

PHOTO BY VERNON MILES/GAZETTE PACKET

Saying Farewell to TC

T.C. Williams High School's 720 graduates look toward the future at their June 17 ceremony in the EagleBank Arena at George Mason University. More photos, page 6.

'Unusual Bravery'
Tales of valor emerge one week after Alexandria shooting.

BY VERNON MILES
GAZETTE PACKET

Nicole Battaglia was under fire. When she arrived in her cruiser at the Simpson Park baseball field last week, Battaglia immediately faced a hail of gunfire from a shooter who'd just opened fire on a congressman and several staffers. Instead of running, Battaglia moved out from her cover towards the shooter. She was quickly pinned down by gunfire, but according to Alexandria Police Chief Michael Brown her quick actions likely diverted the shooter's attention and allowed the other police officers to shoot him and end the firefight.

In the wake of last week's tragedy, the leadership of Alexandria's public safety services came together on June 19 to highlight the actions taken by local police officers and paramedics. Brown was



PHOTO BY VERNON MILES/GAZETTE PACKET

Police Chief Michael Brown

still unable to provide answers to many of the questions that were asked over a week ago, saying it would risk the investigation currently being headed by the FBI.

Along with Battaglia, Brown also highlighted the actions of Officers Alexander Jensen and Kevin Jobe, who were two of the first Alexandria police officers to arrive

SEE 'UNUSUAL', PAGE 9

Reaffirming 'Our Home'
In wake of attacks, community celebrates reopening of Simpson Field.

BY JEANNE THEISMANN
GAZETTE PACKET

Less than a week after a gunman attacked Republican congressman practicing for a charity baseball game at Simpson Park in Del Ray, Alexandria Little League organized a community-wide "Take Back Simpson Park" event June 20 to celebrate the reopening of the field.

SEE COMMUNITY, PAGE 3



PHOTO BY MARK BRISCOE

Sheriff Dana Lawhorne, a lifelong resident of the Del Ray neighborhood, prepares to throw out a pitch June 20 at the Take Back Simpson Park event.

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PHOTOS BY MARK BRISCOE

City officials, youth sports athletes, first responders and members of the Del Ray community gather for a photo June 20 as part of the Alexandria Little League Take Back Simpson Park event. The event was organized in the wake of the shooting attack on Republican congressmen that took place at the field June 14.

Community Celebrates Reopening of Simpson Field

FROM PAGE 1

“I can’t tell you how it warms my heart to drive up and see people and Little League teams and families, and not crime-scene tape and the FBI and all the law enforcement,” said U.S. Rep Joe Barton (R-Texas), manager of the Republican team who was present during the June 14 attack at Eugene Simpson Stadium Park.

Barton recounted the events that left House Majority Whip Steve Scalise (R-La.) in critical condition and turned the field into a crime scene for several days. Mayor Allison Silberberg and city officials also addressed the crowd, thanking the many

first responders and community members who helped in the wake of the attacks.

For more than 60 years, Simpson Field has hosted youth baseball games and Alexandria Little League president Gus Chiarello organized the event to help welcome back baseball to the Del Ray community.

Sporting jerseys and special t-shirts that read “Alexandria is our city, Simpson is our home,” athletes from across the city joined hundreds of residents and representatives from Alexandria Police, Fire/EMS

and Sheriff’s Office in celebrating the reopening of the field with a group photo in

“Our picture tonight in front of the Home of the Titans sign depicts the reality of the strong and vibrant community of Alexandria.”

— Alexandria Little League president Gus Chiarello

games were scheduled for the night: the junior division Harris Teeter team played Fort Hunt Little League on the big field and the ages 9-10-11 All-Star team played Mason District All-Stars on the little field.

“It was very important that we have this event for us as a community,” Chiarello said. “Last week the world saw an image of our field with police tape. Our picture tonight in front of the Home of the Titans sign depicts the reality of the strong and vibrant community of Alexandria.”



U.S. Rep. Joe Barton (R-Texas) thanks the Alexandria community and first responders for their efforts following the June 14 attack on GOP congressmen practicing at Simpson Field.

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Alexandria Little League players listen to remarks prior to taking the field June 20 at Simpson Park.



Members of the T.C. Williams High School choir prepare to sing the National Anthem at the Take Back Simpson Park event June 20.

ALEXANDRIA GAZETTE PACKET ♦ JUNE 22-28, 2017 ♦ 3



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This fall, T.C. Williams High School graduates will be heading off to the following colleges and military institutions:

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Alexandria
Another Gazette Packet Community Partnership



PHOTO BY MIRACLE PARISH/GAZETTE PACKET

Members of the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority board, from left, Paul C. Smedberg, Christian Dorsey, Catherine Hudgins listen to residents at the Durant Art Center on June 15.

Community Grows Frustrated with Metro

Hearing brings WMATA board members and Metro riders together.

BY MIRACLE PARISH
GAZETTE PACKET

Some members of the community are growing impatient with Metro and the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority has a plan to fix the problems of unreliability and mechanical breakdown, but the problem continues to be funding.

Metro needs \$15.5 billion over the next 10 years to accomplish critical maintenance and restoration projects and ridership fares don't cover it.

WMATA board members heard from residents attending a June 15 meeting at the Durant Art Center. Community members expressed frustration with the reduced Metro hours and the consistently unreliable system.

"I've grown used to it ... I always have a book," said Kim Kaplan, an avid Metro rider.

The board acknowledged the inconvenience that the maintenance posed, but noted that Metro operates 135 out of 168 hours per week and that allowing time for maintenance is not something they can avoid.

The meeting, hosted by Northern Virginia Technology Council, was held at the Durant Art Center with WMATA board members Christian Dorsey, Catherine Hudgins and Paul C. Smedberg. They outlined their initiatives to address emergency maintenance issues, implement preventative maintenance plans, improve cus-

tomers experience, and develop a realistic budget for upcoming years.

The main problem with addressing the Metro maintenance concerns has been due to the lack of dedicated capital funding. The board members acknowledge that Metro breakdowns pose problems for the community, and that Metro has gained a reputation of not being reliable. They also acknowledge that in the past, they did not have the most realistic budgets, or committed persons in leadership, which made preventing Metro breakdowns or malfunctions difficult.

With the addition of the General Manager Paul J. Weidefield and a realistic budget, the board is now more optimistic about Metro's future. Weidefield has developed a plan to combat these issues, and the board says he has their full support. Weidefield has proposed a more realistic budget, but a definite source of funding has not been established.

A dedicated tax would be the most sustainable source of revenue for Metro operations. Board members have suggested dedicating funding from a sales tax, but have frequently faced opposition from local governments within Metro jurisdictions.

"Number one priority is to stop discussing revenue stream and just do it," said Mayor Allison Silberberg.

This deficit of \$15.5 billion could mean fare increases for riders. Dorsey advised that riders should expect a "modest increase" in fares despite the frustration of some with the current fares.

"We get what we pay for," said former Mayor, Kerry J. Donley.

Donley acknowledges Metro is now facing the consequences of delayed maintenance for 40 years, and so are the riders of Alexandria.

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GRADUATION 2017

Saying Farewell to TC

Sharing thoughts on communicating to each other.

BY VERNON MILES
GAZETTE PACKET

How do you say what you mean when words don't come easily to you? One of the major themes of the T.C. Williams High School graduation in 2017 was finding new ways to communicate. For the two recipients of the Principal's Awards, their experience was in overcoming hardships to express themselves and help others do the same.

For the 720 graduates, the June 17 graduation in the EagleBank Arena at George Mason University was a chance to say goodbye to their school and to each other.

For students with disabilities, one of the biggest struggles can be finding the right words to express themselves. Da'Quon Henderson, one of the class of 2017 graduates and male recipient of the Principal's Award, created an app called Worducation. The app helps students with disabilities communicate with their classmates. Henderson presented the app to the School Board and received permission to use it with fellow students at T.C. Williams. Henderson developed a business plan which won him first place in his class Business Plan Presentation then as a top finalist in the region, representing Washington D.C. at the National Business Plan competition in New York. Henderson was named Washington D.C.'s Regional Youth Entrepreneur of the Year by the Network for Teacher Entrepreneurship.

For Sugevis Gomez, the female recipient of the Principal's Award, the award and graduation represented a long road from her arrival to ACPS. Gomez joined ACPS at



Katie Murphy (center) with her family. Murphy will attend Notre Dame and study finance. Looking back at the last few years of school, Murphy said some of her favorite times were with the crew team as they went to the state championships. "It was a lot of hard work," said Murphy, "but it feels incredible."



From left are Cindy Lopez, Levis Lopez, Sylvia Lopez, Nayeli Pereira, and Jasmine Urbina. Levis Lopez will be attending Marymount University in the fall to study criminal justice.

the age of 11 knowing no English. Now, Gomez has been accepted to Georgetown University to study foreign policy in the fall. The graduation was a final farewell for two ACPS administrators. Principal Jesse Dingle and Superintendent Alvin Crawley will both be leaving ACPS over the summer. Crawley, who is leaving to take a graduate teaching position at George Mason University, has been

superintendent of ACPS for the last four years and noted that this graduating class were the high school freshmen his first year here. Crawley expressed pride in how he'd seen the class of 2017 grow and encouraged them to be confident in the next steps of their journey. For Dingle, one of the hardest feelings to convey is goodbye. After two years as principal of T.C. Williams High School, Dingle will



From left are Noorhan Al Salani, Mohammad Al Salani, Hassan Al Salani, and Batool Alasado. Hassan Al Salani said his favorite part of high school was getting to try a variety of activities. "I'm so excited," said his father, Mohammad Al Salani. "I'm really happy. He's my oldest son. He's so smart. I remember him working so hard. He's always going forward."



Da'Quon Henderson, male recipient of the Principal's Award.



Sugevis Gomez, the female recipient of the Principal's Award.



Superintendent Dr. Alvin Crawley.



From left: Jim Benbow, Eileen Wallace, Ava Benbow, and Ella Benbow. Ella Benbow will be going to William and Mary to study math and education, inspired by a series of math teachers she had throughout middle and high school. "It's surreal," said Ella Benbow. "I can't believe it. I thought I was going to be in ACPS forever."



Emily De-Bodene will be going either to Temple or Imperial College in England to study biochemistry. "It's surreal," De-Bodene said. "It's gone by really quickly. Looking back there's not one memory that stands out. It's more been seeing myself become more independent; a more autonomous version of myself each year."



Principal Jesse Dingle and Tarenthia Harris.

PHOTOS BY VERNON MILES/GAZETTE PACKET

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ALEXANDRIA GAZETTE PACKET ❖ JUNE 22-28, 2017 ❖ 7

What To Know About the BID A primer on the Old Town Business Improvement District.

BY VERNON MILES
GAZETTE PACKET

The Old Town Business Improvement District is one of the most contentious discussions currently going on in Alexandria. Store owners along King Street and the surrounding streets have come out to public meetings and shown both support and opposition to the idea. Signs have been posted across the city on telephone poles and shop windows calling on Alexandrians to “Ban the BID.” It’s one of the discussions likely to shape the future of Old Town for years to come, and yet much of the conversation about the BID has circled around confusion over what it is, how it came to be, and where it will go from here. Before the City Council votes on the first stage of BID development next Tuesday, here’s what one needs to know about the Old Town BID.

What is a BID?

A Business Improvement District, or BID, is defined as a nonprofit organization that gives public services within a specific area which exceeds what the government provides for that certain area. The idea of creating a BID has been recently brought to the surface in the past two years out of a need to manage the downtown and waterfront business areas. The objective of the BID would be to define a “core commercial district” according to Stephanie Landrum, president and CEO of Alexandria Economic Development Partnership, that would combine the waterfront, King Street, and the side streets into a single district that would help drive more consumer traffic. According to Landrum it would increase the property values, help attract retail businesses, and fill vacancies. This BID would act as one voice for the entire Old Town community within the BID’s new boundaries.

Who is Involved?

City Council would need to adopt a service district ordinance to authorize a specific BID proposal. The service district ordi-



Alexandria businessman Rodger Digilio, fourth from left, expresses his concerns regarding the formation of an Old Town BID as part of a panel presentation to City Council June 6 at the Durant Center. Digilio was one of eight citizens selected by City Manager Mark Jinks to participate on the panel which included business owners both in support of and in opposition to a BID.

nance would set the boundaries for the BID and establish a purpose for the district, allowing a BID non-profit organization to move forward with more specific proposals regarding the funding and organization of the BID to be considered by the council at a later date. The proposed BID would be governed by a board of directors elected by commercial property owners and non-residential tenants in the district. The board would hire an executive director and submit an annual work plan and budget to the city. Local businesses from the waterfront to the King Street Metro Station would be responsible for paying the tax imposed by the BID. This would exclude local residents unless they voluntarily opt into the BID in exchange for voting rights.

What will a BID do for businesses?

The BID was proposed to help local businesses compete with other retail areas and online retailers. The BID would receive the revenue of a 10 cent tax per \$100 of assessed value that would go toward marketing/promotional programs, capital im-

provements, security, and beautification of the area. Many local businesses do not see the BID as an opportunity to increase sales, but as a potential last straw. Some have expressed that they might not be able to stay in business with yet another tax when they already have to pay property taxes and licensing fees. To stay afloat, many of the small businesses may have to increase their prices, which may end up pushing some customers away. The exact amount collected by the BID would be decided on if the BID moves forward.

What is the history of local BID development?

The current conversation over whether or not to form a BID started in summer of 2015. A subcommittee was formed in the Waterfront Commission to assess the idea of the BID and recommended approval in spring 2016. In May of last year, the City Council allocated funds to AEDP to work with business owners to put together a BID proposal. The group met over the last summer and started publically meeting with the



Stephanie Landrum, president and CEO of the Alexandria Economic Development Partnership, gives the opening presentation to City Council on the merits of forming an Old Town BID June 6 at the Durant Center.

business community in October 2016.

What is the timeline for the BID moving forward?

On Saturday, June 24, the City Council will hear testimony from the public about the proposal to create a service district. The council will vote Tuesday, June 27, on whether or not to approve the service district. If the BID service district is approved, the non-profit BID organization will be created and a board will be appointed to run the non-profit. Throughout the summer and the rest of 2017, the board will develop a budget proposal. If the board proposes a budget, it would become part of the regular budget process. The budget would then be voted on during the first week of May 2018.

The current proposal recommends that the BID is approved for five years, but other districts throughout the D.C. area started with five-year spans and have been renewed indefinitely. According to Landrum, it is possible that the service district can be formed but no tax rate will be established to fund the BID.

Bon Voyage Alexandria ship heads cross-country for one final trip.

BY VERNON MILES
GAZETTE PACKET

Over two centuries after it was buried in the mud under Prince Street, the Alexandria ship has departed for a final round-trip voyage. It’s destination is Texas A&M for preservation and historical analysis. Six years later, it will return to Alexandria for permanent display.

According to Peter Pennington, a volunteer at the farewell party on June 15, the main job for the preservationists at Texas A&M will be the slow process of extracting the water from the ship while allowing it to maintain its shape. Once all the water is pulled out of the ship’s timbers, it will be freeze dried to make sure the moisture is out and the integrity of the wood will hold.

Pennington says the ship’s preservation takes advantage of methods developed during the preservation of

the Mary Rose, an English warship found in similar conditions. More iron was found in the body of the Alexandria ship than was originally expected, and Pennington says that alone adds a year onto the treatment as it means the ship must be treated more subtly.

While they do repairs, Pennington also said the archeologists will be working to discover more about the history of the ship. So far, dendrochronology has uncovered that the ship originated in the Boston area with wood cut in the mid-18th century. Insect remains found in the hull of the ship have indicated that it travelled to the Caribbean, likely hauling cargo before it was scuttled on Alexandria’s shore to be cut up for firewood.

“In my view, think of a Ford white van,” said Pennington. “It does jobs, carrying goods, and probably picked up work as it went along. Imagine your

SEE BON VOYAGE, PAGE 25



Peter Pennington, a volunteer at the farewell party on June 15.



Timbers from the Alexandria ship are wrapped up and ready for shipping.

‘Unusual Bravery’

FROM PAGE 1

at the scene of the shooting. Four minutes after the first phone call was placed to the Alexandria police, the shooter was neutralized.

“I could not be more proud of the officers that showed up that day,” said Brown, also recognizing those who arrived after the gunfight to canvass the neighborhood, treat the injured, and locate witnesses. Brown made special note of Alexandria firefighters who were within earshot of the shooting and responded before they were called in by dispatch. “They displayed unusual bravery and could very well have saved the lives of two victims through their quick action.”

Chief Robert Dube confirmed that several firefighters at nearby stations could hear the gunshots from the field and responded even before the first 911 calls came in. Patients were loaded into helicopters or into transport units to be taken to local hospitals.

For the officers involved with the shooting, Brown said each of them are on paid administrative leave until the investigation is concluded.

“They’re doing fine,” said Brown. “They’re good officers.”

Sheriff Dana Lawhorne noted that Del Ray had seen its share of tragedy over the last few years, but that it would bounce back; it had to.

“We want people to remember Simpson Park the way it’s always been remembered, as a place where people have fun and kids play baseball,” said Brown, adding a final message to those preparing to play at the reopened park: “Play ball.”



Officer Kevin Jobe

PHOTO CONTRIBUTED



Fire Chief Robert Dube

PHOTO BY VERNON MILES/GAZETTE PACKET

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OPINION

Prayers for Peace and Unity

During Mass Sunday celebrating the solemnity of Corpus Christi at Saint Mary Catholic Church in Alexandria, Bishop Michael F. Burbidge of the Diocese of Arlington offered prayers for peace and unity following last week's shooting at a charity baseball practice. In his homily, Bishop made a plea to all, including elected officials and the media:

Allow me to begin by conveying our prayers and gratitude to our fathers as we honor them on this special day. At this Mass, we also remember our fathers who have died and pray for their eternal happiness.

The horrific event of this past Wednesday here in Alexandria was indeed a sad day for our nation and reminded us of the great unrest in our world. We pray for Rep. Scalise and the others injured as well as for their family members. We thank God for those who offer their service for our protection and for those who attend to our medical care in our time of need. And with faith, we entrust the person responsible for the tragic situation to God's divine mercy.

As we celebrate the Solemnity of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ, we are ever aware of the Lord's great love for us which is fully and perfectly revealed in the Holy Eucharist. How providential that after Mass we will carry Jesus, the Source of our unity and peace, in a Eucharistic procession on these streets in Alexandria that only recently witnessed severe violence.

I believe our Eucharistic Procession provides important lessons for our world, nation and all of us to embrace especially at this time. Here is what is at the heart of the procession: Jesus leads and we follow. Is this not the reality we have forgotten in so many ways? If we allow the Truth of His Gospel to lead and guide us, we will be on the right path. It demands that we spend our lives loving and serving God and one another. It mandates a reverence for the sacredness of all human life. It requires us to heed the teaching of Moses who reminded the Israelites in our First Reading that we cannot rely on our own resources and power. We must



Bishop Michael F. Burbidge celebrating the solemnity of Corpus Christi at Saint Mary Catholic Church in Alexandria on Sunday, June 18.

turn to the Lord our God to guide and sustain us, the One alone who satisfies our hunger and quenches our thirst. Another powerful reminder that our Eucharistic Procession provides is that we do not walk through this life alone. We will walk together in faith, as brothers and sisters united in Christ Jesus. As Saint Paul said today, "We, though many, are one body for we all partake of the one loaf." Therefore, nothing can separate or divide us. Our world and nation need such witness of unity from us who are followers of Christ and it must be reflected in our homes, workplaces, schools and communities. Such unity is made visible when we recognize and respect the dignity of each and every person; when we are willing to listen to others and discuss our points of disagreement in a civil manner; and when we let go of bitterness and forgive those who have offended us. Today, with the faithful in the Diocese of Arlington and all people of good will, I respectfully make a plea to all our elected offi-

cial to reflect the unity for which we long. We need you to work together for the common good; to uphold truth, peace and justice; to find common ground; to be respectful of each other even in the midst of debate; and to let go of harsh words and severe rhetoric. We also hope and pray that all in the media will do the same. Imagine how different the world and our nation would be if our motto was the words of St. Paul: "Let us make our aim to work for peace and to strengthen one another."

Finally, a procession reminds us that life on earth is merely that: a procession, a journey. We all must strive daily, with God's grace, to reach the same final destination; heaven. So as we continue this earthly journey, may we always remember: Jesus leads and we follow as members of God's holy family, as brothers and sisters in united in Christ the One whose body and blood we about to receive and who says: "Whoever eats this bread and drinks this cup will live forever and ever." Amen.

PHOTO COURTESY OF JOE CASTWELL

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Beautify City With a BID

To the Editor:

I am involved in keeping Alexandria in the top bracket of city rankings to appeal to everyone who lives here, works here, or chooses to visit.

It started for me more than 25 years ago with the King Street Retail Plan, which documented what the city needed to do. But it would take the city ages to do what was suggested.

Businesses proceeded to paint dilapidated storefronts, install tree well decorations, and mulch and plant flowers.

After pressing the city to allow us to install banners, they ap-

proved the idea and gingerly installed 40 banners from the river to the Metro just to make sure residents and businesses were OK with it. Everyone loved them so the following year 160 banners were installed.

Other attempts followed the banner project, like holiday lights.

Then everything dried up as recession set in and the internet began to take business.

Year after year the city was throttled by an inadequate budget because they never increased taxes to pay for what they needed to do. The idea of keeping the holiday lights on longer than from October to March became impossible. School repairs were overlooked and salaries dwindled.

A few years ago, businesses rec-

ognized a solution many other cities were using to enhance their business district. So we proposed a BID. I knew instantly it would not work because it just sounded like a tax and nobody wanted another tax.

Not so any more. There are several illusions out there that seem to be the favorite in anti-BID arguments.

Not much on the anti-BID posters is the truth. They all want people to contact City Council and tell them "no BID" but it is really inappropriate.

The facts are that the beautification that Alexandria needs will be possible with a BID. Property value, when it increases because of a BID, will enhance everyone and no property in the District can

be developed differently because that is controlled by the Old Town BAR.

Without a BID no extra beautification will happen. That's why we need a BID. Test me. Approve the ordinance and see what the board looks like and then pass judgment if it's going to work or not.

A BID will not happen until all the work is completed and everything is in place. Even the amount of tax money is firm in that it will not be more than \$.10 per \$100 of assessed property value which means I will pay an additional \$400 per year.

I am encouraged by the potential a BID offers to me as an

SEE LETTERS, PAGE 13

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NEWS DEPARTMENT:
gazette@connectionnewspapers.com

Steven Mauren
Editor, 703-778-9415
smauren@connectionnewspapers.com

Mike Salmon
Assistant Editor
msalmon@connectionnewspapers.com

Vernon Miles
Reporter, 757-472-3435
vmiles@connectionnewspapers.com

Jeanne Theismann
jtheismann@connectionnewspapers.com
@TheismannMedia

Steve Artley
Cartoonist
artley@connectionnewspapers.com

John Bordner
Contributing Photographer
gazette@connectionnewspapers.com

Eden Brown, Rikki George, Shirley Ruhe
Contributing Writers
gazette@connectionnewspapers.com

ADVERTISING:
For advertising information
sales@connectionnewspapers.com
703-778-9431

Debbie Funk
Display Advertising/National Sales
703-778-9444
debfunk@connectionnewspapers.com

Julie Ferrill
Display Advertising, 703-927-1364
jferrill@connectionnewspapers.com

Tara Lloyd
Display Advertising, 703-740-7128
tlloyd@connectionnewspapers.com

Andrea Smith
Classified Advertising, 703-778-9411
asmith@connectionnewspapers.com

David Griffin
Marketing Assistant
703-778-9431
dgriffin@connectionnewspapers.com

Publisher
Jerry Vernon
703-549-0004
jvernon@connectionnewspapers.com

Editor & Publisher
Mary Kimm
mkimm@connectionnewspapers.com
@MaryKimm

Editor in Chief
Steven Mauren

Art/Design:
Laurence Foong, John Heinly,
Ali Khaligh

Production Manager:
Geovani Flores

Editor Emeritus:

Mary Anne Weber

CIRCULATION: 703-778-9427
Circulation Manager:
Ann Oliver
circulation@connectionnewspapers.com

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OPINION



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Charlene Burgeson, executive director of Active Schools, a sub-initiative of former First Lady Michelle Obama's Let's Move! initiative, speaks at the RunningBrooke Move2Learn Summit June 7 at The Lyceum.

Move2Learn

Experts encourage physical activity in schools.

BY BROOKE CURRAN
FOUNDER OF RUNNINGBROOKE

When I founded RunningBrooke in 2009, my goal was to get all of Alexandria's kids more active so they could experience the benefits of regular exercise. I knew at the time that I couldn't do it alone. We would need the community to get behind us and experts in the field to help us have important discussions about how to collaborate with both policy makers and program implementers.

On June 7, RunningBrooke held its second Move2Learn Summit. We were pleased to host national experts and local leaders right here in Alexandria. More than 100 attendees came together at The Lyceum to learn about why movement is so important and what we can do to continue to bring more movement programs and activities to kids in our community. People in attendance included Mayor Allison Silberberg, former Mayor Bill Euille and other city officials, members of the School Board, administrators, teachers, parents, and business, philanthropy and nonprofit leaders.

The program consisted of two sessions. Session 1 focused on ideas to make informal policy changes within administrative and management channels to link movement to learning. The keynote speaker was Charlene

Burgeson, executive director of Active Schools, a sub-initiative of former First Lady Michelle Obama's Let's Move! initiative.

Session 2 focused on informal changes that can take place at the grassroots level to promote linking movement to learning in the classroom, after school activities, etc., with keynote speaker Preston Blackburn, a former NCAA athlete, ACE certified youth fitness specialist and founder of Pop, Hop & Rock.

Panelists were Michael Humphreys and Kurt Huffman of ACPS, Mac Slover of Alexandria Recreation, Parks & Cultural Activities, and April Rodgers, physical education teacher at John Adams Elementary School.

"Through leadership provided by RunningBrooke, individuals and organizations representing many sectors of society are taking action to ensure that the children of Alexandria have many opportunities to participate in physical activity in school and the community," Bergeson said. "The Move2Learn Summit was an inspiring gathering of champions who want active, healthy and happy children."

The event was sponsored by The Bruhn Morris Family Foundation, MGAC, The LizLuke Team, McLaughlin Ryder Investments and Six Half Dozen.

For more information, visit runningbrooke.org.



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A Time of Gratitude, Community, and Strength

BY ALLISON SILBERBERG
MAYOR, CITY OF ALEXANDRIA

This has been a shocking time for our beloved city and country. Whether we live in Del Ray or another neighborhood, it saddens all of us that our peaceful community became the latest on a long list of places to experience violence at the hands of a madman.

Only a few days after the unthinkable occurred, the park around Simpson Field and our streets reopened. Together, we are resilient. We are a blessed community.

First and foremost, our thoughts and prayers continue to be with Congressman Steve Scalise and the other shooting victims as well as their loved ones. We pray for all

of them. In addition to the wounded, such a trauma leaves wounds that cannot be seen. We

hope that those invisible wounds will heal in time for all those who were on the scene.

On behalf of a grateful city, I would like to express my heartfelt thanks to the U.S. Capitol Police and our Alexandria Police Department. You are our heroes. What a team effort. We are blessed by your remarkable courage under fire. Alexandria Police Chief Michael Brown and his department have performed extremely well. Officer Nicole Battaglia, Officer Alexander Jensen, and Officer Kevin Jobe were the three officers who arrived on the scene immediately. I understand that one of them arrived on the scene within 35 seconds. The other two arrived about two minutes later. All engaged in the gunfight, which was fierce. Together, they saved lives. As Chief Brown has said, "You can't teach courage." I agree with him that our officers clearly have it.

Our Alexandria Fire/EMS was outstanding, rendering aid immediately to the wounded, even before the "all clear" had been given. True courage as well. Our heart-

felt thanks to them as well as our Sheriff's Department, which also responded. Our thanks to our Department of Emergency Communications and the Office of Emergency Management. It was a total team effort. Thanks to all our first responders for their compassion and care. All of us are deeply proud of our phenomenal public safety team. We are well-served by them. My thanks as well to our city staff, who helped in countless ways throughout these days.

I am also proud of how our residents responded to this crisis. On Wednesday morning soon after the shooting site had been secured, residents came out with baked goods and cold water. Some gave hugs to our police. All of this meant the world to our police and first responders. For some of our officers and other first responders, it was their day off, but Chief Brown told me that so many went straight to the scene to be of help. When we as citizens are running away from danger, our police and first responders are running toward it.

The parking lot across the street from the ball field immediately became the temporary site of the trailers for the FBI investigation, assisted by our police department. Every day, residents and restaurants dropped off great food and waters and sodas. There was an outpouring of gratitude and love. That is our community.

On Wednesday late afternoon, in spite of the heat and the long, emotionally exhausting day, Chief Brown wanted to reach out to the residents in the vicinity of the ball field. Officers fanned out across the surrounding neighborhood to knock on doors and reassure our residents. Chief Brown, Fire Chief Robert Dube, and Sheriff Dana Lawhorne covered a number of streets. It was meaningful to our residents to speak with them. What I noticed is that people wanted to talk about what had happened. We were all still processing what

had occurred.

On that early evening, hundreds of residents of all ages gathered on Mount Vernon Avenue in Del Ray and participated in a Walk of Solidarity. Together, we walked to a church near the site of the shooting and said a prayer for the wounded, for healing, for our community, and for peace. There were at least five similar community healing gatherings throughout our city that night. These were all organized that afternoon by residents and clergy. We all wanted to stand together and be together.

On Thursday night, by sheer chance, there was a long-planned fundraiser for the Alexandria Police Foundation. Chief Brown spoke movingly about the valor of our police officers and the U.S. Capitol Police. Our Alexandria Police Foundation provides critical support to our officers and police canines. This is a great cause, and contributions to this organization would be one way to show our appreciation to our police force for the work they do. You may find out more information on their web site at www.alexandriapolicefoundation.org.

On Friday night as I left City Hall, I stopped by the designated area of the investigation to thank our police who were on site. The parking lot was full of trailers, one for our Alexandria Police Department and the others for the FBI. The Salvation Army had created a makeshift canteen that was serving fresh food, ice cold water and sodas. The Red Cross had also set up a presence, providing emotional support and help, which will be ongoing.

One of our officers said that she went to get something at a local store for the officers at the scene, and before she could pay, a stranger just swiped their credit card and paid for all the items, totaling about \$75. The officer was not even sure of their name. Another officer told me a similar story. Gratitude and love. That is our community.

As I was about to leave the staging area,

I was introduced to an FBI agent, who was one of the commanders in charge, and I thanked him and his team. Every FBI agent I met said how outstanding our Alexandria Police Department was. They also praised our sense of community and outpouring of support from the city and our residents. So I was there to thank them, and yet, they were praising our police and city. I am so grateful to the FBI for their hard work and dedication. Our city and country owe them a debt of gratitude. I am also deeply proud of our city and how everyone stepped up to be there for those who have been there for us.

In recent days, there has been an avalanche of calls and emails, all of which gave us strength. I am grateful for the countless emails and texts from our residents as well as calls from mayors across the country who are keeping us in their prayers. I told Chief Brown that the residents are singing the praises of the U.S. Capitol Police, our Alexandria Police Department, and all the first responders. Former residents have even sent their prayers. This is a blessed city.

Here is what I know. You cannot manufacture community overnight, and you cannot fake it. Alexandria is in fact all about community. And I am grateful. Our small-town feel is one of the reasons all of us love Alexandria. It is an honor and a privilege to serve as mayor of such a caring, tight-knit community.

There has been a tremendous outpouring of love, a sense of mission where we all felt the need to do something positive for others. Together, we helped our community get through this unthinkable time, and I thank each of you. Let's continue to channel that sense of mission to help make our community better for all.

All of us continue to keep the victims and their loved ones in our thoughts and prayers, as we pray that all will make a full recovery.

On Field Where Bullets Flew, a Rich Baseball History Preceded

BY CHUCK RAASCH

The following article was originally published in the St. Louis Post-Dispatch.

It's a good field, with rich history and the echoes of many games over the decades. But the field of dreams was temporarily turned into a horror Wednesday, as U.S. Rep. Steve Scalise and others were shot at a baseball practice.

I coached many a Little League game on the adjacent field and many a game for older youths on the "big field" at Eugene Simpson Stadium. My oldest boy played high school home games there for the T.C. Williams Titans. Future major league players have played high school ball on this field.

Simpson is a 64-year-old complex, set in the heart of Alexandria, just a few long home runs distant from the Potomac River in what,

until Wednesday, was known as the tree-canopied, family-friendly neighborhood of Del Ray. It's named for the family that donated the land in this historic city, one of the oldest in the nation, where the founders were known to frequent the pubs.

Like neighborhood baseball parks all over the country, Simpson is a magnet on soft spring and summer nights, when the ping of aluminum on cowhide is the cadence of life, and the cheers of young voices remind us of the unbroken string that baseball has been in our history.

Gunshots were the sound at daybreak Wednesday.

The incongruity and audacity that shattered the peace, and all its "thoughts and prayers" accoutrements that follow in these moments, has temporarily turned that soft history hard.

Simpson can never be the same again. But nothing says it has to surrender its gentle past to the violence of one.

Clark Griffith, the onetime owner of the Washington Senators, lent his grounds crew to help build Simpson before its grand opening in 1953. That was a different time in America, a year before Brown vs. the Board of Education began the desegregation of schools, including here.

The movie "Remember the Titans" tried to capture that, and it was set a scant 18 years after Simpson opened. Today, T.C. Williams High School is still a work in progress.

Griffith's Senators were a bunch of likable losers. "Washington — first in war, first in peace, last in the American League" was the popular saying.

Today, the peace shattered, that saying feels like a quaint and naive notion from a long time ago.

Simpson "was believed to be one of the finest (fields) of its kind in the country" when Griffith's crew and Alexandrians finished building it, one newspaper account said.

More than a thousand people showed up

for opening night in 1953, the sky aglow from a \$9,500, state-of-the art lighting system installed by the city. Businesses all across Alexandria had donated to help raise the \$20,000 to build the field and stands around it. Spectators overflowed out of the new stands, and many hung over outfield fences to watch the first game.

The Senators' own announcer, Arch McDonald, called that first game from a press box still fragrant with fresh lumber.

Legend was that that opening night, threatened by a heavy rain, was only able to go forward after a military officer at the Pentagon, less than four miles up the road, commandeered a helicopter to hover overhead and dry the field.

Bob Feller, the great fastballer for the Cleveland Indians, liked to come to Simpson to conduct baseball clinics when his team was in town to play the Senators.

SEE SIMPSON, PAGE 20

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OPINION

Consider Advantages of Proposed Old Town BID

BY JODY MANOR

Bittersweet Café closed last July after 33 years of daily operation. I made a necessary business decision, but I did so with a very heavy heart. Foot traffic on King Street has been declining for several years and impacted our sales and profitability. I carried the business for a few years in the hope that things would improve.

Eventually, I saw the writing on the wall and leased the space to a larger organization with deeper resources. I put many long-term employees out of a job and left our many loyal customers without a meeting place. I still hear regularly that Bittersweet's absence has left a hole in our community.

And that is my biggest fear — losing what is unique and special about our business community. We face ever-increasing competition from neighboring cities that are embracing an economic future that includes successful business improvement districts.

Approving the proposed BID service district and electing a board charged with continuing the discussion can give our business community the tools it needs to create a vibrant commercial area. This will attract visitors, shoppers and new businesses eager to participate in a lively, prosperous business community.

Perhaps some of you are as old as me and recall the King Street of the late '60s and on into the '90s. Old Town was a sea of empty commercial buildings. The founders of Bittersweet were considered

pioneers in 1983

when opening a shop on N. Alfred Street due to the perilous nature of the neighborhood. Organizations like the Boutique District have been successful creating a community that promotes Alexandria as a marketable destination of unique small businesses. An Old Town BID can be the next pioneer.

It is unfortunate that so much misinformation regarding the BID has been disseminated to our community. Of course many are livid about the recently adopted property tax increase. The taxes on my commercial building increased 40 percent — over \$8,000 annually — due to increased assessment and the new rate. I'm not happy about that but recognize the hard decisions at hand.

An Old Town BID could:

- ❖ Create a unified voice for the business community that leverages our entrepreneurial skills and represents our diverse community, particularly those that are civically engaged providing leadership in a rapidly changing retail and commercial landscape

- ❖ Help solve parking issues by directing visitors to available parking garages and lots rather than circling residential neighborhoods — something the Georgetown BID has done successfully. A BID can negotiate with private lot owners to open lots during peak periods — and direct traffic to them.

- ❖ Provide regular programming in our public spaces like Market Square and the coming Fitzgerald Square that appeals to residents, our office tenants and visitors.

This is critically important in light of the impending opening of the Wharf in SW D.C.

- ❖ Better leverage our existing special events such as First Night, St. Patrick's Day and Scottish Walk & the George Washington birthday parade. The city should be the destination for holiday visitors in the DC Metro area with the parade, a Santa's chair in Market Square and visitors spending in our retail shops and restaurants.

- ❖ Negotiate with the city and private landholders to better welcome visitors to our city who arrive by motor coach. Other historic cities like Charleston and Newport actively manage motor coach traffic and parking — there's no reason Old Town shouldn't do the same.

- ❖ Become a marketable destination as a hot spot for Pop-up retail — a huge trend in the retail industry that helps startups get going and fills dark retail space. A street of active retail space helps all businesses and reflects well on the city — especially to visitors.

- ❖ Include all stakeholders to participate in our business community through a BID fee for service. Currently it's primarily small businesses that participate in and pay dues to the Chamber, Visit Alexandria, the Boutique District or OTBPA. These organizations provide advocacy and marketing for Old Town and from which all businesses benefit. A service district would include all stakeholders and allow for a fairer equation for small businesses and combined resources that could create powerful results.

- ❖ Create a negotiating partner for the city on matters of street maintenance and enhancements, setting a baseline of services

through an MOU that would create a contract between the city and BID ensuring an unimpeachable level of services by both parties. Currently budget realities indicate a continuing trend of decline in city services.

All these efforts will support small businesses and improve quality of life for residents. But most importantly, a strong and thriving business community generates tax revenue that lessens pressure on property tax rates and makes it easier for subsequent city leaders to make decisions on resource allocation.

One important missing piece of the puzzle is the cost. The BID Exploratory Committee created a proposal based on conversations with area BID executives and businesses operating within BIDs. I put emphasis on the word "proposal." There is nothing to say a \$.10 tax would be agreed to by a democratically elected board. That said, in my building I lease two spaces — 2000 and 900 sq. ft. respectively. My 2016 assessment at a \$.10 BID service fee would mean a \$49 and \$30 per month contribution. I don't find that onerous given the potential outlined above and the danger if we don't act.

We must take proactive steps to avoid what's being referred to as the Retail Apocalypse. Perhaps that term is a bit hyperbolic but let's be real — the very nature of retail and what people seek in a destination is changing rapidly.

Shall we, as a community meet the challenge or continue to slide into more vacancies and higher taxes?

The author is a member of the BID Exploratory Committee.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

FROM PAGE 10
Alexandrian.

David M Martin
Alexandria

What Are City's Priorities?

To the Editor:

Aren't you as alarmed and angry as I am reading that the city cannot afford to keep its lower-income residents living here? We

spend hundreds of thousands of dollars each year to subsidize BikeShare cycles, which are used by a small, select group of people. Read the demographics of the BikeShare program and you'll see most are young, college-educated, primarily male and few with low incomes.

This is just wrong. The money from BikeShare should be shifted immediately to support and maintain our affordable and public housing. Already hundreds were driven from the area in North Old Town known as The Berg. Only 50 were given

housing there. Sadly, because of industrial use, no one wanted to live in that area for many years, so it was given to the less privileged. Then when property values rose, it was deemed "too valuable" for the long-time Alexandria residents. Wrong, wrong, wrong.

Former New York City Mayor Michael Bloomberg knew that money was better spent on needy residents in New York City than bike riders. So, he told the organization to find private funding — which it did. Citibank and other corporations anted up,

so not a dime of New Yorkers' tax dollars subsidize the program. BikeShare is a worthy program but not deserving of dollars from our city's budget with its ever-rising debt. In contrast, our lower-income residents do deserve to stay in this community that has been their home for years.

Linda Couture
Alexandria

SEE LETTERS, PAGE 20

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Finding the Right Mentor

Mentor can brighten a young person's future.

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL

Tamyka Mason says that she was struggling with academics, finances and time management. She knew that she needed to make a change, but didn't have a source for guidance. Mason discovered the Women in Search of Excellence (WISE) Mentoring Program run by Northern Virginia Community College and her life began to change.

"When I joined WISE, [I] was assigned [a] mentor and learned how to speak about the challenges I was facing and the goals I had," said Mason. "[My mentor] helped me dramatically ... plan for future events."

The upcoming summer months offer teens an opportunity to connect with adults other than parents who can offer guidance through mentorship programs. Finding the right mentoring match can be a life-altering experience, say experts.

"Through supportive relationships with adult mentors, teens can learn how to develop practical goals, identify resources to accomplish goals ... regulate emotions, communicate effectively with others and cope better with stress," said Jerome

Short, Ph.D., associate professor of psychology at George Mason University.

The Virginia Mentoring Partnership (VMP) is a source for those who are looking for a mentor or those who want to mentor others. The organization's program managers train mentoring program coordinators and mentors. Their goal is to increase the number and quality of mentoring programs in Virginia. VMP maintains a database where prospective mentors or mentees can plug in a ZIP code and find the closest mentoring program.

"We provide support across the State of Virginia to help align program practices that research shows make high quality mentorship programs," said Betsy Bilharz, Virginia Mentoring Partnership. "We recruit, screen and match mentors with young people using that set of standards."

Recognizing that a mentoring relationship is not usually a relationship of equals is an important aspect of mentorships, says Amy L. Best, Ph.D., professor and chair, Department of Sociology and Anthropology at George Mason University. "There are really

two types of mentors: those who provide guidance and willingly share



The Women in Search of Excellence (WISE) Mentoring Program run by Northern Virginia Community College is designed to address challenges faced by young women in higher education.

PHOTO COURTESY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA COMMUNITY COLLEGE

knowledge they have accrued from their experience in the field," she said. "The second type are those who facilitate opportunity, vouching for someone or helping the person with points of contact in their area of interest. Both are important."

THE MENTORING RELATIONSHIP develops best when mentors listen to a young person's concerns and expectations [and] empathize and tailor support and skill building around the teen's needs and with their input, says Short. "The relationship should benefit both the mentor and the teen through expressions of gratitude, a sense of accomplishment, and expectations for future support and success."

Tykesha R. Myrick works as a financial aid manager at Northern Virginia Community College (NOVA) and is the founder of

the WISE program, which targets minority women, pairs students with adult professionals who offer guidance to the students, many of whom are the first in their families to attend college. "The relationships go beyond academic accomplishments and are life changing and life lasting," said Myrick. "The goal is to provide a holistic environment for these young women."

Mentorship programs such as WISE work best when those being mentored are receptive. "The [best] mentees [respect] the mentor's gift of time [and] recognize the importance of learning by listening and ask thoughtful questions, and they are open and responsive to guidance," said Best. "It is equally important to invest not simply in the best and brightest, but those with the smallest glimmer of promise. Good mentors move mountains."

Details

For more on Virginia Mentoring Partnership, visit vamentoring.org or connect.mentoring.org.

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Alexandria
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ENTERTAINMENT

Giving Voice to the Art of Storytelling

Torpedo Factory adds second show this Friday.

BY LAURYN OVERHULTZ
GAZETTE PACKET

A new type of art and entertainment is coming to the Torpedo Factory Art Center on Friday, June 23. The Torpedo Factory Art Center is hosting Story District, a D.C.-based storytelling group, for the group's first Virginia event.

According to Alyssa Ross, the Office of the Arts public information specialist, this new art form is being brought to the Torpedo Factory Art Center in an effort to introduce different forms of art to the venue that are not already represented.

"It's just another form of art and if you think of storytelling, it is one of the oldest art forms there is. Every culture on Earth has a storytelling tradition or oral history tradition," said Ross. "People still appreciate a good story."

The Torpedo Factory is home to different kinds of visual art including fabric art and art made using camera technology. By bringing in the storytelling group, the Torpedo Factory Art Center hopes to engage different parts of the community that would be interested in more of an audio type of art.

"Right here in Alexandria, there are groups of artists. Letting people know this is a stage for them, a spotlight for them," said Guzman. "I asked myself: Are we providing a stage for those who didn't have that opportunity, or a voice for the voiceless?"



Vijai Nathan, a member of Story District, a D.C.-based storytelling group, will be performing June 23 at the Torpedo Factory.

Story District is a group of storytellers who tell true stories to a live audience. These stories can be happy or sad, but are mostly humorous. The goal is to get the audience to connect with the storyteller in a way that stand up comedy does not allow.

"You are getting a laugh at times, but also a human connection and that is very unique about storytelling," Vijai Nathan said.

Nathan, a storyteller with Story District, has been doing stand up comedy for about 20 years now. For Nathan, the difference between stand up comedy and storytelling is the way storytelling allows you to share a range of emotions and experiences. She said stand up comedy is more about you

and storytelling is more about connecting with the audience.

"There is that room for having kind of a revealing moment and admitting to something that is hard to potentially talk about or own up to within the context of telling a story," said Nathan. "People like storytelling because you are connecting to the audience in a way like saying 'I see you in myself.'"

Story District is different from other storytelling groups, according to Amy Saidman, artistic executive director, because the storytellers spend time collaborating with one another. The storytellers are required to attend multiple rehearsals, which help the storytellers bond and create a community.

"By the time you get to the show, you have this little family and you are all rooting for each other to do well at the show. You're part of something larger than just you and your own story," Saidman said.

Joani Peacock, a co-producer for Story District and an Episcopal priest, said she got into storytelling because a parishioner encouraged her to take her storytelling talents outside of the church. For Peacock, storytelling is something she does every day.

"It's stigma busting. It's community building. It's truth telling. It's relationship building. It's cathartic. It's joyful. It's spiritual," Peacock said.

Storytelling is a different experience for everyone. The audience connects to each storyteller in a different way based

"Every culture on Earth has a storytelling tradition or oral history tradition."

— Alyssa Ross, Office of the Arts

on how the story connects with them.

"It's a mix of what you will come away with," said Peacock. "It's amazing the places people will take you in their stories."

The Torpedo Factory Art Center will present Story District Favorites June 23 at 8 p.m. The 8 p.m. show has already sold out and they have added a late show June 23 at 10 p.m.

CALENDAR

Submit entertainment announcements at ConnectionNewspapers.com/Calendar. Photos and artwork welcome. Deadline is Thursday at noon, at least two weeks before event.

ONGOING

Ceramic Show. various times through July 1 at Studio 19 of the Torpedo Factory Art Center, 105 N. Union St. The "Classic Wedding Whites" Ceramic Guild show at Scope Gallery. Call Scope Gallery at 703-548-6288, visit www.scopegallery.org.

Art Exhibit: Pattern and Repetition. Various times through June 25 at The Athenaeum, 201 Prince St. Artists Reni Gower and Stephen Boocks use repetitive shapes and patterns, combining both precision and randomness to create meditative and mesmerizing pieces. Visit www.nvfaa.org or call 703-548-0035.

Native Plants, Herbs, and Heirloom Tomatoes. Various times through mid June at Mount Vernon Unitarian Church Greenhouse, 1909 Windmill Lane. Visit www.mvuc.org.

Flora and Fauna Artshow. Through June 25, various times at Potomac Fiber Arts Gallery, Torpedo Factory

Art Center, Studio 29, 105 N. Union St. This show will highlight the work of artists Jeanne Bohlen and Floris Flam. Visit www.potomacfiberartsgallery.com or call 703-548-0935.

"By the Seashore." Various times through June 30 at Arts on the Horizon, The Lab at Convergence, 1819 N. Quaker Lane. Arts on the Horizon is a theatre company that produces original work exclusively for children ages 0-6 and their families in Northern Virginia and the D.C. metro area. "By the Seashore" takes the audience on a journey to the beach. Visit www.ArtsOnTheHorizon.org, info@ArtsOnTheHorizon.org or call 703-967-0437.

The Light of Day Paintings. Through July 15, various times Broadway Gallery, at 5641-B General Washington Drive. Featuring landscape paintings by Michael Godfrey, Christine Lashley, Tricia Ratliff, and Rajendra KC. Call 703-354-2905.

Artwork Inspired by Nature Exhibit. Various times through Aug. 31 at Huntley Meadows Park Nature Center, 3701 Lockheed Blvd. Local artist-photographer Nina Tisara will share some of her mosaic work in an

exhibit entitled "Inspired by Nature." Call 703-768-2525 or visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks.

Costumes of Mercy Street. Through Sept. 1, at The Lyceum: Alexandria's History Museum, 201 S. Washington St. To learn more about The Lyceum, visit alexandriava.gov/Lyceum or call 703-746-4994.

Gadsby's Tavern Museum Relics. Various times through Labor Day at Gadsby's Tavern Museum, 134 N. Royal St. Learn the history of the museum, the purchase and see the original woodwork. Call 703-746-4242 or visit www.gadsbystavern.org.

Mount Vernon Farmers Market. 8 a.m.-12 p.m., Wednesdays, through Dec. 14. Fresh local food, artisan crafts. Sherwood Library, 2501 Sherwood Hall Lane. Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/farmersmarkets/mtvernonmkt.htm.

All the President's Pups. Saturdays 10 a.m. at George Washington's Mount Vernon, 3200 Mount Vernon Highway, Mount Vernon. All the President's Pups Walking Tour, along the way, learn about George Washington's love for dogs, his dogs' unusual names, and his efforts to improve the quality of his hunting dogs through breeding. \$7. Visit

www.mountvernon.org.

The Lyceum: 175 Years of Local History. Ongoing, Monday-Saturday 10 a.m.-5 p.m. and Sunday 1-5 p.m. at The Lyceum, 201 S. Washington St. On view in the museum's Goldsmith Gallery, the historical objects and images featured represent The Lyceum, the community at work, and commemorations and celebrations. Throughout the exhibition, visitors are invited to "be the curator" and think about why the various artifacts are in the museum's collection, and about how tangible representatives of the past help tell the story of Alexandria's history. Free. Visit www.alexandriahistory.org.

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

Alexandria's Nurses and Hospitals During the Civil War. Ongoing at The Lyceum, 201 S. Washington St. An exhibit on the life of Clarissa Jones, a nurse at The Lyceum


hospital during the Civil War. The true story of a nurse in Alexandria during the war, drawing parallels with characters portrayed in the PBS drama "Mercy Street," with references to the experiences of other nurses, such as Anne Reading, who worked in the Mansion House hospital, and Jane Woolsey, who served at the Fairfax Seminary hospital. Admission is \$2. Visit www.alexandriava.gov/lyceum.

Shield of Earth: Defending the Heart of the Union exhibit. Ongoing, museum hours Tuesday through Saturday, 10 a.m. -5 p.m., Sundays, noon-5 p.m. at Fort Ward Museum, 4301 West Braddock Road. Highlights of the exhibition include military passes issued by Provost Marshal's Office, construction tools, and original photographs of some of Washington's defenders. 703-746-4848 or www.fortward.org.

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

SEE CALENDAR, PAGE 18

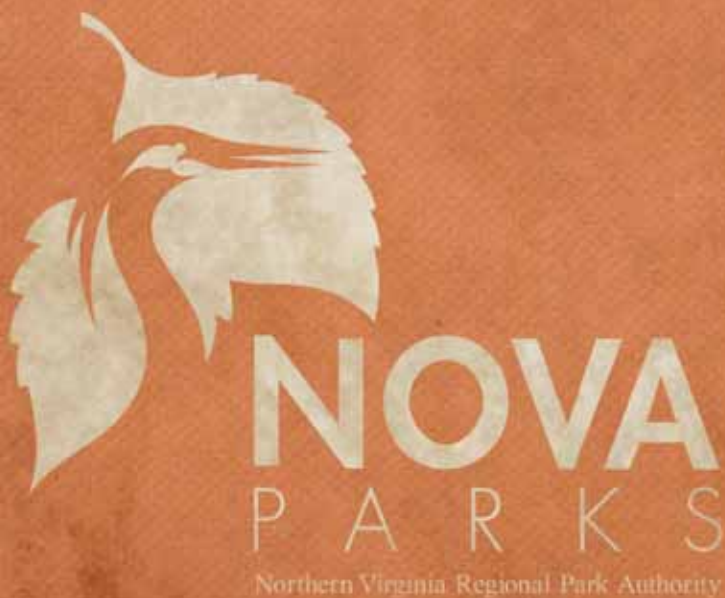
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ENTERTAINMENT

Four Beers to Enjoy All Summer

BY HOPE NELSON

Summertime is the perfect time to sit down, kick back, and open a beer in the back yard or at your favorite watering hole. Here are some of the season's best beverages and where you should enjoy them.

Cigar City Maduro

The Front Porch, 2006 Mount Vernon Ave.

When the weather turns hot, there's always an Adirondack chair or picnic table at The Front Porch to cool things down. Take a look at the chalkboard for the beers of the day and it's easy to get stymied. Fruity, hoppy, light, sour: What to do?

When you're in the throes of a beer dilemma, you could do worse than the Maduro brown ale from Tampa's Cigar City brewing. Roasty but not overwhelming, Maduro is a full-bodied beer that also doesn't limit itself to one tasting. Rich but easy to drink, it's a brew that you'll want to come back to time and again – sometimes in one sitting, sometimes every week.

Commonwealth Wapatoole Rustico, 827 Slaters Lane

Let's get one thing out of the way: Regardless of the taste, it's fun to order Commonwealth Brewing's Wapatoole. Thankfully for all, the beer is as easy to drink as it is fun to say.

The Virginia Beach-based brewery's version of an American IPA pours a little lighter in color than you might expect, but don't be fooled; the hops are readily apparent, accompanied by a fruity finish that isn't overwhelming with sweetness but ever-present. Order a tasting sample at Rustico if you wish, but know you'll be coming back for a full pint soon enough; may as well save yourself the trouble and pick it up on the first go-round.

Stone Enjoy By 07.04.17 IPA

Lost Dog Café, 808 N. Henry St.

Whereas many beers taste even better when aged, Stone Brewing takes a different tack. Indeed, the expiration dates on their unfiltered IPAs aren't to be trifled with. This is a beer that wants to make hay while the sun shines, because life is short, and aged beers take too long to mature.



Look for the fifth annual release of Port City Brewing's Derecho at the end of the month.

This addition to Stone's "Enjoy By" series is intensely hoppy, which can be off-putting to those anti-hoppers around but is eminently enjoyable to those who appreciate a rich, tangy depth with their drink. Pick it up on draft at Lost Dog Café – but hurry.

Derecho Common

Port City Brewing, 3950 Wheeler Ave.

The local brewery's homage to the city's 2012 intense summer storm returns at the end of June, on tap and in bottles for a fifth season. Mild and light, but definitely not simple, it became a seasonal classic soon upon its debut after the infamous derecho caused a five-day power outage at Port City Brewing, bringing to light a wonderful example of a California common.

Celebrate Derecho's launch on June 29 at El Chucho in D.C.; the Mexican restaurant, too, is celebrating a five-year anniversary this summer, and the brewery and eatery have joined forces for a dual party. After June 29, expect to see Derecho on tap around town (and at Port City), as well as bottled for your backyard enjoyment.

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

CALENDAR

FROM PAGE 16

Fifty Years of Collecting. Tuesday-Saturday 10 a.m.-5 p.m., Sundays 12-5 p.m. Fort Ward Museum, 4301 W. Braddock Road. An anniversary exhibit of objects from the Fort Ward collection. Free. Visit www.fortward.org or call 703-746-4848.

Dinner for the Washingtons. 12 p.m. at George Washington's Mount Vernon, 3200 Mount Vernon Memorial Highway. A walking tour that goes behind the scenes to find out how food was prepared and served before the era of microwaves and TV dinners. \$5 in addition to estate admission. Visit www.mountvernon.org.

Second Thursday Music. Athenaeum, 201 Prince St. 7 p.m. Second Thursday of every month. Visit nvfaa.org to view concert calendar and listen to upcoming Second Thursday Music artists.

The Monday Morning Birdwalk takes place weekly, rain or shine

(except during electrical storms, strong winds, or icy trails), at 7 a.m. (8 a.m. November through March), is free, requires no reservation and is open to all. Birders meet in the parking lot at the park's entrance at 3701 Lockheed Blvd. Direct questions to park staff during normal business hours at 703-768-2525.

Civil War Sundays. 1-5 p.m. at Alexandria Archaeology Museum, 105 North Union St., #327. Learn more about the Civil War as it occurred in Alexandria. Find dioramas, newspaper articles and more Free. Visit www.alexandriarchaeology.org.

Doggy Happy Hour. Starting April 5, Tuesdays through October 5-8 p.m. at Jackson 20 and Hotel Monaco Alexandria, 480 King St. Doggy Happy Hour at Jackson 20 and the Hotel Monaco Alexandria offers specials on cocktails and beers plus treats and water for canine companions. Free, but drinks sold separately. Visit www.monacoalexandria.com for more

SUMMER SUNSET MOVIES IN MOUNT VERNON

The Mount Vernon Rec Center at 2017 Belle View Boulevard will be the location for family-friendly movies throughout the summer. Twice a month, from 7-11 p.m., movies will start at sunset. The movie schedule is as follows:

- ❖ June 30 - "Nine Lives"
- ❖ July 14 - "The Jungle Book"
- ❖ July 28 - "Secret Life of Pets"
- ❖ Aug. 11 - "The Lego Batman Movie"
- ❖ Aug. 25 - "Beauty and the Beast"

Wake Up Wednesdays featuring The Pop Up Cafe. 7-9:30 a.m. on Wednesday's near the King Street Tunnel - Carlyle Entrance located near 2000 Duke Street near Motley Fool. The cafe will feature coffee, live music to help commuters start the day off right and donuts from Sugar

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ENTERTAINMENT

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

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

The Harmony Heritage Singers (Mount Vernon Chapter of Barbershop Harmony Society), a daytime, a cappella, Chorus, rehearses on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays, monthly, at Sherwood Hall Regional Library, 2501 Sherwood Hall Lane, 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Newcomers welcome for fun or to book for a performance. Visit www.HHSingers.org, or call Bruce at 703-352-5271.

THURSDAY/JUNE 22

Whole Foods Fundraiser. 7 a.m.-10 p.m. at Whole Foods Market Old Town, 1700 Duke St. Whole Foods Market Old Town will donate 5 percent of all proceeds from purchases to RunningBrooke, which inspires at-risk kids to move, sparking their learning for success in school and life. Email info@runningbrooke.org.

Garden Tour and Tea. 1-3 p.m. at Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road. Tour the demonstration gardens with a Master Gardener docent who will narrate with stories of Green Spring past and present. Afterwards, a traditional English afternoon tea. \$32. Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/parktakes or call 703-642-5173.

Business After Hours. 5:30-7 p.m.. at Daniel O'Connell's Irish Restaurant, 112 King St. Irish fare while networking with other business professionals on their upstairs patio overlooking Old Town. \$10, \$25 for non-members, \$25 for members at the door. Visit www.alexchamber.com.

Meet the Filmmaker. 7 p.m. at the Nannie J Lee Center, 1108 Jefferson St. Local writer and filmmaker Jerry Casagrande, who co-created The Anthropologist film, will be on hand to supervise the kids watching The Wing, so parents can watch his film. Email JC@JerryCasagrande.com or call 703-717-3603.

The Del Ray Players. 7:30 p.m. at at Logan Fringe Arts Space, 1358 Florida Ave., NE, Washington, D.C. Preview of world premiere of local

writer and musician Neal Learner's sung-through musical, "LIFE: A Comic Opera in Three Short Acts," at the Capital Fringe Festival next month in Washington, D.C. The work will be staged five times from July 9-23. Visit visitdelray.com.

FRIDAY/JUNE 23

Outdoor Fitness Classes. noon-1 p.m. at John Carlyle Square, 300 John Carlyle St. A free outdoor fitness series called Fast Friday's and Slowdown Sunday's to encourage individuals to get their sweat on this summer and try a new workout with experts from various Alexandria fitness studios. Weekly, the class is Friday's, noon-1 p.m. and Sunday's 9:30-10:30 a.m. from June 23 through Aug. 27. Free, provide personal mat and water. Visit www.AlexandriaVA.gov/CarlyleFun.

Storytellers from the Story District. 8 p.m. at the Torpedo Factory, 105 North Union St. An open-mic storytelling experience including the NEA's Big Read, Atlas Performing Arts Center, INTERSECTIONS: A New America Arts Festival, Woolly Mammoth, Capital Fringe Festival, Dance Place, and Sixth & I Historic Synagogue. Visit torpedofactory.org.

SATURDAY/JUNE 24

Mount Vernon Flea Market. 8 a.m.-1 p.m. at 8717 Fort Hunt Road. The flea market features: furniture, art, china, glass, porcelain, pottery, books, photographs, lighting, tools, comic books, vinyl records, novelties clothing & sewing, toys, jewelry, collectibles, homemade items, soaps & scrubs, antique & vintage items, crafts, dolls, household items, hobby items, tapestries, and clothes. Visit mountvernonfleamarket.wordpress.com for more info.

Well Ray Festival. 9 a.m.-1 p.m. along Mount Vernon Ave. between Custis and Uhler avenues. This free outdoor festival features free fitness classes; health, wellness, and nutrition demonstrations and exhibits. Visit www.visitdelray.com.

Summer Bouquet Floral Design Workshop. 1-2:30 p.m. at Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road. Learn how to make a summer bouquet to take home with the help of floral designer Betty Ann Galway. \$38 plus \$25 supplies. Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/parktakes or call 703-642-5173.

Tea Program: The Old Farmer's Almanac. 1-3 p.m. at Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road. Celebrate a total solar eclipse this year and the 225th anniversary of the Old Farmer's Almanac. \$32 for tea, \$12 for program only. Visit



PHOTO BY LAURA MANN

Enchanted

On June 24-25, "Enchanted, the Musical" is playing 1 and 7 p.m. Saturday and 11 a.m. and 5 p.m. Sunday at the Rachel M. Schlesinger Concert Hall and Arts Center in 4915 E. Campus Drive. Metropolitan School of the Arts (MSA) of Alexandria Va. will perform their spring production. \$20-\$23. Visit www.metropolitanarts.org for more.

www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/parktakes or call 703-642-5173.
6th Annual Vine on the Waterfront Festival. noon-6 p.m. at Oronoco Bay Park, 100 Madison St. Visit www.visitalexandriava.com.

8th Annual Youth Arts Festival. 1-5 p.m. at the Mt. Vernon Recreation Center, 2701 Commonwealth Ave. A family-oriented event showcasing art (visual and performing) by students citywide, with music, entertainment, and interactive exhibits for children and adults. Visit www.arha.us/events;703.5392742;arhacontact@gmail.com.

DelRay Poetry Slam. 8-11 p.m. at Fireflies, 1501 M. Vernon Ave., Alexandria. Del Ray Players presents Great Del Ray Poetry Slam. Local poets are invited to share original poems for enjoyment and prizes. Alexandria Poet Laureate Wendi Kaplan is special guest & expert judge. Visit www.facebook.com/DelRayPlayers/.

JUNE 24-25

"Enchanted, the Musical." 1 and 7 p.m. Saturday and 11 a.m. and 5 p.m. Sunday at the Rachel M. Schlesinger Concert Hall and Arts Center in 4915 E. Campus Drive. Metropolitan School of the Arts (MSA) of Alexandria will perform their spring production. \$20-\$23. Visit www.metropolitanarts.org.

SUNDAY/JUNE 25

Junior Docents Tours. 2-5 p.m. at Gadsby's Tavern Museum, 134 N. Royal St. 4th, 5th, or 6th graders lead the tour Sunday afternoons through Labor Day weekend. Visit www.alexandriava.gov/GadsbysTavern or call 703-746-4242.

MONDAY/JUNE 26

Charity Golf Tournament. 11 a.m. at Mount Vernon Country Club, 5111 Old Mill Road. Charity event for AIA NOVA partners with United Community Ministries, a social services provider to the most vulnerable community members. Visit www.aia.nova.org or www.ucmagency.org.

JUNE 27-JULY 30

Potomac Fiber Arts Gallery. Various times at the Torpedo Factory, 105 N. Union Street, ground floor Studio 29. Show is called "Under the Big Top," highlighting the work of three featured artists: Janet Barnard, Paige Garber, and Anne-Sanderoff Walker. Call 703-548-0935, or visit www.Potomacfiberartsgallery.com.

WEDNESDAY/JUNE 28

Wake Up Wednesdays Pop Up Cafe. 7-9:30 a.m.near the King Street Metro Tunnel - Carlyle Entrance, 2000 Duke St. near Motley Fool. Sugar Shack will be in the Carlyle District on a weekly basis for the Wake Up Wednesdays Pop Up Cafe featuring sweets and treats. Visit

www.alexandriava.gov/c/16209.

FRIDAY/JUNE 30

Celebrate American Freedom. 6-9:45 p.m. at George Washington's Mount Vernon, 3200 Mount Vernon Highway, Mount Vernon. Fireworks choreographed to patriotic music. \$30-\$34 for adults and \$20-\$24 for youth. Visit www.mountvernon.org.

SATURDAY/JULY 1

Celebrate American Freedom. 6-9:45 p.m. at George Washington's Mount Vernon, 3200 Mount Vernon Highway, Mount Vernon. Fireworks choreographed to patriotic music. \$30-\$34 for adults and \$20-\$24 for youth. Visit www.mountvernon.org.

Saturday Cinema at Carlyle. 8:37 p.m. on John Carlyle Square, 300 John Carlyle St. Top Gun is the first of this series. Free. Visit www.AlexandriaVA.gov/CarlyleFun.

JULY 3-30

Ceramics Show. Various times at 105 N. Union St., ground floor Studio 19. The "Rough around the Edges" Kiln Club show. Call 703-548-6288 or visit scopegallery.org.

TUESDAY/JULY 4

Independence Day. 9 a.m.-5 p.m. at George Washington's Mount Vernon, 3200 Mount Vernon Highway, Mount Vernon. Event includes a naturalization ceremony for 100 new citizens, military reenactments, a special wreath-laying ceremony, free birthday cake for all guests. \$18; children ages 6-11, \$9; and children under 5. Visit www.mountvernon.org/herbthyme.

Waynewood Plant Sale. 9 a.m.-1 p.m. at the Waynewood Recreation Park, 1027 Dalebrook Drive. Plant sale is after the community parade. Call 479-221- 0883.

THURSDAY/JULY 6

Great War Discussion. 7:30 p.m. at The Lyceum, 201 S. Washington St. To commemorate the 100th anniversary of America's entrance into the Great War, Historian Dr. Mitchell Yockelson will tell the story of some of the individuals who fought in the Meuse-Argonne. A book-signing will follow the lecture. Visit www.alexandriava.gov/Lyceum or call 703-838-4994.

JULY 8-AUG. 5

Adult Woodworking Class. 5-8 p.m. at the Alexandria Seaport Foundation, Union St. Woodworking 101, hosted by ASF's Middle School Math Program Manager, woodworker, and furniture designer Nicole Reidinger of Habitat Woodworks. \$250. Visit www.alexandriaseaport.org or call 703-778-0977.

SUNDAY/JULY 9

Behind the Scenes Geek Tours. noon-1 p.m. at at the Apothecary Museum, 105-107 S. Fairfax St. Outside of the regular tour parameters, an expert guide leads this tour, including the rarely open basement and 3rd floor of the historic pharmacy. Tour recommended for adults only. \$15. Visit www.alexandriava.gov/Apothecary or call 703-746-3852.

Opening Reception. 4-6 p.m. at The Athenaeum, 201 Prince St. "Pairs : Fiber Art from New Image Artists." Curated by Trudi Van Dyke, Pairs is an exhibition by 13 contemporary fiber artists who are members of the New Image Artists group. Exhibit runs from June 29-Aug. 6. Visit www.nvfaa.org or call 703-548-0035.

CAMPS, CLASSES & WORKSHOPS

MAY 31-AUG. 25

Summer Theatre Camps. Various times at the Little Theatre of Alexandria, 600 Wolfe St. Preschool-8th graders can learn acting, musical theatre, dancing, improv, Shakespeare, film making. Visit www.thelittletheatre.com or call 703-683-5778.

JUNE 26-28

Civil War Mini-Camp. 9 a.m.-1 p.m. each day at Fort Ward Museum and Historic Site, 4301 West Braddock Road. Camp participants will explore life during the Civil War through fun and educational activities such as drilling and marching, hands-on craft lessons, 19th-century games, and learning from guest reenactors. Ages 9-12. Call 703-746-4848 or visit www.fortward.org.

JULY 17-21

Del Ray Artisans 2017 Summer Art Camp. All day at Del Ray Artisans gallery, 2704 Mount Vernon Ave. Ages

8-14 are invited to spend one week creating art and architecture, followed by a one-day gallery show. All art supplies and snacks are provided. Visit DelRayArtisans.org/event/Art-Camp-2017 for more.

JULY 18-20

History Camp for Kids. 9 a.m.-noon. at The Lyceum, 201 South Washington St. Engages children in American history and life in historic Alexandria through artifacts, storytelling, singing, crafts, old-fashioned games, and visits to nearby historic places. \$105. Visit www.alexandriava.gov/Lyceum, or call 703-746-4994 for more.

JULY 24-28

Del Ray Artisans 2017 Summer Art Camp. All day at Del Ray Artisans gallery, 2704 Mount Vernon Ave. Ages 8-14 are invited to spend one week creating art and architecture, followed by a one-day gallery show. All art supplies and snacks are provided. Visit DelRayArtisans.org/event/Art-Camp-2017 for more.

Terrorism by Any Other Name Is Still Terrorism

BY HARRY M. COVERT

What a wakeup call. When the blaring news is close to home, there's no lollygagging waiting for the coffee. This time the "breaking news" was real stuff.

The news: a nut case with an assault rifle was shooting up a baseball field in Alexandria's quaint community Del Ray. Possibly no other community is quite so active and involved in a major city that Del Ray. The people are terrific and the shops "up and down the avenue" provide a real homey and happy atmosphere.

The baseball field next to the YMCA is nice and always busy. Last week on Wednesday morning, all eyes and ears were focused on the practice of the Congressional Republicans baseball team.

The players had been taking batting and infield practice around 6:30 in the morning. Many players arrived between 5:30 and 6. Their Democratic opponents were elsewhere preparing for the upcoming charity game, hardball baseball, which went on at the Washington Nationals Park.

Peaceful Del Ray was thrown into chaos about 7 a.m. The rat-a-tat-tat exploded. Not firecrackers, but real bullets. Within moments first responders from Alexandria police, sheriff and fire agencies were on the scene.

Fortunately two Capitol Police officers were there and, even though they were wounded, they shot the shooter, a 66-year-old disgruntled Belleville, Ill., man. He died later in the morning from the gunfight.

When he discovered it was a Republican Congressional team. He aimed his highly charged automatic rifle and shot U.S. Rep. Steve Scalise (La.), GOP House whip. Because of his position the two Capitol Police

officers were his security detail. They are heroes, good shots, too.

Congressman Scalise was shot in the hip. He is in serious condition.

A congressional aide and lobbyist were shot, too. They are recovering along with the police officers.

My residence was Alexandria for 25 years. I can write that the police, sheriff and fire departments are terrific. Responding within three minutes is incredible. They did the job as they are trained and prepared.

Because the targets were federal officials, the probe will be led by the Federal Bureau of Investigation in conjunction with local and state agencies.

News agencies did a good job, too. Del Ray and Alexandria are not strangers to government leaders and workers, and reporters are always up and down the streets.

The point of this dialogue is that such a startling event could well hit any community in these troubling days with copycats.

Let's hope not. Police agencies are, thankfully, prepared.

The political climate has changed dramatically "in the land of the free and home of the brave." It's no longer witty or humorous to be careless in our discussions and disagreements.

The problem today is not gun violence but "heart trouble." The perspective must not be killing opponents and displaying the beheadings of public figures and other atrocious actions.

The ugliness around the country has reached bitterness and must be halted. Does the nation need another War Between The States? Absolutely not. The late Illinois shooter was not a patriot.

Thankfully Capitol Police officers didn't hesitate, put themselves in harm's way and did their duty. It could have been more devastating had they not.

Terrorism by any other name is still terrorism.

COVERT MATTERS

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Simpson

FROM PAGE 12

Over the years, Simpson fell into disrepair. Games still went on, but the press box and other exterior structures crumbled.

Little League went away for awhile, then came back with a new spirit and freshness that baseball brings every year. The city and donors spiffed up the stadium, new lights were installed, and now it's a gem again. Alexandria Little League has been one of the few in Northern Virginia to continue "teener ball," so that kids who can't afford to or may not make the "traveling teams" that have proliferated in recent years can still play America's game.

In 2003, Feller — aging but still ornery — came back to rededicate Simpson Field for its 50th anniversary. He threw out the first pitch at opening day for the Alexandria Little League. It was a big deal.

He was 84 and needed help in and out of cars. But as he strode the to the mound, from some deeply buried reserve, Feller summoned a little of the cocky strut that he was known for. He made a big deal of winding up that first pitch. And then he threw a strike — at the knees, over the corner.

The writer is a national correspondent for the Post-Dispatch, based in Washington, and a 30-year resident of Alexandria. Previously, he was a national correspondent and columnist for USA TODAY, and the author of "Imperfect Union," a book about a New York Times correspondent's search for his wounded son in the aftermath of the Battle of Gettysburg.

FROM PAGE 13

Budget Priorities

To the Editor:

Decrying crowded and inadequate classrooms, the School Board submitted a gargantuan capital improvement budget totaling \$611 million for the next 10 years. The City Council, however, approved an increase of "only" \$100 million to \$373 million.

Faced with a shortfall in the proposed budget, how did the School Board respond? Instead of putting students first, they increased the initial budget for the T.C. Williams football field from \$4.1 million to just under \$4.5 million, while delaying by one year school repairs at two elementary schools — Douglas MacArthur and George Mason. Does this make any sense? To anyone?

Is it no wonder our taxes keep going up by double digits?

Tom Slayton
Alexandria

Council's Responsibility

To the Editor:

The following open letter was addressed to the mayor and City Council.

An unanticipated obligation will prevent me from speaking at the public hearing on June 24, so I take this opportunity briefly to state my views on the proposed BID. For 35 years I have practiced law in my own building on South Columbus Street, between King and Prince Streets. My law firm would be within the jurisdiction of the BID. I oppose the BID.

1. I support the imposition of additional taxes to improve public services. My oppo-

sition to the BID has nothing to do with financial considerations.

2. The BID represents another example of the regrettable privatization of public functions. This is all the rage. The president proposes to privatize the nation's air traffic control system. Public schools, now derided as "government schools," are facing serious challenges from publicly assisted private schools. The list goes on. The notion of the common weal — or of a commonwealth to serve it — is fading from public perception, in favor of "what's in it for me." If the large businesses that will dominate the BID seek more enhancement to their neighborhood than their elected representatives provide, they are free to fund it privately — a kind of civic charity both self-serving and beneficial to the public.

3. Your greatest responsibility is deciding what civic functions to fund and how to do so. That is not merely your right; it is also your obligation. You have been elected to make the tough choices. So just do it. Don't authorize an independent body to raise taxes and then disclaim your responsibility for their imposition. That is disingenuous as well as predicated on the notion that your constituents are fools.

Thank you for considering these thoughts.

Vic Glasberg

Victor M. Glasberg & Associates
Alexandria

More Time To Study BID

To the Editor:

The following open letter was addressed to the City Council.

We, the undersigned businesses and property owners, do not support the BID as it is proposed and urge the City Council to oppose it. Old Town Alexandria is a brand that other jurisdictions want to emulate because

of its history and unique businesses. There has not been enough time for the affected community to truly study the BID. There also hasn't been enough effort to gather the viewpoints of all the affected businesses and property owners. We urge the City Council to oppose the BID ordinance during consideration in June.

3 Sisters; 532 Yoga; A Center for Relationships; Alexandria Counseling Center Associates; Alexandria Cupcake; Alexandria Myotherapy, Inc.; Altura Wine Gourmet; Always Sunny Nails; An American In Paris; Art Studio 101; Art Underfoot; Asum Barber Shop; Azar Salon; Barre3 Old Town; BC Partnership; Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices; PenFed Realty; Bilbo Baggins Restaurant; Bloomers; Blüprint Chocolatiers; Brahm & Powell Opticians; Bread & Chocolate; Buchanan & Kiguel; Cameron Executive Suites; Caphe Banh Mi; Casayork Property Management, LLC; Cavalier Antiques; CBP8 Partnership; Charlie Hooff properties; Chatree Antiques; Chinoiserie; City Kitchen; Cretkou Taverna; Dash's; Diva Designer Consignment; Eamonn's A Dublin Chipper / PX; ETM3 Partnership; Faccia Luna Pizzeria; Fontaine Caffé & Creperie; Gallery Lafayette; Gary's Shoe Repair; G for Hair; Glynn Jones Salon; GMD Solutions, Inc.; Gourmet Center; Gossypia; Grape + Bean; Helen Olivia; Henry Street Antiques; Home on Cameron; Hummingbird Bar Kitchen; Ian Lowrie; Il Porto; Indus Imports; Irish Walk; Izalia Laser Aesthetic Spa; John Crouch, Tobacconist; K. Aubrey Flowers; Kingdom Cleaners; King Street Blues; King Street Cafe; La Bergerie; La Fromagerie Cheese and Wine Bistro; Laketana Ethiopian Crafts; Lamplighter; Lapel; Lawrence Miller & Co.; L.E. Peabody & Associates, Inc.; Light Horse Restaurant; Local Colour Old Town; Lotus Bloom; Lucky Knot; lululemon old town; MacLeod Title & Escrow Co., Inc.; Marcela's Yoga Boutique; Market Square Shop; Mark R. Yoo Architect PLLC; Mary C. Ray LCSW, ACSW, SEP; Ray Consulting; Mondays Child; Museum Framing; Myron Mixon's Pitmaster Barbeque; NanoTech; National Council for Adoption; Nearman Financial Consulting; Nickell's & Scheffler; Old Town Barber; Old Town Deli; Old Town Nail Spa; Old Town Shoe Repair; OM-Tibet; OTV, Inc.; Patrick's Home & Fine Linens; Pazazz Hair Salon; Periwinkle; Pines of Florence; Principle Gallery; Project SAFE; Strategies Aimed at Family Empowerment; Ramparts Tavern; Raul's Menswear; Red Mei; Redmon, Peyton, & Braswell, LLP; Restaurant Eve; Richard A. Dezio, Esq.; Richard A. Dezio, P.C.; Rob Cannon Photo; Rocket Grille; Royal Nail; Sacred Circle; Salon Amerti; Sand & Steel Fitness; Serafino; Shooter McGee's; Silver Parrot; Society Fair; Solage Hair Salon; Southside 815; Studio 101; Stylists@North; Targeted Creative Communications; The Antique Guild; The Glass Stache; The Pita House; The Physical Therapy Zone; The UPS Store; Tiny Dancers LLC; TJ Stone

TOP Services; TSALT; Uptowner Café; Van Bommel
SEE LETTERS, PAGE 21

The Great Del Ray Poetry Slam

BY WENDI R. KAPLAN

"Poetry is the rhythmical creation of beauty in words."

— Edgar Allan Poe

Poetry has existed since people began using language. Even before literacy, poetry was the art of putting words together, utilizing rhythm, chant and recitation to convey a story or some information, feeling, or entertainment. The oldest known poems in the Vedas and The Odyssey probably were written in rhyme and meter to help people remember them and share them.

POETRY CONVERSATIONS

Most of us have studied some poetry in school. We usually have familiarity with Walt Whitman and Emily Dickinson for instance. If you are of a certain age you probably were required to memorize poems.

In the 1990s spoken word poetry became popular and poetry "slams" soon followed. A poetry slam is a competition where poets gather to recite and perform their poetry. Slam poetry often addresses important social issues such as racial, economic and gender injustices. It is a powerful way to hear opinions and to hear the deeply felt and the hard to feel. It also is way to create conversation about subjects that we might not or-

dinarily discuss.

This Saturday, June 24, the Del Ray Players will be hosting the first Del Ray Poetry Slam at Fireflies, 1501 Mt. Vernon Ave. It begins and 8 p.m. and is open to poets of all ages.

The Great Del Ray Poetry Slam was the brilliant idea of Alexandria artist, Neal Learner. Neal is a musician and lyricist as well as a writer and community activist. His opera, "LIFE: A Comic Opera in Three Short Acts" will debut at the Capital Fringe Festival in July (see capitalfringe.org for more information). Neal also has formed a production company called The Del Ray Players that creates and promotes performances like music, poetry and opera.

Neal had read Rob Krupicka's poetry on Facebook and in the Zebra and reached out to Rob to suggest the poetry slam in Del Ray. Rob Krupicka is, of course, the owner of Sugar Shack Donuts and a former Alexandria councilman and Virginia delegate. Rob thought it was a great idea and they enthusiastically began to move ahead. Neal contacted me as well, and asked me to be a part of the event as Alexandria's poet laureate which I am thrilled to do.

Neal began writing poetry when he was young and remembers writing a poem in the second grade that begins:

*Mickey Mouse, Mickey Mouse
Lives in a sticky house.*

Rob began writing poetry in college and has continued to write regularly since then. Many of you may have enjoyed his "50 Miles of Haikus" and "With Few Words."

Although neither Neal nor Rob nor I are slam poets we each appreciate the form. Rob says, "I like the personal honesty of it. It is raw and vulnerable and very human. Experiencing it can be very powerful." I completely agree. Actually in the last few months I have had the privilege of meeting and hearing two of Alexandria's young and extremely talented slam poets. Lindsay Tucker and Jerrel Courtney are students at T.C. Williams and both are rising poetry stars. We hope they will join us at the Del Ray Slam.

We really hope that the community will come out to share in this slam poetry event. If you are a slam poet, please sign up to share your art. If you are curious, interested and want to have an awesome experience please come listen to the poets in our community and cheer them on. Let's make Del Ray and Alexandria a center for poetry and the arts! Please join us this Saturday. We look forward to seeing you.

For more information on The Great Del Ray Poetry Slam visit www.facebook.com/delrayplayers.

You can reach me at wendi.kaplan@verizon.net.

Wendi R. Kaplan is poet laureate of Alexandria.

LETTERS

FROM PAGE 20

Antique House; Van's Hair Stylists; Vaso's Restaurant; Vintage Mirage; Wayne Fisher's American Design; and Your Life Energy Holistic Center

Property Owners: 1020 Duke Street, LLC, 1020 Duke Street; 604 King Street, Inc., 604 King Street; a la Lucia; Alex and Andrea Plotis, 213 King Street; Art Nalls, 924 King Street; Barton's Royal Street Properties, LLC, 115-117 S. Royal Street; Bourse, LLC, 808 King Street; Boyd Walker, 818-820 King St, 1307 King St, and 200 Commerce Street; Chuck Johnson, 225 N. Washington Street; Craig Miller, 409 South Washington Street; Crilley Warehouse, LP, 218 N. Lee Street; Dan Hazelwood, 106 S. Columbus Street; Douglas Dear & Paul Aanonsen, 110 South Pitt LLC; DW Associates; Elinor Coleman, 117 S. Columbus Street; Elizabeth Mason, 111 S. Columbus Street; FHL Investment, LLC, 1609 King Street; Frank Fannon, 1101 Duke St., 220 S. Henry Street; Garbis Muradian 117 South Henry; HK Alexandria Investment, LLC, 720 King Street; Kamil Property Management, LLC, 631 King Street/105-109 N. Washington Street; King Alex, LLC, 710 King Street; Leexandria, LLC, 218 N. Lee Street; Lisa Brock, 403 South Washington Street; Lisa Capobianco, 100 Ross Alley; Lynn Turner, 316 Commerce Street; Mary & Robert Ray, 400 Prince Street; Mary Potier, 1314 King Street; Mel & Oud, LC, 1104 King Street; Michael Armellino 206, 208 and 210 Queen Street; Old Town Crilley, LLC, 218 N. Lee Street; Raul Viteri, 100, 101 and 1017 King Street; Robert & Amanda Lasker, 325 Cameron St., 1321-25 King St., and 1607 King Street; Robert & Donna Rathe, 621 S. Washington Street; Robert King, 206/208 King Street; Rodrigo Restkepo 822 King Street & 824 King Street; Ronald & Gwendolyn Carlberg, 413 N. Washington Street; Steve Nearman, 1005 Cameron Street; Tarek Moukalled, 717-719 King Street; Tim Shaheen & Lawrence Miller, 121 S. Royal Street; Vicki Warren, 121 and 125 S. Union Street; Wellington & Janet Goddin 1125-31 King Street and 107 N Fayette St; and Woldulig Washington, LLC, 309 S. Washington Street



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07.27.17

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701 North Fairfax Street, Alexandria

6:30-9:00 PM
After Party at Blackwall Hitch



40/40

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PEOPLE

Veterans Follow Up 'Range 15' with 'Not a War Story'

Documentary to premiere June 30.

BY BEATRIZ DA COSTA
GAZETTE PACKET

Veterans are often portrayed in the media as PTSD-stricken and unstable members of society. It's a narrative that many, especially in the military community, deem as offensive. It's a narrative that Jack Mandaville, Nick Palmisciano, and Rocco Vargas want to change.

Veterans Mandaville and Vargas first joined together with director Nick Palmisciano to create the film "Range 15." The film was made for the military community and, consists of "inside jokes and jargon, and perhaps a resounding reclamation of Hollywood portrayal of military life and community."

"Range 15" shot to No. 1 on Amazon and No. 2 on iTunes. Inspired by the response to the first film, Mandaville, Palmisciano and Vargas, with the help of director Tim O'Donnell went on to create, "Not a War Story," a documentary set to premiere June 30, about the military community, and the creation of "Range 15."

"This is a story that has never been told," Mandaville said about the documentary. "There are two typical narratives about



Jack Mandaville



Nick Palmisciano



Rocco Vargas

modern military veterans going into any project. They're either PTSD-ridden simpletons, or war heroes that can do no wrong," Mandaville said. "The fact is, veterans are simply a reflection of society who, like everybody else, are capable of breaking the mold."

"Not a War Story" demonstrates the challenge of the veterans to raise \$1.5 million for "Range 15." Although the film was originally supposed to be a short about "the five main guys and their crazy director," according to Palmisciano, by the time they got to the third cut of the movie they realized they were narrating the stories about the veteran community.

Mandaville, a Minnesota native who moved to Alexandria last month, joined the Marine Corps to escape his suburban lifestyle. He was deployed at age 19 to Thailand, however was soon sent to the Middle East for training, after 9/11. Generally, re-

amount of work, and deserve to be respected because of such. However, Mandaville does not necessarily feel the same.

"I could tell a few little war stories from my time as a Marine," he said. "But the fact is this movie has Navy Cross, Silver Star, and Medal of Honor recipients in it. My stories pale in comparison to theirs."

The inclusion of veterans, like himself, was important to Mandaville in filming. Why? "Mainly because vets get stuff done."

Mandaville added, "For the veterans who were actors, every single one of us showed up with our lines memorized and knew exactly who our characters were going to be."

Vargas along with Mandaville was one of the actors in "Not a War Story," and, similar to Mandaville, he served in Iraq. "I had three combat tours. Two to Afghanistan and one in Iraq."

Aside from being in the military, Vargas

was also a Federal agent, he feels that his experience in the military and as an agent gave him an advantage as an actor.

"With my experience in the military and being a former Federal agent, I have faced some high stress situations. In return it has

prepared me to take on some acting roles I might not have had the proper experience for but was given the opportunity because I am able to adapt in uncomfortable situations."

Aside from being in "Range 15" and "Not a War Story," Vargas is also an actor on the "Sons of Anarchy" spinoff, "Mayans MC," and with the help of his prior experience in the military he hopes to continue his dream of acting.

Filming "Not a War Story" and even "Range 15" may have helped the three ease back into normal life after being in the military. Mandaville, who has been out of the military for a decade now, said that "returning to regular life right when I got out of the military was tough. I went from this environment where I had the examples of purpose to being just a student."

One sentiment that Mandaville, Vargas and especially Palmisciano all share is that, "Not a War Story" "humanizes us [veterans], for better or for worse. It also shows the power of our community and the way we love each other."

BULLETIN BOARD

Submit civic/community announcements at ConnectionNewspapers.com/Calendar. Photos and artwork welcome. Deadline is Thursday at noon, at least two weeks before event.

INDEPENDENCE DAY

Free Sober Rides. Tuesday, July 4, 7 p.m. through Wednesday, July 5, 2 a.m. Area residents, 21 and older, may download Lyft to their phones, then enter the code SOBERJULY4 in the app's "Promo" section to receive a no cost (up to \$15) safe ride home.

The SoberRide code is valid for the first 1,500 Lyft users who enter the code. Visit www.soberride.com.

FEMALE MENTORS NEEDED

Designing, crafting building, innovating...at **Space of Her Own**

(SOHO), preteen girls experiment with art and uncover unique talents with the encouragement of caring mentors. Girls are paired with professional adult female volunteers and engage in visual arts and life skills lessons to open their worlds to new possibilities. Pairs meet in a

group setting one night a week for the initial program year, which ends in a team effort to give each girl's bedroom a makeover. Information sessions for mentors will be held:

- ❖ **Saturday, June 24**, 10-11:30 a.m. at Charles Houston Recreation Center (in the Senior Center), 910 Wythe St.
- ❖ **Thursday, July 6**, 6-7:30 p.m. at Dr. Oswald Durant Arts Center, 1605 Cameron St.
- ❖ **Wednesday, July 19**, 6:30-8 p.m., Arlington Career Center (in the Common Area), 816 S. Walter Reed Drive, Arlington.

Visit www.spaceofherown.org. For more information, email Sarah Maroney at recruitment@spaceofherown.org.

THURSDAY/JUNE 22

Opening Reception. 7-9 p.m. at the Hi-Tide Lounge, 101 N. Union St. The City of Alexandria will kickoff the second annual Community Supported Art (CSA) Program. Through this limited opportunity, participants can beautify their spaces while supporting local art and artists. Attendees can meet the artists and receive a 10 percent discount on CSA art box purchases. This public event is free, but registration is required and includes appetizers, door prizes, and a drink ticket. To register for the Opening Reception, or to purchase an art box, visit www.alexandriava.gov/Arts.

SATURDAY/JUNE 24

City Council Public Hearing. 9:30 a.m. at City Hall, Council Chamber, 301 King St. Email CityClerkStaff@alexandriava.gov or call 703-746-

4500.

MONDAY, JUNE 26

Bikeshare Expansion. Alexandria is expanding its Capital Bikeshare network and seeks feedback regarding the proposed bikeshare station locations. Community input can be provided through an online form through June 1. The online form can be accessed at <https://www.alexandriava.gov/95476>. Each proposed bikeshare station will be brought before the Traffic & Parking Board for approval. The Traffic & Parking Board public hearing will take place in City Hall Council Chambers at 7:30 p.m. See alexandriava.gov/Bikesharing.

Food Safety Advisory Meeting. 3:30-5:30 p.m. at the Nannie J. Lee Center, 1108 Jefferson St., in the Gold Room. Summer is here, and with it, comes concerns about food safety at picnics, on vacations, at public events, restaurants, and other venues. Join the Alexandria Health Department for a special Food Safety Advisory Council meeting and dialogue about food safety. Learn about the role the health department plays in ensuring food safety in the City of Alexandria, and how to maintain food safety in at home. Visit www.alexandriava.gov/Health.

TUESDAY/JUNE 27

Summer Session Begins. More classes start at Northern Virginia Community College, with a five-week summer session that starts June 27 and ends Aug. 1. Visit nvcc.edu or call 703-323-3000.



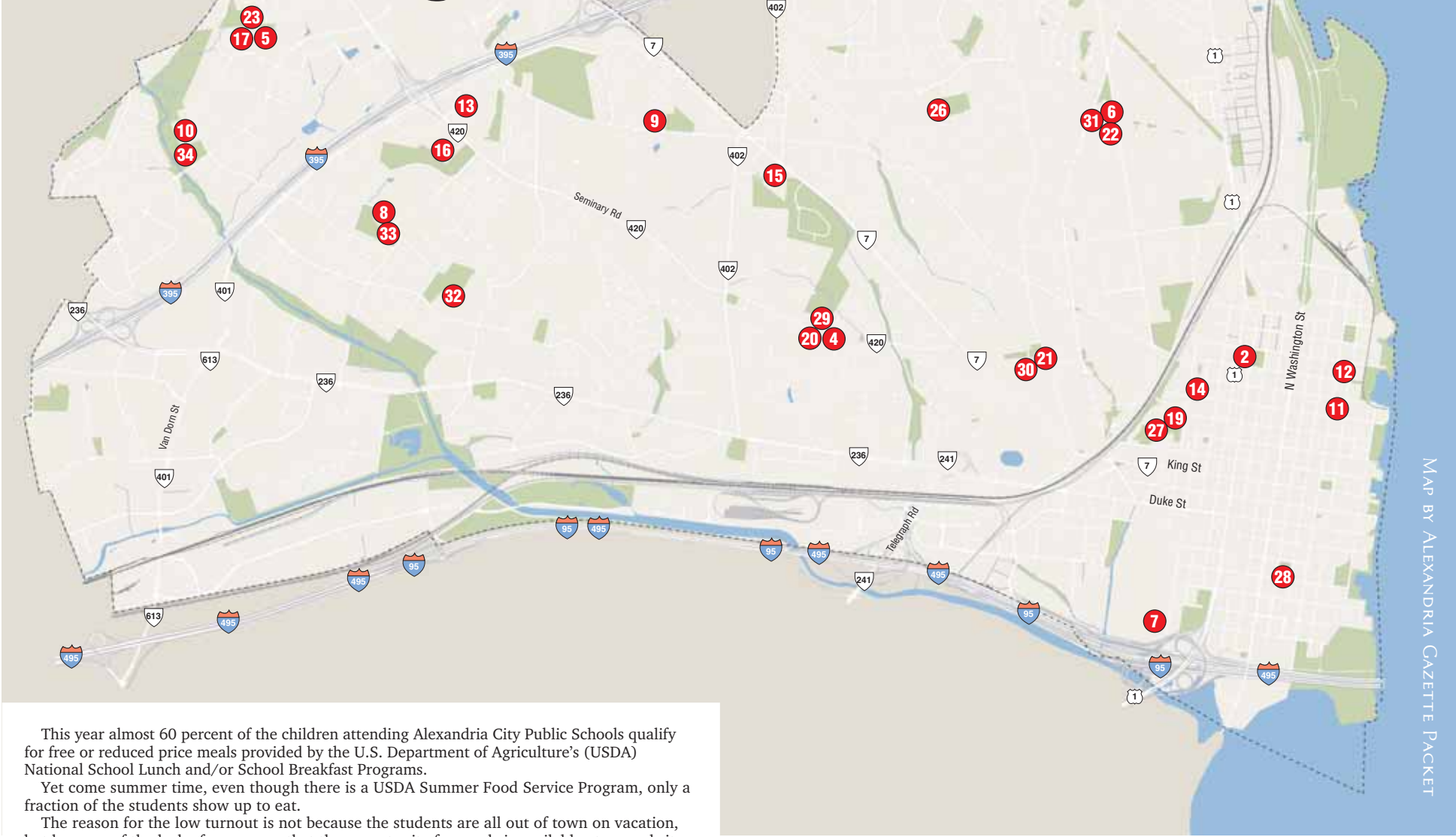
PHOTO BY GERRI BALDWIN

Raising Funds for Leukemia and Lymphoma Society

Last month, 45 skateboarders from the DC Wheels charity organization paused along the 700 block of King Street and South Washington Street during their journey to raise awareness and funds for The Leukemia and Lymphoma Society by pushing 45 miles for nine hours. According to DC Wheels founder Jimmy Pelletier, with support from donors, they were able to raise \$4,359. See www.facebook.com/TheDCWheels.

COMMUNITY

Children's Free Summer Food Service Program 2017



This year almost 60 percent of the children attending Alexandria City Public Schools qualify for free or reduced price meals provided by the U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) National School Lunch and/or School Breakfast Programs.

Yet come summer time, even though there is a USDA Summer Food Service Program, only a fraction of the students show up to eat.

The reason for the low turnout is not because the students are all out of town on vacation, but because of the lack of awareness that the opportunity for meals is available at several sites throughout the city including recreation center locations and several Alexandria City Public School locations.

Unlike the school year, all meals are free. There are no reduced prices. Anyone 18 years of age or younger is permitted to eat and no previous qualifications are needed. All sites want a parent or guardian to bring the child the first time to register and identify any food allergies.

The child does not need to be registered in a recreation program or summer school to be served; however, they may only attend during the meal service time period.

The map marks all the sites where breakfast, lunch and/or afternoon snacks are available. Share this information with anyone who may want their children to participate in this service or who has contact with families that may want to participate in this service such as teachers, clergy, community workers, police officers, fire fighters, and retail stores.

Summer School at ACPS /Escuela de Verano en ACPS			
Location	Dates	Meals	Times
15 T.C. Williams High School 3330 King St. 703-824-6800	7/10 – 8/18	Breakfast / Desayuno	9:10 – 9:50 a.m.
		Lunch / Almuerzo	11:45 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.
16 Francis C. Hammond Middle School 4646 Seminary Rd. 703-461-4100	6/30 – 8/4	Breakfast	8:30 – 9:00 a.m.
		Lunch / Almuerzo	11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.
17 John Adams Elementary School 5651 Rayburn Ave. 703-824-6970	7/10 – 8/4	Breakfast / Desayuno	8:30 – 9:30 a.m.
		Lunch / Almuerzo	12:00 – 1:00 p.m.
18 Cora Kelly School for Math, Science and Technology 3600 Commonwealth Ave. 703-706-4420	7/10 – 8/4	Breakfast / Desayuno	8:30 – 9:30 a.m.
		Lunch / Almuerzo	12:00 – 1:00 p.m.
19 Jefferson-Houston School 1501 Cameron St. 703-706-4400	7/10 – 8/4	Breakfast / Desayuno	8:30 – 9:00 a.m.
		Lunch / Almuerzo	12:00 – 12:30 p.m.
20 Douglas MacArthur Elementary School 1101 Janneys La. 703-746-5575	7/10 – 8/4	Breakfast / Desayuno	8:30 – 9:30 a.m.
		Lunch / Almuerzo	12:00 – 1:00 p.m.
21 Matthew Maury Elementary School 600 Russell Rd. 703-706-4440	7/10 – 8/4	Breakfast / Desayuno	8:30 – 9:30 a.m.
		Lunch / Almuerzo	12:00 – 1:00 p.m.
22 Mount Vernon Community School 2601 Commonwealth Ave. 703-706-4460	7/10 – 7/28	Breakfast / Desayuno	7:30 – 8:00 a.m.
		Lunch / Almuerzo	10:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Kindergarten Prep at ACPS / Preparación para Kindergarten en ACPS			
Location	Address	Phone	
23 John Adams Elementary School	5651 Rayburn Ave.	703-824-6970	K-Prep will take place at these locations 8/14 – 8/18. Breakfast and lunch will be available at each location at the same times each day.
24 Charles Barrett Recreation Center*	1115 Martha Custis Dr.	703-746-5551	
25 Cora Kelly School for Math, Science and Technology	3600 Commonwealth Ave.	703-706-4420	Breakfast: 9 – 9:30 a.m. Lunch: 12 – 1 p.m.
26 George Mason Elementary School	2601 Cameron Mills Rd.	703-706-4470	
27 Jefferson-Houston School	1501 Cameron St.	703-706-4400	La preparación para Kindergarten se llevara a cabo en estos lugares 8/14 – 8/18. El desayuno y el almuerzo estará disponible en cada lugar a la misma hora cada día.
28 Lyles-Crouch Traditional Academy	530 S. St. Asaph St.	703-706-4430	
29 Douglas MacArthur Elementary School	1101 Janneys La.	703-746-5575	Desayuno: 9:00 – 9:30 a.m. Almuerzo: 12:00 – 1:00 p.m.
30 Matthew Maury Elementary School	600 Russell Rd.	703-706-4440	
31 Mount Vernon Community School	2601 Commonwealth Ave.	703-706-4460	
32 Patrick Henry Elementary School	4643 Taney Ave.	703-461-4170	
33 James K. Polk Elementary School	5000 Polk Ave.	703-461-4180	
34 William Ramsay Elementary School	5700 Sanger Ave.	703-824-6950	

City Sites and Recreation Centers / Sitios en la Ciudad y Centros de Recreación			
LOCATION	DATES	MEALS	
1 Charles Barrett Recreation Center* 1115 Martha Custis Dr. 703-746-5551	6/26 – 8/11	Lunch / Almuerzo Snack / Bocadillo	Meal times are the same at all locations: Breakfast: 9:00 – 9:30 a.m. Lunch: 12:00 – 1:00 p.m. Afternoon Snack: 3:00 – 4:00 p.m.
2 Charles Houston Recreation Center 901 Wythe St. 703-746-5552	6/26 – 8/18	Lunch / Almuerzo Snack / Bocadillo	
3 Cora Kelly Recreation Center* 25 West Reed Ave. 703-746-5554	6/26 – 7/7 8/7 – 8/11	Breakfast / Desayuno Lunch / Almuerzo	* When ACPS Summer School or Kindergarten Prep is in session, meals are served in the cafeteria.
4 Douglas MacArthur Playground* 1101 Janneys La. 703-746-5575	6/26 – 7/7 8/7 – 8/11	Breakfast / Desayuno Lunch / Almuerzo	
5 John Adams Elementary School * 5651 Rayburn Ave. 703-746-5575	6/26 – 7/7 8/7 – 8/11	Breakfast / Desayuno Lunch / Almuerzo	Los horarios de las comidas son los mismos en todos los lugares: Desayuno: 9:00 – 9:30 a.m. Almuerzo: 12:00 – 1:00 p.m. Bocadillo: 3:00 – 4:00 p.m.
6 Mount Vernon Recreation Center* 2701 Commonwealth Ave. 703-746-5556	6/26 – 7/7 7/31 – 8/18	Breakfast / Desayuno Lunch / Almuerzo	
7 Nannie J. Lee Recreation Center 1108 Jefferson St. 703-746-5556	6/26 – 8/18	Lunch / Almuerzo Snack / Bocadillo	* Cuando la Escuela de Verano de ACPS o la Preparación para Kindergarten esté en sesión, las comidas se servirán en la cafetería.
8 Patrick Henry & James K. Polk @ Polk ES* 5000 Polk Ave. 703-746-5557	6/26 – 8/11	Lunch / Almuerzo Snack / Bocadillo	
9 Power-Up Program @ Minnie Howard 3701 W. Braddock Rd. 703-746-5575	6/26 – 8/18	Lunch / Almuerzo Snack / Bocadillo	
10 William Ramsay Recreation Center 5650 Sanger Ave. 703-746-5558	6/26 – 8/11	Lunch / Almuerzo Snack / Bocadillo	
11 Ruby Tucker Center 322 Tancil Ct. 703-535-3175	6/26 – 8/18	Lunch / Almuerzo Snack / Bocadillo	
12 Ladrey Highrise - Alexandria Redevelopment Housing Authority (ARHA) 300 Wythe St. 703-683-0570	7/5 – 8/19	Breakfast	
13 Burke Branch Library 4701 Seminary Rd. 703-746-1704	Tues & Weds 7/5 – 8/18	Snack / Bocadillo 4:00 – 5:00 p.m.	
14 Dunbar Boys' & Girls' Club 401 North Payne St. 703-549-3077	7/5 – 8/18	Lunch / Almuerzo Snack / Bocadillo	

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Complaint For Absolute Divorce Of Jeffery Opoku Boateng and Yvonne Mecheel Sharpe issued in the state of North Carolina In the General Court Of Justice District Court Division File No. 17CVD00702 5/26/17. Address and phone number are as followed:

Yvonne M. Sharpe
416A Stoneyhill Trail
New Bern, NC 28560
252-259-8614

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Legals



Notice for Proposed Precinct Changes
On June 24, 2017, at 9:30 a.m., the Alexandria City Council will hold a public hearing in the Council Chambers of City Hall, 301 King Street, Alexandria, Virginia, to consider an ordinance to establish Potomac Yard as a new precinct with the Station at Potomac Yard (650 Maskell Street) as a polling place.

A map with the proposed changes and a copy of the full text of the ordinance is online at <https://www.alexandriava.gov/Elections> and on file with the Clerk of Council, Room 2300, City Hall, 301 King Street. This notice is advertised pursuant to Va. Code Sec. 24-2.306.

For information, please call (703) 746-4550.

Jacqueline M. Henderson
City Clerk and Clerk of Council

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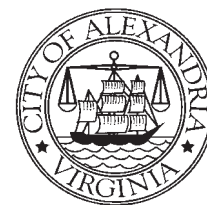
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Public Hearing will be held by the City Council of the City of Alexandria, Virginia, in the Council Chambers, City Hall, City of Alexandria, Virginia, on Saturday, June 24, 2017, at 9:30 a.m., or as soon as may be heard on the hereinafter described items.

AN ORDINANCE to amend and reordain Sections 2-4-210 (CREATION, COMPOSITION AND ORGANIZATION) and 2-4-211 (FUNCTIONS) of Article Z (ALEXANDRIA TOWING ADVISORY BOARD) of Chapter 4 (COMMITTEES, BOARDS, AND COMMISSIONS) of Title 2 (GENERAL GOVERNMENT) of the Code of the City of Alexandria, VA, 1981, as amended.

The proposed ordinance updates City Code Section 2-4-210 and 2-4-211 to update the composition of the Towing Advisory Board, provide for a rotating chair, and clarify the role of the Towing Advisory Board with regard to towing contracts, to be consistent with the Virginia Code.

AN ORDINANCE to amend and reordain Section 3-2-353 (CONTESTED PARKING CITATIONS) of Article S (PAYMENT, CONTEST AND ENFORCEMENT OF PARKING CITATIONS) of Chapter 2 (TAXATION) of Title 3 (FINANCE, TAXATION AND PROCUREMENT) of the Code of the City of Alexandria, Virginia, 1981, as amended.

Amend and reordain City Code section 3-2-353 to allow parking citations to be contested via the parking adjudication office and allowing owners and other authorized people to contest tickets, beginning on January 1, 2017.

AN ORDINANCE making provision for the support of the government of the City of Alexandria, Virginia, for Fiscal Year (FY) 2018. The proposed ordinance appropriates funds for the operation of the City government in FY 2018.

AN ORDINANCE making supplemental appropriations for the support of the government of the City of Alexandria, Virginia, for fiscal year 2017. The proposed ordinance accomplishes the adoption of supplemental appropriations for the operation of the city government in fiscal year 2017.

AN ORDINANCE to amend and reordain Section 2-2-10 (ESTABLISHMENT OF ELECTION DISTRICTS AND VOTING PLACES) by establishing the Potomac Yard Election District for the November 17, 2018 General Election and thereafter from three existing districts: Cora Kelly Center Election District, Mt. Vernon Recreation Center Election District, and George Washington Middle School Election District.

AN ORDINANCE to amend and reordain Sections 2-201.1 and 2-201.2 of Article II (DEFINITIONS) and Division C (BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS) of Article XI (DEVELOPMENT APPROVALS AND PROCEDURES) of

the City of Alexandria Zoning Ordinance, in accordance with the text amendment heretofore approved by City Council on May 13, 2017 as Text Amendment No. 2017-0003.

The proposed ordinance accomplishes the final adoption of Text Amendment No. 2017-0003 to adopt revised Board of Zoning Appeals regulations approved by City Council on May 13, 2017.

AN ORDINANCE to amend and reordain Section 7-700 (ALLOWANCE FOR INCREASES IN FLOOR AREA RATIO, DENSITY AND HEIGHT AND REDUCTIONS IN REQUIRED OFF-STREET PARKING AS INCENTIVE FOR PROVISION OF LOW-AND MODERATE INCOME HOUSING) of Article VII (SUPPLEMENTAL ZONE REGULATIONS) of the City of Alexandria Zoning Ordinance, in accordance with the text amendment heretofore approved by city council as Text Amendment No. 2017-0002.

The proposed ordinance accomplishes the final adoption of Text Amendment No. 2017-0002 to increase the maximum bonus density that can be achieved.

AN ORDINANCE to amend and reordain Section 2-4-114 (CREATION, COMPOSITION AND ORGANIZATION OF THE GEORGE WASHINGTON BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION COMMITTEE) by adding a member to the George Washington Birthday Celebration Committee.

The proposed ordinance adds the Sons of American Revolution as a member of the George Washington Birthday Celebration.

AN ORDINANCE to authorize creation of the Old Town Business Improvement Service District.

The proposed ordinance authorizes creation of the Old Town Business Improvement Service District.

PUBLIC HEARING and consideration of a five-year license agreement with Mobilitie, LLC to install small cell facilities on third-party owned poles in the public rights-of-way in various locations within the City of Alexandria.

THE PUBLIC IS ADVISED THAT AMENDMENTS OR ADDITIONS MAY BE MADE TO PROPOSED ORDINANCES WITHOUT FURTHER PUBLICATION.

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT PERSONS INTERESTED IN ANY OF THESE ORDINANCES OBTAIN FREE FULL-TEXT COPIES FROM THE CITY CLERK AT CITY HALL.

If the mayor finds and declares that weather or other conditions are such that it is hazardous for members to attend the meeting, this meeting will be continued to the following Saturday. JACKIE M. HENDERSON, MMC, CITY CLERK



PHOTO BY VERNON MILES

Addison Patrick, an intern with Alexandria Archeology, helps show visitors how difficult wrapping an artifact can be by having them wrap a Pringles chip to withstand the weight of a brick.

Bon Voyage

FROM PAGE 8

van is going on around 40 years and hits the odd thing here or there. This ship was almost certainly run aground intentionally and unintentionally. After 40 years it's probably leaking like a sieve even with all the caulking you could do, and the owner finally said 'to hell with it' and the good citizenry of Alexandria chopped it up."

Two hundred years later, Alexandrians are showing a little more care for the wooden beams of the ship. Local volunteers carefully soaked the timbers in water then wrapped them in layers of special material to preserve the structure during the roadtrip.

"Once we get them all to Texas next Thursday we'll reverse everything from the last couple days," said Peter Fix, Ph.D, with the Conservation Research Lab at Texas A&M. "We'll get them into soaking water. We're going to do a 3-D scan of each timber for documentation. As I'm going back through and documenting it piece by piece, I'm thinking like the carpenter. Thinking 'why did you notch each piece and put it in this way?'"

Fix said the lab's biggest focus is going to be on stewardship and care for the wood as they make it stable enough for display in a museum. The Alexandria ship will be paired with a smaller sister ship found under the World Trade Center in 2010 undergoing conservation efforts. Fix said it's been a mad house getting the ship broken apart for storage and loading into the trucks, but thanked volunteers and the City of Alexandria for helping to get the ship ready for this final voyage.

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An expert is someone who knows some of the worst mistakes that can be made in his subject and how to avoid them. -Werner Heisenberg			

Relatively Speaking



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

If you live long enough, it's quite likely that many of the family members/generations born before you will have predeceased you. Moreover, the family members born before them, two generations-plus behind, are most surely to be geshtorbin (Yiddish for dead) as well. The effect: memory loss. Specifically, the memories lost of a generation of great grandparents – and beyond, you probably never knew or for whom you have extremely limited knowledge; after all, you were an infant when your maternal grandmother died. And when your widowed mother died nearly nine years ago, you lost what may very well have been that final anecdotal connection to your family's history, especially if your Jewish and your grandparents immigrated from Russia, Romania, The Baltic States, etc. before World War II where recorded history of Jews was evidence not documentation.

It just so happens that in my family, in fact, our closest surviving cousins, Ronnie and Gil, who themselves are in their 80s, are alive and extremely well and living with their daughter, Jayne, in Massachusetts. This past weekend, Ronnie and Gil drove eight hours to visit my brother Richard and me. And though we are regularly in touch over the phone, it has been years since we were all together in Washington, D.C. And being in their company, naturally we reminisced – ALL WEEKEND. What spawned this column was a comment Ronnie (a singer/pianist in Boston for 25 years) made in response to a question we asked about whether there was any other musical talent in the family. She said quite matter of factly that my maternal great-grandfather – who I had never met or even heard of before, "was a cantor in Russia – with a beautiful voice" (who never left Russia). "What! I never knew that." I don't recall knowing anything about my great grandparents, maternal or paternal.

You see, Ronnie was there almost at the beginning. She was the first born to my mother's oldest sibling and only sister, my Auntie Lee. My mother was the baby of the family – after two brothers were born. As such, the age difference between my mother and Ronnie was about 14 years, atypical for a niece and an aunt. As a result, Ronnie was witness to lots of family history that I thought might have been lost forever when my mother died in 2008. As a few examples, Ronnie knows who was present at my mother's "Auntie's" house for Passover Cedar in the early 1960s. She knew that "Auntie" was my mother's mother's brother's widow, not my mother's mother's sister. I certainly didn't. She knew that three families/our cousins lived together in this three-story home and all worked together in the family market: Levine's. Still more that I didn't I know.

Another family connection Ronnie and Gil reminded us of was a family line we have in South America. Again, before World War II, one of my maternal grandfather's (Hyman) brother's Simon (Shimon) immigrated to Argentina where to this day exists first (Eduardo) and second cousins (names I'm afraid don't know) I've never met, though Ronnie and Gil have met numerous times in Miami and in Argentina (Ronnie and Gil used to live in South Florida). The more we talked, the more we travelled back in time. But I won't self-indulge myself and bore you any longer. I will try to wrap it up in the next paragraph.

My mother, Celia died in December 2008, my father died in December 2006. With their passing, my brother and I lost – among a million other things, their first-hand, on-site accounts of our Lourie/Blacker history dating back 150 years or so to Russia/Eastern Europe, before any of my relatives immigrated to America. Ronnie, my mother's cherished niece, knows as much about our family history as there is still to know and her husband of nearly 63 years, Gil, knows almost as much. Their visit wasn't just a weekend. It was a lifetime. A weekend of a lifetime for which Richard and I are extraordinarily grateful.

Kenny Lourie is an Advertising Representative for The Potomac Almanac & The Connection Newspapers.

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OLD TOWN, ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA

NEW PRICE! Pristine gem in the heart of Old Town. Impeccably designed w/ 6BR, 4.5BA including carriage house w/ 2-car gar. Lush priv garden. Walk to Founders Park! \$3,150,000

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ESTATES AT LEIGH MILL, GREAT FALLS, VIRGINIA

Final opportunity! Stunning Line K custom home designed by Piet Boon contemporary design with classic details. Delivery Summer 2017. Five bedrooms, five and a half baths and four car garage. Private lot close to two acres. \$2,929,990

Anne DiBenedetto

703-615-1897



THE RESERVE, MCLEAN, VIRGINIA

Lovely all brick home built by Basher & Edgemore. Two story family room with new built-ins. Expansive white & grey kitchen. 6 bedrooms, 6.5 baths with main lvl BR, full BA. Fully fenced flat rear yard. 3 car side load garage. \$2,595,000

Anne DiBenedetto

703-615-1897



ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA

Elevator, whole house generator, circular driveway and four car garage! Custom details throughout this four bedroom, four and a half bathroom home. Over 9,000 square feet on professional landscaped half acre lot. \$2,100,000

Linda Rogers

703-627-6776



ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA

Overlooking the Potomac, this brick TH features an open layout, HW floors, 3 FPs, & countless upgrades. 2 Juliet balconies, a rear terrace & 2-car-garage. Steps to the waterfront, Mount Vernon Trail, and Jones Point Park. \$1,895,000

Mark McFadden

703-216-1333



ARLINGTON, VIRGINIA

Amazing value & location! 2 new single family homes by Madison Homes. Blocks from EFC Metro & West Over Shopping! Yorktown HS pyramid! Open floorplan with 9 foot ceilings, 5 bedrooms, 4.5 baths. \$1,495,000

Anne DiBenedetto

703-615-1897



LORTON, VIRGINIA

One-of-a-kind equestrian offering on 5.36 acres with a seven stall barn, huge attached indoor arena with 3 bedroom, 2 bath house. Outdoor ring & paddocks! Features a pond & backs to woods to ride out. \$1,495,000

Mark McFadden

703-216-1333



GREAT FALLS, VIRGINIA

Timberlake Estates South- Lovely colonial w/ all the outdoor amenities you can imagine! Pool, screened porch, deck, outdoor kit, outdoor FP + more. 5BR/4.5BA. Walk out LL. Close to \$300,000 in upgrades & improvements! \$1,285,000

Anne DiBenedetto

703-615-1897



ARLINGTON, VIRGINIA

Turnkey 5BR/4.5BA Colonial in the Black Oaks Cluster in a desirable cul-de-sac. Beautifully updated with large picture windows. Gorgeous MBR with sitting room + fire place. Tranquil outdoor spaces! \$1,095,000

Heidi Ellenberger Jones

703-915-6038

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Alexandria \$1,159,900

Stately & peaceful setting, this 5-bedroom, 4.5-bath home sits on a large quiet lot & offers a gourmet kitchen, an abundance of space for entertaining inside & out, an au pair suite, & a 3-car garage with loft space. thegoodhartgroup.com/2100-whiteoaks/
Sue & Allison Goodhart 703.362.3221
www.TheGoodhartGroup.com

OPEN SUN 6/25, 2-4



Del Ray \$1,349,000

This fully renovated 6-bedroom, 5-bath Craftsman-style home has an open floor plan, gourmet kitchen, 4 bedrooms up with a guest en suite, main level master, lower level rec room, & a large rear yard. Walk to Metro and "The Avenue!" 903 Ramsey St.
Jen Walker 703.675.1566
www.JenWalker.com

OPEN SUN 6/25, 2-4



Belle Haven \$1,399,000

Classic Georgian Beauty! This 5-7 bedroom home is stately and stylishly updated throughout. Located on a cul-de-sac, this gracious home has a fantastic walk-out lower level, screened porch and lush landscaping. 6210 Randall Court
Janet Caterson Price 703.960.5858
www.JanetPriceHomes.com



Braddock Heights \$1,155,000

No detail was overlooked in this thoroughly and beautifully updated Colonial. 3 bedrooms, 3.5 baths, 3 fireplaces, open kitchen/family room spills out into a stunningly landscaped backyard. Master suite with 2 walk-in closets & luxury bath. 2433 Davis Ave.
Jessica Richardson 703.864.3438
www.JessicaRichardson.com

OPEN SUN 6/25, 2-4



Del Ray \$1,349,000

A relaxing porch greets you at the door to this 3-level, 3,000+ SF, 6-bedroom, 4-bath home. Luxury kitchen with open spaces. Beautiful hardwood floors, spacious bedrooms, and just a few blocks to "The Avenue." 14 W Caton Avenue
David Rainey 703.286.1333
www.YourAtHomeTeam.com

OPEN SUN 6/25, 1-4



Potomac Yard \$784,999

Rare end unit! Stunning 3-bedroom, 2.5-bath townhouse condo on 2 levels. Tall windows with park views. Gourmet kitchen with island open to family room & balcony, enormous master suite, garage. Walk to Metro, shopping, & dining. 738 Annie Rose Ave.
Nada Seide 703.350.3803
www.CallNada.com

OPEN SUN 6/25, 1-4



Arch Hall \$505,000

Slip through the garden gate to a private bricked patio. Gleaming floors, elegant moldings, a fireplace, an expansive wall for art or bookcases; it all creates a serene backdrop. Two parking spaces, steps from the back door. 659 S Columbus Street
Jane Manstorf 571.276.8116
www.JaneManstorf.com

OPEN SUN 6/25, 2-4



Alexandria City \$639,000

Charming 3-bedroom, 2-full-bath, brick rambler in popular Park Ridge. Bright white open kitchen, sun-washed combo dining & living room with fireplace, hardwood flooring, updated baths plus finished lower level! 818 W Taylor Run Parkway
Joy & Casey Sutherland 703.725.5061
www.TheSutherlandPartners.com



Alexandria \$640,000

Very updated townhome in convenient Governors Grove that is a commuters dream. Updates include newer HVAC system, water heater, plantation shutters & hardwood floors

throughout the main level. Gourmet kitchen with double wall ovens, separate cook-top & separate pantry closet. Beautifully landscaped flagstone patio backing to woods. Less than 1 mile from the Metro.

Bob Bazzle 703.599.8964
www.BobBazzle.com



Old Town \$1,224,500

Handsome detached, 1830 historic house in sought-after South Lee Street location. 3 bedrooms, 2.5 baths, original floors, 2 fireplaces, sunny, bright

kitchen-breakfast room plus first floor family room with many windows. Spacious brick patio with side access for bikes. Just a 3 block walk to interesting shops and fine restaurants on King Street.

Babs Beckwith 703.627.5421
www.BabsBeckwith.com

OPEN SUN 6/25, 2-4



Parkside of Alexandria \$289,900

BIG price reduction on this 2-bedroom, 1.5-bath, 2-level unit with new carpet and new paint throughout! Conveniently located to

shopping, restaurants and transportation. Community has great pool, club house and exercise facilities. Pack your bags and move in! 1593 Van Dorn Street

Sean McEneaney 703.635.8836
www.SeanMcEneaney.com

OPEN SUN 6/25, 2-4



Arlington \$485,000

This brightly lit 2-bedroom, 2-full-bath, end unit home with patio in Fairlington Meadows is a don't miss. Located near the Bradlee Shopping Center

and Shirlington neighborhood it offers a convenient lifestyle with numerous options for an easy commute in all directions. Community amenities include pool and tennis courts. 3361 S Stafford Street

Jillian Keck 703.951.7655
www.JillianKeck.com

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