

Hadeed
ORIENTAL RUG CLEANING
AND IN-HOME SERVICES

Winter Has NOT Been Kind to Your Rugs
GET ALL THE SALT, DIRT & GRIME OFF YOUR RUGS!

OUR BEST OFFER EVER!

In-Plant Oriental Rug Cleaning
Have 2 Rugs Cleaned **And Get The 3rd Cleaned Free!**

703-836-1111 | JoeHadeed.com | FREE PICKUP & DELIVERY! Expires 3/11/18. Same size or smaller rug free. Not valid w/any other offers. †Some restrictions apply.



Alexandria Gazette Packet



Inside
PET GAZETTE

25 CENTS

SERVING ALEXANDRIA FOR OVER 200 YEARS • A CONNECTION NEWSPAPER

MARCH 1, 2018



On the Docks

This is Aubie Murphy Woods, a 1-year-old Cavachon, with a passion for walking Old Town's streets, finding treats, meeting other puppies, and disobeying the most basic of commands. More Pets, pages 12-14.

— KEVIN WOODS

'Nothing To Brag About'

City Council considers new funding to stem loss of affordable housing.

BY DAN BRENDEN
GAZETTE PACKET

At its legislative meeting on Tuesday, City Council began considering potential new dedicated funding sources to close a gap in meeting the city's affordable housing goals.

"The Housing Master Plan's 200 new/preserved units per year production goal between now and 2025 cannot be met with the current funding stream. There is an approximate 880-unit funding gap, which to close would cost

some \$75,000 per unit, and cost some \$66 million through 2025 to meet," said City Manager Mark Jinks in a December memo. The memo responded to Councilman Willie Bailey's earlier request about the feasibility of raising the city's restaurant meals tax in order to generate more revenue for affordable housing.

City staff presented council with five options that could go toward closing this gap:

❖ Meals Tax: "A [one percent] increase in the meals tax would raise some \$4.75 million annually

SEE COUNCIL, PAGE 19

Hazard Pay

Police and Firefighters say budget increase is insufficient.

BY VERNON MILES
GAZETTE PACKET

It's a slow budget year, with stagnant commercial property rates, but one of the big budget items is starting to face a backlash from Alexandria's first responders.

The new push in this year's city budget is \$1.5 million for public

safety recruitment and retention. City Manager Mark Jinks said how the money will be allocated is yet to be determined but that it won't be an across-the-board pay raise. Representatives of city's police and firefighters say it's not enough: Alexandria is continuing to lag behind its competitors in public safety personnel pay.

SEE POLICE, PAGE 19

ATTENTION
POSTMASTER:
TIME-SENSITIVE
MATERIAL.
Address Service Requested
To: 1604 KING ST.,
ALEXANDRIA, VA 22314

PERMIT #482
ALEXANDRIA, VA
PAID

U.S. POSTAGE
VERIFICATION
CIRCULATION

PERMIT #482
ALEXANDRIA, VA
PAID



McEneaney Associates
REALTORS®



The Peele Group
Licensed in VA, DC & MD

Our focus has always been on doing what is right for every client. Delivering an unmatched real estate experience is a personal responsibility and top priority for each of us at The Peele Group and we are so happy to be with a company where they share our philosophy.

As lifelong residents of Alexandria, those priorities are extended to strong support for our community including sponsorships for these fine local organizations:

Rotary Club of Alexandria
Cystic Fibrosis Foundation
Del Ray Business Association

Art on the Avenue
Alexandria Bar Foundation
Alexandria Police Association



Thank you for your support of our business and our community! Contact us directly or share our information with friends, coworkers and family who want a VIP experience. We promise to take great care of all our clients and guide them through the home sale or buying process to a smooth settlement.



Kim Peele 703.244.5852
Marcella Oakley 703.801.6141
Hope Peele 703.244.6115
www.ThePeeleGroup.biz
109 S. Pitt Street | Alexandria, VA 22314





'Lie-in'

Youths gathered outside of the White House on Feb. 19 to demand action on gun control. The "lie-in" was organized by Teens for Gun Reform in response to the Feb. 14 school shooting in Parkland, Fla. At right, U.S. Rep. Don Beyer spoke about the prevalence of gun violence in the country. Photos are by Alexandria resident Thomas Winburn.



The Next Shooting

Efforts to prevent school shootings.

BY VERNON MILES
GAZETTE PACKET

The Parkland shooting has cast a shadow across city public safety discussions nationwide. After the shooting at Stoneman Douglas High School killed 17 teachers and students, the City Council sat down at a Feb. 27 public meeting to discuss with interim Superintendent Lois Berlin and Police Chief Michael Brown how they prepare for the worst.

Berlin noted that the biggest safety measure is making sure the schools know everyone who comes into the building. Alexandria's schools have locked front doors where visitors must be buzzed into the building. Anyone visiting the school must have a visitor badge given by the front office.

Berlin said the schools have recently been reassessing and retraining on school shooter scenarios.

In response to the question of whether teachers in Alexandria schools should be armed, Berlin answered she was unequivocally opposed to the idea.

"That's their campus, so we defer to them," Brown said. "Our officers just need to know what we have on scene. I can see the value of not having armed teachers, and that's the school district's call."

The City Council also unanimously voted in favor of a resolution urging Congress and the Virginia General Assembly to pass gun reform legislation, notably urging for stronger background checks and a ban on assault weapons. Vice Mayor Justin Wilson noted, however, that everything in the resolution was reiterating things the City Council has already been urging for years. Virginia is a Dillon Rule state, meaning that localities have limited power to legislate on issues like gun control, but Wilson said there were still efforts the city could undertake. Wilson proposed looking into enhancing city efforts to remove illegal guns from the streets and to encourage local business owners to ban guns from their private property.

"It seems to me, this is a moment not for more words, but a better moment for action," said Wilson. "Happy to support this resolution, but I would hope we could take a look at options we have for doing some things. I think a lot of the things in this resolution are things that have to go through Washington or Richmond. I doubt Congress waiting to hear what Alexandria has to say on these issues. But there are things we can do given what authority we do have that I hope we'll explore. There are possible ways to accelerate efforts to get illegal guns off the street, maybe a conversation for our upcoming budget process."

TC Students Organize Day Against Gun Violence

Area schools also participated by wearing ribbons and school colors of Marjory Stoneman-Douglas High School.

BY JAMES CULLUM
GAZETTE PACKET

T.C. Williams High School senior Jay Falk had to do something. She was watching the news in the aftermath of the Feb. 14 shooting that left 17 teachers and students dead at Marjory Stoneman-Douglas High School in Parkland, Fla., and called up her friend, junior Hannah Miller. Their #WeAreAllEagles day against gun violence on Tuesday, Feb. 27 was quickly picked up by over a dozen area high and middle schools, and thousands of students wore orange ribbons and the Stoneman-Douglas school colors — maroon, black and gold.

"I was really emotional about it," said Falk, 18. "Hannah and I talked about it and the next day we asked one of the leadership teachers to organize a day of solidarity with the students."

The effort was picked up by St. Stephen's and St. Agnes School, Bishop Ireton, Episcopal High School — and also Hayfield High School, George Washington Middle School, Walter Johnson High School, The Howard Gardner School, Churchill High School, Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology, West Springfield High



PHOTO BY JAMES CULLUM/GAZETTE PACKET

T.C. Williams High School students Hannah Miller (left) and Jay Falk organized a day against gun violence on Tuesday. Their #WeAreAllEagles event was adopted by the school, prompting over 1,000 T.C. students to wear ribbons and the school colors of Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, Fla., which suffered 17 deaths from a shooting on Feb. 14.

School, Wakefield, Lake Braddock, Georgetown Visitation and Gonzaga College High School. An estimated 1,000 students participated at TC.

"We started creating posters, fliers and promotional material and got the word out on social media," Miller, 17, said. "And then we started reaching out to anyone we knew in other high schools in the area, like anyone Jay and I knew from any other high school in the DMV area."

TC Principal Peter Balas wore an orange T-shirt on Tuesday.

"It's no surprise to me that Jay and Hannah and other students knocked it out of the park," Balas said. "Of course I'm proud of them. I think that they have found a real way to try to raise awareness."

Episcopal High School students Olivia Morton and Kate Castle handed out more than 300 orange ribbons.

"This is going to be an ongoing project for us," Castle said. "We want it be for more than just this one day."

State Sen. Adam Ebbin (D-30) also wrote TC students a letter urging them to participate in the "March For Our Lives" at the National Mall on March 24, and delivered a video message, which was broadcast during the Tuesday morning announcements.

"You don't have to be a voter yet to shape the debate," Ebbin wrote students from Senate of Virginia letterhead. "Show up to #MarchForOurLives on March 24th. Speak up by writing or calling your elected officials. Engage our community by penning a letter to the editor. Get involved at election time. Register to vote as soon as you are eligible. Vote. Repeat until no school in America has to wonder, 'Who's next?'"

Visit us
on Facebook
for
upcoming
event
details!



CAREGIVER CONNECT

*A Monthly Gathering for Caregivers
at The Kensington*

At The Kensington, we understand that caregiving for someone with dementia is a demanding responsibility. We also believe it is one you should not undertake alone. That's why we strive to preserve your well-being by helping you stay positive, manage fatigue and make the most of moments as your loved one's memory changes.

Join us on the first Wednesday of each month to share time connecting with other caregivers and discussing common challenges. Guest facilitators offer information, advice and support in a welcoming, private setting.

Dr. Aleksandra (Anya) Parpura, an expert in aging and dementia, leads our Caregiver Connect program and brings to us vast knowledge, helpful tips and a kind heart.

The first Wednesday of each month from 6:30-8:00pm
March 7 & April 4 • Light refreshments
RSVP to (703) 992-9868



THE KENSINGTON
An Assisted Living Community

FALLS CHURCH

(703) 992-9868

700 West Broad Street, Falls Church, VA 22046

www.TheKensingtonFallsChurch.com

Kensington Park, another Kensington community located nearby in Kensington, MD



OBITUARY

Mary Page Palmer

Mary Page Palmer died on Sunday evening Feb. 18, 2018 at Envoy of Alexandria in Alexandria. Mary Page was born in her parent's home on Church Street in Wytheville, Va. on Aug. 27, 1918 to the late Clarence M. Trinkle and the late Adelaide Kent Trinkle (nee Moore). Mary Page is preceded in death by her brother, Clarence M. Trinkle, Jr. She is survived by her husband of 77 years, Lee Wilson Palmer of Alexandria, son James Lee Palmer (Romana Sanchez Palmer), daughter Elizabeth Page Reick (Dr. Matthias Reick), six grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

When she was a child, her parents lost their home in Wytheville, Va. and she spent several summers living with the William Haynes family at Ashantilly, a former rice plantation in Darien, Ga. which is now on the National Register of Historic Places and home to the Ashantilly Center. She also lived in Williamsburg, Va. while her mother was the Chi Omega sorority house mother and attended The Matthew Whaley School and Burton Parish Episcopal Church. She was also fascinated by the archeology and restoration of the historic buildings underway while she was there. In 1934 she was invited to live with her Aunt Betty and Uncle Harry Nicol in Detroit, Mich. Aunt Betty's and Uncle Harry's house became her cherished home away from home and she graduated from Grosse Pointe High School (Class of 1937).

As a teen Mary Page began to demonstrate her considerable artistic talents, was a life-guard at the local pool and always had her faithful dog Tippy at her side. She enjoyed attending sporting and cultural events but most of all she loved to dance to the tunes of Guy Lombardo and Rudy Vallee. While she was in high school her father died and upon graduation she returned to Wytheville to be near her widowed mother. It wasn't long after her return she was reintroduced to Lee Wilson Palmer (Lee still remembers not being invited to her sixth birthday party) and after a lovely courtship they were married on Oct. 4, 1940 at Homewood Manor, her Aunt Helen Wilkin's home near Fort Chiswell, Va. The newlyweds began their life together in a quirky attic apartment in Pulaski, Va. where Lee was living at the time. Shortly after Pearl Harbor, Aunt Betty and Uncle Harry invited the young couple to return to Detroit where Lee worked in the Packard Plant grinding tubes for PT boats and both attended classes at Wayne State University. In 1943, Lee was drafted and Mary Page returned to Pulaski where she worked in the business office of the Radford Ordnance Works and New River Plant for the duration of the war, wrote let-



ters to and prayed for Lee and comforted both their mothers.

When Lee was discharged on Jan. 1, 1946, they moved to Annandale, Va. where Mary Page re-

stored normalcy to her war weary husband's life (Lee had fought in Italy, France and Germany and participated in the liberation of Dachau). She soon found a position with the Virginia Employment Commission in Alexandria and encouraged Lee to interview for a hotel job she spotted which unexpectedly launched Lee's career in the restaurant business and established the character of their life together. The couple moved to the Jefferson Manor neighborhood to be closer to their work and began to establish roots in the greater Alexandria community. They joined the Old Presbyterian Meeting House just after the congregation was formed, moved to New Alexandria and for the next 20 years she devoted her life to creating a home, motherhood, raising her children, caring for her aging mother and channeling her artistic talents into landscaping and tending her plants and flowers. After her mother died in 1966 and she felt comfortable returning to work she took a part-time position at the J C Penney on Washington Street in Alexandria.

In 1976 she joined Lee as co-owner of the Old Club Restaurant in Old Town Alexandria and a family business was born. She brought genteel elegance to the restaurant and tended the books with the same care and precision she applied to all her endeavors. When the Old Club Restaurant closed on Jan. 1, 1986 she retired and enjoyed spending quality time with her husband, dining out, tending her beloved plants and flowers, visiting historic homes, the company of friends and family and telling stories about her family's considerable Virginia history. By the time she turned 80 she had begun to show signs of dementia and within a few years became completely dependent on the support of her husband who cared for her in their home of 60 years until the final year of her life.

A memorial service in celebration of her life will be held at the Old Presbyterian Meeting House in Old Town Alexandria on Friday, March 2, 2018 at 1 p.m. In lieu of flowers, consider making a memorial donation to THEARC, www.thearc.org; Habitat for Humanity of Northern Virginia, www.habitatnova.org; The African Violet Society of America, www.avsa.org; or a local charity of one's choice.

BULLETIN BOARD

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

THROUGH APRIL 14

Tax Assistance. Saturdays, 9 a.m.-noon; Wednesdays, 6:30-8 p.m. at Department of Community & Human Services, 2525 Mt. Vernon Ave., (Mt. Ida side door). Eligible: individuals with income up to \$35,000 and families with income up to \$54,000. Free financial counseling and accessing credit reports may be available to interested persons from the Virginia Cooperative

Extension. Visit www.alexandriava.gov/DCHS for eligibility and required documents.

SATURDAY/MARCH 3

Volunteers Wanted. 8 a.m.-noon at T.C. Williams High School, Rotunda, C-206, B-227. Read and evaluate Scholarship Fund scholarship applications submitted by T.C. Williams students. Open to community members. Training will be provided. The review process will be completed online and onsite at T.C.

SEE BULLETIN BOARD, PAGE 7

WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM



Brandywine residents since 2014

BRANDYWINE LIVING...
because we still do what we wanna do



BRANDYWINE LIVING
at Alexandria

Life is Beautiful

OPENING SOON! Call Samantha or Susan at 703.940.3300

5550 Cardinal Place (next to Cameron Station) Alexandria, VA 22304 | www.Brandycare.com

PEOPLE

Celebrating 30 Years at Bishop Ireton

Music Director Christopher Tomasino also works with The Little Theatre of Alexandria.

BY STEVE HIBBARD

Christopher Tomasino, 56, of Alexandria is celebrating his 30th year of being the music director at Bishop Ireton High School, a Roman Catholic high school founded in 1964. But he's not planning on retiring anytime soon. His role involves working on theatrical productions, casting the show, teaching all of the music to the students and conducting the performances. Working on all the musicals, his job is "making sure the music integrates into the show as the composer and author originally intended," he said.

He's seen a lot of changes since he started in 1987 when the school had no theater. In the early days, he recalls the students performing "The King and I" in the gym on a small stage, and the big "Shall We Dance" number where Anna moved in a tiny circle. "The auditorium we have now is night and day," he said. "Twenty years ago, they built the Garwood Whaley Auditorium."

"What's interesting is to see how this program has gone through since the fall of 1987 to present — how hard all the kids have worked, how the various directors, choreographers, designers, and the program has grown and changed over the years. It's quite exciting," he said.

Having worked with "countless" numbers of students, he said some of the highlights from his 30 years of staging productions include: "Barnum," "Zombie Prom," "Something's Afoot," and "The Drowsy Chaperone," he said. "It's been a lot of shows ... We've had a lot of kids involved



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Bishop Ireton Music Director Christopher Tomasino, who is currently working with students in rehearsals for "The Addams Family Musical," is celebrating his 30th year at the school.

in all the productions." With Bishop Ireton being a somewhat small school, he's impressed with how some of its alumni have gone on to perform professionally in New York. "It's quite amazing to see the kids progress to that level. A couple of the kids came into the program and totally gotten bitten by the bug. One person is currently performing on Broadway," he said. That would be Jake Odmark, who is performing in "Kinky Boots" and soon-to-be "Pretty Woman."

There are other former students who have done just as well — Karla Garcia was a swing in "Hamilton" (she played multiple roles). And another student, Matt Aument, is the current music director for "Sweeney Todd," an off-Broadway production.

Tomasino, who plays clarinet and sax, says his style of teaching is to literally try "to get it into the kids' ears foremost." He starts by teaching parts to the full cast on the ensemble numbers so they can learn all the vocal lines and move towards solos,



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED BY GABY GARCIA

Bishop Ireton Music Director Christopher Tomasino and Director Joanna Henry lead students in rehearsals for "The Addams Family Musical" (from left): Jake Carlo as Gomez, Olivia Hays as Morticia (hidden), Nick Ward as Uncle Fester, and Dagny Scannell as Wednesday.

duets and trios. "That's the initial process — get it in their ears so they can start working on it. And break down and clean things out," he said.

He continued: "And, as we move into running the show with the dialogue, dancing, blending in the music into the show total — I always view that my job is to try to make it a seamless thing so you don't see the acting part — and they stop and sing. It needs to be a total blend, whether the actors are singing and dancing, or going in and out of scenes — the start of each song or in and out of scenes. That's all worked out in the rehearsal process," he said.

When he's not working at Bishop Ireton,

Tomasino can be seen music directing at The Little Theatre of Alexandria (LTA), since 1988. He will be music directing Douglas Carter Beane's "The Nance" from June 2-23, followed by "Jesus Christ Superstar" coming in July and August.

Theater Director Frank Shutts has collaborated with Tomasino since 1991. They have worked on 20 musicals in the professional and non-professional arenas, and 12 at Bishop Ireton since 2005.

"What makes Chris excel in educational theater is that while displaying the patience needed in working with teenagers/beginners, his expectations are just as high as

SEE MUSIC DIRECTOR, PAGE 21

Showcasing Musicians Songwriting competition at Bethesda Blues & Jazz Club on Friday.

BY ASHLEY CLAIRE SIMPSON
GAZETTE PACKET

There is no formula that lands a musician a place on the Billboard Charts, and some of the most talented, hardworking artists will never find commercial success.

Bethesda's Cathy Bernard took matters into her own hands and founded the Bernard/Ebb Songwriting Awards in 2016 in honor of her uncle, who did mount the long, uphill road of turning music — his passion — into his livelihood.

"My uncle, Fred Ebb, for whom the competition is named, was my inspiration to start the awards program," Bernard said. "He was an extremely talented songwriter who experienced many struggles before he eventually found success. It's a competitive industry and it can be difficult to make your voice heard. I wanted to create an award, in his name, that would honor the hardworking, aspiring artists in our region who have so many talents but may not get the recognition they deserve. My hope is



Jarrett Nicolay.

that this award will be a helpful stepping stone in their music careers. We've seen great talent over the last three years of the competition and are thrilled to promote local songwriters."

Ebb was the lyricist for a number of songs in Broadway musicals, including "Cabaret" and "Chicago."

The Bethesda Arts & Entertainment District will present year's Bernard/Ebb Songwriting Awards after all the finalists perform in a concert on Friday, March 2, at Bethesda Blues & Jazz Club.

More than 200 songwriters entered the contest — all residents of Maryland, Virginia or Washington DC — and the six finalists of the regular competition, along with the three Young Songwriters Awards finalists, will perform their original songs for a live audience.

At the end of the show, a panel of judges will determine the winners. The winner receives \$10,000 and 25 hours of free studio recording time so that they can "focus on and hone his or her musical talents," according to the Bethesda Arts & Entertainment District. The Youth Songwriter Award winner will receive \$2,500.

One of the six Bernard/Ebb finalists, Jarrett Nicolay, has devoted most of his life to music. The Alexandria, Va., resident spent 10 years on tour with a band, where he played just about every instrument on stage. Behind the scenes, he co-wrote many of the

songs to fuel the band.

"I am an experimenter of song and music," Nicolay said. "I toured in a band for the better part of the decade, doing 200 to 250 shows a year. We would all play round robin, taking turns with the different instruments. When we stopped playing, I started writing for my own voice which was an interesting development. I wasn't a natural, but before I knew it, I was recording songs, and then adding to them. It became a compulsion. You do lot of it and then you just get better at it. At some point, I realized, I'm not going to stop doing it. I realized, I'm a lifer."

As a full-time music producer, Nicolay first heard about the Bernard/Ebb Songwriting Awards through his professional community.

"Being tapped into other people processes, you hear about opportunities by word of mouth," Nicolay said. "I don't really enter contests. With this program, the focus is on the song and not the performer and performance. It seems like a more hon

SEE SONGWRITER, PAGE 22

OBITUARY

Jeffrey Yates



Jeffrey Lee Yates, a local businessman, died Feb. 22, 2018 at his home in Alexandria following a battle with cancer. He was 63.

Yates was born Nov. 2, 1954, at Maxwell Air Force Base in Montgomery, Ala., to parents John Godfrey, a Naval officer, and Lena Mary Yates.

He graduated from Oxon Hill High School in 1972 and continued his education at the University of Maryland where he earned a degree in mechanical engineering in 1976. He went on to work for Seagram's Distillery in Baltimore and then became an internal combustion engine patent examiner at the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office in Crystal City.

While growing up, Yates was involved in the family automotive business, working many hours at Yates Gulf Service at 834 N. Washington St. His love for the family business and the automotive industry eventually inspired him to start his own business, Yates Auto Parts and Hardware, in 1977.

Yates shared his love for the auto parts industry with his brother Jim, and eventually they grew Yates Auto Parts into a regional conglomerate. Following this success, Yates left the auto parts industry to pursue his passion for real estate.

Yates embraced the real estate market and acquired many successful properties as owner-operator in the Alexandria area. He was known for his friendly conversations with customers and friends while working at some of his favorite businesses, especially Yates Car Wash and Detail Center on Henry Street and Table Talk Restaurant on Duke Street. He made

it his goals to both preserve iconic Alexandria properties,

such as the Old Town Theater, and mentor dozens of decades-long employees to pursue their own successes.

Other properties acquired by Yates Enterprises include Generous George's Pizza Palace and Hunting Creek steak house.

Yates is survived by his fiancée, Connie Sofia, who was his partner in both life and business. He is also survived by his three children, Jacquelyn Marie Nevin of Darien, Conn., Jeffrey Lee Yates, Jr. of Alexandria, and Jessica Nicolina Yates of Delray Beach, Fla.; their mother, Mary Vanderberry Yates also of Delray Beach, Fla.; and three grandchildren: Grace, William and Olivia.

He is also survived by brothers John Godfrey Yates, Jr. of Waterford, Va., James Nicholas Yates of Occoquan, Jason Allan Yates of Fairfax Station; sister-in-law Virginia White Yates of Potomac Falls, Va.; and many nephews and nieces.

He is preceded in death by his brother Joseph Harding Yates and his parents John Godfrey and Lena Mary Yates.

Visitation will take place at Everly-Wheatley Funeral Home, 1500 West Braddock Road, on Friday, March 2 from 2-4 p.m. and 6-8 p.m. Funeral services will be held at the same location on Saturday, March 3 at 11 a.m. Interment at Ivy Hill Cemetery will be held at a later date.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to support the Bladder Cancer Research Fund at Johns Hopkins University Hospital.

BULLETIN BOARD

FROM PAGE 4

Williams High School. On the day of the review, must be able to access to your email with your username and password to sign into the online review account. If you feel you meet the basic requirements (read online form carefully), register and sign a confidentiality agreement at <https://goo.gl/forms/nhTqj0Jh6Yv5jCf2>.

SUNDAY/MARCH 4

Ray Campaign Kickoff. 4-6 p.m. The Snackbar, 2419 Mt Vernon Ave. Meet activists, past, present and aspiring City Council Members. There will be a short presentation. Light fare and cash bar. Free. Call 571-225-7722 or robertray4council.org.

TUESDAY/MARCH 6

Community Meeting on Affordable Housing. 7-8:30 p.m. at Washington Street United Methodist Church, 109 South Washington St. ALIVE! will host an affordable housing information event. The event is open to anyone interested in

housing affordability in Alexandria and the resources available to Alexandrians in need. Visit www.alive-inc.org.

WEDNESDAY/MARCH 7

Pre-Construction Community Meeting. 6-6:45 p.m. at City Hall, Sister Cities Conference Room 1101, 301 King St. The City of Alexandria will host a community pre-construction meeting for the interim King Street Park at the Waterfront located at 1 & 2 King St. to discuss the anticipated construction timeline and answer questions on the interim park improvement project. Visit www.alexandriava.gov/Waterfront.

THURSDAY/MARCH 8

Unclaimed Property. Thursday, March 8, 9 a.m.-3 p.m. at Hollins Hall Senior Center, 1500 Shenandoah Road. Virginians can visit any of the four events below and find their unclaimed property. This free public service is facilitated by The Virginia Department of Treasury. Learn more at VaMoneysearch.org.

2 REMODELED HOME TOURS, 1 DAY

Saturday, March 3, 12-4pm

Come see how redesigning existing and adding space created better function, flow, and light in these homes. Showcasing both an inlaw suite addition and split-level WHOLE HOUSE transformation, this is a remodeled home tour that you don't want to miss!



INLAW SUITE ADDITION



REGIONAL COTY AWARD WINNER



10502 Elmira Court
Fairfax, VA 22032
Aging parents that need to relocate?



9117 Glenbrook Road
Fairfax, VA 22031
Your home does not fit your lifestyle?

This is the tour for you.

Major Remodels • Additions • Kitchens + Baths • Basements • Exteriors
703.425.5588 | SunDesignInc.com

SUN DESIGN 30TH

Take a chance on a student by taking a chance to win a

2018 Toyota Camry SE Or \$25,000!

Color may vary.

\$100 per ticket. Only 700 tickets will be sold.



Ticket sales fund college scholarships for Alexandria students with financial need.

Almost Sold Out!
Purchase today for your chance to win!

Contact us to purchase a ticket:
703-824-6730 or scholarshipfund@acps.k12.va.us
www.AlexScholarshipFund.org

Car or cash prize generously donated by



ALEXANDRIA TOYOTA

Drawing will be held at the SFA Gala, Sat., April 28, 2018.
Need not be present to win.

OPINION

Hope for Expanding Health Care

Just say yes to \$400 million, thousands of jobs and health care for 300,000.

\$400 million. That's how much the Virginia Senate had to cut from its budget because it refused to include Medicaid expansion in the budget.

The House of Delegates version of the budget has \$400 million more to work with.

\$400 million is a lot of money.

The change in the House of Delegates, a small miracle, comes with the change voters created last November. Republicans had a 66-34 in the House but lost 15 seats after the election.

EDITORIAL

The economic boost that comes with expanding Medicaid includes as many as 30,000 new jobs. It's ludicrous that Virginia has bypassed this money, this economic boost, this life-saving measure for poor Virginians. The Commonwealth has forfeited than \$10 billion because of ideological, partisan irrationality.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Hurray for Ferdinand T. Day

To the Editor:

Thanks to our ACPS School Board, Alexandria's new west end elementary school has been named for Ferdinand T. Day.

They did so despite the fact that none of the four alternatives offered by the hardworking and well-meaning volunteer committee recommended doing so. The committee did, however, include Day in combination with Ellen Ochoa, the first Latina astronaut, the current director of the Johnson Space Center, a Latina from California.

Ochoa's name was put forward because the school is intended to focus on STEM, Latinos will attend the school in strong numbers, she has been a success in that field, and she is a Latina. At the board meeting, the first motion made was for the school to be called Day-Ochoa.

Yet, Ochoa has other schools named for her and no school has been named for Day. Indeed, many other schools are likely to be named for Ochoa, but this was viewed as Day's only likely chance. As well, a science lab, some other element of the school or an award could still be named for her to inspire students.

Importantly, a strong contingent speaking up for Day and his remarkable lifetime contributions to our city convinced the School Board that he deserved a singular honor and not a shared one.

As one board member put it, they decided to give greater weight to our "hometown hero."

The five board members who supported the name change were Chris Lewis, Bill Campbell, Hal Caldwell, Karen Graf and Ronnie Campbell. Veronica Nolan also voted for the name change. The final vote was 8-1, after the motion was amended to the new name.

Many members of the community came out

State Sen. Janet Howell may have captured the cause and effect the best in the floor debate: "We've cut education, both higher and public education. We've cut student aid, public safety, mental-health programs, programs for the disabled, programs to have a reliable election system. Why have we made these cuts? We've made them to deprive low-income people of healthcare."

More than 10 percent of residents of Arlington, Alexandria and Fairfax County have no health insurance.

A Harvard Medical School study determined that the decision by 25 states to reject the expansion of Medicaid coverage under the Affordable Care Act would result in between 7,115 and 17,104 more deaths than had all states opted in.

In Virginia, the number of deaths due to failure to expand Medicaid estimated between 266 and 987.

to speak on his behalf, including his daughter, Gwen Day-Fuller, former school board members; two members of the naming committee, Jim Henson and Blanche Maness; Paul Friedman, who spoke about the need for the elected School Board to take responsibility for their final decision rather than direct people to their unelected naming committee; and many people who knew Ferdinand well, including Lynwood Campbell, Nelson Greene Jr, MacArthur Myers and Deacon Al Anderson from St. Joseph's Church and who were able to describe his many contributions to Alexandria in detail.

Chris Harris, Jacinta Greene, and Janet Barnett were also there to support the effort. Showing up in big numbers mattered and Chris Lewis expressed a wish that as many people would come to support the School Board budget.

The speakers reinforced that there was a great story of overcoming adversity and the value of helping others to tell, and that there would be many people in the community ready to support and be involved in the new school.

Gwen Day-Fuller made the most telling point that her father would "never have sought this for himself. e was about honoring the community." Now, though, it was the right thing to do for the community to honor him.

Barack and Michelle Obama were also suggested by the naming committee. onetheless, I am sure President Obama would be pleased to know that a civil rights pioneer was accorded this honor.

Barack loved to talk about the people that paved the way to make his Presidency possible and I think one of his favorite quotes from Martin Luther King is very appropriate: "The arc of the moral universe is long, but it bends towards justice."

Boyd Walker
Alexandria

These are wrongful deaths, caused by the willful action of particular Virginia legislators.

Refusing to accept federal funds to provide healthcare to uninsured Virginians makes no more sense than declining federal funds for transportation or education. Imagine the celebration of the economic stimulus of adding \$400 million and tens of thousands of new jobs by any other means.

In Virginia, 102,000 uninsured people with a mental illness or substance use disorder could qualify for coverage if Medicaid were expanded under the Affordable Care Act.

As Virginia wrestles with heroin and opioid addiction, expanding Medicaid would allow for expanding treatment programs. One of the big obstacles to helping people who are fighting addiction is the availability of treatment when it is most needed. More people die of opioid overdoses in Virginia than in vehicle crashes.

It's time for a change, and there is hope for change. Look towards the budget conferences coming up shortly.

— MARY KIMM

MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

Ballyshaners Appreciate Support

To the Editor:

The Ballyshaners are looking forward to hosting the 37th Annual Alexandria St. Patrick's Day Parade on Saturday, March 3. The event will begin at 9 a.m. with our Classic Car Show, followed by the Fun Dog Show at 10:30. The Parade will launch at 12:15 at the corners of King and Alfred Streets.

This year, we are celebrating Bernadette and Pat Troy as our Grand Marshals. The Troys have been instrumental in supporting not only Irish heritage in Alexandria, but also the importance of small businesses to

our community. Pat and Bernadette dedicated nearly 40 years to Old Town as owners of the Irish Walk, and of Ireland's Own Restaurant and Pub.

Pat Troy founded the Alexandria St. Patrick's Day Parade and the Ballyshaners. Since then, our all-volunteer organization has subsisted on the donations of individual and organizational supporters. This year, we are grateful for the support of Guinness, Hot99.5FM, Murphy's Grand Irish Pub, Daniel O'Connell's, Fiona's Irish Pub and Restaurant, Long&Foster Realtors, and the VanCoverden Family for serving as our key sponsors. We also are immensely grateful to the many individuals and companies who either purchased an ad in our Parade Program or who simply gave a few dollars to show their support for the event.

In addition to support from the City of Alexandria, it costs the Ballyshaners roughly \$50,000 to host this annual event that showcases our city. We look forward to a grand parade day on March 3 and hope that all attendees will consider donating a couple of dollars during that afternoon.

Kimberley Moore
Chairman, Ballyshaners

SEE LETTERS, PAGE 9

Alexandria
Gazette Packet

www.AlexandriaGazette.com

@AlexGazette

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

Published by
Local Media Connection LLC

1606 King Street
Alexandria, Virginia 22314

Free digital edition delivered to your email box. Go to
connectionnewspapers.com/subscribe

NEWS DEPARTMENT:
gazette@connectionnewspapers.com

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

Jean Card
Production Editor
jcard@connectionnewspapers.com

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

Jeanne Theismann
jtheismann@connectionnewspapers.com
@TheismannMedia

John Bordner, Mark Mogle
Contributing Photographers
gazette@connectionnewspapers.com

Eden Brown, Shirley Ruhe, Dan Brendel
Contributing Writers
gazette@connectionnewspapers.com

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

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

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

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

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

Classified & Employment Advertising
703-778-9431

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

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

Editor in Chief
Steven Mauren

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

Production Manager:
Geovani Flores

Editor Emeritus:
Mary Anne Weber

CIRCULATION
Circulation Manager:
Ann Oliver
circulation@connectionnewspapers.com

A Connection Newspaper

The Alexandria Gazette Packet is distributed weekly to selected homes in the City of Alexandria. Any owners or occupants of premises that do not wish to receive the paper can notify the publisher by telephone at 703-778-9426 or by email to circulation@connectionnewspapers.com, and the distributor will be notified to discontinue service.



How To Slow the Spread of Opioid Addiction

BY CHARNIELE HERRING
DELEGATE (D-46)



During my time in the Virginia General Assembly I've served as co-chair of the Governor Northam's Transition Policy Council on Opioid's and Substance Abuse and spent years on former Governor McAuliffe's Task Force on Prescription Drug and Heroin Abuse. During that time, I've heard stories from survivors of addiction and their families and seen the progression of the epidemic across the state. It can start in one of many ways — starting with pain management, as young person succumbing to peer pressure, a minor accidentally digesting a prescription, or a baby suffering withdrawal being born into addiction.

As of December 2017, 15 Alexandrian

deaths were ruled as opioid overdoses for the year. Additionally, 41.2 of every 100,000 under age 14 in Virginia were hospitalized for overdosing on medication last year. 1.3 million children ages 12- 17 nationwide suffered from addiction in 2014, a number that has likely kept rising. This crisis is affecting our children at record numbers, even those who don't suffer addiction are impacted through their peers and their families. It is an issue that is being felt at an earlier and earlier age.

There are several clear solutions to slow the spread of opioid addiction. It is vital we provide funding for mental health and treatment programs for addicts. A big boost for this population would be passing Medicaid expansion so those suffering without means can afford treatment for them or their loved ones. Finding a way of reducing the recidivism rate such as counseling, education, and

job training so addicts returning from the system can focus their energy on bettering themselves and those around them. I have even worked on legislation to modernize and improve the prescription monitoring program and access to naloxone. One of my takeaways from the many, many hours I have spent in workgroups, stakeholder meetings, and presentations is the need to work across silos and think outside the box.

Last year I met an inspiring woman, Carolyn Weems, a school board member in Virginia Beach, where the opioid crisis is getting worse like many parts of the state. We talked about her personal story and like many before, her daughter had struggled with addiction after receiving opioids due to a surgery. For years she suffered, until age 21 when she died of an overdose. Carolyn then worked to create a more expansive program to educate children K-12 about the dangers of drugs from a young age. A program that will begin to be expanded to the entire state next year once

Governor Northam signs my bill HB 1532 into law.

What drew me to the curriculum in Virginia Beach is the level of comprehensiveness. Covering the dangers of accepting medicine from adults to what to avoid in their parent's drug cabinet. As they grow the curriculum addresses peer-pressure and the underlying causes of addiction, such as mental illness. Later it addresses how quickly addiction can occur. Advocating the proper use of medication starting from a young age so that kids are conscious of addition throughout their childhood is something I believe can make a difference in this epidemic.

Charniele Herring represents Alexandria City's 46th District in the Virginia General Assembly where she serves as House Minority Caucus Chair and on the Courts of Justice, Counties, Cities, & Towns, and Agriculture, Chesapeake & Natural Resources Committees. See www.charnieleherring.com.

COMMENTARY

Physically Active Classrooms Equal Success

BY BROOKE SYDNOR
CURRAN



RunningBrooke offers 5 Best Practices for how to implement effective physical activity into the school day and week. This is the second in a five-part series to explain these practices and show how to find small pockets of time to get Alexandria's youth moving to meet the CDC-recommended 60 minutes of daily activity.

Best Practice #2: Making our classrooms more physically active with short brain boosts of activity, adding movement into academic lessons and transition times.

Research shows that students who earn mostly A's are almost twice as likely to get regular physical activity as students who earn mostly D's and F's. One of the main reasons is that exercise affects us on a cel-

lular level: increasing alertness, attention, and motivation. Despite these benefits, only 45 percent of schools nationwide provide opportunities for students to participate in classroom physical activity boosts.

Brain boosts are not only good for students' academic achievement, they are easy to weave into class time, and teachers benefit from the effort, too. Active lessons help teachers better manage their classrooms, and help activate students' brains and improve their potential to process new information. Just incorporating a few short brain boosts in the classroom can make a big difference. In fact, one physically active lesson can create a 13 percent increase in students' physical activity for the week, and a 21 percent decrease in teachers' time

spent managing off-task behaviors.

So, what does a physically active classroom look like? For English, it might be having students jump as they spell vocabulary words or on each syllable. For Math, it could be jumping like a basketball player while counting to 10. During transitions, teachers could employ fitness dice for student-led activity, or have students to do lunges while crossing the classroom to pick up needed materials.

RunningBrooke has partnered with numerous teachers to provide Move2Learn toolkits and training that empower them to incorporate more activity into their classrooms. The toolkit includes age-appropriate supplies and information, like activity dots, fitness dice, and a classroom brain boost guide, to help get kids moving with brain boosting and heart-rate-elevating activity.

Alexandria elementary school teacher Brenda Tarquinio says, "I have learned to read my students and know when we all need a moment to get our bodies moving or stretch to refocus. These breaks have become seamless within my room because the expectations have been set and the procedures have been taught."

RunningBrooke is excited to partner with teachers and administrators throughout Alexandria. Together, we are working to make these programs available to all children across our community. If you are a parent or teacher who would like to see brain boosts added to your classrooms, resources are available at www.runningbrooke.org/move2learn. Please let us know how we can help.

Please look for next week's piece about Best Practice #3: Physical Education that is inclusive and gets everyone's heart rates up.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Moral Choice

To the Editor:

In the countdown to March 5, Congress has still taken no action on the fate of the thousands of these DACA "dreamers," whose resident status and permission to remain in this country is about to expire. Many of these at-risk young people live and work in Alexandria and the surrounding suburbs of Northern Virginia.

These young people are our neighbors, our friends, our classmates and office mates. and members of our churches and our religious worship sites. They watch our children, work in our businesses, pay taxes, buy houses, raise children who were born in this country and contribute to the betterment

of our community. It is estimated that of the 800,000 young people under the DACA threat, 97 percent are either working, going to school, serving in the military or a combination of these options.

This is our labor pool. This is our future. This is a moral choice, not a political choice.

As a lifelong Catholic, I have lamented the overwhelming silence by the Catholic Bishops since Sept. 5, 2017, when President Trump first announced he would eliminate the DACA program for immigrants who came to this country as children.

Finally, on Feb. 24, the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops issued a pastoral letter, to be read in all Catholic churches this week. It encourages all parishioners to call their members of Congress and "urge them to

support a bipartisan, common-sense, and humane solution" for the 1.8 million Dreamers.

"Protect Dreamers from deportation and provided them with a path to citizenship," the Bishops counsel, telling the laity that "your advocacy is critical." But what happened to the need for Bishops to also advocate for this?

Where have the Bishops been since Sept. 5, 2017 — when their letters should have come out immediately as a rebuttal to President Trump, and been printed in our U.S. newspapers?

Of the 92 percent of the congressional members who declare themselves as "Christian," a large majority (31 percent) are Catholic. Why haven't the Bishops, in a loud,

strong and unified voice, written to every Catholic member in Congress and demanded they take action as a moral imperative? Why haven't the Bishops made DACA a priority in their lobbying, and public statements? Why have they been so slow to energetically support social justice for our DACA members in our churches, our schools, our workplaces and our schools?

This current pastoral letter seems like "too little too late." Bishops need to join us in making those phone calls and sending those letters, right now. Call your Congress members at 202-224-3121 and demand action on DACA.

Kathleen M. Burns
Alexandria



WOMEN'S LEADERSHIP FORUM
 Friday, March 9, 2018
 8:00am - 11:00am
 The Westin Alexandria
 400 Courthouse Square
 Alexandria, VA 223144
 Get tickets at www.alexchamber.com

PRESENTED BY

THE LIZLUKE TEAM

PET GAZETTE

Alexandria's Animal of the Year

BY BARBARA S. MOFFET
 ANIMAL WELFARE LEAGUE OF ALEXANDRIA

By the time the clock started counting down, it was a clear runaway. Charismatic canine contestant Zoey had received far and away the most votes in the Animal Welfare League of Alexandria's (AWLA) 2018 photo calendar contest, and she was named the 2018 Alexandria Animal of the Year.

Zoey's mom is a professional photographer, and she knew how to make her girl look her best. Though Zoey lost a leg in 2014 to osteosarcoma, she looked good from every angle, and

AWLA she had a wardrobe to match her many good sides. According to her mom and owner of AWLA Animal Friend Dirty Paws Photography Sabrina Moore, "She pretty much ruled the house with what she wanted to do." Still, sometimes Zoey would play along and allow her gorgeous visage to be photographed in all manner of costumes, holiday or every day, zany or serious.

If your canine companion is as interested in dressing up as Zoey, then we invite them to register today for the 2018 Fun Dog Show, hosted by the AWLA and the Ballyshanners on Saturday, March 3, at 11 a.m. Along with categories of Best Costume and Most St. Patrick's Day Spirit, the audience will be voting for the Most Talented and the Best Owner/Canine Look-Alike, so whether your dog likes a good costume or is strictly fur-only, you are invited to join in on the festivities. Well-behaved dogs of all shapes and sizes are invited; for human and canine safety, they must be on non-extendable leashes of 6 feet or shorter. Register today at AlexandriaAnimals.org/DogShow2018.

Zoey would have loved to preside over the 2018 Fun Dog Show in her finest apparel (or maybe not!), but unfortunately, she passed away in fall 2017 after a long fight with the cancer that took her leg years earlier. Moore and all who knew her remember Zoey as the most strong-willed, dignified and lovable dog. "Not a day goes by that I don't miss her," Moore says. The AWLA and her many fans will continue to honor her throughout the year as Alexandria's Animal of 2018, and her memory will be echoed through the many well-dressed pups competing in the Fun Dog Show alongside her calendar-winning photo.

ALEXANDRIA RALLIES AROUND INJURED BEAGLE PUP

In late September, a beagle-mix puppy was brought to VCA Alexandria Animal Hospital, one of the



PHOTO BY DIRTY PAW PHOTOGRAPHY
Zoey, Alexandria's 2018 Animal of the Year, looked fetching as an Irish green dragon.

Animal Welfare League of Alexandria's (AWLA) Animal Guardians, by a kind citizen. The dog, whom the shelter called Bastian, was about 7 months old and had suffered severe damage to his jawbone. It was not known if the injuries came from a car accident, an attack by another animal or something worse, but it was plain to see that the puppy was in a lot of pain and would need urgent — and probably expensive — care.

After visiting a dental specialist at the Animal Dental Clinic, it was determined that Bastian would need to undergo not one but two surgeries: the first as soon as possible to stabilize his jaw and the second several months later, when

Bastian's adult teeth started to come in. The AWLA shared Bastian's story with the Alexandria community, and the response was nothing short of amazing.

The costs of Bastian's surgeries were outside of the AWLA's standard budget, which is why their Sarah's Fund was created: It helps the shelter pay for emergency surgeries, costly prescription treatments and life-altering therapies that go beyond the basic medical costs. After the AWLA shared Bastian's story with the community, supporters pledged more than 150 individual donations of all amounts, enough to help support Bastian's surgeries and aid even more of Alexandria's Animals.

Bastian's first surgery was scheduled only days later, and while he waited for his adult teeth to grow in so the second surgery could take place, he enjoyed all the love and mushy food he could get in the home of an amazing foster caregiver. In December, the dentist extracted several of his adult teeth and declared Bastian's jaw healed, and he was ready to find his home. He would always have some special medical needs because of his early trauma, so the AWLA developed a special application for potential adopters to make sure they were prepared to handle the appointments and expenses associated with his care. From a pool of many amazing candidates, the perfect adopter was found in early January. After his long journey, where he found so many friends and supporters, Bastian was finally home.



PHOTO COURTESY OF AWLA
A beagle-mix puppy called Bastian arrived at the AWLA with a severely broken jaw.



COURTESY OF ABHISHEK MUNDRA
A rehabilitated Bastian went on to be adopted in January after the Alexandria community donated funds for multiple surgeries and follow-up treatments for him.

If you would like to help the Animal Welfare League of Alexandria be prepared for medical emergencies like Bastian's in the future, or to help them address animals in their care now who have chronic medical conditions, please consider making a donation to Sarah's Fund at AlexandriaAnimals.org/donate.

The Animal Welfare League of Alexandria, which operates the Vola Lawson Animal Shelter on contract with the City of Alexandria, is an independent, local, 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. More information is at AlexandriaAnimals.org.

HADEED SINCE 1955 & **HANNA AYOUB** SINCE 1929
 Oriental Rug Cleaning & In-Home Services | Oriental Rug Cleaning Co.

Winter Has NOT Been Kind to Your Rugs
GET ALL THE SALT, DIRT & GRIME OFF YOUR RUGS!

OUR BEST OFFER EVER! In-Plant Oriental Rug Cleaning
 Have 2 Rugs Cleaned | And Get The 3rd Cleaned **Free!** SAVE UP TO 33%

In-Plant Rug Restoration 10% OFF* <small>*Hurry, Offer Expires 3/11/18.</small>	Wall to Wall Carpet Steam Cleaning 20% OFF* <small>*Hurry, Offer Expires 3/11/18.</small>	Hardwood Floor Cleaning & Polishing 20% OFF* <small>*Hurry, Offer Expires 3/11/18.</small>
--	--	---

Free Pickup & Delivery! Includes: Furniture Moving & Rolling & Laying the Rugs!†
We Hand-Wash Your Fine Oriental Rugs!

535 W. Maple Avenue, Vienna, VA | 4918 Wisconsin Ave., DC/MD | 3206 Duke Street, Alexandria, VA | 6628 Electronic Dr., Springfield VA | 3116 W. Moore Street, Richmond VA

703-836-1111 | JoeHadeed.com

* Expires 3/11/18, (3) for the price of (2) same size or smaller rug free. Not valid w/any other offers. †Available in MD, DC, & VA. Min. order required, some restrictions apply. Doesn't include breakables. Call for details.

 **PET GAZETTE**



Bobbi Joe

“To survive in this World, I learned early that you have to choose your battles ... well Cancer, I choose to battle you! Meows & Yeow!” — Bobbi Joe

— LAURA MAE SUDDER



Mundy

Mundy is named after a former Commandant of the Marine Corps ... Carl Mundy. Mundy never misses his eggs and bacon on Sunday. He is 10 years old and a tough little guy.

— JULIE TULIPANE



Tina

The Year of The Dog. “Tina,” photo by Natasha Edwards.

Welcoming Pet Grooming Spa

From Head to Tail Grooming Spa will host its mayoral ribbon-cutting ceremony, assisted by the Del Ray Business Association, on Thursday, March 1 at 5:30 p.m., featuring an open house, refreshments, nail trims to benefit a pet rescue, and more. The grooming spa is located at 430 Hume Ave. in Alexandria.

As part of the grand opening celebration on March 1, From Head to Tail will offer Thera-Clean demonstrations and free nail trims from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., with donations to benefit Operation Paws for Home. See www.headtotailspa.com.

WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

Home of the \$6,850 Bathroom Remodel

From Now to WOW in 5 Days Guarantee

TWO POOR TEACHERS

Kitchen and Bathroom Remodeling

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



Select your products from our Mobile Showroom and Design Center

Fully Insured & Class A Licensed Since 1999



Free Estimates

703-214-8384

Visit our website: www.twopoorteachers.com

FREEMAN'S
INVITATION TO CONSIGN



FINE ART

Freeman's fine art specialists will be in the Washington D.C. area the week of March 5. We are currently seeking consignments of:

- American Art, including works by Pennsylvania Impressionists
- Modern & Contemporary Art
- Old Master & European paintings & sculpture

To schedule a complimentary auction valuation, please contact:

David Weiss | 202.412.8345
dweiss@freemansauction.com

WWW.FREEMANSAUCTION.COM



Above:
Childe Hassam (American 1859-1935)
“The Norwegian Cottage” (detail)
Sold for \$242,500

Below:
Lynn Chadwick (British, 1914-2003)
“Maquette Jubilee II”
Sold for \$466,000

Partnering Helps Rescue Dogs

BY ASHLEY CLAIRE SIMPSON
GAZETTE PACKET

Although the odds were stacked against local puppy Alvin, the young canine has already made great strides toward establishing an extraordinary legacy. On Super Bowl Sunday of this year, for example, he wasn't curled up into his owner's lap, staring at the flashing lights of the American sports spectacle on TV. Instead, he was part of Team Fluff's starting lineup for the Puppy Bowl, an event televised on Animal Planet every year for people who find puppies a little more interesting than pigskin.

Alvin's story begins with a feral mother, a dog so deprived of human interaction that her odds of survival in a shelter were slim at best. However, thanks to Operation Paws for Homes (OPH), an Alexandria-based non-profit organization that rescues dogs from overcrowded shelters and other harmful scenarios, Alvin's family story will have a very happy ending.

"Normally you can't do much for feral dogs," said Laurie Landers, OPH director of operations. "They are basically wild animals due to their lack of human exposure. They are not comfortable around people. When we were asked to help with these puppies and their mom, I actually didn't know she

was feral. When she arrived, she was bucking and thrashing and we had to think fast. It was a big surprise that we were not completely ready for but we improvised and made it work. You have to do a lot of improvising in rescue work. We were so happy that everything fell into place and we were able to help them."

OPH finds compassionate, responsible volunteers to take in their rescue dogs either as foster or forever owners. And, of course, some of the dogs have found homes with Landers or OPH founder, Jen Dodge. Through all of the organization's rescue efforts and with its network of nearly 250 active volunteers, OPH has saved thousands of lives.

Just one example, Alvin spent his formative months with OPH before putting his game face on for the Puppy Bowl. Now, he's in the process of training with Semper K9 Assistance Dogs, a Manassas non-profit organization that trains dogs to become service and therapy animals for military veterans.

Altogether, OPH has donated 13 dogs to Semper K9, including two of Annia's puppies. So, while Annia has her own rural sanctuary at Landers' personal farm, Alvin and his brother are in training to one day change human lives in incredible ways.

"We started this partnership with Sem-

per K9 because they reached out to us and we wanted to do more to help our veterans with our shelter dogs," Landers said. "The founder of Semper K9, Chris Baity, is a veteran who had been a dog handler in the Marine Corps, and he taught me so much about the plight of veterans who return home from war. I have seen the effects of PTSD from many years of working trauma in the hospital. Some of these cases end tragically. It does not have to be that way."

Conversations with Baity combined with memories of patients she had cared for as a nurse got Landers thinking.

"It just made me think, 'what if our struggling veterans had dogs to ground them, to give them purpose? Would we be here in a trauma situation if they had that support?' Landers said. "I know firsthand that if you're having a bad day, your animals help you keep going. With all that these servicemembers do, so many of them paying the ultimate price, I am thrilled to have this partnership with Semper K9 and truly believe in what they do. In the four years since we started this partnership, it has really grown."

Baity said that OPH — and the dogs like Alvin that they provide — has been instrumental to the work he does from the very beginning.

"Our first two dogs came from OPH, and



Adoption day for Pete and Duff aka Alvin and Theodore. They are held by Chris Baity, the founder of Semper K9.

we quickly developed a close relationship with Laurie," Baity said. "In the beginning, we were doubtful that just one rescue organization could provide the dogs we would need. OPH finds and rescues such a variety of dogs with various temperaments and abilities, though, that we are easily able to find candidates for our service dog pro-

SEE RESCUE DOGS, PAGE 20



Cute, isn't he?

Hairy Situations
DOG GROOMING

1504-A Mount Vernon Ave.
Alexandria, VA 22301
(703) 518-3030

Providing loving care when you can't be there

PRECIOUS COMPANION LLC
Pet Sitting/Dog Walking

- Mid-Day Dog Walks
- Vacation Visits
- Overnight Stays
- Pet Taxi

- Medicine Administered Free
- Established 1998
- Licensed, Bonded and Insured

Tel: (703) 690-8396
www.preciouscompanion.com

\$20.00 Off New Clients With This Ad • Not Valid With Any Other Offer

Cremation services as individual as your pet

Individual pet cremations • Diverse urn selections • Garden stones and markers
Optional pick-up services • Viewing

Serving VA, MD, DC • Open 7 Days • Major Credit Cards Accepted

Sunset
Pet Services, Inc.

5521 Vine Street • Alexandria, VA 22310
www.sunsetpetservices.com • 703-971-4120



MTVAC
MOUNT VERNON ATHLETIC CLUB

(703) 382-1011
www.mtvac.net

Join MTVAC
\$10 Down
\$10 First Month

Get FIT for the New Year
Don't Delay and Join Today!
*Fitness Memberships Only

Sign up today!

Offer expires 3/31/18

The #1 Place for Fitness & Tennis in Alexandria—Since 1972

Chance

Chance is a therapy dog. His owners lost their miniature poodle friend Cocoa on his 16th birthday — an experience the owner's found so very hard to bear they determined never again to own a pet. A quarter century later, the pain of their loss had subsided but their love for dog companionship endured. After considerable deliberation, they decided to take a chance. Naming him was the easiest part. Including Chance in their various volunteering experiences has been the most enjoyable aspect.

Eight-year old Goldendoodle Chance enjoys a double life.

Most of his days and nights are consumed by his inside job: guarding and exercising Anne and Don Kelly his human housemates in Old Town Alexandria. For his outside job, Chance carries the official colors and metal tags of Therapy Dogs International, Inc. as he serves clients all across the metro



region.

Twice-certified under rigorous TDI standards, Chance's voluntary outreach might take him to an elementary school where he appears as an avid listener to a child's struggling reading efforts — occasionally thumping his tail in appreciation. On other

occasions, Chance's assigned duties bring him to deliver joy and energy to a retirement facility or hospital waiting room, or slip silently into hospice duty where he and his patient cuddle quietly in bed.

What Chance doesn't yet know is his recent designation as a



Reagan National Airport greeter for the celebrated Angel Flight Program bringing veterans to view Washington's celebrated war memorials. Chance has demonstrated how to approach a wheelchair and isn't intimidated by the roar of taxiing jets.

In his most recent "professional experience," the accompanying pictures depict Chance doing his best to channel stress from U.S. State Department employees currently undergoing particularly rigorous training.

— DON GRANT KELLY



Hoover

Our 3-year-old Basset hound Hoover loves everyone and invites everyone to pet him and comment on his ears. He likes to take long walks throughout Alexandria especially his Saturday morning walks in Delray. Hoover is loved by Jeff, Lynne, Mike, Ann, Heather and Bert.

— LYNNE LAWRENCE



Founded in 1975

Offering a full line of pet supplies
Quality grooming to breed standards
Originators of day school dog training

529 Oronoco St., Alexandria, VA 22314

703-836-7643

info@otsfd.com



Compassionate Care, Exceptional Medicine

24 hours a day, 365 days a year

VCA Alexandria Animal Hospital

2660 Duke Street, Alexandria, VA 22314

www.vcaalexandria.com

703-751-2022

Emergency 703-823-3601





Duke

Duke recently moved to Alexandria from Zagreb, Croatia. While he misses swimming in the Adriatic, the social scene in Old Town (especially “Doggie Day” at the pool) and Puppy Pops at Dairy Godmother are helping him get over it. His “super power” is imitating human expressions and postures. In the photo of him in the bay of Sibenik (above), Duke is doing his comic impersonation of his adopted human, Brian, lounging in the water with crossed legs.

— HOYT BRIAN YEE



Gus

Gus, a 3-year-old yellow lab, has his own Instagram account (@gus_yellowlab) where he has over 300 followers. He has been featured on BuzzFeed and other various websites for dogs. He loves road trips, hockey (Washington Capitals), socks, anything that squeaks, snuggles, and cucumbers.

— MICHAEL AND TINA MCCREA



Jack

This is Jack, our Goldendoodle. He’s 2 years old. You will often find him playing at Oronoco Bay Park. He’s well-trained and friendly, so feel free to say hello! In the photo is Julia Choi (age 9) and Mason Choi (age 7), who love him very much. They’re relaxing with Jack on a lazy morning.

— JOHN CHOI



Brandon (11) and Kayla (6) with Pancake’s birthday candle.

A Letter from Pancake

Dear Neighbor,

I am sorry to have intruded upon your residence. You see, the truth of the matter is, I often pass by while embarking upon my regular philanthropic daytime sojourns through our illustrious and historically quaint and friendly neighborhood to some of my favorite regular haunts such as the park, Senator Warner’s house, and homes of some of my many elementary school friends/fans whom I visit from time to time.

You will please forgive me, madam, for mistaking your lovely home and very large and open cat door for an invitation to come to tea.

You see, I get confused because I know more neighbors than my human pet guardian does and really thought everybody was my friend. This is because people scoop me up from the sidewalk to hug and love on me. Many of my goodhearted human friends downright encourage me to enter their homes! They invite me in, feed me, play with me, and encourage me to consort and fraternize with their furry pet friends. I have a rather long list of human and furry friends vying for my time, my presence, and my gracious purrs. I am rather popular around here, if I do say so myself.

My human pet guardian doesn’t even know about this benevolent, secret lifestyle I lead. So, being a simple cat, though abnormally handsome and regal, I just can’t discern a friendly welcoming neighbor from a house where I am not welcome. In a nutshell, being friendly can be problematic for me, and now for you. Please understand that I do not mean to impose.

Given the recent means of ejection from your house, you can believe that even as persistent a feline as I may be, it appears to be in our mutual best interest that we keep our distance from one another. I would respectfully request that should I someday forgetfully stumble across your residential



Pancake

perimeter, that you kindly abide by the well-known Old Town “Good Neighbor Policy” and not call the animal police, but instead ensure that I understand your door is a “no-no” door. Stomp at me, shoo me away, spray me with water, or just keep your cat door closed when not in use—whatever we can do to establish a meaningful “No-Contact Relationship.”

With these efforts, I hope to be somewhat disinclined to presume to take advantage of the kind hospitality of your abode in the future. And then we could entirely avoid any further unpleasantness if I happen to overstay my welcome or eat my friend’s food without asking.

I remain your truly humble and light-footed if occasionally misdirected feline neighbor.

Sincerely & Truly Yours,
Pancake, Esq.

PS: My human brother’s Cub Scout den went camping and found me in the woods as a tiny, starving kitten last year. They don’t speak “meow” so I couldn’t tell them how I got there. They fed me pancakes, hence my name. (Good thing they didn’t feed me sausage!)

Pancake lives with Tracy Kennedy in Old Town.



Cinco is the spoiled rotten, furry “son” of Max Rotermund and Susan Dawson of Alexandria. He has rejected an untold number of toys, regardless of their looks or contents (fur-no fur, catnip-no catnip, etc). The one toy he really, really likes, however, is the top of a toy that he had originally rejected because its noise scared him, and that Susan cut off and attached to a fishing rod and string. He never tries to destroy it - It really seems more of a friend than a toy or prey to attack.

ENTERTAINMENT

Creepy and Kooky: 'The Addams Family Musical'

With a cast of 27 students, the show is loosely based on the original cartoons.

BY STEVE HIBBARD

With a cast of 27 students, Bishop Ireton's theater department is presenting the musical comedy, "The Addams Family Musical," from March 9-17, at the school auditorium on Cambridge Road in Alexandria. The show is based upon the characters created by Charles Addams in his single-panel gag cartoons. It has music and lyrics by Andrew Lipa and is based on the book by Marshall Brickman and Rick Elice. The musical opened on Broadway in April 2010 with Nathan Lane as Gomez and Bebe Neuwirth as Morticia.

According to Joanna Henry, director of theater arts at Bishop Ireton, "It's a musical and it's loosely based on the cartoons. The character that drives the plot is Wednesday because she's the one who falls in love with a normal guy. She just wants her family to accept him and his family because they're this normal mid-Western family. She also wants them to accept her family because they're all a little bit off.

"It all takes place in one night when the Addams family hosts a dinner for the boyfriend's family, the Beinekes. But there's also the ensemble which is all ancestors of the Addams family and they come out of the crypt to help move the story along."

The cast and crew have been working since early December learning the music, and after Christmas started working on the blocking, acting and choreography. There's a crew of 65 students and about 15 adults who are working on every aspect of the show, including choreography, stage crafts, sound, set design, costumes and props.

Henry said they're going to be wearing iconic costumes from the Addams Family cartoons. "The Beinekes will look like normal Americans. The ancestors have all faded and distressed costuming, and every ancestor is a specific character, so we have characters from different eras. Make-up wise, they're pale. So, its heavy-duty makeup for the ancestors," said Henry.

As far as challenges, Henry said the music is tough. "But the students have constantly amazed us with how much hard work they put into it to learn it. The student choreographers have challenged the cast with the dancing, but the cast has stepped up. They're doing a fabulous job," she said.

What Henry hopes to accomplish with her direction is that the students will be different specific characters and not themselves. "I'd like them to be the characters, whether they're singing, speaking or dancing — that they communicate to the audience these different characters," she said.

As far as audience takeaways, Henry said: "I just want audiences to have a good time, to enjoy it and laugh and just have a fun night of musical theater. And see what these high school kids can do."

Music Director Christopher Tomasino said he was aiming to be true to the composer's original intent as well as the vocal arrangements. He describes the music as "all over the place, with some contemporary rock, a Spanish-Latin feeling, a bedtime lullaby, and a cake walk. It's almost like a Minstrel Show. They do a dance from the '50s and '60s and bring in the original 'Addams Family' TV Show theme," he said.

Kevin McNeerney, 17, of Falls Church plays the role of Mal Beineke. "Mal is really a stiff and a family-oriented guy. He is really invested in his work. He doesn't take enough time for his wife and his kid. He's focused on the work aspect to support them. So, the play really explores a lot of his internal feelings about his marriage and how it went wrong, and why his family isn't as close as the Addams family," he said.

He said some of the challenges of this show were "not being super-out-there when all the characters are strange and weird. "Mal is a straight character so keeping a straight face is sometimes really difficult when everything around him is going wrong or all the other characters are totally crazy and really different," he said.

Libby York, 16, of Alexandria plays the



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED BY GABY GARCIA

Bishop Ireton Music Director Christopher Tomasino leads students Ronie-Gabriel Altejar (left) and Matthew Monaghan in rehearsal for their parts as Addams Family Ancestors in "The Addams Family Musical."

role of Pugsley Addams. "Pugsley is just a little boy who is family-oriented, and he doesn't want things to change with his sister falling in love and moving on because he's so attached to his sister. He's scared of losing the dynamic that the two of them have.

"It was kind of challenging getting into the mind-set of playing a male character. Going into the audition, I loved the music that Pugsley has and his character, so one of the struggles was just being able to put myself out there, playing a male character and going outside the box. All of the characters are so flamboyant and quirky and there's nothing normal about the Addams family."

Gabby Baniqued, 18, of Fort Washington, Md., has a role in the ensemble and is the student choreographer. "So, in addition to just being a supporting role in the musical, I choreograph and teach most of the dance numbers in the musical, which requires a lot of preparation, patience and focus," she said. "It starts with getting familiar with the music and applying my past dance experience and applying moves that match the



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED BY GABY BANIQUED

Bishop Ireton High School students (from left) Dagny Scannell as Wednesday and Libby York as Pugsley rehearsing "Pulled" for "The Addams Family Musical."

style of the Addams family. The Addams family pulls from a lot of different eras for dance, so it touches upon a lot of styles and movements from different times in history."

Emily Graham, 17, of Falls Church plays the role of the cave woman. "So, basically the cave woman just has a lot of fun in the Addams family. She gets awakened by Fester by dancing on the ancestor's graves. And Fester keeps the ancestors there to help him get Lucas and Wednesday together so they can eventually be happily married.

"The cave woman was originally a cave man and so it's really hard to sing my high voice part and still act very guttural, stone-age. So, it's hard to stay in character while also keeping the tone of the show and all the different songs."

Showtimes for Bishop Ireton High School's "The Addams Family Musical" are on 7:30 p.m. on Friday, March 9; Saturday, March 10; Friday, March 16; Saturday, March 17; and Sunday, March 11 at 2 p.m. at Bishop Ireton High School, 201 Cambridge Road, Alexandria. Call 703-751-7606 or visit www.bishopireton.org.

CALENDAR

Submit entertainment announcements at www.connectionnewspapers.com/Calendar/. The deadline is noon on Friday.

ONGOING

U-Street the Musical. Through March 3, various times at the Richard Kauffman Auditorium (Lee Center), 1108 Jefferson St. U-Street, the musical is an exploration of homelessness in America brought to life with 12 musical numbers, and a 30-member cast from around the D.C. metro area. The production is also a fundraiser to support programs for low-income youth in Alexandria. \$20. Call 703-640-4980 or visit www.momentumcinc.org.

"Passages." Through March 4, various times at Target Gallery at the Torpedo Factory, 105 North Union St., Studio 2. Target Gallery's next

exhibition, Passages, explores the lasting effects migration has on cultural identity from the perspective of immigrants and immigrant families from across the global diaspora. The juror for this exhibition was Adriana Ospina, curator of the Permanent Collection and Education at the Art Museum of Americas. Visit torpedofactory.org/partners/target-gallery.

Art League's Student/Faculty Show. Through March 4, 10 a.m.-6 p.m., daily; Thursdays until 9 p.m.; Sundays noon-6 p.m. in the Torpedo Factory Art Center, 105 North Union St., Studio 21. The Art League's annual Student/Faculty Show showcases the diversity and talent of more than 6,500 students and 100+ artist instructors. Visit www.theartleague.org/content/

student_faculty_2018.

Art Exhibit. Through, March 10, various times at The Gallery @ Convergence, 1801 N. Quaker Lane. The All City High School Art Exhibition hosted by the Convergence Arts Initiative returns for its third and most exciting year so far. This year's expanded event features over 90 Alexandria high school students and will welcome two additional schools to its juried exhibition; Commonwealth Academy and The Howard Gardner School. Visit www.ourconvergence.org.
"Terracotta Warriors" in Market Square. Through March 11, all day in Market Square, 301 King St. Two replicas of the famous "Terracotta Warriors." Each replica stands six feet tall and weighs about 500 pounds, and will be on display

through March 2018. Visit www.alexandriava.gov for more.

THURSDAY/MARCH 1

"Border." 7 p.m. at The Athenaeum, 201 Prince St. Visual art, movement, audio interviews by community members focus on borders. Hear of chance happenings told through movement and spoken word. Learn about people who have inspired a redirection of action, aided others in crossing boundaries or made barriers insignificant. Find threads of bias, isolation and loneliness residing alongside the urge for belonging. \$15 at www.nvfaa.org.

World War I Lecture Series. 7 p.m. at The Lyceum, Alexandria's History Museum, 201 South Washington St. Join The Lyceum for Women's

History Month and three lectures about women's contributions to the World War I war effort. "The Hello Girls" (with a book signing) by Elizabeth Cobbs. On the eve of American involvement in World War I, the Selective Service Act drafted 2.8 million American men to do their part for home and country. Three hundred remarkable women known as "The Hello Girls" were selected to operate the vital communications network that helped the Allies win. \$10 per person; all three lectures \$25 (March 1, 15, 22). Reservations recommended. Tickets at shop.alexandria.gov.

MARCH 1-31

Woodlawn Needlework Show and Sale. 10 a.m.-4 p.m. (closed)

ENTERTAINMENT

Tuesdays) at Woodlawn and Pope-Leighey House, 9000 Richmond Highway. The 55th annual Needlework show and sale at Woodlawn Estate, the historic home of Nelly Custis, America's foremost needleworker. Exhibits, vendors, workshops, house tours, and more for the whole family. Adults \$15, k-12 \$6, 5 and under free. Call 703-570-6903 or visit www.woodlawnpopeleighey.org/annualneedleworkshow/.

MARCH 1-APRIL 15

"Parallel Lives." Various times, March 1-April 15, at the Athenaeum, 201 Prince St. In Parallel Lives transcultural humanity is on display. Curated by Brigitte Reyes, five artists (Antonius Bui, Amy Chan, Nekisha Durrett, Muriel Hasbun, and Jeff Huntington) bridging diverse cultures and aesthetic traditions embrace and explore their place in the world. Visit www.nvfaa.org or call 703-548-0035.

MARCH 2-APRIL 1

"Outdoors In." Various times at Del Ray Artisans Gallery, 2704 Mount Vernon Ave. "Outdoors In" showcases the ways artists see nature and depict it in paintings, sculptures, textiles, mixed media, and drawings. Before the camera, much of what we knew about nature came from artists and others who drew and painted what they saw and experienced. Artists include local students. Visit www.DelRayArtisans.org/exhibits.

FRIDAY/MARCH 2

Family Art Night. 6-8:30 p.m. at the Durant Arts Center, 1605 Cameron St. A "meet and greet" begins at 6 p.m. Art activities begin at 6:30 p.m. No experience necessary. Reservation includes one art experience, art supplies, pizza and soda. Reservations are \$9 per person. Children under 5 years old are free. Children must be accompanied by one adult. Register at www.alexandriava.gov/webtrac and select the activity number (painting - Activity # 355202.04 or clay sculpture - Activity # 355202.05).

Opening Reception. 7-9 p.m. at Del Ray Artisans Gallery, 2704 Mount Vernon Ave. "Outdoors In" showcases the ways artists see nature and depict it in paintings, sculptures, textiles, mixed media, and drawings. Before the camera, much of what we knew about nature came from artists and others who drew and painted what they saw and experienced. Artists include local students. Visit www.DelRayArtisans.org/exhibits.

Songwriting Contest Finalists Perform. 7:30 p.m. at Bethesda Blues & Jazz Supper Club, 7719 Wisconsin Ave., Bethesda. Six songwriters have been chosen as finalists (including Jarrett Nicolay of Alexandria) and one will win the \$10,000 Grand Prize and 25 hours of complimentary recording studio time at Innovation Station Music. Three songwriters from the Young Songwriter category (applicants who are under 18 years of age) will also perform live and compete for \$2,500. Tickets will be \$15 and \$20 and available at www.bethesda.org.

SATURDAY/MARCH 3

Historic Sites in Peril. 9 a.m.-4 p.m. at Gunston Hall, 10709 Gunston Road, Mason Neck. Meet leaders in Mid-Atlantic archaeology, and learn about their challenges and finds. Speakers from a variety of projects in Virginia and Maryland will discuss sites in peril. Refreshments and lunch included in registration. Registration is \$55; \$45 for Friends of Gunston

Hall and Friends of Fairfax Archaeology, \$25 students. Contact Lacey Villiva at lvilliva@gunstonhall.org, or 703-550-9220, for more. To register online, visit bit.ly/2BcZskw.

Writer's Workshop. 9 a.m.-4 p.m. at the Alexandria Black History Museum, 902 Wythe St. Author Sheila Moses will conduct a workshop for young adults (age 16 and older) and adults interested in writing for the young adult market. Learn how to tell a good story, what a publisher looks for in a new author and how to make story ideas a reality. This workshop is limited to 14 people. A continental breakfast and snacks will be provided. Bring lunch. Reservations are required, and the \$100 registration fee must be paid online by March 1 at shop.alexandriava.gov. For more information, call 703-746-4356.

St. Patrick's Day Parade. Classic car show is from 9:30-11 a.m. Fun Dog Show is from 11 a.m.-noon. Parade starts at 12:15 p.m. and ends at 2 p.m. Don green and line King Street in Old Town Alexandria, Virginia to kick off the D.C. region's St. Patrick's Day celebrations at the 37th Annual Alexandria St. Patrick's Day Parade presented by the Ballyshanners, a nonprofit that aims to promote and preserve Irish heritage. Visit www.ballyshanners.org for schedule and locations.

Needle and Thread-Maker Market & Pop-Up Shop. 10 a.m.-4 p.m. at Woodlawn and Pope-Leighey House, 9000 Richmond Highway. A historically-hip shopping experience on the first Saturday of the Annual Needlework Show. Area makers sell their needle art and textile-based wares in the front entrance to the historic mansion. Call 703-570-6903 or visit www.woodlawnpopeleighey.org/annualneedleworkshow/.

St. Patrick's Day Parade Open House. Noon-4 p.m. at Carlyle House Historic Park, 121 N. Fairfax St. John Carlyle's son-in-law, William Herbert, immigrated to America from Ireland and married Sarah Carlyle. He became an influential merchant, banker, and politician in Alexandria, resigning as Mayor on the eve of the War of 1812. Step back in time to see what life was like in the 19th century in Alexandria, and to learn more about this part of Carlyle's family life. Admission is free, but donations are welcome. Visit www.novaparks.com or call 703-549-2997.

Locals' Alley Saturdays. 12:30-2:30 p.m. at The Old Town Shop, 105 South Union St. Meet the makers of local goods, featuring Sweet Sophia local honey product tastings. Call 703-684-4682 or visit www.TheOldTownShop.com.

Floral Design Workshop. 1-2:30 p.m. at Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road. Make a beautiful, early spring flower arrangement using cut flowers and flowering branches with the help of designer Betty Ann Galway. Learn to harvest and force flowering branches and get ideas for ways to use them in floral designs at home. Register for program code and supply fee - \$38/person, with a \$25/person supply fee. Register online at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/parktakes using code 290 112 6601 for the program and 290 112 6602 for the supply fee, or call 703-642-5173.

Country-Western Dance. 6-9:30 p.m. at Lincolnia Senior Center, 4710 North Chambliss St. The Northern Virginia Country-Western Dance Association will hold a dance; lessons, 6-7 p.m.; open dancing, 7-9:30 p.m. A DJ provides music. Couples and singles of all ages welcome. Admission for NVCWDA members \$10; non-members \$12;

The Magic of British Comedienne Joyce Grenfell

Catherine Flye performs in "George ... Don't Do That!" at MetroStage.

BY STEVE HIBBARD

The second show in MetroStage's Spring Solo Series, "George ... Don't Do That!," will run March 8-25 in Alexandria. The story chronicles the music and magic of beloved British comedienne Joyce Grenfell, which is devised and performed by British actor Catherine Flye. The Spring Solo Series celebrates work by women, about women, and starring women.

If her name sounds familiar, Flye starred in the holiday show, "Christmas at the Old Bull and Bush." She has been performing this tribute to Grenfell throughout the British Isles since 2003 (also the U.S. and Africa). She performs this MetroStage show with Music Director and Pianist Joe Walsh and Michael Tolley as the Narrator.

According to Carolyn Griffin, producing artistic director at MetroStage: "Catherine Flye or Catie to her friends and colleagues is a beloved actor in the Washington theatre community known for the award-winning plays and musicals produced by her own Interact Theatre Company, as well as iconic roles in all the major theatres in the area and beyond, including Shakespeare Theatre, Arena Stage and The Kennedy Center. She was first seen on our stage here at MetroStage in 2002 when she was in 'Sea Marks' with Michael Tolley, another acclaimed actor who will be joining her in 'George ... Don't Do That!' in the role of the Narrator. Catie was most recently seen over the holidays in our wildly popular 'Christmas at the Old Bull and Bush,' which she devised, directed and where she performed roles that included 'The Nativity Play,' a popular sketch from Joyce Grenfell, and a priceless song called 'Nobody Loves a Fairy (over 40).'"

She continued: "Catie is fearless on stage and was influenced as child growing up in England by Joyce Grenfell, a beloved British comedienne. Catie has been touring this show based on Joyce's work throughout the UK and beyond since 2003. So, when I decided to put together a Spring Solo Series this seemed a perfect choice — spotlighting Catie, Joyce, and reuniting her with her collaborators, Joe and Michael. The material and music are both comic and poignant and covers a range of topics that will entertain, enthrall and maybe once again make Joyce Grenfell a household name."

According to Flye: "Joyce Grenfell was a household name in my family as I was growing up in Northampton, England, and as a small child I would act out all the characters in the famous nursery school sketches. It was my favorite 'make believe' game, which I played for hours on end," she said. "The beloved entertainer became a source of inspiration to me and her 'people watching' philosophy part and parcel of my daily life. Her unique style of comedy was never nasty but endearing, truthful and often poignant."

She continued: "Following Joyce's death, I



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED BY CHRIS BANKS

Catherine Flye is pictured from her role in "Christmas at the Old Bull and Bush" at MetroStage last December, shown with Music Director and Pianist Joe Walsh.

wanted to pay tribute to this special lady. At that time, I was living and working in the States and happened to meet Lord Julian Grenfell, a relation of Joyce's husband Reggie, who was working at the World Bank in Washington. Lord Grenfell helped me with research and spoke the narration. Following that first performance at the British Embassy in Washington, D.C., I have performed my tribute 'George ... Don't Do That!' many times in America, East Africa and across the United Kingdom, including performances at the Jermyn Theatre in London's West End. Keeping Joyce's legacy alive is important to me personally — so it's a great joy to be able to bring her work back to life again at MetroStage."

Grenfell was born in London on Feb. 10, 1910. She was three-quarters American — her mother Nora was one of the famous Langhorne sisters of Richmond, Va., and her Aunt Nancy Astor married an English Lord and became the first woman Member of Parliament. Her first stage appearance was in 1939 in the West End using her own material, and she went on to tour the world with her solo performances including an acclaimed run at the Bijou Theatre on Broadway with her one-woman show, "Joyce Grenfell Requests the Pleasure."

For her songs, her main collaborator was Richard Addinsell who set more than 50 of her lyrics to music and who is widely known as the composer of "The Warsaw Concerto." His association with her lasted 30 years. Joyce died on Nov. 30, 1979.

Performances for "George ... Don't Do That!" are March 8-25 at MetroStage. Show times are Thursdays at 8 p.m.; Fridays at 8 p.m.; Saturdays at 3 p.m. and 8 p.m.; and Sundays at 3 p.m. and 7 p.m. All tickets are \$45. The MetroStage venue is located at 1201 N. Royal Street, Alexandria. Call 703-548-9044 for more information or to order. Visit www.metrostage.org.

ENTERTAINMENT

5 Dates to Circle in March

BY HOPE NELSON

From paired dinners to St. Patrick's Day to the kickoff of cherry blossom season, Alexandria's food scene is bustling in March. Here are some of the month's best bets.

Loire Valley Wine Dinner at Bastille, March 1

Kick off the month with a glass of vino and plenty of food. North Old Town's beloved French café is offering up a multicourse pre fixe meal with wine to suit each selection. Five courses (including an amuse bouche to start things off) will match nicely with five wines on offer throughout the evening. It's not a trip to central France's Loire Valley, but it does make Thursday just a bit sweeter. \$59 per person; reservations recommended. 606 N. Fayette St., 6:30-10 p.m.

Anniversary Beer Release at Portner's, March 7

You're not seeing double: Portner's Brewhouse is celebrating its first anniversary with a duo of beer releases. The "Peach Be Wheat You" fruit beer will debut alongside the – wait for it – "And Also Wheat You" to make an impressive double-riff on a single style of brew. The former is a wheat beer brewed with peaches; the latter, the same base beer conditioned with whiskey-soaked peaches to give the final result a bit more zing. 5770 Dow Ave., 4-11 p.m.

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

CALENDAR

children under 18 accompanied by a paying adult \$5. Smoke-free, alcohol-free. BYO refreshments. Visit www.nvcwda.org.

Concerts at St. Luke's. 7:30 p.m. at St. Luke's Episcopal Church, 8009 Ft. Hunt Road. Concerts at St. Luke's presents Melissa Mino, soprano and Brad Clark, pianist, offering a program of American Art Songs, arias, and tunes from the Great American Songbook. A reception will follow to meet the artists. \$20 adult; \$15 senior; free to students 18 and under. Call 703-765-4342 or visit www.saintlukeschurch.net.

SUNDAY/MARCH 4

The Origin of Manners Tea Program. 1-3 p.m. at Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road. Concepts of courtesy and good manners have defined cultures throughout history and made social interaction run smoothly. Learn how manners have changed from medieval times to the Victorian era to the present day, and consider the differences between "good manners" and "etiquette." For adults. \$32/person (program and tea); \$12 (program only). Programs are by reservation only. Call 703-941-7987, TTY 703-324-3988.

Women's History at the Tavern. 1, 2, 3 or 4 p.m. at Gadsby's Tavern Museum, 134 N. Royal St. Special Tour: The Feminine Side of Taverns. The 45-minute tour challenges assumptions about a women's role in the 18th century and how women interacted with the tavern, a place commonly assumed to be just for men. \$5 per person. Reservations recommended. Visit alexandriava.gov/Shop or call 703-746-4242.

Winter Lecture Series. 1:30-2:30 p.m. at Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road. No southern

garden would be complete without a beautiful azalea. Azalea expert Don Hyatt discusses the diversity of Asian evergreen azaleas, including old favorites, newer introductions and recent trends in hybridizing. For adults. \$10/person. Register online at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/parktakes using code 290 186 0601 or call 703-642-5173.

"Parallel Lives" Opening Reception. 4-6 p.m. at the Athenaeum, 201 Prince St. In Parallel Lives transcultural humanity is on display. Curated by Brigitte Reyes, five artists (Antonius Bui, Amy Chan, Nekisha Durrett, Muriel Hasbun, and Jeff Huntington) bridging diverse cultures and aesthetic traditions embrace and explore their place in the world. Visit www.nvfaa.org or call 703-548-0035.

MONDAY/MARCH 5

Garden Sprouts: Nature Playgroup. 10-11:30 a.m. at Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road. Preschoolers enjoy nature-themed toys and puzzles while adults meet other playgroup parents. A staff member is on hand to put out nature sensory bins, direct games and activities or lead a garden walk. The March topic is All Things Green. 3-5 years old. \$6/child. Register online at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/parktakes using code 290 102 8703 or call 703-642-5173.

MARCH 5-31

"Finishing Flourishes." Gallery hours at the Torpedo Factory Art Center's Scope Gallery, 105 North Union Street, ground floor Studio 19. Artists have a ball with "Finishing Flourishes," as they put forth their finest, and elevating detailing as the high-point in design. Perfect punctuation on a pot makes tops

twerk or handles twirl with grace. Edges flute and ruffle and feature lacy, racy cut outs. Call Scope Gallery at 703-548-6288 or visit www.scopegallery.org.

MARCH 7-31

"Drone Zone." Gallery hours in the Art League Gallery, Torpedo Factory Art Center, 105 North Union St., Studio 21. Drones appeared in Beverly Ryan's artwork in 2015, inspired by questions about their use in warfare. Ryan explores questions related to this topic in her multimedia exhibit, "Drone Zone." Visit www.theartleague.org or call 703-683-1780.

THURSDAY/MARCH 8

Local Author Thursday. 5-7 p.m. at The Old Town Shop, 105 South Union St. Book signing by Kathleen Sanders, "John W. Garrett and the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad." Light refreshments. Call 703-684-4682 or visit www.TheOldTownShop.com.

The Auld Alliance: France and Scotland. 7 p.m. at The Lyceum, 201 S. Washington St. The Auld Alliance: France and Scotland from Braveheart to Bonnie Prince Charlie, a lecture by Jennifer Paxton, PhD, Professor, Catholic University. Wine, desserts and light fare. \$10 per person supports ACSCC programs. Information and tickets at shop.alexandriava.gov.

Tiny Planet - Tom Teasley and Seth Kibel. 7 p.m. at The Athenaeum, 201 Prince St. Teasley is a globe-trotting percussionist whose approach as performer, educator, and cultural envoy is heralded worldwide. Kibel is a woodwind specialist in jazz, swing, and klezmer. Together, their improvisatory blend includes Jewish klezmer, Arabic rhythms, and American jazz. \$15.

Jameson Whiskey Dinner at the Majestic, March 13

St. Patrick's Day comes but once a year, and the Majestic is getting the party started in fine form with a Jameson-centric dinner four days ahead of the main event. Enjoy a selection of Irish dishes – and wash them down with Jameson-based cocktails. \$65 per person; reservations recommended. 911 King St., 6-9 p.m.

St. Patrick's Day ... Everywhere, March 17

There are too many festivities and too many specials to single out as the greater part of Alexandria becomes temporarily Irish for the day. In Old Town, Murphy's, O'Connell's and Mackie's are all excellent choices to toast with the crowds – or strike out to less traditional spots for a quieter experience. Slainte!

Cherry Blossom Festival "Cherry Picks" Menu, March 20-April 15

A passel of restaurants across the D.C. area are participating in this year's incarnation of the Cherry Picks program, hosted alongside the National Cherry Blossom Festival each spring. Visit some of Alexandria's participating eateries to see their take on various cherry-infused recipes, ranging from savory entrees to sweet treats to cocktails. Local participants include Virtue Feed and Grain, Lena's, the Majestic, Rockland's Barbecue, and Vola's Docksides Grill.

BISHOP IRETON THEATER ARTS PRESENTS



The Addams Family

A NEW MUSICAL COMEDY

March 9, 10, 16, 17 at 7:30 PM

March 11 at 2:00 PM

Tickets at the Door:

\$10 Adults • \$8 Students • \$8 Seniors

201 Cambridge Road, Alexandria, VA

Garwood Whaley Auditorium

Le Refuge
Restaurant

Winter Specials

Shad Roe
season has begun!

- Split Pea Soup with Smoked Sausage
- Asparagus with Fresh Smoked Trout
- Venison Medallions
- Beef Wellington
- Rack of Lamb
- Dover Sole
- Cassoulet
- Frog Legs



Find us on Facebook

127 N. Washington St., Alexandria • 703-548-4661

Smoke-Free Restaurant
www.lerefugealexandria.com

A Community Favorite
Since 1904



Since 1904, The Royal has been Old Town's Favorite neighborhood restaurant. Award-winning menu includes prime rib, fresh seafood, roast chicken best burgers hand-carved roast turkey and salad bar.

Serving Breakfast - Lunch - Dinner

Full Buffet with
Omelette Station
Saturday and
Sunday Brunch
7am-2pm

Save 50%
On second dinner entree
of equal or lesser value
when you mention this ad.
Offer expires 3/31/18.

734 North St. Asaph Street, Alexandria, VA 22314

Royal Restaurant 703-548-1616
ALEXANDRIA'S NEIGHBORHOOD RESTAURANT • SINCE 1904 RoyalRestaurantVA.com



**It's Your Time to Celebrate
with a \$100 Resort Credit!**

From finding a new job to your child receiving straight A's, we'll help make your celebration getaway extra special by offering a \$100 resort credit per night.* Luxurious spa treatments, delicious dining, unique shopping and fun entertainment options provide everything you need for a joyous occasion.

Book your getaway today!

GaylordNational.com/Celebrate
or call (301) 965-4000 (refer to promo code ZJL)



*Valid through October 31, 2018. Limited number of rooms available for this promotion. Offer does not apply to groups of 10 or more rooms. Offer cannot be combined with any other promotion. Limit One (1) \$100 resort credit per night. See website for complete terms and conditions.

ENTERTAINMENT

Visit www.nvfaa.org/events/ for tickets.

FRIDAY/MARCH 9

Garden Talk: Growing Roses. 2-3 p.m. at Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road. Celebrated for beauty and fragrance, the rose lends elegance to any garden. Although this universally-loved plant has a reputation for being temperamental, Master Gardeners will show you common-sense approaches and precautions to help ensure growing success. For adults. \$10/person. Register online at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/parktakes using code 290 183 3501 or call 703-642-5173.

Scottish Social and Whisky/Wine Tasting. 7-10 p.m. at the historic Lloyd House, 220 North Washington St. The Alexandria Sister Cities Committee will sponsor The Alexandria Sister Cities Scottish Social and Whisky Tasting. In addition to the tasting, BBQ dinner, wine and other beverages will be provided. Tickets are \$45 and can be purchased at www.eventbrite.com, search Whisky and Wine.

FRIDAY-SUNDAY/MARCH 9-11

"The Addams Family." Friday-Saturday, 7:30-10 p.m.; Sunday, 2-4:30 p.m. in the Garwood Whaley Auditorium, Bishop Ireton High School, 201 Cambridge Road. The Bishop Ireton Drama Department presents "The Addams Family." From costuming to choreography, more than 60 Ireton students have contributed to this production. Visit www.bishopireton.org or call 703-751-7606.

SATURDAY/MARCH 10

NoVa TEEN Book Festival. Opens at 9:30 am at Washington-Lee High School, 1301 N. Stafford St. Forty authors will take part in the NoVa TEEN Book Festival. Author panels and breakout sessions will be held throughout the day-long event packed with books, authors, and activities. Book lovers of all ages are welcome. Free admission. Find a full event schedule and registration information at novateenbookfestival.com.

Family Fun: Garden Terrarium Workshop. 10 a.m. at Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road. Create an enclosed, mini garden terrarium that is fun to view and easy to take care of. Learn about the water cycle and have fun decorating with colored sand, stones, and a figurine. Ages 5-adult. \$12 per project (not per person). Register online at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/parktakes using code 290 182 3701 or call 703-642-5173.

Enhancing Winter Gardens. 10:30 a.m.-noon at Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road. With some planning and planting, enjoy color, texture and plant shapes while the garden is dormant. Horticulturist Judy Zatsick shares top winter interest plants and how to care for them. Also take a short walk outside to see what surprises Green Spring holds for the winter visitor (weather permitting). For adults. \$18/person. Register online at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/parktakes using code 290 187 4501 or call 703-642-5173.

Write Like A Woman. 1 p.m. at The Athenaeum, 201 Prince St. Facilitated by Poet and Author KaNikki Jakarta, this workshop welcomes women writers ages 18-100. The workshop centers on uplifting and inspiring through writing. For amateur and professional writers. Free. RSVP at admin@nvfaa.org.

Women in Action. 3-4:15 p.m. at The



"Line of Sight," Oil and Graphite by Beverly Ryan.

Drone Zone

Drones appeared in Beverly Ryan's artwork in 2015, inspired by questions about their use in warfare. Ryan explores questions related to this topic in her multi-media exhibit, "Drone Zone." March 7-31, gallery hours in the Art League Gallery, Torpedo Factory Art Center, 105 North Union St., Studio 21. Visit www.theartleague.org or call 703-683-1780.

Lyceum, 201 S. Washington St. Celebrate women and learn about issues important to women and girls in the community at this special event. Girl Scout Daisies, Brownies, and their accompanying adults will participate in hands-on activities and add their own future goals to a timeline of Juliette Gordon Low's story. Participants will talk with a panel of current and former Girl Scouts and discover how scouting empowered them. \$6 per person. Advance purchase is recommended. Purchase tickets at 703-746-4994 or shop.alexandriava.gov.

Alexandria Choral Society: The Morning Watch. 7:30 p.m. at George Washington Masonic Memorial, 101 Callahan Drive. Alexandria Choral Society presents The Morning Watch, featuring Eleanor Daley's "Requiem." Gala and silent auction reception following performance. \$20 adult, \$15 senior/military/student, child (13 and under) free. \$5 more when purchased at the door. Tickets available at www.alexandriachoralsociety.org/boxoffice.

SUNDAY/MARCH 11

Foodscape Revolution. 1:30-2:30 p.m. at Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road. Foodscape design requires a well balanced mix of flowering and edibles plants. Plantswoman Brie Arthur shares her favorite perennials for the seasonal foodscape. \$10. Register online at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/parktakes using code 290 183 0901 or call 703-642-5173.

Marine Corps Women's Reserve Band Tribute. 2 p.m. at Rachel M. Schlesinger Concert Hall, Northern Virginia Community College, Alexandria campus. Marine Band Living History: Marine Corps Women's Reserve Band Tribute. Free, no tickets required. Visit www.marineband.marines.mil/.

Complete Dogness. 4 p.m. at The Athenaeum, 201 Prince St. Complete Dogness is a new family friendly

performance about a delightful little doggy with bad habits. She can eat a delicious wool sweater or steal a whole block of cheese in no time. But there is hope as Barky learns new tricks and as the whole family adjusts. The performance incorporates spoken word, movement, and music. \$15 adults, \$10 children under age 10. Call 703-933-1111 and www.nvfaa.org.

MARCH 13-APRIL 15

Art Exhibit: Renewal. Gallery hours at Potomac Fiber Arts Gallery, Torpedo Factory Art Center, Studio 29, 105 North Union St. Gallery artists producing themed work may draw on any aspect of "renewal" for inspiration. This show will highlight the work of gallery artists Debra Lee, Cheryl Roesel, and Julia Stephens. Visit Potomacfiberartsgallery.com or call 703-548-0935.

THURSDAY/MARCH 15

Meet the Legends Reception. 6 p.m. at Center for Design, Media and the Arts, 3301 Netherton Drive in Alexandria, on the NOVA Community College Alexandria Campus. Sponsored by Living Legends of Alexandria, the event introduces the 2018 Living Legend honorees. Visit alexandrialegends.org/.

World War I Lecture Series. 7 p.m. at The Lyceum, Alexandria's History Museum, 201 South Washington St. Join The Lyceum for Women's History Month and three lectures about women's contributions to the World War I war effort. "Doing Our Bit" (While Having a Bit of Fun): American Nurses in World War I," by Marian Moser Jones, a social historian and ethicist of public health who explores the institutionalization of benevolence in the United States. She will share experiences of specific nurses in World War I gleaned from journals and diaries, including two from Virginia. \$10 per person. Reservations recommended. Tickets at shop.alexandria.gov.

Council Considers New Ways To Fund Affordable Housing

FROM PAGE 1

and produce about 63 units per year or 441 units by 2025,” according to Jinks’ memo. While it would add an average 16-cents to a \$16 meal, the increase “would not negatively impact restaurant sales.” Non-residents account for 69 percent of meals tax revenue.

❖ **Voluntary Contribution of Restaurant Bill:** This would be akin to certain grocery stores’ option to donate at checkout. About a third of all restaurant patrons would have to contribute 50 cents in order to generate revenue comparable to the meals tax increase.

❖ **Real Estate Tax:** A 1.2-cent increase on the real property tax rate would generate comparable revenue and would add about \$66 per year to the average household tax bill. This would be “more stable and reliable source of funding than voluntary contributions,” but would come disproportionately from the residential tax base, said Morgan Routt, the city’s budget director.

❖ **Personal Property Tax:** A 70-cent increase on the vehicle tax would generate comparable revenue and add about \$70 per year to the tax bill for a car with an assessed value of \$10,000.

❖ **Transient Occupancy Tax:** A 1.6 percent increase, plus \$1 per night, would generate comparable revenue and add \$3-4 dollars per night to the cost of a hotel room. Like the meals tax, this option would shift the burden to non-residents. However, combined with other taxes, it would bring the overall effective rate to 18 percent for hotels, “which would approach non-competitive levels,” said Routt.

Council members reacted with various levels of support, particularly with respect to whether revenue streams should be dedicated to particular uses, or budgeted from the General Fund.

The city’s progress on affordable housing projects “is nothing to brag about,” since “we’re still falling behind,” said Bailey.

“Since the year 2000, wages have gone up an average of about 33 percent, while the cost of rental housing has gone up 95 percent, and the cost of home ownership, including for condos, 178 percent,” said Helen McIlvaine, the city’s housing director. More than 16,000 (90 percent) of units, which were “market affordable” in 2000, are no longer affordable. Higher housing costs mean that many low- to moderate-income households “don’t have funds for

healthcare, education, daycare and savings.”

“If we’re going to dedicate funding to anything, it should be the most basic need of a human being,” said Bailey. “I’ve heard us mention several times up here what we value. ... Don’t tell me what you value; show me what your budget is, and I’ll tell you what you value. ... We need to stop talking and do something. That’s why I put forth that one-cent meals tax, because I’m tired of talking. ... If this city is for the rich and famous, let me know, so maybe I need to move.”

“We all have a shared goal. ... [But] I’m personally against dedicated funding, as a philosophy. If we have a fundamental need, then it should be part of the budget. ... For anything. ... Why not dedicated funding for schools? ... For a whole host of things?” said Councilman Paul Smedberg. “If there’s one issue that cries out for a regional approach, it is this one.”

“If it’s a priority in the community and something we should do, budget for it and do it,” said Vice Mayor Justin Wilson. “My view, regardless of whether it’s affordable housing, open space, schools, or whatever else, is that we should raise enough city

revenue for the services that are important to the community, place that revenue in the General Fund, and then adopt a budget.”

Jinks’ FY19 budget proposal includes \$5.5 million for affordable housing development and preservation, including certain staffing and administrative costs to run McIlvaine’s department. The current dedicated funding stream for affordable housing — 0.6 cents on the tax rate — would provide \$600,000 that isn’t tied to debt service for past projects. Jink’s proposed General Fund operating budget totals \$742 million; its All-Funds operating budget totals \$910 million; it’s 10-year Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) totals \$2.1 billion.

“To the comments about doing this as part of the budget process, making changes to how and what level of taxation we give to certain areas is part of the budget process. ... We do that every year,” said Councilman John Chapman. He added: “When we look at where most of our revenue comes from now, it’s borne on our homeowners. How do we bring others to the table? ... I think these proposals do that.”

“I don’t know what the answer is, but I’d sure like to see us move forward in a bigger way,” said Councilwoman Redella Pepper.

Police and Firefighters Say Budget Increase Is Insufficient

FROM PAGE 1

The \$1.5 million is spread across the city’s police, sheriff’s office, and fire department. The budget item is a mix of targeted pay increases and other retention and recruitment focused measures.

Craig Fifer, director of the Office of Communications and Public Information, said the city has not yet seen recruitment and retention issues, but that the pay increase is a proactive measure to prevent it.

“We brought our compensation up from the low end of the regional spectrum, but now other competing employers have done the same and we’re falling behind again,” said Fifer. “We can’t afford an across-the-board pay increase, nor is it a sustainable approach to just keep increasing pay. The \$1.5 million set aside in the city manager’s proposed budget is to fund targeted, tactical approaches to make improvements.”

Fifer said examples of these improvements might be differential for night shifts or non-compensation ideas like expanded career options.

“Our goal is to incorporate employee feedback to apply creative approaches that will prevent us from losing ground again,” said Fifer.

“In our region, there’s a big competition between Arlington and Alexandria with Fairfax County,” said Megan Ellzy, president of Alexandria Firefighters Inc., Local 2141. “Fairfax pays at top of the pay scale as compared to anyone in the region. You work the same schedule but have similar benefits. When it comes to hiring, we’re always competing against Fairfax. In our city, philosophy has always been ‘we’re going to be somewhere in the middle.’”

But while that may work for other areas

of the budget, Ellzy says aiming for the middle won’t work for emergency services. While the city says there haven’t been problems with recruitment or retention, Ellzy said fire departments in Alexandria and Arlington are hemorrhaging firefighters. In Alexandria over the last two years, 40 firefighters have left the department. Ellzy said this is 15 percent of the department, the equivalent to an entire shift of firefighters.

“That’s people resigned to go to another department, not retirements or doing a different job,” said Ellzy. “That’s 40 people who said ‘I want to work in Fairfax or Prince George’s County.’ That’s a whole shift for us, almost. There’s a lot of services and protection community members aren’t getting that they don’t even know they’re not getting because we’re so understaffed. Things get done slower. We’re not as able to do things as efficiently.”

If the pay increase had been dedicated to one branch of emergency services, Ellzy said it would have gotten their pay rates close to their competitions. In Arlington, for instance, some fire personnel could receive an up to 7 percent raise. But spread across several departments including police and sheriff’s office, Ellzy said the raise will do little to stem the problem in Alexandria.

“They proposed \$1.5 million over three years. In perspective, we’re 10 to 20 percent down from where we need to be,” said Ellzy. “The \$1.5 million over three years is shared between us, police, sheriff. If they said the fire department gets all in one year, that still only gets us to 5 percent of pay raise across the board.”

Alexandria’s police have raised similar protests regarding the pay inequity com-

pared to other localities, according to William Oakley, president of the Alexandria Committee of Police Local 5.

“The current situation is, quite frankly when the city manager came out saying there would be a \$1.5 million split among three agencies, we had people say they’re leaving because it’s an insult,” said Oakley. “We are, as Alexandria police, at the very bottom of the pay scale.”

Oakley said one of the common challenges in Alexandria is that the city will pay to recruit and train an officer for their first year, only for the officer to turn around and accept a job at a neighboring jurisdiction. And while Alexandria increases its pay for police, other jurisdictions aren’t sitting idle. Arlington announced a 2.5 percent raise for all police ranks below Sergeant, four percent total in an across-the-board employee salary raise. In Fairfax, police will see a 4.5 percent raise. For Oakley, the excuse of a tough budget year is starting to wear thin, taking aim in particular at new King Street beautification measures put forward in the

budget. “Every year we hear is a tough budget year,” said Oakley. “City has money budgeted for flower pots on main street. What are their priorities? Flower pots can be on King Street because there are cops there to make sure they don’t get vandalized. Kids can go to school because cops make sure they’re safe. We’re cops, we’re not going to get rich doing this job, but should get fair pay.”

Oakley said the pay gap is beginning to have an effect on morale. Of 100 officers Oakley says we’re surveyed recently about the issue, 35 said they were considering leaving for other jurisdictions.

“We will start to see a younger and younger police force as experienced officers retire out,” said Oakley. “Our younger guys that are just starting families and paying mortgages, they realize they can go to another jurisdiction for \$6,000 to \$10,000 more. They have to keep hiring people and they’re going to lose a lot of experience. It will continually be a young police force without same experience.”

Mayor Proclaims NO MORE Week

Mayor Allison Silverberg will present a NO MORE (NO MORE Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault) proclamation on Wednesday, March 7 at 1 p.m. at the Alexandria Northern Virginia Community College campus.

The mayor will proclaim March 4-10 as NO MORE week.

The proclamation was requested in February by Dr. John Kling, DDS, who is donating his time through the Give Back A

Smile program to restore lost teeth of a patient who had her teeth knocked out by an ex-domestic partner.

Lisa Oliveros, treatment coordinator, says these proclamations can take up to six months but the mayor sent back word 10 days later that this proclamation was approved “because of her strong support for this great cause.”

A companion event will be held on March 6 at 5 p.m. at NOVA.

Rescue Dogs

FROM PAGE 12

gram.”

This partnership provides extra layer of guarantee for both organizations — which will make a difference to the many lives both Semper K9 and OPH seek to impact.

“We usually select 10 and 20

dogs each year, but plan to increase that number to between 24 and 48 annually,” Baity said. “This close relationship allows us the opportunity to plan months in advance when evaluating candidates that we believe have the necessary skills to complete our rigorous training regimen. That’s so much more important than many would

realize because we receive such a wide-variety of veterans with many types of disabilities. These veterans have various needs, so we look for dogs with a specific type of temperament and the ability to perform tasks for their veteran’s disability.”

These two operations have achieved a level of synergy.

“OPH has made Semper K9 more successful because of our shared love for rescuing dogs in need of a good home,” Baity said. “Semper K9 is looking for dogs that ‘want a job,’ and OPH helps us find these dogs in shelters or high risk environments.”

Although it’s always hard to say goodbye, Landers said she knows Alvin is at the threshold of greatness. One of her parting memories of him was something pretty unforgettable, too.

“Animal Planet came out and actually filmed a segment on Alvin — called ‘Pupclose with Alvin’ — that they aired during the Puppy Bowl. It showed Alvin on my farm, trying to make friends with all the goats. It was a great feature.”

Landers said she entered a number of puppies with the organization into Animal Planet’s call for submissions for the Puppy Bowl. Five, including Alvin, ended up making it to the game.

As fun as it was for Landers and Dodge to see some OPH puppies in an event like the Puppy Bowl, the main mission they fulfill through Operation Paws is more significant.

Since its inception in 2010, OPH has rescued more than 8,000 dogs from neglect, torture, and a whole host of horrors that most of humanity couldn’t even begin to fathom.

“It’s pretty simple how we started,” Landers said. “Just like with every rescue organization, we started by rescuing dogs. I saw an ad on Craigslist that featured dogs that were going to be euthanized by a gas chamber in North Carolina. It brought images in my head of horrible things. I saw that these three dogs needed help, and I always thought, ‘I’ve had a knack for animals and I’m good at matchmaking,’ so I knew I could find good homes for these three dogs to save them from going to a gas chamber.”

This initial mission turned into a rescue of far more than three dogs. That day, the OPH duo ended up rescuing 26 dogs. They had to think and act quickly, using social media to identify volunteers and foster pet parents.



Alvin, a member of the Puppy Bowl’s Team Fluff


Eight years later, the organization shows no signs of slowing down in their advocacy of all dogs in peril.

“We didn’t know what we were doing back then, but we knew that we needed to do something to help,” Landers said. “We’ve made a lot of mistakes. Those emergency rescues before OPH officially began were just the tip of the iceberg. We started learning that resources were scarce for many shelters and pet owners. The problem of pet overpopulation is out of control. There is a lot of work to be done. So, the organization has grown exponentially as we find more ways that we can make a difference.”

Aside from its boots-on-the-ground rescue missions, OPH addresses the disease of animal mistreatment in other grassroots ways.


“We do direct rescue, adoption programs and provide shelter supply support,” Landers said. “We also offer training for our adopters and for the community, and we provide children’s education. When owners need help, we sponsor many cats and dogs to be spayed and neutered. We’re making a huge impact in so many ways. And, the partnerships make an incredible difference too. I love the message that it sends when our dogs end up with Semper K9. These are outstanding, exceptional dogs that were once unwanted shelter dogs. It shows that they can do great things.”

To watch the Animal Planet spotlight, which features some amazing OPH puppies, visit: www.animalplanet.com/tv-shows/puppy-bowl/videos/pup-close-and-personal-with-alvin



City of Alexandria

FISCAL YEAR 2019 PROPOSED BUDGET



A summary of the City of Alexandria’s proposed Fiscal Year 2019 budget is set out below. Notice is hereby given of a public hearing on the proposed Fiscal Year 2019 budget for the City of Alexandria. The hearing will be held in the City Council Chambers, City Hall, 301 King Street, Alexandria, Virginia, on Monday, March 12, 2018 at 4:00 p.m. Persons wishing to speak on the proposed budget may sign up prior to the public hearing by calling the Office of the City Clerk and Clerk of Council at (703) 746-4550. Presenters are requested to provide a copy of their text to the City Clerk and Clerk of Council. Persons with disabilities who wish to request an accommodation for this public hearing should contact the Office of the City Clerk and Clerk of Council at (703) 746-4550 (TTY/TDD (703) 838-5056) prior to March 12, 2018, if possible.

SUMMARY OF PROPOSED BUDGET FY 2019

	General Fund PROPOSED FY 2019 (1)	All Funds PROPOSED FY 2019 (2)	Capital Improvements PROPOSED FY 2019 (3)
City Council	\$599,585	\$599,585	\$150,000
City Manager	\$2,140,359	\$2,140,359	
City Attorney	\$2,977,113	\$2,977,113	
City Clerk and Clerk of Council	\$391,005	\$391,005	
18th Circuit Court	\$1,589,062	\$1,589,062	\$660,000
18th General District Court	\$152,086	\$152,086	
Clerk of the Circuit Court	\$1,741,652	\$1,806,652	
Commonwealth’s Attorney	\$3,170,713	\$3,532,341	
Court Service Unit	\$1,557,022	\$1,683,011	
Juvenile and Domestic Relations Court	\$84,671	\$84,671	
Other Criminal and Justice Services	\$3,808,220	\$3,992,397	
Registrar of Voters	\$1,240,635	\$1,240,635	
Sheriff	\$32,310,750	\$33,209,054	
Finance	\$12,325,196	\$13,228,006	\$775,000
General Services	\$14,489,816	\$15,180,566	\$9,560,750
Human Rights	\$875,019	\$915,369	
Information Technology Services	\$11,341,273	\$11,852,747	\$9,818,000
Internal Audit	\$433,909	\$433,909	
Management and Budget	\$1,274,989	\$1,274,989	\$759,226
Debt Service (City)	\$42,626,096	\$43,289,681	
Debt Service (ACPS)	\$28,924,085	\$28,924,085	
Non-Departmental - Contingent Reserve	\$1,750,000	\$1,750,000	
Non-Departmental - Insurance, Memberships, Other	\$5,238,469	\$6,238,469	
Human Resources	\$4,313,872	\$4,313,872	
Communications & Public Information	\$1,461,961	\$1,461,961	
Performance and Accountability	\$486,460	\$486,460	
Fire	\$52,781,803	\$54,627,312	\$1,657,000
Code Administration	\$24,000	\$7,539,869	\$50,000
Emergency Communications	\$7,869,824	\$7,980,077	
Police	\$66,114,977	\$68,858,695	
Health	\$7,016,104	\$7,088,462	
Community and Human Services	\$51,716,177	\$93,011,434	\$25,000
Other Health Activities	\$1,734,181	\$1,734,181	
Housing	\$2,507,157	\$3,711,526	
Economic Development Activities	\$5,707,654	\$5,707,654	
Project Implementation			\$6,826,000
Planning and Zoning	\$5,790,474	\$6,348,436	\$1,300,000
Historic Alexandria	\$3,145,127	\$4,061,061	
Library	\$7,031,173	\$7,746,728	\$58,000
Recreation, Parks and Cultural Activities	\$23,130,423	\$25,081,493	\$8,745,500
Transit Subsidies	\$30,349,690	\$41,325,010	
Transportation and Environmental Services	\$39,223,208	\$46,419,908	\$71,215,535
Other Educational Activities	\$12,142	\$12,142	
Schools	\$223,829,302	\$298,243,449	\$33,181,789
Cash Capital	\$36,966,696	\$47,314,999	
Capital Contingency Funds			\$50,046,711
GRAND TOTAL	\$742,254,131	\$909,560,521	\$194,828,511

Any person desiring to review the proposed budget may visit the City’s website (alexandriava.gov/budget) or visit City Hall, Office of Management and Budget, Room 3400, Monday through Friday (excluding holidays), 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

PROPERTY TAXES
 The proposed budget includes no change in the real property tax rate of \$1.13 per \$100 of assessed valuation based upon an assessment ratio of 100% fair market value. It should be noted that City Council will set the maximum tax rate to be advertised at its March 14, 2018, meeting no earlier than 8:30 pm in City Hall, Sister Cities Conference Room and that Council may not adopt a rate that exceeds this tax rate, but may adopt an equal or lesser tax rate. The proposed budget includes no change in the current motor vehicle personal property tax rate of \$5.00 per \$100 of assessed value. All other personal property tax rates, including vehicles specially equipped to transport persons with disabilities, which are proposed to be taxed at the present rate of \$3.55 per \$100 of assessed value; Business tangible property, including office furniture, fixtures, computers and unlicensed vehicles are proposed to be taxed at the present rate of \$4.75 per \$100 of assessed value and machinery and tools are proposed to be taxed at the present rate of \$4.50 per \$100 of assessed value; Privately owned boats and water craft that are used for recreational purposes only are proposed to be taxed at the present rate of \$0.01 per \$100 of assessed value, are unchanged. The amount of real estate tax rate dedicated for affordable housing and to support existing debt service related to affordable housing is 0.6 cents.

PEOPLE

Music Director

FROM PAGE 6

those set for professional performers," said Shutts, who has worked with Bishop Ireton, McLean, and Madeira high schools as well as LTA, Port City Playhouse, Dominion, and the Greenbelt community theaters. Currently, he is the show director for the Gay Men's Chorus of Washington. He continued: "He takes his time pounding out notes for new vocalists and puts together a top-rate orchestra to back them up ... and does it all with a smile on his lips and joy in his heart. His fondness for music is only exceeded by his desire to instill the 'musical theater bug' in future generations."

Musician Mila Weiss had the opportunity to work with Tomasino for over 10 years on nearly 20 musicals, both at LTA and Bishop Ireton. "When I first started playing for him, he also played clarinet in the pit. It was nice to have a music director that clearly understood and appreciated the details of pit playing himself. Seemingly small things such as waiting an extra half second to allow an instrument change or securing reserved parking for those

carrying 40 pounds of gear every day demonstrates that he is willing to make sure his musicians have the tools they need to do their best," she said.

She added: "Working with a community theater and a school also means working with limited resources — both time and money — yet Chris always manages to create a great product. He has developed relationships with many quality musicians who are willing to share their talents with the community. He knows what he wants the music to sound like and communicates clearly with the musicians to get it. In the few opportunities he has to really break the music down to work in detail, he demonstrates his knowledge of the score and musicality."

Tomasino grew up in Alexandria and Prince William County, and has a degree in music education from James Madison University. He has a full-time day job at Burke & Herbert Bank in Old Town Alexandria as a compliance officer, where he makes sure the bank follows federal and state regulations regarding consumer and banking laws.

Obituary

Delbert E. Wilson
Dec. 7, 1935 - Feb. 17, 2018
Del Wilson of Stafford, VA, son of Pauline Crismond & Delbert Wilson passed away on 2/17/18. He was survived by his wife, Susan, daughter Pam, son-in-law Billy, son Scott, daughter-in-law Annette and granddaughter Jessica. He was residing in Burke, VA. Del attended the College of William & Mary. Del attended graduate school & then joined the D.C. National Guard. Del met Sue Halbert at T.C. Williams HS in Alex where they were successful teachers/administrators. They married in 1978. Del retired in 1994 after 30 years in the Alex School system.



Del served as Pres of the Alex Retired Teachers Assoc, Alex Optimist Club & NVADACA, Chairman of No. VA SR Olympic Comm, played softball in the No VA league and coached a SR basketball team.
Del passed away on 2/17/18, at 82. A Celebration of Life Service for him will be March 3, at 1:30 @ Fairlington Presbyterian Church, 3846 King Street, Alex 22301.
Reception following @ The Woods Community Ctr 10100 Wards Grove Circle, Burke, VA 22015.
Donations can be made to The Optimist Club of Alex, 1421 Prince St, Ste 240, Alex, VA 22314 or NVADACA Scholarship Fund, PO Box 305, Burke, VA 22009.

Obituary

Announcements

Lifetime METAL ROOFING
by VA CAROLINA BUILDINGS, INC

40 YEAR WARRANTY ON THE FINISH - ENERGY EFFICIENT
SUPERIOR DURABILITY - SENIOR CITIZEN DISCOUNT
FACTORY DIRECT - WE FINANCE - CALL NOW!

WWW.METALROOFOVER.COM 1-800-893-1242

Announcements

Legals

ABC LICENSE
PT Ole, LLC trading as Tequila and Taco, 540 John Carlyle St., Alexandria, Va 22314. The above establishment is applying to the VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL (ABC) for a Beer and Wine on Premises and Mixed Beverage license to sell or manufacture alcoholic beverages. Michael Anderson, Manager Partner NOTE: Objections to the issuance of this license must be submitted to ABC no later than 30 days from the publishing date of the first of two required newspaper legal notices. Objections should be registered at www.abc.virginia.gov or 800-552-3200.

Legals

PUBLIC NOTICE
Cellco Partnership and its controlled affiliates doing business as Verizon Wireless is proposing to replace its existing antennas at the height of 82 feet on the roof of an existing building located at 520 King Street, Alexandria, VA 22314. Public comments regarding potential effects from this site on historic properties may be submitted within 30 days from the date of this publication to: Geo-Technology Associates, Inc., ATTN: Kirti Rajpurohit, NEPA Specialist, 43760 Trade Center Place, Suite 110, Sterling, Virginia, 20166 or submitted by telephone to Ms. Rajpurohit at (703) 478-0055.

CLASSIFIED

WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

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

Announcements

BE YOUR OWN BOSS WITH NEW AVON

Susan Anderson
National Leader

Call or email me today!
1-301-733-9168
ownitlikeaboss@yahoo.com
www.youravon.com/empowerment

Announcements

We pay top \$ for **STERLING**,
MEN'S WATCHES,
JEWELRY, COSTUME JEWELRY,
FURNITURE, PAINTINGS AND CLOCKS.

Schefer Antiques
703-241-0790
theschefers@cox.net

Employment

"Incredible Opportunity! Looking to contract out the Wood Shop and Engraving Center on Joint Base Anacostia Bolling. With access to over 15,000 JBAB on base personnel and all NDW authorized patrons, the possibilities are endless! Please contact Ron Wines @ 301-342-0950 for more information"

Employment

Forget Daily Commuting

Print and digital media sales consultant for area's most popular and trusted local news source

Manage your own hours from home
Enjoy flexible schedule plus no daily commute
Help local businesses grow
Unique opportunity to be a voice in your community
Competitive compensation

Call **Jerry Vernon**
703-549-0004
Connection Newspapers & Digital Media
Trusted Connection to Local Communities

Announcements

Absolute Trustee AUCTION
Fri, Mar.23, 10AM • 22031 Milky Way, Elkwood, VA

8mi east of Culpeper between US-15 & VA-3

242 Acre Dairy Farm & Equipment
Open & productive farm w/ home & facilities.
Also selling tractors & equipment!
Details at TRFAuctions.com
434.847.7741 | info@trfauctions.com

Announcements

Announcements

Attention Invokana® Users

Our law firm is accepting claims nationwide for an **Invokana® Injury Lawsuit**. Invokana®, a SGLT2 inhibitor, is prescribed to patients with type 2 diabetes.

The new Boxed Warning, the strongest label the FDA can place on a prescription medication, will now inform patients about the **risk of amputation** from canagliflozin, the active drug in Invokana.

If you or a loved one has suffered an amputation after taking Invokana® or Invokamet®, please contact our law firm now as you may be entitled to financial compensation.

The Miller Firm LLC
TRIAL LAWYERS

800-882-2525
MillerFirmLLC.com

I Can't Forget What I Don't Remember



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

Four score and several years ago, in the course of human marital events, history which had been made/experienced between and husband and a wife was not recalled quite the same, which likely led to a disagreement. Without there being a video tape then – or now, or a Warner Wolf, insults and recriminations may have flown, and not just the coop. Practically speaking, how does one – or two, actually, solve this most unsolvable of problems?

This is not a declaration of independence or the announcement of a change of address from Burtonsville to Gettysburg, but it is a bit of a query as to how one manages times from one's relatively distant past. After a substantial while, and I would say 40 years qualifies, it's particularly challenging to remember the facts and the feelings that corroborate a memory: Who was there? What was said? How did it sound? Why was it even happening?

And after all these years, the recollections are not exactly black and white – for either party. One – or both – are either viewing them through the looking glass, a prism, a filter, a haze, or in my case as a cancer patient, through a now clinically-confirmed side effect of chemotherapy: "chemo brain." A consequence of treatment which erases/alters memories in some disputable way. A way in which what was once front and center is now back and to the rear, or not at all. And not only are these memories irretrievable, when spoken and heard, they are sometimes not believable either.

I know what I remember. I'm clear in my thinking. Time and place and context are all familiar but the assessment and interpretation of the facts and feelings are different. I realize that simply remembering where I was and what I was doing/saying (or not, to be fair), doesn't guarantee accuracy or agreement, but neither should it be discounted. I mean, being present and accounted for counts for something. The question is/remains: What am I missing?

I will admit though, knowing part of the underlying cause of some of these "recollection-disputes" does minimize the stress of it. Nevertheless, most of the recollections to which I'm referring (in the abstract) are not gone (in my opinion), it's more that they're rearranged, maybe even "misremembered," to invoke baseball great, Roger Clemens, in his sworn testimony before the House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, given back in February 2008. The "Rocket's" situation/status wasn't resolved then any more than my situation has been resolved now. It's a work in progress – for all of us.

But I'm happy and fortunate to say: I can live with it. As a nearly nine-year stage IV, non-small cell lung cancer survivor; in fact, I am now my oncologist's longest living lung cancer patient, I can deal with most things cancer-affected and/or life-related. Because in having so obliterated the "13 month to two year" prognosis I was given back in late February 2009, I wouldn't say I'm living on borrowed time exactly, but I would say that I'm living on unexpected time.

So what's a few missing memories or a few historical references out of context? Not much when you consider the alternative. Besides, life's too short (don't I know it) to long for what I can't remember or worry about what I may have forgot.

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

BUSINESS DIRECTORY

WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

TO ADVERTISE YOUR BUSINESS, CALL KAREN AT 703-778-9422

LANDSCAPING A&S CONSTRUCTION SOD, Mulch, Clean-Up Leaf Removal Hauling. 703-863-7465		Good is not good, where better is expected. -Thomas Fuller	LANDSCAPING LANDSCAPING Patios & Drainage Your neighborhood company since 1987 703-912-6886	
ELECTRICAL ELECTRICAL K & D ELECTRIC COMMERCIAL / RESIDENTIAL SERVICE Family Owned & Operated Recessed Lighting Ceiling Fans Phone/CATV Computer Network Cabling Service Upgrades Hot Tubs, etc...		Licensed/Bonded/Insured Office 703-335-0654 Mobile 703-499-0522 lektrkman28@gmail.com	Free Estimates • Fully Licensed & Insured <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planting & Landscaping Design Drainage & Water Problems Concrete Driveways, Replacement or New Patios and Walks • Masonry Work or Dry Laid Paver, Flagstone, Brick, any style you choose Retaining walls of all types All work Guaranteed	
GUTTER GUTTER GUTTER CLEANING Gutters and Downspouts Cleaned Small Repairs • Gutter Guards PINNACLE SERVICES Lic/Ins 703-802-0483 free est. email: jamie@lawnsandgutters.com web: lawnsandgutters.com Friendly Service with a Friendly Price!		TILE / MARBLE TILE / MARBLE BATHROOM REMODELING by Brennan Bath and Tile Partial or Full. Kit. Floors. Backsplashes. Specializing in Ceramic, Porcelain, Glass Tiles and Natural Stones. Also repair work. 35 yrs exp. www.brennan-tile.com 703-250-2872 Licensed • Bonded • Insured		
IMPROVEMENTS IMPROVEMENTS Power Washing Go from green to clean, do you have mold on your siding rotten wood that's a hoar violation? We do houses, decks, fences, side walks, etc. Deck and fence repair, deck staining and sealing. Licensed & insured • Free Estimates email: jnave@comcast.net 703-987-5096		TILE / MARBLE TILE / MARBLE Quality Tree Service & Landscaping Reasonable prices. Licensed & insured. Summer Cleanup... Tree removal, topping & pruning, shrubbery trimming, mulching, leaf removal, planting, hauling, gutter cleaning, retaining walls, drainage problems, etc. 25 years of experience – Free estimates 703-868-5358 24 Hour Emergency Tree Service		
A&S Landscaping <ul style="list-style-type: none"> All Concrete work Retaining Walls • Patios Decks • Porches (incl. screened) • Erosion & Grading Solutions French Drains • Sump Pumps Driveway Asphalt Sealing 703-863-7465 LICENSED Serving All of N. Virginia		ATTENTION ADVERTISERS: expand your audience beyond our weekly print edition with THE CONNECTION DIGITAL <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Email Marketing Social Media Sponsored Content FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL 703.778.9431 OR VISIT CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM/ADVERTISING		
RN. CONTRACTORS, INC. Remodeling Homes, Flooring, Kitchen & Bath, Windows, Siding, Roofing, Additions & Patios, Custom Deck, Painting We Accept All Major Credit Cards Licensed, Insured, Bonded • Free Estimates • Class A Lic Phone: 703-887-3827 E-mail: rncontractorsinc@gmail.com www.rncontractors.com		An expert is someone who knows some of the worst mistakes that can be made in his subject and how to avoid them. -Werner Heisenberg		
SPECIAL SERVICES CONNECTION 703-778-9431 www.ConnectionNewspapers.com		Reaching Suburban Washington's Leading Homeholds <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Alexandria Gazette/Times Ardenmore Connection Blue Bell Connection Chesapeake News Crystal City Connection Georgetown Connection Leesville Connection North Potomac Connection Prince Georges Connection Reston Connection Springfield Connection Stafford Connection West Potomac Connection 		

PEOPLE

Songwriter

FROM PAGE 6

est assessment of art."

Now that he's a finalist, he literally has to face the music — solo this time.

"It became almost a dream, and I had to figure out, 'can I even play these songs live?'" Nicolay said. "Over the last month, it's been a matter of figuring out how to play each song as a live version. In the studio, I'm able to play all the instruments, so I've now settled on smaller arrangements with less theatrics. In writing these songs, I never had any intention in performing them live. Now the challenge is retroactively figuring out how to play them while keeping the same core elements."

He added that both songs are hard to place in one genre, but he puts them somewhere between alternative and pop rock.

"I like making music that's off the beaten path," Nicolay said. "The two songs I'm going to be playing have a similar large concept or theme, about being OK with your life where it is even if it isn't where you thought it would be."

He's written a song for a movie that ended up being a Sundance winner, and on Saturday, he could find himself as a Bernard/Ebb winner. His goals, however, remain relatively simple. "In the late '80s early '90s, when I was a teenager, I realized how much fun it can be to just simply listen to music," Nicolay said. "I'd listen for unique voices and lyrics. I'm just trying to continue in that vein for anyone who hears my songs."

Burke, Va., resident Skyler Foley, a sophomore at Lake Braddock Secondary School, is one of the three Young Songwriters finalists.

"I've been entering for three years now, but this is my first time as a finalist," Foley said. "It's incredible; I wasn't sure it was ever going to happen. I've never been a part of anything like this, so it's really exciting to me."

Foley has had a knack for music since the first time she heard a beat.

"I first got interested in preschool," Foley said. "I had this music teacher who called my mom and suggested that she sign me up for music lessons. I took voice, then guitar and piano. The summer after seventh grade, I took a songwriting class and have been writing ever since." Foley will be performing one song on Friday "called 'Time Machine,' about a bad day, but the kind that you know you're going to be fine the next day. It was the first song I composed on the ukulele." Foley's anticipation of Friday comes in the form of nerves, but mostly excited butterflies.

"This is probably the most important thing I've ever performed for, so, while I'm nervous, I'm mostly super excited. I don't have much stage fright. I perform with a band, so I've had to get over it. This concert is all I've been thinking over the past week. I don't know what the future holds for me, so, right now I'm just trying to become as best as I can and explore this passion as much as possible. I'm just looking forward to the show and am so grateful for the opportunity." To listen to Jarrett Nicolay's full album, visit www.mynewmixtape.com.

SPECIAL SAVINGS FOR YOUR TOYOTA



**WELCOME TO ALEXANDRIA TOYOTA'S
PERSONALIZED CAR CARE EXPERIENCE**



**BUY 3 TIRES
AND GET ONE
FREE**

See Service
Advisor for details.

GOT TIRES?

INCLUDES ROAD HAZARD PROTECTION, TIRE
WARRANTY, AND FREE COURTESY INSPECTION.

NOT VALID WITH ANY OTHER OFFER OR COUPON. TOYOTA
VEHICLES ONLY. COUPON MUST BE PRESENTED AT TIME OF
PURCHASE. VALID ONLY AT ALEXANDRIA TOYOTA. TAX AND
SHOP SUPPLIES ADDITIONAL. OFFER EXPIRES 3/31/18.

10% OFF

**OVER THE
COUNTER
PARTS
& ACCESSORIES**

Maximum discount \$100.

NOT VALID WITH ANY OTHER OFFER OR COUPON. TOYOTA VEHICLES ONLY. COUPON
MUST BE PRESENTED AT TIME OF PURCHASE. VALID ONLY AT ALEXAN-
DRIA TOYOTA PARTS CENTER ONLY. GOOD THROUGH 3/31/18.

Jack Taylor's
**ALEXANDRIA
TOYOTA**

3750 Jefferson Davis Hwy • Alexandria, VA 22305



SERVICE & PARTS DEPT HOURS:

Monday - Friday, 7:00am to 7:00pm
Saturday, 8:00am to 5:00pm

**YOU HAVE SATURDAY OFF.
THAT'S EXACTLY WHY WE DON'T!**



**ToyotaCare
Customers**

Don't Forget Your **FREE** Service.
5,000 • 10,000 • 15,000 • 20,000 • 25,000

Now Available
Mile Services
Call your ASM for details

ToyotaCare Plus \$329⁰⁰
Covers up to 4 years/45,000 miles

LUBE, OIL, & FILTER SPECIAL

\$29⁹⁵

NON-SYNTHETIC

Includes: Change oil (up to 5 qts.), install Genuine Toyota
oil filter, inspect & adjust all fluid levels and complimentary
multi-point inspection with print out.

NOT VALID WITH ANY OTHER OFFER OR COUPON. TOYOTA VEHICLES ONLY. COUPON MUST BE PRESENTED AT TIME OF
PURCHASE. VALID ONLY AT ALEXANDRIA TOYOTA. TAX AND SHOP SUPPLIES ADDITIONAL. OFFER EXPIRES 3/31/18.

\$44⁹⁵

SYNTHETIC

COMPLIMENTARY

**15 MINUTE
ALIGNMENT
CHECK**

NOT VALID WITH ANY OTHER OFFER OR COUPON. TOYOTA VEHICLES ONLY. COUPON MUST BE PRESENTED AT TIME OF
PURCHASE. VALID ONLY AT ALEXANDRIA TOYOTA. TAX AND SHOP SUPPLIES ADDITIONAL. OFFER EXPIRES 3/31/18.

ALIGNMENT SPECIAL

\$79⁹⁵

Your car's alignment suffers, and can
cause uneven tire wear and steering problems.
INCLUDES: Inspect suspension, ball joints, struts
& shocks, tire condition and set tire pressure.

NOT VALID WITH ANY OTHER OFFER OR COUPON. TOYOTA VEHICLES ONLY. COUPON MUST BE PRESENTED AT TIME OF
PURCHASE. VALID ONLY AT ALEXANDRIA TOYOTA. TAX AND SHOP SUPPLIES ADDITIONAL. OFFER EXPIRES 3/31/18.

BRAKE SPECIAL

\$99⁹⁵

Includes: Install Genuine Toyota front brake pads, inspect
front & rear rotors & drums, check tire condition and inspect all
hardware. TCMC pads only.

MACHINE ROTORS AN ADDITIONAL \$199.95.

NOT VALID WITH ANY OTHER OFFER OR COUPON. TOYOTA VEHICLES ONLY. COUPON MUST BE PRESENTED AT TIME OF
PURCHASE. VALID ONLY AT ALEXANDRIA TOYOTA. TAX AND SHOP SUPPLIES ADDITIONAL. OFFER EXPIRES 3/31/18.

SIGHT LINE WIPER BLADES

\$10 OFF

Sight Line only.

NOT VALID WITH ANY OTHER OFFER OR COUPON. TOYOTA VEHICLES ONLY. COUPON MUST BE PRESENTED AT TIME OF
PURCHASE. VALID ONLY AT ALEXANDRIA TOYOTA. TAX AND SHOP SUPPLIES ADDITIONAL. OFFER EXPIRES 3/31/18.

**30,000 MILES FACTORY
RECOMMENDED SERVICE**

\$159⁹⁵

SYNTHETIC \$10 MORE

Includes: Change engine oil & filter (up to 5 qts), rotate tires, inspect wear
and adjust pressure, measure brake pad thickness & rotor runout, replace
cabin air filter (if equipped), replace engine air filter, reset maintenance
reminder light (if applicable) and multi-point vehicle inspection.

NOT VALID WITH ANY OTHER OFFER OR COUPON. TOYOTA VEHICLES ONLY. COUPON MUST BE PRESENTED AT TIME OF
PURCHASE. VALID ONLY AT ALEXANDRIA TOYOTA. TAX AND SHOP SUPPLIES ADDITIONAL. OFFER EXPIRES 3/31/18.

VARIABLE DISCOUNT

\$5.00 OFF when you spend \$35.00 - \$49.99
\$10.00 OFF when you spend \$50.00 - \$99.99
\$15.00 OFF when you spend \$100.00 - \$199.99
\$20.00 OFF when you spend \$200.00 - \$499.99
\$50.00 OFF when you spend \$500.00 or more

NOT VALID WITH ANY OTHER OFFER OR COUPON. TOYOTA VEHICLES ONLY. COUPON MUST BE PRESENTED AT TIME OF
PURCHASE. VALID ONLY AT ALEXANDRIA TOYOTA. TAX AND SHOP SUPPLIES ADDITIONAL. OFFER EXPIRES 3/31/18.



ALEXANDRIA TOYOTA

©SMS Productions, Inc. 1-800-289-7671 #201802015

**TRUESTART™
BATTERY SPECIAL**

\$99⁹⁵



INCLUDES BATTERY INSTALLATION

Includes: 84 month warranty,
24 month **FREE** replacement,
24 month **FREE** roadside assistance.
Does not apply to hybrid batteries.

NOT VALID WITH ANY OTHER OFFER OR COUPON. TOYOTA VEHICLES ONLY. COUPON MUST BE PRESENTED AT TIME OF
PURCHASE. VALID ONLY AT ALEXANDRIA TOYOTA. TAX AND SHOP SUPPLIES ADDITIONAL. OFFER EXPIRES 3/31/18.

CALL FOR AN APPOINTMENT AT **703-684-0710** OR SCHEDULE ONLINE AT **ALEXANDRIATOYOTA.COM**

A team built on reputation.

When John McEneaney opened for business, he had one simple goal in mind...attract the best real estate agents in the business to his firm so that McEneaney Associates could provide the highest level of service to our clients. For the past 37 years we have had the good fortune to see that wish come true. They are the reason so many clients trust McEneaney Associates. They are responsible for our enviable reputation. **To put it simply...they are McEneaney Associates.**



OPEN SUN 3/4, 2-4

Seminary Ridge | \$1,050,000
Exquisitely maintained Colonial. This 5-bedroom, 3.5-bath home offers a renovated kitchen, all updated baths, a finished walkout basement to patio, deck, & is close to major interstate access & local schools. thegoodhartgroup.com/listings/605_fort_williams/
Sue & Allison Goodhart 703.362.3221
www.TheGoodhartGroup.com



Del Ray | \$699,900
2-bedroom, 2-bath bungalow in the heart of Del Ray. Charming front porch welcomes you home. The expanded kitchen and family room addition lead to the large back deck and private yard. Finished lower level with rec room and bath. Walk to "The Avenue."
Jen Walker 703.675.1566
www.JenWalker.com



OPEN SUN 3/4, 2-4

Old Town Village | \$949,900
Located on a beautiful landscaped courtyard, this special townhome is sure to surprise & delight. Bright, open floor plan, 3 bedrooms, 3.5 baths, 2-car garage, expansive deck, storage, upgrades, a study in sophisticated elegance. 308 S Fayette Street
Mary Farrell 703.969.5522
www.choosemary.com



Alexandria | \$849,000
This spacious 4-bedroom, 3.5-bath features a lovely screened-in porch with jacuzzi, flagstone patio and perfectly manicured lawn! Open concept kitchen and family room. Large master and fully finished basement. 2306 Creek Drive
Tracy Dunn 571.212.3658
www.tracybdunn.com



OPEN SUN 3/4, 2-4:30

Marina Towers | \$415,000
Open, sunny, 2-bedroom, 2-bath with tons of closet space and open floor plan. New gym, 24/7 front desk, pool, on-site amenities, dog park, Mt Vernon trail out back gate. 1 stoplight into DC, bus, near Metro, restaurants. This is a super buy! 501 Slaters Ln #610
Delaine Campbell 703.299.0030
Kristen Jones 703.851.2556



OPEN SUN 3/4, 2-4

South Alexandria | \$849,900
Charm and elegance combine to make this large 5-bedroom, 4.5-bath home stand out among the rest. Gorgeous from top to bottom. Enormous master suite with his and her closets. Half-acre lot features a slate patio & gas hook-up. Perfection! 2717 Woodlawn Trail
Sandy McMaster 571.259.2673
www.McMasterRealEstate.com



OPEN SUN 3/4, 2-4

Old Town | \$1,495,000
Sparkling, bright, brick, 4-bedroom, 4.5-bath townhouse with 2 car garage. New 2018 Bosch kitchen, hardwood floors, high ceilings, family room with gas fireplace, great master suite. Office with 3 beautiful arched windows & private patio with outdoor kitchen. 528 N Pitt Street

Babs Beckwith 703.627.5421
www.BabsBeckwith.com



OPEN SUN 3/4, 2-4

Old Town | \$899,900
Exceptional detail and upgrades throughout this beauty. Great room with gourmet kitchen. Loads of entertaining space! Rec room & light-filled family room opening to roof-top deck. Freshly painted throughout. 4 blocks from King St & the Potomac. 420 Pendleton Street

Susan Anthony 703.795.9536
Rochelle Gray 703.328.1686



OPEN SUN 3/4, 2-4

Old Town | \$929,000
Stunning end unit in the sought-after SE quadrant! This lovely 3-bedroom, 2.5-bath house gleams with natural sunlight and has winter water views from 2 floors. Renovated kitchen and baths, fenced yard, deck and 2-car driveway. 932 S Fairfax Street

Tracy Dunn 571.212.3658
www.tracybdunn.com

Serving the Washington, DC Metro Area since 1980.
703.549.9292 | 109 S. Pitt Street | Alexandria, VA 22314 | McEneaney.com

