



PHOTOS BY MARK MOCIE

With a theme of "Christmas on the Potomac," Captain Greg Drentner and crew aboard Stimulus Package captured the Most Animated prize during the 2016 Holiday Boat Parade of Lights Dec. 3 along the Alexandria waterfront.

Pier Pressure Holiday Boat Parade lights up the Potomac.

The competition was fierce as more than 45 boats lined up along the Alexandria waterfront Dec. 3 to participate in the 17th annual Holiday Boat Parade of Lights.

A crowd of thousands turned out at sundown to see the illuminated boats cruise the Potomac River, led by Alexandria's fireboat, The Vigilant, and Washington D.C.'s fireboat John Glenn.

The display featured a mixture of powerboats and sailboats with prizes awarded in categories ranging from Best in Show to Best Try.

The 2016 winners include: Best of Show – Capt. Larry Chandler and High C's, "Polar Express;" Best Powerboat - Capt. Bob Rose and Digger, "Santa's Sleigh Floats;" Best Sailboat – Capt. Dave Easter and Firefly, "Putting the Sea in Christmas;" Best

Spirit of America – Capt. Steve Preda and Anamchara, "Patriotic Christmas;" Thinking Outside the Christmas Box – Capt. John Macdonald and NAVISTA, "Christmas Crayolas;" Most Holiday Cheer – Capt. Walter Weiss and Letter of Marque, "Hanukkah - Festival of Lights;" Most Spirited Crew – Capt. Daniel Parilla and Cyganka, "Minion Christmas;" Best Theme – Capt. Lori Housman and Pigs Flew, "Christmas in the Caribbean;" Hardest Soul – Capt. Lee O'Shield and Everyone Remembers their First, "Red White and Blue;" Best Try – Capt. Mike Holland and After Hours, "Christmas Tree;" and Most Animated – Capt. Greg Drentner and Stimulus Package, "Christmas on the Potomac."

— JEANNE THEISMANN



Captain John Macdonald and crew aboard NAVISTA won Thinking Outside the Christmas Box with a "Christmas Crayolas" theme.



With Captain Bob Rose at the helm, Digger took Best Powerboat with the theme of "Santa's Sleigh Floats."

Homicide in North Old Town

Former Alexandria resident killed returning to neighborhood he grew up in.

BY VERNON MILES
GAZETTE PACKET

There was more to Colby Dielle McClennon than a criminal record. He'd had an arrest record with using and selling drugs, but that's not what Janice Bates remembers about McClennon. The McClennon she remembers was a young boy who came over to her house asking to play Atari with her son. McClennon was raised less than a block away from where he was found murdered in North Old Town on Dec. 1.

Responding to a shots fired call

around 9:30 p.m., police found McClennon near Powhatan Park. McClennon died at the scene. Police are investigating the murder but have made no arrests.

McClennon, 41, had been in and out of jail on various drug or theft related charges, most recently being released earlier in 2016 to a facility in California.

"Colby used to deliver the newspapers around the neighborhood," said James Bates, a resident of Colonial Avenue. "Everybody knew Colby. It's a shame he came all the way back from California to his home just to get killed."

SEE 7TH MURDER, PAGE 23

Recalling 'Infamy'

Survivor recalls Pearl Harbor attack on 75th anniversary.

BY JEANNE THEISMANN
GAZETTE PACKET



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Pearl Harbor survivor Jay Groff recalls the Japanese attacks of Dec. 7, 1941 at the Nov. 8 Rotary Club of Alexandria Veterans Day luncheon at Belle Haven Country Club.

They said it couldn't be done. There had never been anything like it in the history of warfare but with unmistakable red spheres visible on every wing, 353 Japanese planes descended undetected over the islands of Hawaii on a sleepy Sunday morning. It was Dec. 7, 1941 — the "date that will live in infamy."

"The Japanese timed it perfectly," said Jay Groff, who was preparing to head to his duty sta-

SEE RECALLING, PAGE 8

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The City of Alexandria Pipes and Drums marches down Fairfax Street Dec. 3 during the 46th annual Scottish Walk Parade.



PHOTOS BY MARK MOCCLE

The Grinch skates his way through the parade.



Darth Vader made an appearance in the parade.

Plaid Tidings

46th Annual Scottish Walk parade.

Crowds lined the streets of Old Town Dec. 3 for Alexandria's 46th Annual Scottish Walk Parade. Led by Grand Marshal Nellie Brooks Quander, a member of the Alexandria African American Hall of Fame, the parade featured musical pipes and drums, Scottish clans and reenactors from across the country.

The parade was part of the Scottish Walk Weekend of events to benefit the Campagna Center.

— JEANNE THEISMANN



Burke and Herbert's Joe Cullum rides on the back of Charlie Hulfish's 1971 Chevelle SS convertible.



Friends and WWII veterans Constantine Rizopoulos, left, and William Mattison enjoy the parade on Queen Street. Rizopoulos is a Scottish Rite Mason and U.S. Air Force veteran. Mattison is also Scottish Rite, Past Potentate of the Shrine, and a Free Mason.



Scottish Walk Parade mascot "Plaid" waves to the crowd.



Campagna Center CEO Tammy Mann applauds participants in the Scottish Walk Parade.



Reenactments groups were popular parade participants.



City Manager Mark Jinks, decked out in plaid, waves to the crowd.



The Mass Bands finale closes the 46th Annual Scottish Walk Parade Dec. 3 in Old Town.



Children wave to the crowd from the Browne Academy bus.



Bryan Sieling rides through town in his 1952 MG TD.



Grand Marshal Nellie Brooks Quander waves to the crowd on Queen Street.



Alexandria Fire Chief Robert Dube.

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NEWS

Commission Approves Patrick Henry Design

Unanimous approval for option A.1, despite community divide.

BY VERNON MILES
GAZETTE PACKET

While neighbors and local parents are still divided over designs for the new Patrick Henry School, a plea from school principal Ingrid Bynum helped move the Planning Commission to support the School Board's plans for the facility at its Dec. 6 meeting.

While parents and faculty at Patrick Henry support option A.1 for the school, which has separate entrances to the school for buses and for other vehicles, local residents supported option C.1, which keeps all traffic to and from the school on Taney Avenue and away from the smaller, residential N. Latham Street. Though opinions within the group varied, the Patrick Henry Advisory

Group agreed in an April meeting to recommend option C.1. However, the School Board voted in favor of option A.1, citing safety and budgetary concerns. At the Dec. 6 meeting, Planning Commission Chair Mary Lyman said she'd kept a tally of how many speakers were in favor of C.1 and A.1 and said it was split right down the middle. However, while Lyman said she understood the concerns of the parents, she and other members of the commission said Bynum's recommendation of the A.1 design carried a lot of weight. Bynum emphasized that the three-level design of A.1 helped keep the three developmental stages at-

tending Patrick Henry separate. According to Bynum, keeping the bus entrance separate from the walking and drop-off entrance helps keep the students safer.

"Our parents want safety and a sound instructional program," said Bynum. "This design is what they have chosen to best help achieve their dreams, their hopes, and the best wishes for their children. This [design] means my kids will have

a safe place to be dropped off."

While public speakers brought up the controversy over the School Board's rejection of the advisory group's recommendation, Commissioner Maria Wasowski said that the School Board is never bound to follow the recommendation of an advisory group.

"The city bends over backwards to be open with the public," said Wasowski.

"Advisory groups ... come up with recommendations, it does not make a definitive decision. As we heard tonight, there isn't always consensus.

This is a way of having a discussion ... There is a public good in having a school that is functional, safe, and clean that can accommodate the kids that it needs to. Change is difficult for a community and there are a lot of considerations, but the argument made for this layout is very persuasive and the design works well with the housing and apartment buildings around it."

The Patrick Henry design was proved in a 7-0 vote.

"This design is what [parents] have chosen to best help achieve their dreams, their hopes, and the best wishes for their children. This [design] means my kids will have a safe place to be dropped off."

— Patrick Henry Principal Ingrid Bynum

Corrections

❖ In the Nov. 16 article "Scourge or Salvation:" The BID tax rate is proposed at 10 cents for every \$100 of assessed value. City staff is not involved with the Exploratory Committee. City Council will not consider approval of the BID until 2017.

❖ In the Nov. 16 article "Deepening Boundaries:" Fifty-two percent of ACPS elementary students are eligible for Free and Reduced Meals. Sixty percent of students throughout ACPS are eligible for Free and Reduced Meals. The neighborhood surrounding Jefferson-Houston School is 68 percent white.

NEWS

'Rally for Rose,' Del Ray to host fundraiser for Cruz family.

The Del Ray Business Association will host a "Rally for Rose" fundraiser Dec. 13 for the family of Rosemarie Cruz, who died Dec. 4 from injuries sustained after being struck by a vehicle while crossing Mount Vernon Avenue at W. Glebe Road.

Cruz, 49, was the deli manager at Market2Market in Del Ray and leaves behind a husband and two young daughters.

"She brought so much love to all of us, her family, our staff, our customers, the whole community," said Larry Ponzi, owner of Market2Market, St. Elmo's Coffee Pub, and Cafe Pizzaiolo. "This is what we can do for her now — raise money for these kids, for her family."

The fundraiser will take place Dec. 13 from 5 to 9 p.m. Restaurants on the St. Elmo's block of Mt. Vernon Avenue — Market2Market, St. Elmo's Coffee



A fundraiser for the family of Rosemarie Cruz will be held Dec. 13 in Del Ray.

Pub, The Dairy Godmother, Holy Cow and Pork Barrel BBQ — will offer special menu items for a \$20 donation. All proceeds from that menu will go to the fund for Cruz's daughters. In addition, a number of Del Ray businesses have donated gift certificates for a raffle to be held during the event.

Cruz lived in Alexandria with her husband, Romy Sarangay, and their 10-year-old and 12-year-old

daughters. She also leaves behind a 26-year-old daughter and a 19-year-old son in the Philippines. For those who want to support the family but cannot make it to the fundraiser, a GoFundMe account has been set up at <https://www.gofundme.com/family-of-rose-cruz>

For more information, visit www.visitdelray.com.

— JEANNE THEISMANN

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.

SATURDAY/DEC. 10

ALIVE! Food Distribution to Low Income Families. 8 a.m.-1 p.m. Volunteers needed at Ladrey Senior Residence, 300 Wythe St., Cora Kelly Recreation Center 25 W Reed Ave., and Church of the Resurrection, 801

North Carolina Ave SE, Washington, D.C. Individuals, families and groups are welcome to participate. Bilingual volunteers needed. Visit <https://www.alive-inc.org/volunteer.htm>. For more information and to register or call 703-837-9300x2.

SEE BULLETIN BOARD. PAGE 7

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PEOPLE

Ringling Out the Season

Trinity handbells concert Dec. 11.

BY SHIRLEY RUHE
GAZETTE PACKET

A black gloved hand scoops upward with a shiny brass bell. The white gloves are saved for performance to keep fingerprints from damaging the surface of the bells. Linda Cancellieri, director of Music at Trinity United Methodist Church on Cameron Mills Road says, "The sound waves travel out of the top of the bell in a horizontal position. To stop the sound, you clamp the bell against your body."

It is Thursday night handbell practice for the Trinity Ringers. They are getting ready for the special Christmas concert on Sunday, Dec. 11 at 10:45 a.m. "Every year I have a different theme. One year it was Appalachia; one year it was Celtic."

This year the theme is A Medieval & Renaissance Christmas with the choirs accompanied by professional musicians from area bands and orchestras. She says all of the church's choirs will also participate in the program.

PEOPLE
AT WORK

Cancellieri directs four different choirs at Trinity. "K-5 is the Trinity Trebles. The teen choir is from 5-12, and then there is the Chancel Choir and the handbells." Cancellieri says she has been working on this Christmas program since July when she began hiring the professionals, and the church choirs have been practicing since September.

Eight handbell ringers are lined up at two tables in the front of the church, bells in front of them. Cancellieri says, "We have a three-octave set of handbells and of chimes. They are arranged like a piano keyboard with most players responsible for two notes. See the handbell music looks very similar to piano." She continues, "the smaller the bell, the higher the pitch."

Julianne Lane is the youngest member of the group at 14. "I have been playing for about two years since I was 12." Lane has the largest and heaviest C, D, and E bells.

At the other end of the scale is Mary Gillman who has two small bells in each hand — E and F in her left and G and A in her right. "I used to be at the other end with the big bells but when someone left this position I thought it would be interesting to play two bells in each hand, a new challenge." She says she has been playing about 8 years.

Cancellieri steps to the front of the group, arms in the air. "OK, are we ready?" She nods her head and counts 3 and 4 and 1 — to give the ringers a cadence for when it is time for their bell to be played. The melody resonates to the back of the sanctuary.



PHOTOS BY SHIRLEY RUHE/GAZETTE PACKET

Linda Cancellieri, director of Music at Trinity United Methodist Church, readies for Thursday night handbell practice. She says the music looks very similar to piano music and is arranged like a piano keyboard. The church has a three-octave set of bells with most ringers responsible for two notes. They are preparing for their annual Christmas concert on Dec. 11 at 10:45 a.m. This year's theme is A Medieval and Renaissance Christmas.

Gillman says, "My b and b flat were mixed. Can we pick up at 13 so I can do that?" They start again. Cancellieri says, "OK. Stop. You're a measure ahead." She says she is constantly looking in the neighborhood for more ringers. "You don't have to be a member of the church to be in any of our choirs. It is easy to do, and it's fun."

Cancellieri got interested in playing the organ "back when we had those school assemblies in Clifton, New Jersey. The music teacher was a professional organist and invited anyone interested to study with her." Cancellieri went on to graduate from Middleburg College and to take subsequent further training in special techniques including with the German contralto Frauke Haasemann "who influenced my organ training." She has been at Trinity for almost 15 years after serving in a number of interim church music positions. Cancellieri adds that she enjoyed moving around because it was a fun opportunity to explore the instruction and liturgies of different churches. "I love the change." She says Trinity is the oldest Methodist Church in the state dating back to 1774. She points to the original stain glass in the windows. Handbell practice is nearly over with Chancel Choir practice to follow. One bell booms above the rest. Everyone laughs as Cancellieri explains that you can adjust the volume of the bells. "Guess we better do that."



Julianne Lane is the youngest ringer at 14. Her motion blurs as she scoops her bell upward while she rings the largest and heaviest bell.

Mary Gillman is at the other end of the scale with the smallest and highest pitch bells, and has two bells in each hand.



Ongoing Legacy

Sixty years after leading Parker-Grey to state championship, Walter Griffin voted into ACPS Athletic Hall of Fame.

BY VERNON MILES
GAZETTE PACKET

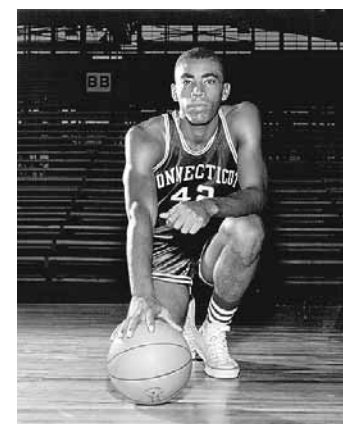
Walter Griffin was an all star. Griffin led the Parker-Grey Men's Basketball team to win the State Championship in 1955, 1956, and 1957. The team had a 38-game winning streak, winning their last 12 games in 1956 and going undefeated in 1957. Newspaper reports are filled with stories of Griffin sweeping over the court. At a school board meeting on Dec. 1, Griffin and four others were voted into the Alexandria City Public Schools Athletic Hall of Fame. But for Griffin Smith, he will always be dad.

"I remember him being larger than life," said Smith. "He was tall, always picking us up, taking us to grocery stores. I remember him being there for us. This other stuff, the basketball, learned all that after the fact. I didn't know about that while he was alive ... All he wanted to do was be a dad. Nothing else really mattered. That's why he never told me about the basketball stuff. That was a lifetime ago for him."

Smith suspected Griffin's basketball memories had also been tainted by his experiences in college. After graduating from Parker-Grey, Griffin attended University of Connecticut and continued playing basketball. During one game his freshman year, his mother collapsed and died in the stands. A few months later, Griffin lost his father as well. Afterwards, basketball became a smaller part of Griffin's life. He focused on engineering, working for Western Electric for 25 years before retiring to take a job working on cars. Griffin was at work when he died.

When Smith was 13, he came home from basketball practice to find a note on the door saying to call his aunt. He and his younger brothers went to their house, where they sat down and their aunts explained that his father, 57, had died as a result of an enlarged heart. Smith said it took a while for his father's death to sink in.

"[My family] lived together in



Walter Griffin Sr.

two different houses," said Smith. "He was always around but it was in two different houses. So when they said he was gone, it took a while for me to actually mourn. It took years. It changed the whole dynamics of the family. I instantly became a different person. I was shielded from a lot of things. I went to MacArthur while everyone else in neighborhood went to George Mason. Mom and dad shielded me. It was all about books and learning. Once he died, everything opened up. I realized I lived in a bad neighborhood. She was gone too, she was in mourning."

Smith said his father's death forced him to grow up faster. His younger brothers were seven and four when their father died, and Smith had to help raise them. Smith continued playing basketball after his father's death, which was how he met Robert Dawkins.

The first time Dawkins met Smith, Dawkins said it was like seeing a ghost. Fifty years earlier, Dawkins had played on the Parker-Grey High School basketball team with Walter Griffin.

SEE LEGACY, PAGE 21



From left: Griffin Smith, Walter Smith, and Walter Griffin Jr.

PHOTOS BY VERNON MILES

OBITUARIES

Chester William Fannon III

Chester William Fannon III (Chet) of Middleburg, Va. died peacefully on Saturday, Dec. 3, 2016 with his wife, Kate Armfield Fannon and his sister, Heather Fannon Young by his side.



A loving husband to Kate and a respected and cherished father to Kingsley and Chester, Chet was born on Oct. 21, 1961 in Alexandria to Chester William Fannon Jr. (Bill) and Mary Frances Tucker Fannon. His childhood was spent at Laurel Hill in Rappahannock County, Va. His love of and years spent on the family farm fostered his lifelong passion for the outdoors, bird hunting, dog training and habitat restoration. He also enjoyed horseback riding and had been an accomplished polo player.

Chet was a graduate of the Blue Ridge School in Albemarle County and James Madison University in Harrisonburg and enjoyed a career with Fannon Petroleum.

In death, Chet showed the same courage, integrity and grace that had been the hallmarks of his life. He is remembered with love and missed with heartache by his wife Kate, his daughter Kingsley and son Chester; parents Bill and Mary Frances Fannon; sisters and their

husbands, Beth and Jimmy Swindler and Heather and Daron Young; nieces Addie Swindler, Ellie Young, and Claire Young; and nephew Trey Swindler; and beloved in-laws, Howard and Gloria Armfield.

A memorial service will be held on Thursday, Dec. 8 at 11 a.m. at Trinity Episcopal Church in Upperville, Va. Family and friends are invited to gather for remembrances at the Middleburg Tennis Club after the funeral service. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made in Chet's memory to the United Network for Organ Sharing (UNOS) at 700 N. 4th Street, Richmond, VA 23219 or at www.unos.org.

Mary Ann Kinder

Mary Ann Kinder (ne Staroscik) died in her home on the evening of Dec. 1, 2016. As a homemaker and mother, her greatest joy was being with her family. Born and raised in Nebraska, Mary and her lifelong sweetheart and husband, Alexander William Kinder, enjoyed the many adventures and travels that an Air Force service life provided.



At retirement, Al and Mary settled in Alexandria where, for 35 years, they were active members of Blessed Sacrament Church. As a devout Catholic, Mary shared her beliefs

through ministry to the elderly and the poor. She also participated in many prayer and Bible study groups. Mary thrived on creating intimate gatherings in her home, with her adventurous cuisine and impeccable sense of elegance and festivity. Her passions included sewing and decorating her home. Mary is survived by her daughter, Sherry Blood of Virginia Beach, and by her son, Michael Kinder of Annapolis, Md. She is also survived by her younger sister Rose, five grandchildren and three great grandchildren. Preceding her in death are her younger sisters, Peggy and Suzanne. In lieu of flowers, consider a donation to the Alzheimer's Association Southeastern Chapter; see www.alz.org/seva/in_my_community_donate.asp

Funeral services will be held at the Church of the Ascension in Virginia Beach on Saturday, Dec. 10, 2016 at 11 am.

Condolences may be shared with the family at www.altmeyerfh.com.

BULLETIN BOARD

FROM PAGE 5
TUESDAY/DEC. 13

Holiday Donations Wanted. Every year, the Alexandria Domestic Violence Program (DVP) organizes a Holiday Party for children and mothers who have been recently served by the program. At the party, the families reunite with past shelter friends and staff, eat and take pictures with Santa Clause, among other activities. Each mother and child also receives a bag of gifts to wrap and place under their own tree on Christmas Day. Donations can be sent to DVP's main office, located at 421 King St., Suite 400, 8 a.m.-5 p.m., Monday-Friday, except on holidays. The deadline for delivery or pick-up of unwrapped gift donations is Dec. 13. Call Magdalia or Hewan at 703-746-4911 for assistance.

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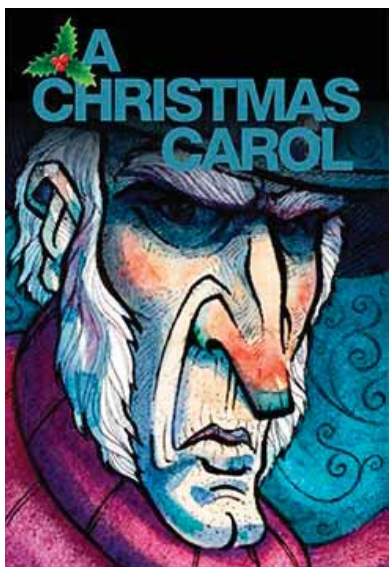
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NEWS



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CWO Jay Groff was in the third floor of the barracks of Hickam Air Force Base when it was attacked on Dec. 7, 1941. He still has his footlocker that was salvaged from the wreckage.



Air Force Chief Warrant Officer Jay Groff and his wife Kaye were married in Hawaii on V-J Day - Aug. 14, 1945.

Recalling the Day of 'Infamy'

FROM PAGE 1

tion at Hawaii's Hickam Air Force Base when Pearl Harbor was suddenly attacked. "We didn't believe a sneak attack was possible. We were told — and believed — that the islands were impregnable and that no one could get close to us. We were a victim of our own propaganda."

At the time, Groff was a 19-year-old chief warrant officer serving in the Army Air Corps Rescue Boat Service. Now 94 years old, he remembers vividly that moment 75 years ago when "hell came raining down on us."

"Most of us were still asleep in our bunks on what was a typical Hawaiian morning," said Groff. "A few lucky ones were on leave in Honolulu, money still jingling in their pockets from payday a few days earlier. I was still in my skivvies when the first bomb landed outside the barracks."

The Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor came in two waves. The first hit its target at 7:53 a.m. followed by a second wave an hour later. Within 90 minutes it was over. Left behind was chaos: 2,403 Americans dead with another 1,178 wounded; 188 destroyed planes and a Pacific Fleet crippled by eight damaged or destroyed battleships. In one stroke the Japanese propelled the United States into World War II.

"When the bombs began to fall, personal security was forgotten," Groff said at a recent Rotary Club of Alexandria luncheon. "That was the first time I was scared. I could see the bombs coming through the ceiling. But to do our duty was all that mattered. We responded to the challenge."

As Japanese Zeros strafed the base with gunfire, Groff headed to a baseball field to help set up machine guns. He eventually made his way to the roof of his boathouse duty station, where he manned a machine gun. It was there he saw an unarmed American B-17 bomber try to land on the runway just beyond

his station.

"The Zeros' rounds hit a flare box in the B-17," Groff recalled. "By the time it finished rolling the plane had burned in half."

Hickam Air Force Base was one of Japan's primary targets during the attack on Pearl Harbor. As a result, it suffered extensive damage, aircraft losses and loss of life with 189 people killed and 303 wounded.

"We didn't realize at the time that day would become such a significant part of world history," Groff said.

Col. Kim Ching (ret.), a member of American Legion Post 24 in Old Town, was a teenager living in Honolulu with his family when the attacks occurred.

"No one knew what was happening," said Ching. "I had an uncle in the Hawaii Territorial Guard so we were getting a little more information than others but that day was one of stunned chaos and confusion."

In the wake of the attacks, Ching received permission from his mother to join the military just shy of his 17th birthday. Four years later he would be among the troops standing on the deck of the USS Missouri to witness the signing of the Japanese Instrument of Surrender.

"There aren't many of us left who remember that day," Ching said. "It is only because of God's grace that I am here while others are not."

At the time of the attacks, there were more than 80,000 U.S. service members living on Oahu. It is believed that fewer than 2,000 are still alive today.

"Our ranks are growing thinner each day," said Groff, who will lay a wreath at the WWII Memorial in Washington as part of the formal 75th anniversary ceremonies on Dec. 7. "It's important to remember those who fought in the Battle of Pearl Harbor and survived that day of infamy. These are the men and women who were at the forefront of our nation's Greatest Generation."



Col. Kim Ching, left and CWO Jay Groff visited American Legion Post 24 in Alexandria to commemorate V-J Day and recall the attacks on Pearl Harbor on Dec. 7, 1941.

PHOTO BY JOHN BORDNER

PHOTOS CONTRIBUTED

NEWS



PHOTO BY RIKKI GEORGE/GAZETTE PACKET

Fathepla Baaki (left) and Sukaina Alshami at the Yemeni stand where rolls and coffee were offered.



Owner Suzanne Nader of Craving for Chocolate (Lebanese) presented a selection of chocolate and treats in beautiful packages. See www.cravingforchocolate.com.

American Arabesque at Durant

Alexandria's inaugural American Arabesque, held Saturday, Dec. 3, animated the Durant Arts Center with Arabic music and food, arts and crafts, henna designs and calligraphy, and poetry readings by Wendi R. Kaplan, Alexandria's poet laureate.

Thirty vendors included Palestinian, Lebanese, Egyptian and Jordanian

caterers; exhibitors from Morocco, among others; and the embassies of the Arab League Delegation, Egypt, Jordan, Libya, Palestine, Tunisia and Saudi Arabia.

American Arabesque is a project of the Office of the Arts, a division of the Alexandria Department of Recreation, Parks and Cultural Activities.



The Campagna Center thanks the Alexandria community for a most successful 46th Annual Scottish Christmas Walk Weekend. Most especially, we wish to thank the Junior Friends of The Campagna Center, our generous Host Committee and the following sponsors:

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OPINION

Coming Together over Climate Change

BY CHARLES HERNICK

COMMENTARY

As the Republican candidate in Virginia's Eighth Congressional District, which leans hard left, I knew faced a steep challenge going into this November's election.

On election night, I lost. Despite my disappointment, I was gratified to discover that many Virginians supported my fiscally conservative policies. By putting forward a plan to address climate change with a pro-growth free-market framework, I am proud to have made climate change a central issue in at least one Congressional race.

I made no bones about it: climate change is real, it's here, and market-based approaches are the best solution we've got.

Voters in my district responded to honest talk from a conservative on climate change. The

Eighth District supported me over Donald Trump by more than 10 points. That's a good showing in one of the most heavily Democratic districts in the Commonwealth.

Independent voters and lifelong Republicans alike responded to an honest discussion of climate change. They were eager to hear a conservative candidate's plan to face this challenge because they want to protect their loved ones and see the U.S. lead global energy innovation.

Environmental issues aren't just for the left or the right. Across the political spectrum, Americans care about their children's health. They know that climate change increases the risk of asthma, allergies, and other respiratory diseases, especially among children. That's why the American Public Health Association has

named 2017 the Year of Climate Change and Health.

Many moderate and conservative voters are people of faith, and they are responding to faith leaders' call to protect working families from the effects of climate change. Finally, moderate and conservative voters have great respect for our men and women in uniform, and they know that the U.S. military has called climate change a significant risk to national security.

As I read the media coverage of this election, I saw that there was some confusion about conservative attitudes to climate change.

Conservative people do support real action on climate. We want to protect our kids. We want to serve our faiths. We want to support our troops. Solving climate change is a conservative goal.

Market-based solutions can get us there. The votes in my district are proof of that.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Uncertainty Hurts Torpedo Factory

To the Editor:

I brought my business to Alexandria because of the supportive and vibrant community I found at the Torpedo Factory Arts Center. It gave me the space and tools to grow my business while creating my art. The opportunity to connect with so many Alexandria residents

and people from all over our region and the world through art has been inspiring. Artists, not bureaucrats, built the spirit and draw of this place.

It has been difficult to watch this spirit wither. The current uncertainty of Alexandria's takeover of the Factory has sunk community morale. The upheaval of this transition is hurting my business. Too many artistic communities have floundered as well-intentioned government and non-profit organizations have stripped their art-

ist stakeholders of agency. I fear watching the Torpedo Factory go the way of Arlington's now-defunct Artisphere or Washington's Corcoran Gallery of Art.

With tightening budgets and real issues that need the city's help, I don't want — or need — Alexandria to subsidize my business. I want to continue building on the diverse, creative marketplace that our founders envisioned 42 years ago. Alexandria has shown a commitment to maintain an arts presence on the waterfront, but only

the Torpedo Factory Artists' Association has offered a concrete, actionable plan for the center's future — one that doesn't cost the city a dime in operational costs. I encourage you to read the details of that plan at factoryartists.org.

Many parts of the artists' plan can be seen in programs that are already underway. The new revenue-generating, sold-out performances of *A Dream Within a Dream: Madness* — the artist-sponsored, immersive theater project at the Torpedo Factory — rekindled the vibrancy of the art center. We are building community engagement initiatives like the artist-student collaboration with T.C. Williams High School, where we introduced the Pour Your Art Out public arts project and our 20-year public high school artist-student mentorship program.

Torpedo Factory artists have been attracting people to Alexandria for decades. We did it while opening our doors to the community, near and far, and inviting the community to grow with us. The final decision for our future will fall to City Council. The longer that decision, the more our unique landmark and my business suffer. The artists benefit from our beautiful waterfront home, but as we thrive, so does Alexandria. If you support a more dynamic and self-sustaining Torpedo Factory Arts Center with artists at the heart, join me in urging City Council members to move quickly to approve the transition to an artist-led Torpedo Factory.

Lesley Clarke
Alexandria

MORE LETTERS, PAGE 11



STEVE ARTLEY/GAZETTE PACKET

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LETTERS

Demolish First, Discuss Later?

To the Editor:

This week we learned that the Washington Area Bicyclist Association (WABA) with the Alexandria Bicycle & Pedestrian Advisory Committee's (BPAC) assistance is conducting a crowdfunding exercise to raise \$50,000 to demolish two concrete barriers at the "unused parking lot" at Jones Point Park. As of the circulated email, this will occur if they can reach \$35,000, which leaves open the question of who or what entity provides the remaining 20? The stated goal is to build a "bicycle campus."

There are several ways to verify what is going on with this strange and rather bizarre call to "demolish" a structure at Jones Point Park. The best is just to reach out to the National Park Service (NPS) and to the City of Alexandria. The facts are the NPS is in the process of evaluating and designing a new park landscape but that a final design, one that will trigger implementation (including the WABA/BPAC proposed demolition) is still in draft stage. It was only a couple of months ago that primarily local residents, who regularly use the parking lot and park for many diverse activities were asked to comment on the draft proposal. We are no where near "demolishing" anything. We are a very early stage of consensual development.

Furthermore, the NPS has confirmed that their draft plan indicates the possibility of a "traffic garden," which would consist of lines drawn on the parking lot surface. This does not imply a bicycle campus, which if you lookup the word refers to dedicated buildings for largely educational purposes. In its zeal to advance cycling, are WABA/BPAC deliberately misleading the public?

The City of Alexandria's letter to NPS states that its long held desire is to restore parking access under the Wilson Bridge in order to serve the park and historic sites. It goes on to state that changing the current usage would require both the Virginia and Maryland Departments of Transportation to make a recommendation to the Federal Highway Administration. In addition, the city states that it would like restoration of two playing fields and slowing bicyclists at entrances to the park. No where is a "bicycle campus" mentioned or even alluded to.

Based on what we know and how the process must unfold to make it happen, the WABA/BPAC invitation to all to come help demolish the concrete barriers at Jones Point Park in order to establish the first in the region "bicycle campus" is not only seemingly ig-

norant but the kind of misleading messaging that we have just so painfully experienced.

This WABA exercise that attempts to sidestep the well-honed and responsible process the NPS uses to ensure the "public," especially locally impacted people, is equitably served may someday help to demolish concrete, but right now it mostly serves to destroy trust in their intent and ability to take others into consideration when pursuing a narrow interest in a widely enjoyed public space.

Kathryn Papp
Alexandria

Celebrating George Mason

To the Editor:

Happy 281st birthday to my great-great-great-great grandfather, George Mason IV of Gunston Hall. On the occasion of Mason's birthday on Dec. 11, let's celebrate his most important contribution to our nation — the Bill of Rights.

Although James Madison is credited with drafting our Constitution's Bill of Rights (the first 10 amendments), it is important to remember that he modeled them after George Mason's Virginia Declaration of Rights. Regrettably, historians sometimes overlook this very important fact and do not give credit where credit is due. Also, Mason is often forgotten because he died in 1792, just when the leaders we usually recognize — Washington, Jefferson, Madison, Monroe — were in the forefront of our emerging nation.

There is much more about George Mason to celebrate. Not only was he a brilliant statesman and scholar figuring prominently in our nation's history, he was also an admirable husband, father, and friend. Devoted to his family, Mason always put them first. He adored his beautiful wife Ann Eilbeck Mason and was heartbroken when she died in 1773 at the age of 39, leaving him with nine young children to rear. I often wonder if this great loss influenced his politics.

So on this occasion of his birthday, I extend a heartfelt "Thank You" for George Mason's insistence on a Bill of Rights to our Constitution that ensures and protects our freedoms. Helen Hill Miller is the author of a biography entitled "George Mason Gentleman Revolutionary", and indeed he was — "A Gentleman Revolutionary."

A very proud descendant,

Marion Dawson Robinette
Salisbury

The writer grew up on Seminary Hill - Quaker Lane. Her parents were Cooper and Franny Dawson.



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A Christmas Tradition

More than 100 area performers in upcoming "Christmas Revels."

BY ASHLEY CLAIRE SIMPSON
GAZETTE PACKET

The Washington Revels, with a cast of more than 100 performers, all from the Washington D.C. area, has been performing large-scale theater with traditional music and dance since 1983. This year's chorus members include eight Alexandria residents. The actors, singers, musicians and dancers range from 8-year-old children to 80-year-old adults.

The ensemble started as a group that exclusively produced Christmas plays; however, the Revels have since expanded to put on more than 50 events throughout the year. Still, the group often considers the "Christmas Revels" productions to be the heart of its theater company. This year's 34th annual Christmas show, "A Nordic Celebration of the Winter Solstice in Music, Dance and Drama," will have eight performances on the weekends between Dec. 10-18 at Lisner Auditorium in Washington D.C.

"Christmas Revels' is dedicated to keeping cultural and seasonal traditions alive and part of the fabric of everyday life," said Jo Rasi, marketing and programs director for Washington Revels. "One of the distinguishing factors of Revels is that the audi-



The Washington Revels' Children's Chorus warms up.

ences get to sing along, dance in the aisles, and become a part of the celebration. Performers and audiences, young and old, all join together to create a community that shares together in a unique celebration."

In its hundreds of shows throughout the years, the Washington Revels perform annually to more than 25,000 people and have never put on a repeat show, so audience members can always expect different material.

Every year, the "Christmas Revels" show features a different culture, and exhibits how its people honor the winter holiday season. This year, the show is built around

the Finnish epic "Kalevala" tale and the people of the countries who have historically found significance in the folklore.

"The set is built on the concept of the Northern Lights, the costumes represented the traditional clothing styles of five different countries," Rasi said.

Amateurs and professionals alike — children, teens and adults — are welcome to audition for the chorus of "Christmas Revels" productions. Auditions start as early as spring, and while there have been repeat performers over the years, everyone who tries out is guaranteed an equal chance.

Paula Thomas of Alexandria is one of this year's chorus members who says the 2016 Christmas show is her first with the Revels. She was inspired to try out for the show after years of enjoying Revels performances as an interactive audience member.

"I have attended 'Christmas Revels' and 'Spring Revels' since 2009," Thomas said. "The theme and content of this year's production inspired me to audition. I lived in Denmark as an exchange student from 1988 to 1989."

In addition to celebrating a culture that

hits home for her, Thomas has another reason that being a part of this year's Christmas Revels has been so special: From the auditions in late spring through the time-intensive regular rehearsals that started in September, her 10-year-old daughter is a part of the Children's Chorus.

"This has been a lovely and heartwarming experience," Thomas said. "I wanted to share something of my Scandinavian heritage with my daughter. I am grateful to Revels for the opportunity to do just that."

She added that her theatrical resume now has a large gap between this year's "Christmas Revels" chorus role and her last performance as a high school student. Her daughter, on the other hand, is active within the theater department of Washington Waldorf School in Maryland.

Both Thomas and Rasi said that seeing this year's "Christmas Revels" show should be on everyone's holiday to-do list.

"This is a beautiful show for children," Thomas said. "Christmas traditions from these countries are festive, full of good-humor and 'star' the innocence and liveliness of children."

For information on the Revels, and how to purchase tickets, visit revelsdc.org/shows-events/christmas-revels.

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Volunteer Alexandria is looking for volunteers to host a **Thanksgiving or Christmas food drive**, donate a food basket for a single adult or family and donate grocery stores gift cards. www.volunteeralexandria.org/

THROUGH DEC. 31

116 King Holiday Pop-Up. At 116 King St. The shop will feature 28 upscale fashion and lifestyle brands, including 13 brands under the umbrella of The Skinny Dip, a fashion collective founded by Sara Rossi and Taylor Ivey, as well as 15 additional brands with products ranging from women's apparel and jewelry to men's clothing, children's items and other gifts. Sponsored by the Alexandria Economic Development Partnership. www.116king.com

THROUGH DEC. 14

Community Toy Drive. Toys, games, and books for children 0-12 years are needed and can be dropped off at Volunteer Alexandria, Recreation Centers, libraries, and other places. This effort is sponsored by Volunteer Alexandria and DCHS with the support of COPS. www.VolunteerAlexandria.org or 703-836-2176

THROUGH DEC. 17

Holiday Community Toy Drive. Volunteers will be needed to deliver and pick-up toy bins from various locations. Volunteers will be needed on Friday evening, Dec. 16 and Saturday, Dec. 17, to unload, sort, and inventory toys. Spanish speakers encouraged. www.volunteeralexandria.org/

The Little Theatre of Alexandria's "A Christmas Carol". Various times at The Little Theatre of Alexandria, 600 Wolfe St. Return of the classic by Charles Dickens. Ebenezer Scrooge, a miserly Victorian humbug, travels with ghostly guides through Christmas past, present, and future to find the true meaning of the holidays. Complete with special effects, Victorian carols, and Tiny Tim. 703-683-0496 www.thelittletheatre.com

THROUGH DEC. 9

Toys for Tots. At Sheehy Honda, 2434 Richmond Highway. Collecting new, unwrapped toys as part of the company's annual Sheehy Cares Toy Collection to benefit the U.S. Marine Corps Reserve Toys for Tots Program.

THROUGH JAN. 6

Mount Vernon Holiday Tours. 9 a.m.-4 p.m. at 3200 Mount Vernon Highway. Tour the Mansion, watch historic chocolate-making demonstrations, and meet Aladdin the Camel. Join daily "Camel Talks" and learn more about the rare animals at George Washington's home during the holiday season. Hear from costumed friends and family of the Washingtons tell stories of Christmas traditions of the past. Mount Vernon is open every day of the year, including Christmas Day and New Year's Day. 703-799-5203 or www.mountvernon.org. Adults \$17, ages 6-11, \$9, ages 5 and under free.

Holiday Ornament Making. 9 a.m.-4



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Door Decor

The Old Town Walled Garden Club will be doing the **Annual Holiday Door Decorating Judging on Saturday, Dec. 10, strolling down the streets of the Old and Historic District identifying the most striking door decorations, and choosing the winners. The first, second, and third place winners will be awarded prizes, and photographs of the winning doors will be published.** OTWGClub@gmail.com.

p.m. at 3200 Mount Vernon Hwy. On select weekends, make a Mount Vernon holiday wooden ornament. For children ages 5-10, accompanied by an adult. Included in admission. Supplies limited. Adults \$17, ages 6-11, \$9, ages 5 and under free.

THURSDAY/DEC. 8

The Dan Band. 7:30 p.m. at The Birchmere, 3701 Mount Vernon Ave. Holiday Show www.Birchmere.com

FRIDAY/DEC. 9

The Honky Tonk Holiday Show. 7:30 p.m. at The Birchmere, 3701 Mount Vernon Ave. Bill Kirchen & Too Much Fun and special guest Commander Cody www.Birchmere.com

FRIDAY-SUNDAY/DEC. 9-11

Del Ray Artisans' Holiday Market. 6-9 p.m. Friday, 11 a.m.-6 p.m. Saturday-Sunday, at Del Ray Artisans gallery, 2704 Mount Vernon Ave. Handmade fine arts and crafts from local artists. Different artists each weekend. DelRayArtisans.org/event/holiday-market-2016

SATURDAY/DEC. 10

Natural Holiday Ornaments

Workshop. 9:30-11:30 a.m. Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road. Class by horticulturist and Green Spring decorating veteran Nancy Olney and her team of volunteers will share crafting skills. \$38/person. Register online at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/parktakes using code 2904831101 or call 703-642-5173. For ages 16-Adult.

Deck the Halls with Santa. 10 a.m.-noon at Norton Hall St. Paul's Episcopal Church 228 S Pitt St. An afternoon filled with arts and crafts, musical entertainment, and a visit from Santa. www.campaigncenter.org/

TC Williams Choir Community Caroling. 10:30 a.m. at Greenstreet Gardens at Braddock and King Streets before caroling in Alexandria neighborhoods for its annual fundraising effort. 703-824-6800

Winter Solstice Workshop. 1-2 p.m. at Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road. Learn how people in the past celebrated the winter solstice and create an evergreen centerpiece, complete with beeswax candle. Children must be accompanied by a registered adult.

\$10/person. Register online at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/parktakes using code 2904815001 or call 703-642-5173. For ages 5-Adult.

Holiday Choral Concert. 3 p.m. at Washington Lee High School, 1301 N. Stafford St. The Encore Chorales of Langston Brown, Alexandria, Potomac Arts Academy and Goodwin House Bailey's Crossroads invite the community to a free Holiday Choral Concert. For more information, visit encorecreativity.org, call 301-261-5747 or email info@encorecreativity.org.

Civil War Christmas in Camp. noon-4 p.m. at Fort Ward Museum and Historic Site, 4301 W. Braddock Road. Learn how Christmas was observed during the Civil War. \$2 suggested donation per person; \$5 per family. 703-746-4848 or www.alexandriava.gov/forward

Friendship Firehouse Ornament Decorating Workshop. 1:30-3:30 p.m. at Friendship Firehouse Museum, 107 S. Alfred St. Decorate and take home ornaments inspired by firefighting. For children ages 4-10, and their caregivers. No registration required. 703-746-4994 or www.alexandriava.gov/friendshipfirehouse

Kwanzaa How-To Workshop. 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m. at Alexandria Black History Museum, 902 Wythe St. This interactive workshop will present information about Kwanzaa and how to do it. 703-746-4356

Historic Alexandria Candlelight Tours. 4-9 p.m. at Gadsby's Tavern Museum, 134 N. Royal St. Travel through centuries of local history as you learn more about Alexandria during the holiday season at Carlyle House, Gadsby's Tavern Museum and the Lee-Fendall House. \$25 adults; \$20 seniors (65 years and older) and active military; \$5 children (ages 6-17). 703-746-4242 shop.alexandriava.gov

Annual Holiday Door Decorating Judging. Members of the Old Town Walled Garden Club will be strolling down the streets of the Old and Historic District identifying the most striking door decorations, and choosing the winners of the 49th Annual Holiday Door Decorating Contest. The first, second, and third place winners will be awarded generous prizes, and photographs of the winning doors will be published. OTWGClub@gmail.com.

SATURDAY-SUNDAY/DEC. 10-11

Mount Vernon By Candlelight. 8 p.m. at 3200 Mount Vernon Highway. Character-guided tours of the first and second floors of the Mansion, 18th-century dancing and fireside caroling. Learn more about holiday traditions in 18th-century Virginia. Rain or shine. \$24 adult; \$16 youth (ages 2-11). 703-799-5203 or www.mountvernon.org.

SUNDAY/DEC. 11

Floral Workshop: Williamsburg Centerpiece. 2-3:30 p.m. at Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road. Florist Chuck Mason will teach how to make a Williamsburg-style Christmas centerpiece complete with greens, fruit, and dried material. \$38 for the program plus \$25 supply fee. Register online for the program at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/parktakes using code 2904302901 and also register for the supply fee using code 2904302902 or call 703-642-5173. For ages 16-Adult.

Wreath-Making Classes. 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. at 3200 Mount Vernon Highway. Work with one of Mount Vernon's horticulturists to decorate a wreath with dried botanicals representative of plants grown on the estate. For ages 16 and older. \$35

(includes general admission). Cost includes supplies. 703-799-5203 or www.mountvernon.org.

Family Gift Distribution. Volunteers are needed to check-in sponsors, organize bundles of gifts, check-out families, and provide transportation for families if needed. Spanish speakers encouraged. www.volunteeralexandria.org/

Colonial Handbell Ringers Concert. 2 and 4 p.m. at 201 S. Washington St. The Colonial Handbell Ringers, 10 "ringers," in period costume, will be playing a full five-octave set of 80 handbells. Audience participation in the sing-along encouraged. 703-746-4994 or www.colonialringers.com

Holiday Fun Brunch with Santa. 4-5:30 p.m. at Union Street Public House · 121 South Union St. Enjoy complimentary Christmas cookies, seasonal treats, soft drinks, coffee and tea.

26th Annual Christmas Reading. 7-8:30 p.m. at Old Presbyterian Meeting House, 323 So. Fairfax St. 26th Annual Christmas Reading & Carols program is a salon-style holiday entertainment featuring the writings of famous and obscure authors and poets. Sacred and secular; touching and funny. pbea@phbpa.com 202-607-6415 www.opmh.org

DEC. 12-16

Early Childhood Holiday Store at 418 S. Washington St. Volunteers are needed to help set up and staff the holiday store. www.volunteeralexandria.org/

WEDNESDAY/DEC. 14

Holiday Open House. At Alexandria Library, Duncan Branch, 2501 Commonwealth Ave. Enjoy the music of the Irish Breakfast Band at the Duncan Open House and enjoy light hor d'oeuvres, fellowship with neighbors, and children programs for a celebration of the holiday season. 703-746-1781.

T.C. Williams Choir Winter Concert. 7:30 p.m. at T.C. Williams High School auditorium, 3330 King St, 703-824-6800

Give A Can, Get A Can. Pizzeria Paradiso, 124 King St. Bring a can of food and receive a free can of beer in return. The menu of beer options available includes DC Brau Public, New Belgium Fat Tire, Jack's Hard Cider and more. 703-837-1245

THURSDAY/DEC. 15

Merry Membership edition of Business After Hours. 5:30-7 p.m. at Cedar Knoll, 9030 Lucia Lane. Network with other business professionals while celebrating the holidays and ring out the year with the Alexandria Chamber of Commerce. Holiday refreshments and appetizers provided by Cedar Knoll. \$20 early bird member rate, \$40 non-member rate. sbolouri@alexchamber.com

FRIDAY/DEC. 16

Holiday Choral Concert. 7:30 p.m. at Encore Chorale. 1801 Quaker Lane. The programs, co-conducted by Jeanne Kelly and Jeffrey Dokken, will feature holiday and seasonal pieces. encorecreativity.org or 301-261-5747

Holiday Fun Brunch with Santa. 4-5:30 p.m. at Union Street Public House, 121 South Union St. Enjoy complimentary Christmas cookies, seasonal treats, soft drinks, coffee and tea.

HOLIDAY ENTERTAINMENT



Chef Richard Euripides slowly layers his lasagna with Zerega noodles, marinara, shredded provolone and meat. When he is finished, it will have five layers and nearly spill out of the pan.

Meet Chef Euripides

At the Royal Restaurant, a community institution since 1904.

BY SHIRLEY RUHE

Richard Euripides, chef at the Royal Restaurant on N. Asaph Street, has boiled two packages of ribbed Zerega lasagna noodles for a customer favorite. “I boiled them slowly for 30 minutes because I’ve found if you cook them slowly, the noodles don’t stick.” Euripides spreads a thin layer of marinara sauce in the bottom of a large, heavy aluminum pan. “We make everything homemade here. This pan will make enough to cut 20 squares of lasagna,” he adds.

IN THE KITCHEN He has made the marinara sauce. “I sauté chopped celery, green pepper and crushed garlic.” He pinches his fingers together. “Then I add diced tomatoes and tomato sauce and simmer the sauce for two hours. I make marinara sauce every day and spaghetti sauce and alfredo.”

Finally he adds salt and pepper and Italian seasoning. He fits the first layer of cooked lasagna noodles into the pan over the marinara sauce. Another layer of marinara is topped with shredded provolone. He repeats the layers, and then adds the first layer of meat. When the lasagna is finished it will have five layers and nearly spill out the top of the pan. “I like to put on a lot of cheese; it makes the lasagna rich.”

Euripides says his favorite version of lasagna is Florentine. He says the Bar Association and the American Legion always order this version. “I squeeze the water out of the spinach and sauté it in olive oil. The spinach is mixed with feta cheese.” Again many layers of noodles, spinach and cheese. He adds some shredded carrots for color and tops with a layer of ricotta mixed with cottage cheese and a sprinkle of cinnamon.

Euripides peers into a container SEE IN THE KITCHEN. PAGE 20



PHOTOS BY SHIRLEY RUHE

Chef Richard Euripides says he came over from Cyprus as a refugee when they had a war. He has been cooking at the Royal Restaurant since 1974.

of the soup of the day. “Today it is cream of broccoli. Yesterday it was cream of potato and tomorrow it will be clam chowder. We’ve had beef stew on Mondays for the last 100 years. Tuesday used to be Greek day.” He says on weekends they have a big buffet brunch with a crowd out the front door. “I make two gallons of my homemade salsa every weekend.” He heads for the refrigerator and juggles around 25-pound bags of panko crumbs to pull out a sample. “All gone. People say I should make it commercially.”

“It is a long story how I became a cook. I have been here at Royal since 1974. I lived in Cyprus where I worked in a bank. Then we had a war.” He says, “I became a refugee. I came here with \$100 in my pocket.” His brother, Charlie, who owns the restaurant, was already here. “My mother was a good cook at home in Cyprus, and I liked to cook so I came here and started cooking. I remember the first time I made my mother’s meatball



Happy Holidays

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SINCE 1904

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**A Message from
Murphy's Grand Irish Pub
this Holiday Season**

Because the good will of those we serve is the foundation of our success, It's a real pleasure at this Holiday time to say "Thank You" as we wish you, your family, and your friends, a Merry Christmas and a full year of Happiness and Success.

Murphy's will be open Christmas Eve 11am-1am with Live Entertainment by Rocky and Ronan Kavanagh starting at 9pm and serving a full Menu.

Murphy's will also open Christmas Day from 5pm-1am and will Feature a Traditional Holiday Dinner with all the Trimmings. Live Entertainment by Ronan Kavanagh.

Murphy's New Year's Eve Celebration. \$40.00 Four Course Dinner (Tax & Gratuity not included.) Doors open at 6pm. Tickets Only. Live Entertainment by Pat Garvey and Ronin.

New Year's Day Brunch 10am-3pm

Murphy's Grand Irish Pub - Alexandria
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murphyspub.com

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Franco and his staff wish you peace, love, faith & hope this holiday season!

Christmas Eve Dinner

Featuring Holiday Music with Mike Blaney with Daryl Ott on the Piano And a few Arias by Franco, too!

Special Holiday Menu includes:

- Salmon with Caviar - Lobster Ravioli
- Veal with Cream Brandy Sauce

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- Tuesdays...Flamenco show with Ricardo of Andalusia
- Fridays...Daryl Ott on the Piano with Franco
- Saturdays...David Redskin on the Piano with Franco

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Live Opera... Every Month
Next Opera Night is Dec. 18

HOLIDAY ENTERTAINMENT

FRIDAY-SATURDAY/DEC. 16-17

Christmas Illuminations. 5:30-9 p.m. at 3200 Mount Vernon Highway. Fireworks choreographed to holiday music, with fireworks beginning around 9 p.m. Tour the estate while listening to local choirs, visit with re-enactors from the First Virginia Regiment in winter encampment, and learn 18th-century dance moves from costumed guides in the Greenhouse. "George and Martha Washington" will also be on site. Colonial artisans demonstrate the 18th-century process of creating chocolate. Warm up by a bonfire, visiting the blacksmith shop, or enjoy some hot chocolate or cider. Additional food will be available for purchase. Christmas Illuminations takes place rain or shine. \$34 adult/\$24 youth with Mansion tour. \$30 adult/\$20 youth without Mansion tour. 703-799-5203 or www.mountvernon.org.

Live Nativity Scene 6:30-9 p.m. at Virginia Hills Baptist Church, 6507 Telegraph Road. Take a trip back to Bethlehem to visit Mary, Joseph, the Inn, the shepherds, angels and kings, welcome the baby Jesus and prepare for the upcoming Christmas celebration. Hot chocolate available. Donations accepted. virginiahillsbaptist.com

Toy Sorting Help Needed.

Volunteers are needed to deliver and pick up bins, sort, count, and organize toys on Friday evening 6-9 p.m. www.VolunteerAlexandria.org

FRIDAY-SUNDAY/DEC. 16-18

Del Ray Artisans' Holiday Market. 6-9 p.m. Friday, 11 a.m.-6 p.m. Saturday-Sunday at Del Ray Artisans gallery, 2704 Mount Vernon Ave. Handmade fine arts and crafts from



Live Nativity

On Friday and Saturday, Dec. 16-17, see a Live Nativity Scene 6:30-9 p.m. at Virginia Hills Baptist Church, 6507 Telegraph Road. Take a trip back to Bethlehem to visit Mary, Joseph, the Inn, the shepherds, angels and kings, welcome the baby Jesus and prepare for the upcoming Christmas celebration. Hot chocolate available. Donations accepted. virginiahillsbaptist.com

local artists. Different artists each weekend. DelRayArtisans.org/event/holiday-market-2016

SATURDAY/DEC. 17

Holiday Gift Wrapping. Volunteers are needed to wrap gifts at Barnes & Noble Potomac Yard, at 3651 Jefferson Davis Hwy. and collect donations. www.volunteerallexandria.org/

Friendship Firehouse Ornament Decorating Workshop. 1:30-3:30 p.m. at Friendship Firehouse Museum, 107 S. Alfred St. Decorate and take home ornaments inspired by

firefighting. For children ages 4-10, and their caregivers. No registration required. 703-746-4994 or www.alexandriava.gov/friendshipfirehouse

Downton Abbey Christmas Tea.

noon-3 p.m. at the Lee-Fendall House, 614 Oronoco St. Discuss the series while enjoying a traditional tea, then a private tour of the house showing the surprising connections between the people and places of Downton Abbey and those of the Lee-Fendall House. www.leafendallhouse.org, 703-548-1789.

Holiday Ice Show. 11:30 a.m.-1:30



PHOTOS CONTRIBUTED

annual gift wrapping fundraiser. Drop off holiday treasures to be wrapped by our volunteers. Suggested donation \$5 per gift. Barbara@aliceskids.org 703-304-0958

SUNDAY/DEC. 18

Mount Vernon By Candlelight. 8 p.m. at 3200 Mount Vernon Highway. Character-guided tours of the first and second floors of the Mansion, 18th-century dancing and fireside caroling. Learn more about holiday traditions in 18th-century Virginia. Rain or shine. \$24 adult; \$16 youth (ages 2-11). 703-799-5203 or www.mountvernon.org.

Lorrie Morgan's Enchanted Christmas. 7:30 p.m. at The Birchmere, 3701 Mount Vernon Ave. www.Birchmere.com

Ocean Quartet and Trio Sefardi in Concert. 7 p.m. at George Washington Masonic Memorial, 101 Callahan Drive. FocusMusic is a nonprofit organization that has been producing folk and acoustic music shows in Alexandria for more than 14 years. \$18/\$15 for advance sales and members. Non-Focus members who bring at least three cans of food will get \$3 off the cost of admission. Food collected for Capital Area Food Bank. www.FocusMusic.org

TUESDAY/DEC. 20

John Water's Christmas. 7:30 p.m. at The Birchmere, 3701 Mount Vernon Ave. Noted filmmaker spreading yuletide profanity and perverted piety with his critically acclaimed one-man show. www.Birchmere.com

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Includes Motorcoach from Vienna, Grosvenor Metro or McLean Metro, 3 nights hotel on Tybee Island, Daily breakfast, 3 Dinners, Sightseeing, Private seating on parade route, Complimentary wine, beer, bloody Mary's & Irish whiskey On St. Pat's Day! Call for details.

Ocean City with Branson Entertainment, March 14-17.\$899
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Croatia Explorer, April 4-12.....\$3195
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COMMUNITIES OF WORSHIP

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

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

Monday-Saturday:
9:00 am Mass (Rosary at 8:30 am)

En Español:
Monday, 6:30 pm; Thursday, 7:30 pm; First Friday, 7:30 pm

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HOLIDAY ENTERTAINMENT



Breakfast with Santa

Metropolitan School of the Arts will host their annual Breakfast with Santa on Sunday, Dec. 18 at 9:30 a.m. and noon. at the Hotel Monaco, 480 King St. \$35-\$45. Tickets can be purchased online at www.metropolitanarts.org

PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

FRIDAY/DEC. 23

Holiday Gift Wrapping. Volunteers are needed to wrap gifts at Barnes & Noble Potomac Yard, at 3651 Jefferson Davis Highway, and collect donations. volunteerallexandria.org/

SATURDAY/DEC. 24

Waterskiing Santa. 1 p.m. at the waterfront near the Torpedo Factory Art Center, 105 N. Union St. Waterskiing Santa and his wakeboarding reindeer, plus flying elves, the Grinch and his friends, Frosty the Snowman and Jack Frost.

703-746-3301 or www.waterskiingsanta.com

SUNDAY/DEC. 25

The Holiday Project - Share the Spirit of the Season. Volunteers are needed to Share the Spirit of the Season by visiting with patients in hospitals, nursing homes, and long term care facilities. Sing carols and distribute cards and gifts. www.volunteerallexandria.org/

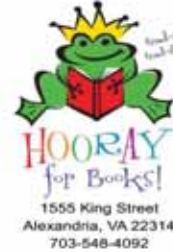
SATURDAY/DEC. 31

First Night Alexandria. 2 p.m.-

midnight at venues throughout Old Town and one at the Mount Vernon Recreation Center, 2701 Commonwealth Ave. Midnight fireworks: Potomac River at the foot of King St. More than 150 performances at 25 indoor venues, with live music, dancing, children's face painting and games. The afternoon's Eighth Annual Fun Hunt is accompanied by all-new activities for families and pets. There's a venue at the Mount Vernon Recreation Center in Del Ray filled with activities for children 10 and younger, and dancing in the street at the east end of King Street beginning at 10 p.m. firstnightalexandria.org

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Celebrate the Christmas Season with your Family
ADVENT SERVICES
 Wednesdays Nov 30, Dec 7 & 21 7:00 PM - Worship
CHRISTMAS SERVICES
 Saturday Dec 24 4:40 PM - Glad Strains Music 5:00 PM - Family Service
 7:15 PM - Music of the Nativity 7:30 PM - Candlelight Service
 Sunday Dec 25 10:00 AM - Worship
NEW YEARS SERVICES
 Saturday Dec 31 8:00 PM - AIM Watch Night
 Sunday Jan 1, 2017 10:00 AM - Worship
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FIREWORKS ON THE POTOMAC

PLUS afternoon adventures with the Eighth Annual Fun Hunt and new creative and culinary activities all around town.

Don't miss the area's largest, safest, family-friendly, budget-friendly New Year's Eve celebration!

Children 12 and under, and active military are **FREE**

Badge and schedule information at FirstNightAlexandria.org
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Join us for a week of holiday cheer & festive activities the entire family can enjoy.

RSVP: mcleanbible.org/christmasvillage

ENTERTAINMENT

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

ONGOING

Convergence: "Various Small Fires." Through Dec. 17, 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.

"Raising: Motherhood in Modernity." Through Dec. 18, gallery hours at The Margaret W. and 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.

West Potomac High School Athletic Boosters Christmas Tree Sale. Through Dec. 24. Saturday, 9 a.m.-6 p.m., Sunday 10 a.m.-5 p.m. and weeknights from 5-8 p.m. next to Sandburg Middle School, 8428 Fort Hunt Road. 703-360-1048

December Artist Showcase. Through Dec. 31 at Broadway Gallery, 5641-B General Washington Drive. The December Artist Showcase features new works from several of gallery artists, including abstracts, landscapes, seascapes, and photography. www.broadwaygallery.net 703-450-8005

116 King Holiday Pop-Up. Through Dec. 31, at 116 King St. The shop will feature 28 upscale fashion and lifestyle brands, including 13 brands under the umbrella of The Skinny Dip, a fashion collective founded by Sara Rossi and Taylor Ivey, as well as 15 additional brands with products ranging from women's apparel and jewelry to men's clothing, children's items and other gifts. Sponsored by the Alexandria Economic Development Partnership. www.116king.com

THROUGH JAN. 6

Holiday Teddy Bear Teas. 9 a.m.-4

p.m. at 3200 Mount Vernon Highway. On select weekends, bring a favorite stuffed animal friend to have "tea" with "Lady Washington." This special experience will also include a hands-on seasonal activity. For ages 4-11, accompanied by an adult. Refreshments provided. \$5 in addition to general admission. Adults \$17, ages 6-11, \$9, ages 5 and under free. 703-799-5203 or www.mountvernon.org.

SATURDAYS THROUGH DEC. 24

Random Acts of Holiday Cheer. 11 a.m.-3 p.m. Throughout Alexandria random Acts of Holiday Cheer will delight holiday shoppers with surprise giveaways from the Elf Prize Patrol, pop-up musical performances through the Alexandria Arts Alliance, and hands-on activities at the Mobile Art Lab.

THROUGH DEC. 17

"Adventures With Mr. Bear." Various times at The Lab at Convergence, 1819 N. Quaker Lane. One cozy winter afternoon, a young girl and her favorite stuffed animal, Mr. Bear, play a game of hide and seek which evolves into a series of exciting adventures. Together, they embark on a journey of endless possibilities - all from the comfort of her playroom. Tickets are \$9. Visit www.ArtsOnTheHorizon.org.

DEC. 2-17

The Little Theatre of Alexandria's "A Christmas Carol." Various times at The Little Theatre of Alexandria, 600 Wolfe St. A return of the classic by Charles Dickens featuring Ebenezer Scrooge, a miserly Victorian humbug. 703-683-0496 or www.thelittletheatre.com

THURSDAY/DEC. 8

A Life France-Amerique: Reflections of a New American Citizen. 7-9 p.m. at The Lyceum, 201 S. Washington Ave. Guy Sorman will discuss his experiences as a new American citizen and his life and career in France and the United States from his latest book, "J'aurais voulu être Français." \$5 suggested donation at the door. Wine and dessert reception to follow. <https://franceamerique.eventbrite.com>

Second Thursday Art Night at Torpedo Factory Art Center. 7-8 p.m. at 105 N Union St. Featuring open artist studios to explore your shopping options, artist talks, and Jane Franklin Dance featured in small dances throughout the building, concluding with a performance of "Fightin' Words" performed to bluegrass fiddle. torpedofactory.org/ 703.933.1111 or

www.janefranklin.com
Dawn of Infamy: America Goes to War. 9:30 a.m.-noon, live viewing of this Richmond-based event at the American Legion Ballroom, 400 Cameron St. The Virginia World War I and World War II Commemoration Commission is hosting a special recognition ceremony in Richmond for World War II veterans who will receive special recognition and commemorative items if they register in advance. 804-786-3591, ext. 252 or www.VirginiaWorldWarII.org/ 2016tribute.

View Rare Washington Letters. 6:30-9 p.m. at Fred W. Smith National Library for the Study of George Washington, 3600 Mount Vernon Memorial Hwy. 703-988-4875

FRIDAY/DEC. 9

The Migration Project: Performance and Art. 7:30 p.m. at Torpedo Factory Art Center, 105 N Union St. The Migration Project explores stories of relocation. Featuring Jane Franklin Dance-Emily Crews, Carrie Monger, Matthew Rock, Amy Scaringe, Brynna Shank, Rebecca Weiss, and Visual art by Rosemary Feit Covey and Dawn Whitmore.

DEC. 8-JAN. 8

"Fully Committed" at MetroStage. Various times at MetroStage, 1201 N. Royal St. Tom Story plays a restaurant reservationist, juggling phones, personalities and pandemonium with the dexterity of a Cirque du Soleil contortionist. \$55-\$60 703-548-9044 www.metrostage.org

DEC. 9-19

Concerts at Saint Luke's. 7:30 p.m. at St. Luke's Episcopal Church, 8009 Fort Hunt Road. Natascia Diaz, a two-time Helen Hayes award winner, will present a Cabaret evening with Pianist Darius Smith the music of Jacques Brel, Kander and Ebb, John Bechينو and others. Tickets purchased at the door: \$20 adult, \$15 senior, free for students 18 and under. Visit www.saintlukeschurch.net/events.

SATURDAY/DEC. 10

Ribbon Cutting. 5 p.m. at Del Ray Towers complex, 3116 Mount Vernon Ave. Ribbon Cutting for one of Del Ray's newest businesses, Dental Excellence. 703-216-8597

Case Remodeling Seminars. 10:30-11:30 a.m. at Case Mosaic Tile Showroom, 821 S. Pickett St. Case Design/Remodeling experts will give insight into the latest trends and different levels of kitchen and bath

remodeling, as well as project timeframes and budgeting. www.casedesign.com/seminars-events/ celeste.henry@mokimedia.com

Singing Eagles and Strings at Sunrise at 2 p.m. at the Torpedo Factory, 105 N. Union St. Part of a music education partnership organization of the Alexandria City Public Schools and the Alexandria Symphony Orchestra. Singing Eagles is a chorus of Kindergarten-5th grade students who meet every day after school, and Strings at Sunrise is a string ensemble of 4th and 5th graders, who meet every day before school. Free and open to the public.

SUNDAY/DEC. 11

New Dominion Chorale presents Gloria! 4 p.m. at the Rachel M. Schlesinger Concert Hall and Arts Center, 4915 East Campus Drive. The chorale will be joined by six soloists who are specialists in the performance of Baroque music, and organist William Neil of the National Symphony Orchestra. Contact Anne Huhn for more information at 703-478-6137.

Philharmonic Orchestra Concert. 3-5 p.m. at Washington Masonic National Memorial, 101 Callahan Dr. Washington Metropolitan Philharmonic presents Francis Poulenc's "Gloria", with the NOVA Community Chorus. The program also includes Bloch's "In the Night" and Dohnayni's "Konzertstuck for Cello and Orchestra." \$20. Children 18 and under are free. wmpa@earthlink.net 703-799-8229 <https://www.wmpamusic.org>

"Del & Dawg" Bluegrass. 7:30 p.m. at the Birchmere, 3701 Mount

Vernon Ave. Del McCoury and David Grisman, bluegrass. 703-549-7500
Book Release Party. 4-6 p.m. at Emmanuel Episcopal Church, 1608 Russell Rd. Besties, Bromances and Soulmates: Stories about Pivotal Relationships, short stories and personal essays on friendship, family, love and everything in between. Featuring local authors: Joani Peacock and Meredith Maslich. Free but accepting donations of winter clothing. meredith@possibilitiespublishingcompany.com

MONDAY/DEC. 12

Big Bad Voodoo Daddy. 7:30 p.m. at The Birchmere, 3701 Mount Vernon Ave. \$49.50 703-549-7500, www.birchmere.com, www.bbvd.com

THURSDAY/DEC. 15

Merry Membership edition of Business After Hours. 5:30-7 p.m. at Cedar Knoll, 9030 Lucia Lane. Network with other business professionals while celebrating the holidays and ring out the year with the Alexandria Chamber of Commerce. Holiday refreshments and appetizers provided by Cedar Knoll. \$20 early bird member rate; \$40 non-member rate. sbolouri@alexchamber.com

FRIDAY/DEC. 16

Holiday Choral Concert. 7:30 p.m. at Encore Chorale, 1801 Quaker Lane. The programs, co-conducted by Jeanne Kelly and Jeffrey Dokken, will feature holiday and seasonal pieces. www.encorecreativity.org or 301-261-5747

In the Kitchen

FROM PAGE 16
recipe for the family at Easter time in America." His eyes light up. "They loved it." He says he uses pork and the secret ingredient is found high on a shelf in a large plastic container of dried mint from the garden.

He walks back to the counter to finish the lasagna. Large containers of ricotta are mixed with cottage cheese. He sprinkles a scoop of sugar into the mixture. "Makes it rich." One-handed, Euripides cracks four eggs, one at a time, on the side of the large bowl, opens the shells and lets the yolks drip down the side. Finally a sprinkle

of cinnamon. He spoons a thick layer of the ricotta mixture on top of the lasagna and reaches into a bag of shredded Parmesan for the final touch.

Euripedes heads for the oven that is warmed to 400 degrees. The oven door is already crusted with many other lasagnas. The lasagna will cook for one hour and be ready just in time for the lunch crowd. Over time the menu has changed but the "eat healthier" trend has not changed the Royal Restaurant. "Not here," he says. And the recipe for lasagna goes back to 1904 with the original owner of the restaurant.



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Legacy

FROM PAGE 6
fin.

"I happened to walk into the gym at George Washington Middle School and when I walked through the door, I saw the figure, and it was identical to Walter Griffin. I said 'goddamn, that's him!' All I could do was stand there and stare," Dawkins said.

Afterwards, Dawkins approached Smith and said that he'd briefly known Smith's father and offered to talk about their times together. As Dawkins showed Smith the newspaper clippings, Smith said it was the first time he'd started to learn more about his father's past. As Smith grew up, slowly more and more people began recognizing Smith as Griffin's son and approached him, sharing stories about his dad. Basketball was a recurring theme, but Smith said what stuck with him were the other stories about his dad. As they looked through the old newspapers, Smith said he remembered Dawkins telling him the clippings will only talk about basketball, they won't talk about how intelligent or how determined Griffin was.

"He was really likeable, so full of confidence," Dawkins remembered. "Walter [Griffin] has earned this."

Nelson Greene Jr. was a couple years behind Griffin but said a lot of the students at Parker-Grey had grown up as neighborhood friends. Greene said that during halftime, Griffin and his girlfriend Ruby at the time would go to center court, back to back. Ruby was the head cheerleader and was nearly as tall as Griffin. Greene said they would each kick off from there, simultaneously dunking on either end of the court. The crowd would go wild. Greene said it was the highlight of each game.

Parker-Grey was Alexandria's all black high school, and though its athletic feats weren't as widely covered in the papers as those of the white George Washington High School, Greene said the relationships between their basketball teams was closer than most people realized.

"One year, when Walter [Griffin] was on the state championship, George Washington were also state champions," said Greene. "What people did not know is those two teams used to get together once a week and play against each other."

Sometimes they would meet at the school, and coaches would just disappear. Other times, Greene said the teams would agree to meet at a basketball court some-

where in the city.

"The teams would have a scrimmage against each other," said Greene. "That's why they were so good. As a result, there were lots of people across that racial boundary that became friends. You had exceptional young men on both sides."

Greene was vice president of the student council at the time and said the two schools tried to coordinate a game to benefit the Salvation Army. Greene said the students, coaches, and school officials

all agreed, they even had 20 police officers volunteer to be security at the event and City Council had promised to attend, but when the School Board found out there were complaints from parents and the game was cancelled.

As more time passes, Smith said many of those connections to his father and Parker-Grey begin to disappear. The threat of losing those connections has also forced Smith to make life changes, like forging a closer relationship to Smith's older sister who remem-

bers more about their father. Smith said she was just as shocked as he was when she discovered the full extent of their father's local fame. Smith is putting together a documentary about Parker-Grey and about his father to preserve those stories for his younger brothers and his children.

At 34, Smith has two children of his own. For Smith, being a father has changed some of his perspective on his dad's life.

"When you start having kids, you realize these kids aren't going

anywhere," said Smith. "When you bring them home from the hospital these are your kids. It changes the way you deal with things. These kids need you. If you go out and do something stupid, it doesn't just affect you, it affects them. Everything I do has a trickle effect, I remember my grandmother saying that too. If you don't do what you were made to do, it impacts everybody. I didn't understand what she meant by that, but when I was a father I understood."



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OLDER CHILDREN:

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- Greenstreet Gardens - 1503 Mount Vernon Avenue
- Neighborhood Pharmacy - 2204 Mt Vernon Avenue
- Yates Automotive - 317 E Braddock Road
- Yoga in Daily Life - 2402 Mt Vernon Avenue

OLD TOWN AREA

- Alexandria Bar Association - 520 King Street, #202
- Alexandria Myotherapy, Inc. - 333 N Fairfax Street, #303
- Alexandria Public Library Barrett - 717 Queen Street
- Burke & Herbert Bank - 100 S. Fairfax Street
- Burke & Herbert Bank - 1775 Jamieson Street
- Burke & Herbert Bank - 621 King Street
- Council on Social Work Education - 1701 Duke Street, Ste. 200
- Hooray for Books - 1555 King Street
- John Marshall Bank - 640 Franklin Street
- Lawrence Singer, DMD, PC - 809 Cameron St. (12/10 PHOTO WITH SANTA)
- Lee Recreation Center - 1108 Jefferson Street
- Street Anthony's Day School - 321 First Street
- Today's Cargo - 1102 King Street
- Volunteer Alexandria - 123 N Alfred Street
- Visit Alexandria / Alexandria Visitor Center - 221 King Street

WEST END AREA

- Alexandria Public Library Beatley - 5005 Duke Street
- Alexandria Public Library Burke - 4701 Seminary Road
- Alexandria Transit Company / DASH - 3000 Business Center Drive
- Burke & Herbert Bank - 1705 Fern Street, 155 North Paxton Street
- Chinquapin Recreation Center - 3210 King Street
- Commonwealth One Federal Credit Union - 4875 Eisenhower Avenue
- Fairlington Presbyterian Church - 3846 King Street
- GEICO NOVA Local Office Agency Owner - 4617 Duke Street
- Great Harvest - 1711 Centre Plaza
- Greenstreet Garden - 1721 West Braddock Road
- Landmark Honda - 5125 Duke Street
- The Church of St. Clement - 1701 N Quaker Lane
- William Ramsay Recreation Center - 5650 Sanger Avenue

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WELLBEING

Preventing Underage Drinking

Experts suggest holding honest conversations.

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL

As Bridget O'Brien took inventory of her liquor supply recently, she checked off vanilla rum, white chocolate liqueur, peppermint schnapps, Champagne and Crème de cassis. These fanciful ingredients would be the key ingredients of the signature drinks — candy cane cocktails and kir royale — that guests had come to expect at her family's annual Christmas caroling party. This year, however, there was a new item on her checklist: keeping a close eye on her 13-year-old daughter, 16-year-old son and their friends, who would be among the guests at the family-friendly affair.

"The party begins at our house and we stroll to the end of the street singing carols," said O'Brien. "There are so many people that it would be easy for kids to wander off back to the house where they'd be alone with the alcohol. They're starting to want more independence now, so we naturally lose some of the control that we had when they were younger."

A recent study from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration shows that increased access to alcoholic beverages for underage drinkers, combined with less oversight from distracted adults and mixed messages from parents may fuel surges in underage drinking during the holidays.

"A lot of parents would be surprised that their child would drink, but there are a lot of ways for children to get alcohol," said Allen Lomax, executive director of the Substance Abuse Prevention Coalition of Alexandria. "It's easy for them to get alcohol from their parents' home if it's not locked up. You have to constantly monitor parties in your home when teens are there because there's a good chance that someone, even if it's not your own child, could have alcohol."

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, underage drinkers are responsible for between 10 and 20 percent of all alcohol consumed. They also make up the highest percentage of impaired drivers, and during the holiday season, two to three times more people die in alcohol-related crashes than they do during the rest of the year. In fact, 40 percent of traffic fatalities during this period involve a driver who is under the influence of alcohol. As a result, child safety advocates encourage parents to have frequent conversations with their children about alcohol.

"It is best to start the conversation ... long before the child might be in a situation where they partake in underage drinking," said Linda R. Cote-Reilly, Ph.D., a developmental psychologist, certified family life educator and professor at Marymount University in Arlington. It's not that different from conversations about sexual activity. One big difference, though, is that the child will have observed his or her own parents' alcohol use, so parents should be prepared to ... answer pointed questions."

In fact, personal experiences, even those that are unpleasant, can be teachable moments and should not be avoided or sugarcoated, said Cote-Reilly. Inform older children of any family history of alcoholism or alcohol abuse. "Some children will have an

alcoholic in the family, and parents should always address that situation honestly and in child appropriate language. For example, a child might say, 'Why did Uncle Jim fall asleep during Thanksgiving dinner?' and the parent could respond, 'Because he drank too much alcohol.'

Because alcohol is a legal substance that children often observe adults consuming, and that they themselves might legally consume themselves later in life, the issue can be confusing.

Cote-Reilly advises parents to start by mulling over their own views on alcohol. "Parents values will vary," she said. "If the child is an older adolescent, parents can explain why they made the choices they did, for example, to be a teetotaler, regular drinker or somewhere in between."

While parents want to curb underage drinking to keep their high school children safe and avoid legal penalties, rather than simply banning alcohol, parents "need to lay the groundwork for their children to consume alcohol responsibly in early adulthood," said Amy L. Best, Ph.D., professor and chair, Department of Sociology and Anthropology, George Mason University. This is especially important for students transitioning to college, where binge drinking is more common.

Engaging in a straightforward discussion that is void of mandates and hard-lined rules is the most effective approach in getting children to be receptive, advised Best.

"Research suggests that when parents focus on rules and discipline, adolescents tend to be more likely to engage in surreptitious drinking and succumb to peer pressure," agreed Shannon N. Davis, Ph.D., associate professor of sociology at George Mason University. In fact, parents who talk to their adolescents about drinking as something that is forbidden might actually enhancing its desirability. Instead, [discuss it] as something that in moderation is part of adult life.

"Children often harbor ideas about alcohol that are downright wrong," said Best. "Sometimes this means parents just listen and then can share their own observations, as well as the strategies they used to navigate the complex world of adolescent and adult drinking."

Ask a child to research the consequences of underage drinking, both legal and safety, and review that list with your child. Develop a family position on alcohol consumption, set clear boundaries and ask your child to commit to those standards. Decide on consequences for breaking the commitment and make sure children understand those repercussions.

"It is important that teens have the means to forge a sense of self that is separate from their parents," said Best. "That is the fundamental developmental project of adolescence. When teens have productive means to forge a sense of self independent of parent(s), alcohol holds less appeal."

One overarching factor that affects not only underage drinking, but other adolescent temptations is the process of developing a healthy sense of self-worth. "Parents want to ensure that their adolescents have high levels of self-esteem that allow them to feel comfortable saying 'no' to any circumstance where they are uncomfortable or pressured by their friends," said Davis. "Reminding adolescents that it is OK to be different is a hard thing, and it is a hard thing for the adolescents to hear."



PHOTO BY MARILYN CAMPBELL

The holidays and the resulting increase in celebrations and parties create opportunities for underage drinking.



PHOTO FROM THE ALEXANDRIA POLICE

Powhatan Park, where Colby Dielle McClennon was murdered on Dec. 1.

7th Murder This Year

FROM PAGE 1

James and Janice Bates' son, James "Bobby" Bates, knew and played basketball with McClennon when they grew up together. Bobby Bates described McClennon as timid and humble, though the two drifted apart as they became adults.

According to Janice Bates, McClennon's grandmother Margie Jackson used to clean the park McClennon was killed in.

"She wanted to make sure it was clean and safe," said Janice Bates.

According to Janice Bates, Jackson had been a prominent figure in the local community until her death a few years ago. After someone died, Jackson would walk up and down the streets collecting donations for the family to make sure the deceased received a proper funeral.

"He was very mannerable. He had to be. His grandmother was very religious and came from a strong Christian faith."

While shrines with pictures and gifts honoring the dead remain at the sites of two murders earlier this year a few blocks away, no shrine marks where McClennon died in Powhatan Park. Janice Bates said she hasn't been able to bring herself to go back to the park.

Many in the neighborhood expressed fears and frustrations about the lighting and policing of the park for years leading up to the murder.

"I'm disgusted," said Debra Wilson, who had heard the gunshots the night of the murder. "We need two street lights. It's so dark in that alleyway. We've been urging City Council to install them for years. It's a danger for residents."

Wilson was one of the residents

that had spoken at earlier community meetings following the nearby deaths of Saquan Hall and Pierre Clark. Wilson and others had warned city officials at the time that if the park weren't lit, violence and illegal activity would continue.

"There's a lot of disbelief here," said Beth Simmons. "That's a dark alleyway and there used to be a lot of drug issues back there."

Others said the city should go further, including making sections of the park more visible or adding a camera to the site.

"We need a camera in that park and the city needs to monitor it," said Greg Hudgins, a 25-year resident of the neighborhood. "It's been a trouble spot. [This neighborhood] is highly desired. Any house on the market here is sold in days. It's so close to the Metro, we see many young folks moving here with kids. I'm not concerned, but I don't want those young local couples living nearby to feel afraid."

"I've lived here for 18 years," said Sophia Estevez. "It's a quiet neighborhood. Something like this is concerning. I walk by that park all the time. We need more police activity there at night because it gets a little out of control sometimes."

Estevez pointed over to a line of children walking along the sidewalk beside the park only a few hours after McClennon's murder.

"It's shocking," said Estevez. "There are kids around here."

McClennon's murder is the seventh in Alexandria in 2016, the most in the city since 2007.

Anyone with information is asked to call Detective Loren King with the Alexandria Police Department at 703-746-6689.

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LEGAL NOTICE

Notice is hereby given to members of the NY, nonprofit, American Society of Clinical Oncology, Inc., that eligible ASCO members may vote by proxy ballot between Nov. 1 to Dec. 2, 2016 to elect the President-Elect, three seats on the Board of Directors, and two seats on the Nominating Committee for service beginning on June 5, 2017. Information about proxy ballots is available at www.asco.org/election. Completed proxy ballots will be delivered to the ASCO President or his designee for casting at a meeting to be held on Dec. 6, 2016, 9:30 AM - 10:00 AM at ASCO Headquarters, 2318 Mill Road, Suite 800, Alexandria, VA 22314. Members with questions can email ascoelection@asco.org or call 571-483-1316.

OBITUARY



Marion L. Meeks (92)

Of Alexandria, VA peacefully passed away December 4, 2016. She is survived by her beloved husband of 75 years Richard. She is predeceased by her daughter Carol. A funeral ceremony will be held on Saturday, December 10, 2016 at 10 am at Emmanuel Episcopal Church, 1608 Russell Rd, Alexandria, VA 22301. Interment will immediately follow at Ivy Hill Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Emmanuel Episcopal Church or St. Joseph's Indian School: Native American School and Nonprofit Organization.

Online condolences may be made at www.everlywheatley.com.

21 Announcements 21 Announcements

D.R.L. 111(3), 111-A(6), 115 (9)
Adoption form 4
(Notice of Proposed Adoption)
10/2004

FAMILY COURT OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK
COUNTY OF KINGS

In the Matter of the Adoption of _____ Docket No. A29790/15
A Child Whose First Name is _____

ARLO

TO: **CARLOS ARMANDO RAMIREZ MARTINEZ**

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that a Petition requesting an order approving and allowing the adoption of an adoptive child whose first name is: **ARLO**, who is alleged to be your **SON**, and whose full name and date and place of birth is set forth in a Schedule annexed to the Petition for adoption herein, together with an agreement to adopt and consents to the adoption pursuant to the Domestic Relations Law, has been filed with the **Family Court of the State of New York, Kings County**. A hearing on the Petition will be held at the Court, located at: **330 JAY STREET, 22nd floor, BROOKLYN, NEW YORK 11201** on 1/19/2017 at 9 A.M. o'clock in the morning of that day, at which time and place all persons having any interest therein will be heard.

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that your failure to appear may constitute a denial of your interests in the child, which may result, without further notice to you, in the adoption other disposition of the custody of the child.

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OBITUARY

FERGUSON, James "Jamey", (age 46) of Alexandria, VA. On November 28, 2016. Beloved Son of, James H. and Anne Ferguson. Loving brother of, John C. Ferguson (Jeanine) of Sterling, VA and Jane F. Camp (Charles) of Beaver Falls, PA. Also survived by his many Nieces and Nephews. A Memorial Service will be at, HERITAGE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, 8503 Fort Hunt Rd., Alexandria, VA 22308 on Friday, December 9, 2016 at 11:00 AM. Arrangements by, Demaine Funeral Home, Alexandria, VA.

21 Announcements 21 Announcements

OBITUARY



Pearlle Mae Funderburk, 94, of Alexandria, Virginia, passed away on November 29, 2016 of cardiopulmonary arrest.

The funeral service will be held at 11:00am on December 9, 2016 with viewing from 10:00 until 11:00 am at Olivet Episcopal Church in Alexandria with Pastor Dr. Edward Young, Sr. officiating. Burial will follow the funeral at Mount Comfort Cemetery in Alexandria at 12:45 pm. Funeral arrangements are being handled by Chinn Baker Funeral Home.

Pearlle Mae is survived by her husband Charles of 75; children, Serita M. Godfrey (Howard, deceased), John E. Funderburk (Linda), Charles D. Funderburk (Glady's) and A. Jane Hassell (William); grandchildren, Venita Godfrey Scott, Reginald E. Funderburk, Clarissa N. Winslow, Charzetta D. Funderburk, Michelle A. Funderburk, Christopher D. Funderburk, Howard J. Godfrey and Anthony L. Godfrey; nieces, Mary Ellen Staten and Annette Baldwin; nephew, Thomas Steele, Jr.; ten great grandchildren, two great-great grandchildren and a host of great nieces and nephews. She also leaves behind many loving family members, her church family, and friends.

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OBITUARY



Chester William Fannon III (Chet) of Middleburg, Virginia died peacefully on Saturday, December 3, 2016 with his wife, Kate Armfield Fannon and his sister, Heather Fannon Young by his side.

A loving husband to Kate and a respected and cherished father to Kingsley and Chester, Chet was born on October 21st, 1961 in Alexandria, Virginia to Chester William Fannon Jr. (Bill) and Mary Frances Tucker Fannon. His childhood was spent at Laurel Hill in Rappahannock County, Virginia. His love of and years spent on the family farm fostered his lifelong passion for the outdoors, bird hunting, dog training and habitat restoration. He also enjoyed horseback riding and had been an accomplished polo player.

Chet was a graduate of the Blue Ridge School in Albemarle County and James Madison University in Harrisonburg, Virginia and enjoyed a career with Fannon Petroleum.

In death, Chet showed the same courage, integrity and grace that had been the hallmarks of his life. He is remembered with love and missed with heartache by his wife Kate, his daughter Kingsley and son Chester; parents Bill and Mary Frances Fannon; sisters and their husbands, Beth and Jimmy Swindler and Heather and Daron Young; nieces Addie Swindler, Ellie Young, and Claire Young; and nephew Trey Swindler; and beloved in-laws, Howard and Gloria Armfield.

Chet's family will receive friends on Wednesday evening, December 7, from 4:00 pm until 6:00 p.m. at Royston Funeral Home in Middleburg, Virginia. A memorial service will be held on Thursday, December 8 at 11:00 a.m. at Trinity Episcopal Church in Upperville, Virginia. Family and friends are invited to gather for remembrances at the Middleburg Tennis Club after the funeral service. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made in Chet's memory to the United Network for Organ Sharing (UNOS) at 700 N. 4th Street, Richmond, VA 23219 or at www.unos.org.

Obituary



Walter "Walt" L. Wilson, Sr. 96

Walter Little Wilson, Sr., 96, of Alexandria, VA passed away October 20, 2016. Born July 6, 1920 in Athens, GA, Walt was the son of the late George Thomas and Marinza Little Wilson.

Walt found much joy in his work during his 55-year career. His civilian service started at the Naval Torpedo Station Alexandria in 1940. He went on to spend 46 years at Ft. Belvoir with the Engineering Research and Development Lab, Night Vision Lab and Army Research Lab. At retirement, numerous U.S. Patients included his name. Walt was proud to have served his Country in WWII during 1944-1945 as a Rifleman for Company H, 86th Mountain Infantry, 10th Mountain Division.

Following his career, talking to anyone, telling tales, "tinkering" and fixing anything was his passion. His stories, hand-made items, furniture and wood working pieces have been passed along to many.

Walt was preceded in death by Dorothy, his wife of 52 years, and two brothers and two sisters. Walt is survived by his sister Wynelle McLeroy of Canton, Georgia; daughter, Deborah Wilson of Bellevue, Washington and son, Walter Wilson, Jr. of Alexandria, Virginia, numerous nieces and nephews, and many caring friends.

Walt's final resting place will be Arlington National Cemetery.

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OBITUARY

Stanley Slivinski, age 77, of Cape Charles, Va, passed away on November 30, 2016, after an extended battle with lung cancer. Born and raised in Alexandria, Virginia to parents Frank T. and Helen E. Slivinski (both deceased), he attended George Washington High School. Stan served in the US Army, 114th Engineering Company, last stationed at Ft. Benning, GA and the DC National Guard from June 1957 to August 1962, reaching the rank of Sergeant. His time in the Army was spent training for bridge construction and deployment in support of Army operations.

Prior to moving to Cape Charles in 2009, Stan was a longtime resident of Luray, Va., living in a log cabin overlooking the South Fork of the Shenandoah River, built with his own hands and tools from logs he cut himself on his property. He hosted many wonderful family reunions there, leaving his relatives with many cherished and lasting memories. Stan was an avid hunter, fisherman and sportsman, once receiving a citation for catching a 51 pound striped bass. He loved sports, and spent many years managing Annandale Sport and Hobby, outfitting local sports teams with shoes and uniforms. He also managed the Hunting and Fishing department, and worked with local enthusiasts to outfit them with archery gear, tackle and supplies. Stan had a keen interest in archeology and history, and was deeply involved with the Archeological Society of Virginia as a volunteer, supporting site investigations and digs in various locations across Virginia, particularly the Eastern Shore and Shenandoah Valley. This work led him to receive the In-State Avocational Archeologist of the Year award in 2013. For a short time, he and older brother Frank (deceased), operated a bakery in Luray. He loved baking bread and had a Christmas tradition of baking a loaf of bread for every member of the entire family each and every year. He worked as a landscape supervisor, landscaping many buildings in Northern Virginia. When he retired from landscaping, he worked part time as a construction supervisor in the environmental consulting industry, and was involved in the clean up and restoration of contaminated properties in the Mid-Atlantic region. He is survived by sister Joan Monastero and husband Frank, of Purcellville, Va., sister Judith Miller and husband Dennis, of Bluemont, Va., brother James Slivinski and wife Ann, of Centerville, Va., designated guardians, nephew Michael Slivinski, wife Dilka and their beloved daughters Helen and Michelle, and niece Theresa Brenner and husband Brian, along with many other nieces, nephews, and cousins. The family extends special thanks to his dear friends, Linda and Ron Harlow of Cape Charles, who gave of their time and love to help Stan during his final months and to help him stay in his home and enjoy the time he had left. In lieu of flowers, the family is requesting that donations be made in his memory to: The Archeological Society of Virginia (ASV) Federal tax exempt # 54-6044013 Sent c/o: ASV Treasurer Carl Fischer, 1685 Sweet Hall Road West Point, VA 23181 804-843-9194 <http://www.archeologyva.org> Viewing and visitation with family will be at Colonial Funeral Home, 201 Edwards Ferry Road, N.E., Leesburg, Va beginning at 1 p.m., Friday, December 9, including a brief time at 2 p.m. for an opportunity to share fond memories.

Mass of Christian Burial to follow at 3 p.m., Friday, December 9, at the Chapel of the Immaculate Conception, corner of Union and North King Street, in Leesburg, across from St. John the Apostle Catholic Church. Burial will be at the church cemetery. www.colonialfuneralhome.com

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LEGAL NOTICE

Sealed bids 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:

ITB No. 0000622, Safe Routes to School Pedestrian Improvements Projects, Project No. 1605014

Opening Date and Time: January 12, 2017, 3 p.m., prevailing local time

Pre-Bid Conference: December 21, 2016, 9 a.m.: Purchasing Division Conference Room, 100 North Pitt Street, Suite 301, Alexandria, Virginia 22314

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 bids, cancel this solicitation, and to waive any informalities or irregularities in procedure. **THE CITY REQUIRES ITS CONTRACTORS TO BE EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYERS.**

21 Announcements 21 Announcements

PUBLIC NOTICE

Please be advised that two fireworks displays will take place as part of a public event, Christmas Illuminations, at George Washington's Mount Vernon on the following dates:

Friday, December 16 between 9:00 p.m. and 9:15p.m. (15 minutes)

Saturday, December 17 between 9:00 p.m. and 9:15p.m. (15 minutes)

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

21 Announcements 21 Announcements

ABANDONED WATERCRAFT

Notice is hereby given that the following watercraft has been abandoned for more than 60 DAYS on the property of Frank Smith, 807 South Alfred Street, Apt #4, VA 22314, Telephone number 202 5695761.

Description of the watercraft:

Make: Wellcraft, length: 19 feet, year built: 1988, color: blue and white, boat registration: VA 1134 XX, hull identification number: WELT 4187B888

Application for Watercraft Registration / Title will be made in accordance with Section 29.1-733.25 of the Code of Virginia if this watercraft is not claimed and removed within 30 days of first publication of this notice. Please contact the Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries with questions.

21 Announcements 21 Announcements 21 Announcements 21 Announcements

LEGAL NOTICE

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

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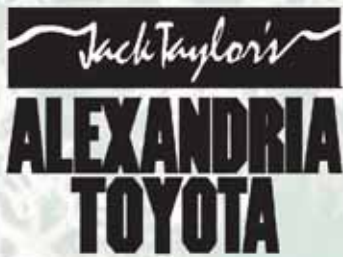
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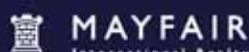
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