

# Alexandria Gazette Packet



25 CENTS

SERVING ALEXANDRIA FOR OVER 200 YEARS • A CONNECTION NEWSPAPER

DECEMBER 8, 2022



Crowds gather in Pat Miller Neighborhood Square for the lighting of the Del Ray holiday tree and menorah on Mount Vernon Avenue.



Hundreds fill Pat Miller Neighborhood Square Dec. 4 for the lighting of the Del Ray holiday tree and menorah on Mount Vernon Avenue.

PHOTO BY "MANGO" MIKE ANDERSON

## Light up the Avenue 'Tis the season for holiday tree, luminaries.

BY JEANNE THEISMANN  
GAZETTE PACKET

**H**undreds of festive revelers ushered in the holiday season with the lighting of the Del Ray Christmas tree and menorah Dec. 4 at Pat Miller Neighborhood Square.

NBC4 personality Pat Collins was on hand to officially count-down the lighting of the 30-foot tree, sponsored by "Mango" Mike Anderson, Bill Blackburn and the HomeGrown Restaurant Group.

"I love being here in Del Ray,"

**"I can't wait to light that tree and get this Christmas season underway."**

— NBC4 personality, Pat Collins

said Collins, who enjoyed a pre-tree lighting toast at Joy on the Avenue. "I love this bar and I can't wait to light that tree and get this Christmas season underway."

Collins was joined by Kate Moran of the Rainbow Rock Band,



Santa arrives in Del Ray prior to the Dec. 4 tree lighting in Pat Miller Neighborhood Square.

members of City Council and city officials. Santa was escorted to the event by Sheriff Sean Casey and the Alexandria Sheriff's Office.

The event, sponsored by the Del Ray Business Association, also included luminaries lining Mount Ver-

non Avenue to honor the late Nancy Dunning. Dunning was a prominent Del Ray resident and wife of then-Sheriff Jim Dunning, who was killed in her home Dec. 5, 2003.

This is the 12th year that the HomeGrown Restaurant Group



PHOTOS BY JANET BARNETT/GAZETTE PACKET

NBC4 personality Pat Collins, center, with Darlene Duffett and Lauren Fisher at Joy on the Avenue, prepares for the Del Ray tree lighting Dec. 4 at Pat Miller Neighborhood Square.

has sponsored the Del Ray holiday tree. The tree was selected and cut down at Naughty Pines Nursery in Dickerson, Md., and delivered to the Del Ray Business Association by BMC Smoot. Mike Dameron of Windmill Hill donated the crane to

set the tree in place.

DRBA will next sponsor the Candy Cane Crawl, held Dec. 10 to benefit Mount Vernon Community School's Blessings in a Backpack program. For more information, visit [www.visitdelray.com](http://www.visitdelray.com)



## Annual Holiday Store

Students in Community Lodgings' Youth Education Program can shop for gifts for their parents and siblings at the holiday store. Please join me in supporting the store through donations of NEW items through December 12. A partial list is included below.

<b>HOUSEWARES:</b>	<b>ADULT MEN:</b>	<b>ADULT WOMEN:</b>	<b>BABIES:</b>	<b>YOUTH:</b>	<b>TEENS:</b>
Towels/Linens	Wallets	Jewelry	Bottles	Sporting Equipment	Jewelry
Kitchen Tools	Watches	Beauty Products	Toys	Arts & Crafts Kits	Toiletries
Cookware/Tupperware	Toiletries & Shaving	Slippers	Blankets	Legos/Blocks	Socks
Silverware/Flatware	Coats all sizes	Toiletries & Makeup	Baby Clothes	Slime-Making Kits	Wireless
Coffee Maker/Tea Kettle	Shoes sizes 8-12	Coats all sizes	Hats & Gloves	Pokemon Trading Cards	Earphones
Small Lamps	Tools	Shoes sizes 5-9			

Drop off in person M-F, 10AM-5PM at 3912 Elbert Ave, Suite 108, Alexandria, VA 22305  
or M-F, 11AM-2PM at Fifer Learning Center, 607 Notabene Drive, Alexandria, VA 22305

## JUST SOLD



### 2403 Ridge Road Drive Braddock Heights

Classic, stone and shingle, detached Sears Kit home circa 1929 has been lovingly improved and expanded over the years of stewardship with the current owners. It has all the features for which you have yearned – a welcoming front porch framed by perennials and shaded by two glorious redbud trees, warm wood floors throughout most of the main and upper levels. \$1,053,000



### Donna Cramer, Realtor®

We're in this together, and I will guide you home.

Licensed in Virginia

703.627.9578

dramer@mcenearney.com | donnacramer.com

109 S. Pitt Street, Alexandria, VA 22314 | 703.549.9292 | Equal Housing Opportunity



# TASTE OF SCOTLAND

PHOTOS BY JANET BARNETT/GAZETTE PACKET



U.S. Sen. Mark Warner, center, with Bridget Weaver and Warner's wife Lisa Collis, at the Taste of Scotland fundraiser for the Campagna Center Dec. 2 at the Torpedo Factory Art Center.



Matthew Auger, James Arnold and Jonathan Casper enjoy the Taste of Scotland fundraiser for the Campagna Center Dec. 2 at the Torpedo Factory Art Center.



Richard Westfall and Brent Anderson at the Taste of Scotland Dec. 2 at the Torpedo Factory.

**"This is a very important fundraiser for the Campagna Center."**  
 — Campagna Center CEO  
 Tammy Mann

## Mad for Plaid

### Taste of Scotland benefits Campagna Center.

BY JEANNE THEISMANN  
 GAZETTE PACKET

**A**ny and everything plaid was the dress code for the Taste of Scotland, the annual fundraiser to benefit the programs of the Campagna Center held Dec. 2 at the Torpedo Factory Art Center.

"We are so excited to be back doing the Taste of Scotland event," said Campagna Center president and CEO Tammy Mann. "This is a very important fundraiser for the Campagna Center and we are delighted to have guests in the house helping us to raise money to make sure we can continue to do the work we are doing to support children and families in the community."

U.S. Sen. Mark Warner attended the event with his wife Lisa Collis. Also in attendance were Dundee, Scotland, Council Officer Ray Mara, The Lady Provost of Dundee Yvonne Campbell and The Lord Provost of Dundee Bill Campbell.

The event included whiskey-tasting stations, beer and wine bars and a custom art exhibit from Torpedo Factory artists. The Taste of Scotland serves as the kickoff to the Scottish Walk weekend of events benefitting the programs of the Campagna Center.

[www.campagnacenter.org](http://www.campagnacenter.org)  
[www.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM](http://www.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM)



Campagna Center president and CEO Tammy Mann, right, enjoys the Taste of Scotland fundraiser with Bernadette Cala and Ysabel McAleer Dec. 2 at the Torpedo Factory Art Center.



Dundee Council Officer Ray Mara, left, with The Lady Provost of Dundee Yvonne Campbell and The Lord Provost of Dundee Bill Campbell at the Dec. 2 Taste of Scotland.

# Let There Be Light Holiday boat parade lights up the waterfront.

**T**housands of spectators gathered along the Alexandria waterfront as more than 50 boats traversed the Potomac River Dec. 3 to compete for prizes in the 22nd Annual Alexandria Holiday Boat Parade of Lights

Sponsored by Amazon, the mile-long parade was led by Alexandria's fireboat Relief and Fireboat 2 from Washington, D.C.'s Fire Department.

Best of Show was awarded to Dark Star and Captain Doug Savage, who presented "A Charlie Brown Christmas," complete with familiar costumed characters like Lucy, Linus and Snoopy dancing to the iconic theme song.

Best Powerboat went to Beer Hunter and Captain Chris Johnson for "Land Before Time," which depicted a festive Jurassic journey. Best Sailboat was awarded to Tuesday and Captain Joe Landa for "From Odessa with Love," featuring scenes in support of Ukraine projected on the sailboat's mast.

Prior to the start of the parade, Santa and Mrs. Claus arrived by fireboat at the Alexandria City Marina before attending the annual Holiday Festival at Torpedo Factory Art Center.

Winners of the boat parade include: Best In Show: Dark Star, Captain Doug Savage, "A Charlie Brown Christmas"; Best Powerboat: Beer Hunter, Captain Chris Johnson, "Land Before Time"; Best Sailboat: Tuesday, Captain Joe Landa, "From Odessa with Love"; Thinking Outside the Christmas Box: Miss Behavin, Captain Kirt Barbee, "Have a Chesapeake Bay Crabby Christmas"; Most Holiday Cheer: Titan Rowing (Alexandria City High School), Captain Patrick Marquardt, "Holiday"; Best Spirit of America: Luthien, Captain John Newton, "Boy Scouting and Christmas"; Most Spirited Crew: Magical Knots, Captain Brian Dollinger, "Nation-



More than 50 boats line up along the Potomac River as part of the 22nd annual Holiday Boat Parade Dec. 3 along the Alexandria waterfront.

al Lampoon's Christmas Vacation"; Best Theme: Nauti Office, Captains Chelsie Bain, Greg Noble, Liz Cannon and Alex Kandalaft, "A Christmas Story"; Hardest Soul: American Girl, Captain John Gaydos, "Potomac Sleigh Ride"; Best Movie or TV Theme: Moo-vin, Captain Tom Cordell, "Mario Bros"; Best Try: Consuelo, Captain David Robbins, "Bah, Hum BUG."

- JEANNE THEISMANN

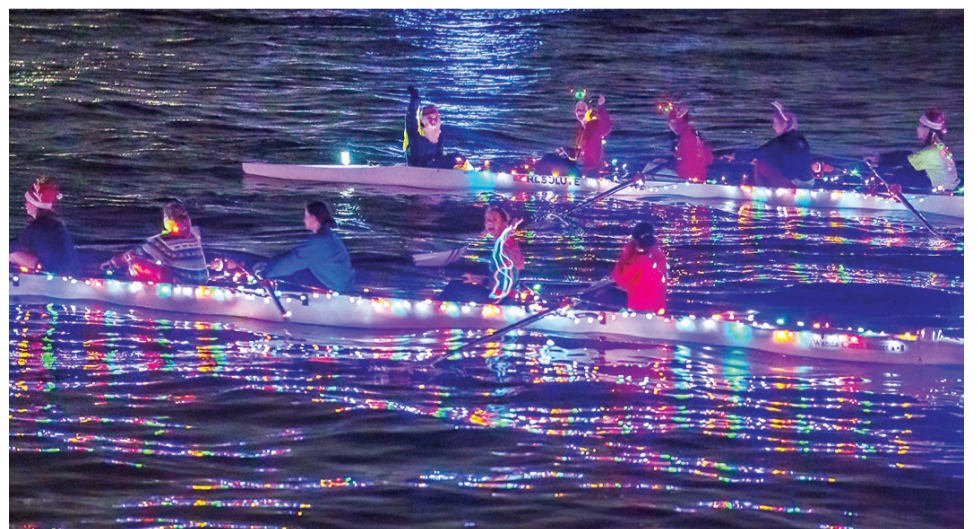
PHOTOS BY EVAN MICHIO/VISIT ALEXANDRIA



Best Powerboat: Beer Hunter and Captain Chris Johnson, "Land Before Time," which depicted a festive Jurassic journey.



Best of Show was awarded to Dark Star and Captain Doug Savage for "A Charlie Brown Christmas," which featured costumed characters of Lucy, Linus and Snoopy dancing to the iconic theme song.



Most Holiday Cheer: Titan Rowing (Alexandria City High School), Captain Patrick Marquardt, "Holiday."

# COMMUNITY

PHOTOS BY JANET BARNETT/GAZETTE PACKET



Michael Smith, Diana Dickson, Margaret McElroy, Jenn Burns and Maya Tanna celebrate the 30th anniversary of Woodbine Rehabilitation and Health Care Center Nov. 2.

## Woodbine Celebrates 30 Years

BY JEANNE THEISMANN  
GAZETTE PACKET

**W**oodbine Rehabilitation and Health Care Center celebrated its 30th anniversary Nov. 2 with a reception honoring the staff as well as first responder partners.

“Woodbine is an amazing facility that has the privilege and honor to go above and beyond what a typical nursing home can do,” said Woodbine owner Norman Rokeach. “The type of patients we take care of here is nothing that a typical nursing home can do. The dedicated staff that we have here, from the administration to the respiratory therapists to the nurses and nurses’ aides are second to none – they are all a class above everyone else.”

Rokeach also praised the facility partner first responders.

“We have a tremendous sense of gratitude to the first responders for the support they give us,” Rokeach said. “They are always working hand in hand with us to provide the best and most professional service.”

Woodbine is a skilled nursing facility specializing in subacute rehabilitative and long term care.

“I am so excited to celebrate this tonight,” said Administrator Donna Shaw. “Our staff and team have done an amazing job the last 30 years. Tonight we are also looking towards the future as we expand so that we can continue to give more care by adding private



Woodbine administrator Donna Shaw, second from right, celebrates the 30th anniversary of Woodbine Rehabilitation and Health Care Center with Deputy Chief Brian Hricik, Woodbine owner Norman Rokeach and Sheriff Sean Casey Nov. 2.



Robin Edwards, Dr. Vivek Sinha and Bettie Samuel celebrate Woodbine Rehabilitation and Health-care’s 30th anniversary Nov. 2.

rooms and adding technology, which is what we need for the future.”

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



Michelle Campbell, Florence Debra, Aminata Deen, Jennifer Love and Jane Hughes celebrate the 30th anniversary of Woodbine Rehabilitation and Health Care Center.

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

## CHRISTMAS MUSIC SING-A-LONG

Sunday, December 11 • 4:30pm  
at Washington Street UMC  
109 S. Washington Street

Join local organist and composer John Horman as he leads the community through his new book, *Sing Your Way to Christmas*. The concert will include both sacred and secular Christmas songs.



WASHINGTON STREET UNITED METHODIST CHURCH  
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA

For directions, visit  
<https://wst.church/location>

Free admission

Canned food donations will be accepted to benefit the ALIVE! Food Pantry



BalletNova



ALEXANDRIA symphony orchestra 22-23 season

## Home for the Holidays

Jingle!

SAT. DEC 17, 2022 - 7:30 P.M.

SUN. DEC 18, 2022 - 3:00 P.M.



Helena Colindres, soprano

Traditional holiday fare with music from Tchaikovsky's and Duke Ellington's *Nutcracker*, Handel's *Messiah*, holiday favorites, a sing-along and more! Featuring soprano Helena Colindres. Welcoming back BalletNova for Saturday's performance.

Adult: \$20-\$89 Student: \$15 Youth: \$5  
(703) 548-0885 alexsym.org

# The Scottish Walk

The Scottish Walk weekend was the warmest in many moons. “The rain stopped JUST in time and we had an amazing parade,” tweeted Mayor Justin Wilson. His video of the parade finale is well worth seeing, sound on. <https://twitter.com/justindotnet/status/1599126750729863168>

Alexandria continues celebrating its heritage with the iconic Alexandria Scottish Christmas Walk Parade. Dozens of Scottish clans dressed in colorful tartans parade through the streets of Old Town, joined by

pipe and drum bands from around the region, as well as terriers and hounds and more. This year’s Grand Marshal is Redella “Del” Pepper, the recently retired, longest-serving member of Alexandria City Council with more than 36 years of service to the community.

The Scottish Walk weekend of events benefits the programs of the Campagna Center. “Our mission is to deliver exceptional educational and social development programs for children, teens, and adults.” [www.campagnacenter.org](http://www.campagnacenter.org)



PHOTO BY MICHAEL POPE

Scottish Walk Grand Marshal Del Pepper.



PHOTO BY MICHAEL POPE

Is that Dignitaries or “Dignitaries”?



@ALEXVASHERRIF

Is the City big enough for both of them?.



@TAVNRDAD VIA TWITTER

“Our bearded collies out representing the breed in the Scottish Christmas Walk in Old Town Alexandria.”



ALYIA GASKINS @ALYIA441X



Alyia Gaskins: “It’s the most wonderful day of the year! The Alexandria Scottish Christmas Walk Parade!”



PHOTO FROM @JUSTINDOTNET  
Mayor Justin Wilson and Lord Provost of Dundee, Bill Campbell  
“Comparing bling sizing with the @LordProvostDCC.”



PHOTO COURTESY MOUNT VERNON LADIES' ASSOCIATION

Holiday Scenarios in the New Room.

# 'An Excellent Table'

## Mount Vernon Displays the Washingtons' holiday dishes.

BY GLENDA C. BOOTH  
MOUNT VERNON GAZETTE

A white marzipan hedgehog does not likely top the list of holiday meal planners today, but for George and Martha Washington it was front and center. On display until Jan. 9, the hedgehog is one of several holiday delicacies visitors can see as interpreters describe how George and Martha Washington entertained at Mount Vernon Estate during the Christmas season.

The dining room table in the "New Room," the grand salon on the mansion's north end, is laden with sumptuous, dessert delicacies and French porcelain dishes. The hedgehog cake with currant eyes is an eye-catching confection of almond paste, eggs, cream, sugar and butter molded into the animal's oblong shape and punctuated with slivered blanched almonds representing bristles.

Another attention-getter is the glass dessert pyramid, a London import, holding glasses full of brightly colored jellies. Cooks made this 18th century "jello" using gelatin from calves' feet and fish, and added nutmeg, mace, sugar and fruit flavors. For colors, they made red with cochineal (tiny bugs), green with spinach juice and yellow from saffron.

The 12th night or great cake was likely made with 40 eggs, four pounds of butter and sugar, five pounds of flour and fruit and baked for two hours, then doused with wine and brandy, according to a recipe written by Martha's granddaughter. Molded sugar swans sit atop the cake today. The baker always put a dried bean inside the cake and

the lucky diner who got the bean was declared king or queen for the day.

The Washingtons' plum pudding was not today's custard-like pudding, but a dark brown cake, the predecessor of today's fruit cake. Cooks wrapped the cake mixture in a cloth and steamed it for five hours. Also on exhibit are almond cookies, brownie-like almond cakes and cookie-size mince cakes.

Heads up, bird lovers. The kitchen's holiday centerpiece is the Christmas pie made with five deboned birds – a pigeon, partridge, chicken and goose stuffed inside a turkey, all encased in a crust called a "coffin." George liked to add bits of squirrel. Martha used Hannah Glasse's cookbook which recommended five hours baking time in a brick oven.

The plantation's enslaved people raised 200 hogs which yielded 400 hams a year that they smoked and cured in the smokehouse near the kitchen. The Washingtons ate ham every day of the year with one exception, the day the dog, Vulcan, snatched a ham from the kitchen. They enjoyed many different vegetables and fruits from their gardens and oysters from the Potomac River.

Procuring many of the ingredients for these dishes would seem arduous by today's standards. Fortunately, Washington kept meticulous records and many visitors commented on the meals. George placed orders with various English merchants for things like almonds, refined sugar and exotic spices. Mount Vernon guides snicker and say that when George married Martha, the former bachelor stopped ordering pickles from abroad, that his "shopping list" changed significantly.

## Varied Beverages

Diners imbibed cider, peach and apple brandy and ale, produced on the plantation.

SEE 'AN EXCELLENT', PAGE 8

## A new type of practice from leading Alexandria physician Dr. Michael Redding

More than three decades of experience caring for the community



### Benefits of my concierge practice include:

- Little to no waiting
- Longer, unrushed appointments
- 24/7 direct communications
- Most insurances accepted

"I learned from my father and grandfather that the patient always comes first. In my concierge practice, I will have more time to focus on preventative care and improving actual outcomes."

– Michael A. Redding MD



**Michael A. Redding, MD**

Concierge Family Practice

Office at **6476 Landsdowne Centre Drive** in **Alexandria, VA 22315**  
Call **(571) 814-5818** for more information and to enroll in the practice



Woodbine is pleased to partner with Northern Virginia Community College Medical Education Campus and nursing students learning about community, public health and the vital role nurses play in keeping populations healthy and safe

## Blood Pressure and Health Screening

Tuesday, December 13th 9am - 5pm  
2729 King St, Alexandria, VA 22303



Hop on MEC Mobile, NOVA's Medical Education Campus Mobile Health Services on Wheels for a tour and health screening performed by Northern Virginia Community College nursing students. The bus will be parked at Woodbine with plenty of parking for visitors.

### Over 60?

Stop in between 11:00am and 2:00pm to sign up for your Silver Service Card from Senior Services of Alexandria that offers discounts to Alexandria Seniors 60 and over at many participating restaurants and retail businesses. Find the list at seniorservicesalex.org.



(703) 836-8838 // 2729 King Street Alexandria, VA 22302 // WoodbineRehab.com



**Sign up for  
FREE DIGITAL  
SUBSCRIPTION**  
to any or all of our 15 papers  
[WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM/SUBSCRIBE](http://WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM/SUBSCRIBE)



## NEWS

# ‘An Excellent Table’

FROM PAGE 7

They sipped wine from France and Germany. George was fond of Portuguese Madeira.

George bought up to 50 pounds of chocolate bricks each year. Hot chocolate was a favorite holiday treat, made with ground cocoa, spices, hot water and a little sugar, then frothed. Year-round they enjoyed cherry bounce, a mixture of sour cherry juice, brandy, cinnamon, cloves, nutmeg and sugar.

## Powered by Enslaved People

Of course, the festive holidays and non-stop hospitality were possible because on the five farms, 317 enslaved people labored in bondage, 88 at the Mansion House Farm in 1799. Cooks like Doll and Hercules typically rose at 4 a.m. and finished at 8 p.m. when they cleaned up the kitchen.

Enslaved people received a daily ration of about four cups of cornmeal and five to eight ounces of

fish. After the fall hog slaughter, they got the less desirable cuts, like the pigs’ feet, jowls and ribs. Some could supplement their food by having their own gardens, raising chickens and hunting wild game.

The enslaved people who did not work in the mansion got four days off for Christmas and celebrated with games and family time, says Annette Ahrens, Senior Interpreter. “Archeological evidence suggests they may have brewed persimmon beer for the holidays. Also, archeological evidence suggests a mix of Christian, Muslim and traditional African practices among the enslaved people,” she offers.

The Washingtons celebrated the Christian 12 Days of Christmas, which involved feasts, fox hunts and other festivities. The twelfth night doubled as a wedding anniversary fete since the pair married on Jan. 6, 1759. Because they had a steady flow of visitors, George once called his home “a well-sorted tavern.”

An English visitor in 1777, Nicholas Cresswell, was impressed. “He keeps an excellent table,” Cresswell wrote.



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

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

Published by  
**Local Media Connection LLC**  
1606 King Street  
Alexandria, Virginia 22314

Free digital edition delivered to your email box. Go to [connectionnewspapers.com/subscribe](http://connectionnewspapers.com/subscribe)

**NEWS DEPARTMENT:**  
[gazette@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:gazette@connectionnewspapers.com)

**Editor & Publisher**  
Mary Kimm  
[mkimm@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:mkimm@connectionnewspapers.com)  
@MaryKimm

**Jeanne Theismann**  
[jtheismann@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:jtheismann@connectionnewspapers.com)  
@TheismannMedia

**Janet Barnett, John Bordner, Mark Mogle**  
Contributing Photographers  
[gazette@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:gazette@connectionnewspapers.com)

**Shirley Ruhe**  
Contributing Photographer and Writer  
[gazette@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:gazette@connectionnewspapers.com)

**Eden Brown, Bridgette Adu-Wadier**  
Contributing Writers  
[gazette@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:gazette@connectionnewspapers.com)

**Hope Nelson**  
Food Writer  
[hope@kitchenrecessionista.com](mailto:hope@kitchenrecessionista.com)  
@kitchenrecess

**Michael Pope**  
Senior Reporter  
[michaelpope@gmail.com](mailto:michaelpope@gmail.com)  
@michaelpope

**ADVERTISING:**  
For advertising information  
[sales@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:sales@connectionnewspapers.com)  
703-778-9431

## We Reach Your Markets!

- Email Blasts • Digital Billboards • Website Videos
- Exclusive Front Page Shoutout • Digital Edition Subscribers
- Print Edition Readers • Sponsored Content



**PRINT** **DIGITAL** **SOCIAL**

For Advertising:

Call: 703-778-9431

Email: [advertising@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:advertising@connectionnewspapers.com)

**Same Company, Same Employees,  
Same Great Value - Now Celebrating 20 Years!**

## TWO POOR TEACHERS Kitchen and Bathroom Remodeling



- Electrical (ELE)
- Gas Fitting (GFC)
- Heating Ventilation and Air Conditioning (HVA)
- Plumbing (PLB)
- Residential Building (RBC)

Fully Insured & Class A Licensed  
Since 1999



**10% down**  
nothing until the job  
is complete for the  
past 17 years

**Free Estimates 703-999-2929**

Check if your contractor is licensed at the state level  
<http://www.DPOR.virginia.gov>

Visit our website: [www.twopoorteachers.com](http://www.twopoorteachers.com)



TO ADVERTISE IN THIS PAPER, CALL BY MONDAY 11:00 AM 703-778-9411



PHOTO BY BRIAN KNAPP PHOTOGRAPHY

## A Christmas Carol

The Puppet Seller (Adiya Koram), Tiny Tim (Oliver Lankin), the Pie Seller (Pat Mahoney), Charlotte (Eleni Ruiz), and the Book Seller (Andrea Spitz) conspire to commit some light mischief in the spirit of Christmas in Ken Ludwig's "Tiny Tim's Christmas Carol," playing now through Dec. 17 at The Little Theatre of Alexandria. Tickets available at [www.thelittletheatre.com](http://www.thelittletheatre.com)

## HOLIDAY ENTERTAINMENT 2022

### DEC 1-23

"Snow Maiden." At Synetic Theater, 1800 S. Bell St, Arlington. In a frozen forest, a lonely boy builds a girl from snow. When she mysteriously comes to life, mischief, laughter, and enchantment abound. But what will happen when the ice begins to melt? Told through dazzling movement, dance, and acrobatics, Snow Maiden is a magical tale of hope, friendship and the transformative power of dreams. Based on the beloved folktale Snegurochka, Snow Maiden is a holiday treat for friends and fans of all ages.

### DEC. 1-31

Home for the Holidays Art Show. At Arts Herndon, 750 Center Street, Herndon. Works by local artists on display the entire month of December. Visit [www.artsherndon.org](http://www.artsherndon.org). Call 703-956-6590.

### DEC. 2-17

The PARC at Tysons Holiday Market. Fridays and Saturdays. Celebrate the holiday season with local makers, crafters, and artisans from the Fairfax County area! Visit the holiday market at The PARC at Tysons on the first three Fridays and Saturdays of December for a pop-up shop of local artisans and small businesses offering holiday-inspired goods. The PARC will be transformed into a festive indoors and outdoors winter village, featuring a local holiday market and (free!) snowtastic activities for the whole family to enjoy! Food and beverages can be purchased onsite from local businesses as well.

### DEC. 2-11

Traveling Players presents "Commedia Christmas Carol." Tickets are now available for "Commedia Christmas Carol," which runs Fridays-Sundays, Dec. 2- Dec. 11 at Traveling Players Studio in Tysons Corner Center. Performed by Traveling Players middle and high school students, the play is a new imagining of Dickens' classic ghost story, a perfect holiday treat for the whole family. Visit <https://www.travelingplayers.org/performances/>

### DEC. 2-18

Holiday Market. At 2704 Mount Vernon Ave., Alexandria. Del Ray Artisans 27th Annual Holiday Market offers unique handmade fine arts and crafts from local artists. Choose from wall art, pottery, photography, jewelry, glass, and much more! Plus 2023 wall calendars to support Del Ray Artisans nonprofit. Free admission. Market is the first three weekends in December (Dec 2-4, Dec 9-11, Dec 16-18). Different artists each weekend! Open Fridays 6-9 p.m., Saturdays & Sundays 11 a.m.-6 p.m.



The Mia Saunders School of Ballet presents "The Nutcracker" on Dec. 10-11 at Centreville High School.

Details: [delrayartisans.org/holiday-market](http://delrayartisans.org/holiday-market)

### DEC. 2-11

Fairfax City Holiday Market. Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays. The Fairfax City Downtown Holiday Market will be open the first two weekends of December on Friday, Saturday and Sunday. Shop at the market of craft vendors as you enjoy Old Town Square in the heart of Historic Downtown Fairfax covered in holiday lights. The festival will include live holiday music, hot drinks, heated tents and gourmet treats, and more!

### HOLIDAYS AT THE GRANGE

Saturday/Dec. 10. 3 p.m. Holiday Afternoon Tea.  
Sunday/Dec. 11. 4:30 p.m. Amadeus Presents Sounds of the Season.

SEE HOLIDAY CALENDAR, PAGE 10

### Announcements

#### CLARIDGE HOUSE II

301 N. Ripley St.,  
Alexandria VA 22304  
Tel: 703-823-5444  
Claridge House

#### Waiting List opens on December 13, 2022.

Claridge House is an Elderly subsidized Section 8 apartment for 62 years old and over and a limited number of apartments for persons with disabilities.



### Legals

#### ABC LICENSE

Artisans & Vines, LLC trading as Artisans & Vines LLC, 4700 Eisenhower Drive, Alexandria, VA, 22304.4806. The above establishment is applying to the VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL (ABC) AUTHORITY for In-State Wine Wholesaler license to sell or manufacture alcoholic beverages. Terence Shiple, Managing Partner. Date notice posted at establishment 1/23/2022.  
NOTE: Objections to the issuance of this license must be submitted to ABC no later than 30 days from the publishing date of the first of two required newspaper legal notices. Objections should be registered at [www.abc.virginia.gov](http://www.abc.virginia.gov) or (800) 552-3200.

### Legals

### Legals

## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Notice of Realty Action: Proposed exchange of Federally owned land and interests in land located in the City of Alexandria (CoA), Virginia, for non-Federal land located in Prince William County, Virginia.

I. The following described Federally owned land and interests in land, which are administered by the National Park Service, have been determined to be suitable for disposal by exchange. The authority for this exchange is 54 U.S.C. § 102901(b), which authorizes the Secretary of the Interior to acquire property within a unit of the National Park System in exchange for Federally owned property under the Secretary's jurisdiction that the Secretary determines is suitable for disposal and that is in the same State as the non-Federal property to be acquired.

The selected Federal land and interests in land are currently managed by the George Washington Memorial Parkway (GWMP). The property to be conveyed is required for the construction of the Potomac Yard Metro Station and is no longer required for inclusion in the GWMP. The land has been surveyed for cultural resources, endangered species, and threatened species. A Statement of Findings document was also prepared to comply with NPS wetlands protection and floodplain management procedures and Executive Orders 11988, 11990, and 13690.

The Federal interests to be conveyed to the CoA are fee title to GWMP Tract 108-014A, consisting of 0.33 acres, more or less, and a scenic easement in GWMP Tract 108-028A, consisting of 2.19 acres, more or less. Tract 108-014A is a portion of those same lands which were transferred from the Administrator of Civil Aeronautics, Department of Commerce to the Department of the Interior, National Park Service by Executive Order 9851 dated May 13, 1947. Tract 108-028A is a portion of the scenic easement conveyed to the United States from Commonwealth Atlantic Properties, Inc. et al. by that certain deed dated March 24, 2000, and recorded on March 30, 2000, among the land records of the City of Alexandria, VA, in Deed Book 5341 on Page 24. The United States of America will convey title by quitclaim deed.

II. In exchange for the lands identified in Paragraph I, the United States of America will acquire title to two tracts located in Prince William Forest Park (PRWI). The non-Federal tracts to be conveyed are PRWI Tracts 02-102 and 02-103, which contain 7.96 and 7.13 acres, more or less, respectively. These parcels are not located within a floodplain. The United States will acquire fee simple title to these lands, subject only to encumbrances of record.

The value of the properties to be exchanged has been determined by fair market value appraisals. The value of the land or interests in land to be conveyed by the CoA to the United States is less than the value of the land or interests in land to be conveyed by the United States to the CoA. To equalize value, the CoA will include a cash equalization payment with its land to be exchanged. The CoA will convey title by quitclaim deed.

Detailed information about this exchange, including precise legal descriptions, survey plats, the Record of Decision, and other documentation concerning the NPS's compliance with applicable Federal laws, is available online at: <https://parkplanning.nps.gov/PotomacYardLandExchange>.

Comments may be submitted at: <https://parkplanning.nps.gov/PotomacYardLandExchange> or by email to [gwmp\\_superintendent@nps.gov](mailto:gwmp_superintendent@nps.gov) or by mail to Realty Officer, Land Resources Program Center, National Capital Region, National Park Service, 1100 Ohio Drive SW, Washington D.C. 20242. Comments must be postmarked or submitted online within 45 calendar days of the date of publication of this notice to receive consideration. The NPS will evaluate all timely comments and may modify or vacate the realty action in response to them. In the absence of any action to modify or vacate, this realty action will become the final determination of the Department of Interior.

10/26/22

Date

LISA MENDELSON  
IELMINI

Digitally signed by LISA  
MENDELSON-IELMINI  
Date: 2022.10.26 21:10:24  
-0400

Kym A. Hall  
Regional Director  
National Capital Region  
National Park Service

TO ADVERTISE IN THIS PAPER, CALL BY MONDAY 11:00 AM 703-778-9411

Upgrade Your Home with a  
**NEW METAL ROOF**  
Guaranteed to Last a Lifetime!

**LIMITED TIME OFFER**  
**60% off**  
YOUR INSTALLATION  
+  
**TAKE AN ADDITIONAL**  
**10% off**  
Install for Military, Health Workers and First Responders

Call today to schedule your  
**FREE ESTIMATE**  
**1-844-902-4611**

**ERIE** Metal Roofs  
New orders only. Does not include material costs. Cannot be combined with any other offer. Minimum purchase required. Other restrictions may apply. This is an advertisement placed on behalf of Erie Construction Mid-West, Inc. ("Erie"). Offer terms and conditions may apply and the offer may not be available in your area. Offer expires December 31, 2022. If you call the number provided, you consent to being contacted by telephone, SMS text message, email, pre-recorded messages by Erie or its affiliates and service providers using automated technologies notwithstanding if you are on a DO NOT CALL list or register. Please review our Privacy Policy and Terms of Use on [homeservicescompliance.com](http://homeservicescompliance.com). All rights reserved. VA License Number: 270502944

Prepare for Power Outages & Save Money

**GENERAC PWRCELL**  
SOLAR + BATTERY STORAGE SYSTEM

REQUEST A FREE QUOTE!

**ACT NOW TO RECEIVE A \$300 SPECIAL OFFER!\***  
| (833) 688-1378

\*Offer value when purchased at retail. Solar panels sold separately.

Save now with  
**50% OFF\***  
Your First Application  
AMERICA'S #1  
LAWN CARE COMPANY

**TRUGREEN**  
Caring for next spring's perfect lawn starts now.

Call for your FREE, no-obligation quote today!  
**1-855-942-6217**

\*Special price is for first lawn application only. Requires purchase of annual plan, for new residential EasyPay or PrePay customers only. Valid at participating TruGreen locations. Availability of services may vary by geography. Not to be combined with or used in conjunction with any other offer or discount. Additional restrictions may apply. Consumer responsible for all sales tax. \*Purchase of annual lawn plan required for Healthy Lawn Analysis, which is performed at the first visit. America's #1 lawn care company based on U.S. market share of professional lawn care companies. 2021 MMR Brand Health Tracker. \*Guarantee applies to annual plan customers only. BBB accredited since 07/01/2012. ©2022 TruGreen Limited Partnership. All rights reserved. In Connecticut, B-0153, B-1380, B-0127, B-0200, B-0151.

**GENERAC**

Prepare for power outages today  
WITH A HOME STANDBY GENERATOR

\$0 MONEY DOWN + LOW MONTHLY PAYMENT OPTIONS

Contact a Generac dealer for full terms and conditions

REQUEST A FREE QUOTE  
CALL NOW BEFORE THE NEXT POWER OUTAGE  
**(844) 947-1479**

**FREE** 7-Year Extended Warranty\*  
- A \$695 Value!

\*To qualify, consumers must request a quote, purchase, install and activate the generator with a participating dealer. Call for a full list of terms and conditions.

**GUARANTEED Life Insurance up to \$20,000.00**

Modified Whole Life Insurance from Physicians Life Insurance Company

- Cash to help pay funeral or other final expenses
- Guaranteed acceptance ages 45 to 85\*
- No medical exam, no health questions

Call for FREE Information  
**1-844-509-1697**  
or go to [life55plus.info/vapress](http://life55plus.info/vapress)

► You'll also get a FREE Final Wishes Planner!

\*Ages may vary by state. Guaranteed for one of these life insurance policies. Benefits reduced first two years. Insurance Policy L770 (ID: L770ID; OK: L770OK; TN: L770TN). 6236

**Leaf Filter**  
GUTTER PROTECTION

BACKED BY A YEAR-ROUND CLOG-FREE GUARANTEE

EXCLUSIVE LIMITED TIME OFFER!

**20% OFF + 10% OFF**  
YOUR ENTIRE PURCHASE + SENIORS & MILITARY!

FINANCING THAT FITS YOUR BUDGET!  
\*Subject to credit approval. Call for details.  
USA  
Promo Code: 285  
FREE GUTTER ALIGNMENT + FREE GUTTER CLEANING\*

CALL US TODAY FOR A FREE ESTIMATE  
**1-877-614-6667**  
Mon-Thurs: 8am-11pm, Fri-Sat: 8am-5pm, Sun: 2pm-8pm EST

A COMPANY OF LEAFHOME

\*For those who qualify. One coupon per household. No obligation estimate valid for 1 year. \*\*Offer valid at time of estimate only. 21The leading consumer reporting agency conducted a 16 month outdoor test of gutter guards in 2010 and recognized LeafFilter as the "#1 rated professionally installed gutter guard system in America." Manufactured in Plainwell, Michigan and processed at TMI Mercer Group in Ohio. See Representative for full warranty details. Registration# D366920922 CA#B# 1025795 Registration# HC 2640905 License# CBC055670 License# REC-51604 Registration# C122200 License# 59354 Suffolk, VA License# 52229-F License# 2102212986 License# 26200022 License# 262000403 License# 2105212346 License# MVHC111225 Registration# 176447 License# 423330 Registration# IR731804 License# 50145 License# 408693 Registration# 13VH0905900 Registration# H-19114 License# 218204 Registration# PAD69383 License# 41354 License# 7656 DOP# 10783658-0501 License# 423330 License# 2705169445 License# LEAFFNW822J2 License# WV056912

The Bath or Shower You've Always Wanted  
IN AS LITTLE AS 1 DAY

**\$1000 OFF\*** OR **No Payments & No Interest for 18 Months\*\***  
Military & Senior Discounts Available

OFFER EXPIRES DECEMBER 31, 2022

**CALL NOW!**  
**BCI BATH & SHOWER (844) 945-1631**

\*Includes product and labor, bathtub, shower or walk-in tub and wall surround. This promotion cannot be combined with any other offer. Other restrictions may apply. This offer expires 12/31/2022. Each dealership is independently owned and operated. \*\*Third party financing is available for those customers who qualify. See your dealer for details. ©2022 BCI Acrylic, Inc.

**HOLIDAY**

FROM PAGE 9  
Visit the website: [www.gfgrange.org](http://www.gfgrange.org).

**SATURDAY/DEC. 10**  
Wintermarkt. 12-7 p.m. Bringing the Old World charm of Christmas in Europe to Herndon. Family-focused events, entertainment, and items for all members of the household. Downtown Herndon, 777 Lynn Street, Herndon. Visit [Herndon-wintermarkt.com](http://Herndon-wintermarkt.com) or call 571-323-5300.

**SATURDAY/DEC. 10**  
Christmas Around the World. 4-8 p.m. At Parkwood Baptist Church, 8726 Braddock Road, Annandale. "Christmas Around the World," celebrating Jesus' birth features concerts, costumed reenactors, live animals, biblical stories. Tickets at [www.parkwood.org/registration](http://www.parkwood.org/registration) beginning Nov. 28. Free parking. Visit the website: [www.parkwood.org](http://www.parkwood.org)

**SATURDAY/DEC. 10**  
Holiday Cheer. 7:30 p.m. at Unitarian Universalist Church of Arlington, 4444 Arlington Blvd., Arlington. Presented by the National Chamber Ensemble. This program brings the finest classical masterpieces and traditional holiday favorites together for a fun and memorable evening for the entire family. Festivities begin with a "Sleigh Ride" - Leroy Anderson's classic and "Chanukkah Festival". Soprano Nancy Peery Marriott (soprano), a long-time NCE favorite, will perform seasonal favorites and lead a Carol Sing-along that will have the entire audience joining in the spirit of the holidays. Tickets: <https://www.nationalchamberensemble.org/tickets.htm>

**SATURDAY/DEC. 10**  
Christmas Carol Sing-Along. 3-5 p.m. Historic Pleasant Grove is holding its annual Christmas Carol Sing, followed by cookies and hot cider, at our quaint historic site. Free community event at 8641 Lewinsville Road, McLean. Visit [www.HistoricPleasantGrove.org](http://www.HistoricPleasantGrove.org).

**SATURDAY/DEC. 10**  
Christmas Calamity Improv. 7-9:30 p.m. Come ring the bells! Improv with a seasonal twist! At Arts Herndon, 750 Center Street, Herndon. Visit [artsherndon.org](http://artsherndon.org). Tickets \$15. Call 703-956-6590.

**DEC. 10-11**  
"The Nutcracker." 4 p.m. At Centerville High School, Centerville. Presented by the Mia Saunders School of Ballet. Tickets available at the door or online for Saturday and Sunday shows for \$10 for children under 5 and \$12 for ages 6 & up. Proceeds benefit CVHS Drama Scholarships and the Chesapeake Bay Foundation. More info at [MiaSaundersBallet.com](http://MiaSaundersBallet.com).

**SUNDAY/DEC. 11**  
Toys for Tots Concert. 6 p.m. At Vienna Community Center, 120 Cherry Street, SE, Vienna. The Vienna Community Band is partnering with the Marine Toys for Tots Foundation to celebrate 75 years of giving! There's no charge for admission. They ask you to bring a new unwrapped toy to the concert. All collected toys are distributed to children in Fairfax County. Visit [https://www.viennacomunity-band.org/](http://https://www.viennacomunity-band.org/)

# CALENDAR



Take a Holiday Candlelight Tour of Mount Vernon Estate Dec. 9, 10 and 18.

## NOW THRU DEC. 29

**An Eye for Nature Exhibition.** At Mount Vernon Unitarian Church, 1909 Windmill Lane, Alexandria. Nina Tisara and Steven Halperson have teamed up for an exhibition of Tisara's mosaic art and Halperson's fine art photography. The exhibit may be seen from 10 a.m. to noon, Mondays and Tuesdays and 7 to 9 p.m. on Thursdays except for Thanksgiving. To schedule other hours contact [ninat@nina-tisara.com](mailto:ninat@nina-tisara.com).

## NOW THRU JAN. 8, 2023

**The Botanical Gourmet.** Presented by the Botanical Arts Society of the National Capital Region. At The Athenaeum, Alexandria. For eons, animals ranging from massive leaf-eating dinosaurs to minuscule nectar sipping insects have been attuned to the healthful benefits of a plant-based diet. For their part, plants have enlisted the help of animals by attracting them with visual and other cues for purposes of reproduction. These interactions, while necessary, are purely transactional. They lack the aesthetic spirit. That's where botanical artists step in. Botanical art is neither scientific illustration nor decorative floral composition, but an engaging combination of the two. Like blue jays or cabbage moths, botanical artists are drawn to shiny red berries and bright yellow flowers, but unlike other creatures, they have the means to depict their attraction. The works in this exhibit focus specifically on plants that have health-giving nutritional properties for people.

## DEC. 2-18

**Del Ray Artisans Holiday Market.** At 2704 Mount Vernon Ave., Alexandria. Offers unique handmade fine arts and crafts from local artists. Choose from wall art, pottery, photography, jewelry, glass, and much more! Plus 2023 wall calendars to support Del Ray Artisans nonprofit. Free admission. Market is Dec. 9-11, Dec. 16-18. Different artists each weekend! Open Fridays 6-9 p.m., Saturdays and Sundays 11 a.m.-6 p.m. Details: [delrayartisans.org/holiday-market](http://delrayartisans.org/holiday-market)

## DEC. 9, 10, 18

**Holiday Candlelight Tour.** At Mount Vernon Estate, Mount Vernon. Experience the holidays like George and Martha Washington. Meet Mrs. Washington and 18th-century Mount Vernon residents during a 45-minute candlelit estate tour, see the themed Christmas trees, and shop for holiday gifts.

## SUNDAY/DEC. 11

**Washington Philharmonic.** 3 p.m. At George Washington Masonic National Memorial. Featuring Anna Binneweg, conductor; Michael Stephen Brown, piano Beethoven: Coriolan Overture, Op. 62 Michael Stephen Brown: Concerto for Piano and Strings Tchaikovsky: Symphony No. 5 in E minor, Op. 64

## MONDAY/DEC. 12

Have you ever experienced Aurora Borealis? Start

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

off the season with this magical ultra violet art class with resident artist Mirela. Pop on by on Monday, Dec. 12 for a colorful evening of painting with resident artist Mirela. Reservations are required and seating is limited. Visit <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/palette-22-art-sip-winter-aurora-borealis-tickets-462632455127?aff=Dec22Email>

## DEC. 16 AND 17

**Christmas Illuminations.** At Historic Mount Vernon Estate, Mount Vernon. Celebrate the holidays with friends and family during an enchanted evening that includes illuminations, fireworks on the Potomac, Christmas carolers, 18th-century wares and crafts, Aladdin the Camel, and season's greetings by General Washington.

## FRIDAY/DEC. 16

**West Potomac High School Lady Wolverine Youth Night.** West Potomac girls basketball swings into action on Friday, Dec. 16 at its Wolverdome gym. Play between West Potomac and South County will include three games: Freshmen Game - 4:30 p.m. Junior Varsity Game - 5:45 p.m. Varsity Game - 7:30 p.m. All youth enter free (with a paying adult) and can enjoy games and prizes at half time of every game. Plus, there will be an autograph session after the varsity game.

## THE BIRCHMERE

At 3701 Mount Vernon Ave., Alexandria. All shows are at 7:30 p.m., unless otherwise noted. Tickets available at [Ticketmaster.com](http://Ticketmaster.com). Contact The Birchmere at 703-549-7500 or [www.Birchmere.com](http://www.Birchmere.com).

## DECEMBER

Thu. 8: An Acoustic Christmas with Over The Rhine \$45.00  
 Fri. 9: Delvon Lamarr Organ Trio \$29.50  
 Sat. 10: Pieces of A Dream \$45.00  
 Sun. 11: Karla Bonoff & Livingston Taylor "Home for the Holidays" \$45.00  
 Mon. 12: Samantha Fish w/ The Jesse Dayton Band \$45.00 SOLD OUT!  
 Tue. 13: Storm Large: Holiday Ordeal \$59.50  
 Thu. 15: Carbon Leaf \$45.00  
 Fri. 16: Carbon Leaf \$45.00 SOLD OUT!  
 Sat. 17: Southside Johnny & The Asbury Jukes \$49.50  
 Sun. 18: LUTHER RE-LIVES Holiday Concert featuring William "Smooth" Wardlaw \$45.00  
 Tue. 20: Samara Joy "A Joyful Holiday" \$39.50 SOLD OUT!  
 Wed. 21: A John Waters Christmas \$59.50  
 Thu. 22: MAYSA - A Very MAYSA Christmas! \$69.50  
 Fri. 23: Charles Esten w/ N'est Pas \$59.50  
 Thu. 29: Bela Dona Band \$35.00  
 Fri. 30: 25th Annual HANK WILLIAMS Tribute with Robin & Linda Williams, Daryl Davis, Cathy Fink & Marcy Marxer, Patrick McAvinue, & Alex Lacquement \$35.00  
 Sat. 31: New Years Eve with The Seldom Scene, Eastman String Band, & Wicked Sycamore -8pm- \$49.50

# BUSINESS DIRECTORY

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

CALL 703-549-0004

FOR ADVERTISING INFORMATION

<b>ELECTRICAL</b>	<b>ELECTRICAL</b>
<b>K &amp; D ELECTRIC</b>	
<b>COMMERCIAL / RESIDENTIAL SERVICE</b>	
Family Owned & Operated	
Recessed Lighting Ceiling Fans Phone/CATV Computer Network Cabling Service Upgrades Hot Tubs, etc...	Licensed/Bonded/Insured Office 703-335-0654 Mobile 703-499-0522 <a href="mailto:lektrkman28@gmail.com">lektrkman28@gmail.com</a>

<b>LANDSCAPING</b>	<b>LANDSCAPING</b>
<b>Landscape Drainage</b>	<b>Landscape Drainage</b>
<p><b>ProDrainage</b> A JES Services, Inc Company Eco-Friendly Landscape Drainage Experts Drainage, Erosion, Landscaping, Hardscaping, Patios, Retaining Walls &amp; More Your Neighborhood Company since 1987! <b>703-772-0500</b> <a href="http://www.ProDrainage.com">www.ProDrainage.com</a> VA. Licensed Class A Contractor</p>	

**Sign up for FREE DIGITAL SUBSCRIPTION**  
to any or all of our 15 papers  
[WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM/SUBSCRIBE](http://WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM/SUBSCRIBE)

**We Need Your Help Again**

We are sincerely grateful and thankful to you for helping in 2021 to save one of America's oldest newspapers, the Alexandria Gazette Packet, publishing continuously since 1784

**Alexandria Gazette Packet**  
Publishing Since 1784

And affiliated newspapers:  
**THE CONNECTION** Newspapers & Online  
**Mount Vernon Gazette**  
**POTOMAC ALMANAC**  
**Centre View**

Thank you to the hundreds of supporters who helped to keep all your Connection Newspapers alive throughout Alexandria, Fairfax County, Arlington County and Potomac, Md. along with affiliated websites and digital media. Now we need help again in 2022.

Each local newspaper's mission aspires to provide greater community service, and we do know that our communities are better off if we continue to publish. Last year's financial support from readers and supporters like you bridged the shortfall before Federal PPP funding arrived, and both made our survival possible. We now await a decision for a grant from Rebuild Virginia in early February that we hope will help us in 2022 and beyond. But we need help to survive the first quarter, always a brutal time for cash flow in weekly newspapers. Thank you.

The pandemic has been a bear, financially and otherwise. Revenue plummeted at the beginning in 2020. Some beloved advertisers have stayed the course supporting us throughout, and many more have done what they can. In the fall of 2021 we saw the return of some advertising for events and Grand Openings, but now omicron clouds the horizon in so many ways. Revenue still remains short of expenses despite our greatly curtailed costs.

Please, help save these historical papers. Connection Newspapers has been offering these local newspapers to residents for over 200 years. Countless residents have grown up with these papers covering significant moments in the lives of family and children, news, community events, school activities, and even pictures of your dogs and cats. Internet news and large national newspapers cannot provide the local connection or historical connection that local papers like Connection Newspapers and the Alexandria Gazette Packet provide. If your child, dog, mother, father, neighborhood, school has been featured, you understand the value of local community newspapers.

Visit [connectionnewspapers.com](http://connectionnewspapers.com) or <https://www.gofundme.com/f/help-keep-your-newspaper-printing>

Connection Newspapers... Alexandria Gazette Packet, Mount Vernon Gazette, Centre View, Potomac Almanac  
 1606 King Street • Alexandria, VA • 703-778-9431

# "IN THE GRASP"



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

(Recent emails have prompted this column.) "In the grasp" is a football expression most often associated with quarterbacks being "sacked," (a defensive player having a secure hold of the quarterback). This basically means that the play is over/"the play is dead." It could also characterize an online scam. (I should know.) It occurs when you are speaking with someone at the end of an 800 number who is asking for remote control of your computer to install, upgrade, download, upload, and/or fix whatever computer problem precipitated this call. You're asking/need help and consequently, you might be putting yourself at risk.

I experienced this circumstance one time and it nearly cost me \$3,000. I responded to an online solicitation that seemed to offer a reward/payout for something. It seemed harmless enough, so I made the call. Given how our consuming patterns have evolved with the internet, responding to emails from mostly familiar brands and buying some of what they're selling, "cyber-Monday" comes to mind, is how much of our consuming is done these days. And of course, you pay with a credit card to complete the transaction. However, sometimes the solicitations/sites are not what they purport to be. It's difficult to discern, occasionally, whether "it's live or if its Memorex." Sometimes, it's hard to tell fact from fiction/ to know what's real or what's not (dangerous). (Beginning in the 70s, Memorex advertised Ella Fitzgerald "scatting" into a microphone, live, and showing a glass breaking from her sound. Then they played their recording from the performance and again the wine glass shattered. And then the voice-over asked: "Is it live or Memorex?")

I think this is what happened to me when "I was in the grasp" after multiple hours on the phone. My innocent inquiry into the "real" offer lead me down more than just a garden path. Instead, it led very nearly to my bank - to pay the piper. It all started innocently enough (so I thought) with me giving control of my computer to this voice on the other end of the phone to process the purchase/payment due me. The payment was made to my bank, and I was told to go online and check my account. When I looked, I noticed a \$3,000 (not \$30) deposit. They made a mistake or so it seemed. Still on the phone with this far-away person, he admitted they made a mistake and to receive my real reward, I needed to repay them the \$3,000. I suggested that they simply retrieve the money the same way they deposited it. He said they couldn't do that - for whatever reason, and that I needed to repay them, this time said with a bit more urgency. I began to sense that I was being manipulated and slowed my roll accordingly.

Unfortunately, they sped up their roll and said if I didn't repay them, blah, blah, blah. I didn't agree and then their grip/manipulation got tighter. Having control of my computer, he deleted all my icons. I couldn't quite figure out what they were doing. Then when I asked for the icons to be returned, the scam took a nastier turn. He said, he was going to "lock" my computer unless I repaid the \$3,000. Being into the second hour of this negotiation, I began to get nervous - and flustered, realizing that unless I paid this ransom, my computer and all its memories would be gone, and since my computer is my business (and I have minimal computer skills/knowledge), I acquiesced and asked how what I should do to resolve this matter. He said I need to go to my bank and get a certified check (payable to whom I don't remember) and then go to a local Western Union office near me home and wire them the money. Now I officially realized that I was in trouble/at risk of losing this \$3,000. With no alternatives, so far as I knew (which wasn't very far), I went outside and got into my car and started driving to my bank, while still on the cell phone with this "solicitor." About halfway there, I decided I didn't want to be a victim and so I told the man I was not going to pay him. He got mad and said he "was going to lock my computer," (I determined that the \$3,000 payment would be more harmful to me than the computer lock). I turned the car around and returned home to find out if I had suffered any consequences for not paying. Sure enough, when I got home, I tried to turn on the computer, but I found it impossible to do so. Apparently, this man was indeed a man of his word, as far as locking my computer is concerned anyway. Now, whenever I receive emails from unfamiliar sites, they remain unseen. I learned my lesson, very nearly the hard way (unlocking the computer simply required a trip to Best Buy, computer in hand and to pay a fee for unlocking services rendered). I may not be the sharpest knife in the drawer but thankfully I'm not the dullest, either.

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

McEneaney Associates has always had one motto in mind... not to be the biggest, but the best. For more than 40 years, our Associates have lived in and supported Alexandria, helping to build our town into the thriving community it is today. To learn more about our Associates and our firm, visit [www.WeAreAlexandria.com](http://www.WeAreAlexandria.com)

#WeAreAlexandria



**Beverly Hills | \$1,949,000**

Stunning complete renovation by Morris Construction. Situated in a cul-de-sac, this spacious 6-bedroom, 5-bath home features custom woodwork & trim, oak hardwood flooring, designer tile & lighting, & gourmet kitchen. Minutes to Del Ray & Old Town. 304 Lee Circle  
**Jen Walker 703.675.1566**  
[www.JenWalker.com](http://www.JenWalker.com)



**Del Ray | \$1,275,000**

1927 Sears kit home – expanded Craftsman style! 4 bedrooms, 3 full baths, first-floor primary bedroom suite, updated kitchen & baths. Heart pine floors in the original part of the house. Off-street parking for 2 cars tandem. 2 porches, deck & hot tub. 19 W Wyatt Ave  
**Cindy Clemmer 703.966.0403**  
[www.ClemmerAndSchuckHomes.com](http://www.ClemmerAndSchuckHomes.com)



**Old Town Crescent | \$875,000**

A rare find in Old Town – a true 3-bedroom condo! This sunny and quiet unit offers 1,765-SF of well designed living space including an elegant living room with gas fireplace, TWO primary suites, plus 3rd bedroom/study. 1 assigned parking space. 828 Slaters Ln #104  
**Annette Hinaman 571.216.4411**  
[www.AnnetteHinaman.com](http://www.AnnetteHinaman.com)



**Alexandria/Waynewood | \$849,900**

Expanded 4-bedroom, 2.5-bath home, meticulously maintained and updated. Kitchen and all baths remodeled, plus great room addition with vaulted ceiling and fireplace. One block to Waynewood Elementary & 4 blocks to pool. 8413 Crown Place  
**Pete Crouch 703.244.4024**  
**Katie Garcia-Crouch 703.447.1345**



OPEN SUN 12/11, 2-4PM

**Old Town North | \$599,900**

Be wowed by this gorgeous “almost new” condo in The Venue located in the developing arts district. Gorgeous kitchen, 12-ft ceilings, garage parking space, and spectacular views from the penthouse level community gathering space. 925 N Fairfax St #203  
**Julian Burke 703.867.4219**  
[www.JulianBurke.com](http://www.JulianBurke.com)



**National Harbor | \$369,000**

This premium 1-bedroom, 1-bath condo lies within a gorgeous, contemporary community with luxury amenities including front desk security, party room, fitness studio, outdoor pool, and private courtyard. 1 assigned garage space. 145 Riverhaven Drive #460  
**Jillian Keck Hogan 703.971.7655**  
[www.JillianKeckHogan.com](http://www.JillianKeckHogan.com)



**Old Town**

**\$2,475,000**

Rare opportunity fronting on Founders Park & the river. With 3,300 finished SF, 4 bedrooms and 4 full baths, this stunning 4-level townhome offers a versatile floor plan with a mix of entertaining spaces and comfortable private living. Two parking spaces. 428 N Union St

**Steve Klintberg 703.517.1881**  
**Linda Reed 703.801.0926**



**Old Town Greens**

**\$964,000**

Spacious three-story brick-façade townhome features 3 bedrooms, 3.5 baths, 2 gas fireplaces, two-car garage, walkout lower level with fenced in patio, refinished hardwoods, and is freshly painted throughout. 721 Hawkins Way

**Heidi Burkhardt 703.217.6009**  
[www.RealtorHeidiB.com](http://www.RealtorHeidiB.com)



**Del Ray**

**\$600,000**

Bring your contractor and your vision. This 3-bedroom, 1.5-bathroom, all-brick home is nestled between Commonwealth and Mt. Vernon Ave. This home needs updating and is being sold AS IS. Great location and endless possibilities!  
 15 E Windsor Ave #A

**Jeffrey Cann 703.717.1932**  
[www.JeffreyCann.com](http://www.JeffreyCann.com)

Serving the Washington, DC Metro Area since 1980.  
 703.549.9292 | 109 S. Pitt Street | Alexandria, VA 22314 | [McEneaney.com](http://McEneaney.com)

