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END NOTE, PAGE 8

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STAGE



Cohen (Mario Font) alarms the sensibilities of Louise Maske (Claudia Love Petty) in the Little Theatre of Alexandria's production of "The Underpants"

'Underpants' With a Twist

BY GREG PATTON
GAZETTE PACKET

Imagine standing on Pennsylvania Avenue during an Inauguration Day parade when, just as the President drives by in his black limousine, a comely woman's panties suddenly drop to the ground. Think it might cause a stir?

That, or as close to it as one can get in 1910 Dusseldorf, is the situation that faces the characters in Steve Martin's (yes, that Steve Martin) adaptation of Carl Sternheim's "The Underpants," currently playing at the Little Theatre of Alexandria.

While watching the King's parade on the Grand Boulevard, Louise Maske (Claudia Love

erant society.

He has to compete for space with the grandiose poet Versati (Marcus Dunn), who has designs on Louise.

They are both set against the no-nonsense Klingelhoff (Bill Brannigan), an embodiment of the conservative old guard in German society.

Despite its appearances, though, this show isn't all light comedy. There is a current of anti-Semitism in Theo's exchanges with Cohen that presages the coming era of Nazism. In keeping with the satirical tone of the play, though, it is presented as a lark. "[Theo] doesn't even know how to be a bigot. He's that stupid," said Chandler.

"It's pointing out this unique time period when Germany was about to go through one of the most difficult times in their history," said stage manager Mary Beth Smith-Toomey.

The gathering storm clouds of history didn't keep the cast from enjoying this romp of a play. "I had done this show a year ago, and I just love this character," said Meyers. "It's a joy to do."

"I was attracted by the fact that it was Steve Martin," said Brannigan. Getting down the comedian's distinctive style posed a unique task for the cast. "One of the challenges is getting the Steve Martin humor."

Building Louise's character was a particular challenge for Petty, who got engaged at the beginning of the rehearsal process. "The sex stuff was hard suddenly," she said.

Sound, props, lighting, costumes, and the set were all in top form for this production as well, down to the freshly cooked sausage in the Maskes' kitchen and the various pairs of lacy underwear brandished by the cast.

"The Underpants" is a show that packs in politics, history, lacy underwear, and very funny dialogue into 90 energetic minutes.

What's not to like?

"The Underpants" runs through June 28 at the Little Theatre of Alexandria. For tickets and information, call 703-683-0496 or visit www.thelittletheatre.com.

"[Theo] doesn't even know how to be a bigot. He's that stupid."

— James Chandler

bloomers around her ankles. The ensuing drama spares no innuendo and pulls no punches when ridiculing the middle-class values embodied by Louise's husband, Theo (James Chandler).

The play presents itself largely as a sexual farce, full of one-liners and exchanges of the type that cannot be printed in a family newspaper. Much of the domestic moral turpitude is driven by the Maskes' meddling neighbor, Gertrude (Marianne Meyers).

A succession of boarders form the rest of the cast and gives the play its always-coming-and-going energy. Cohen (Mario Font) is a barber with a penchant for Wagner who slyly avoids the fact that he's a Jew in an increasingly intol-

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Del Ray's Family Affair — Italian Style

Italian summer fare beats the heat with delectable dishes.

BY CHUCK HAGEE
GAZETTE

For those who love good Italian cooking there is no shortage of restaurants to satisfy the taste buds in either the City of Alexandria or in Mount Vernon and Lee districts. And, another has just opened in Del Ray.

La Strada, 1905 Mount Vernon Avenue, made its soft and quiet entrance on to the culinary stage last Wednesday evening, June 4, with a dinner offering beginning at 5 p.m. Right now that is the only meal being served during their shake down cruise on the public pallet.

A family owned and operated venture, it is located at the site of the former Tex-Mex restaurant Los Amigos. When fully operational it will be open from 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. Sunday through Thursday and 11 a.m. to 11 p.m. Friday and Saturday, according to owner Stephen Scott, Sr., who was stocking the wine bins on Friday afternoon.

"This is truly both a family and neighborhood operation," said Scott Sr. Stephen Scott, Jr., is the chef. Daughters Kristen and Courtney Scott serve as the head waitress and hostess respectively. And, their mother, Diana Balboni, gives the restaurant its true Italian heritage, being a first generation American from Italy.

"This is truly a family and neighborhood operation."

—Stephen Scott, Sr., owner La Strada

Kristen, Courtney and Stephen, Jr., all live in the Del Ray neighborhood while the senior Scotts are residents of Old Town Alexandria. "We are all neighborhood people," Kristen said.

For Scott senior and Diana, this venture is truly a leap of faith. They also own and operate a computer business in Alexandria. "I work in the computer business from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. and then come here and start all over again," Scott senior said.

For the two sisters and their brother the restaurant business is nothing new — each has a professional background in food service.

Scott, Jr., has worked for a variety of restaurants in the Metropolitan area. He left the restaurant Zola in the District of Columbia, near the MCI Center, to participate in this family venture.

Kristen and Courtney have backgrounds in the restaurant business. Both have served in restaurant managerial capacities over the years. Kristen is also a teacher. She just resigned her job from Fairfax County Public School teaching English As A Second Language to participate in the family venture.



PHOTOS BY CHUCK HAGEE/GAZETTE PACKET

Owner of the newly opened Del Ray Italian restaurant La Strada, Stephen Scott, Sr., (right) is joined in the restaurant's wine room by his son and restaurant chef, Stephen Scott, Jr., and daughter Kristen Scott, who serves as the establishment's head waitress.

Offering a wide array of Italian cuisine, La Strada's menu is unusual for its pricing. All menu items are offered at either a "Solo" or "Famiglia" price — depending on whether the item is ordered for one or for a group of up to six people.

For example the homemade ravioli stuffed with veal and vegetables in a morel mushroom cream sauce is \$19.95 for one or \$29.95 for a group. The group price would also apply to a couple ordering the same meal, according to Kristen.

Although, the majority of menu offerings are seasonal there are some items that are particularly designed to satisfy summer appetites. An example would be the tuna with tomato chilies, rosemary, garlic, capers and anchovies at \$18.95 solo or \$28.45 famiglia.

In addition to the comprehensive menu, La Strada patrons will also be able to enjoy a good selection of red, white and sparkling wines. Each, except the sparkling wines, can be order either by the bottle or glass ranging in price from \$24 to \$48 for the former and \$5 to \$11 for the latter. "We are hoping to eventually expand the wine list to over 100 selections," Courtney said.

La Strada also offers both Italian and American beers. The latter includes Moretti and Peroni beers from Italy as well as four Sam Adams, two Yingling and Miller Lite from this country.

Seating capacity is now 50 but the Scott's are hoping to expand that with an outside patio. "We have ample room outside. And, if our unannounced opening night is any indication we can use the extra seating ca-

capacity," said Scott, senior. They had a full house and customers waiting.

LA STRADA ISN'T the only Italian restaurant offering select dishes for summer. Some of the others, in both Alexandria and southeastern Fairfax County, include the following:

❖ **Landini Brothers**, 115 King St., a specially flavorful gazpacho for \$7.95

❖ **Il Porto**, 121 King St., a chicken Caesar salad at \$7.85 or Fisherman's salad with shrimp and salmon at \$8.50

❖ **A La Lucia**, 315 Madison St., a pasta with vegetables at \$12.95

❖ **Villa d'Este**, 600 Montgomery St., a seafood mixed grill composed of grouper, scallops, shrimp and calamari at \$18.95 for lunch and \$25.95 for dinner.

❖ **Tempo**, 4231 Duke St., a chunky gazpacho at \$3.95 plus fresh mountain trout with lime juice and honey for \$16.95 at dinner.

❖ **Mike's Italian Restaurant**, 8368 Richmond Highway, flounder stuffed with crab meat covered in butter, lemon and capers for \$24.95 at dinner.

❖ **Paradisio Italian Restaurant**, 6124 Franconia Road, egg plant with pasta at \$10.50.

These are only a sampling of the restaurants in both Alexandria City as well as Mount Vernon and Lee districts specializing in Italian cuisine with special items on their menus to satisfy lighter summer appetites. Patrons are only limited by their personal preference.



The exterior of La Strada, located at 1905 Mount Vernon Ave.

CALENDAR

E-mail announcements to the Gazette, gazette@connectionnews.com. Photos and artwork are encouraged. Deadline is Thursday at noon for the following week's paper. Call Rebecca Halik at 703-917-6407 with questions.

ONGOING

Visit **George Washington's Distillery & Gristmill** through Oct. 31 from 10 a.m.-5 p.m. See how whiskey got started. \$4/adult; \$2/child. Get discounts with admission to Mount Vernon Estate. Visit www.mountvernon.org for more.

Take a **seasonal walking tour** from 10 a.m.-5 p.m. at Mount Vernon Estate. This 30-minute tour explores a variety of contributions. Free. Visit www.mountvernon.org for more.

On **Sundays** take a Potomac River Sightseeing Cruise at 10:30 a.m., 11:30 a.m., 12:30 p.m., 1 p.m., 2 p.m. and 3 p.m. \$9/adult; \$5/child in

addition to Mount Vernon Estate admission. Visit www.mountvernon.org for schedules.

Every **Tuesday and Thursday** through October from 5-8 p.m. at Hotel Monaco Alexandria, enjoy **Doggie Happy Hour**. Enjoy doggie treats and human treats.

Join City archaeologists and trained volunteers for an exciting program for kids of all ages at **Alexandria Archaeology Family Dig Days**. Be part of the fascinating archaeological investigation and discover firsthand the hidden clues left behind by the people who lived and worked there hundreds of years ago, by helping screen excavated soil. Monthly Family Dig Days will be held from 1:30 p.m. to 3 p.m. on the grounds of the George Washington Masonic National Memorial, 101 Callahan Drive, in Alexandria. The 2008 dates are on Saturdays: June 14; July 12; Aug. 16; Sept. 20 and Oct. 18. \$5/person and spots fill up fast. Call 703-838-4399 or visit www.alexandriarchaeology.org to reserve a spot.

On **Sundays** from noon-5 p.m., visit the Waterfront and see **history-inspired performances** near the Torpedo Factory; do a "meet and greet" of early Alexandria residents and travelers near the Waterfront and lower King Street. Free. Visit www.historicalexandria.org for more.

In celebration of the exhibition "Setting the President's Table: American Presidential China," visitors to Mount Vernon will have a chance every day from June 1 to Aug. 31 to win a piece of porcelain featuring the Martha Washington "States" pattern.

Drawings occur daily at 3 p.m. in the Shops at Mount Vernon, and the grand prize will be drawn on Aug. 31. No purchase is required, and visitors do not have to be present to win. Visit www.mountvernon.org or 703-780-2000.

On weekdays from **June through August**, from 10-11 a.m. or 11 a.m.-noon, children ages 6-12 can **hunt for Harry Potter's** favorite plants and explore their lore. Learn how to craft a wand and make potions. Groups welcome. \$6/student. 703-642-5173. At Green Spring Garden, 4603 Green Spring Road.

On Saturdays from **June 7 through Aug. 16** from 1-3 p.m., children ages 8-12 years can learn how to **create a garden** with hands-on activities and will be able to grow a garden. \$10/student. At Green Spring Garden, 4603 Green Spring Road. To register, 703-642-5173.

See Gadsby's Tavern Museum, 134 N. Royal St., in a whole new light - **lantern light**. Tour the 1785 tavern and 1792 City Hotel during the summer season with costumed guides as you experience the tavern as patrons did more than 200 years ago before the advent of electricity. Tours are every Friday night, **June through August**, from 7 p.m. to 10 p.m. Tickets are \$5 per person ages 5 and up. Tours last approximately 30 minutes, with the last tour starting at 9:15 p.m. Call ahead to confirm tour date. For more information, call 703-838-4242 or visit www.gadsbystavern.org.

FRIDAY/JUNE 20
Music Performance. The Mount



Nothin' Fancy performs on Wednesday, June 25 as part of Lee District Nights, at 7:30 p.m. at Lee District Amphitheatre. Free.

Vernon Swing Band will perform from 7:30-9:30 p.m. at Hollin Hall Senior Center, 1500 Shenandoah Road. \$4/person. 703-765-4573.
Art Talk. 7-9 p.m. in the Torpedo Factory Main Hall, 105 N. Union St. Ken Matsuzaki will talk about his career as a potter. Free. Visit www.theartleague.org for more.
Closing Reception. 5-10 p.m., Blueberry Art Gallery, 3112-A Mount Vernon Ave., presents "Delray" by K. Wesley E. Clark from June 1 through June 21.
Mount Vernon Nights. Listen to a variety of music at 7:30 p.m. on Friday nights at Grist Mill Park, 4710

Mount Vernon Memorial Highway starting June 6. Free. Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/ for more.
Closing Reception. 5-10 p.m. see art by Wesley Clark from June 1 through June 21 at Blueberry Art Gallery, 3112A Mount Vernon Ave. Free. 703-894-8854.
Outdoor Symposium. 8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. at Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road. Parents, teachers and volunteers can integrate outdoor learning and gardening into the schoolyard and curriculum. \$35/person. To register, 703-642-5173.
Friday Flicks. Noon at John Marshall

Library, 6200 Rose Hill Drive. Children up to age 5 can bring lunch and enjoy stories and a short movie. Free. 703-971-0010.

Creatures Great and Small. 10:30 a.m. at Martha Washington Library, 6614 Fort Hunt Road. Enjoy a musical review of animal songs and stories for all ages. Free. 703-768-6700.

Comedy Performance. Skippy from "Family Ties" will perform at All Stars Comedy Club, 3100 Mount Vernon Ave. Performances at 9 p.m. and 10:45 p.m. Dinner packages available. Visit www.allstarscomedy.com for tickets.

Play Performance. 8 p.m. at Alexandria Black History Museum, 902 Wythe St. Watch "Running Scared, Running Free." \$10/person. Visit www.alexblackhistory.org or 703-838-4356.

SATURDAY/JUNE 21

Closing Reception. 5-10 p.m., Blueberry Art Gallery, 3112-A Mount Vernon Ave., presents "Delray" by K. Wesley E. Clark from June 1 through June 21.

Soldier-Led Tour. 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. at Fort Ward Museum, 4301 West Braddock Road. Learn about Fort Ward, soldier's life and more. Free. Visit www.forward.org or 703-838-4848.

Older Cat Care. 1-3 p.m. at Vola Lawson Animal Shelter, 4101 Eisenhower Ave. Learn about adult cats. Free. Visit www.alexandriainimals.org or 703-838-4774.

Lee District Nights. 7:30 p.m. at Hayfield Elementary School, 7633 Telegraph Road. Hear Rumba Club perform. Free. 703-324-SHOW (7469).

Framed Botanical Art: Pressed Ferns. 9:30-11 a.m. at Green Spring Garden. Learn how to mount flowers on paper and then frame them. \$25/person. 703-642-5173.

Garden Sprouts: Tops and Bottoms. 10 a.m. at Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road. Children ages 3-5 years can learn about plants we eat and then enjoy a healthy snack and make a garden. \$6/child. To register, 703-642-5173.

Play Ball! 2 p.m. at Kingstowne Library, 6500 Landsowne Centre. Bring a camera and take a photo with Potomac Nationals mascot Uncle Slam, an item for his autograph and then hear a baseball story. Free. 703-339-4610.

Book Discussion. Discuss and then get signed copies of "The Dark Before the Light at Dawn" by Vanessa Grace at 10:30 a.m. at Sherwood Regional Library, 2500 Sherwood Hall Lane. Free. 703-765-3645.

Movie. 7 p.m. at Mount Vernon Rec Center. Watch "Shrek 3." Free. Visit www.delraycitizen.org for more.

Dog Massage Class. 1-2:30 p.m. at Tails of Old Towne in Del Ray. Bring a dog and learn basic techniques. Register at www.tailsfoldetowne.com or 703-768-0500.

Yard Sale. 8 a.m.-2 p.m. at the Del Ray Artisans Gallery, 2704 Mount Vernon Ave. Free. 703-838-4827.

Comedy Performance. Skippy from "Family Ties" will perform at All Stars Comedy Club, 3100 Mount Vernon Ave. Performances at 9 p.m. and

10:45 p.m. Dinner packages available. Visit www.allstarscomedy.com for tickets.

Play Performance. 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. at Alexandria Black History Museum, 902 Wythe St. Watch "Running Scared, Running Free." \$10/person. Visit www.alexblackhistory.org or 703-838-4356.

Digital Photography Seminar. 2-6 p.m. at Huntley Meadows Park, 3701 Lockheed Blvd. Learn how to take pictures outside, and receive critiques. \$90/person. For more information or to register, call 703-768-2525.

Yard Sale. Community yard sale in parking lot of Lincolnia United Methodist Church, 6335 Little River Turnpike from 8 a.m. - 1 p.m. 703-354-5176 or lincolniaumc@verizon.net.

SUNDAY/JUNE 22

Workshop. Students can take part in a "Junk Mail Collage Workshop" from noon-3 p.m. at Del Ray Artisans, 2704 Mount Vernon Ave. \$25/member; \$35/non-member. Visit www.thedelrayartisans.org or 703-838-4826.

Movie Night. 6:30 p.m. at Del Ray United Methodist Church, 100 E. Windsor Ave. Watch "A Peanuts Celebration." Free. Visit www.delrayumc.org.

Summer Herbal Teas. 1-3 p.m. at Green Spring Garden, 4603 Green Spring Road. Learn how to enjoy the herbs in a garden or window box.

SEE CALENDAR, PAGE 7

CRYSTALCITY TAKES FLIGHT

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How to Get Your Alexandria People, Event and Business News into the Alexandria Gazette Packet

Business Notes • Business People • People Page

The Alexandria Gazette Packet contains notes and news briefs about local businesses, people and events every week. While we cannot guarantee that every person, business or event about which we receive information will appear in the paper, here is the information we need for your news to be considered. We welcome photographs of successful, recent events and people whose accomplishments or awards are submitted. Be sure everyone in the photograph is identified.

What is News? Awards; community service; celebrations; anniversaries; obituaries; career promotions; new initiatives; major accomplishments; new locations; special events such as: scouting award ceremonies; nonprofit fundraisers; concerts; exhibits and shows; classes; seminars; book signings; youth sports notices, activities and awards; service club notices; religious notices, etc.

Your release must include:

- Name of Person, and Business, Organization or Event
- Address of the Business, Organization or Event
- Day of the Week, Date and Time of Event
- Name and Phone Number for More Information
- Three Paragraphs Describing Your News...Who, What, Where, When and Why

Please submit your calendar information at least two weeks before your event. Clear photographs from similar previous events are always welcome. All events should be open to the public. We give first priority to free events. Send listings to:

Alexandria Gazette Packet Calendar,
7913 Westpark Drive, McLean, VA 22102.
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FESTIVAL

Pike Full Of Blues

A long-running blues festival returns to South Arlington.

BY DAVID SCHULTZ
 GAZETTE PACKET

I'll take more than a broken back to keep local musician Memphis Gold from playing the blues.

Gold, who was born on Memphis' famed Beale Street as Chester Chandler, is an accomplished guitarist who will be playing this weekend's Columbia Pike Blues Festival.

Earlier this year, while working his second job as a landscaper, Gold fell out of a tree and suffered a serious spinal injury. He was hospitalized for almost three months.

But Gold, who has been playing the blues since he was twelve, never lost his love of music. The week he was released from the hospital, Gold played an impromptu concert for the nurses and patients.

"I wanted to show them how much I cared," he said. "We had a ball. I had them rocking in their wheelchairs."

"I'm ready to get some folks dancing."
 — Memphis Gold

GOLD is just one of the many performers who are scheduled to appear at the 13th annual Columbia Pike Blues Festival, which is being held this weekend in South Arlington.

The event has become a yearly tradition for Pike residents and those who live elsewhere in the Washington area to gather for fun, food and authentic blues music.

"It's our best line up ever," Jim Whittaker, the director of the Columbia Pike Revitalization Organization, said. He said that the Columbia Pike area has taken to the idea of an annual blues festival because "They wanted something that was sort of authentic and fun and down to Earth. The blues certainly fit that."

This year's headliners are Roomful Of Blues, a long-running ensemble that combines blues, funk, jazz and many other genres. The festival, which is being held on Walter Reed Drive just north of Columbia Pike, will also feature more than a dozen food vendors and a children's activity area.

THE NORTHERN Virginia-based Gold will be playing one of his first post-injury gigs at this year's festival. He describes his style of music as "sanctified, Beale Street, urban, gut-bucket blues."

The thirteenth of fourteen children, Gold has led a rich yet difficult life. He moved to the Washington area in 1992 with, as Gold recalled, "\$100 and a one-way bus ticket." He was briefly homeless but has been able to become a sought-after international entertainer, having played in almost 40 different countries.

Now, after his injury, Gold has to go to physical therapy almost every day. "He's still in



Blues music will be dominating the Columbia Pike area this weekend.

When & Where

The 2008 Columbia Pike Blues Festival is taking place on Walter Reed Drive just north of the Pike on Saturday, June 21 from 1 p.m. to 8 p.m. Food and drink will be sold on site and there will also be a children's play area. Admission is free.

pain," friend and protégé Stacy Brooks said, "But he loves to perform so you can't stop a man from doing what he has to do."

Gold himself is thinking only about his next gig. "I'm ready to get some folks dancing," he said. "People are gonna get crazy out there."

Festival Lineup

- ♦ Roomful of Blues - On tour promoting their 15th album, Roomful of Blues has been around for about 40 years. Many of the faces have changed, but not the great music. The Columbia Pike Blues festival is Roomful's only Mid-Atlantic stop on their 26-city summer tour.

- ♦ Memphis Gold - See main article.
- ♦ Tom Principato - This local artist is the winner of 22 WAMMY awards (from the Washington Area Music Association). Principato is garnering praise for his latest album, "Raising the Roof," which demonstrates the breadth of his musical influences ranging from blues, jazz, and rock, to funk, reggae, and New Orleans sounds.

- ♦ The Melanie Mason Band - The 2007 WAMMY winner for Best Female Blues Vocalist, Melanie Mason is known for her acoustic guitar playing. She has garnered new fans with her lead electric guitar work with the Melanie Mason Band.

- ♦ Karl Stoll & The Danger Zone - This band's music is a fun, danceable mix of rock & roll, blues, and rockabilly that is influenced by the contemporary blues sounds of Stevie Ray Vaughan, George Thorogood, The Nighthawks, and The Fabulous Thunderbirds as well as the early rock & roll of The Beatles, Elvis and Jerry Lee.

- ♦ Danny Blew & The Blues Crew - The Crew will play their stylish, hypnotic blend of traditional Mississippi Delta and Chicago blues at this year's Columbia Pike Blues Festival.

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CALENDAR

FROM PAGE 5

Includes a full tea. \$25/person. To register, 703-941-7987.

- Bridge Club.** 4 p.m. at Sherwood Regional Library, 2500 Sherwood Hall Lane. Beginners and advanced players age 12 and up can learn. Free. 703-765-3645.
- Family Movie Night.** 6:30 p.m. at Del Ray United Methodist Church, 100 E. Windsor Ave. Free. Watch "A Peanuts Celebration." Free. Visit www.delrayumc.org for more.
- Play Performance.** 2 p.m. at Alexandria Black History Museum, 902 Wythe St. Watch "Running Scared, Running Free." \$10/person. Visit www.alexblackhistory.org or 703-838-4356.

MONDAY/JUNE 23

- Writer's Group.** 7 p.m. at Kingstowne Library, 6500 Landsdowne Centre. Adults can read material aloud for feedback. Free. 703-339-4610.
- Mystery Group.** 7 p.m. at Martha Washington Library, 6614 Fort Hunt Road. Discuss "Dead Heat" by Dick Francis. Free. 703-768-6700.
- On The Ball.** Spinny Johnson performs fun and amazing basketball tricks for children ages 6-12 at 10:30 a.m. at Sherwood Regional Library, 2500 Sherwood Hall Lane. Free. 703-765-3645.
- Little One-Ders.** 10 a.m. or 10:45 a.m. at Beatley Library, 5005 Duke St. Children ages 12-23 months can enjoy stories and more. Free. Registration required, 703-519-5900.
- Family Story Night.** 7 p.m. at Beatley Library, 5005 Duke St. For all ages. Free. 703-51-5900.

TUESDAY/JUNE 24

- Pinwheel Baby Blanket.** 7-9 p.m. at Knit Happens, 127A N. Washington St. Learn to work in the round and increase with this project. \$70. Register at 703-836-0039.
- Baby Booties Crash Course.** 7-9 p.m. at Knit Happens, 127A N. Washington St. learn to increase and decrease. \$50. Register at 703-836-0039.

What's the Matter? 10:30 a.m. at John Marshall Library, 6200 Rose Hill Drive. Children ages 6-12 can explore chemistry with fizz, foam and flash. Free. 703-971-0010.

- Book Discussion.** 7:30 p.m. at Kingstowne Library, 6500 Landsdowne Centre. Discuss "Pontoon" by Garrison Keillor. Free. 703-339-4610.
- Martha's Movie Madness.** 2 p.m. at Martha Washington Library, 6614 Fort Hunt Road. Children ages 6-12 can enjoy a movie and popcorn. Free. 703-768-6700.
- Teen Poetry Workshop.** Meet author Kyndall Brown and learn how to write own poetry at 2 p.m. at Sherwood Regional Library, 2500 Sherwood Hall Lane. For children ages 12 and up. Free. 703-765-3645.
- Time For 2s.** 10 a.m. at Beatley Library, 5005 Duke St. Children ages 24-36 months can enjoy stories and more. Free. Registration required, 703-519-5900.
- SummerQuest Jr.** 10 a.m. or 11 a.m. at Duncan Library, 2501 Commonwealth Ave. Children up to age 5 can enjoy Kaydee Puppets. Free. 703-838-4566.

WEDNESDAY/JUNE 25

- Music Performance.** 7:30 p.m. at Lee District Park Amphitheater, 6601 Telegraph Road. Hear Nothin' Fancy perform. Free. 703-922-9841.
- Writer's Peer Review.** 7 p.m. at Kingstowne Library, 6500 Landsdowne Centre. Review works and receive feedback on own work. Free. 703-339-4610.
- J is for June.** 10:30 a.m. at Sherwood Regional Library, 2500 Sherwood Hall Lane. Children ages 2-5 can have fun with the alphabet and stories. Free. 703-765-3645.
- Open House and Reception.** 6:30-8 p.m. at the Alexandria Black History Museum, 902 Wythe St. The museum celebrates its 25th anniversary. Free. Enjoy free gift, refreshments and more. Visit www.alexblackhistory.org for more.
- Summerquest.** 10 a.m. children up to 5 can enjoy Kaydee puppets; children ages 6-12 at 4 p.m. can enjoy magician Michael Chamberlin. Beatley Library, 5005 Duke St. Free. 703-519-5900.

FROM CRYSTAL CITY WITH LOVE

21 WEEKS OF James BOND 007

Monday Nights are Shaken and Stirred!

Every Monday
May 5 through September 22
Time: Sundown

18th and Bell Street, Crystal City
across from the Crystal City Metro Station

Free. Rain or shine.
Bring your family and a blanket!

CRYSTALCITY
www.crystalcity.org

Outdoor Film Festival
Special contests, prizes, and fun theme nights throughout festival

- May 5 Dr. No (1962)
- May 12 From Russia With Love (1963)
- May 19 Goldfinger (1964)
- May 26 Thunderball (1965)
- June 2 You Only Live Twice (1967)
- June 9 Her Majesty Secret Service (1969)
- June 16 Diamonds Are Forever (1971)
- June 23 Live and Let Die (1973)
- June 30 The Man with the Golden Gun (1974)
- July 7 The Spy Who Loved Me (1977)
- July 14 Moonraker (1979)
- July 21 For Your Eyes Only (1981)
- July 28 Octopussy (1983)
- Aug 4 A View to a Kill (1985)
- Aug 11 The Living Daylights (1987)
- Aug 18 License to Kill (1989)
- Aug 25 GoldenEye (1995)
- Sept 1 Tomorrow Never Dies (1997)
- Sept 8 The World is Not Enough (1999)
- Sept 15 Die Another Day (2002)
- Sept 22 Casino Royale (2006)

13th Annual Columbia Pike Blues Festival

Sat. June 21 12-8pm

Admission Free
Presented by Dog Paws University

Memphis Gold Band
Tom Principato
Melanie Mason
Karl Stoll & The Danger Zone
Danny Blew & The Blues Crew

Brought to you by the Columbia Pike Revitalization Organization
703-892-2776 www.columbiapike.org

Great Music, Food and Fun.
Columbia Pike and S. Walter Reed Dr, Arlington, VA.

Sponsored By:

- Dog Paws University
- Yuengling
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- PikeRide
- Washington Forrest Foundation
- SILVERWOOD
- WOODFIELD INVESTMENTS
- Arlington Connection

Take Metro to the festival: Metrobus 16 will be FREE all day, courtesy of Arlington County Commuter Services. From the Pentagon Metro Station catch the 16 bus to S. Walter Reed Dr.

Music of the Night



SOLA volunteer Mike Ippolito greets the young guests and their families at the entrance of the Schlesinger Hall

The Alexandria Symphony Orchestra held its annual Children's Festival on Sunday, June 8.



As the temperatures outside climbed high into the 90's, guests flocked inside for a hand bell concert, line dancing and the instrument zoo.



A 3 p.m. Maestro Kim Allen Kluge took the stage as Jack Sparrow for the opening selection from *Pirates of the Caribbean*. Artwork created by students in the Alexandria Public Schools was projected on the screen behind the orchestra during the concert.

PHOTOS BY LOUISE KRAFFT/
GAZETTE PACKET



Many children came dressed as pirates for the costume competition. Winners were announced and presented onstage after the performance of Klaus Badelt's "The Curse of the Black Pearl."

Violins, triangles, drums, trombones, French horns were just some of the instruments being heard in the atrium of the Center.

