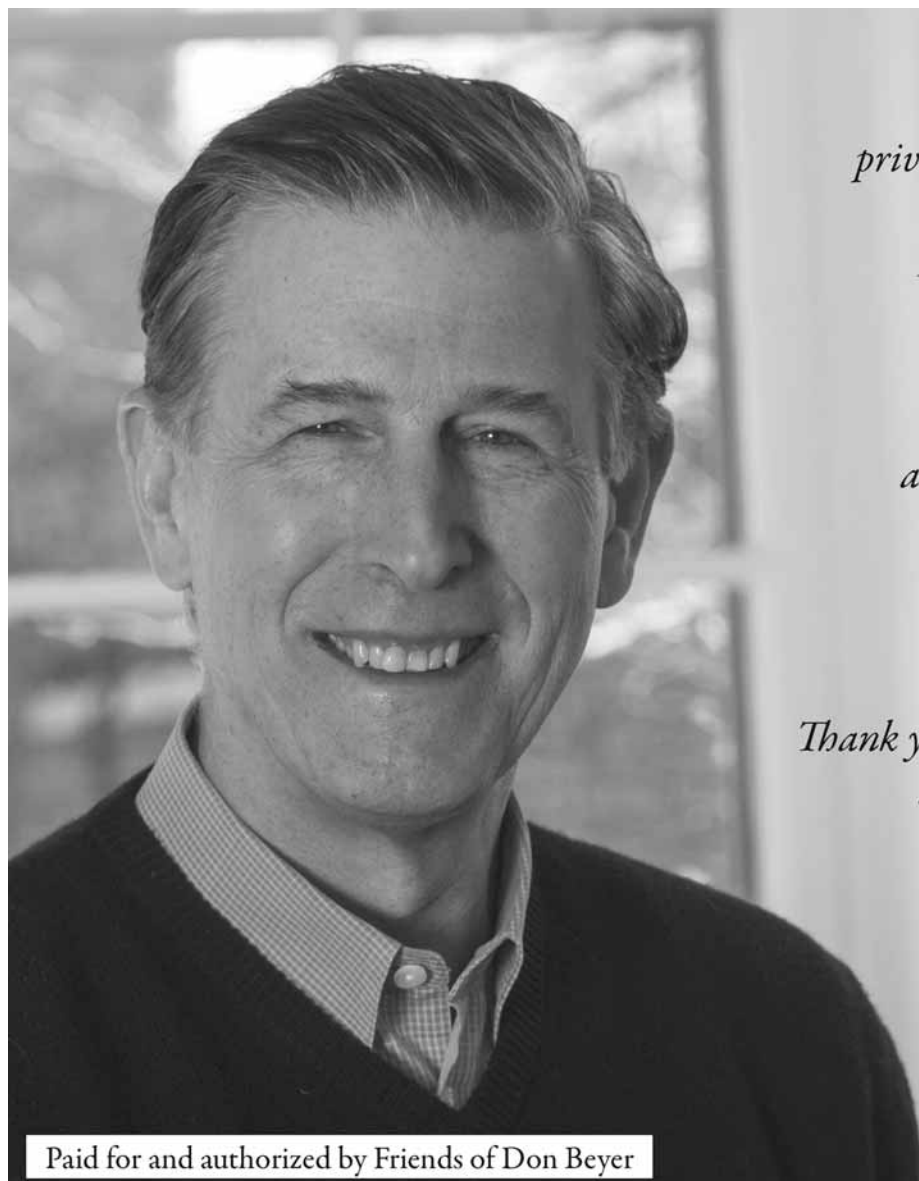
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CONNECTION FAMILIES

Teaching Gratitude and Charitable Giving

Experts offer suggestions for instilling these practices in children.

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL
GAZETTE PACKET

As the holiday season approaches, many begin to think about expressing thankfulness and giving to those who are less fortunate. Teaching gratitude and establishing a sense of charity in children also becomes a priority for many parents.

Those lessons should begin long before it's time to put the turkey in the oven or trim the tree, however. Experts say practicing gratitude and demonstrating charitable giving year-round in age-appropriate ways are keys to raising compassionate children.

In fact, regular conversations between parents and children about charitable giving and gratitude increase the chances that youngsters will be willing to give to charity, according to a recent study. Research from the Women's Philanthropy Institute at Indiana University's Lilly Family School of Philanthropy showed that children whose parents spoke to them about the importance of giving to those in need were 20 percent more likely to give than those whose parents did have such conversations.

"The conversations don't need to be formal or contrived," said Marcia Rosen, a

marriage and family therapist in Bethesda, Md. "They can be as simple as sharing an experience about helping a friend who might need help running an errand, so we change our plans so that we can give the gift of our time to a friend. There are plenty of examples all around us everyday."

"The ability to empathize and take another's perspective increases as a child gets older and less egocentric," said Dr. Linda Gulyn, a professor of psychology at Marymount University in Arlington. "For example, make a thank you note to grandma for the birthday gift. With little kids, there might be a positive consequence for writing a note, for example [saying] 'After you write the note, we can watch the video.' As kids get older, have them take Grandma's perspective: 'You know how it feels to be appreciated, don't you?'"

Encourage children to find their own ways to express gratitude and give charitably. "For example, when thanking their soccer coach for helping them all season, have them come up with ways to thank him, even if it's clumsy or kid-like," said Gulyn. "[Parents] often do it for them. For example, parents take up a collection of money from other parents and then they buy and present a fancy gift to the coach, and the kids are



PHOTO COURTESY OF INTERFAITH WORKS

Local charities such as Interfaith Works offer families a variety of opportunities for benevolence this holiday season.

not that involved."

"Gratitude often relates to expectations and entitlements," said Amy L. Best, chair of the Department of Sociology and Anthropology, George Mason University. "It is important that young people develop some sense of entitlement. They are entitled to dignity and have rights of care. Without a sense of entitlement, claims to care, recognition, justice and dignity are more difficult to articulate. But too much entitlement can elevate expectations to too high a level

so that disappointment prevails and gratitude is difficult to muster."

Children must learn to be in the moment to take those chances, however. "Dwelling too much in the past, through endless rumination for instance, or always looking to the future undermines our ability to just be, to soak in and soak up a moment," said Best. "Consideration of past, present and future should be in healthy balance. Young people are often pressured to focus on the future, and some feel a sense of hopelessness toward the future. Both make it difficult to be in the moment.

"Cultivating mindfulness of self and your connection to others and the world is important," she added. "It is important to understand the suffering of others and to feel a sense of empathy toward the struggles of others to feel gratitude."

Local charities offer a variety of options for families interested in giving this holiday season and throughout the year. Interfaith Works, a Montgomery County, Md. nonprofit organization with a goal of meeting the needs of the poor and homeless, holds annual drives for coat and cold-weather gear including mittens, scarves and hats. The organization is opening a new women's homeless shelter and needs supplies. "We need things like sheets, blankets and pillows to make the women feel at home and welcomed when they move into their new residence," said Charlotte Garvey of Interfaith Works, "so families can shop online for the ladies." Visit iworksmc.org.



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Churches Launch Food Pantry

FROM PAGE 6

is truly an ecumenical project.”

The pantry is scheduled to be open on Mondays from 5-7 p.m. Gray says they will start up with food from a lot of different churches and contributions from ALIVE as well as “what is in the big white box at our church.”

First step is to move cans of donated food off the shelves before the painting begins. Volunteers split up to paint the walls or the shelves, to move around the furniture or to build some new shelves out in the yard. Re-building Together organized this project and provided shelves, paint and an architectural design of the space by Ray Novitske.

The new pantry had been a preschool room and is located just down the hall from a small Ethiopian congregation located in Church of the Resurrection. Gray comments that sharing of space is a sign of the times where large properties sit unused. Gray talks about the need for the pantry, adding that they are seeing a lot of senior citizens and immigrants in the area.

Johnson explains that a lot of people are also being evicted and moving to the West End. The food pantry has been two years in the making since the publication of the report prepared for the Alexandria Childhood Obesity Action Network (ACOAN) in 2014 identifying widespread hunger in the City of Alexandria.



PHOTO BY SHIRLEY RUHE/GAZETTE PACKET

Melanie Gray, director of Outreach and Mission for Historic Christ Church in Alexandria, shows the design of the new West End food pantry provided by architect Ray Novitske. She says they will move shelves to the center of the room to improve the traffic flow and to maximize the space. Gray is the manager of a similar “pop up grocery” in Historic Christ Church on Thursday morning.



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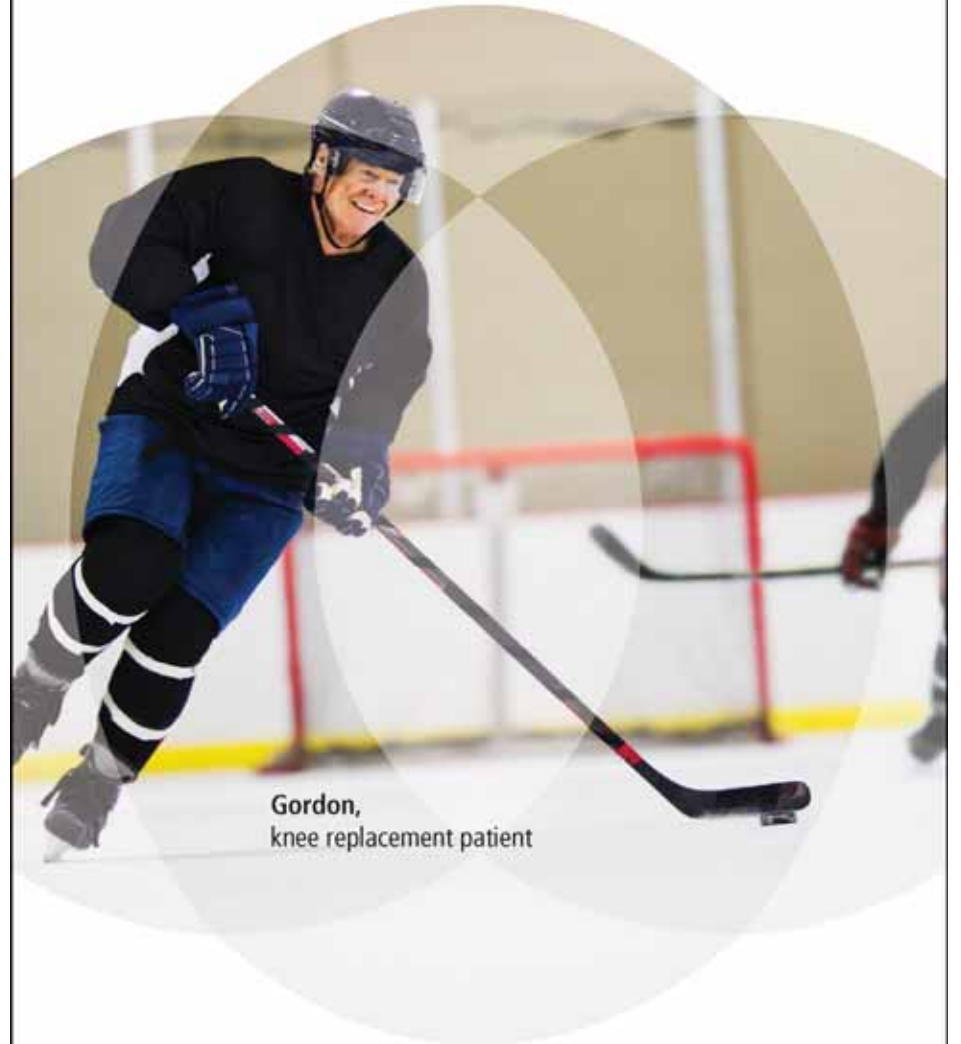
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ENTERTAINMENT

‘A Party to Murder’ LTA presents fast-paced, who-done-it farce in the mold of Agatha Christie.

BY STEVE HIBBARD
GAZETTE PACKET

The Little Theatre of Alexandria (LTA) is staging the farce, “A Party to Murder” now through Nov. 12. The drama is about six people who have come to play a murder-mystery game hosted by writer Charles Prince at a rustic island cottage in Michigan during Halloween. As the characters embark on a weekend of fun, ghosts from the past begin to haunt the proceedings, and it becomes clear that they are both playing for laughs and their lives. Audiences are treated to rising tensions, secret passageways, incriminating letters, unexpected corpses, and a 25-year-old unsolved mystery.

“This play pays homage to a icon of the who-done-its — Agatha Christie. It is an excellent script full of comedy and mystery,” said Director Jim Howard. “The challenge was to build a set that depicted an eerie place and that has been done with panache.”

He said he’s acted, produced, and directed many shows over the last 40 years, but this was his first who-done-it. He was supposed to co-direct this production with his friend of 25 years, Roland Gomez, but he died two weeks before auditions. His first task was to work with the team they put together to work on this show. As it turned out, he said it has been a pleasure to work as the director with these many talented designers and stage crew.

James McDaniel plays the role of Elwood, a warm-hearted, fun-loving, unmarried older man with a dark secret. “On the outside, he appears to look for the fun in all situations and is a terrible teaser. Although his girlfriend rebuffs him, he tries to be jovial and sociable. On the inside, however, he seeks justice, not revenge, for being deeply hurt,” he said.

He said some of the challenges in the play were “finding opposites in the scenes — like



CONTRIBUTED BY DOUG OLIMSTED/THE GAZETTE

From right: Danielle Comer (Evelyn/McKenzie), John Henderson (Konrad/Charles), Eva Seville Coll (O’Karma/Henri), and Damian John Legacy (Ernie/Willy) star in LTA’s production of “A Party to Murder.”

expressing affection and anger at the same time,” he said.

He hopes audiences take away love and empathy for his character, Elwood; “and an appreciation for the soundtrack of the television series, ‘Poirot.’”

Danielle Comer plays the role of McKenzie, a lively, and passionate young model who loves fashion, extravagance, and booze. “She is often the butt of many a joke or off-handed insult, but she never let’s it get to her and continues to speak her mind boldly and decisively in every situation. She is also a fan of using sarcasm and wit to lighten up any potentially tense situation, like say, a murder?” she said.

Her biggest challenge was definitely the script, she said. “There are many twists,

turns, and surprises and finding the right energy and dramatic build up for each, while also making sure each was different and unique to the story, was definitely a challenge,” she said.

Eva Coll plays the role of Henri, a really fun character for her to play, she said. “What I like most about her is that she is not at all how people perceive her to be. Although she is shy and constantly aims to please those around her, she does have an inner strength and lets this show at certain times throughout the show,” she said.

She added that there were so many layers to the characters in this show. “It has been a real challenge trying to touch on and capture all of them throughout the performance,” she said.

To Go

The Little Theatre of Alexandria (LTA) is staging “A Party to Murder” now through Nov. 12. Show times are Wednesday through Sunday at 8 p.m. with Sunday matinees at 3 p.m. Tickets are \$19 and \$22. The venue is located at 600 Wolfe St., Alexandria. Call 703-683-0496 or visit www.thelittletheatre.com.

In the end, she hopes the audiences are entertained and that the actors continue to keep them on their toes. “There are sure to be a few surprises coming their way and I hope to leave them with some conflicted feelings about the story, perhaps reevaluating and looking at the story through each character’s perspective,” she said.

Damian J. Legacy plays the role of Willy, a boisterous former football player whose life changed after a car accident left him wheelchair-bound. “Despite his hot temper flaring up every now and then, he is mostly concerned with telling off-color jokes and using situational humor to make sure the others do not take themselves, nor their situation so gravely,” he said.

He said the challenge was getting accustomed to the wheelchair. “Additionally, following the many twists and turns presented by the playwright also created the challenge of representing Willy’s authentic motivations and emotions as he instigates and responds to various situations that arise,” he said.

Laura Peterson plays the role of Valerie Addison. “She and her sister, Henri, have come to the island for a weekend murder mystery game hosted by one of their favorite authors, Charles Prince,” she said. “She’s someone who’s used to being in control of things around her. But this weekend away quickly unravels beyond her control ... with some surprising results,” she said.

She added: “This is a show with a number of surprising plot twists, which made it a bit more challenging to learn in the first place. But hopefully the audience will appreciate some unexpected turns as the story unfolds.”

CALENDAR

ONGOING

“Co-Creating the Cosmos.” Thursdays, through Oct. 27, 7:30-9 p.m. at St. Aidan’s Episcopal Church, 8531 Riverside Road. Frank Frost is an award-winning documentary film producer. His current work – The Teilhard de Chardin Project – is a television biography in production for public television on the life and thought of the revolutionary Teilhard de Chardin: Jesuit priest, paleontologist, visionary. Registration is \$25. Visit www.stadainsepiscopal.com/Center-for-Spiritual-Deepening.

Exhibit: “In All Things.” Through Oct. 29, gallery hours at The Gallery at Convergence, 1801 N. Quaker Lane. The Convergence Arts Initiative will feature the work of artist and educator, Glenn Howell in his latest exhibit, “In All Things.” The title of Howell’s photography and print show reflects the diversity of his image making and his belief in the promise of redemption of all things. It is a juxtaposition of the “dystopian” elements seen in our world with a vision of Heaven as evidence of God’s grace. Free. Visit www.ourconvergence.org for more.

“The Greatest Show of Earth: Clay Circus.”

Through Oct. 30, gallery hours at Torpedo Factory Art Center’s Scope Gallery, 105 N. Union St. In conjunction with the Torpedo Factory Art Center’s annual hands-on children’s art event, Art Safari, sculptural and functional clay art goes wild with all manner of animals making an appearance. Free. Visit www.torpedofactory.org for more.

Art Exhibit: “Local Flavor.” Through Oct. 30, gallery hours at Del Ray Artisans, 2704 Mount Vernon Ave. “Local Flavor” art exhibit at Del Ray Artisans showcases member artwork that highlight the things they adore, crave, and experience in their beloved neck of the woods—and celebrate the special touches found in community. Free. Visit www.DelRayArtisans.org.

Poe Immersive Theater: “A Dream Within a Dream.” Through Oct. 31, 8 p.m. or 10 p.m. at Torpedo Factory Art Center, 105 N. Union St. This show is a surreal interpretation of the life, works, and mad genius of Edgar Allan Poe, as seen through the lens of the characters in his works and the people in his life. Tickets are \$5-

40. Visit www.torpedofactory.org/Poe for more.

“Transformations: Tapestries in Glass.”

Through Nov. 6, gallery hours at The Art League Gallery, 105 N. Union St. Anita Bucsay Damron’s vibrant mosaics draw from many sources, both traditional and contemporary. Inspired by tapestries from Rajasthan and Gujarat, India, her pieces incorporate crystal from Austria and the Czech Republic, specialty glass from Murano, Italy, and found objects such as beads, brooches, and cameos. Damron notes that “new applications of mosaic art encourage recycling and reuse,” and her creative reuse of materials is what gives this ancient art form its exciting new sparkle. Free. Visit www.theartleague.org for more.

Potomac Fiber Arts Gallery: “Salute to Secondary Colors.” Through Nov. 6, gallery hours at 105 N. Union St. The secondary colors orange, green, and purple are the theme for this show. Artists were challenged to use these hues individually, paired, or in a triadic color scheme. Free. Visit www.Potomacfiberartsgallery.com.

“Oh The Joy.” Through Nov. 6, Gallery hours at The Athenaeum, 201 S. Prince St. Artists from

across the region were asked to interpret the theme, “Oh! The joy!” The selected entries represent the wealth of art being created in D.C., Maryland, and Virginia. Free. Visit www.nvfaa.org for more.

Little Theatre of Alexandria: “A Party to Murder.” Through Nov. 12, various times at 600 Wolfe St. It’s Halloween and six people have come to play a murder-mystery game hosted by writer Charles Prince at a rustic island cottage in Michigan. This play is a fast-paced farce, so what could go wrong? As the characters embark on a weekend of fun, ghosts from the past begin to haunt the proceedings, and it becomes clear that they are both playing for laughs and their lives. The Little Theatre of Alexandria audiences are treated to rising tensions, secret passageways, incriminating letters, unexpected corpses, and a 25-year-old unsolved mystery that will propel the audience to...well, we don’t want to give away the unexpected and terrifying conclusion. Tickets are \$19-22. Visit www.thelittletheatre.com.

John M. Adams: “Current Interrupted.” SEE CALENDAR, PAGE 18

ENTERTAINMENT

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Through Nov. 13, gallery hours at The Rachel M. Schlesinger Concert Hall and Arts Center at Northern Virginia Community College, 4915 E. Campus Drive. Free. Visit www.thefullempy.com for more.

Matthew Grimes: “(In)Material” and “Pliant.” Through Nov. 14, gallery hours at The Rachel M. Schlesinger Concert Hall and Arts Center at Northern Virginia Community College, 4915 E. Campus Drive. Free. Visit www.nvcc.edu/schlesingercenter for more.

Young at Art Exhibition. Through Nov. 17, gallery hours at Durant arts Center, 1605 Cameron St. Calling all senior artists. This annual event is cosponsored by Senior Services of Alexandria and Goodwin House Foundation. The Call for Art is Oct. 4, 10 a.m.-12 p.m. \$20 fee to submit up to three works of art. Visit www.seniorservicesalex.org or call Mary Lee Anderson at 703-836-4414, ext. 111 or Jeanne Jacobs at 703-824-1345.

Art Exhibit: “Serenity in Chaos.” Through Nov. 20, gallery hours at The Associates Gallery at the Torpedo Factory, 105 N. Union St. The theme of this show reflects the artist’s unique view of the photographic medium. Free. Visit www.torpedofactory.org for more.

Post-Graduate Residency Program. Through Nov. 27, gallery hours at Target Gallery, 105 N. Union St. The Torpedo Factory Post-Graduate Master’s of Fine Arts Residency is a competitive program, housed in Studio 12, where four emerging artists create and sell work, interact with the public, and network with other working artists. Free. Visit www.torpedofactory.org for more.

Thursday Mornings with Kathryn Coneway. Dec. 8, 10 a.m.-12 p.m. at St. Aidan’s Episcopal Church, 8531 Riverside Road. The themes in the book, “The Artist’s Rule,” will be a foundation to share experiences with creative practice. Each session will begin with a quiet time and exploration of materials before transitioning to a discussion of the themes and practices outlined in the chapter. Participants should purchase a copy of “The Artist’s Rule” and read the introduction and first chapter prior to the first meeting. Registration is \$50. Visit www.staidanepiscopal.com/Center-for-Spiritual-Deepening for more.

Art Making as Meditation with Kathryn Coneway. Second Wednesday of each month, 7-8:30 p.m. at St. Aidan’s Episcopal Church, 8531 Riverside Road. Each session begins with a short reading and a brief introduction to materials. Silence for making and meditation lasts an hour followed by sharing images or insights gained through the process, if desired. Children able to participate in silence are welcome to come with a parent’s quiet supervision. RSVP not necessary for attendance, but helpful for planning purposes. Email info@centerforspiritualdeepening.org.

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 Coldsmith Gallery, the historical objects and images featured represent The Lyceum, the community at work, and commemorations and celebrations. Throughout the exhibition, visitors are invited to “be the curator” and think about why the various artifacts are in the museum’s collection, and about how tangible representatives of the past help tell the story of Alexandria’s history. Free. Visit www.alexandriahistory.org for more.

“Ancient Art of Movement.” 1 p.m. at Hollin Hall Senior Center, 1500 Shenandoah Road. Carmen Shippy, retired professional dancer, teaches a series designed for ages 50 and above. Movements are designed to strengthen core muscles and increase flexibility. Adjustments will be made for those with physical limitations. First lesson in the series is free for non-center members. To continue lessons, a yearly membership to all Senior Center programs is \$48. Call 703-765-4573 to sign up.

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

French Movie Night. Every Thursday, 7 p.m. in the back room of Fontaine 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.

Halloween Happenings

THURSDAY/OCT. 27

Ghosts of Alexandria Tour. 6:30 p.m. at Alexandria Visitor Center, 221 King St. This ghostly experience explores Alexandria’s most haunted locations on and off the beaten path. Tickets are \$12 for adults, \$10 for senior citizens, active duty military and veterans, \$5 children, free for ages 5 and under. Visit discoveralexva.wordpress.com.

Ghosts and Grief Tour. 7-8:30 p.m. at Lee-Fendall House and Gardens, 614 Oronoco Street. Learn more about the rituals and customs behind our modern day funeral practices. Tickets are available in advance for \$7 through the museum’s online store, or for \$10 at the door. LFH Members are admitted free. Tours are at 7, 7:30, 8 and 8:30 p.m. For more information, visit www.leefendallhouse.org or call 703-548-1789.

SUNDAY/OCT. 30

A Spooktacular Preschool Halloween Extravaganza. 3-5 p.m. at Fort Hunt Preschool, 1909 Windmill Lane “Trick-or-Treat” inside Fort Hunt Preschool’s Carriage House, “spooky” story in the garden, festive games, and create fun Halloween crafts. Tickets are \$10 per family (two parents and two children) and \$5 per additional child. For more information, contact Neil Smith, fhp.publicity@gmail.com, 703-780-0680.

SUNDAY-MONDAY/OCT. 30-31

Poe in Alexandria. 8-10 p.m. at the Lyceum, 201 S. Washington St. Actor David Keltz returns to The Lyceum’s lecture hall to re-create Poe’s visit to Virginia in 1849, shortly before his death. Individual works performed each year vary, but the program always includes a chilling story or two such as “The Black Cat,” “The Cask of Amontillado,” or “The Tell-Tale Heart,” along with well-known poems “The Raven” and “El Dorado.” Tickets are \$15. Visit shop.alexandria.gov/events for more.

MONDAY/OCT. 31

Trick-or-Treating at Mount Vernon. 3:30-6:30 p.m. 3200 Mount Vernon Hwy. Mount Vernon opens its doors to trick-or-treaters, highlighted by a costume parade around the mansion at 5 p.m. Prizes will be awarded for the best “George” and “Martha” costumes. Tickets are required for all adults and children to attend this event. The cost is \$12 per adult and \$6 per child (11 and under).

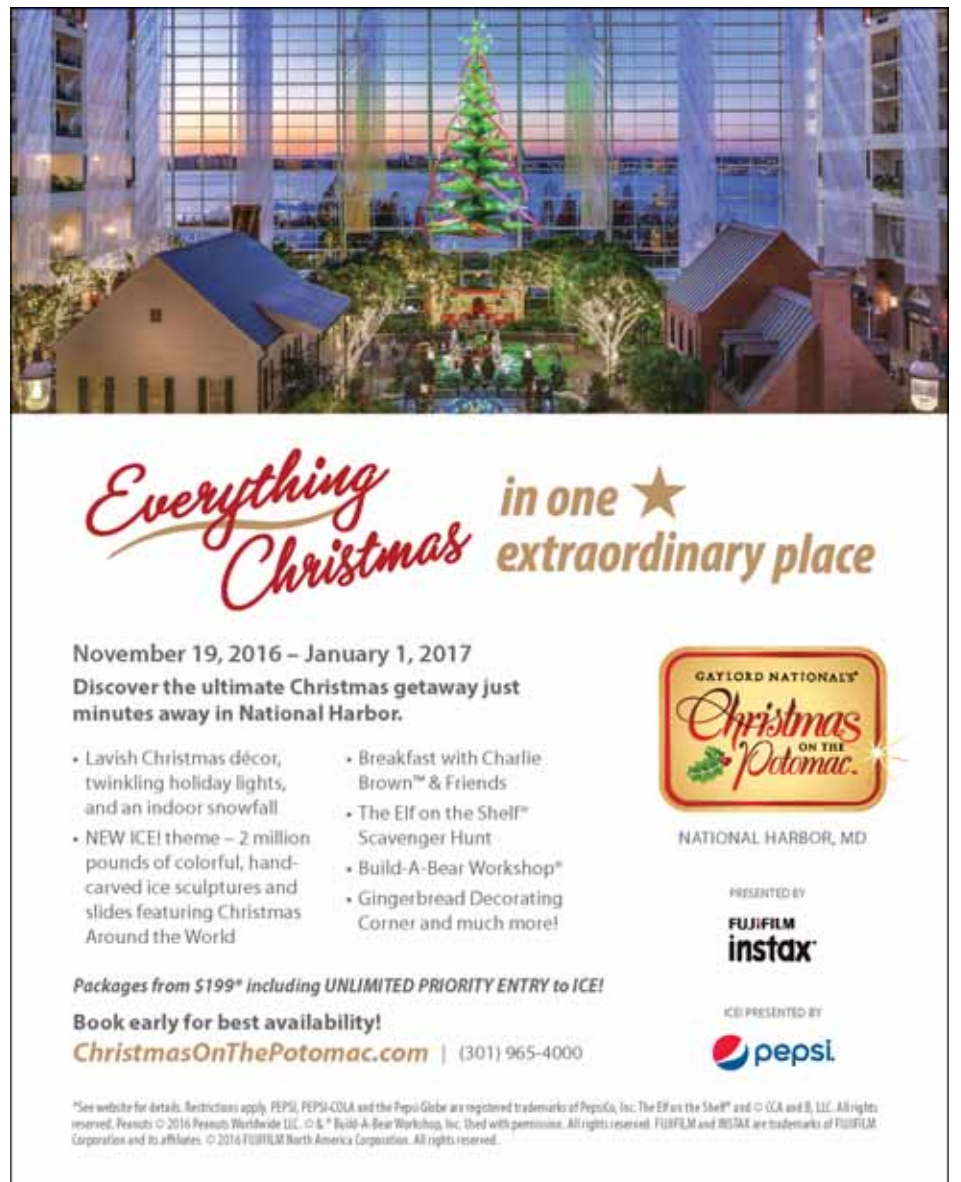
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ENTERTAINMENT

FROM PAGE 18

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.leafendallhouse.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. .

THURSDAY/OCT. 27

Ghosts of Alexandria Tour. 6:30 p.m. at Alexandria Visitor Center, 221 King St. This ghostly experience explores Alexandria's most haunted locations on and off the beaten path. Tickets are \$12 for adults, \$10 for senior citizens, active duty military and veterans, \$5 children, free for ages 5 and under. Visit discoveralexva.wordpress.com.

Workshops: "Come Play with Collage Cut Ups." 7-9 p.m. at Del Ray Artisans, 2704 Mount Vernon Ave. Activity lead Millie Mateu will guide participants through an art activity. She will start by doing some creative exercises, then create some simple collages that have high impact, using "Local Flavor" as inspiration. Free for Del Ray Artisans

members and \$10 for non-members. Visit www.delrayartisans.org for more.

Veterans Ball Dance Class. 7:30-9:30 p.m. at Gadsby's Tavern Museum, 134 North Royal St. In preparation for the Veterans Ball on Nov. 12, learn 18th-century English country dancing from expert dance instructors. Tickets are priced per person at \$12 per class or \$30 for the series. For more information, call 703-746-4242.

FRIDAY/OCT. 28

Garden Talks with Master Gardeners: Injecting Color & Structure. 1:30-2:30 p.m. at Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road. Let Master Gardeners show you how trees and shrubs can provide structure and year-round interest, and how to add seasonal splashes of color with annuals and perennials to make your house pop. Tickets are \$10. Register online at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/greenspring using code 290 401 2301 or call 703-642-5173.

Halloween Bash at the Brewery. 3-10 p.m. at Port City Brewing Company, 3950 Wheeler Ave. The Tasting Room and brewery will be filled with tricks and treats. Free. Visit www.portcitybrewing.com/the-brewery/events

Bark or Treat Canine Cruise. 5:30-7 p.m. at Alexandria City Marina, 1 Cameron St. Come out with your costumed canine and cruise to some Halloween tunes along the Potomac. Tickets are \$16 adults; \$10 children; dogs ride free. Visit www.PotomacRiverboatCo.com.

Ghosts of Alexandria Tour. 6:30 p.m. at Alexandria Visitor Center,

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PHOTOS CONTRIBUTED

The Art League's 'Art on Tap' Returns

Craft beers from local breweries have been paired with a work of art from an Art League instructor. Local restaurants have chosen a brew/artwork coupling to serve as their muse to create the complementary appetizer. Event is on Friday, Nov. 4, 7-10 p.m. at The Art League's third annual Art on Tap event. Tickets are \$35-45. Visit www.theartleague.org for more.



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ENTERTAINMENT

FROM PAGE 19

221 King St. This ghostly experience explores Alexandria's most haunted locations on and off the beaten path. Tickets are \$12 for adults, \$10 for senior citizens, active duty military and veterans, \$5 children, free for ages 5 and under. Visit discoveralexva.wordpress.com.

The Gadsby's Tavern Ghost Tour.

7-9 p.m. (tours start every 30 minutes) at 134 N. Royal St. Follow a colonial-costumed guide through the eerie Alexandria streets, visit a cemetery, and enter one of the most haunted buildings in Old Town. Hear the tragic story of the Mysterious Female Stranger. Tickets are \$20 adults; \$10 kids ages 7-17. Visit www.AlexColonialTours.com.

FRIDAY-SUNDAY/OCT. 28-30

State NAACP Convention. Various times at West Hotel, 400 Courthouse Square. The theme is "NAACP: Let's Go." Registration is \$15-225. Visit www.vscnaacp.org.

SATURDAY/OCT. 29

Poisonous Plants Garden Tour. 10-11:30 a.m. at Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road. A Master Gardener docent tells tales of wicked plants hiding in plain sight, showcasing obvious culprits and some surprises. Learn which to weed out and which we can live with. Enjoy refreshments at the Historic House, including edible flowers. Tickets are \$12. Register online at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/greenspring using code 290 483 2001 or call 703-642-5173.

Cat-urday Toy Making Workshop.

10 a.m.-12 p.m. at Del Ray Artisans, 2704 Mount Vernon Ave. Celebrate

National Cat Day by making toys. This workshop gives the tools needed to make felt mice and birds, wine cork candies, and a classic stick with string taunting toy, as well as an optional T-shirt cat tent. \$5 supplies fee. Instruction free for Del Ray Artisans members, \$10 for non-members. Visit www.delrayartisans.org for more.

Halloween Pumpkin Hunt.

10:30 a.m., 12:30 p.m., 2:30 p.m. at Lee-Fendall House, 614 Oronoco St. Alexandria's ghosts and goblins will fill the museum's garden with hundreds of colorful toy-filled Halloween pumpkins for local children to discover. Other activities include crafts, refreshments, spooky stories, and a costume parade. Every participating child will receive a toy pumpkin. Advance tickets are \$12 for participating children, and \$5 for adults. Visit www.leefendallhouse.org for more.

Let's Grow Garden Club: Garlic Planting.

1-2:30 p.m. at Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road. Help with planting garlic. Tour the garden grounds to view the changing fall colors all around us and learn a little about pumpkins. Tickets are \$15 per child. Register online at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/greenspring using code 290 402 8901 or call 703-642-5173.

Ivy Hill Cemetery Tour.

4:30 p.m. at Ivy Hill Cemetery, 2823 King St. Learn the rich history of Alexandria from a different perspective. Visit the graves of many of Alexandria's most prominent and historic families, including nurse Emma Green and Confederate spy Frank Stringfellow from the hit PBS series, "Mercy Street." Hear the stories of how the Civil War transformed their lives and the city forever. Tickets are \$20 for

adults, \$10 for children. Visit www.alexcolonialtours.com.

The Voices of Bethlehem Mass

Choir Live Recording. 5 p.m. at Bethlehem Baptist Church, 7836 Fordson Road. Free. Visit www.bethlehemofalexandria.org for more.

Walking Dead Footsteps Zombie

Event. 6-9 p.m. at Carlyle House Historic Park, 121 N. Fairfax St. Visitors will experience firsthand some encounters with zombies from the 18th-century, a-la-walking dead style. Tickets are \$15. Visit www.novaparks.com for more.

Ghosts and Grief Tours.

7 p.m., 7:30 p.m., 8 p.m., and 8:30 p.m. at Lee-Fendall House, 614 Oronoco St. Celebrate Halloween with a look at Victorian mourning traditions coupled with stories of supernatural encounters. Learn more about the rituals and customs behind our modern day funeral practices. Customs such as draping the mirrors, how long a widow would mourn for her husband or children, social expectations and dress will be explored. Tickets are \$7 in advance, \$10 at the door. Visit www.leefendallhouse.org for more.

"Feast Your Ears."

7:30 p.m. at Rachel M. Schlesinger Concert Hall, 4915 E. Campus Drive. The Fairfax Choral Society opens its 55th anniversary season with an evening of some of the greatest and most popular masterworks for chorus and orchestra composed throughout history including works by Bach, Handel, Mozart, Beethoven, Mendelssohn, and Brahms, just to name a few. Tickets start at \$15. Visit www.fairfaxchoralsociety.org for more.

Halloween Tap Takeover.

9 p.m.-2 a.m. at Blackwall Hitch, 5 Cameron

St. Guests can enjoy the spooky holiday fun with a tap takeover by South Street Brewery from Charlottesville, highlighting fall and pumpkin-themed beers, as well as a costume contest. Dante Coley, brewery representative from South Street brewery, and Patricia Washington from Visit Alexandria will be in attendance to judge costumes and present awards. Free; beers \$7 per draft. Visit www.theblackwallhitch.com.

SUNDAY/OCT. 30

Doggy Trick-or-Treat. 1-6 p.m. at The Dog Park, 705 King St. We will have treats, sales and a costume contest. Visit The Dog Park in Old Town Alexandria to get your map and pictures taken, then tour the rest of the participating stores to get more treats and find a sale or two in town. Free. Visit www.thedogparkva.biz.

Del Ray Halloween Parade.

2-4 p.m. at Mount Vernon Ave. All are welcome to march in the parade. Parade ends in a party at the Mt. Vernon Recreation Center fields featuring live music, free refreshments, games, best costume awards, and more. Free. Visit www.visitdelray.com/halloween for more.

A Spooktacular Preschool

Halloween Extravaganza. 3-5 p.m. at Fort Hunt Preschool, 1909 Windmill Lane "Trick-or-Treat" inside Fort Hunt Preschool's Carriage House, "spooky" story in the garden, festive games, and create fun Halloween crafts. Tickets are \$10 per family (2 parents and 2 children) and \$5 per additional child. For more information, contact Neil Smith, fhp.publicity@gmail.com, 703-780-0680.

Special Halloween Ghost Tour. 6 p.m. at Alexandria Visitor Center, 221 King St. The Halloween Ghost Tour starts at the Alexandria Visitor Center and wraps through the back roads of Old Town stopping at places like The Christmas Attic, John Douglas Brown House, Old Presbyterian Meeting House, and many more. The Halloween Ghost Tour takes visitors past Christ Church to other less-visited stops like the Freedom House. At each stop guides cover a brief background of the location, what horrible event occurred there, and what modern day paranormal phenomenon was detected. Tickets are \$12 adults; \$10 senior citizens, active duty military and veterans; \$5 children; free for ages 5 and under. Visit discoveralexva.wordpress.com.

Collective Delusion. 8 p.m. at Los Toltecos, 4111 Duke St. Local band plays rock songs from '70s to present. Free. Visit www.CollectiveDelusion.net.

Photo Contest Deadline.

12 a.m. Enter photos of Northern Virginia's beautiful urban and rural outdoor spaces in the Nearby Nature Photo Competition, sponsored by the Northern Virginia Conservation Trust. The contest is open to all non-professional photographers, with prizes for youth and adults in two categories: "the land and water around us" and "people enjoying the land." Free to participate. See www.nvct.org for entry details.

SUNDAY-MONDAY/OCT. 30-31

Poe in Alexandria. 8-10 p.m. at the Lyceum, 201 S. Washington St. Actor David Keltz returns to The Lyceum's lecture hall to re-create Poe's visit to

SEE CALENDAR, PAGE 21

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ENTERTAINMENT

FROM PAGE 20
Virginia in 1849, shortly before his death. Individual works performed each year vary, but the program always includes a chilling story or two such as "The Black Cat," "The Cask of Amontillado," or "The Tell-Tale Heart," along with well-known poems "The Raven" and "El Dorado." Tickets are \$15. Visit shop.alexandriva.gov/events for more.

MONDAY/OCT. 31

Trick-or-Treat with the Boo-tiques. 2-6 p.m. throughout Old Town. Start trick-or-treating early and stop by the dozens of shops of the Old Town Boutique District dishing out treats. Free. Visit www.oldtownboutiquedistrict.com.

Trick-or-Treating at Mount Vernon. 3:30-6:30 p.m. at Mount Vernon, 3200 Mount Vernon Highway, Mount Vernon. Join the costumed cast of interpreters for a special opportunity to trick-or-treat in the historic area. The cost is \$12 per adult and \$6 per child (11 and under). Visit www.mountvernon.org for more.

Halloween Trick-Or-Treating. 5-7 p.m. at Carlyle House Historic Park, 121 N. Fairfax St. Free. Visit www.novaparks.com to register.

TUESDAY/NOV. 1

Community Reception for New Fort Belvoir Command Team. 5:30-7:30 p.m. at Fort Belvoir Officers Club, 5500 Schulz Circle. Any business or community member with a connection to Fort Belvoir is invited to attend. Bring plenty of business cards and prepare to expand your professional network with the Quantico/Belvoir Business Alliance. The cost is \$10 which provides admission and two drink tickets at the event. Contact Mount Vernon Lee Chamber of Commerce 703-360-6925 or visit www.MtVernon-LeeChamber.org.

All Saints' Day Choral Evensong. 7:30 p.m. at St. Paul's Old Town, 228 S. Pitt St. Grant Hellmers, Organist-Chorister of St. Paul's Episcopal Church, will direct the choir in an All Saints' Day Choral Evensong. Candles will be available to light in memory of loved ones. Donations and non-perishable foods will be accepted for St. Paul's Lazarus Ministry, raising hope for those in need. All are invited. Reception follows. Visit www.stpaulsalexandria.com for more.

WEDNESDAY/NOV. 2

Lecture & Book Signing: "The Historical Apothecary Compendium." 7:30 p.m. at Alexandria Lyceum, 201 S. Washington St. Join medical toxicologist and amateur apothecary historian Dr. Daniel Goldstein as he discusses his research method and adventures while writing his recently published book "The Historical Apothecary Compendium." Tickets are \$10. Visit shop.alexandriva.gov.

Swing Dance. 9-11 p.m. at Nick's Nightclub, 642 S. Pickett St. The Colliders play classic rockabilly, blues and honky-tonk from back in the day. Tickets are \$10. Visit www.gottaswing.com for more. Commonwealth Academy Fundraiser at Port City Brewing, 4-9 p.m. donating 10% of their earnings for the day to Commonwealth Academy, an extraordinary college preparatory program.

THURSDAY/NOV. 3

Del Ray Aglow. 6-8 p.m. at Ease Yoga & Cafe, 3051 Mount Vernon Ave. This annual Del Ray event pays homage to a German tradition of



Folk band Burning Bridget Cleary will perform with Nicole Belanus on Saturday, Nov. 5 at St. Aidan's Episcopal Church, 8531 Riverside Road. Tickets are \$15-18. Visit www.focusmusic.org/concert-burning-bridget-cleary for more.



Martinmas or St. Martin day celebration, bringing light and warmth into the night as we move towards the darkest days of the year. Stroll the streets of Del Ray with lanterns and end for a treat of cider and cookies. Free. Visit www.visitdelray.com for more.

FRIDAY/NOV. 4

Art on Tap. 7-10 p.m. at The Art League Gallery - Torpedo Factory Art Center, 105 N. Union St. Craft beers from local breweries have been paired with a work of art from an Art League instructor. Local restaurants have chosen a brew/artwork coupling to serve as their muse to create the perfect complementary appetizer. Sample the creative combinations while drinking from a take-home Art on Tap beer tasting glass, and then vote for your favorite at the end of the event. Tickets are \$35 until Oct. 21; \$45 after. Visit www.TheArtLeague.org.

NOV. 4-27

Art Exhibit: "H2O/Waterworks." Gallery hours at Del Ray Artisans Gallery, 2704 Mount Vernon Ave. A visual exploration of humankind's relationship to water, or lack thereof, through 2D and 3D media. They express water's effect on us and our effect on water, for enjoyment, health, political, ecological and environmental outcomes. Free. Visit www.DelRayArtisans.org/exhibits.

NOV. 4-DEC. 17

Convergence: "Various Small Fires." Gallery hours at Convergence Gallery, 1801 N. Quaker Lane. the Convergence Arts Initiative presents: 'Various Small Fires,' a site-specific installation and exhibit by Isabel Cureux. Various Small Fires explores how each small event in our lives creates who we are. Mental illness, divorce, "biraciality," and religion will be presented in innovative ways to garner a feeling of solidarity with others who have experienced these things, and present a new way to understand them for those who have not. Free to attend. Visit www.ourconvergence.org for more.

NOV. 4-DEC. 18

"Raising: Motherhood in Modernity." Gallery hours at The Margaret W. & Joseph L. Fisher Art Gallery at the Rachel M. Schlesinger Concert Hall and Arts Center, 4915 E. Campus Drive. Elements of motherhood and the good and bad of being a parent can be found in the ceramic pieces Jessica Gardner created for the exhibit "Raising: Motherhood in Modernity." Free. Visit www.nvcc.edu for more.

NOV. 4-19

School of Rock. West Potomac Theater, 6500 Quander Rd., presented by the Beyond the Page Theatre Company (BTPTC) at West Potomac High School. Show times vary: Nov 4 - 7 p.m.; Nov 5 - 2 p.m. and 7 p.m.; Nov 11 - 5 p.m.; Nov 12 - 7 p.m.; Nov 18 - 7 p.m.; Nov 19 - 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. For more information, contact Peelee Clark at WestPoTheatre@gmail.com or 703-718-2585.

SATURDAY/NOV. 5

Horses & Hounds. 9 a.m.-4 p.m. at Mount Vernon, 3200 Mount Vernon Highway, Mount Vernon. At this exciting event, watch a simulated fox hunt demonstration on the estate of the Father of the American foxhound. Observe a cavalry demonstration on the 12-acre field before meeting the breeds that Washington loved so much. Learn about the role these animals played in the American Revolution and even meet Nelson, a horse similar to Washington's beloved warhorse. Included in general admission. Tickets are \$9-20, with a discount for buying online. Visit www.mountvernon.org.

Presidential, Political & Historical Auction. 10 a.m. at The Potomack Company, 1120 N. Fairfax St. Potomack Company tradition returns as the Virginia auction house marks the 2016 Presidential Election with the sale of antiques, documents and decorative art from two John F. Kennedy family residences along with a rare autograph collection of 31 presidential signatures. Free to attend. Visit www.potomackcompany.com.

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PHOTO BY HAL HARDWAY

Snapshot Sunrise, Oct. 21.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

FROM PAGE 10

order to deter these law breakers and to keep traffic moving.

At the present time, we are not enforcing our own traffic laws. Unfortunately, I fear that I will be writing still another letter on this same subject 10 years from now, which equates to 30 years of apparent traffic lawlessness on our city streets.

Townsend A. "Van" Van Fleet
Alexandria

Traffic Calming?

To the Editor:

The article, "Money Talks" (Oct. 20-26, 2016) revealed that Alexandria has allocated \$1.5 million in the 2017 budget for "Complete Streets" and that there is a backlog where neighborhoods want more complete streets and the city willing to spend a healthy \$500,000 a year for them. This means more traffic calming "to make city streets more accessible to bicycles, pedestrians, and buses in ways that fit with the needs of that community."

An example of traffic calming recently is the reduction of the long-standing 35 mph speed limits to 25 mph on Quaker Lane from King to Duke streets and extended on King

Street from Janney's Lane to Quaker Lane together with a reduction of lanes from four to three on King — plus two almost unused bike lanes.

My call to Deputy City Manager Emily Baker to protest these unrealistic new limits elicited the information that while these reduced speed limits are not yet final, staff were "monitoring the situation" but it seemed the reduced speed limits were working — apparently to reduce traffic speed as intended to 25 mph.

Although this "Catch 22" may seem final, it appears that the city might reconsider the speed limit reductions if sufficient protests appeared. So, if, like me, readers who may not be part of the adjacent community feel the reduced speed limits are unnecessary or irksome or even dangerous make their displeasure known, there is the possibility at least the speed limit reductions might be reversed.

Please let your concern be known. Take the time to email or phone the City Manager's office at 703-746-4549.

A call or text to the mayor and City Council at 703-746-4500 might not be wasted either.

Stephen Newman
Alexandria

OBITUARIES

George Butt

George "Booger" Butt, 79, of Fredericksburg died on Sunday, Oct. 23, 2016.

He retired as a professional firefighter with the Alexandria Fire Department.

George is survived by his wife of 61 years, Dorothy; sons, George E. "Gene" Butt, III (Terry) and Gary Butt (Kelly); three grandchildren, Jennifer, Erica, and Matthew; and three great-grandchildren.

Services will be private.

In lieu of flowers, George's family requests that expressions of sympathy take the form of donations to Spotsylvania Volunteer Rescue Squad, P.O. Box 101, Spotsylvania, VA 22553. Online condolences may be expressed to his family at foundandsons.com.

Mable B. Wood

Mable B. Wood, 95, died on Oct. 22, 2016. She

leaves behind to cherish her memory a host of family and friends. Viewing will be 10-11 a.m., on Saturday, Oct. 29, 2016 at First Agape Community of Faith, 2423 Mt Vernon Ave., Alexandria. Funeral Service will follow thereafter. Interment at Mount Comfort Cemetery, 6600 South Kings Highway, Alexandria.



WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

News

Email announcements to gazette@connectionnewspapers.com. Deadline is Thursday at noon. Photos are welcome.

David Bloodgood, of Alexandria, graduated with a Bachelor of Science degree in molecular biology from Lehigh University (Bethlehem, Pa.).

SCHOOL NOTES

Corinne Adrienne Cordell, **Page Alexis Foley**, and **Colleen Lace West**, all of Alexandria, have graduated from Clemson University (Clemson, S.C.). Cordell earned a B.S. degree in marketing. Foley graduated with a B.S. in environmental and natural resources. West earned a B.S. in management.

Alexandria residents **John Haseltine**, **Daniel Schloesser**, and **Hayden Knudson** have graduated from the University of New Hampshire (Durham, N.H.). Haseltine earned a B.A. in history. Schloesser earned a B.S. in chemical engineering and Knudson earned a B.S. in business administration: marketing.

Jerold Wallman, of Alexandria, majoring in business administration, has been named to the University of Vermont (Burlington, Vt.) dean's list for the spring 2016 semester.

Kathryn Perry, of Alexandria, has been named to the Carthage College (Kenosha, Wis.) dean's list for the spring 2016 semester.

Anna Balfour, **Loren Gant** and **Lauren Schild**, all of Alexandria, were named to James Madison University's president's list for the spring 2016 semester. Balfour is majoring in interdisciplinary liberal studies. Gant is majoring in nursing. Schild is majoring in media arts and design.

Jodi Biermann, of Alexandria, was inducted to Brenau University's (Gainesville, Ga.) Delta Mu Delta International Honor Society in Business Administration. Biermann is a graduate student



First Friday

More than 90 people attended the Office of the Arts Oct. 7, First Friday: Family Art Night at the Durant Arts Center. Families had opportunities to paint, create mosaic trivets or create games out of cardboard. The next First Friday is scheduled for Friday, Nov. 4, "Dances Around the World." Featured Heritage Dance Groups will be Boyle School of Irish Dance; Centro Cultural Peru; Halau O' Aulani, Native Hawaiian; Tisza Ensemble, Traditional Hungarian Folk Dance; Pillerkaar Estonian Folk Dance; and Dances from Israel, Jewish Community Center of Northern Virginia. For more information about the Office of the Arts programs and services visit alexandriava.gov/arts.

majoring in Human Resource Management.

Soraya Farage, of Alexandria, was initiated into the honor society Phi Kappa Phi at George Mason University (Fairfax, Va.).

A team that included a faculty member and two alumni from Virginia Tech's Washington-Alexandria Architecture Center placed third in the international Arch Out Loud NYC Aquarium & Public Waterfront Competition. **Laurel McSherry**, **Rob Holmes**, **David Bayer**, and **Frederick Steiner** placed third with their "Merroir" concept.

McSherry is associate professor and director of the graduate landscape architecture program at

Virginia Tech's Washington-Alexandria Architecture Center.

Holmes is a 2008 graduate of the master of landscape architecture program and is now an assistant professor of landscape architecture at the University of Florida and co-founder of the Dredge Research Collaborative.

Bayer is a landscape architect at Rhodeside & Harwell in Alexandria, and a 2015 graduate of the master of landscape architecture program.

Steiner is the dean designate of the School of Design at the University of Pennsylvania and former dean of the School of Architecture at The University of Texas at Austin.



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Memorial Service

A memorial service for H. Stewart Dunn will be held Nov. 5 at St. Paul's Episcopal Church, 228 S. Pitt St., at 2 p.m. Dunn died Sept. 27 at the age of 87.



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SPORTS

2-Point Conversion Clinches Game

It was a come-from-behind 22-21 victory for T.C. Williams High School on Friday, Oct. 21. TC's defense held West Potomac's running attack to only 129 yards.

Senior running back Jaren Hillian scores the deciding 2-point conversion sealing the come-from-behind victory.



PHOTOS BY RICHARD MAPLE



TC senior wide receiver Daniel Davis scores late in the game.



Junior QB Diondre Charlton led the Titans attack.

ODBC First 8 Rowers Fight Winds in Boston

In weather better suited for sailing than rowing, the Old Dominion Boat Club (ODBC) women's and men's crew teams competed with some of the world's fastest boats on Oct. 22-23 at the 52nd annual Head of the Charles Regatta (HOCR) in Boston. This year's event on the Charles River between Boston and Cambridge included over 2,250 boats from 820 schools and clubs.

The ODBC Women's First 8 improved on its 2015 HOCR performance by placing 21st out of 85 highly competitive boats. Rowing against the current and with a strong breeze at almost 15 miles per hour in their face for much of the race, the ODBC Women finished the winding course with a time of 18:50.558.

T.C. Williams senior Katie Murphy summed up the battle against her competitors and the elements: "Though the racing conditions were less than ideal, we still rowed a very solid race. [ODBC coxswain] Camila [Cardwell] did a fan-

tastic job navigating the course, especially for her first time at the Charles."

In addition to Murphy and Cardwell, the ODBC Women's First 8 includes Reed Kenny, Caroline Hill, Grace Vannatta, Grace Asch, Grace Fluharty, Blythe Markel, and Ailysh Motsinger.

The ODBC Men's First 8 faced even stronger gales when their race began almost three hours after the ODBC Women rowed. With winds at 25 miles per hour and stronger gusts, the men fell behind their normal robust pace in the first quarter of the race and finished with a time of 17:46.092, well behind their strong finishes in previous races this season.

Members of the ODBC Men's First 8 include coxswain Michaela Gleeson, and rowers Asher Elkins, Addison Guynn, David Pratt, Jamie Ehlers, Nick Belvin, Julien Depeyrot, Jacob Souza, and Connor McGivern.

ODBC rowers are on the road again next weekend at the Head of the Schuylkill Regatta in Philadelphia.



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

The First 8 Women's and Men's teams between their races on Oct. 23.

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Obituary for Richard J. Muller

October 17, 2016

Richard Johnson Muller died on Tuesday, October 17, 2016 having enjoyed a long loving and productive life. He passed away peacefully at 87 surrounded by family in Alexandria, Virginia. His death from natural causes came a week after his 64th wedding anniversary with Barbara Reading Muller.

His passion for living explained his varied career as a country music DJ after graduating from Bard College, radio news announcer at WICH in Norwich, Connecticut, news director at KDKA in Pittsburgh, public relations and government affairs at Chrysler Corporation for 30 years, first in Detroit and then Washington, D.C. He was a member of the 1980 Reagan Transition Team for NASA where he received the Public Service Award, and a volunteer in retirement as an ESL instructor and 20 years in the Alexandria Police Department communications division.

Captivated by international travel that included the Far East, Central and South America and Europe, his favorite was the United Kingdom. He loved the land of Churchill and became a self-proclaimed anglophile. Time in the Cotswold, Mayfair and Kensington as well as hosting each of his grandchildren for a personal visit to London gave him joy and filled him with pride.

He was a recreational pilot, gourmet cook, and master gardener creating an elegant English garden in the backyard of their 200-year-old family home in Old Town Alexandria. A home they lovingly restored with a Williamsburg flair where they celebrated life for 40 years.

He became a connoisseur of life. Driven by a desire for new experiences and the opportunity to meet people of unusual backgrounds and interests different than his own. His kindness, curiosity and conversation helped him make friends anywhere.

His life was balanced by the deep love, devotion and shared interests he had with his wife, partner and travel companion, Barbara.

Richard (Dick) is survived by his wife, three children, Melissa Bernhardt (John) of Columbia, Missouri; Richard (Chip) Muller, Jr. (Rozanne) of Apison, Tennessee; and David Muller (Patricia) of Corona del Mar, California, and four grandchildren, Matt and Tessa Bernhardt, Daryl and Channing Muller.

Richard is predeceased by his parents, Ethel and Julius (Dick) Muller, and brothers, James and Edward.

A memorial service and celebration of life were held Friday, October 20, 2016 at Christ Church Alexandria followed by a reception and private graveside service at Ivy Hill Cemetery in Alexandria.

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Obituary



Ethelyn Evans
Age 81

Of Burke, VA went home to be with her Lord on October 23, 2016. Beloved mother of two daughters, Lisa Kay Lennett (Michael) and Linda Donaldson-Bronder (Steve), both of Burke, VA. Also survived by five grandchildren; one brother, James Turner (Pat); four sister in laws: Fran Turner, Buena Evans, Fay Wilmouth, Bernice Evans; one brother in law, Randle Evans (Darius); many nieces and nephews; and many loving friends. Visitation will be on Saturday, October 29, 2016 from 1-4 pm at Everly-Wheatley Funeral Home, 1500 W. Braddock Rd., Alexandria, VA. A Funeral Service will be held at Ft. Myer Old Post Chapel and burial at Arlington National Cemetery at a later date. Donations may be made to: Lincolnia United Methodist Church.

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DeArcey (Dee) T. Campbell, age 91, of Daytona Beach, FL, passed away on Oct 18, 2016 at Halifax Hospital in Daytona Beach FL. He was born in Alexandria, VA on September 28, 1925 to the late William W. Campbell (Ret Chief of Police, Alexandria, VA.) and Charlotte (Thomas).

He attended George Washington High School where he participated in the sports he loved football, and basketball, graduating in 1944. He joined the US Navy in 1944 where he served his country till 1946. He began his rowing career for the Old Dominion Boat Club on the waters of the Potomac River and secured a job reading meters in the Northern Virginia for the Washington Gas Light Co., where he spent the next 45 years climbing the ladder to finish his career as a lead foreman with many crews. During that time with his full time job at WGL his love for crew never faded and he began coaching as an assistant coach in 1959 at Francis Hammond High School and became Head Coach in 1971. In that year, City of Alexandria combined 3 high schools and formed TC Williams High School, Hammond became an intermediate School and Dee went to coach the Boys Crew at TC Williams High School. The rowing program moved to the Torpedo Factory in the early 70's on the Alexandria waterfront. In 1975 Dee began coaching the Girls Crew as Head Coach until 2005. During the 1990's TC Williams Women's Crew ranked 1st or 2nd in North America. Dee spent a total of 46 years full time coaching and for many years returned to Alexandria to assist the new coaches.

Dee was preceded in death by his brother William W. Campbell Jr, and sisters Marie King, Ruth Morgai, Jean Cockrell, and Aliene Robey, and nieces Betty Jean Bunch and Sally Midkiff, and Deborah J. Crane. Mourning his passing is his nephew, James T. Robey (Karen) of Daytona Beach FL, great niece Erica C. Robey of Springfield Va., nephew, Harley "Skeeter" Swift of TN., nieces, Anna M. Spencer (Joe) of Alexandria, VA., Marsha E. Harlow (Greg) of Woodbridge, VA., Patricia (Pat) Campbell Springer of Alexandria, VA, Sharon (Sherry) Campbell Shelby of Bealeton, VA, Constance (Connie) Campbell Wilkinson of Radford, VA, along with a host of numerous great and great-great nieces and nephews.

Family will receive friends on Thursday, October 27th from 2:00 to 4:00pm and 6:00 to 8:00pm at Everly Wheatley Funeral Home, 1500 W. Braddock Road, Alexandria, VA, where funeral services will be held on Friday, October 28th at 12 noon. Graveside services will immediately follow at National Memorial Park, Falls Church. In lieu of flowers please consider making a donaton in Dee Campbell's name to be made to the Alexandria Crew Boosters, PO Box 3202, Alexandria, VA. 22302.

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LEGAL NOTICE

AT&T Mobility Services LLC is proposing to modify an existing wireless telecommunications antennas on an existing building located at 501 Slaters Lane, Alexandria, Alexandria City, VA. The new facility will consist of the removal and replacement of 3 existing antennas on existing mounts at a top height of +/- 142 feet above ground level. Any interested party wishing to submit comments regarding the potential effects the proposed facility may have on any historic property may do so by sending such comments to: Project 6116003889-MOG c/o EBI Consulting, 6876 Susquehanna Trail South, York, PA 17403, or via telephone at 781-572-0698.

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OBITUARY



Bertha M. Halnon "Dusty", 93, former resident of Alexandria, VA, passed away September 19, 2016, due to Alzheimers. Born in Benton Harbor, MI, she received her B.S. from Western Michigan, and she was a member of Kappa Delta Pi. She and husband William L. Halnon had five children who survive them: Tim, Janet Rempfer, Carol Hilgendorf, Pat DeFilippo and William G. Halnon. Dusty's love for young children led to her many years of teaching preschool at Bethany Lutheran Church. Other occupations were draftsman (WWII), floral designer, sales and seamstress at Joann's Fabrics. A "Yes" person, she volunteered as a Girl Scout leader, assisted at Groveton Elementary, served as a member in womens Guild, Stephen Minister, Senior choir, curriculum development for the school. A loving mother, gifted artist, Dusty's attention to detail was shown in everything she did, art projects, sewing clothing for the family-often her designs. She enjoyed gardening and water aerobics, cooking and baking for her family and friends, babysitting the grandchildren at times. In addition to her five children, Dusty is survived by thirteen grandchildren, thirteen great grandchildren, one sister, Ruth Wiegand of AL. A celebration of life service is being held at 2:00pm Cross Bridge Church, Rockledge, FL, October 22. Interment is in Florida Memorial Gardens, Rockledge, FL.

Give me where to stand,
and I will move the earth.
-Archimedes

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LEGAL NOTICE

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

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-Werner
Heisenberg

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LEGAL NOTICE

The Virginia Department of Historic Resources will hold a Public Information Hearing to discuss the proposed Woodlawn Cultural Landscape Historic District, Alexandria, VA. The public hearing is scheduled for Monday November 7, 2016 at 2:00 p.m. at South County Government Center, 8352 Richmond Hwy, Alexandria, VA 22309. Public comment regarding the proposal will be taken at the time of the hearing or can be sent to: Director Julie Langan, VA Department of Historic Resources, 2801 Kensington Avenue, Richmond, VA 23221. This proposal has been recommended eligible for the Virginia Landmarks and National Registers. This proposal will be presented to the State Review Board and the Historic Resources Board on December 15, 2016 in Richmond, VA. For a copy of the proposal and/or a boundary map, contact Aubrey VonLindern, 540-868-7029 or Aubrey.VonLindern@dhr.virginia.gov.

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LEGAL NOTICE

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

Request for Proposals No. 00000644, Commercial Parking Study

Closing Date and Time: November 21, 2016, 4:00 p.m., prevailing local time.

For general inquiries contact Michael F. Hauer, CPPO, CPPB, Deputy Purchasing Agent at 703.746.4295.

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

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NEWS

Mysteries

FROM PAGE 8

sumably the spies, still hanging from the ceiling in the living room.

While many of Old Town's hauntings are rooted in several encounters, others like the swinging spies come from a single source. Pope says one of the most bizarre supernatural sightings is attributed to one man, Louie Robert, who owned a framing shop on Cameron Street. Robert said stories had been passed down to him over the years of an ancient Devil-Bat that's watched over the city since its colonial origins. Since 1817, when the clock tower for city hall was built, Robert said the Devil-Bat made that its home, even returning to roost after a fire destroyed it and the tower was rebuilt in 1871. The Devil-Bat reportedly kept a wary eye on outsiders to the town and would terrorize those who came to the city to cause trouble. While several had reportedly caught glimpses of the creature flying over the city, the most visible appearance was when it reportedly swooped down into a crowd of drunken sailors marauding through the city. The bat attacked the crowd, forcing them to scatter. Pope says the legend goes that some at the time credited the Devil-Bat with saving City Hall.

BULLETIN BOARD

FROM PAGE 13

STUDENT RECORDS

Destruction of Confidential Student Testing

Records. Alexandria City Public Schools is in the process of purging Virginia Grade Level Assessment (VGLA) and Virginia Alternate Assessment Program (VAAP) collections of evidence (student work samples) from school year 2010-2011 and prior for students in grades 3-8 for VGLA and grades 3-8, and 11 for VAAP. If your child participated in these testing programs, you may collect and retain the student work samples. Contact the Department of Accountability at 703-619- 8032 to arrange for pick up. ACPS requests advance notice of five business days prior to pick up. Files not picked up by Dec. 21, 2016 will be destroyed.

THROUGH OCT. 31

"Fuel the Pool." At Reunions, 1709 Centre Plaza.

During October, Reunions, a neighborhood specialty shop of antiques, home furnishings, gifts and accessories located in Fairlington Centre, will donate 5 percent of its sales to Advocates for Alexandria Aquatics (AAA), a nonprofit organization that is working closely with the city of Alexandria to build a new 50-meter multi-purpose pool at Chinquapin and to improve other aquatics facilities in the city. Learn more at www.alexandriaaquatics.com.

THURSDAY/OCT. 27

Application Deadline. 5 p.m. The Alexandria City Council is seeking applicants to fill vacancies on boards, commissions and committees. All applicants must complete a Personal Data Record Form no later than 5 p.m. on Thursday, Oct. 27. For a complete list of vacancies, go to www.alexandriava.gov/boards/info/default.aspx?id=2202.

Meet Local Green Architects. 6-8 p.m. Energy House Solutions Center, 4603A Eisenhower Ave. Learn how to make the home energy efficient.

Old Town North Small Area Plan. 7 p.m. at the Crowne Plaza Hotel, 901 N. Fairfax St., Update Advisory Group to Second Street Green Infrastructure Demonstration Project, Autonomous Vehicles and Related Infrastructure Planning under OTN Transportation Study. Meeting is open to the public.

11

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