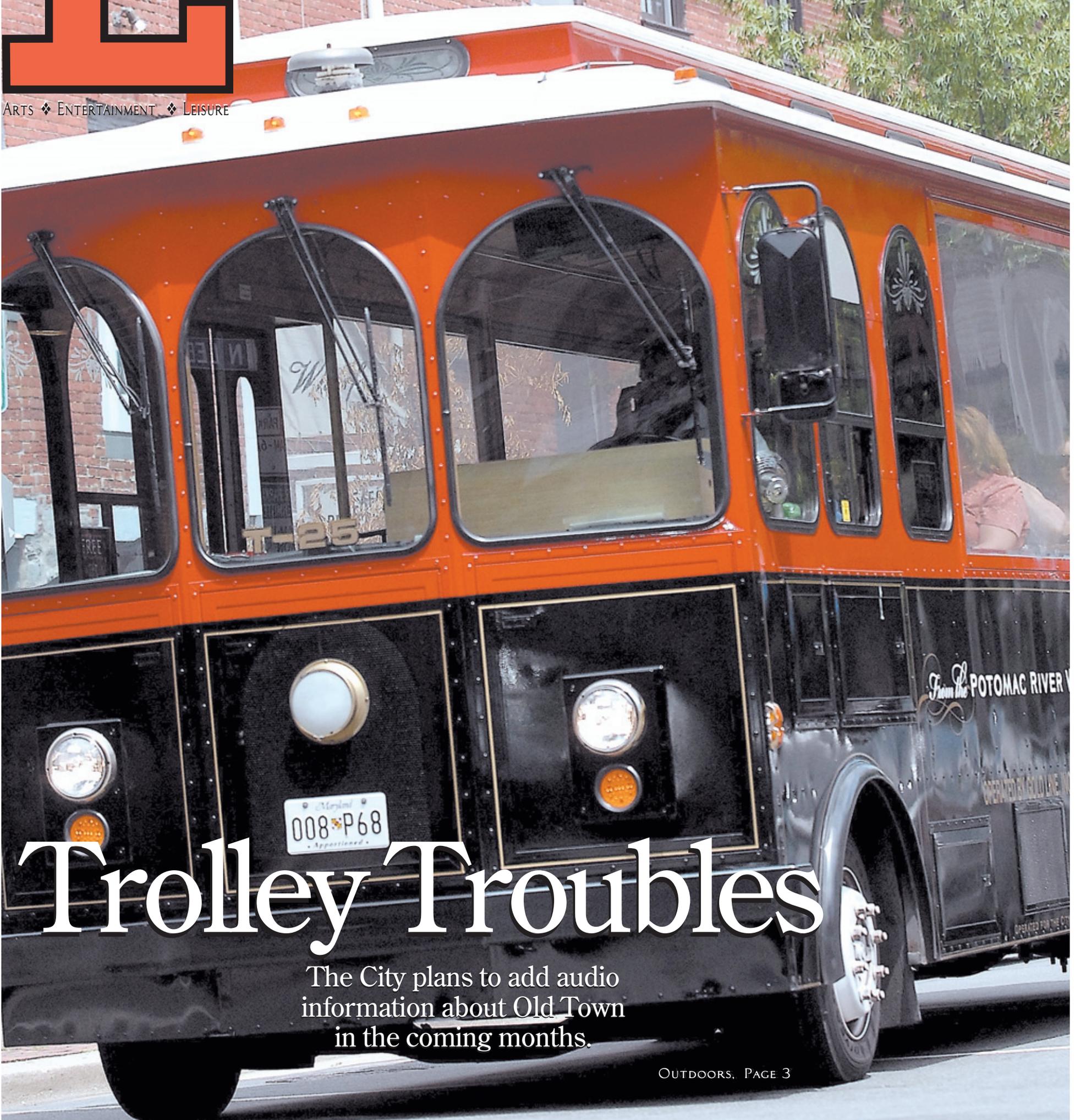


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ARTS ♦ ENTERTAINMENT ♦ LEISURE



Trolley Troubles

The City plans to add audio information about Old Town in the coming months.

ART

Art Night on the Town

Art, music, and history come together for a night in Old Town Alexandria.

BRITTNEY FERGUSON
GAZETTE PACKET

Old Town Alexandria is definitely full of historical buildings, but the local businesses are trying a modern twist by opening up their facilities for a night of fun. And the Torpedo Factory is lighting the way with a monthly night they like to call Second Thursday.

The Torpedo Factory Art Center is located at 105 North Union St. where it over looks the waterfront of Potomac River. Also, numerous restaurants, art galleries, and retail shops reside within a close walking distance from the art center. With three incredible floors full of “82 artists’ studios, six galleries, two workshops, and the Alexandria Archeology Museum” as their Web site states, the building already offers a lot to the public but they are trying to do more.

Mary Cook the Torpedo Factory’s Target Gallery Director said “I feel like it is just another important event that is not just here at the art center but all of Old Town.” Their next up-coming Thursday event is July 10 and the theme is no other than Alive With History.

The building, among other buildings in Old Town Alexandria, has historical value to the community and The Torpedo Factory wants to keep that in mind. The art center was built after World War I to make torpedoes for the



PHOTO PROVIDED BY THE TORPEDO FACTORY ART CENTER

Attendees at past Second Thursday events are joining in the festivities.

do not have to buy. It is open just for an event. It brings people in and they see something” said Logan. Francine B. Livadritis a photographer and resident artist at The Torpedo Factory said “Its [a] great night for people to walk around town and have dinner.”

The event has “activities” that relate to the theme of that night said Zimmnick-Calico. Mary Cook offers “We have wine and cheese usually. There are several other galleries in the building and they will have art openings and they will also have entertainment and reception food.” Cook added, “A lot of the time they will have performers. Last month the theme was Dancing in the Streets and they had several dance studios here, giving free dance lessons.”

Logan also said that “One night ...we all did edible art and we all tried to serve food that looked like art.” So there is always something to look forward to.

However this particular Thursday the event will be a little different. Tara Zimmnick-Calico shares that they will “not [be] having music that night...to focus more on the [art] studios being open.”

But, The Torpedo Factory will be premiering a traveling showcase of Torpedo artists’ works entitled “From Here to There” says Francine B. Livaditis, who also has some of her own works in the show. Mary Cook, who is also in charge of the event, went on to explain “in 2009 it will be our 35th anniversary [of The Torpedo Factory]. And the inspiration behind the show is leading up to that 35th anniversary.”

Mary Cook also went on to add “It just so happens that this month was Alive With History. It helps to kick this off for that as well because it is kind of a celebration of the art centers history [The Torpedo Factory].”

Along with activities of that night, Cook said that “We have a juror named Jenine Culligan and she is the senior curator of the Huntington Museum of Art, in Huntington West Virginia, ”who chose the art pieces in the art show, and she will be here that evening actually to tell us all about it and [there will be] a slide show of the works.”

“We will have a map available at the reception desk so they [visitors] can get a preview before they

Want to attend the Event

Alive With History will take place Thursday July 10th from 6:00pm to 9:00pm at The Torpedo Factory located at 105 N. Union St. For more information about the event visit <http://www.torpedofactory.org/thursday.htm>

[the art work] hit road” said Cook in reference to the event.

“...It is kind of a celebration of the art centers history [The Torpedo Factory].”

- Mary Cook the Torpedo Factory’s Target Gallery Director

U.S. military according to The Torpedo Factory’s Web site, but closed down in 1945 only to reopen as an Art Center in 1947.

In reference to the event, Gloria Logan a resident water color artist at The Torpedo Factory said “I think when they are thinking of history, they are thinking of Alexandria’s history.”

The event theme was chosen by The Old Town Business and Professional Association said Tara Zimmnick-Calico Director of Special Events and Community Liason at The Torpedo Factory and it is “not something that is meant to be limited.” Gloria Logan also went on to share “It is reaching a different audience at night.”

“I think the positive part of it is they

Tara Zimmnick-Calico specified that they are trying to make the Second Thursday event “town wide.” She said that they hand out postcards that list which businesses will be open that evening. Matthew Harwood a water color artist at The Torpedo Factory stated “[the] idea is to bring people into Alexandria.”

Among the art galleries that participate in event, Twig Murray on The Board of Trustees at The Athenaeum explained that they also will be open for this Thursday event. The Athenaeum is the Home of Northern Virginia Art Association and resides in a historic building that used to be the Bank of the Old Dominion where Robert E. Lee did his banking as The Athenaeum’s website describes.

“We thought, that while the attendance is growing for second Thursday, we would

SEE TORPEDO, PAGE 7

PHOTO BY LOUISE KRAFFT/
GAZETTE PACKET

ON THE COVER: One of the trolleys on King Street.

E Staff

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OUTDOORS

A Streetcar Named Disaster?

Merchants fume that the free trolley service whisks customers away.

BY MICHAEL LEE POPE
GAZETTE PACKET

Every 15 minutes a trolley loaded with potential customers glides by Nickell's & Scheffler, a lunchtime favorite on Upper King Street. But those who take the free trolley service from the Metro station to the waterfront

During the first week of service, the trolleys had 8,000 boarders. The next week it had 9,000 riders. By the third week, boarding had moved to 13,000 individuals. That accounts for well more than 40,000 users during the first month alone. Yet many King Street merchants on Upper King Street say the trolley service had decimated their business by shuttling their customers toward the waterfront.

may never get a chance to taste the shrimp etouffee that was on the menu one recent Friday. That infuriates chef Louis Nickell, who said the city should find a way to actively

"I think the trolley service has diminished the foot traffic of people walking by our store."

— Carla Clarke,
assistant manager of
Today's Cargo

encourage people to get off the trolley instead of taking the free ride all the way to Union Street.

"There goes one now," Nickell said, his voice rising in agitation. "It's full of people, and I'm not getting any business from it."

Since the city launched the \$1-million-a-year trolley service in April, ridership has steadily increased as the distinctive crimson vehicles amble up and down the King Street corridor.

"People are like cattle, and they'll get on the trolley and take it all the way to the waterfront," he said. "Somebody should find a way to make them get off."

CITY OFFICIALS say they want trolley passengers to know about Alexandria's extensive history and varied merchants. That's why the Alexandria Visitors and Convention Association worked with the Office of Historic Alexandria to craft a script for an audio recording that will soon be broadcast on all the King Street trolleys. The audio recordings have already been piloted on some trolleys, and all vehicles are expected to be fully equipped by the time two additional vehicles arrive next month.

"It's designed to encourage people to hop on and hop off," said Stephanie Brown, president of the association. "At this point, we are anxious to see if the audio makes a difference."

Each recording is separated into two distinct parts: a history component and a promotional pitch for merchants in the area near the stop. Four different scripts have been programmed for the history component, which will feature Revolutionary War, the Civil War, archeology and African-American history. They can be used interchangeably and will be paired with a stan-



PHOTOS BY LOUISE KRAFT/GAZETTE

The trolley makes a stop on King Street.

dardized script that will announce the kinds of merchants that are within walking distance.

"We are not going to be mentioning any specific businesses in the audio recordings," said Brown. "The most we have is 30 seconds between stops, and it would be logistically impossible to mention every store and restaurant located between stops."

EVEN AS THE trolleys are outfitted with audio recordings, businesses are becoming increasingly hostile to the idea that the free shuttle service was such a good idea in the first place. With the increased amount of tourist traffic, many say they have not seen the gains they anticipated, and the trolley service has become a source of frustration as sales dwindle.

"I think the trolley service has diminished the foot traffic of people walking by our store," said Carla Clarke, assistant manager

of Today's Cargo, which recently moved from the 300 block of Cameron Street to the 1100 block of King Street. "We are definitely not seeing the number of tourists that we saw last year."

Not all the merchants on Upper King Street are opposed to the trolley. Arts Afire owner Joe Edgerton said he's had more customers this year than any other previous year, an increase he said the trolley service has facilitated by easing navigation through Old Town. Edgerton said that once the audio function has been fully enabled, more people might be enticed to get off in an area of Upper King Street the recorded script calls "Uptown Old Town."

"Half of the people you see on the trolley are Alexandria residents taking it for the free ride," said Edgerton. "How could I be opposed to the trolley when I've got more people coming into the gallery than ever before?"

Happy Birthday Alexandria "Own" a piece of the City by "bidding" on July 13.

BY CHUCK HAGEE
GAZETTE

One week after the nation honors the 232nd anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence with traditional July 4 celebrations from sea to shining sea, Alexandria once again shows its independence by celebrating its own 259th birthday on Saturday, July 12. That is if Mother Nature cooperates.

Scheduled from 4 p.m. to 10 p.m. at Oronoco Bay Park, 100 Madison St., the annual localized celebration features a performance by the Alexandria Symphony Orchestra, with Maestro Kim Allen Kluge conducting. Their performance this year highlights the "Big Band Sound" of the 30's and 40's.

Following the concert, attendees will be treated to a fireworks display over the Potomac River. In the event of inclement weather, only the fireworks will be rescheduled for Sunday, July 13, at 9:30 p.m.

The other high point of the celebration will be the presentation of the 2008 Park and Recreation Commission's CIVIC Awards to "unsung volunteer efforts of Alexandrians who are involved in their communities and who have provided a valuable service to Alexandria in meeting, recreation, park or cultural needs." The awards will be presented by Alexandria Mayor William D. Euille at 7:30 p.m.

Other activities and their times include:
4 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. - Community Exhibitors and children's activities with food and beverages available

6 p.m. - Jazz performances by the Vaughn

Ambrose Quartet

8 p.m. - Distribution of birthday cake by the Mayor and members of City Council

8:30 p.m. - Performance by the Alexandria Symphony Orchestra

9:30 p.m. - Grand Finale fireworks display culminating with the symphony orchestra playing Tchaikovsky's "1812 Overture" with cannon support from the United States Marine Corps', Basic Training School, Quantico, Va.

Oronoco Bay Park has lawn seating and attendees are encouraged to bring lawn chairs and blankets. Although food and beverages will be available, everyone is welcome to bring their own picnic. However, no grilling is allowed.

Visitors not in walking distance are encouraged to take the Metro Yellow or Blue lines to the King Street Station and board

the King Street Trolley, DASH or Metro buses to the park. The new free King Street Trolley will operate on an extended schedule for those returning to the King Street Metro Station.

The last trolley will depart lower King Street at 11:45 p.m. For DASH schedule information call 703-370-DASH or visit dashbus.com. For Metrobus schedule information call 202-637-7000 or visit wmata.com.

For those driving, parking is available in a number of parking garages and lots scattered throughout Old Town within easy walking distance of the celebration site, including the municipal garage under Market Square Plaza. Its entrance is from the 100 block of North Fairfax Street.

SEE BIRTHDAY, PAGE 6



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The winning entry will be selected Saturday, August 2, at 2 p.m. 703-548-4092 www.hooray4books.com

CALENDAR

E-mail announcements to the Gazette, gazette@connectionnewspapers.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

See a replica **Liberty Bell** everyday through **July 6** at Mount Vernon Estate from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. \$13/adult; \$12/senior; \$6/child. Visit www.mountvernon.org for more.

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/JULY 4

Independence at Mount Vernon. 8 a.m.-5 p.m. at Mount Vernon Estate. Enjoy a variety of events including meeting General and Mrs. Washington. \$13/adult; \$6/child; children under 5 free. Visit www.mountvernon.org for more.

Organ Concert. 10 a.m. at St. Paul's Church, 228 S. Pitt St. Features "Stars and Stripes Forever" and more. Free. Visit www.stpaulsepis.com or 703-549-3312.

Storytime 10:30 a.m. at Hooray For Books!, 1555 King St. Children age 2 and under can enjoy stories, songs, and rhymes. Free. Visit www.hooray4books.com or 703-548-0492.

SATURDAY/JULY 5

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

Garden Sprouts: Water, Water Everywhere. 10 a.m. at Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road. Children ages 3-5 can learn about the Chesapeake Bay, make an ocean in a bottle and more. \$6/child. 703-642-5173 to register.

Storytime 11 a.m. at Hooray For Books!, 1555 King St. Children ages 2-5 can get in the mood for sun, sand, and waves with stories like "Beach Bugs" and a craft about the seashore. Free. Visit www.hooray4books.com or 703-548-0492.

SUNDAY/JULY 6

Music Performance. The Washington Metropolitan Youth Orchestra will perform with the Washington Metropolitan Philharmonic at 3 p.m. at the Lyceum, 201 S. Washington St. Free. Visit www.wmpa.us for more.

MONDAY/JULY 7

Let's Go. 2:30 p.m. at John Marshall Library, 6209 Rose Hill Drive. All ages can take part in Tracey Eldridge's musical trip. Free. 703-971-0010.

Teddy Bear Picnic. 10:30 a.m. at Kingstowne Library, 6500 Landsdowne Centre. Children ages 24-35 months can bring favorite stuffed animal and listen to songs and stories. Free. 703-339-4610.

Comics Around the World. 7 p.m. at Martha Washington Library, 6614 Fort Hunt Road. Age 12-18. See comics from around the world and create your own. Free. 703-768-6700.

TUESDAY/JULY 8

Let's Go. 7 p.m. at Kingstowne Library, 6500 Landsdowne Centre. All ages



The Marine Chamber Orchestra will perform at 7:30 p.m. on Saturday, July 12 at the Schlesinger Center. Free.

can take part in Tracey Eldridge's musical trip. 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 with popcorn. Free. 703-768-6700.

Book Group. 7 p.m. at Martha Washington Library, 6614 Fort Hunt Road. Discuss "Amsterdam" by Ian McEwan. Free. 703-768-6700.

WEDNESDAY/JULY 9

Music Performance. 7:30 p.m. at Lee District Park Amphitheater, 6601 Telegraph Road. Hear Billy Coulter perform. Free. 703-922-9841.

Lunch Bunnies. Noon at Kingstowne Library, 6500 Landsdowne Centre. Children ages 1-5 can bring lunch and have fun. Free. 703-339-4610.

Rising Words, Rising Images. 11 a.m. at Sherwood Regional Library, 2501 Sherwood Hall Lane. Discuss "Golden Tales: Myths, Legends and Folktales from Latin America" by Lulu Delacre. Children ages 9-12. Free. 703-765-3645.

THURSDAY/JULY 10

Let's Play. 2 p.m. at John Marshall Library, 6209 Rose Hill Drive. Children ages 6-12 can learn how to play games from around the world. Free. 703-971-0010.

Music Performance. 7 p.m. at the Athenaeum, 201 Prince St. Hear music by the Harley String Band. \$10/person. Visit www.nvfaa.org or 703-548-0035.

Second Thursday Art Night. 6-9 p.m. in the Torpedo Factory, 105 N. Union St. Browse studios, enjoy refreshments and more. Free. Visit www.torpedofactory.org or 703-838-4565.

Author Reading. Solveig Eggerz will read from her book "Seal Woman, A Novel" at 7 p.m. at Olsson's Old Town, 106 S. Union St. Free. 703-684-0077.

FRIDAY/JULY 11

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/performances for more.

Friday Flicks. Noon at John Marshall Library, 6209 Rose Hill Drive. Children up to age 5 can bring lunch and enjoy stories and a short movie. Free. 703-971-0010.

Nursery Tales & Mother Goose Rhymes. 10:30 a.m. at Martha Washington Library, 6614 Fort Hunt Road. Children ages 2-5 can enjoy stories, crafts and activities. Free. 703-768-6700.

Lunch Bunnies. Noon at Sherwood Regional Library, 2501 Sherwood Hall Lane. Children ages 1-5 can bring lunch and enjoy stories. Free. 703-765-3645.

SATURDAY/JULY 12

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

Music Performance. The Marine Chamber Orchestra will perform at

7:30 p.m. at the Schlesinger Concert Hall, 3001 N. Beauregard St. Free. Visit www.nvcc.edu or 703-845-6156.

Deedious Tree ID. 8:30-10:30 a.m. at Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road. Learn how to identify trees and more. \$20/person. 703-642-5173.

Picnics and More. 10:30 a.m. at Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road. Enjoy games, food and more. Order a picnic or bring one. \$40/picnic or \$12/adult; \$5/child. 703-642-5173.

City Birthday Celebration. 4-10 p.m. at Oronoco Bay Park, 100 Madison St. Features music by the Alexandria Symphony Orchestra, fireworks and more. Free. Visit www.alexandriava.gov for more.

What's the Matter? 2:30 p.m. at Kingstowne Library, 6500 Landsdowne Centre. Children ages 6-12 can learn about chemistry through fizz, foam and flash. Free. 703-339-4610.

Mr. Brian and the Boppets. 10:30 a.m. at Martha Washington Library, 6614 Fort Hunt Road. All ages can enjoy puppet fun. Free. 703-768-6700.

Family Dig Day. 1:30-3 p.m. at Masonic Memorial, 101 Callahan Drive. \$5/person. Participate in a "real" dig. Reservations required, www.alexandriarchaeology.org or 703-838-4399.

Author Reading. Susan Richards will read from her book "Chosen Forever, A Memoir" at 7 p.m. at Olsson's Old Town, 106 S. Union St. Free. 703-684-0077.

SUNDAY/JULY 13

Dog Wash. 11 a.m.-3 p.m. at Dogtopia, 3121 Colvin St. Enjoy games, food and more with donations going to K9

Support Charity. Free. 703-751-7387. **Artist Talk.** The Crossroads Gallery, 3440 S. Jefferson St., Falls Church, will host an Artists Talk and Reception with Alexandria Native Audrey Grissom and her son Alex about their exhibit "Two Ways of Seeing by a Mother and a Son," from 4-6 p.m. Free.

Music Performance. Pianist Haskell Small will perform with the Washington Metropolitan Philharmonic at 3 p.m. at the Lyceum, 201 S. Washington St. Free. Visit www.wmpa.us for more.

MONDAY/JULY 14

Music Performance. The Alexandria Guitar Festival will have performances at 1 p.m. at the Old Presbyterian Meeting House, 321 S. Fairfax St. Free. Visit www.alexandriaguitarfestival.com for more.

Book Discussion. 10:30 a.m. at Martha Washington Library, 6614 Fort Hunt Road. Discuss "Geeks: How Two Lost Boys Rode the Internet Out of Idaho" by Jon Katz. Free. 703-768-6700.

Day at the Beach. 10:30 a.m. at Sherwood Regional Library, 2501 Sherwood Hall Lane. Children ages 6-12 can learn about animals, sand, waves, tides and more. Free. 703-765-3645.

Book Discussion. 7:30 p.m. at Sherwood Regional Library, 2501 Sherwood Hall Lane. Discuss "Peace Like a River" by Lief Enger." Free. 703-684-0077.

TUESDAY/JULY 15

Music Performance. The Alexandria Guitar Festival will have performances at 1 p.m. at the Old

Presbyterian Meeting House, 321 S. Fairfax St. Free. Visit www.alexandriaguitarfestival.com for more.

Garden Getaway. 9 a.m.-4 p.m. at Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road. Explore two gardens and tour the Franciscan Monastery, but bring a lunch. \$55/person. 703-642-5173.

On the Ball. 7 p.m. at John Marshall Library, 6209 Rose Hill Drive. Children ages 6-12 can see former Harlem Globetrotter Spinny Johnson perform tricks. Free. 703-971-0010.

Summertime Fun. 10:30 a.m. at Kingstowne Library, 6500 Landsdowne Centre. Children ages 13-23 months can enjoy stories and activities. Free. 703-339-4610.

WEDNESDAY/JULY 16

Music Performance. 7:30 p.m. at Lee District Park Amphitheater, 6601 Telegraph Road. Hear Last Train Home perform. Free. 703-922-9841.

Papermaking Workshop. 10 a.m.-noon at Art at the Center, 25 S. Quaker Lane. Children and accompanying adult can make paper in a studio setting. All ages are welcome. \$20. 703-581-5598 or www.artatthecenter.org.

Music Performance. The Alexandria Guitar Festival will have performances at 1 p.m. at the Old Presbyterian Meeting House, 321 S. Fairfax St. Free. Visit www.alexandriaguitarfestival.com for more.

Concert Series. 4:30 p.m. or 8 p.m. at Masonic Memorial, 101 Callahan Drive. Hear music by a variety of guitarists. \$25/evening or \$12/afternoon. Visit www.alexandriaguitarfestival.com.



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CELEBRATION



Vice Mayor Redella "Del" Pepper helps hand out birthday cupcakes at last year's birthday celebration.

Celebrate Alexandria

FROM PAGE 3

THIS YEAR'S CELEBRATION will continue on Sunday, July 13, with the recreation of a 1749 public land auction at Market Square beginning at 2 p.m. The public is invited to enter into the "bidding."

All bids must be placed with "pound notes." Successful bidders will receive commemorative deeds, according to the Office of Historic Alexandria, under whose aegis the event is taking place.

To participate in the auction, bidders are asked to embrace the bartering spirit of the 18th century and bring non-perishable food items to be donated to Alexandria's food bank, ALIVE.

Bidders will receive five pounds for every food item donated. For those preferring the more modern approach, donate \$2 in lieu of a food item and receive pound notes.

Alexandria was officially established on May 11, 1749, by an act of the Virginia Assembly. Its boundaries were from Oronoco to Duke streets and from Royal Street to the Potomac River, according to the Office of Historic Alexandria.

Local surveyor John West, Jr., laid out the town's boundaries. On July 13 and 14, 1749, the people had the opportunity to bid on 84 half acre lots. That scene will be reenacted on July 13.

NATIONAL HARBOR



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An Alexandria Police Officer and his dog enjoys the festivities during last year's birthday celebration.

PHOTOS BY LOUISE KRAFFT/ GAZETTE PACKET

MUSIC

Harley String Perform

The Harley String Band, consisting of Jim Johnson, Steve Coffee and Jim Clark, will be performing on Tuesday, July 10 at The Athenaeum, in conjunction with Second Thursdays. More information on the band can be found at www.harleystringband.com.

How did you get your start in music and how long have you been performing?

We're old farts that have been playing casually for many years, but each of us has begun writing in earnest over the last five or so years and performing together for a couple.

I used to play in Arlington schools in character as "the Garbage man," singing about recycling and the environment. The kids would send me these great thank you cards that they made.

If applicable, How were your musicians chosen?

We met through the Songwriters Association of Washington.

What is it that you love about performing?

The stage fright. Seriously, it's the opportunity to see people respond to something you've created. We'd all love it if someone famous covered our songs, but until that happens, we'll just have to keep playing them for anyone who'll listen.

What is your best memory when it comes to music?



For more with Harley String Band, visit www.connectionnewspapers.com

Hmm. Would it be listening to my grandparents harmonize on "Swing Low Sweet Chariot" or seeing Sly and the Family Stone at age 16. (I want to take you higher.)

Where is your favorite place to play, either publicly or personally?

I think our favorite place is the Falls Church farmers market. It's totally spontaneous and unplugged. People sit around in the shade, make requests, interrupt us—and throw money at us.

— REBECCA HALIK

Art on Display at Torpedo

FROM PAGE 2

make it more of a destination. So we are doing that" she said.

During their event, Murray said "we will be having the Harley String Band performing. We put up some chairs and the gallery is open. So people can come in and listen to the performance and look at the art."

The artwork which will be on display during the event is called "The Long View" by "Ten Members of The Washington Society of Landscape Painters." Twig said that for their event they "charge a \$10 admis-

sion." The Northern Virginia Art Association then splits the proceeds with The Songwriters Association of Washington, which helps find local musicians to perform at these events. She said "we own the building and we fill it with art and music and we try to make it available to the public."

In hopes of uniting local art galleries to bring an entertaining night to the local community, Cook said "We try to do a lot of programming and things for Second Thursday just to have extra fun things for people to do." Murray commented, "We have something fabulous and we are trying to share it."



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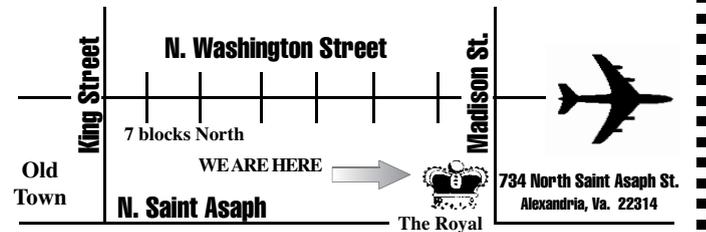
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First Day Issue of John F. Kennedy commemorative memorial stamp, 1963.



"Get Rich" memorabilia from former council member Lonnie Rich's campaigns.

Memories of Elections Past

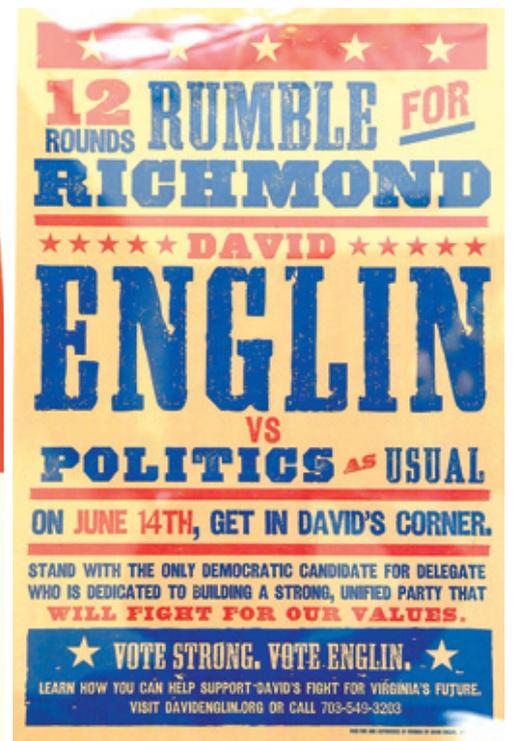
Buttons and other memorabilia were up for sale in the silent auction before the Jefferson-Jackson Dinner dinner last Friday evening at the Mark Hilton.



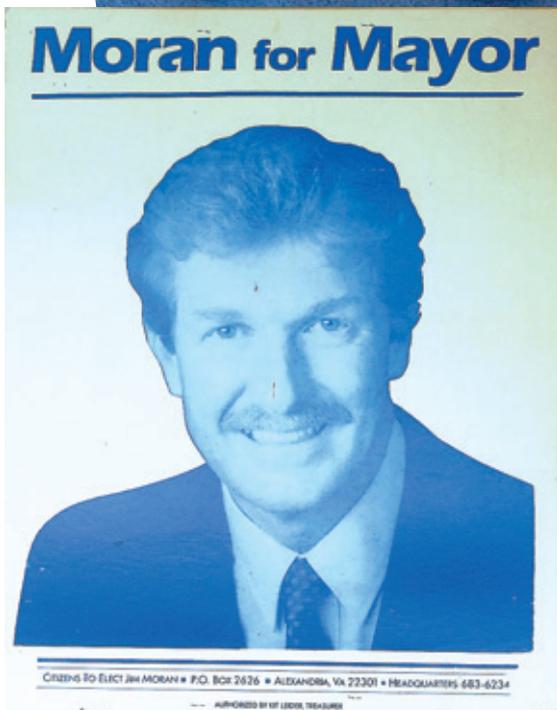
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PHOTOS BY LOUISE KRAFFT/GAZETTE
David Englin "Rumble for Richmond" framed poster.



Through the Years with Jim Moran, early campaign poster.



"Al Smith for President" campaign sign from 1928.