



PHOTOS CONTRIBUTED

Aerial photograph of the waterfront with the pier and marina highlighted.

## Barging In On the Waterfront

Contractor gives residents, developers assessment of haul route options.

BY VERNON MILES  
GAZETTE PACKET

Construction is a dirty business. During the redevelopment of the current Robinson Terminal South site, 15,000 cubic yards of dirt will have to be brought to the site to raise it above flood level, and then 55,000 cubic yards will have to be removed to facilitate construction of an underground parking garage. It has to be transported to and from the Waterfront construction site along a haul route determined by the city.

A rift has formed on the waterfront between local residents and civic associations who are in favor of barging materials to and from the development sites against local residents and the developers who are as dedicated to trucking materials away from the site. At a March 17 meeting in City Hall of the Ad Hoc

Monitoring Group for the Waterfront Construction, a third party contractor was brought in to give a presentation on the costs and benefits of both proposed methods.

"I'd like to think there are opportunities to work this out," said Mayor William Euille at the meeting, "but it's not going to happen without a little give and take."

The city hired AECOM, a technical and management support company, to analyze the costs and benefits of the trucking and barging options. In general, barging is considered less disruptive to the surrounding community than trucking, but is also the more expensive option. EYA estimated that trucking would cost approximately \$3.2 million, while barging would cost \$4.8 million. Mike Baker, an environmental specialist for AECOM, noted that \$3.2 million was lower than their estimate of the cost but wasn't outside the conceivable price range. The EYA estimated that trucking would cost \$23.64 per cubic yard, while barging would cost \$30.5. The AECOM estimate put the range of the costs for trucking between \$27 and \$31. Baker attributed this discrepancy more likely to differences in where dirt could be retrieved or dis-

SEE ASSESSING HAUL, PAGE 22



Schematics for the potential barging design.

## IB to the Rescue?

Jefferson-Houston to expand International Baccalaureate program.

BY VERNON MILES  
GAZETTE PACKET

Alexandria's unaccredited Jefferson-Houston elementary and middle school is expanding its International Baccalaureate (IB) program to the full school in hopes of reforming the school's image. Jefferson-Houston will be the first and only school in the Alexandria school system to have a full International Baccalaureate program.

The program is part of the Alexandria City Public Schools' (ACPS) long-running struggle to turn around the image for the troubled school. Since 1999, when a redistricting

plan dramatically increased the number of students from lower-income homes, the school has been in an academic dive that culminated in 2013 with the school losing accreditation, the state threatening to intervene and take over the school, and eventually the school building being demolished and rebuilt. The rebuilt school opened in 2014 but test scores were lower than ever.

The accreditation benchmark is a 70 percent pass rate in math, history, and science with 75 percent pass rate for English. Last year, the school tested at a 46 percent pass rate in math, a 51 percent pass rate in history, a 36 percent pass

SEE JEFFERSON, PAGE 3

"There is the anticipation of this being a great school. Things are changing. It's good, but it's difficult."

— Shanelle Gayden, parent

## Developing in the City

One hotel property opens, another remains stalled.

BY VERNON MILES  
GAZETTE PACKET

While developments at one Carr hotel property in Alexandria remains stalled due to an impending decision by Virginia's Supreme Court, another Carr property opened across town.

On Feb. 26, the Virginia Supreme Court heard oral arguments in an appeal by three Alexandria residents, April Burke, Beth Gibney, and Marie Kux, that challenge the denial of an appeal to Alexandria's Board of Zoning Appeals. The original appeal by the three residents concerned a zoning change that would increase building height limits on the waterfront and allow for the construction of a series of hotels.

Roy Shannon, an attorney representing the three residents, argued that local citizens were stonewalled out of the appeal pro-

SEE ONE HOTEL, PAGE 3

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# Jefferson-Houston To Expand IB Program

FROM PAGE 1

rating for science, and a 47 percent pass rate for English.

In May, 2014, the School Board accepted a letter of authorization conferring IB Primary Years Programme status for some of the classes, but in the 2015-2016 school years, the school administration hopes to expand that program to include the rest of the school.

Kermit Burks, an IB coordinator for ACPS, described the program as more rigorous than the usual curriculum. IB starts with an assessment and focuses on building academic skills and organization.

The school's new principal, Christopher Phillips, previously worked as principal and vice-principal at various schools in Suffolk, Va., before taking the reins at Jefferson-Houston at the beginning of the 2014-2015 school year. Phillips said he believes the IB program will help move the school away from a test-focused curriculum.

"[International Baccalaureate] will give us a more interdisciplinary approach," said Phillips. "Everything is connected in this instructional approach; it makes kids global-minded thinkers. We don't want them just to be good test takers."

Having too many good test takers doesn't seem to be a current problem for Jefferson-Houston. 2014 was the first year in the new \$45 million re-built Jefferson-Houston and was meant as a fresh start, but the fall school numbers haven't reflected any sort of recovery yet. According to a report-card issued by the Department of Education for the 2014-2015 school year, test scores in every category except English fell dramatically. But those accreditation numbers are built on test scores from the 2013-2014 school year, and Phillips is hopeful.

Currently, Phillips plans to have pre-Kin-

dergarten through eighth grade start the 2015-2016 school year as an International Baccalaureate program. The goal for IB's first year is for 70 percent of students to complete the IB program. IB requires students to have at least 50 hours of class time in eight subject areas. Phillips said that some students may require remedial classes in certain subjects that might keep them from attaining IB status.

According to Burks, ACPS experienced significant hurdles in its plans to bring International Baccalaureate programs to Alexandria schools. The initial plan was to bring the program to all three middle schools, but the principal changes at the other schools and abrupt resignation of Superintendent Morton Sherman in 2013 forced ACPS to abandon those plans. The plan was scaled down to only Jefferson-Houston, which facing the recent loss of accreditation, was identified as the school in most dire need of academic revitalization. Phillips hopes the IB program will be enough to begin bringing students back into Jefferson-Houston.

2014 - 2015 Summary of Accountability Results								
State Accreditation Status				Federal Accountability				
Accreditation Denied				Title I Priority: Yes			Title I Focus: No	

### State Accreditation Results for All Students

This table summarizes the data used in calculating the state accreditation status of the school and is reported for the "all students" group.

State Accreditation Results for All Students								
Subject	Accreditation Benchmark	2012 - 2013		2013 - 2014		2014 - 2015		Met Accreditation Benchmark
		1 Year	3 Year	1 Year	3 Year	1 Year	3 Year	
English	75	63	67	45	59	47	52	NO
Mathematics	70	38	60	57	54	46	47	NO
History	70	50	48	52	47	51	51	NO
Science	70	44	55	53	50	36	47	NO

Key: YES = Met objective based on current year results  
AB = Met objective based on Alternative Benchmark  
- = No data for group  
\* = Data not yet available

3YR = Met objective based on the 3 year average result  
NO = Did not meet objective  
< = A group below state definition for personally identifiable results  
N/A = Not applicable

The Virginia Department of Education report card for Jefferson-Houston Elementary.



Jefferson-Houston Elementary and Middle School.

Phillips said the IB classes will have a capacity limit, and in the first few years of Jefferson-Houston's recovery he said the priority should be on ensuring that the school doesn't go over its capacity. Phillips said in a few years, he's expecting there to be a wait list for the program.

Having a waiting list also isn't one of Jefferson-Houston's immediate problems. The school has a maximum capacity of 800 students and currently has a student population of 444. By 2024, that number is expected to rise slightly to 572 students. The

school currently has 11 eighth grade students. While Alexandria's two other middle schools approach an overcrowding crisis, Jefferson-Houston's continual failure to achieve accreditation has meant the school continues to struggle to put students in its seats.

Parents at Jefferson-Houston remain optimistic. Shanelle Gayden is a parent of a sixth and a first grader at the school with another child at Minnie Howard who graduated from Jefferson-Houston. She is also leads the school's Parent Teacher Association.

"Jefferson-Houston has a history of negativity," said Gayden. "If you track the record, we've been hit for testing and having a large amount of free or reduced lunch students. It's been a challenge to understand the dynamics of the students."

But like Phillips, Gayden said she's confident this year is the start of a turn-around for the school.

"We have a group of community members and parents and staff gearing forward to moving together," said Gayden. "There is the anticipation of this being a great school. Things are changing. It's good, but it's difficult."

Gayden said she was excited to see the IB program's planned expansion into the younger years.

"All the kids in the school take a foreign language class," said Gayden. "That's an advantage, to have students taking Spanish. IB offers cultural diversity and knowledge."

Amy Liu has two daughters at Jefferson-Houston, one in first grade and the other in second. Liu says the IB program hasn't been implemented enough yet to start judging.

SEE SCHOOL TO EXPAND. PAGE 8

# One Hotel Property Opens, Another Remains Stalled

FROM PAGE 1

cess. According to Shannon, when the Board of Zoning Appeals didn't grant the citizens a hearing on a substantive issue, it violated a right given to the citizens of Alexandria by the Virginia General Assembly. Shannon also alleged that a misinterpretation of the appeal, treating it as a text amendment rather than a map amendment, kept the appeal from receiving the supermajority vote and notice requirements it was required to receive. If the appeal had been processed as a map amendment, it would have received additional advertising in Old Town, which in turn could have garnered support for the issue from the local community.

But John Wilburn, an attorney representing the City of Alexandria, the Board of Zoning Appeals, and Faroll Hamer, former director of Planning and Zoning, said that the appellants lacked justifiable grievance. In terms of advertising the appeal, Wilburn acknowledged that while there could have

been a theoretical aggrieved party, "the court has maintained that grievances can't be based on a speculative or theoretical basis." Wilburn argued that the three residents were clearly informed of the appeal, meaning none of them were directly aggrieved, so any grievance filed is on behalf of a theoretical third party.

"There's error on this issue," said Wilburn, "but it's a harmless error. These appellants have suffered no injury of any type."

Austin Flajser, president of Carr Hospitality, confirmed at a March 17 meeting of the Ad Hoc monitoring Group for Waterfront Construction that the development of Carr Hospitality's Hotel Indigo on the waterfront was ready to proceed depending on the results of the challenge in the Virginia Supreme Court. The decision is expected to be released in the spring or early summer.

While Hotel Indigo's development is stalled, the Hilton Garden Inn, owned by Carr Hospitality, held its grand opening at 1620 Prince Street on Monday, March 16.

**At the Hilton Garden Inn's opening: From left are Jim Brinkman, CFO Clark Enterprises; Mayor William Euille; Oliver Carr, president and CEO of Carr Properties; and Rich Lingenfelter, director of Brand Performance Support for Hilton Worldwide.**



The 87,855 square-foot property operates 109 rooms. The site once housed the Alexandria Floral Company, which closed in 2006. The opening ceremony for the hotel was attended by Mayor William Euille, who also took a moment to reflect on the property's history.

"This is going to help enhance the quality of life here in Alexandria," said Euille.

"I remember when this corner was a florist. The interior decorations of this building keep that floral theme moving forward."

While Euille admitted that he didn't know if that was by accident or design, Oliver Carr, president and CEO of Carr Properties, answered that "nothing is an accident."

"We love Alexandria," said Carr, "and we're not going anywhere."



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# Hawkins Steps Down From AEDP Landrum named acting CEO.

BY JEANNE THEISMANN  
GAZETTE PACKET

**V**al Hawkins, credited with luring the National Science Foundation Headquarters away from its long-time home in Ballston, stepped down effective March 15 as president and CEO of the Alexandria Economic Development Partnership.

Stephanie Landrum, the organization's chief operating officer, replaces Hawkins in an acting capacity.

"It was time to leave on a high note," Hawkins said in his first week of retirement. "We did a lot of good things with the partnership. We built one of most effective economic agencies in region. But it was time to turn things over to Stephanie, who has been my invaluable partner in all these efforts."

Hawkins, 73, joined the organization in 2009. A resident of Alexandria for 37 years, he led AEDP's efforts to market the city to prospective businesses, including locating potential commercial real estate opportunities and negotiating tax and other financial incentives.

"Val's retirement came at the perfect time for him," Landrum said. "He wants to spend more time with his grandchildren and paint more. But he is also on the board of Carpenter's Shelter and the Art League and



**Val Hawkins, a Vietnam veteran and artist, hopes to spend more time with his grandchildren in retirement.**

is chairing the Business Philanthropy Summit. His charitable efforts are a full time job so I know he'll be staying busy."

In addition to the NSF relocation to a 19-story office complex at Hoffman Town Center, Hawkins was the architect of the AEDP's Capitol Post initiative, which provides mentoring, training and business connections to veterans transitioning from active

PHOTOS BY JEANNE THEISMANN/GAZETTE PACKET

**Stephanie Landrum has been named acting CEO of AEDP.**



for 10 years.

"There is a lot of interest and appreciation today for what economic development can do for a city," Landrum said. "With the opening of Capitol Post, we are expanding our focus to start-ups and technology. These are new areas for us that came about under Val's leadership."

Along with his charitable endeavors, Hawkins plans to stay heavily involved in AEDP and the Capitol Post.

"I love this city and I am not going anywhere," Hawkins said. "What a special, special community this is. It's one of the finest jurisdictions in the country to promote and we took a lot of pride in what we doing as a team."

Hawkins stressed his support of Landrum as his successor.

"I am excited about the future for Alexandria," Hawkins said. "And with Stephanie at the helm, I know I am leaving the organization and the city in good hands."

duty.

"This is an exciting time for AEDP," Landrum said. "We have had great momentum under Val's leadership along with some huge wins – the National Science Foundation, the opening of Capitol Post. We want to keep up that momentum and find new, exciting projects."

Landrum has been with the organization



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## PEOPLE

# 'Have To Choose To Believe'

## McCoart and Brock minister at Emmanuel Episcopal.

BY SHIRLEY RUHE  
GAZETTE PACKET

**T**he Rev. Charles C. McCoart Jr. (Chuck) tosses a dog treat to Brock, his 120-pound German shepherd, takes a final gulp of diet soda and slips the Lenten purple stole over his white robe. This is the Second Sunday of Lent and the Family Service at Emmanuel Episcopal Church on Russell Road where McCoart has been since June 2013. He has welcomed 55 new families into the church since then. He says today there will be a children's message where he will compare a climbing wall that has handholds and footholds to what it is like following God — ascending higher — sometimes it's scary, sometimes it's tiring or exciting but it's worth it in the end.

### PEOPLE AT WORK

McCoart said, "I believe the example of Jesus speaking in parables is a healthy model. My job is to find the modern day parable. I'm a storyteller," he said.

The organist begins Adagio in G Minor as parishioners filter in and find their places. Small faces sprinkle the pews. McCoart opens the service with The Decalogue which he said, "I've never done before. It highlights the Ten Commandments." He explains that he is still learning things since he has recently transitioned over to the Episcopal Church from the Roman Catholic Church where he spent the first 50 years of his life. "This just feels like the theology where I'm supposed to be, welcoming and diverse, more like me — things like the ordination of women, marriage of clergy and welcoming the gay and lesbian community."

McCoart moves to the pulpit and looks out at the congregation as if he is talking to each person individually. A parishioner comments that you feel like you are sitting in his living room and he is talking directly to you. "Everyone knows," he said, "about going through life and you feel like you just can't hang onto the rope. Life is peppered with challenges but just hold on and the reward will blow your mind."

Children line up in the front of the church and a ukulele leads tiny voices in "Lord I want to be a Christian in-a my heart" punctuated by red and blue bells wielded by several determined ringers. They move into Communion as rows of parishioners proceed



**The Rev. Chuck McCoart's 120-pound German Shepherd, Brock, accompanies him to church and waits patiently in the office for McCoart's return after the Sunday service.**

PHOTOS BY SHIRLEY RUHE/GAZETTE PACKET

down the center aisle to the front rail where they kneel side by side to receive the sacraments. McCoart invites all who seek God and who are drawn to Christ to participate in the Holy Communion, his blue eyes connecting with each communicant as he offers the symbolic wafer and wine.

As the service draws to a close the benediction is "Go in Peace ... to the pancake breakfast downstairs" (twice postponed from Shrove Tuesday due to bad weather).

When he came to Emmanuel, McCoart says he had to pace himself for the marathon, not the sprint and also learn to say no: "I try to envision how to use my skills and gifts. But this isn't just up to me. We're growing together as a community welcoming everyone into the process of ministry, to be more and more the people God is calling us to be."

McCoart says that he is the eldest son of a large Irish Catholic family, and God called him when he was 17. "It was the inaudible voice of God speaking to my heart saying 'this is what I want you to do Chuck.' It took a while for me to find my way because it was pretty overwhelming."

McCoart attended seminary from 1986-90 and held various positions in the Catholic church. He came to Emmanuel after serving for eight years as pastor of Good Shepherd Roman Catholic Church on Mount Vernon.

As McCoart explains his faith, he says from the

SEE CHOOSE TO BELIEVE, PAGE 20



**The Rev. Chuck McCoart dons the white robe, will add the purple Lenten scarf and tie on his belt, then head to the sanctuary for the Family Service at Emmanuel Episcopal Church on Russell Road.**



**The Rev. Chuck McCoart reminds his congregation that holding on is worth the end result that will "blow your mind."**



**The Rev. Chuck McCoart offers the sacrament of water and wine symbolizing the body and blood of Christ at Communion during the service at Emmanuel Episcopal Church on the second Sunday of Lent.**



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

**Susan Carroll, right, was named CEO of Inova Alexandria Hospital in early January. Shown with her husband Matt and sons Turner, 11, and Cooper, 7, Carroll now leads the hospital where she was born.**

## No Place Like Home

### Carroll takes the helm at Inova Alexandria.

BY JEANNE THEISMANN  
GAZETTE PACKET

**W**hen Susan Turner Carroll, the recently named CEO of Inova Alexandria Hospital, says she is from Alexandria, she means it.

"We can trace our family back to the late 1700s," said Carroll, who previously served as the vice president of the Inova Cancer Institute and the Inova Translational Medicine Institute. "My brothers, sisters, great aunts and uncles in their 90s — so many are still here. It really is a great community."

Carroll took over as CEO in January, returning to lead the hospital she was born in 40 years ago.

"I've been very privileged to be able to move up the ranks in one health care system," Carroll said. "Inova is a wonderful organization and has been very supportive of me."

Carroll, who holds a masters in health management and a masters of business administration, is a strong advocate in can-

cer prevention and outreach and plans to continue those efforts in Alexandria.

"The big piece for me is looking at ways to redesign the hospital along strong service lines," Carroll said. "We need to develop around what I believe are the three strongest needs: cardiac health, stroke and neurosciences and oncology."

Carroll has been in healthcare management for 18 years and with Inova since 1998. She was on the executive management team at Inova Fairfax also held the position of chief operating officer at Inova Loudoun Hospital. In Alexandria, she replaced Christine Candio, who now leads St. Luke's Hospital in Chesterfield, Mo.

"Christine called me as soon

as she knew she was leaving to let me know she thought I would be a good fit to replace her," Carroll said of her predecessor. "She has always been one of my mentors."

In addition to building on the already strong women's programs, Carroll

hopes to shape the hospital and health systems around its patients.

"I want us to become a health care system that provides all stages of care, from prevention,

SEE NO PLACE, PAGE 20

**"Inova Alexandria is a very special place. I plan to be here a very long time."**

— Inova Alexandria CEO Susan Carroll





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# School To Expand IB Program

FROM PAGE 3

ing its merits, but said Jefferson-Houston already has a positive history with encouraging students to understand diversity.

"Last year, the parents and staff put together 'International Day' to celebrate the IB designation," said Liu. "The girls learned about different countries, their food, and the flags that are a symbol of the nations' heritage. They enjoyed that and still talk about that today." Cindy Martinez, president of the Alexandria PTA Council, said the new principal and the new school building have made a positive effect local parents and students.

"Jefferson-Houston is an all new option for students," said Martinez. "There's a great energy there now."

Martinez stressed that the school needed the support of other parents in the district, but Gayden said she understands the initial reluctance of other parents to send their students to an unaccredited school.

"If you weren't [at the school] to see the change and the ground work, it's hard to put your children in there," said Gayden. "For me, I had to do a lot of leg work and speak with the school staff. I did a lot

of one-on-one interactions before I felt confident. I received a breakdown of how [the school] worked. We had a smaller number of kids; my son was one of 10 middle school students, where he would have been in a class of 25 other students at George Washington or Hammond Middle School."

While Gayden's confident in the school's future, she said the school's past test scores have made other parents wary of the school's promises.

"Biggest challenge will have to be getting everyone on the same page with this transition and change," said Gayden. "Once the people in the community get comfortable with this change, we can move forward. We're hoping this is the last big change, because we can't afford another big hiccup."

A consultant from the IB program is scheduled to visit the school April 13-14 to advise the administration of any necessary changes. Over the summer, Jefferson-Houston will submit an application for authorization from the IB program while teachers and administrators undergo additional training. At the beginning of the 2015-2016 school year, if the application is approved, a representative from IB will visit the school to confirm its status.

## POLICE BRIEF

### Body Found

A young man was found dead in the 2800 block of Park Center Drive.

The 17-year-old male was found discovered at 7:45 a.m. on March 13 in a back corner of a local apartment complex. According to a police report, his in-

juries were consistent with a fall from the building and no other trauma was identified. At T.C. Williams High School, school officials said additional counseling would be offered to students. Alexandria Police requested that anyone with additional information about the incident contact Sergeant Michael Kochis at 703-746-6285.

lost (adj): 1. unable to find the way. 2. not appreciated or understood. 3. no longer owned or known

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# OPINION

## On Police Information and Secrecy

### Time for change in public access to police information.

**T**he first meeting of the Fairfax County Ad Hoc Police Practices Review Commission will take place next Monday, March 23, and it comes with hope for real change.

Police could take one step that would signal that they are serious about regaining public trust.

Police departments in Northern Virginia should let go of their relentless pursuit of secrecy. Police departments all over the country routinely allow access to police reports, incident reports, dashboard video and many other sources of information without harm, all things that police here refuse to allow the public to see.

The first paragraph of Virginia Freedom of Information Act, passed by the General Assembly in 1968, states that all public records “shall be presumed open.” But the legislation includes an exception that allows police to withhold

“complaints, memoranda, correspondence, case files or reports, witness statements and evidence.”

Police officials in Fairfax (and also in Arlington and Alexandria) have adopted what they call a “blanket” approach to using their exemption. That means they have decided to withhold any document they can without any analysis of whether they should, whether the case is open or closed, whether they are about a “police-involved shooting” or information requested by a family about a homicide victim.

It is only because of legal action by the family of John Geer, shot dead by a Fairfax County police officer in the doorway to his own home in August 2013, and the resulting court order that we know details of what happened that day. And what we now know confirms that the information released by police was incomplete and misleading at best.

We’ve learned that we cannot trust the leadership at the Fairfax County Police Department to tell the truth voluntarily on these matters. (See Editorial: “Not the First or Only Time,” Connection, Feb. 11, 2015.)

Repeating what we have said in this space many times: Police wield power unlike any

other entity — the power to detain and question, the power to arrest, the power to respond with force when necessary, sometimes deadly force.

With that power, comes responsibility — the responsibility to operate openly and with transparency, the responsibility to make available the greatest possible amount of information, especially the responsibility to provide the public with a full picture of what happened when something goes wrong.

Most Northern Virginia residents think very highly of their police. We are very safe here. People understand that sometimes mistakes happen, that sometimes force is needed, and that sometimes police will exercise deadly force. What they are unlikely to accept is secrecy that shrouds mistakes, and failure to take responsibility for explaining events of deadly force.

It’s clear that discretion about when to withhold information cannot be left up to the police department.

—MARY KIMM, EDITOR AND PUBLISHER

MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

Mary Kimm is a member of the Ad Hoc Police Practices Review Commission; news coverage of police issues will continue to be the responsibility of reporters at the Connection.

### EDITORIAL

### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### United We Win, Divided We Fail

To the Editor:

William Goff hit a homerun in my eyes when he pointed out in his letter that we are losing neighborhood battles one by one because we’re only seeing these issues through local eyes rather than being proud of and caring for all of Alexandria. Bill Euille ran on a “One Alexandria” mantra, but since then it’s been anything but one Alexandria.

We all passed Civics 101 in school, yet we’re only remembering that at the national and state level. Having a ward system would only exacerbate this divided attitude. Only when we unite to question developments are we able to

evoke policy that benefits all. When Washington Street was eyed as another K Street, a critical mass led by Ed Braswell gathered energy and forced Washington Street Standards, which protects this august street in keeping with our agreement with the National Park Service. Similar occurrences include the Connector issue and adding another entrance to the parkway just north of Alexandria. United we succeeded!

When the BRAC issue arose, citizens from all over Alexandria should have been outraged and not just those in the affected neighborhoods. Alexandria belongs to all of us. All of us should be outraged at our lousy school performance and should be clamoring from the rooftops for results. Waterfront development. Another huge issue but apparently only those

who live close by really care. Everyone should care that we seem to be emulating National Harbor and continuing on the current march to change our Colonial heritage to the “Every City in America” look. Instead, everyone who lives in Alexandria should be proud of our historic heritage and the beauty of our waterfront that is being turned over to commercial interests.

Until and unless we see the city as “our” city and care enough for each of its diverse neighborhoods, politicians and developers will continue to take advantage of us. With an election this fall, it is imperative that we choose candidates who will commit to preserving every neighborhood and ensuring our schools are measured by outcomes and not new, fancy buildings.

My hat goes off to Mr. Goff and to others like Jack Sullivan, Katy Cannady and Poul Hertel who care about all of Alexandria and whose actions demonstrate that caring. And to remember those before us who did as well: Mayor Beatley, Vola Lawson, Ed Braswell and Ellen Pickering.

Linda Couture  
Alexandria

### Thank You, Mr. McLean

To the Editor:

The following letter is addressed to Alexandria resident Scott McLean.

I just wanted to thank you for your efforts in helping force the City of Alexandria to repeal the law that made it illegal to display a “For Sale” sign on a vehicle. This is long overdue but unfortunately comes too late for me. Several years ago I also received a ticket for simply trying to sell my car. I wrote a letter to the

SEE LETTERS, PAGE 12



STEVE ARTLEY/GAZETTE PACKET

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## OPINION

# The Buck Stops with Us

BY ALEXANDRA FUENTES

Earlier this month, I was one of a group of teachers who met with senators on the Hill to weigh-in on the reauthorization of No Child Left Behind also known as the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA). The day before, I was in my high school classroom preparing my students for a lab and teaching them the words for comparing and contrasting cells, a necessary instructional move since all of my biology students are also learning English as a second language.

It is not every day that teachers have the opportunity to talk with leading senators and Senate staff working on a key piece of education legislation. I planned to seize the opportunity to explain how changes to Title I funding would hurt my students, and how assessment data can benefit students, especially when states ensure that tests are high quality.

By the end of the day, I had learned a great deal more than I expected.

1. More teachers need to offer solutions rather than critique.

In one Senate office, the staff seemed to expect us to complain about policies on the Common Core State Standards. Instead, we shared examples of how teacher-led training on Common Core had made it possible for public school teachers, including teachers in public charter schools, to implement more effective instructional strategies in our classes. Our message was that annual assessment data provides critical information we use to plan our instruction and improve outcomes for students. Walking out of the meeting, I wondered why the staff seemed to expect us to complain. Clearly, we need more teachers to bring solutions backed up by success stories to the table to help policymakers fine-tune legislation.

2. Other states have figured out solutions to the problems we face.

The way I see it, legislators in those states have an obligation to make sure that legislators working on ESEA know about the policies that are working.

In another Senate office, I listened as a teacher from Massachusetts described how student growth percentile (SGP) data was motivating students to make accelerated gains. Where I teach, test results only tell me if students are proficient or on grade level. A student who starts out three years



behind grade level and makes two years of growth gets no recognition, because the only test results we receive will say that she is still below grade level. The SGP data used in Massachusetts is an innovative

solution to one of the challenges we face in Virginia. I hope that senators (and teachers) in states that have developed innovative practices share these with policymakers on education committees in the House and Senate as they revise ESEA.

3. We (read: individual teachers and citizens) need to stop accepting excuses and start taking action to make sure that ESEA gets reauthorized.

One Senate staffer spoke honestly and said, "In my opinion, I'm not sure any bill is going to get past the House." The House version of the bill was dead on arrival because it was a partisan and not a bipartisan bill. That is unacceptable. ESEA is seven years overdue. How many more years will we enable Congress to debate and drop an issue that is so vital to the millions of children in pre-k through 12<sup>th</sup> grade? If there is one thing I walked away with from my time talking with senators on this Hill, it is the understanding that I have a voice that can help make policy better. If teachers across the nation speak up and contact our senators and representatives, we can make ESEA a priority for Congress. When teachers also take action at the state level, we can have meaningful impact on policies that matter for students. In Virginia, that means working to improve the quality of state exams.

Back in the classroom, my students will continue their investigation of cells next week, and I will continue to assess their progress and give them feedback. Daily assessments are an integral part of teaching, but the annual assessments required in ESEA are necessary too. After all, the program that supports English Language Learners (ELLs) in my school was only put in place after the disaggregated data from ESEA exposed the fact that ELLs were not learning. Students all across the country need Congress to reauthorize ESEA and keep annual assessments.

*Alexandra Fuentes is ELL Biology & Ecology High School Teacher at T.C. Williams High School and Teach Plus Teacher-in-Residence.*

It was a letter of questions and a sense of appreciation concerning the difficult role of managing the city. With that said, my question is: Has our acting city manager Mark Jinks ever applied for the position as city manager? It's a simple question and not meant to impugn anyone.

With this in mind, I, as many other residents of our city, would like to know how many deputy city managers does the city have? With that question, why doesn't the City Council hire from in-house instead of an outsider?

**Geri Baldwin, Alexandria**

## COMMENTARY

## LETTER

## Leadership Suggestion

To The Editor:

I am somewhat elated and thankful for the letter printed Feb. 5, "Don't Complain, Help Fix," responding to an earlier letter printed Jan. 29, "Vision for the City" regarding our acting city manager Mark Jinks.

I'm compelled to elaborate that my letter to the editor was not to challenge or demand the acting city manager to take on the position of city manager.

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# Young at Heart

BY KATHARINE DIXON  
PRESIDENT AND CEO  
REBUILDING TOGETHER ALEXANDRIA

**W**e spend a lot of our time helping limited income elderly and disabled residents remain homeowners. By making repairs and upgrades to their homes, we are able to keep homes safer, healthier and more affordable for aging seniors so they can remain in them.

But our work knows no age boundaries. In fact, our volunteers have also spent countless hours ensuring that our communities' homes and neighborhoods are also great environments for children.

And this makes sense. We have two huge generations sandwiched on opposite ends of the age range. For communities to be healthy and vibrant, we must consider the needs of all as we work on neighborhood revitalization. In fact, a whole movement among cities and communities is called multigenerational planning, which provides a comprehensive approach to balancing the needs of all age groups with the goal of expanding family choices, increasing independence for all ages and strengthening communities, according to a recent Cornell University paper.

On the local level, Rebuilding Together has been incorporating a multigenerational approach into our efforts. In addition to helping seniors, we have worked hard to ensure that low-income families with children have safe places to play and learn in their neighborhoods.

Over the years, we have partnered with nonprofits and neighborhoods that also serve children, such as Carpenter's Shelter, Hopkins House, Arlandria Chirilagua Housing Cooperative, and Lacy Court. Our volunteers have built cubbies for homeless children, revamped a play room, and created playground art. They have built new play areas, planted gardens to promote healthy eating, and installed bike racks for children living in low-income housing.

Next month, we will be building 60 desks with storage for students who get tutored by Wright to Read, a nonprofit that provides



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

**Rebuilding Together Alexandria volunteers from Fannie Mae install bike racks at Lacy Court.**

a literacy program for elementary aged kids. This fall, in partnership with RunningBrooke, Fannie Mae, and the City of Alexandria, 60 volunteers will help revitalize a playground that serves a low-income neighborhood.

We also recognize that many families have several generations living under one roof. In fact, the percentage of multigenerational households has topped 16 percent — the highest level since the late 1950s, according to Pew Research.

Having homes that can handle young and old alike are challenges that our volunteers are experiencing more. In addition to providing no-cost upgrades to keep elderly, low-income homeowners safe, such as handrails and ramps, we have also retrofitted some of these homes to include child proofing and other child safety features.

Many generations living in the same neighborhoods and even homes provides stability and a sense of history to communities. Making accommodations to help integrate the generations will make Alexandria a better place to live.

To help revitalize our community — for old and young alike — consider joining us for National Rebuilding Day on April 25, our biggest volunteer event of the year. To learn more, visit [www.RebuildingTogetherAlex.org](http://www.RebuildingTogetherAlex.org) or call 703-836-1021.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

FROM PAGE 10

paper back then complaining about this law that was published locally, "What's wrong with car for sale?" (May 2007). At that time I wasn't in a position to file a lawsuit but did go down to try and appeal the ticket. When I met with the representative I explained that I had never heard of this law, and no one I knew had either. Their response was that "ignorance of the law is no excuse." When asked what the purpose of the law was, what harm was done or what problem it was trying to address, I was told it was for "safety reasons." I was dumbfounded, safety for what? When I asked for further explanation, how this was a "safety" issue, they had no answer but did reduce my fine. With having to take time off from work and still pay a fine it was hardly a victory.

From all I have read since then, no legitimate reason has ever been provided for banning the displaying of for sale signs on a vehicle. To me it all seemed like nothing more than a way for the city to squeeze more money out of hard working Alexandria residents. It is a shame that it took a lawsuit to force the city to do what they should have done decades ago, but I'm thankful that Mr. McLean decided to stand up against this law. I'm glad that the City Council finally saw the light and repealing that unfair law is certainly a good "sign."

**B. Marquis, Alexandria**

## Hold WMATA Board Accountable

To the Editor:

The Washington Metropolitan Transportation Authority (WMATA) which runs Metrorail and Metrobus recently called off its executive director search after three finalists withdrew and the board deadlocked over priorities in the face of continuing fare hikes, deteriorating service and deadly safety lapses.

The District of Columbia city council is considering emergency legislation removing one of D.C.'s WMATA members so newly elected Mayor Bowser can appoint a reformist replacement. But when will Virginia begin replacing its WMATA members who have presided over WMATA's litany of fiascos?

Alexandria's WMATA member was hospitalized after falling on the Braddock Road

station platform in August 2009 en route to a WMATA meeting. After 1992 hearings, WMATA began installing rough "truncated dome" tiles at platform edges for safety reasons. But Braddock Road — 17 years later — still was one of only a small number of platforms without those tiles. It took 'til last summer for Braddock Road's platform to be retrofitted with these tiles — five years after a WMATA member slipped en route to a meeting.

Whether it's passengers succumbing to smoke because WMATA didn't tell local fire departments communications weren't working, record fare increases, poor "safety culture," or constant weekend "track work," WMATA's litany of woes is such that its Virginia members need to be held accountable and expeditiously replaced.

**Dino Drudi, Alexandria**

## TC Field Lights Still a Bad Idea

To the Editor:

Over the last year, the Alexandria School Board and concerned citizens have spent a great deal of time in trying to investigate and comment on this issue. The problems with this issue include, but are not limited to: 1) The Development Special Use Permit (DSUP) #2013-0014 of Dec. 14, 2013 clearly indicates that "no permanent stadium light shall be installed at the School stadium ... except as to allow for lighted tennis courts.."; 2) Amending DSUP 2002-0044, Condition #85 is another assault on the surrounding communities next to and near the school stadium; 3) Efforts to enforce or maintain security and area outdoor maintenance (aka cleanup) is consistently insufficient and ineffective — lights will aggravate this problem; and, 4) with increasing city-wide financial deficit, the cost of the lights to include installation and green buffers are a costly venture.

The Seminary communities are the ones at risk with property devaluation and noise pollution. Due to the sheer height of the lights, results in the inability of the residents to filter out the lights into their yards and homes. The city is also at risk at a time when it is trying to cut costs and manage its debt. How can we realistically spend anywhere from \$1M – 2M or more for lighting to have nighttime games? The emphasis is totally

SEE LETTERS, PAGE 23




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## OPINION

# Family Matters Prevent colon cancer for self and loved ones.

BY MEGAN BEYER

**I**t may never feel like a “good time” to have a colonoscopy. You might have already used the excuse that the preparation day before a colonoscopy is unpleasant and cuts into your busy schedule — and then you put it off another year. But momentary discomfort or inconvenience is a small price to pay for saving your life.

Colorectal cancer is the second leading cause of death from cancer in the United States. Only 40 percent of colorectal cancer cases are found in the early stages when it is most treatable. Consider the implications of not getting screened, or of a family member putting off screening until it is too late. If you are over 50 years old and of average risk, you should get screened for colorectal cancer. Those at higher risk may need to be screened earlier. And colorectal cancer, long thought of as a disease of older adults, has been rising in young adults — which makes it especially important for people of all ages to be aware of risk factors like tobacco use, obesity and heavy drinking, as well as family history.

March is National Colorectal Cancer Awareness Month. There is no need to be uncomfortable talking about colorectal can-

cer. Make this a conversation topic in your family and encourage them to speak with their health care professionals about getting screened. Nearly everyone has lost a loved one to cancer, and colorectal cancer is a disease that takes too many lives each year. This year an estimated 132,700 people will be diagnosed with colorectal cancer. Worse, nearly 50,000 people will die from it. In 2014 about 136,830 people are predicted to be diagnosed with colorectal cancer in the United States, and about 50,310 people are predicted to die of the disease. Don't become a statistic. Start taking preventive steps today.

Determine your family history of cancer and talk with your health care professional about colorectal cancer screening options. Experts recommend both men and women over 50 of average risk get screened. A colonoscopy allows medical professionals to examine the entire colon and remove any polyps (pre-cancerous growths) before they ever become cancerous. When colon cancer is found early, it is more treatable, and the five-year survival rate is 90 percent. If you cannot or will not have a colonoscopy, there are a variety of other screenings available, such as a virtual colonoscopy, flexible sigmoidoscopy or double-contrast barium enema. Talk to your health professional

about what is best for you.

Some people need to start screening earlier because they are at a higher risk of colon cancer — they have personal histories of colorectal cancer, pre-cancerous polyps or inflammatory bowel disease; family histories of colorectal cancer, polyps or a hereditary colorectal cancer syndrome; or have Type 2 diabetes. Colorectal cancer incidence and mortality rates are highest in African-American men and women; incidence is about 25 percent higher and mortality rates are about 50 percent higher than those in Caucasians.

Healthy living is a vital step to cancer prevention and can lower risk for colorectal cancer. Maintain a healthy weight and stay active by exercising regularly for 30 min-

utes at least five times a week. Eat a nutritious diet low in red and processed meats (such as bacon or sausage) and full of fruits, vegetables and whole grains. Do not smoke and only drink alcohol in moderation. Use these tips to live a healthier life today, and share this information with family and friends. Colorectal cancer is treatable, especially if caught early. Talk with your family and loved ones about ways to reduce their colorectal cancer risk. Visit [www.preventcancer.org](http://www.preventcancer.org) for more information about cancer prevention and early detection.

*Megan Beyer is the wife of U.S. Rep. Donald S. Beyer Jr. (D-8) and is a member of Congressional Families Cancer Prevention Program of the Prevent Cancer Foundation. All statistics are provided by the American Cancer Society.*

### COMMENTARY

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middle income. All ages, with special attention to seniors. Federal and Virginia tax returns prepared and electronically filed by IRS-certified volunteers. Tax questions can be answered. Bring your photo ID(s), Social Security Card(s), tax documents, and your prior year tax return.

**Free Tax Preparation.** Saturdays, 9 a.m.-noon; Wednesdays, 6:30-8 p.m. at 2525 Mount Vernon Ave., Alexandria. The City of Alexandria is offering free tax preparation to

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## Family Matters

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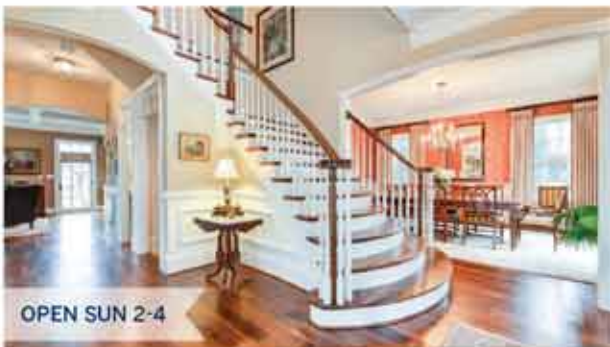
**ALNOR HEIGHTS** \$1,020,000 | 8 Cockrell Street  
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**POTOMAC GREENS** \$997,500 | 711 Bracey Lane  
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**BELLEVUE FOREST** \$2,749,000  
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**BELLE HAVEN** \$2,300,000 | 6041 Edgewood Terrace  
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**HOT SPRINGS, VA** \$2,295,000 | 1590 Shady Lane  
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**ANDREA COURDUVELIS** +1 703 307 3170  
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**HUNTERS MANOR** \$939,000 | 1606 Noral Place  
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**PHYLLIS PATTERSON** +1 703 310 6201  
**BRITT PATTERSON** +1 703 310 6201



**SEMINARY HILL** \$899,000 | 902 N Howard Street  
Stunning 5BR, 3.5BA home. Completely renovated kitchen and baths featuring stainless steel appliances and granite counters. Hardwood floors, fireplace, master with sitting room and en-suite bathroom. Finished lower level, 2-car garage and fenced yard.  
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**BELLE HAVEN** \$875,000 | 2007 Windsor Road  
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**OLD TOWN** \$1,795,000 | 604 S Fairfax St  
Stunning historic detached home in the heart of Old Town featuring a formal living room with 12' ceilings, chef's kitchen, original heart pine floors, 6 bedrooms, 4 baths and a private flagstone patio.  
**PHYLLIS PATTERSON** +1 703 310 6201  
**BRITT PATTERSON** +1 703 310 6201



**OLD TOWN** \$1,769,900 | 117 Prince Street  
Historic Captains Row home with 6BR, 5.5 BA and 5,100 square feet. Rare opportunity to restore this classic residence with high ceilings throughout, all brick exterior and 4 fireplaces. Rare walk-out basement with 2nd kitchen and guest quarters. 2-car private parking. Great location on Old Town's famous cobblestoned street.  
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**STONEGATE** \$560,000 | 2456 Garnett Drive  
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**LOFRIDGE** \$464,900 | 5664 Ridge View Drive  
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# ENTERTAINMENT

## Aldersgate Stages 'Pride and Prejudice'

Jane Austen's tale of manners and misunderstanding in class-conscious England.

BY STEVE HIBBARD  
GAZETTE PACKET

**A**ldersgate Church Community Theater (ACCT) is putting on "Pride and Prejudice," Jane Austen's classic tale of manners, love and misunderstanding in class-conscious England in the early 19th century. Directed by Mary Ayala-Bush, the show runs through March 29.

The play follows the humorous consequences of matchmaking gone wrong (and right) among the five Bennett sisters — Jane, Elizabeth, Mary, Catherine and Lydia — who have been raised well aware of their mother's fixation on finding them husbands and securing set futures.

Ayala-Bush said "Pride and Prejudice" provides an opportunity to showcase wonderful characters and situations, and she loves presenting period plays that allow you to transport yourself to a specific time and place in the past.

"It's adult playacting at its best," she said.

She said the play condenses a large novel into two hours of acting with multiple subplots, a large cast, each with their own agenda.

"With a cast of 16, it's important to have each of the actors understand and create the characters' backstory in order to allow the dimensions of the character to show on stage and to better engage with the other characters."

She added that a great deal of time was spent in understanding the relationships,



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

**Cal Whitehurst and Heather Norcross star in "Pride and Prejudice," through March 29, at Aldersgate Church Community Theater.**

motivations and the rationale for what each character is saying and doing in this play. In addition, the period of the piece requires specific manners, posture and accents to convey the time, situation and location.

Cal Whitehurst plays Mr. Bennett, an upper middle-class landowner in 19th Century England and a father of five daughters. Because he doesn't have a son, under the terms of his estate, the property will pass to a cousin after his death.

"He finds the highly feminine atmosphere in the house a bit overwhelming and often retires to his library for a little peace and quiet," Whitehurst said.

He said speaking with an upper-class English accent while not losing the meaning

of the dialogue and the emotions behind the words was a challenge.

"Also, one has to maintain the very formal stance and gestures appropriate to the period." But because "Pride and Prejudice" is so popular, "My portrayal has to stand up against the preconceived idea of Mr. Bennett that many members of the audience will have based on having read the book or seen other actors in the part."

Whitehurst said he hopes audiences will find the same pleasure in the play that fans of Jane Austen find in her novels — and will get the chance to immerse themselves in a world very different from their own — a highly stratified society in which conventional behavior was strictly enforced.

Heather Norcross is playing Mrs. Bennett, a mother and matchmaker with five adult daughters.

"She understands little about proper manners and loves to talk," Norcross said. "Her greatest joy in life would be seeing all her girls married and [she] will do anything possible to see that happen."

She said the challenges in the role were the sheer number of lines and a short rehearsal schedule pocked with bad weather.

"Couple the amount of lines with antiquated language, an accent, and a character voice — that was a challenge," she said.

Jenni Patton plays Elizabeth Bennett, the "independent daughter" who is opinionated, strong-willed and smart, and with great heart for the people she cares the most about.

"She is very self-possessed, and isn't afraid to speak her mind or stand up for what she wants — but she is also gracious enough to admit when she's wrong," said Patton.

She said a challenge was working with Jane Austen's language and giving it life for a modern audience.

"It could so easily be stiff and boring, but it certainly doesn't have to be," she said. "There are cultural nuances that aren't obvious to a modern reader at first blush, and

I've really tried to draw those out so the relevance, and at times the rather biting humor, doesn't get lost just because we don't talk that way anymore."

She said the emotional cadences of the story are so timeless, and this is one of the most enduring love stories of all time, precisely because it is at its heart the story of love's ability to break down barriers. "We can all stand to be reminded of that every now and again."

Gary Cramer plays Mr. Collins, a cousin of Mr. Bennett's who he has never actually met before. Cramer said, "From the start, it is clear that he's not going to be picky about which daughter he targets ... anything young and female will do nicely if she is 'an active, useful sort of person.'"

Being a bit pompous, lecherous, oily and tone deaf in the ways of wooing, Cramer thinks that his character is in the script for comedy relief purposes.

"Some of Mr. Collins' distinct habits are clearly indicated in the script, but the fun and challenging side of bringing an already quirky character to life is to add my own spin to it without changing the dialogue or the author's intent."

"As hard as it may be for some to accept the old-fashioned courtship behaviors, social niceties, and restrictions put upon women as shown in this play, it offers a good opportunity to learn a bit about how these things were done in 'the good old days.' He added, "It may even generate some after-show discussion about how much (or how little) things have really changed for the better in terms of setting the foundations for a good marriage since then."

*ACCT is presenting "Pride and Prejudice" through March 29 in the Wesley Hall of Aldersgate United Methodist Church, 1301 Collingwood Road, Alexandria. The show runs Fridays, 8 p.m.; Saturdays, 2 p.m. and 8 p.m.; and Sundays at 2 p.m. Tickets are \$10-\$15. Visit [www.acctonline.org](http://www.acctonline.org).*

### CALENDAR

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

#### ONGOING

**"Considering Harm."** Through Saturday, March 21 at The Gallery at Convergence, 1801 N. Quaker Lane, Alexandria. Artist Pamela Flynn presents an exhibition titled "Considering Harm." This art project focuses on the issue of gun violence and bringing awareness to our community. Visit [www.ourconvergence.org](http://www.ourconvergence.org) or [www.pamelaflynnart.com](http://www.pamelaflynnart.com) for more.

**"In and of the Land."** Through Sunday, March 29, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and during performances at The Rachel M. Schlesinger Concert Hall & Arts Center, Margaret W. and Joseph L. Fisher Art Gallery at the Alexandria Campus of Northern

Virginia Community College, 4915 East Campus Drive, Alexandria. "In and of the Land" is a two person exhibition of recent work in paintings by Clive Pates and ceramics by Virginia Rood Pates. Visit [www.nvcc.edu/schlesingercenter/Gallery](http://www.nvcc.edu/schlesingercenter/Gallery) for more.

**"Four."** Through Sunday, March 29 11 a.m.-6 p.m. at The Associates Gallery, Studio 319, at the Torpedo Factory, 105 North Union St., Alexandria. The Torpedo Factory gallery presents "Four," featuring photographer Julie Patrick, mixed media artist Kara Hammond, painter Jill Finsen and painting/mixed media artist Barbara Muth. TAG will present a new show each month. Visit [torpedofactory.org](http://torpedofactory.org) for more.

**Art Exhibit.** Through Tuesday, April 14. Sunday and Monday, 12-5 p.m.; Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday, 10 a.m.-6 p.m.; Friday and Saturday, 10 a.m.-8 p.m. at Principle Gallery, 208 King St. Artist Kevin Fitzgerald presents a collection of coastal images painted in the tonalist style.

Visit [www.principlegallery.com](http://www.principlegallery.com).

**Art Show.** Through May 3 at Cove, 805 King St., Alexandria. Cove will partner with ArtSee to open the doors of their Alexandria location for a reception featuring the work of Alexandria artist, Pete McCutchen. The work on display shares McCutchen's "Geometrics" series. Visit [cove.is](http://cove.is) for more.

**Nine Paintings from John Chapman.** Through May 25, 9 a.m.-4 p.m. at the Donald W. Reynolds Museum and Education Center Mount Vernon, 3200 Mount Vernon Highway, Mount Vernon. Nine unique paintings by the Virginia born artist John Gadsby Chapman (1808-1889) illustrating landscape scenes important to George Washington's biography are on view. Visit [www.mountvernon.org](http://www.mountvernon.org).

**"Paws 'N Claws for Art."** Runs through May 31 at Vola Lawson Animal Shelter, 4101 Eisenhower Ave., Alexandria. Del Ray Artisans and Animal Welfare League of Alexandria teamed up to present this

animal-themed, fundraising exhibit. Both nonprofits receive a percentage of each sale. Also showing, but not for sale, will be UpCycle's Fur-Vor project community-based student-recycled dog art. Visit [www.TheDelRayArtisans.org/GWW](http://www.TheDelRayArtisans.org/GWW) for more.

**Alexandria Cars & 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.

**George Washington's Mount Vernon** has joined Thomas Jefferson's Monticello and James Madison's Montpelier to expand the "Presidents Passport," Virginia's premier presidential trail. As an added bonus to this year's program, visitors to the Alexandria Visitors Center at 221 King St. showing or purchasing a ticket to any of the three presidential estates will, upon

request, receive for free Alexandria's "Key to the City" pass, which grants access into nine historic sites and museums in Alexandria—a \$26 added value. Visit [www.PresPassport.Monticello.org](http://www.PresPassport.Monticello.org) for more.

**Fifty Years of Collecting.** Tuesday-Saturday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Sundays noon-5 p.m. Fort Ward Museum 4301 West Braddock Road. An anniversary exhibit of objects from the Fort Ward collection. Free. Visit [www.fortward.org](http://www.fortward.org) or call 703-746-4848.

**Dinner for the Washingtons.** Noon 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/](http://www.mountvernon.org/) for more.

**Second Thursday Music.** Athenaeum, 201 Prince St. 7 pm. Second Thursday of every month.



# ENTERTAINMENT

Visit [nvfaa.org](http://nvfaa.org) to view concert calendar and listen to upcoming Second Thursday Music artists.

**The Monday Morning Birdwalk** has been a weekly event at Huntley Meadows since 1985. It takes place every week, rain or shine (except during electrical storms, strong winds, or icy trails), at 7 a.m. (8 a.m. November through March), is free of charge, 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.

## CAMPS, CLASSES & WORKSHOPS

### Tiny Dancers 2015 Summer

**Camps.** Each session includes daily instruction in ballet, a snack, fine motor exercise through a theme-related craft and a favorite story with dress-up dance interpretation. The session culminates with a recital and reception for family and friends. Tiny Dancers is a program designed for ages 2-12, featuring a performance based ballet, tap, jazz and musical theater curriculum. The Alexandria studio is located at 621 S. Washington St., Old Town Alexandria. Call 703-739-0900 or visit [www.tinydancers.com](http://www.tinydancers.com) for more.

### Art League Spring Classes.

Registration is open for the Spring Term of fine art classes at The Art League School. The Spring Term begins the week of April 6, with more than 200 classes and 50 workshops to choose from. Classes are available for ages 5-adult for all skill levels. Browse course catalog and register at [www.theartleague.org](http://www.theartleague.org).

### Art League Summer Camps.

Registration for Summer Art Camp 2015 is now open. Art Camps run Monday to Friday, June 22-Aug. 21. Camps are available for ages 5 and older, with morning, afternoon, or all day options. Subjects include: drawing, cartooning, painting, photography, ceramics, sculpture, jewelry, fiber arts, clay animation, and Basic Art Camp (a new medium each day). \$155-\$345. Visit [www.theartleague.org/content/art\\_camp](http://www.theartleague.org/content/art_camp) for more.

### Encore Chorale Summer Choral

**Institutes.** Encore Summer Choral Institute at Washington College in Chestertown MD runs from June 14-18 and Encore Summer Choral Institute at Chautauqua Institute in Chautauqua, NY from from Aug.30-Sept. 4. Sponsored by Encore Creativity for Older Adults, the nation's largest choral singing program for adults 55 and older, the institutes attract adult students from all over the country, at all levels of vocal experience, for a week of intensive choral music study. For information and pricing, call 301-261-5747, email [info@encorecreativity.org](mailto:info@encorecreativity.org) or visit [www.encorecreativity.org](http://www.encorecreativity.org) for more.

**Summer of Smiles.** The Recreation, Parks and Cultural Activities' Summer Fun Guide, is now available. Summer camps and activities are available for youth ages 2-17 and include sports, dance, creative arts, computer, chess, enrichment, nature, adventure, Out of School Time (residents only) and classic camps. The guide has an index listing camps by week offered and age group. Registration opens Wednesday, March 18 for City of Alexandria residents and Friday, March 20 for nonresidents. Interested participants may register online or in-person at the Lee Center, 1108 Jefferson St. The Summer Fun Guide is available for download at [www.alexandriava.gov/Recreation](http://www.alexandriava.gov/Recreation). Free printed brochures will be available at City Hall, recreation centers, and public libraries. Call the Registration and Reservation Office at 703-746-5414.

**Tavern Toddlers.** Every Monday (except Federal Holidays) 10:30-11:30 a.m. Gadsby's Tavern Museum, 134 North Royal Street, Alexandria. Join other families with toddlers (walkers through 36 months) to have fun in Gadsby's historic ballroom. Playtime features a craft table, book corner, toys and group dancing. \$7 for a group of three. Visit [www.alexandria.gov/gadsbystavern](http://www.alexandria.gov/gadsbystavern) or call 703-746-4242.

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

**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 our 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](http://www.TheDelRayArtisans.org) for a schedule.

## MARCH 5-APRIL 6

### "Reconstructing the Landscape."

Through April 6 at The Art League, Studio 21 in the Torpedo Factory Art Center, 105 North Union St., Alexandria. "Reconstructing the Landscape" features large-scale abstract paintings by Claudia Cappelle. Visit [www.theartleague.org](http://www.theartleague.org) or call 703-683-1780.

## MARCH 6-29

### "DREAM ON!"

Runs through Sunday, March 29 at Del Ray Artisans Gallery, 2704 Mount Vernon Ave., Alexandria. Local area artists use any media to explore and express their dreams in the "DREAM ON!" exhibit at Del Ray Artisans gallery. Using their imaginations, artists interpret their dreams—from weird to wonderful, scary to surreal. Visit [www.thedelrayartisans.org](http://www.thedelrayartisans.org) or call 703-838-4827.

## SATURDAY-SUNDAY/MARCH 7-22

**March 150.** Through Sunday, March 22 in the Target Gallery at Torpedo Factory, 105 N. Union St., Alexandria. The exhibition will feature 200+ works of original art by local arts, all created on 10" square panels and sold for \$150 each, until the night of the Art Party on March 20, when all the work is discounted to \$100. Visit [torpedofactory.org/event/march-150/](http://torpedofactory.org/event/march-150/) for more.

## MARCH 12-APRIL 10

### Michael Graves Memorial Exhibit.

Library hours at Beatley Central Library, 5005 Duke St. The architect and designer of the Charles E. Beatley, Jr. Central Library, Mr. Michael Graves, passed away on March 12, 2015. The Library has devoted a memorial table of his work along with a feature on the Alexandria Library website. Visit [www.alexandria.lib.va.us](http://www.alexandria.lib.va.us).

## MARCH 24-MAY 3

**Art Exhibit.** Torpedo Factory Art Center, 105 North Union St. Two new exhibits will be on display at the Multiple Exposures Gallery by artists Susan Meyers and Colleen Henderson. Visit [www.torpedofactory.org](http://www.torpedofactory.org).

## MARCH 11-29

**Blossom's Rainbow.** Runs through Sunday, March 29. 10:30 am. at The Athenaeum, 201 Prince St.,

Alexandria. Wednesdays-Fridays and Sundays. In the show, a painter's brush sets a young cherry blossom's world into motion. Infused with whimsical dance, vibrant colors, and dynamic live music, join Blossom on her journey from the red mountains down to the indigo city in this new piece that celebrates Japanese culture. Best for children ages 2-5 and their families. 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 DC metro area. \$8, tickets online or at the door on the day of the performance. Box office: 703-967-0437. Visit [www.ArtsOnTheHorizon.org](http://www.ArtsOnTheHorizon.org) for more.

## THURSDAY/MARCH 19

**"A Breath of Spring."** 6-8 p.m. at Artfully Chocolates, 506 John Carlyle Drive, Alexandria. Art Exhibit and reception featuring the art of Alexandria artists Eric Nelson and Nancy Ziegler with complimentary appetizers and chocolates and wines available for purchase. Door prizes for the first 50 guests. Free, open to the public. Call 703-346-8699 or email [lindsay.hutter17@gmail.com](mailto:lindsay.hutter17@gmail.com) for more.

**Living Legends.** 6 p.m. at Patent and Trademark Office Madison Building, 600 Dulany St. Attend an exhibition of "Living Legends of Alexandria," an ongoing photo-documentary project about the city. Tickets are \$45 through March 12; \$50 through March 17; \$55 at the door. Visit [www.alexandrialegends.com](http://www.alexandrialegends.com).

### Annual Children's Concert.

7:30-8:45 p.m. at Northern Virginia Community College, Alexandria Campus, Rachel M. Schlesinger Concert Hall and Arts Center, 5000 Dawes Ave. Rescheduled due to snow, the The Northern Virginia Community College NOVA Alexandria Band, the John Adams Elementary School Orff Ensemble and the George Mason and Jefferson-Houston Elementary Schools Jazz Band will perform a variety of musical selections. Free. Call 703-845-6252.

**Concert.** 8 p.m. at the Lyceum History Museum, 201 S Washington St., Alexandria. The United States Air Force Band-Brass Quintet presents a concert of music for Brass Quintet. Free. Call The United States Air Force Band's Concert Line at 202-767-5658 or visit [www.usafband.af.mil](http://www.usafband.af.mil).

## THURSDAY-SATURDAY/MARCH 19-21

**Bassist Cheikh Ndoeye.** 8 p.m. and 10 p.m. at Blues Alley Jazz Club, 1073 Wisconsin Ave. NW, Washington, D.C. Alexandria resident and bassist Cheikh Ndoeye will perform alongside Senegalese singer and musician Baaba Maal and Friends for a "Cultural Affairs Show." \$45. Visit [www.bluesalley.com](http://www.bluesalley.com).

## FRIDAY/MARCH 20

**Opening Reception.** 6:30-9 p.m. at Principle Gallery, 208 King St. Join tonalist painter Kevin Fitzgerald for the opening reception of his annual solo exhibit. Free. Visit [www.principlegallery.com](http://www.principlegallery.com).

**Washington's Irish.** 7-9 p.m. at in the Robert H. and Clarice Smith Auditorium, Mount Vernon Estate, 3200 Mount Vernon Highway, Mount Vernon. In honor of St. Patrick's Day, George Washington's Mount Vernon invites guests to explore the history related to the Irish during the Revolutionary War with a performance by Derek Warfield and The Young Wolfe Tones. A reception featuring Irish food will take place in the Vaughn Lobby following this performance and cultural music



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**Saturday, March 21, 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.**  
**Luther Jackson Middle School**  
**3020 Gallows Road, Falls Church**

For more information or ADA accommodations, call the Department of Code Compliance, 703-324-1300, TTY 711.

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

# Le Refuge

## Restaurant

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# ENTERTAINMENT

discussion. \$75 per person. Visit [mountvernon.org/irish](http://mountvernon.org/irish) for tickets.

**March 150 Art Party.** 7-11 p.m. in the Target Gallery at Torpedo Factory, 105 N. Union St., Alexandria. Target Gallery is raising money for special exhibitions and outreach programming with the 5th Annual Exhibition Fundraiser, March 150. \$15 advance, \$20 at the door. The exhibition will feature 200+ works of original art by local arts, all created on 10" square panels and sold for \$150 each, until the night of the Art Party on March 20, when all the work is discounted to \$100. Visit [torpedofactory.org/event/march-150/](http://torpedofactory.org/event/march-150/) for more.

**The Oak Ridge Boys.** 7:30 p.m. at The Birchmere, 3701 Mount Vernon Ave. Tickets \$59.50. Visit [www.birchmere.com](http://www.birchmere.com) or call 703-549-7500.

**Swing Dancing.** 7:30-9:30 p.m. at Hollin Hall Senior Center, 1500 Shenandoah Rd. Local band leader Owen Hammett will direct the Mount Vernon Swing Band. Tickets are \$4 at the door. Call 703-765-4573.

## FRIDAY-SUNDAY/MARCH 20-22

**"Bye Bye Birdie."** Friday and Saturday, 7:30 p.m.; Sunday, 3 p.m. at Heritage Presbyterian Church, 2709 Popkins Lane, Alexandria. Rock and roll heart throb Conrad Birdie comes to Sweet Apple, Ohio, to bestow his #1 fan with a goodbye kiss before entering the Army. \$12. Purchase tickets at [www.mvct.org](http://www.mvct.org).

## SATURDAY/MARCH 21

**Firehouse Museum Tour.** 11 a.m.-noon at Friendship Firehouse Museum, 107 S Alfred St. Families are invited for an in depth tour of the

Friendship firehouse. Attendees will also learn about firehouse procedures and equipment. \$5 for adults, \$4 ages 10-17. See [www.friendshipfirehouse.net](http://www.friendshipfirehouse.net).

**Gourmet Cheese Tasting.** 2-5 p.m. at Balducci's Alexandria, 600 Franklin St. Partake in gourmet cheese tastings, and learn more about the craft of cheesemaking from experts. Free. Visit [www.balduccis.com](http://www.balduccis.com).

**Studio Recital.** 3-4 p.m. at the Lyceum, 201 S. Washington St., Alexandria. Andrew Wilson Trumpet Studio Recital: Andrew Wilson and students (trumpet) and Karin Firsov (piano), perform works by Scarlatti, Sousa, Sachse, Mouret, and Barker. Free. Call 202-258-0822.

**Country-Western Dance.** 6:30 p.m. at Lincolnia Senior Center, 4710 North Chambliss St., Alexandria. Lesson, 6:30 p.m.; dancing, 7-9:30 p.m. A DJ provides music. Couples and singles welcome. Admission for NVCWDA members \$10; non-members \$12; children under 18 accompanied by a paying adult \$5. Smoke-free, alcohol-free. BYO refreshments. Visit [www.nvcwda.org](http://www.nvcwda.org) or call 703-860-4941.

**Tom Rush.** 7:30 p.m. at The Birchmere, 3701 Mt. Vernon Ave. Folk singer Tom Rush will perform. Tickets are \$39.50. Visit [www.birchmere.com](http://www.birchmere.com) or call 703-549-7500.

## SUNDAY/MARCH 22

**Wonders of Science.** 1-4 p.m. at The Stabler-Leadbeater Apothecary Museum, 105-107 South Fairfax St., Old Town, Alexandria. The Apothecary Museum hosts a day of 18<sup>th</sup>-century natural and medical science exploration and

demonstrations. Discover curious objects, from poison bottles to dragon's blood, and find out how they were used – and if they worked. This hour-long program includes a tour of the museum, with new groups beginning every 30 minutes. Recommended for 3<sup>rd</sup> grade and older. \$6, children and adults. Reservations recommended, space is limited. Visit [www.apothecarymuseum.org](http://www.apothecarymuseum.org) or call 703-746-3852.

**Book Talk.** 2 p.m. at The Athenaeum, 201 Prince St. Join Garrett Peck and Portner's Brewhouse for a beer-and-book double header to celebrate Garrett's sixth book, "Walt Whitman in Washington, D.C.: The Civil War and America's Great Poet." After the book talk, Peck will lead a short walking tour of the historic Andrew Wales Brewery sites in Old Town. Free. Visit [www.nvfaa.org](http://www.nvfaa.org).

**Future Visions: Dystopia vs. Utopia.** 2-4 p.m. at the Beatley Central Library, 5005 Duke St., Alexandria. Will the future will look more like The Hunger Games or Star Trek? Join in to celebrate all of the books and movies that show the range of possible futures. Trivia, crafts, music, prizes, and more. Costumes encouraged. Ages 9 and up. Call 703-746-1751 for more.

**NAACP Women's History Month Event.** 2-5 p.m. at Charles Houston Recreation Center, 901 Wythe St. The Alexandria Virginia chapter of the NAACP will celebrate Women's History Month with Alexandria native, author and community activist Nisa Harper who will discuss her second book, "The Legacy of Fathers.....The Pain, The Power, and the Promise." Free. Call 703-684-6190.

**Winter Warmer Tea with Rebecca**

**Ramsay Reese.** 3-4:30 p.m. at Gadsby's Tavern Restaurant, 138 North Royal St., Alexandria. Sip a special blend of tea from Gadsby's Tavern Museum, "take" a cup of American Heritage Chocolate, and eat period-inspired delicacies, both sweet and savory, with your 21st-century friends. A historic guest who will be visit during each tea. \$35 per person all inclusive. Reservations are required. To make reservations and purchase tickets, call 703-746-4242 or visit [shop.alexandriava.gov](http://shop.alexandriava.gov). Ticket also includes a tour at 2:15 or 2:45 prior to the tea.

## MONDAY/MARCH 23

**Ballroom Dance Class.** Beginning class 7-7:45 p.m., advanced class 7:45-8:30 p.m. at The Athenaeum, 201 Prince St. Gary Stephans teaches the Fox Trot, Waltz, Tango, Swing, Salsa, Meringue, Rumba, Cha-Cha and Samba. Admission is \$15. Email [garystephans@me.com](mailto:garystephans@me.com) or call 703-505-5998.

## TUESDAY/MARCH 24

**"Corsica and Sardinia."** 10 a.m. at Hollin Hall Senior Center, 1500 Shenandoah Road. Conne Rubinstein presents the first in a series of "travelogues." Free. Reservations required, call 703-765-4573.

**Army in British North America.** 7:30 p.m. at The Lyceum, 201 S Washington St. Historian Erica Nuckles presents a lecture on the journey of Charlotte Brown, a British widow and mother who served as matron of the British army in North America during the Seven Years' War. \$5. Visit [shop.alexandriava.gov/Events.aspx](http://shop.alexandriava.gov/Events.aspx).

**National Chamber Players.** 7:30

p.m. at Pendleton Hall, Ainslie Arts Center, Episcopal High School, 3900 West Braddock Road. Gustav Mahler's Das Lied von der Erde arranged for chamber orchestra by Arnold Schoenberg and Rainer Riehn. Guest vocalists will be Patricia Green, mezzo soprano, and Gordon Gietz, tenor. Kenneth Slowik will conduct. Free. Call 703-933-4135 or email [vdp@episcopalhighschool.org](mailto:vdp@episcopalhighschool.org).

## TUESDAY/MARCH 24-MAY 31

**"Intricacies" Exhibit.** Various Times at Convergence, 1801 N. Quaker Ln. Artist-Photographer Nina Tisara unveils her "Intricacies" exhibit, a collection of mosaics. Visit [www.ourconvergence.org](http://www.ourconvergence.org).

## WEDNESDAY/MARCH 25

**History Lecture.** 7:30 p.m. at The Lyceum, 201 S Washington St. Join historian Erica Nuckles as she relates the journey of Charlotte Browne, a British widow and mother who served as matron of the British Army in North America during the Seven Years' War. Free. Visit [www.alexandriahistorical.org](http://www.alexandriahistorical.org).

## THURSDAY/MARCH 26

**Art and Book Sale.** 1-5 p.m. at Mt. Vernon Unitarian Church, 1909 Windmill Ln, Alexandria. Find art, children's books, and individually priced books. Visit the Hollin Hall Mansion for flat-rate prices on books, puzzles, CDs, and DVDs. \$5 a bag on Saturday. Visit [www.mvuc.org](http://www.mvuc.org).

**SWAN Day.** 7 p.m. at The Athenaeum, 201 Prince St. Poet Shelly Bell will host an evening of poetry, dance, music and the visual arts by women artists. Tickets are \$15. Visit



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# ENTERTAINMENT

www.nvfaa.org.

**Air Force Band Concert.** 8 p.m. at Lyceum History Museum, 201 S Washington St. The United States Air Force Band-Woodwind Quintet and Chamber Trio offer a public concert. Free. Visit [www.usafband.af.mil](http://www.usafband.af.mil) for more.

## SATURDAY/MARCH 28

### Eggstravaganza at Four Mile Run.

11 a.m.- 2 p.m. at Four Mile Run Farmers and Artisans Market, 4109 Mt. Vernon Ave. This is an early Easter event featuring a visit by the Easter bunny and several Easter egg hunts for children. Free. Visit [theaterchurch.com](http://theaterchurch.com).

### CRAVE Micro-Granting Dinner.

5-8 p.m. at The Lab at Convergence, 1819 N. Quaker Lane. The Torpedo Factory Art Center and Convergence will host a CRAVE (Creating Resources for Artistic Vision and Engagement) micro-granting dinner. Attendees hear four short presentations on new arts-related projects. After an interactive communal dinner, they vote and the chosen presenter receives an on-the-spot grant. Tickets are \$15 for dinner and a vote. Visit [ourconvergence.org](http://ourconvergence.org) for more.

**Orchestra.** 7 p.m. at The George Washington Masonic Memorial Theatre, 611 King St. The Symphony Orchestra of Northern Virginia presents "Les Misérables." Visit [www.sonovamusic.org](http://www.sonovamusic.org) for more.

## SUNDAY/MARCH 29

**Dance in the Gallery.** 2 p.m. at The Athenaeum, 201 Prince St. Take a sneak peek at the group's spring concert lineup. Free. Visit [www.nvfaa.org](http://www.nvfaa.org).

**Exhibit Reception.** 2-4 p.m. at Torpedo Factory Art Center, 105 North Union St. Two new exhibits will be on display at the Multiple Exposures Gallery by artists Susan Meyers and Colleen Henderson. Attend the reception. Visit [www.torpedofactory.org](http://www.torpedofactory.org) for more.

**10th Annual Spring Forward.** 6-9 p.m. at Union Street Public House, 121 S Union St. Nonprofit Community Lodgings is hosting their annual Spring Forward event featuring a silent auction, live music, an open bar, and dinner. Tickets are \$50 in advance, and \$65 at the door. Email [info@community-lodgings.org](mailto:info@community-lodgings.org) for more.

## MARCH 29-APRIL 26

**"Art and Story."** Through April 26 at Shirlington Library, 4200 Campbell Ave., Arlington. Del Ray Artisans presents artworks illustrating the power of art and story. Visit [www.TheDelRayArtisans.org/GWW](http://www.TheDelRayArtisans.org/GWW) for more.

## MARCH 30-APRIL 25

**Art Exhibit.** The Torpedo Factory, The Associates Gallery, studio 319, 105 North Union. Ceramics artist Bev Andrews, painter Ann Noel, mixed media artist Gail Spencer Saour and fine arts photographer Jo Ann Tooley will present work for an exhibit titled "Layers." Visit [www.torpedofactory.org](http://www.torpedofactory.org).

## TUESDAY/MARCH 31

**Cookie Class.** 6 p.m. at The Athenaeum, 201 Prince St. Larry Calvert leads a class on how to make hand-decorated sugar cookies. All supplies included. \$45 for the general public, \$35 for NVFAA members. Visit [www.nvfaa.org](http://www.nvfaa.org), email [lcalvert@ttsir.com](mailto:lcalvert@ttsir.com) to RSVP.

## WEDNESDAY/APRIL 1

**Swing Dance.** 9-11 p.m. at Nick's Nightclub, 642 S Pickett St. The Kelley Walters Band will provide the music for a night of swing dancing. \$10. Call 703-359-9882 or visit [www.gottaswing.com](http://www.gottaswing.com).

## THURSDAY/APRIL 2

**Tango Concert.** 7:30p.m. at The Athenaeum, 201 Prince St. QuinTango with guest Carina Losano, will perform an interactive concert and a Q&A. Visit [www.nvfaa.org](http://www.nvfaa.org).

## FRIDAY-SUNDAY/APRIL 3-5

**Easter Egg Hunt.** Friday, 3 p.m.; Saturday, 10:30 a.m., 12:30 p.m., 2:30 p.m.; and Sunday, 12:30 p.m. and 2:30 p.m. at The Lee-Fendall House, 614 Oronoco St. The historic Lee-Fendall House will host their 16th Annual Easter Egg Hunt. Other activities include games, crafts, refreshments, and photos with the Easter Bunny. Every participating child will receive an Easter Egg. Tickets are \$12 for children 12 and younger, \$5 for all others. Visit [www.leefendallhouse.org](http://www.leefendallhouse.org).

## MONDAY/APRIL 6

**R.E. Lee Camp Dinner.** 6:15 p.m. at American Legion Post 24 Hall, 400 Cameron St. Hear speaker Billie Earnest speak on "The Life of George Pickett." On display, find items that once belonged to the General and his family. Tickets are \$25 for adults, \$12.50 for children 17 and under. Visit [www.leecamp.org](http://www.leecamp.org).

## TUESDAY/APRIL 7

**History Lecture.** 7 p.m. at The Alexandria Black History Museum, 902 Wythe St. Attend a lecture on the arrival of Emancipation to Alexandria presented by Char

McCargo Bah. Free. Email [lance.mallamo@alexandriava.gov](mailto:lance.mallamo@alexandriava.gov) or call 703-746-4554.

**Public Art in Alexandria.** 6-8 p.m. at Morrison House Hotel, 116 South Alfred St. Join Diane Ruggiero and Matthew Harwood from the City's Office of the Arts in a talk about Alexandria's new implementation plan for public art. Free. Contact Alexandria Archaeology at 703-746-4399 or [archaeology@alexandriava.gov](mailto:archaeology@alexandriava.gov) for more information.

## SUNDAY/APRIL 12

**Artist Talk: Enveloping Time.** 3 p.m. at The Athenaeum, 201 Prince St., Alexandria. Opening for an exhibition of the works of Robert Cwiok in the Athenaeum gallery. Cwiok's paintings, collage, and mixed media works lead visitors on a visual tour through the development of an artist. Text, print ephemera and envelopes are visual leitmotifs throughout his career. Free. Visit [www.nvfaa.org](http://www.nvfaa.org).

## WEDNESDAY/APRIL 15

**Antiques Club.** 9:30-11 a.m. at Hollin Hall Senior Center, 1500 Shenandoah Road, Alexandria. The Alexandria/Mount Vernon Antiques Club presents Dick Hamly, discussing oarlocks. Experience with sailing and rowing, as well as serving in the Navy sparked his interest in different oarlock types, led to collecting them, including visits to Venice where he learned about variations in shape and details of design in Italian oarlocks, even to a high art. Free, public invited. Call 703-360-4979 or email [annconnell@verizon.net](mailto:annconnell@verizon.net) for more.

**Joan Armatrading.** 7:30 p.m. at The Birchmere, 3701 Mt Vernon Ave. singer/songwriter/guitarist Joan Armatrading performs. Tickets start at \$75. visit [www.joanarmatrading.com](http://www.joanarmatrading.com).

**Swing Dancing.** 9-11 p.m. at Nick's Nightclub, 642 South Pickett St. Tom Bowes, Willie Barry, Eric Hurt and Louis Newmyer form the newest rockabilly and early rock-n-roll quartet in the DC area. Admission is \$10. Call 703- 751-8900.

## THURSDAY-SUNDAY/APRIL 16-19

**Spring Book Sale.** Members preview on Thursday, 4-8:30 p.m.; Friday, 10 a.m.-5:30 p.m.; Saturday, 10 a.m.-4:30 p.m.; Sunday, 1-4:30 p.m. at Charles E. Beatley Central Library, 5005 Duke St. Books are \$3 or less unless specifically marked. Find hardbacks, paperbacks, children's books, and audio-visual items. All genres. Visit [www.alexandria.lib.va.us](http://www.alexandria.lib.va.us).

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6:30 pm Vigil Mass (en Español)	<b>Mornings:</b> 9:00 am Mass,
<b>Sunday</b> 7:30 am; 9:00 am (with Sign Language Interpreter & Children's Liturgy of the Word); 10:30 am; 12:00 Noon; 2:00 pm	preceded by Rosary (on First Friday, Mass followed by Eucharistic Adoration)
	<b>Thursday &amp; First Friday of the Month:</b> 7:30 pm Mass (Español) preceded by 7:00 pm Eucharistic Adoration

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## PEOPLE

# 2015 Generation to Generation Gala

Senior Services of Alexandria hosted its annual Generation to Generation Gala on Feb. 28 at the Mark Hilton Hotel. The 2015 honorees included John and Bea Taylor along with their daughters Karen Taylor Chandler and

Rhonda Taylor and June Geoffray and her son Christopher Campagna. Ronald M. Bradley as awarded the first Senior Services of Alexandria Philanthropist Award. For more information on SSA visit [www.SeniorServiceAlex.org](http://www.SeniorServiceAlex.org)



June Geoffray and her son Christopher Campagna, 2015 honorees are congratulated by City Council member Del Pepper and Jim Lindsay, presenting sponsor and CEO of ACCfamily.



SSA board of directors chair David P. Baker, Fairfax County firefighter Capt. Will Bailey, Lucky Elliott and Sheriff Dana Lawhorne.



2015 honorees Bea and John Taylor and their daughter Karen Taylor Chandler and Rhonda Taylor are surrounded by family at the annual Senior Services of Alexandria gala last Saturday evening at the Mark Hilton Hotel.



Ronald M. Bradley (center) is the first recipient of the Senior Services of Alexandria Philanthropist Award. With Bradley are (from left) SSA executive director Mary Lee Anderson, SSA board of directors chair David P. Baker, councilmember Del Pepper and 2015 presenting sponsor and CEO of ACCfamily Jim Lindsay.

## No Place Like Home

FROM PAGE 6

treatment and after-care support," Carroll said. "I want us to provide resources for the entire community, not just the patients that show up for treatment."

Carroll's father, James Turner, was a graduate of Hammond High School, and her mother, Patricia Ann Garvey, attended St. Mary's Academy. Both her grandmother and great grandmother served on the hospital's Board of Lady Managers.

"On any given day, I know someone or am related to someone getting treatment at the hospital," she said with a laugh. "And my great aunt and grandmother don't hesitate to remind me not



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

**Susan Carroll took over as CEO of Inova Alexandria Hospital at the beginning of 2015.**

to 'mess up their hospital.'"

Carroll's favorite story is when she was in her second week on the job and was approached by a 91-year-old woman.

"She was holding a picture of her mother and my great grandmother walking down Washington Street starting preschool together," Carroll said. "The picture was taken around 1901."

Among Carroll's awards is the status of Fellow in the American College of Healthcare Executives, the highest of certification given to healthcare leaders, and the 2012 Champion award by the National Cherry Blossom Breast Cancer Society. She and her husband Matt are the parents of two boys, Turner, 11, and Conner, 7.

"I am fortunate to be able to return to the very hospital where I was born," Carroll said. "Not many CEOs can say that. But Inova Alexandria is a very special place. I plan to be here a very long time."

## 'Choose To Believe'

FROM PAGE 6

time he gets up until the time he goes to bed he thinks about his church, responding to whatever needs have arisen. Every day turns out to have surprises and he has to triage what to do first. He sees the good in people and is a cheerleader for God "and I learned it is a sin to bore someone with the Gospel message of Christ so I try never to be boring," he joked. "It's not easy to love people who wrong

you," he continued, "but we are called on to try." Sometimes it takes a long time. "I try to remember those Bible verses like 'love your enemy' and 'rain falls on the just and the unjust.'" For McCoart praying is like blinking. "It is so much a part of what you do that you can't separate it from yourself. The rest is the presence or awareness of God. You have to choose to believe. You have to exercise that muscle."

### MILITARY NOTES

Email announcements to [gazette@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:gazette@connectionnewspapers.com).

Army Pvt. **Clement Yeboah** has graduated from basic combat training at Fort Jackson, Columbia, S.C. Yeboah is the son of Charles Tweneboa of Alexandria. He is a 2014 graduate of T.C.

Williams High School.

Army Pvt. **Jessica C. Meekins** has graduated from basic combat training at Fort Jackson, Columbia, S.C. Meekins, the daughter of Jesse and Lisa Meekins of Alexandria, is a 2013 graduate of T.C. Williams High School.

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



# OBITUARIES

## Larry Myron Wheeler

Larry Myron Wheeler, Lt. Col USMC (Ret. Reserves), died March 5, 2015 at Hospice Savannah.

Son of Essie Myrtle Smith and Lewin Wheeler, Larry was born and raised in Alma, Ga.

He graduated from the University of Georgia in 1954, where he was a member of the Pi Kappa Alpha fraternity. Upon graduation, he joined the U.S. Marine Corps and was stationed at Quantico, Va.

For over 40 years, he lived in Alexandria and worked in Washington, D.C. Employed by U.S. Sen. Richard Russell (D-Ga.) and later by U.S. Rep. Jack Brinkley (D-3-Ga.) as his administrative assistant, Larry also served early in his career as Secretary of the Senate and assistant to Interior Secretary Stewart Udall. He finished his career at Hughes Aircraft as their congressional liaison.

Survivors include Joan Wheeler his wife of 57 years, Roxann Wheeler his daughter, Mike Wheeler his brother, Karen Wheeler his sister-in-law, Derek and Jon Wheeler his nephews, John Scott McDonald and Rosemary Holton his cousins. In late April, the family will celebrate his life at two services, one at the Alma Methodist Church and the other at Skidaway Island United Methodist Church.

For those who are moved to memorialize

him in some way, the family suggests a gift to the Skidaway Cat Program (non-profit), Jane Von Rutenberg, treasurer, 2 Moonbill Lane, Savannah, GA 31411, where Larry was a volunteer and supporter along with Joan, or to St. Jude's Children's Research Hospital, 501 St. Jude Place, Memphis, TN 38105.

Fairhaven Funeral Home, Hubert C. Baker Chapel, Savannah, Ga., is in charge of arrangements. See

[www.fairhavenfuneralhome.net](http://www.fairhavenfuneralhome.net).

## Laurel Schultz

Laurel Schultz, 67, died March 14, 2015. She was born in Barboursville, Ky., but lived in Alexandria most of her life. She was a popular hair stylist for many years, working at Twisters Salon the past 23 years.

Laurel's greatest joy in life was working to raise funds for SCYC (Santa Claus Yacht Club).

The organization sponsored several events through the year to support needy children in Alexandria.

Laurel's family, mother Bonnie Rice, sis-



Laurel Schultz

ter Bonnie Jo Smith (Henry Buell) and brother Jeffrey Smith (Hilda) invites her many friends to celebrate her vivacious life on Saturday, March 21, 2015 from 6-8 p.m. at Everly-Wheatley funeral home at 1500 West Braddock Road.

## Julia Anne Perry Pattie

Julia Anne Perry Pattie, age 103, of Alexandria, died March 11, 2015. She was born May 16, 1911 in Orange, Va., to Frank B. Perry and Lula Inez Perry. She is survived by Currell L. Pattie and his wife Carol Pattie; three grandchildren: Jennifer Brazendale (Carl), David Pattie (Laura), and Brian Pattie; three great grandchildren: Luke Brazendale, Hannah Brazendale, and Sydney Pattie.

Julia was a true Christian, loving and giving to all. Julia received her Master's Degree from Duke University. She was a natural born teacher and a beloved mother, mother-in-law, grandmother, and great-grandmother. She cherished her neighbors and was generous to all who passed her way. She will be missed by those privileged to know her.

A visitation was held Sunday, March 15, 2015 at Everly Wheatley Funeral Home. Services were held at First Baptist Church, Alexandria, on Monday, March 16. She was buried at The Graham Cemetery, Orange, Va.

## BULLETIN BOARD

FROM PAGE 13

qualifying residents. Taxpayers are eligible if their income is below approximately \$35,000 for individuals and \$53,000 for families. Volunteers from Community Tax Aid, Inc. will ensure that taxpayers apply for all applicable credits and deductions. People will be seen on a first come, first served basis. For further information contact Esperita Bullard at 703-746-6070.

### COMMUNITY INPUT WANTED

**Call.Click.Connect.** is designed to allow community members to submit service requests, report problems, search for information, or find contact information by either calling a dedicated HELP line or accessing the Call.Click.Connect. website. Continue to check the Usability and Outreach project page at [alexandriava.gov/82564](http://alexandriava.gov/82564) for updated locations and times.

- Upcoming opportunities to provide input:
- ❖ James Duncan Library - Wednesday, March 18, 7-9 p.m.
  - ❖ Kate Waller Barrett Library - Tuesday, March 24, 11 a.m.-1 p.m.
  - ❖ Cora Kelly Recreation Center - Saturday, March 28, 9-11 a.m.

### FRIDAY/MARCH 20

**Podcasting for Small Business.** 9 a.m.-4 p.m. at the SBDC/AEDP Boardroom, 625 N. Washington St., Suite 400, Alexandria. Podcasting (or, netcasting) is the process of uploading syndicated audio or video files online so that people can listen to them on-the-go. How do you start and promote a podcast? Free. Visit [www.alexandriasbdc.org](http://www.alexandriasbdc.org) for more.

### SATURDAY/MARCH 21

**Alexandria Renew Enterprises Board of Directors.** 8 a.m. at Stratford University

SEE BULLETIN BOARD. PAGE 22

**Join the Honor Roll for  
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## Early Honor Roll as of March 11

<p><b>VALEDICTORIAN</b> Jack Taylor's Alexandria Toyota/Scion</p> <p><b>SALUTATORIAN</b> Cindy* and Mark * Anderson</p> <p><b>SUMMA CUM LAUDE</b> Collis Warner Foundation Loti and Stewart Dunn Priscilla* and Michael* Goodwin Potomac Yard Town Center – The JBG Companies &amp; MRP Realty</p> <p><b>MAGNA CUM LAUDE</b> Bonaventure Realty Group, LLC Dawson and Associates Albie and Tim Dickson Anna and Andy Engh Grant Thornton LLP Groundswell Communications, Inc. Just Ask Publications and Professional Development The Kellys Land, Carroll &amp; Blair* PC Lindsay Automotive Group</p>	<p>Sue and Len Lynch McEneaney Associates McLean Asset Management Debra L. Raggio Elynn and Ross Simons Speck-Caudron Investment Group of Wells Fargo Advisors, LLC United Bank</p> <p><b>CUM LAUDE</b> Braswell Design + Build Harlene and Bill Clayton Laurel Conger/McEneaney The Goodhart Group HGA Architects and Engineers John Marshall Bank LCOR Alexandria LLC Laurel Conger/McEneaney Maginnis + del Ninno Architects, pc McGuire Woods LLP Vivian and Robert Miller Emily and Michael* Porterfield Kitty Porterfield M. Catharine Puskar* Devin Reese and Hal Cardwell* Renner* and Company CPA</p>	<p>Simpson Development Company Walsh, Colucci, Lubeley &amp; Walsh, PC Walter L. Phillips, Inc. The Waterfront Market Wells &amp; Associates, Inc. Debbie and Kent Wells Terese and Jim Wilson</p> <p><b>DEAN'S LIST</b> Rachel and Sam Alberts Janet Anderson and Thomas Willkomm Bowman Consulting Group, Ltd. Michele and Bill Brandon Sandy and Hon. Bob Calhoun Julie Carey and Michael Tackett Laura* and Ed Cassidy christopher consultants, ltd. Kathryn and Peter Colarulli Kathy and Jamie Conrad Alex Crawford-Batt* and Hon. Justin Wilson Linda Davenport Becky and Dr. John Davies Jill and Ad Eichner Page and Tim Elliott Mayor Bill Euille* Alesia and Stephen Frerichs Marcia and Tom Fulham Angela and Tim Gannon</p> <p>Paulette* and Douglas* Garthoff Gila Harris Amy* and Blaine Jackson Libby and Bruce Johnson Micaela and Patrick Jones Jean M. Kelleher Brooksie Koopman and Hon. Mark Eaton Maureen and John* Leary Janet Lewis and Bill Boyle Beth and Hon. Tim Lovain Laurie MacNamara and Bill Hendrickson Jenn Mendez and Lane Stowe Ginny and Robb Mulberger Gwen and John Mullen Sandy Murphy New Target Lorraine M. Reilly* and Brock M. Ramirez Barbara Rosenfeld and Family Sylvia* and Hon. Arthur* Schmalz Lucy Thomson and Arthur Peabody Claudia and John Waller Shannon L. Watson* Maureen and Mark Williams Nancy and Hon. Marc Williams Susan and J. B. Yowell</p> <p style="text-align: right;">*TC Williams Alumni</p>
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## 2015 Corporate Partners



# Waterfront Developer Muddies Public Relations

**Residents, council members disparage company's email.**

BY VERNON MILES  
GAZETTE PACKET

A select group of Waterfront residents received an unexpected email from EYA, the developer currently set to redevelop the Robinson Terminal South site. A conflict has been building between the developer and local citizens over whether or not debris from the construction site should be removed via trucks through Old Town or a series of barges at a nearby marina.

The email asked local residents to speak on the company's behalf at a March 14 City Council public hearing. The email warned that, if EYA is forced to pursue barging options, that would be taken directly out of the planned public benefits to the city.

The email read: "Attention: City Officials are considering an expensive & unprecedented mandate which would reduce funds available for public benefits.

"We need your help today to ensure the future of the Alexandria Waterfront at Robinson Terminal South! City decision-makers are considering an extraordinary and expensive requirement that material be brought to and from Robinson Terminal

South by barge...

"Most important, the result of this unprecedented requirement would be a loss of more than \$1.5 million for public benefits such as revitalizing the pier or building the waterfront promenade.

"Stand with us and let City Officials know that we are at a pivotal moment to revitalize the waterfront, and barging would threaten our shared vision for a public, active, and welcoming Robinson Terminal South.

"Sincerely, AJ Jackson, Managing Partner, EYA". The email successfully brought local citizens to the City Council meeting, but it wasn't to speak in support of the project. Hal Hardaway, a resident of South Union Street, described the email as a clear manipulation of the public.

"Their strategy is to pit citizen against citizen and use the council as a pawn," said Hardaway. "What we have are counts of developer public relations morphing into manipulation."

"Rather than presenting its concerns to the Ad Hoc Monitoring Group for Waterfront Construction, which the city has set up to address waterfront construction impact issues, EYA has chosen to sidestep that process," said Bert Ely, co-chair of Friends of the Alexandria Waterfront.

Mark Jinks, acting city manager, said he was surprised when he heard about the email.

"We're still in negotiations," said Jinks,

"and we're still investigating the barging [option]."

The email raised concerns for many on the City Council.

"This is unprecedented," said City Councilwoman Del Pepper, "Not one time have we had this kind of lobbying before anything official's come out."

"This is an attempt to create a rift," said Mayor William Euille. "We don't need this and it does not help."

Robert Youngentob, co-founder and president of EYA, apologized to the public at a March 17 meeting of the Ad Hoc Monitoring Group for Waterfront Construction, but also said that the email was not an attempt at deception.

"I spoke with the mayor and apologized for the email and the turmoil it caused. I believe email and written word leave room for misinterpretation. On behalf of everyone at EYA, I apologize. For 23 years, we have been active in the city and our reputation is the most important thing we have ... "If anything, sometimes we're too honest."

While apologizing for the nature of the email, Youngentob also warned that the cost of barging could, potentially, drive EYA away from the site development.

"This project is being pushed and pulled in a lot of directions," said Youngentob. "If the mayor and council tell us to barge the material, we'll barge. We have to have a discussion with [investors] to see if we still

do this project. That's not a threat, just the reality of the economic situation. Our costs are dramatically higher than we thought ... It's getting very challenging to make this whole thing work. We don't want to lose our reputation over one project."

However, Youngentob said EYA wasn't ready to give up on the project just yet and clarified that the company would not repeat their mistakes.

"We're prepared to discuss hauling routes and barging options," said Youngentob. "We will not use email in the future ... to drum up support." Some residents, however, said that the fact that EYA only mailed notification of the public hearing to citizens they believed would support the project was as bad as the letter's content.

"What I find particularly appalling are the selective email lists and selective invitations," said Robert Wood, a resident of the Waterfront. "This is purposefully manipulating the public."

"This is quite evident by the fact that even though EYA has emailed me in the past about the terminal project, it did not have the courtesy to send that email to me even though I am a member of the Monitoring Group," said Ely.

"The email was sent to people who'd previously expressed support for the project," said Youngentob. "I have told our entire organization that we will not use email to bring people out to support projects. It was wrong."

## Assessing Haul Route Options for Waterfront

FROM PAGE 1  
posed.

By AECOM's calculations, one barge trip would be able to carry the same as 200 truck trips. Moving dirt, or earth fill, to the site would require eight barge trips or 1,500 truck trips. The larger task, however, is removing the dirt and debris from the site. This would require the use of 28 barge trips and 5,500 truck trips.

AECOM concluded that the barging concepts are a feasible alternative to trucking, but noted that this would come with its own share of additional challenges. Fewer commercially available options for loading or offloading materials would significantly increase the cost of barging, and contamination of the soil and debris being removed from the site limits the city's options as far as disposal is concerned. Barging is the more expensive option for the company and could also result in a longer period of construction. Baker estimated that construction with barges could take two or three months longer than the trucking option.

There was also the problem of offloading the debris from the barges. AECOM found no sites on the Potomac that would be able to be capable of handling the offloaded material. The debris would be removed on a four day round-trip near Shirley Plantation on the James River to unload the materials. However, petroleum levels in the removed soil may mean that the barges will be un-

able to directly offload the materials near the Shirley Plantation site, but will have to transport the materials to trucks to be taken to another facility. AECOM's report recommended that if the clean material can be separated from the contaminated soil, the clean material could be taken to Baltimore for a more cost-effective disposal. The Potomac River also has no tug service, meaning it would have to be contracted out of Baltimore or Norfolk.

However, AECOM also noted that the project site on the waterfront does have sufficient access to make barging possible and can physically accommodate the amount of materials being transported. Barging would reduce the distance travelled by the trucks down to a block or two, which would reduce noises, traffic, and would ease concerns that the volume of the trucks and associated vibrations would damage nearby properties and city utilities.

According to AECOM, neither is a perfect option. Trucking is the most common method of transporting these types of materials. It's less expensive and tends to have a shorter construction period than barging. However, AECOM added that some of these cost savings are mitigated by the risk of damaging the city streets and other nearby properties.

Bert Ely, co-chair of the Friends of the Alexandria Waterfront, asked Baker about the feasibility of a conveyor system between

the barge on the pier and the construction site. Baker said AECOM staff had looked into that option but ultimately decided it offered no clear advantage over trucks for transporting materials to and from the development site. According to Baker, the conveyor would be unreasonably expensive and the unloading process into the barge would be difficult to manage.

The Ad Hoc Committee was not ready to provide guidance yet on its suggested haul route but would make an official statement once the committee members had a chance to review the new numbers and information.

On April 7, the Robinson Terminal South site proposal will be presented to the Alexandria Planning Commission, then to City Council for a hearing on April 18. If the project continues on schedule, EYA plans

on beginning demolition on Sept. 1 and construction sometime in 2016.

The meeting briefly touched on the potential for barging at the Indigo Hotel Site planned for development by Carr Properties. According to Yon Lambert, acting director of the city's Transportation and Environmental Services, the City Attorney's office has advised him that the haul routes will be on the streets and that the city is not considering barging as an option at that site. At a Waterfront Commission meeting in the same building earlier that day, Townsend "Van" Van Fleet, president of the Old Town Civic Association, said that haul routes for the properties aren't established until the site plan is proposed.

"The City Attorney is not correct in saying that the die has been cast," said Van Fleet.

### BULLETIN BOARD

FROM PAGE 13

Contact Lorna Huff, 703-549-3381, ext. 2260.

**Activate Your Voice.** 10:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m. at T.C. Williams High School, 3330 King St. Middle and high school students are invited to help create a public service announcement highlighting cyber bullying. Contact Krishna Leyva at 703-824-6865 or krishna.leyva@acps.k12.va.us for more.

**Genealogy Course.** 11 a.m.-1 p.m. both days

at Alexandria Black History Museum, 902 Wythe St. This two-session course teaches how research and organize branches of the family tree. \$60. Call 703-746-4356.

**Container Gardening Class.** 1:30-3:30 p.m. at Burke Branch Library, 4701 Seminary Road. Parents and their school-aged children will learn about the principles of growing plants in containers. Registration is requested; sign up at mgnv.org.



# The Right Fit: Choosing a Summer Camp

How parents can ensure positive summer experiences for their children.

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL  
GAZETTE PACKET

**T**hough the official start of spring is still days away and the frigid ity of winter is still recent on the minds of many, Janelle Wright, a Potomac, Md., mother of two, has already mapped out the summer for her children.

Wright did research before signing up her 13-year-old daughter, Corrine, in an academic camp geared toward boosting her English composition skills, and enrolling her 12-year-old son, Teddy, in a camp for children whose needs fall just outside the norm.

Indeed, experts say social interactions, a chance to have fun and an opportunity to fill the time between family trips are just some of the benefits of summer camps.

There are camps for every child, no matter their needs.

"I spoke to the camp and shared with them up front that my son might need help socializing with other kids," said Wright. "He might need directions repeated to him. I did that so I could drive away in peace knowing that he'd be fine. It's different for

my daughter because she doesn't have any challenges. I don't have to call the camp and talk to them like I do with my son."

**WHETHER A CHILD** is typical or falls slightly outside the norm, doing a bit of research and exercising forethought are good ideas when selecting summer programs. In fact, advanced planning and registration for summer camp is essential in the Washington, D.C., region, say educators.

"It's important to find an activity that kids already like to do. It's summer so kids should have fun," said Linda Gulyn, Ph.D., professor of psychology at Marymount University in Arlington.

"Choose a camp where they won't feel lonely. It helps to sign them up with a buddy, especially in late elementary and middle school so they'll have one or two people at camp they already know. That really does matter."

"Parents should consider a camp that taps into their child's strengths, the size of the groupings during the day," said Susan J. Johnson, Ph. D., of Commonwealth Acad-

emy in Alexandria. "Consider the length of time for each activity."

Johnson advises that parents try coordinating their child's attention span with the camp's schedule. "Match camp schedule with body clock of the child," she said. "Schedule afternoon camp for children who naturally sleep late in the mornings, for example."

**INFORM THE CAMP'S STAFF** if a child has allergies, medical needs or phobias. For special needs children, Johnson says camp counselors and directors should be "aware of a child's specific learning disabilities, and trained in how to teach children with learning disabilities, present directions, teach multiple strategies for learning new skills and always incorporate hands-on learning activities."

For children who are prone to feeling anxious about going to camp, Johnson suggests parents do a practice run to camp and visit the campus or building.

There are also options if parents want their children to enjoy typical camp activities like swimming and arts and crafts combined with academics. For example, Wright chose an English program at St. Andrew's Episcopal School in Potomac for her daughter.

"[Our] summer programs encompass aca-

demics for credit or enrichment and the arts [including] visual, performing and culinary," said Monique McMillan-Jackson, director of summer programs. St. Andrews also offers sports and technology camps.

**SOME DAY CAMPS** are structured to allow parents to choose the week their child will attend camp based on interests.

"We have a theme for every week that is packed with field trips and special events" said Fred Lowery, owner of Kiddie Country in Burke, which is running 11 weeks of camp this summer. "All of the camp activities are related to the theme. There are field trips to the Maryland Science Center, a Washington Mystics game, Reptiles Alive and Hershey Park. On site, we have everything from mad science to jugglers to swimming."

Traditional camp experiences, like opportunities for socializing with peers, are still found in specialty camps.

"As [campers] learn to identify, measure and combine ingredients, they are also learning important life skills, working together as a team and ultimately creating a delicious meal," said Jennifer Bashaw, curriculum development coordinator at Tiny Chefs, Inc. "Children leave our camps with a greater confidence in their kitchen skills and personal creativity."

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Alexandria  
Gazette Packet

## AGENDA ALEXANDRIA

**Taking A Look At Issues Without Taking Sides**

**Mirant, GenOn, NRG - What's Next in the North End?**

**Karl Moritz**  
Planning & Zoning

**Tom Soapes**  
NOTICE

**Robert Hull**  
Marina Towers

**Steven Peterson**  
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agendaalexandria.org

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Special Thanks to the



# LETTERS

FROM PAGE 12

misplaced on this issue — seek to improve academic scores and readiness of the students for the future; seek to inspire the students through academics and real world challenges. I say no light at T.C. Williams High School Stadium.

**Carol Johnson**  
Seminary area, Alexandria

## We're in Trouble

To the Editor:

Uh oh. We're in trouble. All three Democratic contenders for mayor believe a new metro is necessary. They want to put this metro in Potomac Yards very near the new and popular Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) lanes. They think this new metro stop will create more tax revenue because it will attract more tax-paying residents and businesses to Potomac Yards and, by implication, the BRT will not. Their group-think assertion is beyond shameless. First, it falsely suggests they are interested in making Alexandria business-friendly. If that were the case, they could do this now, and without a new metro.

They could start by stop competing with the private sector, the one that generates tax revenues (e. g., the city operates money-losing businesses that rent bikes and operates a bus service, neither of which pay taxes).

Second, their thinking is plain and simple wrong. Think about it: If metro stations attracted tenants, then there would be no vacancies, especially in commercial buildings, within a mile of the King Street, Braddock and Van Dorn metro stations.

The cost estimates for a new metro in Potomac Yard, all drawn from the city website, run between a quarter-billion to almost three-quarters of a billion dollars, all of which will be borrowed money.

When the debt service is added to these prices, you're talking about hefty payments that will span generations and which, perforce, will raise your property and business taxes no ifs, ands or buts about it.

And keep in mind too that our city government has not competed a single multi-million dollar project on time and within budget.

Remember: These Democratic candidates for mayor are the very people who brought you one of the most expensive elementary schools in America believing, apparently, the building will better educate its chronically underperforming students; a police palace instead of a police station and a waterfront plan the cost for which has never been ascertained, but is widely accepted to be in the ever-increasing mega-millions.

If one of them doesn't come to their senses and breaks away from the wrong headed group-think they've all embraced, then all we can do is hope a fiscally sensible person will challenge the eventual Democratic candidate for mayor.

Even if that mystery challenger appears, but especially if one doesn't step forward, then to protect the taxpayers, we need a cap on how much the City Council can spend without first obtaining public approval. It's your money after all.

**Jimm Roberts**  
Alexandria

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## 21 Announcements

### LEGAL NOTICE

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

## 21 Announcements

## 21 Announcements

### OBITUARY

**Robert "Rob" Michael Kearnes, 37**, a resident of Cape Coral since 1986, formerly of Alexandria, VA, passed away Sunday, March 15, 2015 in Cape Coral. He was born July 25, 1977 in Alexandria. He is survived by his mother, Pamela Kearnes of Cape Coral; his sister, Lori Kearnes of Cape Coral; a brother, Skip Kearnes also of Cape Coral; two aunts, Laura Saville of Strasburg, VA and Dawn Zacharias-Speakman "AD" of Cape Coral; five nieces and nephews, Melinda Kearnes of Cape Coral, Brooke Kearnes of Fairfax, VA, Casey Kearnes of Fredericksburg, VA, Katie Kearnes and Zack Kearnes both of Locust Grove, VA; his former wife, Angela M. Kearnes of Cape Coral; two step children, Kevin McDermott and Kaila-Ann Merricks both of Cape Coral; many, many cousins; his life-long best friend, Dave Knollmueller; as well as his 4 legged children, Bear and Cane.

Funeral Services will be held 11:00AM, Saturday, March 21, 2015 at Grace United Methodist Church, 13 SE 21st Place, Cape Coral, FL 33990 with Pastor Joe Wingard officiating. Interment will follow at Coral Ridge Cemetery, 1630 SW Pine Island Rd., Cape Coral.

## 21 Announcements

### ALEXANDRIA CITY PUBLIC SCHOOLS REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS NUMBER 15-02-03

The Alexandria City School Board dba Alexandria City Public Schools is seeking competitive proposals from qualified Offerors to provide furniture, fixtures, equipment and related services.

Sealed Proposals with the notation RFP# 15-02-03 Furniture, Fixtures, Equipment and related services will be received in the Central Procurement Office, 1340 Braddock Place, Suite 620, Alexandria, Virginia 22314, on or before 3:00 pm, April 8, 2015. The time of receipt shall be determined by the time clock stamp in the Procurement office. Proposals appropriately received will be opened and the names of the firms responding will be read aloud. RFP documents may be obtained at the above Procurement Office or by calling 703-619-8181, or by downloading the RFP from the ACPS website at <http://www.acps.k12.va.us/financial-services/purchasing/bids.php>

ACPS reserves the right to cancel this RFP and/or reject any or all offers and to waive any informalities in any proposal.

Chris Guy  
Procurement Manager

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### OBITUARY



**Julia Anne Perry Pattie**, age 103, of Alexandria, VA, passed away March 11, 2015. She was born May 16, 1911 in Orange, VA to Frank B. Perry and Lula Inez Perry. She is survived by Currell L. Pattie and his wife Carol Pattie; 3 grandchildren: Jennifer Brazendale (Carl), David Pattie (Laura), and Brian Pattie; 3 great grandchildren: Luke Brazendale, Hannah Brazendale, and Sydney Pattie.

Julia was a true Christian, loving and giving to all. Julia received her Master's Degree from Duke University. She was a natural born teacher and a beloved mother, mother-in-law, grandmother, and great-grandmother. She cherished her neighbors and was generous to all who passed her way. She will be missed by those privileged to know her.

A visitation will be held Sunday, March 15, 2015 from 2-5 PM at Everly Wheatley Funeral Home. Services will be held at First Baptist Church, Alexandria, VA, Monday, March 16 at 10 AM. She will be buried at The Graham Cemetery, Orange, VA at 2 PM.

## 21 Announcements

## 21 Announcements

### OBITUARY

## LARRY MYRON WHEELER, LT. COL USMC (RET. RESERVES) SAVANNAH, GEORGIA

SAVANNAH - Larry Myron Wheeler, Lt. Col USMC (Ret. Reserves), passed on March 5, 2015 to be with the Lord at Hospice Savannah.

Son of Essie Myrtle Smith and Lewin Wheeler, Larry was born and raised in Alma, Georgia. He graduated from the University of Georgia in 1954, where he was a member of the Pi Kappa Alpha fraternity. Upon graduation, he joined the U.S. Marine Corps and was stationed at Quantico, VA.

For over 40 years, he lived in Alexandria, VA, and worked in Washington, D.C. Employed by Georgia Senator Richard Russell and later by Georgia Congressman Jack Brinkley as his administrative assistant, Larry also served early in his career as Secretary of the Senate and assistant to Interior Secretary Stewart Udall. He finished his career at Hughes Aircraft as their Congressional liaison.

Survivors include Joan Wheeler his wife of 57 years, Roxann Wheeler his daughter, Mike Wheeler his brother, Karen Wheeler his sister-in-law, Derek and Jon Wheeler his nephews, John Scott McDonald and Rosemary Holton his cousins.

In late April, the family will celebrate his life at two services, one at the Alma Methodist Church and the other at Skidaway Island United Methodist Church.

For those who are moved to memorialize him in some way, the family suggests a gift to the Skidaway Cat Program (non-profit), Jane Von Rutenberg, treasurer, 2 Moonbill Lane, Savannah, GA 31411, where Larry was a volunteer and supporter along with Joan, or to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, 501 St. Jude Place, Memphis, TN 38105.

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### 21 Announcements

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#### Notice of Public Hearing

The Alexandria Community Services Board is holding a public hearing to receive comment on the needs of Alexandrians with mental illness, intellectual disability or a substance dependency, and on the proposed Plan of Services (Performance Contract), available at [www.alexandriava.gov/dchs](http://www.alexandriava.gov/dchs). The hearing will be Thursday, April 2 at 6:30 p.m. at 720 North Saint Asaph Street, Alexandria, VA 22314. To sign up to speak or to send comments, call 703.746.3523 or email Donielle Marshall. Comments can also be faxed to 703.838.5070.

#### ALEXANDRIA CITY PUBLIC SCHOOLS REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL NUMBER 15-02-11

The Alexandria City School Board dba Alexandria City Public Schools would like to issue the following change to this previously advertised Request for Proposal to provide an Electronic Professional Development Management System.

The proposal opening date has been changed to on or before 3:00 pm, March 23, 2015.

Chris Guy  
Procurement Manager

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one day at a time.  
-Dean Acheson

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## SPORTS

# BI Girls' Lax Now 'The Hunted'

## Cardinals open season with win over Georgetown Visitation.

BY JON ROETMAN

GAZETTE PACKET

After a three-goal performance against Georgetown Visitation on Tuesday, including the game-winner with 5:44 remaining, Bishop Ireton senior Kelly Mathews tried to describe the difference between the Cardinals' outlook in 2014, and how they approach things now after winning WCAC and state championships last season.

"Last year, we were the hun... how's the thing go?" Mathews said. "Now we're the hunted. You know what I mean."

Mathews and other members of the Bishop Ireton girls' lacrosse team are still getting used to the pressure that comes with being defending champions. The Cardinals enter the 2015 season ranked No. 3 in the nation by USA TODAY after returning the majority of the team that won the school's first WCAC title and defeated national power St. Stephen's & St. Agnes for the first time in the VISAA state championship game.

Ireton opened the 2015 season on Tuesday against Georgetown Visitation, ranked No. 11 nationally by USA TODAY. The Cardinals weren't on top of their game, but pulled out an 11-9 victory in Washington, D.C.

Ireton jumped out to a 6-1 lead, but Visitation chipped away and cut the Cardinal lead to 7-6 at halftime. The Cubs tied the score at 9 with 8:02 remaining in the second half, but Mathews answered with what proved to be the game-winning goal with 5:44 left.

Ireton's Kaitlin Luzik added an insurance goal 33 seconds later.

"We all knew going into this game that we needed to prove a point that it wasn't a one-time thing," Mathews said, referring to last season's success. "We're here to repeat and do big things. It means a lot that we started off well, got into a bit of a bad scene and then came out on top. I think it's good that we showed ourselves that we can come out of tough situations."

"... I think going into last season, we weren't as sure what we were capable of, but this year we have a target on our back, so we have a lot of work to do."

What does Tuesday's season-opening victory mean?

"It means we've got a lot to learn," Ireton head coach Rick Sofield said. "We found a way to win; good teams do that when they

don't play their best. ... I'm proud of them for finding a way to win, but we need to play with more poise. We have enough experience on this team where we just need to be smarter."

Kelly Larkin finished with three goals and two assists for the Cardinals.

"[Larkin was a] real catalyst for us on the offense," Sofield said. "Visi took away our feeds from behind, that was something we did well against them last year. It was obvious they game-planned for that. We have more tricks in our bag, so we went to something else and it was Kelly's chance to shine today and she took advantage of the opportunity and she did great."

Kayla Duperrouzel scored two goals for Ireton, and Luzik, Charlotte Sofield and Lexi Ledoyen each had one. Luzik and Charlotte Sofield each had an assist.

Charlotte Sofield, the 2014 WCAC Player of the Year and University of North Carolina signee, said Ireton's defense, including the performance of sophomore goalkeeper Amelia Cole, propelled the Cardinals to victory.

"I think our defense really stepped up in this game," Charlotte Sofield said. "Our attack

was not clicking as well today and our defense really made the stops that we needed. Our goalie really made key saves. Amelia had big shoes to fill — her sister [and last year's goalkeeper], Olivia, is now playing at Florida. Being a sophomore stepping up and starting is hard, and she really pulled it together for us today."

Cole finished with nine saves.

Shortly after winning last season's state championship, Rick Sofield ordered T-shirts for summer workouts. The shirts have a target on the back, symbolizing what the Cardinals would face after their 2014 accomplishments. He said Ireton has the same "six games in May" mentality, when the Cardinals try to improve during the regular season before winning three WCAC tournament games and three VISAA state tournament games.

Ireton passed its first test of the 2015 season, beating a fellow nationally-ranked team. Next up for the Cardinals is a home game against Roland Park Country School (Baltimore) at 1 p.m. on Saturday, March 21. Roland Park Country School is ranked No. 8 by USA TODAY.

"We have talked about how different it is to be a competitor when you're the one who's in the lead," Rick Sofield said. "We talk about it the context of running a race: if you're right behind the girl in the lead ... and you're staring at her back, you're tracking her and she doesn't know you're back there and she doesn't know you're coming. That's what I told them: This year, we're the ones out front and people are running us down."

**"I think going into last season, we weren't as sure what we were capable of, but this year we have a target on our back, so we have a lot of work to do."**

**— Bishop Ireton senior Kelly Mathews**

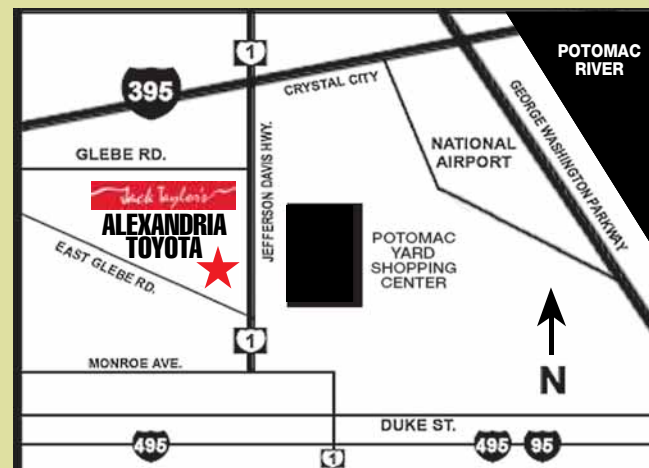


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