



Trevon Jenifer, a three-time Olympic Gold medalist in wheelchair basketball, poses for a photo with attendees Sept. 18 at the Dunbar Alexandria-Olympic Boys and Girls Club.



Trevon Jenifer, left, displays his gold medal from the Paris Olympics after signing a basketball for a fellow wheelchair athlete Sept. 18 at the Dunbar Alexandria-Olympic Boys and Girls Club.

Old Town BID Voting Completed

Property owners reject BID proposal.

BY JEANNE THEISMANN
GAZETTE PACKET

Voting by property owners in the projected Old Town Business Improvement Service District (BISD) has been completed with the results indicating that the proposal by the Old Town Business Association failed to meet the current threshold set by City Council to move forward.

Ballots were sent to the 479 property owners in the proposed district. Of those, 247 ballots were returned representing over 50 percent of the eligible properties.

The official result: 162 voted no and 85 voted yes, indicating support of 34 percent among affected property owners that returned a ballot.

This effort is the third attempt to establish a BID in Old Town. Deadlines for responses from previous mailings to business owners were eliminated by City Council, who unanimously voted to modify the voting requirements during a May 28 legislative meeting.

Previously, 60 percent of property owners were needed to vote in the affirmative to move the proposal forward. Following Council's modification, property owners who did not vote were removed from the final tally, revising the threshold to 60 percent approval of total votes cast. Only 34 percent of property owners supported the creation of the BISD.

"The defeat of the BID proposal demonstrates this was an ill-conceived and incompetently structured proposal and it was viewed as wrong by nearly 2/3rd of the affected businesses," said Anti-BID Coalition representative Boyd Walker in an email with the voting results. "The advocates misled the city council and city staff with their claims of support."

The BID proposal requires a \$0.10 service tax added onto the real prop

SEE OLD TOWN BID, PAGE 11

Bringing Home the Gold

Paralympian Trevon Jenifer Visits Boys and Girls Club.

BY JEANNE THEISMANN
GAZETTE PACKET

Trevon Jenifer, a four-time Olympian with three gold and one bronze medal in wheelchair basketball, inspired a crowd of youth and adults who gathered to meet the athlete Sept. 18 at the Dunbar Alexandria-Olympic Boys and Girls Club.

Jenifer was born without legs due to a condition called congenital amputation. He grew up in an economically deprived crime-ridden neighborhood in Prince George's County but refused to let his body or his environment deter him from pursuing his dreams.

"Just because you grow up a certain way doesn't mean that is your destiny," Jenifer told the crowd. "I grew up in a not so nice part of PG county where there was always broken glass on the ground. Before I had this chair I had to crawl around and would constantly get glass stuck in my hands. But that was one of those things where I could either be part of the problem or I could find a solution."

Jenifer began participating in wheelchair sports when he was 4 years old. He participated in wheelchair track and still holds multiple records in the U11 and U14 age groups. Just prior to his junior year in high



Olympic gold medalist Trevon Jenifer, right, autographs a photo for an attendee Sept. 18 at the Dunbar Alexandria-Olympic Boys and Girls Club.

school, Jenifer's family moved to Huntingtown, Md., in Calvert County. It was there he became a champion wrestler, finishing third in his weight class at the Maryland state tournament during his senior year.

Jenifer went on to attend Edinboro University of Pennsylvania, graduating in 2011 with a BA in Criminal Justice. While in college, he was a two-time All American and captained the wheelchair basketball team. He twice led the team in scoring, rebounds and assists and

PHOTOS BY JANET BARNETT/GAZETTE PACKET



Trevon Jenifer, right, lets a fellow wheelchair athlete try on his Olympic Gold medal Sept. 18 at the Dunbar Alexandria-Olympic Boys and Girls Club.

was inducted into the Edinboro University Athletics Hall of Fame in 2022.


Jenifer qualified for the USA Men's National Wheelchair Basketball Team in 2012, winning a bronze medal at the Paralympic Games in London. It was the first time in 12 years the team had won a medal in the

SEE TREVON JENIFER, PAGE 8

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Photos and artwork welcome. Deadline is Thursday at noon, at least two weeks before the event

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ALIVE! Volunteers are needed to assist

with multiple programs relating to their Food Program, ALIVE! House, and Alexandria Eviction Prevention Partnership Program will distribute food at Mobile Pop-ups and Truck to Trunk events, etc. <https://www.volunteeralalexandria.org/ALIVE>
Assistance League of Northern Virginia is an all-volunteer non-profit organization that feeds, clothes and provides reading assistance and books to children in need. Assistance League's programs touch the lives of hundreds of children in Fairfax and Prince William Counties and the City of Alexandria. There are many volunteer opportunities for community members to contribute to helping those in need. To learn more, email info@alnv.org, or visit www.alnv.org.
Join Friends' Board. Those who care about mental health, the Alexandria community, and collaborating with fellow residents to make sure the City's most vulnerable residents have a chance to thrive, then consider joining the Board of Friends of the Alexandria Mental Health Center. The Friends Board is an all-volunteer group of residents that oversees the administration of one of Alexandria's top mental health charities. Friends has no paid staff, so Board members, working on average 10 hours per month, share the day-to-day work needed to accomplish its goals. Interested candidates should email FriendsofAMHC@gmail.com.
Volunteer Drivers Needed. Drivers needed by the American Cancer Society to take cancer patients to treatment in Northern Virginia. To
SEE BULLETIN, PAGE 11

ELECTION NOTICE - CITY OF ALEXANDRIA
General Election - Tuesday, November 5, 2024

EARLY VOTING INFORMATION
The deadline to vote early in-person is **Saturday, November 2, 2024**.
All registered voters are eligible to request a by-mail ballot or vote early.

<p>Office of Voter Registration and Elections 132 North Royal St, Suite 100</p> <p>Thursday, Oct. 17 8am-5pm Friday, Oct. 18 8am-5pm Saturday, Oct. 19 8am-5pm Monday, Oct. 21 8am-7pm Tuesday, Oct. 22 8am-7pm Wednesday, Oct. 23 8am-7pm Thursday, Oct. 24 8am-7pm Friday, Oct. 25 8am-5pm</p>	<p>Saturday, Oct. 26 8am-5pm Sunday, Oct. 27 11am-3pm Monday, Oct. 28 8am-7pm Tuesday, Oct. 29 8am-7pm Wednesday, Oct. 30 8am-7pm Thursday, Oct. 31 8am-7pm Friday, Nov. 1 8am-5pm Saturday, Nov. 2 8am-5pm</p>
<p>Beatley Central Library 5005 Duke Street</p> <p>Monday, Oct. 21 1pm-7pm Tuesday, Oct. 22 1pm-7pm Wednesday, Oct. 23 1pm-7pm Thursday, Oct. 24 1pm-7pm Friday, Oct. 25 1pm-5pm Saturday, Oct. 26 9am-5pm Sunday, Oct. 27 11am-3pm</p>	<p>Monday, Oct. 28 1pm-7pm Tuesday, Oct. 29 1pm-7pm Wednesday, Oct. 30 1pm-7pm Thursday, Oct. 31 1pm-7pm Friday, Nov. 1 1pm-5pm Saturday, Nov. 2 9am-5pm</p>

George Washington Middle School
1005 Mt Vernon Ave
Saturday, Oct. 26, 9am-5pm
Sunday, Oct. 27, 11am-3pm
Saturday, Nov. 2, 9am-5pm

Minnie Howard Campus
3775 W Braddock Road
Saturday, Oct. 26, 9am-5pm
Sunday, Oct. 27, 11am-3pm
Saturday, Nov. 2, 9am-5pm

To vote by mail:

- Apply online: <https://vote.elections.virginia.gov/>; or
- Download an absentee application from alexandriava.gov/Elections; or
- Call 703.746.4050 to request an application. Return the application by mail, fax, or email.

Deadlines for voting by mail:

- Absentee ballot applications must be **received** by 5pm on October 25, 2024.
- Mailed Ballots must be **received** by 7pm on November 5, 2024 or postmarked by election day and received by Noon on Friday, November 8, 2024.
- A secure outdoor drop box is available outside the Office of Voter Registration. This box will be under video surveillance and available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Ballots must be **deposited** by 7pm on November 5, 2024.

For voting information, including sample ballots and list of acceptable ID go to: alexandriava.gov/Elections

Special Services: Requests for reasonable accommodation due to a disability should be made with at least a 48-hr notice. TTY number for hearing impaired persons: 703.838.5056.



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Schoolmarm Susan Kelly explains her role during Civil War Camp Day Sept. 28 at Fort Ward.



An officer gets help with the banner flag of the Irish 28th of Massachusetts during Civil War Camp Day Sept. 28 at Fort Ward.



Lt. Geoff White in the officers' quarters during Civil War Camp Day Sept. 28 at Fort Ward.

PHOTOS BY JANET BARNETT/GAZETTE PACKET

Civil War Camp Day Fort Ward showcases living history.

Fort Ward showcases living history.

BY JEANNE THEISMANN
GAZETTE PACKET

Fort Ward, the best preserved of the system of Union forts and batteries built to protect Washington, D.C. during the Civil War, brought that history to life with its annual Civil War Camp Day Sept. 28 at Fort Ward Museum and Historic Site.

The popular living history event featured military and civilian reenactors in camp settings in and around the historic fort. The program showcased camp life activities, infantry and artillery drills and firing demonstrations, equipment displays, and civilian impressions.

"I tell the story of a Yankee schoolmarm," said reenactor Susan Kelly. "My interest is to educate the public not just on the military side of the war but also on the civilian side."

Among the living history units participating were the 28th Massachusetts Volunteer Infantry, Co. B, the 3rd U.S. Regular Infantry, Co. K, and the 1st U.S. Artillery, Co. Special interpretations included a U.S. Army Quartermaster tent, a Union company surgeon, and a soldier in the reconstructed Officers' Hut portraying the daily routine and living quarters of an officer in the Defenses of Washington.

"The U.S. Army thrives on paperwork," said 1st Lt. Geoff White as he occupied the officer's hut. "Paperwork is a big part of it so officers needed larger quarters."

Jim Wilson demonstrated the use of the telegraph during the Civil War.

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Reenactor troops pose for a photo during Civil War Camp Day Sept. 28 at Fort Ward Museum and Historic Site.

"The telegraph was invented about 20 years before the Civil War began," Wilson said. "President Lincoln and President Davis were able to communicate directly with troops in the field. Wires stretched for thousands of miles and allowed instant transmission. It really was the beginning of the electronics revolution."

As a Northern schoolmarm, Kelly interpreted 19th-century education and pastimes for children, including the less than warm welcome schoolmarms received.

"Schoolmarms were cruelly treated," Kelly said. "These women were hired by abolitionist groups and churches to come south.

"My interest is to educate the public not just on the military side of the war but also on the civilian side."

— Reenactor Susan Kelly

And while the local people would tolerate a Union soldier, the schoolmarm was their worst enemy for teaching Northern ideas to their children. There were no schoolhouses



Jim Wilson at the telegraph machine during Civil War Camp Day Sept. 28 at Fort Ward.

so teaching was sometimes done on the battlefield, sometimes in burned out buildings - wherever they could hold classes."

In addition to the living history displays, the 8th Green Machine Regiment Band performed a concert of 19th century music on authentic period instruments.

Fort Ward Museum interprets the site's history with exhibits on Civil War topics, education and interpretive programs, tours, and living history activities throughout the year. The Museum also interprets Alexandria as an occupied city and the city's role as a vital Union Army crossroads. About 90 percent of the fort's earthwork walls are preserved and the Northwest Bastion has been restored and reconstructed to its original condition.

www.alexandriava.gov/FortWard

Classic Car Show

Lyceum showcases “orphan” vehicles.

PHOTOS BY JANET BARNETT/GAZETTE PACKET

BY JEANNE THEISMANN
GAZETTE PACKET

Car aficionados converged in Alexandria Sept. 16 at the Lyceum for a classic car show featuring a variety of “orphan” vehicles. The show featured vehicles that are no longer manufactured – hence the term orphans – and included cars made by Packard, Hudson, MG, Nash, Pontiac and others.

“This was my first car,” said local resident Bob Montague of his 1954 Lincoln. “I took it to college at UVA in 1955 and have been driving it ever since. I got it in 1954 when I inherited it. It was originally owned by my grandfather’s first cousin and her husband -- I didn’t buy it.”

Walter Paz and his son Amias Paz took home Best in Show for their vehicles.

“Amias’ mini Roper mimics my Austin Mini,” said Walter Paz of his son’s replica vehicle. “We both have had them since we lived in Italy. We had them restored and brought them here to the United States. He’s getting too big to drive his now but we still enjoy taking it out to shows.”

Paul Bjarnason displayed his 1957 Studebaker Golden Hawk.

“This is a rare car,” Bjarnason said. “It was one of the first air-conditioned cars back in the ‘50s. It has a rare styling and is a pleasure to have and take to shows.”

For Victor Rostow, his 1955 MG Magnette gets a lot of use.

“I drive it all around,” Rostow said. “I drive it to Safeway, drive it to lunch. I enjoy it.”

The Classic Car show is co-sponsored by Packard’s Virginia and the Alexandria History Museum at The Lyceum.



Amias Paz and his father Walter Paz at the Classic Car Show Sept. 16 at the Lyceum. The duo won Best in Show for the restored Austin Roper and the mini replica vehicle.



Bob Montague with his 1954 Lincoln at the Sept 16 Classic Car Show.

“This was my first car.”
— Bob Montague of his 1954 Lincoln



Victor Rostow and his 1955 MG Magnette.



Paul Bjarnason talks to Jerry Olexsone about his 1957 Studebaker Golden Hawk.



Skipper sits in a 1961 Nash Metropolitan with owner Weston Virkett.

NEWS BRIEFS



Opening of North Potomac Yard Park

The public is invited to the opening of North Potomac Yard Park (3601 University Drive) on Saturday, Oct. 19, 2024, from 8 - 9 a.m. The dedication with Mayor Justin Wilson and members of City Council will be held rain or shine. The ribbon cutting will be on the North lawn, North arbor of the park, next to the playground.

Fire in 15-Story Building

The Alexandria Fire Department responded to the scene of a two-alarm structure fire at a 15-story condominium at 6301 Stevenson Avenue at approximately 2:47 p.m. on Monday, Oct. 14.

According to a preliminary investigation, the cause of the fire was accidental. Two residents and three firefighters were transported to an area hospital with non-life-threatening injuries.

Red Cross is on scene to assist approximately 25 residents from 17 apartments affected by the fire. The investigation is ongoing.

Alexandria Environmental Policy Commission Meets Oct. 21

The Alexandria Environmental Policy Commission (EPC) will hold its next regular meeting on Monday, Oct. 21, at 7:30 p.m. The meeting will take place at City Hall Room 2000. Virtual attendance will also be available.

The meeting agenda for its October meeting is available on the EPC website.

Members of the public can attend the meeting virtually via the following Zoom link: <https://zoom.us/j/99538784735>

Public comment will be received at the beginning of the meeting.

The 13-member Commission advises and makes recommendations to the City Council, Planning Commission, and City Manager on matters related to conservation and protection of the environment, including the Climate crisis, air pollution, land use, and water quality.

Early Voting

All registered voters in Virginia are eligible to vote early in person or by mail. In-person early voting for this election continues until 5 p.m. on Saturday, Nov. 2. Voters are encouraged to review the sample ballot in advance. For sample ballots and full list of voting hours, visit alexandriava.gov/Elections.

Ballot drop boxes will be available at all polling places on Nov. 5, from 6 a.m. to 7 p.m. A secure outdoor drop box, under video surveillance, is available in front of the Office of Voter Registration and Elections 24 hours a day through Nov. 5 at 7 p.m. A mail-in ballot may be returned at a drop box or by mail.

Applications to request a by-mail ballot must be received in the Voter Registration Office by 5 p.m. Friday, Oct. 25. Completed ballots must be either returned to the Office of Elections by 7 p.m. Election Day, Tuesday, Nov. 5, or postmarked by Nov. 5 and received in the office by noon Friday, Nov. 8.

Visit alexandriava.gov/Elections to learn more, including sample ballots, mail-in ballot applications, in-person early voting hours, precinct maps and ID requirements.

For more information, contact the Office of Voter Registration and Elections at voters@alexandriava.gov or 703.746.4050, Virginia Relay 711.

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Public Notice

Updated weight limits on Virginia bridges and culverts

In accord with state and federal law, the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) has imposed new or changed existing weight restrictions and installed new signage indicating the updated weight restrictions on the following bridges and culverts (structures) in Virginia within the last 30 days.

Jurisdiction	Fed Struc Id	Route #	Route Name	Crossing	Posted Date
GRAYSON	8756	58	HIGHLANDS PKY	HELTON CREEK	9/17/2024
DINWIDDIE	6066	642	CONTINENTAL ROAD	BUTTERWOOD CREEK	9/17/2024
PATRICK	13365	687	MICROFILM ROAD/ ROUTE 687	BLACKBERRY CREEK	9/11/2024
POWHATAN	13836	603	PETERSBURG ROAD	BUTTERWOOD CREEK	9/10/2024

The list above is not a comprehensive list of all structures with weight restrictions in the Commonwealth but shows only structures that have new or changed weight restrictions within the last 30 days. The list contains only basic structure identification and location information and the date the new or changed weight restriction and signage became effective.

For a full listing of all bridge and culvert weight restrictions with detailed information about specific structures, including location data and actual weight limits, visit vdot.virginia.gov and navigate to Traffic and Travel/For freight operators/Truck restrictions. This page references a posted structures report and a GIS map tool that contain detailed information about restricted structures in Virginia. To receive email notifications regarding new or updated weight restrictions for structures statewide, complete the sign-up form on the web page.

Notices regarding bridges and culverts with new or updated weight restrictions are published monthly by VDOT. For additional information or questions, please contact haulingpermits@vdot.virginia.gov or the Load Rating Program Manager, Manjil Devkota 804-786-4064.

The Virginia Department of Transportation is committed to ensuring that no person is excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any of its programs or activities on the basis of race, color, or national origin, as protected by Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. If you need further information on VDOT's Title VI Program or special assistance for persons with disabilities or limited English proficiency, please contact the Virginia Department of Transportation's Title VI Program Specialist at 804-786-2730 or corina.herrera@vdot.virginia.gov.

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Two Entangled Bald Eagles Fell from the Sky

By GLENDA C. BOOTH
THE GAZETTE

When Janet Challender was walking from the Hollin Hall Senior Center to her car around 2 p.m. on Oct. 15, as she rounded the corner, suddenly, out of the sky, two bald eagles intertwined with each other “crashed into the parking lot like a meteor,” she said.

The birds, wide-eyed and alert, then seemed to quietly rest on the pavement. As the 15 or so bewildered onlookers watched, amazed to see two eagles up close, to their great relief, they observed that the eagles were breathing. The birds’ “audience” was eager to find a solution.

The center’s director, Alexa Fuerth, asked everyone to keep their distance to help protect the birds. About 10 seniors and center staffers made a loose circle of vehicles and bodies around the birds to keep the curious at a distance, especially since they expected parents to be arriving soon to pick up their children from A Child’s Place, the child care center there.

The eagles watched their fans intently, but they barely moved.

Fuerth made several calls to government officials and wildlife rescue organizations. Around 4 p.m., Mitchell Mansfield from the Fairfax County Police Department’s Animal Protection Unit arrived in a white van. He said he came immediately from a training in the Dulles Airport area when they got the call.

Mansfield said he would try to capture the eagles and take them

to a wildlife rehabilitator. After discussing the challenge with Fuerth and others, Mansfield threw a red towel toward the birds to cover them and instantly, they separated and flew up and away in a startling “whoosh.” They did not appear to be injured.

“Fighting is common among bald eagles and occasionally they will trap each other when their feet lock together during combat,” said Jeff Cooper, Wildlife Biologist with the Nongame Bird Program, Virginia Department of Wildlife Resources. “Eagles fight over territory and food resources.”

Fuerth said, “I am very grateful to all our members and staff who were so compassionate. It was heartfelt to see how many people stepped up and helped. It was really emotional to see the birds fly away.”

“We send a special thanks to the Fairfax County police for coming and to the Owl Moon Raptor Center that was working to find a rehabilitation center for them in case they were injured,” she said.

Excitement at the senior center usually centers around bus trips to Wegmans, Railroad Club talks or bingo. Bald eagles suddenly plummeting from the sky no doubt topped the usual thrills at this popular senior hangout.

On Bald Eagles

Mature bald eagles have a white head and tail, a yellow hooked bill, yellow talons and a chocolate-brown body. Adults can weigh from 10 to 14 pounds and have an eight-foot wingspan.

They are raptors, powerful fly-



Two bald eagles with talons locked together “landed” on the Hollin Hall Senior Center parking lot on Oct. 15, captivating onlookers.

ers that grasp their prey with their sharp talons. They eat mostly fish, but also other birds, small mammals and snakes. Bald eagles build nests five to six feet in diameter and two to four feet tall, usually near water, in Northern Virginia typically on the Potomac and Occoquan Rivers.

In the lower 48 states, by 1963, bald eagle numbers had plunged to 417 known nesting pairs from around 100,000 nesting bald eagles in the 1700s. Scientists determined that DDT and other pesticides’ compounds moved up the

SEE TWO ENTANGLED, PAGE 7



The eagles were wide-eyed, very alert.



The two eagles “crashed into the parking lot like a meteor,” said Janet Challender.



The bald eagles in the Hollin Hall Senior Center parking lot created quite a sensation.

PHOTOS BY GLENDA BOOTH



Shortly after the two eagles flew away, a bald eagle circled over the parking lot.

Two Entangled Bald Eagles Fell from the Sky

FROM PAGE 6

food chain and thinned eggshells so severely that the shells broke and chicks did not hatch. In 1967, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) listed the bald eagle as endangered. After Congress banned DDT in 1972, the numbers began to rise and by 2007, FWS officials announced the bald eagle's recovery and removed it from the endangered species list. Bald eagles are protected under other laws. The bald eagle is the United States' national bird.

Officer Mansfield attempted to cover them with a towel.



Janet Challender found a broken feather near the spot where the eagles rested. The birds flew away and did not seem to be injured.




Once freed, this eagle took care of some "business."



When Mansfield threw the towel at the pair of interlocked eagles, they separated.

PHOTOS BY CLENDIA BOOTH

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Paralympian Trevon Jenifer Visits Boys and Girls Club

FROM PAGE 1

Olympic Games. Jenifer and the USA Men's National's Wheelchair Basketball Team have since followed that up with three straight Paralympic gold medals: Rio in 2016, Tokyo in 2020 and Paris in 2024. The gold medal in Rio was the first gold medal for the team in 28 years.

In Paris, the team completed the first threepeat in Paralympic history. They took home the gold with a 73-69 victory over Great Britain in the finals. Jenifer went 7-for-7, ending the game with 14 points and seven rebounds.

When asked what keeps him motivated, Jenifer replied, "It was important for me to prove that I deserved to be there. I wanted to showcase my abilities and show my children what it takes to attain goals."

Jenifer also relayed the discipline it takes to be a champion.

"The grind doesn't stop," Jenifer said. "Team practice may be three times a week but when you leave practice is when the real work starts. You need to put in the time and effort when the team is not around. It is hard waking up at 6 a.m. to go play and practice but that is when I become my best."

The US team took home the gold in Paris on Sept. 7, Jenifer's 36th birthday.

"These were the first games that my family was able to be there with me," Jenifer said. "Having my wife and children there to celebrate with me as we won the gold on my birthday, with 13,000 singing happy birthday to me – that is a memory that will always stay with me. They sacrificed so much for me to be there."

Jenifer currently works with the Secret Service as a Personnel Security Specialist in the Security Management Division. He is also an author and motivational speaker. His visit to the Dunbar Alexandria-Olympic Boys and Girls Club was sponsored by Comcast NBCUniversal.

"We wanted to celebrate the great achievements of a great Paralympian from this area," said Comcast NBCUniversal representative Broderick Johnson. "Jenifer gave these kids a sense of what's possible."

Comcast NBCUniversal donated 25 laptops to the club, which is one of 1,250 Wi-



Olympic gold medalist Trevon Jenifer, left, is interviewed by an NBC journalist Sept 18 at the Dunbar Alexandria-Olympic Boys and Girls Club.



Trevon Jenifer, a four-time Olympian in wheelchair basketball, answers questions from attendees Sept. 18 at the Dunbar Alexandria-Olympic Boys and Girls Club.



Olympic gold medalist Trevon Jenifer poses for a photo with a young fan Sept. 18 at the Dunbar Alexandria-Olympic Boys and Girls Club.

Fi-connected hubs that provide free internet access and digital services to students and families in need.

“Just because you grow up a certain way doesn’t mean that is your destiny.”

— Olympic champion Trevon Jenifer

Goodies Frozen Custard and Treats provided refreshments for attendees.

Jenifer wrapped up his comments by encouraging everyone to dream beyond what they can imagine for themselves.

"For me, it is not about allowing what you see, this disability in front of you, to be my entire identity," Jenifer said. "I'm a proud father, I'm a full time employee with the federal government, a gold medalist basketball player. I will not allow those preconceived notions of what I am define who I am as an individual."

Said attendee Carolyn Keith, "Today has been breathtaking. I am so happy that I was able to come with my son, grandson and daughter and see the remarkable things that they do here at the club and to be inspired by Trevon Jenifer."

Free Safe Rides for Would-be Drunk Drivers

Free safe rides will be offered to would-be drunk drivers throughout the Washington-metropolitan area during Halloween celebration time, 4 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 26 and until 4 a.m. Sunday, Oct. 27.

Washington Regional Alcohol Program (WRAP) offers these rides as a way to keep local roads safe from impaired drivers during this traditionally high-risk period.

During this twelve-hour period, area residents age 21 and older celebrating with alcohol may download the Lyft app to their phones then enter the SoberRide® code in the app's 'Payment' tab (under the 'Add Lyft Pass' option) to receive their no-cost (up to \$15) safe transportation home. WRAP's 2024 Halloween SoberRide® promo code will be posted at 3 p.m. on Saturday, Oct. 26 on www.SoberRide.com.

Last October, a record 1,321 persons in the Washington-metropolitan area used WRAP's Halloween SoberRide® program as opposed to possibly driving home drunk.

WRAP also offers its SoberRide® program on St. Patrick's Day, Cinco de Mayo, Independence Day and the winter holidays through and including New Year's.

SoberRide® is offered throughout Lyft's Washington D.C. coverage area..

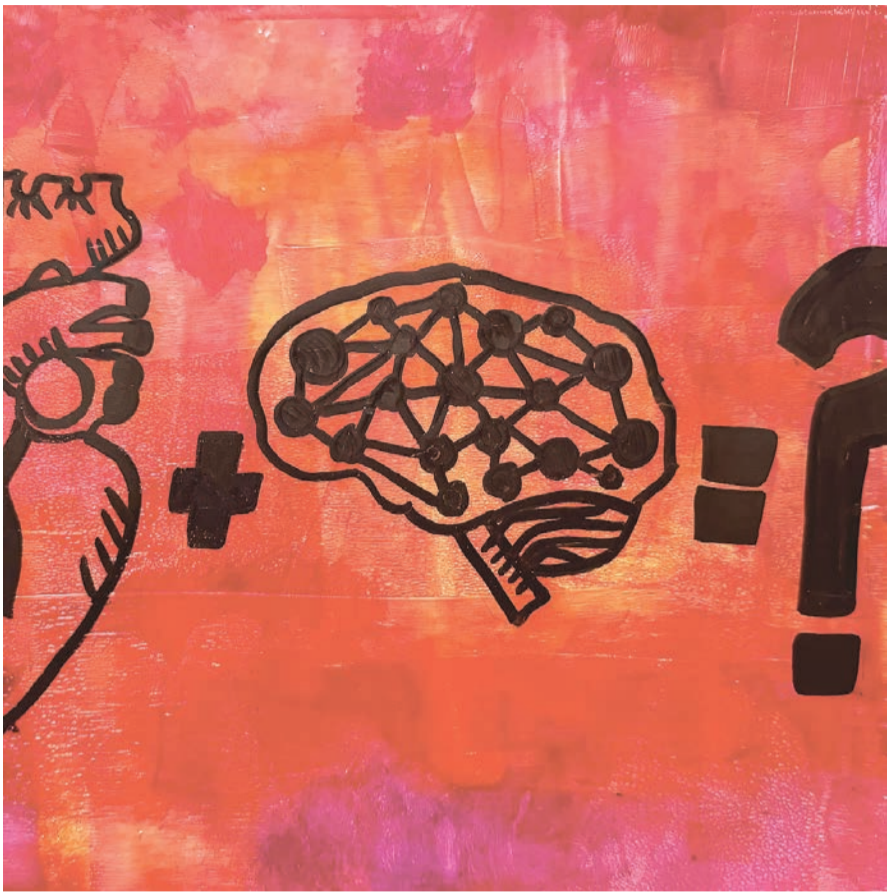
Sponsors of WRAP's 2024 Halloween SoberRide® campaign include 395 Express Lanes, Anheuser-Busch, Beer Institute, Brown-Forman, Constellation Brands, Diageo, District of Columbia Association of Beverage Alcohol Wholesalers, Enterprise Rent-A-Car, Foundation for Advancing Alcohol Responsibility, Giant Food, Glory Days Grill, Lyft, Molson Coors Beverage Company, New Belgium Brewing, Restaurant Association Metropolitan Washington and the Washington Area New Automobile Dealers Association. WRAP's 2024 Public Partner SoberRide® Sponsors include the District of Columbia Highway Safety Office, Maryland Highway Safety Office/Maryland Motor Vehicle Administration and Virginia Department of Motor Vehicles.

Since 1991, WRAP's SoberRide® program has provided 90,769 free safe rides home to would-be drunk drivers in the Greater Washington area.



Olympic Gold medalist Trevon Jenifer, second from right, with Goodies Frozen Custard and Treats owners Rozell Moore and Brandon Bard Sept. 18 at the Dunbar Alexandria-Olympic Boys and Girls Club.

ENTERTAINMENT



The “Artificial or Intelligence?” Art Exhibit runs Oct. 4-26, 2024 at Del Ray Artisans Gallery in Alexandria.

ONGOING

Alexandria Ghost Tours and Haunted Pub Crawls. Alexandria Ghosts offers guided ghost tours and adults-only haunted pub crawls nightly that highlight the city’s dark history and unique local lore highlighting Alexandria’s haunted history. The tours feature stories from historic sites and iconic locations like the Carlyle House, Ramsey House, and the infamous Wilkes Tunnel. Each experience transports you to the city’s eerie past, a time before it was a trendy place to live, work, and play. Alexandria has a tragic history so disturbing it’s often hidden from tourists who descend upon the city daily.

The Four Terrifying Tour Experiences of Alexandria Ghosts:

1. Alexandria Ghosts: Phantoms of the Potomac: Explore Alexandria’s haunted history as you follow in the ghostly footsteps of George Washington and other restless spirits in this colonial city.
 2. Alexandria Ghosts Boos and Booze Haunted Pub Crawl: Combine history, hauntings, and a lively pub crawl in Alexandria’s haunted bars.
 3. Alexandria Ghosts Ultimate Dead of Night Haunted Ghost Tour: A deep dive into Alexandria’s eerie past, from Native American history to Civil War hauntings.
- ❖ Meeting Locations: 323 Cameron St, Alexandria, VA 22314 (Phantoms of the Potomac); 138 N Royal St, Alexandria, VA 22314 (Pub Crawl & Ultimate Dead of Night Tour); 301 King Street, Alexandria, VA 22314 (Washington’s Footsteps). Visit <https://alexandriaghosts.com>.

WEDNESDAYS THROUGH SATURDAYS

Tours Aboard Tall Ship Providence and Sen. John Warner Maritime Heritage Center. 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. At Alexandria’s Waterfront Park, 1A Prince Street, Alexandria.

Guests of all ages are recruited into the Continental Navy aboard Tall Ship Providence with legendary Captain John Paul Jones. Recruits are assigned jobs on the ship, learn where they will work and live, how to load a cannon, etc... Tours conclude in the Naval History Theatre with a film about the ship. The Heritage center is a floating museum on the Alexandria waterfront. Visit <https://tallshipprovidence.org/>

GROW WITH YOUR GARDEN AT GREEN SPRING GARDEN TALKS

The Park Authority is here to help gardeners this fall with a plant-tastic lineup of Green Spring Garden Talks, 4603 Green Spring Road in Alexandria. Learn some tips and techniques that will spruce up your plants and other “soil-mates” with the help from fellow gardeners, VCE Master Gardeners and naturalists. All events are held at Green Spring Gardens and are \$12 per person. Additional fees apply for out-of-county residents.

Make a Backyard Sanctuary for Wildlife. Saturday, Oct. 26, 10:30-11:30 a.m. Learn gardening techniques for attracting pollinators, birds and other native insects into your garden to improve habitat loss.

Composting Made Simple. Friday, Nov. 8, 1:30-2:30 p.m. Learn the value that comes with putting compost into your yard and garden instead of your trashcan.

Adapt & Thrive with Climate Change. Saturday, Nov. 16, 10:30-11:30 a.m. Extension Master Gardeners share ways to adapt your garden practices to changing climate patterns through plant selection, water management and more!

NOW THRU OCT. 27

Alexandria Plein Air. At The Athenaeum, Alexandria. Six artists began regular outdoor painting sessions in and around Alexandria, VA



Alexandria Ghost Tours and Haunted Pub Crawls have started at various locations in Old Town Alexandria.

to help cope with the pandemic. They have continued the practice and this exhibit displays their interpretations of local sites, natural and man made, in a variety of seasons. Featuring: Mary Anne Cochran-Fox, Calina Franzosa, Seana Gallagher, Renee Lachman, Theresa Miller and Karen Thuermer.

OCT. 4-26 The “Artificial or Intelligence?” Art Exhibit.

At Del Ray Artisans Gallery, 2704 Mount Vernon Ave., Alexandria. Features art that explores what the future might look like with AI and whether machine learning feels artificial or intelligent at the present moment. Opening Reception: Friday, October 4 from 7-9 p.m. Open Thursdays 12-6 p.m., Fridays 12-9 p.m., Saturdays and Sundays 12-6 p.m. (Closed October 27). Details: DelRayArtisans.org/exhibits

OCT. 12-20 5th Annual Old Town Oyster Week.

11 a.m. 5th Annual Shucking Competition at Daniel O’Connell’s Irish Restaurant & Bar at 112 King Street on Saturday, October 12th at 11 a.m. Visit participating restaurants throughout the week for featured oyster and Guinness pairings, and don’t forget to vote for your favorite one!

WEDNESDAY/OCT. 16 Yacht Haven Garden Club Benefit.

Yacht Haven Garden Club’s 40th annual Fashion Show, Silent Auction and Luncheon fundraiser “40 Years of Friendship, Fashion and Flowers,” will be held at the Mount Vernon Country Club in Alexandria. Fashions will be provided by Sara Campbell. Tickets are \$60.00. Deadline is October 9. For reservations, contact: Joyce Tami at yachthavengardenclubva@gmail.com.

SATURDAY/OCT. 19

Aware. 1-3 p.m. At the Athenaeum, Alexandria. Join in a family friendly, free event curated by the Athenaeum’s Poet in Residence, KaNikki Jakarta. Aware is a community-based collaboration

with a mission to entertain and inform the community. Twelve (12) pre-selected poets, musicians, and storytellers will provide awareness artistically that focuses on important topics bringing forth their knowledge, personal experiences, and perspectives using the Power of Words and Voice to focus on such topics as: What it means to be Brave, Running Towards Love, Women’s Mental and Physical Health, Kidney and Liver Health, Cancer, Musical Self-exploration, and more! Space is limited and RSVP is required. RSVP to great-publishing@yahoo.com

SATURDAY/OCT. 19

9th Annual Tour de Mount Vernon. TDMV Ride 8:30 a.m.; Youth and Family Ride at 9 a.m. Starting and ending at Workhouse Arts Center, Lorton. Early bird special! Register for the 9th Annual Tour de Mount Vernon by August 31 for a discounted rate and be guaranteed a pair of Tour de Mount Vernon socks! #Tdmv2024 Register now: <https://buff.ly/46VNVtx>

OCT. 24 TO DEC. 21

“A Focus on Nature.” At Coldwell Banker Realty, 310 King Street, Alexandria. Opening reception Oct. 24 from 6-7:30 p.m. Art exhibit featuring the nature-themed photographs of Steven Halperson and mosaics of Nina Tisara. Steven Halperson, Tisara Photography, has over 30 years’ experience in portrait and event photography. For this exhibit, he is returning to his roots in fine art photography and making use of digital camera software to create strikingly beautiful images. Nina Tisara retired from the photography studio in 2007 and began creating intricate mosaics which are now widely exhibited and collected. Nina is the founder of Living Legends of Alexandria. A portion of all sales will be donated to the Coldwell Banker Realty Cares Foundation, a program that helps support selected nonprofits in Alexandria and throughout the Mid-Atlantic region. For additional information, contact Rachel Carter, RCarter@cbmove.com or Nina Tisara, Ninat@ninatisara.com.

SATURDAY/OCT. 26

Old Town Family Trick or Treat. 11 a.m. to 3 pm. At Various locations in Old Town Alexandria. Bring the family and enjoy trick-or-treating in various shops and restaurants in Old Town along upper and lower King Street and select side streets. Visit oldtownbusiness.org in the coming weeks for details on the starting point and map pick-up location.

SUNDAY/OCT. 27

Old Town Doggie Trick or Treat. 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. At The Dog Park, 705 King Street, Alexandria. Bring your dog for a howling day of walking through Old Town and visiting participating merchants who will offer treats for your four-legged companion. Start at The Dog Park boutique, located at 705 King Street. Visit oldtownbusiness.org.

SUNDAY/OCT. 27

28th Annual Del Ray Halloween Parade. 2 p.m. Begins at Mount Vernon Ave., south of E. Bellefontaine Ave. Alexandria. One of Del Ray’s favorite traditions, the annual Del Ray Halloween Parade, returns once again. Costumed children, pets and babies in decked-out strollers are invited to march and show off their finest and scariest Halloween garb. For more information, including details on entering the house decorating contest, pet costume contest and stroller decorating contest, head to visitdelray.com.

NOV. 1 TO DEC. 1

Del Ray Artisans “\$100 & Under” exhibit. At Del Ray Artisans Gallery, 2704 Mount Vernon Ave., Alexandria. Showcases members’ artwork all priced at \$100 or less. The art is sold on an art-to-go basis. The gallery walls are packed with great art at prices all art-lovers can afford. Opening Reception: Friday, November 1, 7-9pm. Open Thursdays 12-6pm, Fridays 12-9pm, Saturdays & Sundays 12-6pm. Closed Thanksgiving Day. Details: DelRayArtisans.org/exhibits

SEE ENTERTAINMENT, PAGE 11

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ENTERTAINMENT

FROM PAGE 9

SATURDAY/NOV. 2

Used Book Sale: 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. at Sherwood Regional Library, 2501 Sherwood Hall Lane, Alexandria. Selection of over 20,000 gently used children's books, fiction, history, biography, home and garden, cooking, crafts, sports, religion, travel, CDs, DVDs, and more. Unless specially priced, \$1 for hard backs and large paperbacks, and 25 cents for mass market paperbacks. Visit <https://www.fairfax-county.gov/library/branches/friends-of-sherwood-regional>.

THURSDAY/NOV. 7

Evening of Perfect Pairings: Wine + Chocolate, Women + Business. 5:30-7 p.m. At Goodwin House Alexandria, 4800 Fillmore Ave., Alexandria. Presented by The Chamber ALX's Professional Women's Network. Join in an unforgettable night of curated wine and food pairings, networking, and celebration. Contact Maria Ciarrocchi at mciarrocchi@thechamberalx.com

SATURDAY/NOV. 9

Designing American Living. 3-4:30 p.m. At Woodlawn & Pope-Leighey House, 9000 Richmond Hwy., Alexandria. Woodlawn & Pope-Leighey House provide a unique opportunity to put two American styles of architecture – separated by over a century – in conversation with one another. Take a close look at both houses to examine what it was that the architects who built these homes were trying to convey about the people who lived here, the period they lived in, and what they thought the future held. Cost \$25 for adults, \$12 students (K-12). Website: <https://www.woodlawnpopeleighey.org/upcomingevents/2024/10/12/designing-american-living>



"A Focus on Nature" can be seen Oct. 24 to Dec. 21, 2024 at Coldwell Banker Realty in Alexandria.

SATURDAY/NOV. 16

Celebrate Gum Springs' 191st Anniversary. 6-9 p.m. At George Washington's Mount Vernon, 3200 Mount Vernon Memorial Highway, Mount Vernon. Celebrate Gum Springs -- The oldest African American community in Fairfax County with Keynote Speaker Don Scott. Tickets \$125. Event host: The Gum Springs Historical Society and Museum and the Mount Vernon Ladies Association.

SATURDAY/NOV. 23

The Good Folk Performs. 7 p.m. At Saint Aidan's Episcopal Church, 8531 Riverside Road, Alexandria. FocusMusic and WFMA present The Good Folk at Saint Aidan's Episco-

pal Church. The Good Folk, Meghan Mette, Eileen Estes, Joanna Clare, Sophie Chang, Agi Kovacs, and Patrick Winch, deliver powerful instrumentals, haunting vocals and three styles of percussive dance. Cost is \$25 in advance (members \$22.50) / \$30 at door (members \$25) Virtual Tickets: \$15 (\$13.50 for members. Info at <https://focusmusic.org/shows#sat-11-23-the-good-folk-alexandria-and-virtual>

THE BIRCHMERE

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

OCTOBER

Wed. 16: Debbie Gibson – Acoustic Youth: Songs and Stories from The Electric Youth Era \$59.50
Thu. 17: Yächley Crêw \$45.00
Fri. 18: The Whispers \$95.00
Sat. 19: The Whispers \$95.00
Sun. 20: Boney James \$95.00 SOLD OUT!
Wed. 23: Private Event
Thu. 24: AJ Ghent & His Singing Guitar \$35.00
Fri. 25: William Clark Green with Erin Kinsey \$29.50
Sat. 26: Tom Paxton & The Don-Juans with sp. guest Noel Paul Stookey of Peter, Paul & Mary \$49.50
Sun. 27: Oleta Adams "Farewell Tour!" \$55.00
Tue. 29: The Robert Cray Band \$59.50

Old Town BID Voting Completed

FROM PAGE 1

erty tax of properties in the BISD zone. Most of these properties are located along the King Street corridor and waterfront. Current real property taxes are \$1.11 per \$100 of assessed value.

The consulting firm Municap was hired by the City of Alexandria to spearhead the latest BID initiative, with the firm tallying the latest round of voting.

"The City Council should seriously reconsider spending taxpayer money to help fund proposals by private individuals," Boyd said. "Over \$100,000 was spent on this proposal. This is the same group that did the economic study for the failed Arena project."

The city manager's office did not return a request for comment

The BID was envisioned to provide funding and administration for events and mar-

keting, an ambassador program, business support programs and advocacy.

Representatives from the Old Town Business Association indicated that they will be responding to the voting results at a later date. The organization's website has information on the proposed BISD along with governance information, sample projects and projected costs. www.oldtownbusiness-BISD.com

BULLETIN BOARD

FROM PAGE 2

volunteer, call 1-800-227-2345 or go to cancer.org/drive.

STEM Professionals Needed. Help assist K-12 STEM teachers as part of the American Association for the Advancement of Science's STEM Volunteer Program, stemvolunteers.org, during the 2018-19 school year. In the 2017-18 school year, there are 85 volunteers in 6 Northern Virginia school districts. Contact Don Rea

at 571-551-2488, or donaldrea@aol.com. ALIVE! offers numerous programs that aid low-income families in Alexandria that rely on volunteers: monthly food distributions, furniture, houseware and emergency food deliveries, and community food drives. Individuals, families and groups are encouraged to participate. Students can earn community service hours by participating. Visit www.alive-inc.org/volunteer.htm or contact the Volunteer Coordinator at volunteers@alive-inc.org.

RSVP, a volunteer network for seniors seeking ser-

vice opportunities in and around Fairfax County, Arlington County and the City of Alexandria, offers a wide array of opportunities for volunteers 55 and older. RSVP volunteers enjoy flexible schedules, free accident and liability insurance while serving, optional mileage and meal reimbursement and are invited to volunteer group projects and social gatherings. To sign up for an upcoming orientation, email Carly Hubicki at chubicki@volunteerfairfax.org or call RSVP at 703-403-5360. To learn more about RSVP, visit www.rsvpnova.org.

Not Having My Cake



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

It's been approximately two weeks since my last Entenmann's "Marshmallow Devils Food Iced Cake" purchase. And it's been not quite two weeks since my last bite finished the box. And believe it or not, I am able to still think clearly about my dessert options. Meaning, I think I need a break from my recent cake routine. As for this item no longer being purchased at the local Safeway, and Safeway no longer reordering them for me-ish - since I'm the one buying them, I feel I've satiated that urge and need to revisit some of my other standard dessert fare: Mallomars at the Safeway, Whoopie Pies from the Dutch Country Market and some heavily frosted cupcakes from anywhere. As they say in volleyball: it may be time to rotate. This is where my sister-in-law Vanessa usually chimes in as she has many times in the past to my brother Richard (her late husband) and me: "Boy, your mother did some job on the two of you." And we would all laugh because it's mostly true.

Be it "half-moons" from Feldman's Bakery in Newton Centre, Ma. or pastry from Eagerman's Bakery on Rte. 9 in Natick, or any variety of snack cakes and cookies from our neighborhood "Oak Hill Market," or the "Stop & Shop" supermarket, our mother, may her memory be a blessing, loaded Richard and I up on dessert morning, noon, mid-afternoon, evening and nighttime before bed. Richard and I were literally, having our cake and eating it too, maybe too much, but who knew? But as we have learned about our late mother, she was simply following advertising orders from television that said children needed to drink eight glasses of milk per day to help build strong bones and muscles. And since getting us to drink milk by itself was a challenge, she realized that drinking it with a dessert was not. Being Jewish, though not being kosher, still we never had milk with a meal, it had to be after, as in dessert. And so, it became the story of my life: Dessert, milk; dessert, milk; dessert, milk, and on and on and on.

Not that Richard or I ever resisted. But I think we might have been somewhat indoctrinated by mother's commitment to getting us to consume calcium/milk to help strengthen our bones growing up. You could say that getting her children to drink milk was a win-win: My mother got her two sons to drink upwards of eight glasses of milk per day - helping to build those strong bones; and for us two boys, we were eating sweets all the time, which naturally we'd do so with a glass of milk - or two.

Unfortunately for my wife Dina, and Vanessa (my late brother's widow), Richard and I never outgrew our milk and dessert habits. Dessert was always top of mind. Although, our respective dessert preferences diverged a bit when we grew up. I was still drawn to commercially baked products: Hostess, Drakes, Nabisco, Keebler's, Entenmann's, et cetera. Richard was more inclined to shop at bakeries on the street or in-store and buy fewer brand items than I did and more pastry. Though our dessert upbringing was the same, our adult choices were different. Nevertheless, we rarely strayed from our respective lanes. Whenever we did, however, it wasn't a hardship. I would say that between the two of us, we had the entire dessert inventory covered.

Now I'm on my own. Still focused on commercial products. But right now, after weeks of Entenmann's "Marshmallow Devils Food Iced Cake," I dare say, I need a change. Perhaps, in Richard's memory, I should go to a bakery.

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

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OPEN SAT 10/19 & SUN 10/20, 1-3

Ft Williams Park | \$1,725,000

This 5-bedroom, 3.5-bathroom home features 4 fireplaces, an expanded kitchen, family room with vaulted ceilings, a screened-in porch, pool, and a 2-car garage on a private half-acre lot. Unbeatable location near Old Town and DC! 3568 Trinity Drive
Jen Walker Team 703.675.1566
www.JenWalker.com



OPEN SAT 10/19, 12-2 & SUN 10/20, 2-4

Old Town | \$1,225,000

Thoughtfully designed luxury townhouse in North Old Town. Features 4 bedrooms, 3.5 bathrooms, 1-car garage, and a roof top deck! Easy access to Crystal City, DC, DCA, and Braddock Metro! Close by restaurants and parks! 810 Snowden Hallowell Way
Janet Catteron Price 703.622.5984
www.JanetPriceHomes.com



Old Town | \$1,150,000

Spacious, 2-bedroom, 3-bath townhome in Portner Brewery features living room with built-in bookcases and fireplace, gourmet kitchen, light-filled primary suite with 2 walk-in closets and en suite bath, and 2 garage parking spaces. 608 Tivoli Passage Way
Lauren Bishop 202.361.5079
www.LaurenBishopHomes.com



Liberty Row | \$950,000

This 2-bedroom, 2.5-bathroom luxury condo offers a charming blend of traditional style and modern updates. Enjoy fountain views, custom finishes, upgraded appliances, and a private balcony. 600 Second Street #105
Klanci Vanderhyde 703.919.4460
www.KlanciVanderhyde.com



Porto Vecchio | \$889,000

Experience waterfront elegance at Porto Vecchio with this spacious 2-bedroom, 2.5-bathroom home spanning 1,800+ sq. ft. Enjoy panoramic Potomac views, marble entry, built-in cabinetry, two ensuite bedrooms, and a serene terrace. 1250 South Washington Street #402
Mary Taylor & Pat Tierney 703.785.5619
www.MaryTaylorRealtor.com



Collingwood Estates | \$815,000

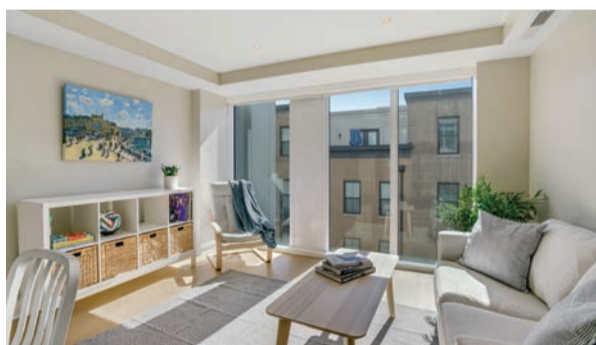
With many new updates and thoughtful details, this home is a must see. Located in the idyllic and popular Fort Hunt area, a short walk from Wayneswood Elementary this lovely home offers 4 bedrooms, and 3 updated full baths. 8317 Fort Hunt Road
Crombie & Olsen 706.575.7926
www.CrombieAndOlsen.com



OPEN THURS 5-7, SAT & SUN 1-4

Old Town | \$789,000

This move-in ready, 2-bedroom, 1.5-bathroom, end-unit townhome blends Old Town charm with modern updates. Features an open floor plan, lush private backyard, custom built-ins, updated kitchen, and versatile lower-level living space. 1210 Wilkes Street
Lisa Groover 703.919.4426
www.LisaGroover.com



Venue | \$679,000

This 1 bedroom + den luxury condo in the Venue feels like a 2-bedroom! With 875 sq ft of bright, flexible living space, high-end finishes, EV-charger parking, premium amenities, and scenic rooftop views—this home has it all! 925 N Fairfax Street
Kristen Jones 703.952.0660
www.KristenJones.com



OPEN SUN 10/20, 10-12

Logan Circle | \$415,000

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