

# Alexandria Gazette Packet

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VOL. CCXXIV, No. 52

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DECEMBER 22, 2008



PHOTO BY CHUCK HAGEE/THE GAZETTE

**A crowd of volunteers gathered at Alexandria National Cemetery to participate in the annual Wreaths Across America ceremony which honors the nation's war dead during the holiday season.**

## Christmas Wreaths of Honor

**Before Arlington, there was Alexandria National Cemetery.**

BY CHUCK HAGEE  
GAZETTE PACKET

**M**ore than 500 Christmas wreaths were placed on graves throughout Alexandria National Cemetery during a noon hour ceremony on Saturday, Dec. 13, as a part of the nationwide event known as "Wreaths Across America." A volunteer effort, it honors those that made the ultimate sacrifice in America's wars from Valley Forge

to today's combat in the Middle East.

This was the 17th year for this holiday ceremony that was initiated by Morrill Worcester, president, Worcester Wreath Company, Harrington, Maine. What started with a few hundred wreaths placed on graves at Arlington National Cemetery has grown to encompass national and state cemeteries as well as veterans memorials in virtually every corner of the nation.

"The mission of 'Wreaths Across America' is to Remember-Honor-and-Teach. Remember the fallen. Honor those who serve. Teach our children the value of freedom," according to Worcester. And, that was the essence of the ceremonies at Alexandria and Arlington National Cemeteries.

Patrick Gallagher, volunteer leader of

SEE CHRISTMAS, PAGE 20

## Recession Displaces Pets

**More dogs and cats ending up at shelter.**

BY CHUCK HAGEE  
GAZETTE PACKET

**E**veryone knows the human side of the economy implosion — loss of jobs, loss of homes, loss of retirement funds, loss of personal dignity and self worth. But, there is a hidden side — loss of a pet.

Nowhere is that more apparent than at animal shelters across the nation. And the Animal Welfare League of Alexandria shelter on Eisenhower Avenue is no exception. Cash-strapped pet owners have just recently begun to arrive in ever-escalating numbers to place their pets up for adoption.

"We began to notice, beginning in late August and early September, an increase in people bringing in their animals because they could no longer afford to keep them.

**"Sometimes people need us to help them through the guilt."**

**—Megan Brooks, director, Shelter Operations**

more and more influenced by economic circumstances such as loss of jobs, tight money situations, having to move and other factors based on the economy," she said.

Even though the shelter seems to receive

By mid-October people started volunteering the information that they were turning the pet over to us because of losing their homes to foreclosure," said Megan Brooks, director, Shelter Operations.

"Since then people are being more and more influenced by economic circumstances such as loss of jobs, tight money situations, having to move and other factors based on the economy," she said.



PHOTO BY CHUCK HAGEE/THE GAZETTE

**Megan Brooks, director, Shelter Operations, holds "Tigger," a four year old tabby cat, now residing at the Animal Welfare League Shelter of Alexandria due to his owners' need to put him up for adoption as a result of losing their home to foreclosure.**

more dogs, they are also more likely to be adopted than cats. "We have far more cats than anything else. We also have a lot of kittens," Brooks said.

Although they also are victims of the shrinking economy, Brooks attributed the increase in kittens to warmer weather than usual. "Cats are in heat more in warmer weather. They can have several litters in a year. And, the last couple of winters have been warmer than normal," she said.

"We have been very fortunate that our dogs are being adopted so readily. I attribute that to people tending to prefer dogs as well as the publicity we have been getting from the media about the economic/foreclosure impact on pets," said Brooks, a 15 year veteran at the shelter.

To encourage more adoptions, particu-

SEE RECESSION, PAGE 25

## Judge Hears Case on West End Ethanol-Loading Station

**Norfolk Southern Railroad challenges city-issued permit in federal court.**

BY MICHAEL LEE POPE  
GAZETTE PACKET

**C**ity officials don't usually issue permits to businesses that don't request them. But almost nothing about Norfolk Southern Railroad's ethanol-

loading station on the West End has taken place under normal circumstances.

First the company began operations in April even though railroad officials knew the city did not have the proper firefighting equipment to battle an ethanol fire. Then, when City Council members found out about the facility in May, Mayor Bill Euille vowed to do everything in his power to shut down operations at the Van Dorn Yard. By June, city officials were ready to restrict the number of trucks loaded with ethanol allowed to use city streets. There was only one problem: Nobody applied.

"Most companies are not so obdurate as to refuse to apply for the necessary permits,"

said City Attorney Ignacio Pessoa. "But this was a case where we wanted to impose conditions, so we went ahead and issued the permit."

The "haul-route permit" that was unilaterally issued on June 4 restricted the roads used by the ethanol-laden trucks, limiting the hours of operation from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. and restricting the number of daily trucks to 20. A few days later Norfolk Southern filed a federal lawsuit arguing that the city authority is preempted by federal laws regulating railroads, rail safety and railroad transportation of hazardous materials. After hearing motions for summary judgment on Dec. 18, Judge James Cacheris an-

nounced that he would be ready to rule on the case in February in a case that will likely have national significance.

"Other municipalities like Alexandria might decide to issue haul permits," said Norfolk Southern Vice President David Lawson during an October deposition in the case. "Then all of a sudden this cascading effect of haul permits could have very negative and detrimental effect on interstate commerce for the movement of ethanol or any other potentially hazardous material."

**NORFOLK SOUTHERN** has operated in

SEE RAILROAD, PAGE 20



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## GOP Bullish on Fannon

It's been eight years since Republicans have had any success electing candidates to the Alexandria City Council, but hopes are high for potential candidate **Frank Fannon**. Although Fannon says that he will not make a formal declaration until January, the Alexandria GOP is becoming increasingly bullish about the possibility of a Fannon campaign.

Republican leaders say Fannon's experience as a mortgage banker at SunTrust has given him the kind of connections that are needed to network and raise money, and his family has lived in Alexandria for five generations. He served as finance chairman for Alexandria's 250th Anniversary Commission and is a former president of the Alexandria Sportsman Club. Alexandria City Republican Committee chairman **Chris Marston** said Fannon's reputation in the business community could be a strong asset in the coming City Council election in May.

"It's a plurality election, so you don't have to come in first — you just have to come in sixth," said Marston. "Frank has been a voice for small business in Alexandria, and I think there are a lot of voters who will feel that they have a lot in common with Frank."

## Looney Tunes Voters

While campaigning at the Republican caucus at the William Ramsay Recreation Center last week, Attorney General candidate **David Foster** said one of his major goals if elected would be to combat voter fraud. He said he would like to investigate allegations of voter fraud anywhere in the commonwealth and work with other states to eliminate dual registrations. He wants to make sure that the absentee ballots sent by members of the armed forces are not thrown out for what he calls "technical reason," and he wants to make sure that registration drives don't become cartoonishly fraudulent.

"If ACORN was registering **Mickey Mouse** in Florida," he cracked while greeting voters, "there's no telling which Warner Brothers characters they registered up here."

## The 3 a.m. Call

Being an elected official at the local level is not an easy job, and City Council members are often approached in grocery stores, while driving and even while taking communion at church. Persistent constituents are everywhere for City Council members, and they are willing to lobby at any hour of the day, even 3 a.m.

During a campaign kickoff event at the Majestic Restaurant for Councilman **Rob Krupicka**, former Lt. Gov. **Don Beyer** told a story about a friend who was recently elected to the Danville City Council. After he had been on the council for about three months, he received a call at 3 a.m. from a woman complaining that a streetlight was not working.

"He got it fixed the next day," Beyer explained. "Then when he went to bed the next day he set his alarm for 2:55. At 3 o'clock he called her up to make sure she knew that light was working."

## Turf Wars

The Democratic primary for governor of Virginia has created some fast-moving politics, with former Democratic National Committee chairman **Terry McAuliffe** gallivanting around the commonwealth to build support for his campaign while state Sen. **Creigh Deeds** (D-25) and former Del. **Brian Moran** (D-46) announce a steady stream of endorsements.

For the most part, Democratic senators support Deeds while Democratic House members support Moran. Nobody is all that surprised about the collegial nature of the collegial divide, but one senator felt so strongly about the primary that she crossed sides and endorsed the other side's candidate. State Sen. **Patsy Ticer** (D-30) has endorsed Moran, whose older brother U.S. Rep. **Jim Moran** (D-8) was a colleague on the Alexandria City Council in the 1980s.

"I had to go with the hometown boy," said Ticer. "I've been around the Morans too many years to do anything else, and I consider them both very good friends."

— MICHAEL LEE POPE

## NEWS

# When Lightning Strikes

West End attorney was in right place at right time for Democratic caucus.

BY MICHAEL LEE POPE  
GAZETTE PACKET

Even as speculation swirled about how former Del. Brian Moran (D-46) would handle a simultaneous campaign for re-election to his House seat while launching a gubernatorial bid, Charniele Herring was already putting the pieces together for her own campaign. Herring, who is president of the West End Business Association and a family-law attorney, publicly acknowledged as early as April that she was considering a candidacy. That was shortly after former Mayor Kerry Donley resigned his position with Alexandria City Public Schools specifically to run for the House of Delegates. Yet Herring was willing to take on the popular former mayor in a Democratic primary that was shaping up to be a race that might split Democratic voters in the city.

Then everything changed.

Kerry abandoned his campaign for the House in favor of seeking a seat on the City Council. A few weeks later Moran unexpectedly resigned his House seat to focus on his gubernatorial race, leaving Herring to face attorney Ariel González in a five-day campaign that culminated in a firehouse caucus at the William Ramsay Recreation Center. Because the district tends to vote overwhelmingly Democratic, the lightning fast primary became a source of concern for both of the candidates.

### Democratic Caucus

- ❖ Charniele Herring: 191 votes
- ❖ Ariel Gonzalez: 43 votes

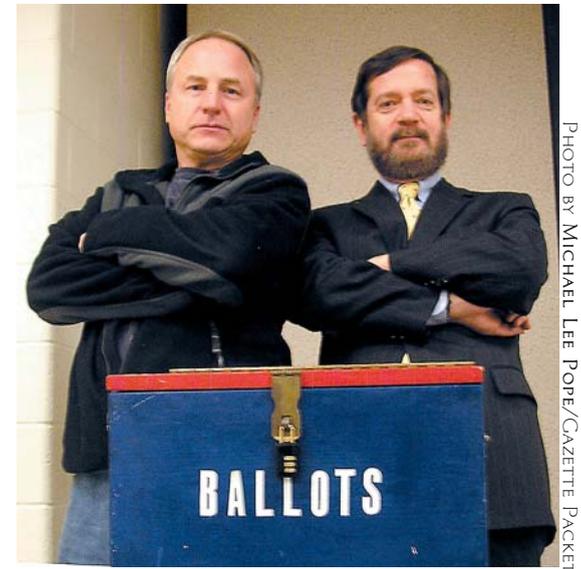


PHOTO BY MICHAEL LEE POPE/GAZETTE PACKET

Sheriff Dana Lawhorne, left, and Commonwealth's Attorney Randy Sengel guard the ballot box during the Democratic caucus.

"Three days is not nearly enough time to publicize any election, let alone to give the voters of the 46th District the amount of time necessary to learn what these candidates stand for," González said in a written statement shortly before the final hours of voting. "I would have welcomed an opportunity to rebut attacks on my ties to the community, which are strong and long lasting."

González barely even had an opportunity to greet voters by the time polls closed on the evening of Dec.

SEE ATTORNEY PAGE 18

# The Six-Hour Candidate

Law student filed paperwork in one afternoon and became nominee that evening.

BY MICHAEL LEE POPE  
GAZETTE PACKET

In what may be the fastest political rise in Alexandria history, third-year law student Joe Murray filed paperwork to become a candidate at 3:42 p.m. on Dec. 16 and was announced as the party's nominee for the 46th District of the Virginia House of Delegates at 9:11 p.m. It was yet another surprising development in

### Republican Caucus

- ❖ Joe Murray: 20 votes
- ❖ Phil Cefaratti: 16 votes
- ❖ Sasha Gong: 13 votes



Murray, right, watches as votes are counted in the arts-and-crafts room of William Ramsay Recreation Center.

the rapid-fire politics set in motion by the sudden resignation of former Del. Brian Moran (D-46) on Dec. 12. Considering both parties were only able to muster less than 1 percent of the 44,000 registered voters in the West End district, election officials and party

leaders are expected an exceptionally light turnout for the Jan. 13 special election.

"This is a district where Democrats usually take about 80 percent of the vote," admitted Chris

SEE LAW STUDENT PAGE 18

## PEOPLE

# Seeing Differently

Roy Priest takes more than a bricks and mortar approach to housing.

BY CHUCK HAGEE  
GAZETTE PACKET

**R**oy Priest, the outside expert that the Alexandria Redevelopment and Housing Authority (ARHA) turned to on an interim basis when former ARHA Executive Director William Dearman resigned, has become an inside expert on a permanent basis. That was officially announced in October.

With a long and successful background in both public housing management and urban renewal/redevelopment, Priest quickly established a working rapport with ARHA's four primary constituents: Alexandria City Council, the U.S. Department of Housing & Urban Development (HUD), ARHA residents, and ARHA staff. That has produced positive results for the often beleaguered agency and its mission.

"When I got into what it was really going to take to move the agency forward, I realized that I did not want to start something that I was not going to be able to finish if I remained on a consulting basis only," Priest said as he discussed his philosophy of urban evolution seated in his North Fairfax Street ARHA headquarters office.

"When I really began to delve into the redevelopment aspects of ARHA I saw that its configuration is much better than most cities I've worked with over the years. Our public housing is well dispersed throughout this city," he said.

A native of the District of Columbia, Priest was with HUD for 17 years in a variety of capacities beginning as the director of Community Planning and Development in the Buffalo, NY, Regional Office in 1980 and eventually becoming the director of HUD's Office of Economic Development from 1990 to 1997. Following his HUD years, Priest founded his own firm, Community Development Concepts, Inc., which provided technical assistance to non-profit organizations and foundations.

"The greatest challenge facing ARHA presently is being able to establish itself as a high performance agency in today's economic environment. How do we sustain ourselves with the amount of subsidies we now receive from HUD?" he asked rhetorically.

"If HUD grants don't increase we will just have to learn how to be



**ARHA's Executive Director Roy Priest studies a model of the proposed Bland development that will incorporate both public and market rate housing similar to Chatham Square.**

more self sufficient. We don't receive any operating funds from the city. We never have and I don't foresee asking for any," Priest said.

"Even if the new President said he would return HUD to full funding, we wouldn't see any real increase until 2011 at the earliest. What I'm more optimistic about is the new administration embracing urban issues. But, even that's going to take some time given the many problems facing President-elect Obama," he said.

**IT IS THAT KIND** of realistic appraisal and approach to the challenges ahead that convinced the ARHA Board of Commissioners that they wanted Roy Priest on a permanent basis — not just as a consultant/interim executive director.

"He has done a tremendous job since he came aboard. And, he has stepped in at a time when we had a lot of demands," said ARHA Board Chair A. Melvin Miller.

"Roy works well with both the city administration and elected leaders. He has already accomplished a lot for us. That's why we hired him," Miller said.

"He has done very well. He has built bridges with the city that have been beneficial. I just hope we are able to stay on our mission," said Ruby Tucker who is retiring from the ARHA Board after 12 years of service.

Their appraisals were buttressed by ARHA Board Vice Chair Carlyle C. "Connie" Ring, Jr. "There is a very good relationship between Roy, the city and the ARHA staff. It's a fair wind that blowing but

SEE PRIEST, PAGE 26



## Saluting Little League Teams

**Mayor Bill Euille and the Alexandria City Council present the Alexandria Little League 2008 U10, U-11, U-12 and Juniors All Star teams with a proclamation congratulating them for outstanding achievement in this past summer's All-Star tournaments.**



## Tour D' Essay

**The Fourth Annual Tour D' Essay, which is sponsored by the Beiro family and started by the late Alex Beiro, was held at St. Rita School on Wednesday, Dec. 14. Mayor Bill Euille talked to the children about the meaning of Christmas. The children wrote essays and the winner from each grade won a new bike from the Bicycle Pro Shop on Duke Street.**



## Planning Reception for 'Living Legends'

**The Living Legends of Alexandria board of directors met at the Carlyle Club to plan the "Meet The Legends" reception honoring the 2008 Legend nominees. Nominees are Engin Artemal, Donna and Melvin Bergheim, Kathryn A. Brown, William D. Euille, Charles Euripides, Bernard M. Fagelson, Thomas "TJ" Fannon, Lillie Finklea and Louise Massoud, Carlton Funn, Arlene Hewitt, Susan B. Kellom, John D. Kling, Marlin G. Lord, Eula and Melvin Miller, James P. Moran, Michael Oliver, Del Pepper, George Pera, Alice Quint, Elbert Ransom, Jr., Jane Ring, Charlotte Ross, Pam St. Clair, Charlene Schiff, the Steuerle family, the Swanson family and Pat Troy. The "Meet The Legends" reception will be on Sunday, Feb. 8, 3-5 p.m. at the Carlyle Club. Pictured from left are Nina Tisara, Ethel Underwood, Tom Kennedy of the Carlyle Club, Mary Anne Weber, Douglas Thurman and Steve Wharton. Not pictured is board member Marian Van Landingham.**

# Politics and Policy

BY MICHAEL LEE POPE  
GAZETTE PACKET

## School system declines \$20,000 contribution and removes Jack Taylor advertisement.

One day, about a year ago, School Board member Scott Newsham was at a basketball game enjoying the sparkling new T.C. Williams High School gymnasium. During part of the game, one of the players tripped over a banner that was attached to a table. That's when Newsham noticed that the gym had three or four banners with corporate advertising, which prompted him to question the policy about whether advertising was allowed at school facilities.

"I don't recall seeing these in past years," Newsham wrote to then-Superintendent Rebecca Perry. "My reading of board policy ... leads me to think that this sort of advertising is not permitted."

Newsham was referring to a policy titled "Advertising in the Schools," which was originally adopted in 1996 and modified in 2004. The policy forbids facilities from employing "any manner of advertising or otherwise promoting the interests of any commercial or other non-school organization." The problem was that nobody seemed aware of the policy, and school officials had been actively seeking advertising from corporate sponsors while the

school was being constructed.

"The scoreboard in the old gym was sponsored by Coca-Cola, and the track invitational has had corporate sponsors for years," said Kerry Donley, who was athletic director at the time. "I think this is one of those things where the policy was on the books but nobody was enforcing it."

In an effort to defray some of the cost of constructing the \$100 million facility, school officials were actively seeking donations from car dealerships in an effort to raise \$20,000. The first person Donley contacted about the effort was Jack Taylor, who owns a Toyota dealership and has been a frequent contributor to the Alexandria Scholarship Fund. Taylor decided to donate \$20,000, and Donley made arrangements to have Taylor's dealership appear on a banner next to the scoreboard in the new gym. Taylor also purchased two signs at a cost of \$900.

"It was a done deal as far as I was concerned," said Taylor, who said he has a lifetime goal of donating \$1 million to the school system. "I wrote the check and forgot about it."

**BUT IT WAS NOT** a done deal. After Newsham's inquiry, the administration began trying to square its actions with its politics.

Donley, a former mayor of Alexandria, drafted a new policy that would allow the kind of banner that was already in the gym. He gave it to Assistant Superintendent John Porter, who referred the matter to a committee School Board that oversees budgetary issues and administrative matters. But Arthur Peabody, who was chairman of the committee, said the committee was distracted with the process of replacing Perry. Then Peabody had a heart attack, and the committee stopped meeting.

"I don't like relying on my health as an excuse for not doing something, but that's what happened," said Peabody. "The committee did not meet, and we have not considered the policy revision."

Meanwhile, the administration was faced with a violation of its advertising policy. When the board decided to suspend its committees a few months ago, the policy revision on advertisements lingered without action — creating a gap between the letter of the law and the signs on display at T.C. Williams. So administration officials removed the signs about a month ago. Word spread to Taylor, who was furious that the banner honoring his \$20,000 contribution had been removed and his check has been destroyed. As one of the most vocal critics of a controversial five-to-four School

SEE POLICY, PAGE 23

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# OPINION

## Happy Holidays

Much cause for optimism, but also many reasons to help others.

**W**e wish our readers a Merry Christmas, a Happy Hanukah, and an exciting New Year. There is much to fuel optimism here, despite the drumbeat of dismal economic news.

While Northern Virginia is certainly feeling some of the effects of the economic crisis, this is probably the best place in the nation to weather the storm. Employment is strong here, with unemployment still below 4 percent.

This region's economy will get a boost from the January change in administration. Events and visitors for the inauguration itself will bring an infusion, the movement of officials in and out of the region will create economic activity.

And the sheer optimism and enthusiasm for change, and for this particular change, will lift spirits and boats.

Close-in real estate, inside the Beltway, is holding its value. At the bottom end of the real estate spectrum, some condos, townhouses and even some single family detached homes have reached levels of affordability not seen in many moons, and that should bring out first-time home buyers. When first time homebuyers enter the market, this can kick off a kind of domino effect, allowing owners of the houses they buy to move up.

At the same time, we'll all feel the effects of budget cuts in local government, from reduced library hours and other services to the possibility of larger class sizes. There are many more families in Northern Virginia feeling the pain of the recession, with thousands of foreclosures and, while unemployment is low, the loss of some jobs.

This has dramatically increased demand on groups that provide emergency help for food,

### To Help

- ❖ The Campagna Center in Alexandria 703-549-0111
- ❖ Arlingtonians Meeting Emergency Needs (AMEN), 703-558-0035
- ❖ ALIVE (Alexandrians Involved Ecumenically), www.alive-inc.org
- ❖ Child and Family Network Centers, 3701A Mount Vernon Avenue Alexandria, 703-836-0214, www.cfnc-online.org
- ❖ Christ House, Catholic Charities, urgently needs 19 turkeys and other items for its Christmas dinner for the hungry. 131 S. West Street, Alexandria, 703-548-4227 (monetary assistance); 703-549-8644 (shelter). www.ccca.net/programs\_christhouse.php
- ❖ Alexandria Holiday Sharing Program, Contact Suzanne Kratzok at 703.838.0762, e-mail holidaysharing@alexandriava.gov or visit www.ourkids-ourbusiness.org/thefundforalexchild
- ❖ The Salvation Army in Alexandria collects and distributes toys to more than 1,500 Alexandria children who need holiday assistance. To donate specifically to The Salvation Army in Alexandria, call 703-836-2427
- ❖ Hopkins House (www.hopkinshouse.org) is a local charity that provides preschool services for children aged six weeks to five years and offers family education workshops for parents. They are in need of donations of facial tissue, diapers/pull-ups, wipes, batteries, construction paper, and crayons. Call 703-549-4232; 1224 Princess Street, Alexandria, 22314.

housing, utilities and more.

Even groups that help animals are seeing a huge surge in trouble. Some owners are giving up beloved pets when they face foreclosure, while others say they can no longer af-

ford to feed their pets. The Humane Society of Fairfax County, for example, has started a PET food pantry to help people keep their pets.

Enjoy the holidays, and remember to give locally.

## January Is for Fun

**T**his is the last "regular" edition of the Gazette for 2008. The edition that will be delivered after Christmas is our annual Children's Gazette, featuring the writing and art of area students.

Our first publication date in January will appear on Jan. 7, kicking off a four-part series on fun, with more than 100 ideas for fun local activities in each of our 17 weekly papers. This will no doubt add up to more than 1,101 ways to have fun near home. We'll include tips on free fun, outdoor fun, indoor fun, arts, music, theater, fun at home, food fun and more.

If you have an idea that you think we should include, please let us know.

The Jan. 7 issue will also be our chance to catch up on news and events that happen between Dec. 18 and the beginning of the New Year.

In the meantime, we encourage you to check our Web site to read hundreds of stories from Northern Virginia. See [www.ConnectionNewspapers.com](http://www.ConnectionNewspapers.com).

— MARY KIMM.

[MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM](mailto:MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM)

## Making Lemonade

BY MORTON SHERMAN  
ALEXANDRIA SUPERINTENDENT  
OF SCHOOLS

**I**t is the holiday season — a time of joy, giving, and celebration of a shiny new year and the promise that it holds. Educators have abundant opportunity to be part of joyful, exuberant environments, even as we start a very difficult budget season. It is with gratitude that we work daily to help each and every child achieve, and it is with a great sense of responsibility that we work to meet the needs of our students in increasingly difficult economic times.

Most folks have heard Dale Carnegie's adage, "When fate

hands you a lemon, make lemonade." If there were ever a time to stir, look deeply, think creatively, and focus on our core of ensuring each and every student the best possible education, it is now. And make lemonade we shall try.



**Morton Sherman**

We have plenty of challenges. In the midst of an economic crisis, enrollment in Alexandria City Public Schools has increased more than 10 percent in two years. Our facilities, many more than 50 years old, require maintenance, and the needs of our student population are rising.

During the next several weeks, ACPS will begin public

SEE OPINION, PAGE 19

### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

#### Slapdash Democracy

To the Editor:

When politicians and other officials make a mockery of the electoral process, viz., [Del. Brian] Moran vacating his state delegate seat and a bunch of unknowns getting in the ring in three days, do we have to continue to ask the question of why voter turnout is so low? This little episode isn't worthy of third world countries.

**Tom Burke**

#### Cure Is The Disease

To the Editor:

In economics class at George Mason University nearly 30 years ago, we learned of an anomaly called a "Giffen good."

"Giffen goods" violate the law of supply and demand, because when the price of a Giffen good

rises, people buy more of the good instead of less. The classic example is the purchase of potatoes during the Irish potato famine.

I wish to propose a new term for large government recession economics of 2008 — the "Gillette good," to be named after Lynchburg City Councilman Dr. Michael Gillette, who recently accepted \$9,000 from the City of Alexandria for ethical guidance in making difficult budget cuts.

Gillette assisted policymakers in their decision to turn apartments that were being built for the mentally ill into housing for people with disabilities.

Gillette goods are easy to understand. The cure is the disease. The government spent \$9,000 (the price of housing three people for a year) on an ethicist (Gillette) to tell people why there is no money for housing.

Government housing is clearly a "Gillette good." Running low on funds? Simply spend the remain

SEE LETTERS, PAGE 19

## Alexandria Gazette Packet

[www.AlexandriaGazette.com](http://www.AlexandriaGazette.com)

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[gazette@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:gazette@connectionnewspapers.com)

**Steven Mauren**  
Editor, 703-917-6431  
[smauren@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:smauren@connectionnewspapers.com)

**Michael Lee Pope**  
Reporter, 703-615-0960  
[alexandriagazette@yahoo.com](mailto:alexandriagazette@yahoo.com)

**Chuck Hagee**  
Reporter, 703-549-1216  
[cg.hagee@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:cg.hagee@connectionnewspapers.com)

**Rebecca Halik**  
Editorial Asst., 703-917-6407  
[rhalik@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:rhalik@connectionnewspapers.com)

**Mark Giannotto**  
Sports Editor, 703-917-6409  
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Steven Mauren  
**Photography:**  
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**CIRCULATION: 703-917-6481**  
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**CONNECTION NEWSPAPERS, L.L.C.**

**Peter Labovitz**  
President/CEO

**Mary Kimm**  
Publisher/Chief Operating Officer  
703-917-6416  
[mkimm@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:mkimm@connectionnewspapers.com)

**Jerry Vernon**  
Publisher/Executive Vice President  
703-917-6404  
[jvernon@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:jvernon@connectionnewspapers.com)

**Wesley DeBrosse**  
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[debfunk@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:debfunk@connectionnewspapers.com)

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# OPINION



## What's New

**A Hard Hat Tour of Inova Alexandria Hospital's new Emergency Room entrance provided John Scoggin, architect with Rsg PC, with the opportunity to review some of the \$84 million renovations and expansion work. Local community leaders, donors and hospital auxiliary groups visited the Emergency and Surgery Departments as well as the new Telemetry Unit on Dec. 12.**

# Meeting Growing Health Needs

BY CHRISTINE CANDIO  
INOVA ALEXANDRIA HOSPITAL CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

While driving by Inova Alexandria Hospital a community member remarked, "This hospital looks very different." I've been hearing similar comments in recent months in some shape or form while attending local community gatherings and civic events.

Many people recognize that something is different at our hospital but don't know the changes that are taking place and what it means not only for their health, but also the health of their family and friends.

Several years ago, we broke ground for Project 2010, an \$84 million renovation and expansion plan that will help us continue to provide high quality care to the people in this city and the metro region.

One hundred and thirty-six years ago, local leaders and community members realized that the City of Alexandria needed to make some changes in order to keep up with the burgeoning demand for healthcare. In 1872, the community raised money and collected donations to build the city's first hospital. More than a century later, the community continues to support Inova Alexandria Hospital and access quality healthcare.

Project 2010 includes nearly 70,000 square feet of new construction space across three floors. This space will house a larger Emergency Department, new operating rooms, and a state-of-the-art Laboratory and Telemetry Unit.

The changes in our Emergency Department will allow us to see more patients, more quickly and will include a private area, known as a Clinical Decision



**Christine Candio**

Unit, to observe and assess the needs of our patients.

The Surgery Department will receive an additional two rooms to its existing 12 operating rooms, thereby providing greater flexibility in surgical scheduling.

Staff in the Cardiovascular and Interventional Radiology Department, a department you will read more about in a future column, will be able to perform even more innovative

procedures.

Our lab will be relocated to a larger area within the hospital, and our inpatient Telemetry Unit will allow 24-hour cardiac monitoring of patients. All of these changes will increase the number of single rooms to about 50 beds for added comfort for patients.

As we make these phenomenal changes over the next few years we remain on target for our 2010 completion date. We can liken these changes at Inova Alexandria Hospital to getting a new home for our growing family — you. And we will continue to change and adapt to meet the needs of our ever-growing community. Our goal is to continue bringing high quality healthcare not only to the City of Alexandria, but also the Washington, D.C. metro region.

Our friends and supporters, which include many of you, have raised nearly \$14 million in support of Project 2010. If you would like more information about how you can help Project 2010, contact the Inova Alexandria Hospital Foundation at 703-504-7770.

# Telegraph Road Construction Changes

Telegraph Road, between Huntington Avenue and North Kings Highway, will be closed to vehicle and pedestrian traffic between 11 p.m. and 5 a.m. on Dec. 22 and 23, according to the Virginia Department of Transportation.

Contractors will be erecting and connecting steel beams for the second of two bridges near Telegraph Road as part of ramps that will eventually carry traffic from the Outer Loop of the Capital Beltway

to North Kings Highway and Huntington Avenue.

"Residents should be aware that the work requires the use of tools and equipment that will cause noise and vibration, but contractors will strive to minimize these and other potential disturbances," according to VDOT's press release.

During the closure, northbound traffic will be detoured via North Kings Highway to Route 1 to Huntington Avenue and back to Tele-

graph Road. Southbound traffic will be detoured via Huntington Avenue to Route 1 to North Kings Highway and back to Telegraph Road. Over the next two months, related daytime work may require Telegraph Road be reduced to two lanes in each direction from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Related night work may require Telegraph Road to be reduced to one lane in each direction from 9 p.m. to 5 a.m., according to VDOT.

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## NEW YEAR'S EVE

# Finish the Year at First Night Alexandria

BY CHUCK HAGEE  
GAZETTE PACKET

For the 14th year, Alexandria will welcome in the new year Dec. 31 with its family-oriented "First Night" celebration. And, that celebration will commence with the Second Annual King Street Mile.

Sponsored by Virginia Paving, Fitness Together and Nike, the one-mile race up King Street from Market Square to Union Station commences at 5 p.m. It is limited to 600 runners.

Following the race, the fun begins. This year there will be 30 entertainment venues — up from 26 last year. These will feature a total of 65 acts featuring 178 performances on 40 stages throughout the night.

First Night Alexandria's grand climax is a midnight fireworks spectacular at the George Washington Masonic Memorial, 101 Callahan Drive. "It's all great fun, affordable, safe and alcohol free," said Anne Dorman, executive director, First Night Alexandria.

The price of admission is \$12 per adult if purchased online through Christmas. Badges purchased at retail locations are \$15 through Dec. 25. From Dec. 26 through Dec. 28, badges on the Web site ([www.firstnightalexandria.org](http://www.firstnightalexandria.org)) will be available for \$17. Web sales end Dec. 28.

Retail badge sales will continue through Dec. 31 at \$20. One badge will admit the wearer to all venues. Badges must be worn by adults at all times. Children 12 and under are free. There is also free parking at various Colonial Parking Garages and at the Market Square city parking garage. Participants can travel to various venues via a free shuttle service throughout the celebration.

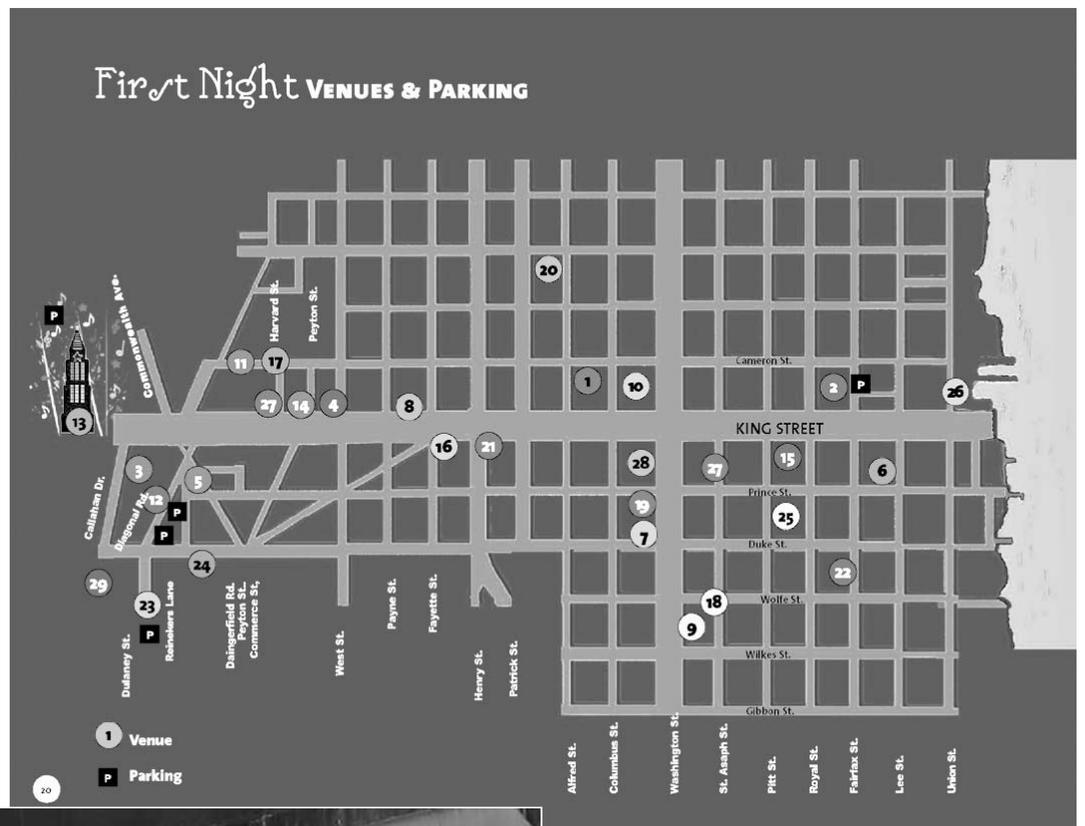
Several Alexandria hotels are offering special New Year's Eve packages and the City's array of restaurants will be open and ready to serve attendees. However, reservations are strongly suggested. No food is included with a First Night Alexandria admission badge.

"First Night Alexandria is a perfect event to end each year and welcome the new one.

I am delighted so many of our residents participate in various ways and we welcome the thousands of adults and children from all across the region and country who join us for our celebration," said Alexandria Mayor William D. Euille.

Details concerning all the festivities for First Night Alexandria can be found by visiting [www.firstnightalexandria.org](http://www.firstnightalexandria.org).

**The map of all the venues can be found at [www.firstnightalexandria.org](http://www.firstnightalexandria.org). Below left is a picture from the last year's King Street Mile. To the right is a view of Old Presbyterian Meeting House during last year's event.**



ARTS ♦ ENTERTAINMENT ♦ LEISURE

## Ringling the Bell

Memoir of Hammond High School lauds the Greatest Generation.

BY MICHAEL LEE POPE  
GAZETTE PACKET

A native of Washington, D.C., Maggie Kirkpatrick grew up in Alexandria and graduated from Hammond High School in 1969. She is now a commercial sign consultant in Marietta, Calif. Her memoir, "Mom, Dad, And The Greatest Generation; Their Stories and Mine," was published Dec. 6 by PublishAmerica and is available online at Amazon and Barnes and

Noble.

### Why did you write this memoir?

I had a story to tell that I felt was unique. My parents were very interesting people, and they lived in interesting times. I had an uncle that was involved with CIA, and although I didn't come out and say that in the book, I alluded to it.

### What parts of the story take place in Alexandria?

I write about going to Hammond and then staying in Alexandria to work at the Pentagon. I was trying to paint a picture of the brick homes and the schools. People in Alexandria will be able to relate to at least one part of the book, which is my high-school years.

### What was Alexandria like when you were in high school?

I feel like it was kind of a cross between

SEE BELL, PAGE 17

*The Gentleman*  
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## LITERATURE

# Local Author Pens Memoir

FROM PAGE 9

New England and the Carolinas. I always think of the brick and the cobblestone and the colonial flavor. It was very traditional. That's the word I would use if I was going to encapsulate it in one word. My friends were very close, and I would say Alexandria was a tight-knit community at that time. People in Alexandria wanted to distinguish themselves from Arlington. It was a big community, but Alexandria had a small-town flavor. People were friendly.



Maggie Kirkpatrick

dad's generation knew the value of what it was like to make a living and support your family and take care of each other.

**The subtitle of the book is "Their Stores and Mine." How do they intertwine?**

It starts with my mom and dad, how they got together and how I entered the picture. My dad was not my biological father, but the story explains how he came into the picture and took care of us and took care of us as a family.

**What was Hammond like at that time?**

Tradition was a big part of it. We were very proud of our football coach at that time, who was later part of the transition when they went to T.C. Williams. One part of my story is about how the graduates each year would ring the bell at Hammond. After graduation, we would all line up in the courtyard and ring the ship's bell, which I'm sure is still there today.

**What can people learn from the book?**

Values and patriotism. I feel they were much closer to their families than we are today. We've had too many people going off in different directions, and I think that's been very hard on the family. I see kids today take way too much for granted. My mom and

**Why did you feel like the story was something that needed to be told?**

I just think my mom and dad had a lot of great experiences, whether it was contributing to the war effort or work experiences in different environments like the federal government or private industry or the people they met along the way. My mother worked as a young girl at the Willard Hotel, and I felt these were great experiences.

**Why should people read this book?**

There's a lot of relatability. I feel the Baby Boomer generation looks back on their parents as the example we should have set for our children. But so many of us did not. Somehow we've lost their values along the way.

## Change is in the Air!

The City of Alexandria is updating its telephone systems over the next two years. Most City government telephone numbers will change to a new prefix, 746, and retain the last four digits of their original telephone numbers.

Some numbers will change entirely, incorporating the 746 prefix, but all numbers will retain the 703 area code.



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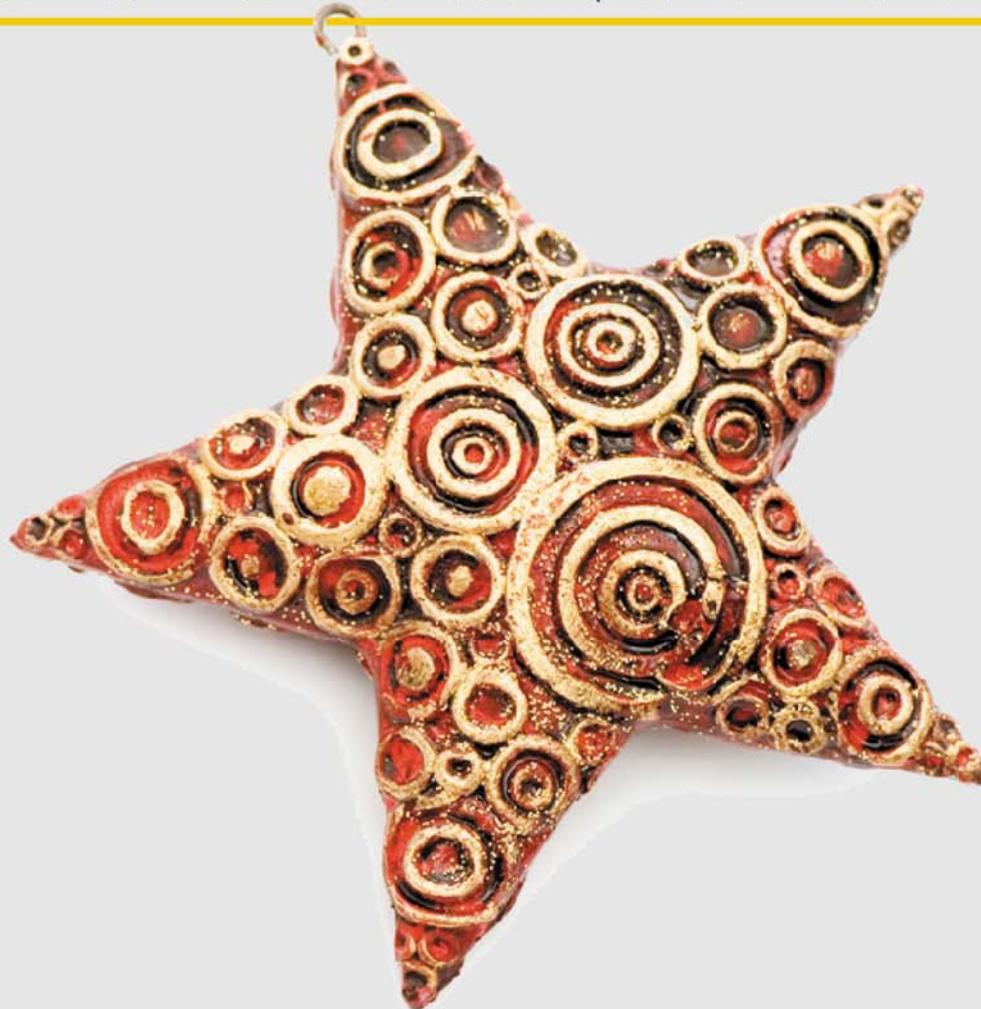
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*Seasons Greetings*  
**HAPPY NEW YEAR**



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*Bill Jourdan, Branch Manager / Associate Broker*

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Jeanne Warner | 703 980-9186 Old Town

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Fred DeVinney | 703 518-2803 Old Town

**New Listing**



**504 South Columbus St | \$539,000**

Elegantly appointed three bedroom town home in charming south Old Town. Main floor features an ample living room, open dining room and kitchen with granite counters, sparkling glass backsplash and room for a center island. Brazilian hardwood flooring, oversized brick hearth, stylishly renovated bathrooms. Glass doors lead to private brick patio and access to private walkway and convenient parking.

Karen Leonard | 703 328-7041 Old Town

**Old Town Classic**



**1209 Duke Street | \$575,000**

Circa 1846 brick TH gem, heart of Old Town with garage and driveway parking! Two levels, 2BRs, 1.5BAs. Warm hardwood floors, tasteful moldings, two fireplaces, updated kitchen with granite counters and SS appliances, neutral decor. Walk out to Georgetown patio and carriage house garage with bonus upstairs storage. Just blocks to King St Metro, Whole Foods, restaurants, et al. Photos on www.paddockhomes.com

Vaughn & Diane Paddock | 703 628-2828 Old Town

**Gorgeous Features**



**6071 Piney Woods Court | \$825,000**

Only 3 years young with all of today's architectural features! Chef's kitchen with stainless steel appliances, 5 burner gas stove, granite counters, breakfast bar with counter space and a sunroom for informal dining - all open to two story family room. Formal dining room. Huge master bedroom suite with sun filled sitting area surrounded by windows and master bath has separate tub and shower. Enormous finished lower level with guest suite, den and recreation room. Two fireplaces. Located on lovely private cul de sac! Close to Fort Belvoir.

Liz Bucuvalas | 703 626-8400 Alexandria S

**New Listing**



**4 West Rosemont Avenue | \$879,000**

A classic Rosemont beauty on a great lot just blocks from the King St Metro. Comfortable, flowing floor plan with sunny living room leading to charming porch, large formal dining room, gourmet kitchen, powder room and family room that opens to private patio and yard. This three bedroom, two and a half bath home is an elegant renovation of a timeless classic.

Karen Leonard | 703 328-7041 Alexandria

**Welcome Home**



**5062 Donovan Drive | \$447,000**

Pristine two level condo TH with garage, in prime Cameron Station location. 1500+ square feet, two master bedroom suites, 2.5 baths, warm hardwood floors, new carpet, neutral decor. Designer touches throughout. Close to community fitness center and pool, coffee shop, restaurant, easy access to free shuttle to Metro. Photos on www.paddockhomes.com

Vaughn & Diane Paddock | 703 628-2828 Cameron Station

**Great Value**



**1108 Waynewood Boulevard | \$619,000**

All-brick Berkeley model with popular floor plan. This home is light and bright, fresh paint, beautiful hardwood floors, new Berber carpet in recreation room, oversized back yard and spacious attic. Wonderful location between Waynewood school, pool, tennis and parks. Enjoy exercising along the beautiful GW Parkway Trail. Convenient to DC, Fort Belvoir, Old Town and Metro.

Sue Dickerson | 703 380-0153 Alexandria S



# Previews International

Marketing the world's premier properties

## Warmth and Beauty

PREVIEWS INTERNATIONAL



**912 Clifton Drive**  
**\$2,795,425**

Located just off East Boulevard Drive along the GW Parkway, this home has the feel of yesterday with today's amenities. Wide planked floors, coffered ceilings, stone fireplaces, back staircase, archways, multi-piece moldings and hand made paneling on 3/4 acre. Both main and upper level masters plus 4 bedroom suites, library, catering center, kids mud room, fitness and theater, hobby and reading rooms. Wired for home media/technology, 3 car garage. Dir: South on George Washington Parkway, left East Boulevard Drive, left Clifton Drive.

Phyllis Patterson | 703 518-6158 Wellington

## Park Like Setting

PREVIEWS INTERNATIONAL



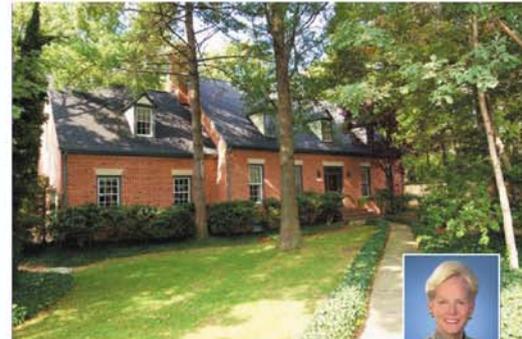
**908 Clifton Drive**  
**\$1,195,000**

Spacious rambler on 3/4 acre just off East Boulevard Drive and steps to the river on large level lot with beautiful old trees and mature plantings. three spacious bedrooms, two and a half baths, large rooms, two car garage, front porch, brick patio, hardwood floors. Plenty of room for expansion or new construction. Quite, private street with park like setting just 10 minutes to National Airport and 20 minutes to DC.

Phyllis Patterson | 703 518-6158 Wellington

## Just Reduced

PREVIEWS INTERNATIONAL



**3750 Seminary Road**  
**\$1,495,000**

Perfect for gracious entertaining and comfortable family living, this wonderfully spacious five bedroom plus 4 1/2 + 1/2 bath brick colonial awaits the most discriminating purchaser. Just two blocks to the upper school campus of Saint Stephen's and Saint Agnes School, this lovingly maintained home boasts grand room sizes, hardwood floors, fine moldings, four fireplaces plus two car garage. The large level rear yard with towering trees is an ideal area for children to play. This is an exceptional value at only \$1,495,000.

Donnan C Wintermute | 703 518-6156 Alexandria

## Shows Like New

PREVIEWS INTERNATIONAL



**1737 Potomac Greens Drive**  
**\$998,000**

Finally one of Potomac Greens largest models is available and shows "just like new". This lovely 4 level town home offers gorgeous hardwood floors, gourmet kitchen with center island, granite counters and stainless steel appliances, two sided fireplace, fourth level loft and roof top deck - perfect for entertaining. 3 bedroom, 2 full and 2 half baths, and a 2 car garage. This home is also offered for rent at \$4,000 per month.

Karen Leonard | 703-328-7041 Old Town

## Model Home Perfect

PREVIEWS INTERNATIONAL



**6406 Wood Haven Drive**  
**\$850,000**

A new price on this "Like New", four/five bedroom, two and a half bath, two car garage, three finished levels above grade plus storage level, high ceilings, hardwood floors, new kitchen with granite and center island opening to large family room overlooking private deck and yard, designer carpet, master retreat, wine cellar, study, formal living room and dining room. Perfect! [www.phyllispatterson.com](http://www.phyllispatterson.com)

Phyllis Patterson | 703 518-6158 New Alexandria

## Stately Colonial

PREVIEWS INTERNATIONAL



**504 Canterbury Lane**  
**\$1,195,000**

Located in one of Alexandria's most sought-after neighborhoods, this solidly constructed brick colonial offers four bedrooms plus three and a half baths, a first floor family room, three fireplaces, plus swimming pool! The circular floor plan and grand room sizes make this lovely home perfect for gracious entertaining! The finished lower level features a bedroom suite, plentiful storage plus one car garage. This is an outstanding value at only \$1,195,000.

Donnan C Wintermute | 703 518-6156 Alexandria

CBRB is owned and operated by NRT, LLC. Information deemed reliable but is not guaranteed.

# CHRIS WHITE

*#1 Individual Agent in Long & Foster's VA/WV Region in 2007!*



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FROM THE WHITE FAMILY  
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# OLD TOWN HISTORIC DISTRICT

400 KING STREET · ALEXANDRIA, VA 22314  
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**Springfield**  
\$377,000

**HOME FOR THE HOLIDAYS!**

3BR/2.5BA, 3 level with fireplace & hardwoods on main level living room, freshly painted, new carpet, pristine condition. Newer appliances & rough in for half bath on lower level with 1-car garage. Community amenities: Pool, tennis courts, tot lot & shuttle to Metro.

6330 Demme Place

ROSEMARY COUSINS  
703.627.0404



**Alexandria**  
\$899,999

**OFF SEMINARY ROAD**

Large 3-4BR/3.5 BA, 3 level Colonial with fully finished walk-out basement, 2 car garage, 2 fireplaces, spacious room off large gourmet kitchen with granite and breakfast nook, den/study library on first floor, luxury bath with 2 person jetted tub and separate shower, 2 story foyer, central vacuum, dual zone heat/CAC and situated on treed cul-de-sac

4105 Faith Court

GARY ANSLEY 202.288.7946



**Alexandria**  
\$672,900

**KINGSTOWNE**

3 levels of luxury living space with 4BR/3.5BA, 2-car garage, hardwoods and tile throughout main level. Oak staircase, gourmet kitchen with granite, GE stainless steel appliances, upgraded cherry cabinets. EZ access to beltway, Van Dorn Metro, close to shopping and walk to fitness/pool clubhouse!

5972 Manorview Way

MARGARET RUHE 703.599.7527



**Alexandria**  
\$293,000

**PRICE, LOCATION, CONDITION**

This roomy 3BR condo has it all—the perfect commuter location along the river and bike trail and it's only minutes to Old Town, DC and Metro. Plus it's a great low price for a beautifully remodeled unit. Come see it!

1100 Belle View Blvd #C-1

MARGARET KEAGLE 703.518.8726



We at Long & Foster Alexandria Old Town Historic Office would like to thank all those who contributed to the Toys for Tots program and to wish you and yours a safe and happy holiday!



**SPRINGFIELD**  
\$459,900

**LARGE PRICE ADJUSTMENT!**

Beautifully cared for split level with 2 car garage—screened porch off dining room is perfect for spring and fall evenings. 4 BRs, 2.5 BAs—Must see to appreciate all the updates done by owners! Immaculate and ready for you! EZ commute and close to transportation! Near Fort Belvoir! Prettiest street in Saratoga!

7906 Larrick Court

LOUISE DEVERS 703.795.9944



**Old Town**  
\$249,900

**WHY RENT?**

New at Potomac Crossing. This starter features 1 BR with ceiling fan and walk-in closet, white updated kitchen with ceramic floor, new bath with beige designer tiles and fixtures, pedestal sink, living room with built-in, fresh paint, perfect condition, 2nd floor location.

1704 Abingdon Drive #202

RENEE REYMOND  
703.507.5330



**Alexandria**  
\$295,000

**BELLE VIEW**

Bright 3 bedroom rarely available in Belle View with new windows, almost new appliances, renovated bathroom and lots of kitchen cabinets. Don't worry about your king size bed! It fits beautifully!  
www.catherinefoltz@lnfre.com

6726 W. Wakefield Drive #A2

CATHERINE FOLTZ 703.626.6914



**Alexandria**  
\$304,950  
**NO CONDO FEES**

Buy this 3 level duplex and skip the condo! This bright and updated 2 BR, 2 BA duplex has a finished lower level, hardwood floors, screen-in front porch and freshly painted. Deep fenced-in back yard with large deck for easy entertaining. Its ready for you to move in! Just blocks to Huntington Metro.

5814 Edgehill Drive

MARY TAYLOR 703.785.5619



# CALENDAR

E-mail announcements to the Alexandria Gazette Packet 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

**Mount Vernon Community bands** need members. All concert band musicians wanted. Most needed are: oboes, bassoons, French horns, saxophones, flutes, trombones, and clarinets. Also needed and welcome are: percussionists, and players of tubas, euphoniums, trumpets. Visit [www.mvbands.com](http://www.mvbands.com), e-mail [MVSwingBand@Cox.net](mailto:MVSwingBand@Cox.net) or call 703-339-6534 for more information.

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](http://www.historicalexandria.org) for more.

Children enter a world of fantasy and fables when costumed interpreters weave three tales together during Mount Vernon's storytelling session, **"Once Upon a Time at Mount Vernon"**, held every Saturday and Sunday at 2 p.m. through **December** at the Hands-On History room in the Donald W. Reynolds Education Center, 3200 Mount Vernon Memorial Highway. The storytelling program is recommended for children ages three to eight. Parental supervision is required. "Once Upon a Time at Mount Vernon" is included in regular Estate

admission: adults, \$13.00; youth ages 6-11, \$6.00; and children under 5 are admitted free.

**Historic Mount Vernon** welcomes all Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, and Camp Fire Club members (in uniform or wearing an official pin) to free admission during its **Scouting Days** program beginning Nov. 1 through Feb. 15, 2009. For more information, visit [www.MountVernon.org](http://www.MountVernon.org).

**Gallery West** presents "Small Works and Holiday Show and Silent Auction" through **Jan. 4** at 1213 King St. Features a variety of art work by members in every size. Silent auction ends Dec. 8. Visit [www.gallery-west.com](http://www.gallery-west.com) or call 703-549-6006.

**Gather the Family at Woodlawn** runs **Dec. 28** at Woodlawn. Experience an 1820s Christmas with America's First Family before trees, Santa and stockings. Tours available from 5:30-8:30 p.m. \$15/person; \$5/grades K-12. Visit [www.woodlawn1805.org](http://www.woodlawn1805.org) or call 703-780-4000.

The Alliance Dance Institute presents **"The Nutcracker"** from through **Dec. 28** in the Landmark Mall, 5801 Duke St. Fifty-five minute long performances are Saturdays and Sundays at 1 p.m., 3 p.m. and 5 p.m. \$20/person. After the show, stay for photo opportunities. Visit [www.adidance.com](http://www.adidance.com) or 703-354-6000.

The American Horticultural Society hosts **holiday happenings** at its headquarters at River Farm. **From Dec. 1 to Jan. 16**, River Farm's grounds and estate house will feature

lights, poinsettias, and other festive holiday decorations. All are welcome to visit and enjoy Monday through Friday 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., but note that the grounds will be closed from Dec. 25 through Jan. 4.

**Mystique Fine Jewelry and Designs**, 211 Strand Waterfront in Alexandria, will sell "December Love Stone," a 25-carat rose quartz cabochon ring. Visit [www.mystiquejewelers.com](http://www.mystiquejewelers.com) or 703-836-1401.

**La Muse**, 108 N. Patrick St., collects and ships donations for [www.AnySoldier.com](http://www.AnySoldier.com) every day of the year. Bring donations to La Muse and it will be packaged and shipped to soldiers. For ideas on what to donate go to: [www.ShopLaMuse.net/Anysoldier.html](http://www.ShopLaMuse.net/Anysoldier.html) or call 703-683-1696.

Historic Mount Vernon welcomes **Inauguration visitors** in January with 20 percent off adult admission. Visitors must print the coupon from Mount Vernon's Web site: <http://visit.mountvernon.org>. January is also the 250th wedding anniversary of George and Martha Washington, and on display Jan. 12 - Feb. 23 are Mrs. Washington's wedding slippers, which have not been exhibited at Mount Vernon in over 30 years. \$15 for adults; \$7 for youth ages 6-11; and free for children five and younger. Visit <http://visit.mountvernon.org> or 703-780-2000.

**Woodlawn's Needlework exhibition** is **March 1-31** at 9000 Richmond Highway. There will be

SEE CALENDAR, PAGE 17

## FINE ART

### New and Upcoming

The Art League is holding **"Holiday 2008 Ornament Show" through Jan. 3** in room 21 at the Torpedo Factory, 105 N. Union St. Free. 703-838-4565.

See **"Nature's Beauty" through Jan. 12** in the Multiple Exposures Gallery in the Torpedo Factory, 105 N. Union St. Features new photographs by Min Enghauser and Alan Sislen. Free. Visit [www.torpedofactory.org](http://www.torpedofactory.org) or 703-838-4565.

Multiple Exposures Gallery presents its **"Juried Member Show" from Jan. 12 through Feb. 1** in the gallery at the Torpedo Factory, 105 N. Union St. See photographs juried by Barbara Southworth. Free. Visit [www.torpedofactory.org](http://www.torpedofactory.org).

The Art League presents **"A Hosta Story,"** watercolor paintings by Yoshimi Matsukata **from Jan. 8-Feb. 2** in the Torpedo Factory, 105 N. Union St. Visit [www.theartleague.org](http://www.theartleague.org) or 703-683-1780.

**"Winter Blues"** is the new exhibit at Scope Gallery, Torpedo Factory, 105 N. Union St. The Kiln Club presents pots and pieces decorated with blue motifs. On display **from Jan. 2 through Feb. 1**. Visit [www.torpedofactory.org](http://www.torpedofactory.org) or 703-838-4565.

Enamelists Gallery, Studio 28, presents **"Stars and Stripes" from Jan. 5 through Feb. 1** at the Torpedo Factory, 105 N. Union St. See a

variety from the artists. Free. Visit [www.torpedofactory.org](http://www.torpedofactory.org) or 703-838-4565.

**"Red/White/Blue plus Yellow"** is the theme of the new exhibit at Potomac Craftsmen Fiber Gallery, studio 18 in the Torpedo Factory, 105 N. Union St., **from Jan. 6 through Feb. 8**. Browse sculpture, clothing and more. Free. Visit [www.torpedofactory.org](http://www.torpedofactory.org) or 703-838-4565.

See **"Nocturne-from Dusk to Dawn"** at Del Ray Artisans, 2704 Mount Vernon Ave., **from Jan. 16 through Feb. 15**. See the effects of light between dusk and dawn. Free. 703-838-4827.

Target Gallery presents **"BookEnds: The Book as Art"** in their gallery at Torpedo Factory, 105 N. Union St. **from Jan. 22 through Feb. 22**. Free. Visit [www.torpedofactory.org](http://www.torpedofactory.org) or 703-838-4565.

Printmakers, Inc. artists are inspired by the months of winter in **"Winter Blues"** on display in the Torpedo Factory, 105 N. Union St., **from Jan. 4 through Feb. 28**. Free. Visit [www.torpedofactory.org](http://www.torpedofactory.org) or 703-838-4565.

See **"Stones and Bones- Arctic Inspired Work"** in studio 307 at Torpedo Factory, 105 N. Union St., **through Feb. 28**. Alison Sigethy presents new glass sculptures. Free. Visit [www.torpedofactory.org](http://www.torpedofactory.org) or 703-838-4565.

## The Royal Restaurant

(now smoke free)

"What's for Dinner?!"

You don't have to think to hard, let us solve this classic question.

In addition to our award winning menu, we have added some popular specials that add variety for everybody taste.

**Real food, for real people at reasonable prices.**

### Monday - Kids Night

Burger Night (Kids eat 1/2 price) Each child must be accompanied by adult having entree.

### Tuesday - Greek Night

Lamb Marinated and Roasted for 3 hours, Athenian Roast Chicken, Moussaka!

### Wednesday - All American Night

Meatloaf, Chicken Fried Chicken. Va. Ham

### Thursday - Italian Night

Lasagna, Chicken Alfredo, Calamari

### Friday - Fish Night

Crab Cakes, Shrimp & Scallops over penne pasta with white sauce

### Saturday -Steak and Chop Night

Prime Rib, Lamb, Surf and Turf, Pork Chops, and Moussaka

### Sunday

Brunch served 7am - 2pm

Dine in or call ahead and your dinner will be ready for pick up.

**Dinner hours 2:30-9:30pm**  
**730 North Saint Asaph Street**  
**Alexandria, VA 22314**  
**(703) 548-1616**



Ample Free Parking

Best  in Alexandria!

Looking for the Best  in Alexandria?

Look no further than **Restaurant Eve** and the **PX** with **Clinton Terry** behind the bar!



The Alexandria Chamber of Commerce held an inaugural holiday event on Thursday, December 11. Guests sampled and voted for their favorites and selected Restaurant Eve's "Kissing Santa" as the winner.



# CALENDAR

FROM PAGE 16  
demonstrations, lunch by Nelly's Needlers and more. See needleworks from around the world. Visit [www.woodlawn1805.org](http://www.woodlawn1805.org) or 703-780-4000 for more.

## FRIDAY/DEC. 26

**Wee Ones Storytime.** 10:30 a.m. at Hooray for Books, 1555 King St. Children 2 and under can enjoy stories and songs. Free. Visit [www.hooray4books.com](http://www.hooray4books.com) or 703-548-4092.

## SATURDAY/DEC. 27

**Art Exhibit.** See artwork by Yuri Kokoyanin at The von Braehler Ltd./Gallery, 1437 Powhatan St., from 11 a.m.-3 p.m. Call for weekday hours, 703-798-8686. Free.  
**Get Fancy Storytime.** 11 a.m. at Hooray for Books, 1555 King St. Children ages 2 and up can don a tiara, bow tie or something festive for a storytime. Free. Visit [www.hooray4books.com](http://www.hooray4books.com) or 703-548-4092.

## SUNDAY/DEC. 28

**Art Exhibit.** See artwork by Yuri Kokoyanin at The von Braehler Ltd./Gallery, 1437 Powhatan St., from 11 a.m.-3 p.m. 703-798-8686. Free.  
**Bridge Club.** 4 p.m. at Sherwood Library, 2501 Sherwood Hall Lane. Teens and adults can learn how to play. Free. 703-765-3645.

## TUESDAY/DEC. 30

**Puppets.** 2 p.m. at Sherwood Library, 2501 Sherwood Hall Lane. All ages can see "The Nutcracker Fantasy" by Bob Brown Puppets. Free.

Registration required, 703-765-3645.  
**Short Story Discussion.** 7 p.m. at Burke Library, 4701 Seminary Road. Discuss selections in "The Art of the Short Story." Free. 703-519-3498.

## WEDNESDAY/DEC. 31

**First Night Alexandria.** Celebrate the New Year with activities, performances and more in approximately 30 venues in Old Town and Del Ray. There is a cost. Visit [www.firstnightalexandria.org](http://www.firstnightalexandria.org) or 703-838-5005.

**Hooray For First Night.** 6-8 p.m. at Hooray for Books, 1555 King St. Take part in an interactive storytime. Free with First Night Badge. Visit [www.hooray4books.com](http://www.hooray4books.com) or 703-548-4092.

**Music Performance.** 7-9:30 p.m., hear Bunjo Butler and the T.C. Williams High School Jazz Combo at Meade, 322 N. Alfred St. Free with tickets to First Night. Visit [www.firstnightalexandria.org](http://www.firstnightalexandria.org) or 703-838-4200 ext. 210.

**First Night Music.** Carbon Copy will perform 7:30-10:30 p.m. at the Durance RecCenter, 1605 Cameron St. Free with First Night tickets. 571-278-3231.

## THURSDAY/JAN. 1

**MAGFest.** Enjoy a video and computer gaming festival run by fans at Hilton Mark Center in Alexandria. There will be music, activities and more. Tickets are \$40 in advance. Visit [www.magfest.org](http://www.magfest.org) for more.

## FRIDAY/JAN. 2

**Wee Ones Storytime.** 10:30 a.m. at Hooray for Books, 1555 King St. Children 2 and under can enjoy

stories and songs. Free. Visit [www.hooray4books.com](http://www.hooray4books.com) or 703-548-4092.

**MAGFest.** Enjoy a video and computer gaming festival run by fans at Hilton Mark Center in Alexandria. There will be music, activities and more. Tickets are \$40 in advance. Visit [www.magfest.org](http://www.magfest.org) for more.

## SATURDAY/JAN. 3

**MAGFest.** Enjoy a video and computer gaming festival run by fans at Hilton Mark Center in Alexandria. There will be music, activities and more. Tickets are \$40 in advance. Visit [www.magfest.org](http://www.magfest.org) for more.

## SUNDAY/JAN. 4

**Twelfth Night Celebration.** 5 p.m. at Advent Lutheran Church, 2222 S. Arlington Ridge Road. Enjoy music, activities and more. Family-friendly. Free. Visit [www.adventlc.us](http://www.adventlc.us) or 703-521-7010.

**MAGFest.** Enjoy a video and computer gaming festival run by fans at Hilton Mark Center in Alexandria. There will be music, activities and more. Tickets are \$40 in advance. Visit [www.magfest.org](http://www.magfest.org) for more.

## THURSDAY/JAN. 8

**Opening Reception.** 6:30-8 p.m., The Art League presents "A Hosta Story," watercolor paintings by Yoshimi Matsukata at the Torpedo Factory, 105 N. Union St. Visit [www.theartleague.org](http://www.theartleague.org) or 703-683-1780.

**Art Night.** 6-9 p.m. at the Torpedo Factory, 105 N. Union St. Enjoy activities, open studios and more. Free. Visit [www.torpedofactory.org](http://www.torpedofactory.org) or 703-838-4565.

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Seating begins at 5:00pm

Please visit our web site to view our holiday menu!  
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[www.bistrotlafayette.com](http://www.bistrotlafayette.com) 703-548-2525  
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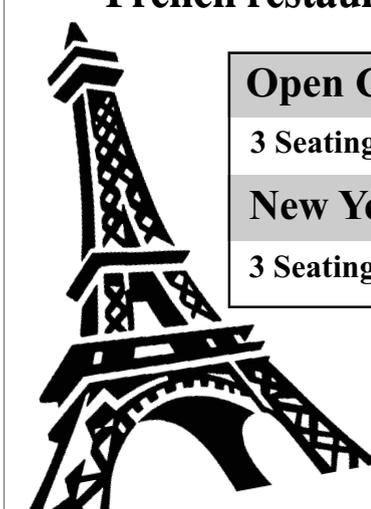
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French restaurant since 1983



<b>Open Christmas Eve</b>
3 Seatings: 4:30, 6:30, 8:30
<b>New Year's Eve</b>
3 Seatings: 5:30, 7:30, 9:45

**Please make  
holiday  
reservations  
early**

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Smoke Free Restaurant  
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Festival  
of Lights**

A Festival of Lights from  
the comfort of your car!

**November 26  
to January 4**

Admission per car:  
Monday to Thursday: \$15  
Friday, Saturday, Sunday: \$20

**\$3 off** weekday admission price. Coupon good Monday through Friday, excluding holidays. Holidays include Dec. 24, 25, 31 & Jan. 1. Offer valid for 2008 season. Coupon good for one car only, cannot be combined with other offers.

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7700 Bull Run Drive, Centreville

[www.nvrpa.org](http://www.nvrpa.org)

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**First Session Free**

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Whether looking for an investment property with excellent rental history, a vacation home on an unique island, or a little bit of both, this is the house for you.

**Call Carly or David, 336-282-1870**

## POLITICS

# GOP Supports Law Student

FROM PAGE 3

Marston, chairman of the Alexandria City Republican Committee. "But anytime turnout is lower, we have a better chance of winning."

Murray described himself to voters entering the William Ramsay Recreation Center as a Republican advocate for small government and low taxes, a candidate who would seek funding for rail to Dulles while trying to find efficiencies in government to reduce spending in other areas. On many areas of governing philosophy he would disagree with the legislative agenda of his constituents in Alexandria and Fairfax County. On the proposed statewide smoking ban, for example, Murray said he disagreed with Alexandria Mayor Bill Euille's proposal that members of the local delegation support a statewide prohibition on smoking in bars and restaurants. The City Council unanimously adopted the proposal, but Murray said he would oppose it if elected to the House.

"That's a decision that should be left to the restaurants," said Murray, who lives in the Polk precinct. "Generally speaking, I'm not in favor of top-heavy government from Richmond."

Murray, a 33-year-old student at Catholic University, is a former staffer for U.S. Rep. Joe Wilson (R-S.C.). He said his experience working for the congressman inspired him to consider public service himself, and the opportunity created by Moran's last-minute decision created the perfect opportunity. Yet his small-government mentality would create friction on issues like a proposal by Alexandria Councilman Tim Lovain that would ask the General Assembly for permission to allow the city government to ban plastic bags.

"While I'm sensitive to the environmental concerns, this is a decision that should be made by businesses," said Murray. "This is another example of



**Joe Murray**

top-heavy government that I would oppose."

**ONE ISSUE WHERE** he would support the legislative agenda of the Alexandria City Council is the effort to prohibit the use of cell phones while driving. Councilman Rob Krupicka first suggested the proposal, which closely mirrors the ban in the District of Columbia, that

would allow drivers to use hands-free technology. The council unanimously agreed to adding the item to the city's legislative agenda, and Murray said if elected he would support the measure in Richmond.

"This is a matter of public safety," he said. "The cost of hands-free technology is not prohibitively expensive to the extent this proposal would be an unjustified government mandate."

Murray was jubilant when the votes were counted and he was announced as the winner in the arts-and-crafts room of the West End recreation center, a venue that's usually used by children making bead jewelry or greeting cards with crayons. The Republicans used an antique voting box that was formerly used by voters in the Landmark area, which was saved by the League of Women voters and eventually became the property of the committee. Although Murray received only 20 votes, it was enough to win a spot on the ballot for the January special election, when he will face the Democratic candidate Charniele Herring. The Republican nominee beat Weichert Realtor Phil Cefaratti, who received 16 votes, and small-business owner Sasha Gong, who received 13 votes.

"I wouldn't say I was overwhelmed by the voting," said Jerry Lipson, one of the Republican volunteers who issued paper ballots to voters. "I guess I was just whelmed."

## Attorney Gets Democrats' Nod

FROM PAGE 3

16, when party officials declared Herring the winner of the Democratic caucus and the party's nominee for a special election to be held on Jan. 13 — one day before the opening session of the General Assembly. Herring will face Republican Joe Murray, a third-year law student who launched his candidacy about an hour before polls opened for the GOP caucus.

"It was like lightning struck when Kerry got out of the race and then Brian resigned," said Jack Sullivan, who supported Herring in advance of the caucus, adding that he received robocalls from both U.S. Rep. Jim Moran (D-8) as well as former Del. Brian Moran (D-46). "It was like she was in the right place at the right time with the right message and the right skills."

**WHEN ASKED ABOUT** issues that are on Alexandria's legislative agenda, Herring agreed with every major goal that local jurisdictions will be seeking in Richmond. She's in favor of Councilman Rob Krupicka's proposal to ban the use of cell phones while driving, and she said she would support Councilman Tim Lovain's plan to seek permission from the General Assembly under Virginia's "Dillon Rule" to allow the City of Alexandria to ban plastic bags.

"I'm not someone who is opposed to the Dillon Rule, which is contrary to the position that a lot of Democrats take," said Herring. "But this is a case where I think it would be appropriate."

When asked about Mayor Bill Euille's proposal that



**Charniele Herring**

the local delegation support a statewide smoking ban for bars and restaurants, Herring said she had conflicted opinions. As president of the West End Business Association, she said she was sensitive to the businesses whose profits might be hurt by the prohibition. Yet she said the public-health benefits would outweigh other concerns. If elected, Herring said, she would support a smoking ban

for bars and restaurants.

"The bottom line is that smoking is unhealthy," she said. "While there are businesses that would lose profits, those businesses will also end up losing money in the long run because of health-care costs."

Although Virginia is facing a bleak budget situation this year, Herring said she expects the economy to rebound over the next few years. When that happens, she said, her top priority will be seeking money for expanding early childhood education in Virginia. In addition to early childhood funding, Herring said she would also like to see expanded funding to pay for expansions at John Adams Elementary School and Tucker Elementary School. "We need someone ready to work now to get funding for the expansion of these schools," Herring said in a written statement on education. "This is crucial given the expected development of Landmark Mall, the Van Dorn corridor and the new housing along the Beaufort Corridor."

# Time To Turn Lemons into Lemonade

FROM PAGE 6

discussion about budget proposals for the 2009-10 school year. I will present a budget which focuses on our core mission of learning and teaching. In times such as these, we must respect the sacred trust between educators and students and their families. As we hold true to our core mission, we will hold the line on the budget, with a recommendation for less spending next year than this year.

In some cases, education has been a little like the auto industry. Car companies cre-

ated SUVs and crossovers with increasing technological capabilities to satisfy consumer demand. Educators improved programs, worked hard to meet students' needs, and left little behind as we moved ahead. Students are receiving a better education than they were 20 years ago, and school divisions have seen steady gains in test scores. However, neither car manufacturers nor sufficient numbers of educators looked far enough into the future. One is now looking for a bailout; the other is struggling to meet the needs of students competing in a global society. We must move

from reacting to our changing world to helping to shape it.

We cannot allow the current economic crises to keep us from moving forward. Author Daniel Pink, in his book "A Whole New Mind," writes, "The future belongs to a different kind of person. Designers, inventors, teachers, storytellers — creative and empathetic right-brain thinkers." I strongly encourage everyone to read this book and think about the changes we need to make. In January, reading groups will meet throughout the City in an exciting new ACPS-PTA Council community event called

"Turn the Page." "A Whole New Mind" will be our first book. (To learn more about "Turn the Page," join a reading group or become a sponsor, visit [www.acps.k12.va.us](http://www.acps.k12.va.us).) Mr. Pink will give a free talk on Tuesday, Feb. 24, at T.C. Williams High School.

This is no time for business as usual. We have outstanding teachers, wonderful students, tremendous community support, and the opportunities of a brand new year. I hope that you all have the chance to hug your loved ones and to enjoy the holidays. May 2009 bring you joy and may all of your lemons turn to lemonade.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

FROM PAGE 6

ing money on an ethicist. "We're terribly sorry", the bureaucrats can say, "you're on the streets tonight. We gave your housing money to Michael Gillette. But sleep peacefully, friend; you're part of an ethical process."

Gillette, of course, is a small fish. \$9,000 pales in comparison to the portion of the \$750 billion of America's bailout money spent on a lavish AIG Insurance Corporation hot tub party. \$9,000 is not much; unless, of course, someone tries to convince Dr. Gillette to admit the Alexandria expen-

diture was poorly timed and he should re-fund the money so the city can afford more public housing for the needy.

**Sam Mela**

Formerly of Lynchburg and Alexandria  
Now living in St. George, Utah

## With Authority, Accountability?

To the Editor:

I read with incredulity the "Timeline" in

the Gazette. The very first event in the timeline was a meeting about the planned new facility between a senior vice president of Norfolk Southern on Tuesday, June 20, 2006, and Mayor Euille, who chairs the Alexandria Council; only three days later, there was a top level follow-up meeting on this issue between the mayor and city manager. I'm not sure which is more incomprehensible: that in the subsequent 21 months the mayor reportedly never again asked for additional status and follow-up or conversed with the council on the topic, or that in these tight economic times we spent a

total of \$115,520 to figure all this out. Vice Mayor Lawson is right: "... nobody took leadership." While there may be "plenty of blame to go around" I think the buck stops with the leadership of the council. It makes one wonder what else the council has not been told over the years ... and whether this was an oversight or something else. Either way, it was unprofessional and less than our community deserves: with authority goes accountability.

**J. L. Mac Michael**  
Alexandria

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6:30 pm Mass (Starts Sept. 7)

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# Christmas Wreaths of Remembrance

FROM PAGE 1

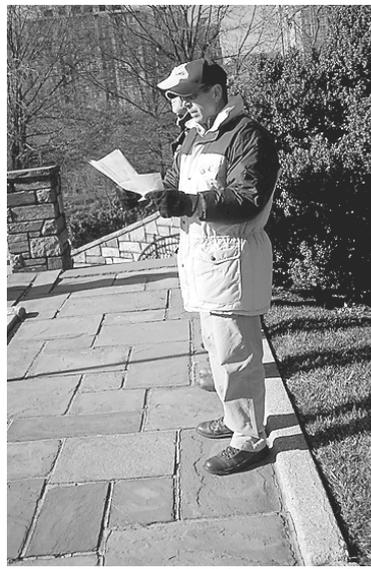
the Alexandria tribute and member of the Patriot Guard Riders that escorted the wreaths from Maine to Arlington National Cemetery, a week-long 750 mile trip, conducted the Alexandria tribute as he did in 2007. The mileage is significant because it represents one mile for every 1,000 of the 750,000 American who have died in military combat over the nation's history.

"We are gathered here today to remember that freedom is not free," he told the crowd of military veterans and active duty personnel, supporters and other volunteers standing just inside the National Cemetery's main gate, 1450 Wilkes St.

"We shall not forget you. We shall remember that we are one nation with one flag. We are all proud to be Americans that live in a free society made up of many people, many races, from many walks of life. The freedoms we enjoy today have not come without a price," Gallagher said.

"Lying here before us and in cemeteries throughout this nation are men and women who gave their lives so that we can live in freedom and without fear. We can worship as we see fit. We are free to vote for whomever we feel should be in government. We are free to succeed and we are free to fail," he said.

Quoting America's 40th President, Ronald Reagan, Gallagher



**Patriot Guard Rider Patrick Gallagher, conducted the annual Wreaths Across America ceremony at Alexandria National Cemetery.**

stated, "Freedom is never more than one generation away from extinction. We didn't pass it to our children in the bloodstream. It must be fought for, protected, and handed on for them to do the same, or one day we will spend our sunset years telling our children's children what it was once like in the United States where men were free."

**THE ACTUAL CEREMONY** commenced with representatives of each of America's Armed Services placing symbolic wreaths on standards that surrounded the cemetery flagpole. There was also



PHOTOS BY CHUCK HAGEE/THE GAZETTE

**Seven wreaths, as part of the annual Wreaths Across America tribute to America's war dead, rest on standards surrounding the flagpole at Alexandria National Cemetery to honor the sacrifices of those who have served and are serving in each of the nation's military services as well as those Missing in Action and unaccounted for Prisoners of War.**

a wreath paying tribute to the 93,852 military personnel who are listed as either Prisoners of War or Missing In Action and have never returned home.

Those and all military families were included in the tribute. "What we do here today is to pay respect to not only the fallen but also the families of those fallen and all who have served and are serving in the military," said U.S. Army Lt. Col. Lesa Reynolds, Mount Vernon Chapter, Military Officers Association.

Joining the Alexandria event this year was U.S. Secretary of Veterans Affairs James B. Peake,

M.D. "There will be 100,000 wreaths laid all across America in National and State cemeteries and at veterans memorials by the end of this day. They are a symbol of our gratitude for their sacrifices to protect this nation and our way of life," he said.

Prior to arriving at the Alexandria cemetery, Peake had taken part in the Arlington National Cemetery ceremony. Following his remarks he placed a wreath at the headstone of Sgt. Charles Rodgers, a member of the New Hampshire 5th Regiment, who had died in the

SEE WREATHS, PAGE 23

## Railroad Challenges City

FROM PAGE 1

Alexandria for more than a century, and until recently the Van Dorn Yard was used as a "pig facility" — railroad slang for an operation piggybacking containers from rail to trucks or vice versa. But as early as 2006, railroad officials alerted city officials that they wanted to construct an ethanol loading station where liquid ethanol would be removed from rail cars and loaded into tanker trucks less than 1,000 feet from an elementary school. Although the "pig" facility never needed a haul-route permit, city officials say the trucking companies transporting highly flammable hazardous materials required oversight if they wanted to use city roads.

"We're really regulating their customers, not the railroad," said Eric Pilsch, who represented the city in federal court. "The city has never once tried to padlock this facility."

**IN COURT**, attorneys representing Norfolk Southern argued that limiting the operation to 20 trucks a day would place an unreasonable burden on interstate commerce by creating a bottleneck at the gate of the Van Dorn Yard. Because the city's authority to regulate railroad operations is preempted by federal law, they argued, the city's attempt to issue a haul-route permit limiting the behavior of tanker trucks exiting the railroad facility should be denied. Regulating trucks, Norfolk Southern maintained, created an indirect attack on the economic viability of the facility.

"These regulations are for the purpose of closing down the transloading facility," said Gray Bryant, a Norfolk attorney representing the Fortune 500 company. "They really don't have anything to do with the safety of city streets."

# Extreme Makeover at Seaport Foundation

Inspired by the hit television show "Extreme Makeover," local companies, contractors and volunteers have donated more than \$250,000 worth of goods, services and donations to the nonprofit organization that brings hope and jobs to troubled teens. The foundation's riverfront headquarters has been selected as the beneficiary of a program airing on ABC 7 called "Built Upon a Dream," which was designed to help nonprofit organizations improve their facilities.

Alexandria Seaport Foundation helps young people turn their lives around through the building of wooden boats. In 1992, the foundation launched its apprenticeship program to help give at-risk youths a chance to take charge of their lives. Through a work-based apprentice program, disadvantaged youths from the ages of 17 to 21

develop the discipline, self-confidence and social skills necessary to find a meaningful place in the regular workforce. But the floating building, warehouse and classroom are in need of renovation and repair.

The "Built Upon a Dream" project benefiting the Alexandria Seaport Foundation involves making over sites on three locations on the waterfront in Alexandria. Everything from heating, plumbing, painting, flooring, bathrooms and lighting is being completed by a group of contractors, suppliers and associated companies who make up the Built Upon a Dream Team: General Contractors, Kirkland Contracting Company and RAND Corporation, Boat U.S., M.C. Dean, R&B Heating & Air Conditioning, K. Hovnanian Homes, Contemporary Electric, Tech Painting and Navy Federal



PHOTO BY LOUISE KRAFT/GAZETTE

**Jeff Kirkland of Kirkland Contracting looks over architect Jim Ritter's revised drawings with Howell Crim, ASF director of apprentice programs. More photos at [www.connectionnewspapers.com](http://www.connectionnewspapers.com).**

Credit Union as well as a number of sub-contractors and suppliers. Work is taking place now through the fall.

# HOME SALES

11/01/08 ~ 11/30/08

Address	BR	FB	HB	Postal	City	Sold Price	Type	Lot	AC	Subdivision
614 KINGS CLOISTER CIR	5	4	1		ALEXANDRIA	\$1,645,000	Detached		0.16	KINGS CLOISTER
214 PRINCE ST	4	2	1		ALEXANDRIA	\$1,400,000	Townhouse		0.04	OLD TOWN
401 CLOVERWAY DR	4	3	0		ALEXANDRIA	\$877,000	Detached		0.40	CLOVER
5002 JOHN TICER DR	3	3	1		ALEXANDRIA	\$750,000	Townhouse		0.04	CAMERON STATION
810 FAIRFAX ST	3	2	1		ALEXANDRIA	\$750,000	Townhouse		0.04	YATES GARDENS
1117 WYTHE ST	3	3	1		ALEXANDRIA	\$739,000	Townhouse		0.02	BRADDOCK LOFTS
303 HENRY ST S	3	3	1		ALEXANDRIA	\$729,000	Townhouse		0.02	OLD TOWN VILLAGE
709 LEE ST S	2	1	1		ALEXANDRIA	\$706,000	Semi-Detached		0.03	OLD TOWN
2605 VALLEY DR	4	3	0		ALEXANDRIA	\$681,110	Detached		0.16	BRADDOCK HEIGHTS
800 OVERLOOK DR N	3	1	2		ALEXANDRIA	\$670,000	Detached		0.16	BEVERLY HILLS
219 GREEN ST	3	2	2		ALEXANDRIA	\$656,000	Townhouse		0.04	YATES GARDENS
1102 QUINCY ST	4	2	0		ALEXANDRIA	\$646,000	Detached		0.18	BRADDOCK HEIGHTS
1115 CAMERON ST E #107	2	2	0		ALEXANDRIA	\$604,900	Garden 1-4 Floors			PRESCOTT CONDOMINIUMS
3304 CIRCLE HILL RD	2	2	0		ALEXANDRIA	\$575,000	Detached		0.13	BEVERLY HILLS
808 FAYETTE ST N	3	2	1		ALEXANDRIA	\$565,000	Townhouse		0.02	BRADDOCK PLACE
316 LANGLEY ST	3	3	0		ALEXANDRIA	\$550,000	Detached		0.22	SEMINARY VALLEY
506 HIGHLAND PL	2	1	2		ALEXANDRIA	\$550,000	Detached		0.12	GEORGE WASHINGTON PARK
208 RANDOLPH AVE E	2	1	0		ALEXANDRIA	\$550,000	Detached		0.15	DEL RAY
250 CAMERON STATION BLVD	3	2	1		ALEXANDRIA	\$549,950	Townhouse		0.02	CAMERON STATION
1207 MICHIGAN CT	2	3	1		ALEXANDRIA	\$547,500	Townhouse		0.02	NETHERGATE
3804 CHARLES AVE	3	2	2		ALEXANDRIA	\$530,000	Townhouse		0.03	SUNNYSIDE
812 BASHFORD LN	2	2	1		ALEXANDRIA	\$518,000	Townhouse		0.01	NETHERGATE/VIRGINIA VILLAGE
1 BELLEFONTE AVE W	4	2	1		ALEXANDRIA	\$505,000	Detached		0.18	DEL RAY
244 GRETNA GREEN CT #23	3	2	2		ALEXANDRIA	\$503,000	Townhouse			BRIGADOON
1123 POWHATAN ST	3	1	1		ALEXANDRIA	\$495,000	Attach/Row Hse	0.03		OLD TOWN/VIR. VILLAGE
520 JOHN CARLYLE ST #243	2	2	0		ALEXANDRIA	\$489,900	Garden 1-4 Floors			OLD TOWN
4900 28TH ST S #3428	3	3	0		ARLINGTON	\$483,000	Townhouse			FAIRLINGTON
3903 ELBERT AVE	3	2	2		ALEXANDRIA	\$467,000	Townhouse		0.10	SUNNYSIDE
19 CUSTIS AVE E #A	3	1	0		ALEXANDRIA	\$460,000	Townhouse		0.07	DAVIS TRACT
2303 BURKE AVE	2	1	0		ALEXANDRIA	\$449,000	Townhouse		0.07	DEL RAY
3501 RUSSELL RD	6	2	0		ALEXANDRIA	\$445,000	Detached		0.24	SALLIE SAFFELLE PROPERTY
3005 HICKORY ST	3	2	0		ALEXANDRIA	\$432,000	Townhouse		0.04	WARWICK VILLAGE
1306 BAYLISS DR	3	1	0		ALEXANDRIA	\$425,000	Detached		0.75	OVERLOOK TERRACE
5853 PEARSON LN	3	3	1		ALEXANDRIA	\$420,000	Townhouse		0.02	SUMMERS GROVE
2402A RANDOLPH AVE E	2	2	0		ALEXANDRIA	\$420,000	Duplex		0.05	DEL RAY
9 FENDALL AVE	3	3	1		ALEXANDRIA	\$412,000	Townhouse		0.03	CAMERON KNOLLS
317 CUSTIS AVE E	2	1	0		ALEXANDRIA	\$399,900	Semi-Detached		0.07	DEL RAY
503 BELLEFONTE AVE E	2	1	0		ALEXANDRIA	\$385,000	Townhouse		0.04	DEL RAY
11 CARRIAGE HOUSE CIR	3	2	1		ALEXANDRIA	\$385,000	Townhouse		0.03	COLONIAL HEIGHTS
3752 JASON AVE #88	2	1	1		ALEXANDRIA	\$374,500	Townhouse			FAIRLINGTON TOWNE
2309 DEARING ST #99	2	1	1		ALEXANDRIA	\$370,000	Townhouse			FAIRLINGTON TOWNE
2818 COLUMBUS ST S	2	2	0		ARLINGTON	\$364,000	Townhouse			FAIRLINGTON VILLAGE
4950 BRENNAN PARK DR #309	2	2	0		ALEXANDRIA	\$359,000	Garden 1-4 Floors			CAMERON STATION
1210 COLONIAL AVE	2	1	0		ALEXANDRIA	\$345,000	Attach/Row Hse	0.03		WESTOVER
1706 DOGWOOD DR #A	3	1	1		ALEXANDRIA	\$327,000	Townhouse			BEVERLY HILLS
3101 NORTH HAMPTON DR #818	2	2	0		ALEXANDRIA	\$325,000	Hi-Rise 9+ Floors			NORTHAMPTON PLACE
1209 PITT ST N #A1	1	1	0		ALEXANDRIA	\$325,000	Garden 1-4 Floors			CANAL PLACE
426 N. ALFRED ST	2	2	0		ALEXANDRIA	\$325,000	Townhouse		0.05	CARRIAGE WORKS
4950 BRENNAN PARK DR #313	1	1	1		ALEXANDRIA	\$314,000	Mid-Rise 5-8 Floors			MAIN STREET
228 TENNESSEE AVE	3	2	0		ALEXANDRIA	\$312,000	Townhouse		0.04	WARWICK VILLAGE
801 PITT ST S #432	1	1	0		ALEXANDRIA	\$312,000	Garden 1-4 Floors			ST ASAPH SQUARE
400 CAMERON STATION BLVD #126	1	1	0		ALEXANDRIA	\$299,999	Garden 1-4 Floors			CAMERON STATION
1543 MOUNT EAGLE PL #947	1	1	0		ALEXANDRIA	\$282,000	Garden 1-4 Floors			PARKFAIRFAX
202 SKYHILL RD #6-202	2	1	0		ALEXANDRIA	\$274,000	Garden 1-4 Floors			SEMINARY WALK
115 JORDAN ST	4	2	0		ALEXANDRIA	\$255,000	Duplex		0.08	TARLETON
205 SKYHILL RD #6	1	1	0		ALEXANDRIA	\$250,000	Garden 1-4 Floors			SEMINARY WALK
46 GORDON ST	3	2	0		ALEXANDRIA	\$250,000	Semi-Detached		0.07	DUKE GARDENS
1314 MARTHA CUSTIS DR	1	1	0		ALEXANDRIA	\$249,900	Garden 1-4 Floors			PARKFAIRFAX
3233 MARTHA CUSTIS DR #849	1	1	0		ALEXANDRIA	\$249,000	Garden 1-4 Floors			PARKFAIRFAX
4550 STRUTFIELD LN #2406	1	1	0		ALEXANDRIA	\$235,000	Mid-Rise 5-8 Floors			PALAZZO AT PARK CENTER
3304 GUNSTON RD #728-33	2	1	0		ALEXANDRIA	\$231,900	Townhouse			PARKFAIRFAX
206 CLIFFORD AVE	2	1	0		ALEXANDRIA	\$230,000	Detached		0.10	EMMA P HUME
6301 STEVENSON AVE #805	2	2	0		ALEXANDRIA	\$229,000	Hi-Rise 9+ Floors			OLYMPUS AT LANDMARK
6270 EDSALL RD #304G	2	2	0		ALEXANDRIA	\$210,000	Garden 1-4 Floors			EDSALL TERRACE
4870 EISENHOWER AVE #406	1	1	0		ALEXANDRIA	\$200,000	Garden 1-4 Floors			EXCHANGE AT VAN DORN
239 EVANS LN	2	2	0		ALEXANDRIA	\$190,000	Attach/Row Hse	0.04		LYNHAVEN
6300 STEVENSON AVE #903	2	2	0		ALEXANDRIA	\$185,980	Hi-Rise 9+ Floors			SENTINEL OF LANDMARK
2500 VAN DORN ST N #401	3	2	0		ALEXANDRIA	\$185,000	Hi-Rise 9+ Floors			PARK PLACE
16 VAN DORN ST #202	2	1	0		ALEXANDRIA	\$178,000	Mid-Rise 5-8 Floors			TWENTY-ONE
2500 VAN DORN ST N #1123	1	1	0		ALEXANDRIA	\$170,000	Hi-Rise 9+ Floors			PARK PLACE
33 CANTERBURY SQ #101	2	1	0		ALEXANDRIA	\$165,000	Garden 1-4 Floors			CANTERBURY SQUARE
5831 QUANTRELL AVE #212	2	1	0		ALEXANDRIA	\$150,000	Mid-Rise 5-8 Floors			THE SEASONS
5925 QUANTRELL AVE #304	2	1	0		ALEXANDRIA	\$150,000	Garden 1-4 Floors			MAYFLOWER SQUARE
4600 DUKE ST #702	2	1	0		ALEXANDRIA	\$148,000	Hi-Rise 9+ Floors			FORTY SIX HUNDRED
5801 QUANTRELL AVE #103	2	2	0		ALEXANDRIA	\$135,000	Garden 1-4 Floors			SEASONS
60 VAN DORN ST S #108	1	1	0		ALEXANDRIA	\$126,693	Mid-Rise 5-8 Floors			TWENTY-ONE

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For more information on MRIS, visit [www.mris.com](http://www.mris.com).

To search for a home online, visit [www.HomesDatabase.com](http://www.HomesDatabase.com).



## Helping Veterans

Chapter Regent of The Kate Waller Barrett Chapter, National Society Daughters of the American Revolution (NSDAR), Nancy Valley, is shown (center) with other members — Stephanie Campbell, Terri Spencer and Donna Dienno — preparing to pack the truck full of holiday gifts items donated for veterans living at the United States Soldiers' and Airmen's Home.

# First Night ALEXANDRIA

Your First Stop for New Year's Eve

December 31, 2008

Old Town Alexandria from the Masonic Memorial to the Waterfront

Be part of the largest family-friendly, budget-friendly, alcohol-free celebration in the region!

175 performances on 38 INDOOR stages – all easily accessible by Metro, the King Street Trolley or dedicated First Night Alexandria DASH buses



Festivities start running with the King Street Mile Race at 5 PM and end with spectacular fireworks at Midnight!

Children 12 and under, and active military are FREE!

For a full list of performers, online badge sales and retail sales locations, visit [www.FirstNightAlexandria.org](http://www.FirstNightAlexandria.org)

## MASON NATION 2006 NCAA Final 4

### GEORGE MASON VS. UNC WILMINGTON

Saturday, Jan. 3 at 7 pm

Kid's Day – Sponsored by Minnieland Private Day School. First 1,000 youth fans receive a team bracelet

### GEORGE MASON VS. GEORGIA STATE

Monday, Jan. 5 at 5 pm

Youth League Jersey Night Youth get in free with youth league jersey on\*

\*Must have one paid adult for every 5 youth league fans.



For Tickets Call **703-573-SEAT** or visit [ticketmaster.com](http://ticketmaster.com)



# Life in the Minors

Area hockey player is pursuing his NHL dreams for a minor league team in Utah.

BY MARK GIANNOTTO  
THE GAZETTE PACKET

**T**ake a look the state motto for Utah and it's fitting that former West Potomac student and current Alexandria resident James Sixsmith would be toiling away there this hockey season.

Founded by early pioneers that had few material resources, the so-called "Industry" state had to rely on its own resources to simply survive early on. The 5-foot-9, 180-pound Sixsmith can relate.

A star at Holy Cross who ended his career there as the school's all-time leading scorer, Sixsmith helped lead the Crusaders to the biggest upset in college hockey history. As a No. 4 seed, they defeated the No. 1 team in the country, Minnesota, in the first round of the 2006 NCAA Tournament. In basketball terms, it would be like the winner of the play-in game in the NCAA Tournament defeating the No. 1 team in the country.

Now in his second season playing in the minor league hockey ranks, Sixsmith has gotten used to fighting the odds as he tries to become the first NHL player to ever come out of the state of Virginia.

"I kind of just live game to game and just try to get better," said the 24-year-old Sixsmith. "Every day you're just focused on trying to get up to the next level."

**BEFORE THIS SEASON**, Sixsmith had never been to Utah before. So it came as a shock to his system when he arrived in Salt Lake City to see picturesque mountain peaks and mild weather — even in the winter. Then again, Sixsmith never expected to be there in the first place.



**"He just has to trust the system,"** said Utah Grizzlies coach Kevin Colley about James Sixsmith's chances of being promoted to the AHL (hockey's equivalent to AAA baseball) and eventually the NHL.

Sixsmith attended West Potomac High School from 1999-2001, but left after his junior year to play hockey at Canterbury Prep in Connecticut to face top flight competition and get more exposure from a recruiting standpoint. His mother, Betty, is currently the field hockey coach at West Potomac.

After his successful career at Holy Cross, he shuttled between the ECHL's Cincinnati Cyclones and the AHL's Milwaukee Admirals in his first full season in the minor leagues a year ago. As a result, he signed a one-year minor league contract with the NHL's New York Islanders, and after a strong preseason, figured he'd be back in the AHL (hockey's version of AAA baseball as compared with the ECHL, which is the AA equivalent).

Islanders' management agreed, except three players the organization was interested in had been released by other teams toward the end of training camp. The team signed all three and assigned them to the AHL's Bridgeport Sound Tigers. Sixsmith lost out on the numbers game.

He's taken the ups and downs in stride.

"Being in Utah hasn't been such a bad thing, I'm playing a lot down here, I'm one of the go-to guys down here," said Sixsmith. "It's nice not to be playing a more limited role in the AHL."

But if he ever wants to achieve his goal of eventually playing in the NHL, he can't just be an elite player in the ECHL. If he stays in Utah — or something equivalent — the rest of his career, there's really no chance of realizing his dream. Through 23 games this year, Sixsmith leads the team with 20 points (eight goals, 12 assists).

"Do I think he's an (AHL) player?" Utah Grizzlies coach Kevin Colley said rhetorically. "Yes, but he can't get discouraged just because he's not there now. He just has to trust the system."

**LIVING JUST OUTSIDE** Salt Lake City, Sixsmith has what he calls a "pretty nice set-up." The Grizzlies have every member of the team living in two apartment complexes close together. Sixsmith's roommate is Mike Walsh, who played college hockey at Notre Dame, a Jesuit school like Holy Cross.

And unlike college, Sixsmith's days are almost entirely dedicated to hockey. On non-game days, he goes to the rink around 9 a.m. for a morning skate, practices for two to three hours, and then has a team meal. The rest of the day is his to enjoy. On game days, players have a morning skate and then report back to the arena around 5 p.m.

"You get a lot of time to yourself," said Sixsmith. "There's a lot of down time,



PHOTOS COURTESY OF THE UTAH GRIZZLIES

**Former West Potomac student and Alexandria native James Sixsmith (right) is attempting to become the first Virginia native to make it to the NHL. Right now he's playing in front of sparse crowds for the ECHL's Utah Grizzlies.**

and if you don't have a hobby it's just a lot of watching TV. The best part of the job — just playing hockey — can sometimes be the worst."

Making matters worse is that Sixsmith doesn't have a car to get around. He left it in Virginia because he didn't want to worry about bringing it with him should he get called back up to the AHL.

**THERE ARE HORROR STORIES** about life on the road in other minor league sports. Long bus rides, dingy motels, and fast food for dinner are generally what pass for comfortable accommodations.

But Sixsmith said traveling with the Grizzlies is about as good as one could expect. The team flies to all but a few of its away games.

The worst trip so far this season, according to Sixsmith, was when the team went to Victoria Falls in the beginning of November. To get there, the Grizzlies flew from Salt Lake City to Seattle, took a bus to Vancouver, and finally hopped on a ferry to get to their final destination. In all, it was nearly 12 hours of traveling.

To offset trips like these, the Grizzlies have amenities like an adopt-a-player program, where area fans provide food and gifts to players throughout the season. It's a welcome respite for Sixsmith, who makes much less than the NHL league minimum of \$450,000 a year. Club rules prohibit him from disclosing his current salary, but he ball-parked the figure as "one-tenth of the NHL minimum."

Like everyone around the country these days, the economy weighs heavily on Sixsmith's mind. According to the Grizzlies' director of operations, Adrian Denny, the ECHL is like any other sports league, with strong owners that have no problem meeting costs in a tough economic climate.

But there are organizations like the Augusta Lynx in Georgia, which had to suspend operation in midseason. They became the third ECHL team to shut down operations since last season for various monetary

reasons.

The Grizzlies play in the ECenter in Salt Lake City, the venue where hockey was played for the 2002 Winter Olympics. Sixsmith said a good crowd is usually around 7,000 fans for the 10,000-seat arena.

"Some areas in the league, you can see the economy wearing on people and different organizations," said Sixsmith. "Empty seats doesn't mean the economy is killing the league, but it'd be foolish to say it's not affecting it at all."

**THIS HOLIDAY SEASON** will mark the first time Sixsmith can get back to the Northern Virginia area since training here in the offseason. He said because of his hockey career, he hasn't been home for

Thanksgiving in years.

The Grizzlies include a bonus in each player's contract that is meant to be money for a flight home around the holidays. Sixsmith will fly back Dec. 21, but has a Christmas morning flight back to Utah at 6 a.m. because of a game on Dec. 26.

But to make it to the place he really wants to go, it will take a lot more than a plane ride. If Sixsmith can get the

**"Every day you're just focused on trying to get up to the next level."**

— James Sixsmith

promotion many think he deserves to the AHL, anything can happen. The Washington Capitals provide an example of what could be. They've called up 10 players from their AHL affiliate in just the past month.

Right now, though, Sixsmith tries to stay focused on what he can control, his play on the ice with the mountains of Utah in the background.

But on a minor league journey that seems to present new obstacles at every turn, perhaps the hardest part of Sixsmith's life is not letting the doubt of an uncertain future take over. "I don't really think about what I'm going to do down the road," said Sixsmith. "You constantly have some kind of goal or some kind of vision in mind. But to be honest, I don't want to be a 30-year-old guy playing in the minors."

# Politics and Policy

FROM PAGE 5

Board vote last year to oust Perry, Taylor felt that he was being targeted as retribution.

"On the heels of my criticism of some recent School Board actions, I was told that there was a complaint registered by School Board member Scott Newsham saying that there was a rule that prohibited corporate advertising," Taylor wrote in a letter to board members and administration officials. "I, for one, am tired of your petty behavior ... Until I am convinced that our School Board's number-one priority is our children and not personal vendettas, I'm done!"

**ATTACHED TO THE LETTER,** Taylor included a long list of contributions he's made over the years — everything from a \$50,000 contribution to the Scholarship Fund in 2006 to a series of \$500 donations he made earlier this year to every PTA in the city. Newsham responded he wasn't trying to deny anybody any business any

opportunity to make a contribution, and that he made the inquiry to make sure the board policies were in alignment with the system's practices.

"It's not a good policy the way it's written now," said Newsham, who said he would be in favor of considering revisions. "The way it's written now, the policy allows advertising in yearbooks and newspapers but not at facilities."

School Board Chairwoman Yvonne Folkerts sent Taylor a letter explaining that the school system was grateful for the many contributions he's made over the years, explaining that a review of the policy was initiated in the spring. Meanwhile, the policy revisions originally drafted by Donley have yet to be voted on, and board members have not added them to the agenda for any upcoming meetings.

"We will communicate with you and the business community further upon completion of our review," Folkerts wrote in a Dec. 9 e-mail to Taylor.

# Wreaths of Honor

FROM PAGE 20  
Civil War.

In addition to the 4,500 identifiable graves in Alexandria National Cemetery there are 145 unknown dead as well. This is the only spot in that cemetery where it is possible that soldiers of the Confederacy may be resting with Union soldiers, according to William Jones, Post Commander, VFW Post 609.

"All the remains of Confederate soldiers were moved some years ago to the Christ Church Cemetery on North Washington Street because Confederate organizations did not want Confederate soldiers buried with Union soldiers," Jones said.

"There are four civilians buried here through a federal decree. They were among those chasing John Wilkes Booth after he shot President Lincoln. They drowned during that chase," Jones said.

Jones emphasized that the Alexandria cemetery predates Arlington National Cemetery and the local site was the first integrated cemetery in the South. "There were so many being killed during the Civil War that the bodies were brought in by train," he said.

This is the third year for a Wreaths Across America ceremony to be held at Alexandria National Cemetery. The first year only the six ceremonial standards around

"The freedoms we enjoy today have not come without a price."

— Patrick J. Gallagher

the flagpole received wreaths. The second year 45 wreaths were placed on graves.

This year it was anticipated that approximately 200 graves would receive wreaths. However, that escalated to 500 through a donation from the National Defense Transportation Association, according to Gallagher.

As with last year, the colors were presented and retired by the T.C. Williams High School Junior ROTC Color Guard. They will be marching in the upcoming Presidential inaugural parade.

Following the ceremony, attendees began placing wreaths in each section of the cemetery. They were encouraged to write down the name and details engraved on the headstones.

"Take this information home and research who they were, where they lived and other details of their lives. Get to know them and their family background. It's another way to show our respect and acknowledge they have not been forgotten," Gallagher said.

## Legal Notices



Alexandria Board of Architectural Review  
Old & Historic Alexandria District

### LEGAL NOTICE OF A PUBLIC HEARING

A public hearing will be held by the Alexandria Board of Architectural Review on WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 7, 2009 beginning at 7:30 PM in Council Chambers, second floor of City Hall, 301 King Street, Alexandria, Virginia on the following applications:

#### CASE BAR2008-0245

Request for approval of demolition/encapsulation at 408 N. Union St, zoned RM Residential.  
APPLICANT: Elizabeth Reno & Roy Wuchitech

#### CASE BAR2008-0168

Request for approval of alterations at 408 N. Union St, zoned RM Residential.  
APPLICANT: Elizabeth Reno & Roy Wuchitech

#### CASE BAR2008-0193

Request for approval of new construction at 714 Wythe St, zoned OC Commercial.  
APPLICANT: Sophie Development, LLC

#### CASE BAR2008-0229

Request for approval of alterations at 610 S. Pitt St, zoned RM Residential.  
APPLICANT: Susan Kerr

#### CASE BAR2008-0240

Request for approval of alterations at 1015 King St, zoned KR King Street Retail.  
APPLICANT: Victoria Vergason

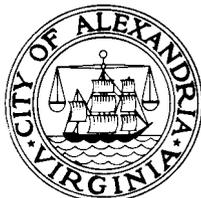
#### CASE BAR2008-0241

Request for approval of after-the-fact alterations at 817 Green St, zoned RM Residential.  
APPLICANT: Kenneth M. Robinson

#### CASE BAR2008-0242

Request for approval of alterations at 713 S. Pitt St, zoned RM Residential.  
APPLICANT: Virginia Magestic for Bob and Rebecca Sutton

Information about the above item(s) may be obtained from the Department of Planning and Zoning, City Hall, 301 King Street, Room 2100, Alexandria, Virginia 22314, telephone: (703) 838-4666



### LEGAL NOTICE OF A PUBLIC HEARING

BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS  
THURSDAY, JANUARY 8, 2009 - 7:30 PM  
COUNCIL CHAMBERS, City Hall  
Alexandria, Virginia

Information about these items may be obtained from the: Department of Planning and Zoning, 301 King Street, Room 2100, Alexandria, Virginia 22314, telephone: (703) 838-4688

BZA CASE #2008-0039  
633 NORTH WEST STREET  
RB, RESIDENTIAL

Jon and Tuagrat McMaster, owners, by John Savage, architect. Variances to reconstruct a one-story rear addition and construct a second story addition 5.80 feet from the north side property line and 4.90 feet from the south side property line. Variances to construct a one story addition 6.00 feet from the front property line facing North West Street and 6.80 feet from the north side property line. If the variances are granted, the Board of Zoning Appeals will be granting variances from section 12-102(A) of the zoning ordinance relating to physical enlargement of a noncomplying structure.

#### ABC LICENSE

DSF/Long King Street I, LLC trading as The Lorien Hotel and Spa; Brabo by Robert Weidmaier, Brabo Tasting Room by Robert Weidmaier, The Butchers Block A Market, 1600 and 1602 King Street, Alexandria, VA 22314. The above establishment is applying to the VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL for a Beer and Wine, on and off, Mixed Beverage (151+) and Day Spa license to sell or manufacture alcoholic beverages. John E. Rinaldi, Attorney and Agent

## Legal Notices

TO THE SECRETARIES OF THE ELECTORAL BOARDS OF THE CITY OF ALEXANDRIA AND THE COUNTY OF FAIRFAX, VIRGINIA:

WHEREAS, a vacancy has occurred in the House of Delegates of Virginia from the Forty-sixth House District, composed of part of the City Alexandria and part of the County of Fairfax, occasioned by the resignation of the Honorable Brian J. Moran;

NOW THEREFORE, in the name of the Commonwealth, you are hereby required to cause an election to be held in these localities on Tuesday, January 13, 2009, for a member of the House of Delegates of Virginia to fill the vacancy. The last day for filing as a candidate for such office in said election shall be Wednesday, December 17, 2008, at 5:00 pm

Given under my hand as Governor of Virginia, and under the lesser Seal of the Commonwealth, at Richmond, this 12th day of December, two thousand and eight, and in the 233rd year of the Commonwealth

Timothy M. Kaine  
Governor of Virginia

By the Governor of Virginia

Katherine K. Hanley  
Secretary of the Commonwealth

## Legal Notices

## Legal Notices



## CITY OF ALEXANDRIA

### Virginia General Assembly Special Election January 13, 2009

#### VOTER REGISTRATION INFORMATION

**Voter Registration Deadline**  
**Tuesday, January 6, 2009, 5:00 PM**

Virginians 18 and over may apply to register to vote by mail or in person. To register by mail, applications are available at:

- ✓ [www.alexandriavoter.org](http://www.alexandriavoter.org)
- ✓ Alexandria Post Offices
- ✓ Voter Registration Sites listed below
- ✓ Call 703-838-4050 to request an application by mail
- ✓ **January 6 - postmark deadline for the Special Election**

In Person, at the following Voter Registration Sites:

<p><b>Voter Registration Office</b> 132 North Royal St, Suite 100 Monday thru Friday, 8 am to 5 pm</p> <p><b>Division of Motor Vehicles</b> 2681 Mill Road Monday thru Friday, 8 am to 5 pm Saturday, 8 am to 12 noon</p> <p><b>Citizens Assistance Office</b> City Hall, 301 King St Monday thru Friday, 8 am to 5 pm</p>	<p><b>Alexandria Libraries</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ <b>Beatley Central Library</b> 5005 Duke Street</li> <li>◆ <b>Burke Branch</b> 4701 Seminary Road</li> <li>◆ <b>Barrett Branch</b> 717 Queen Street</li> <li>◆ <b>Duncan Branch</b> 2501 Commonwealth Ave Monday thru Thursday 9 am to 9 pm Friday, 9 am to 6 pm Saturday, 9 am to 5 pm</li> </ul>
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#### ABSENTEE VOTING INFORMATION

Registered voters in the City of Alexandria may vote by absentee ballot if they are:

- ◆ away on business, vacation, active military service, or at school
- ◆ physically unable to go to the polls or the primary care giver for a family member who is physically unable to go to the polls

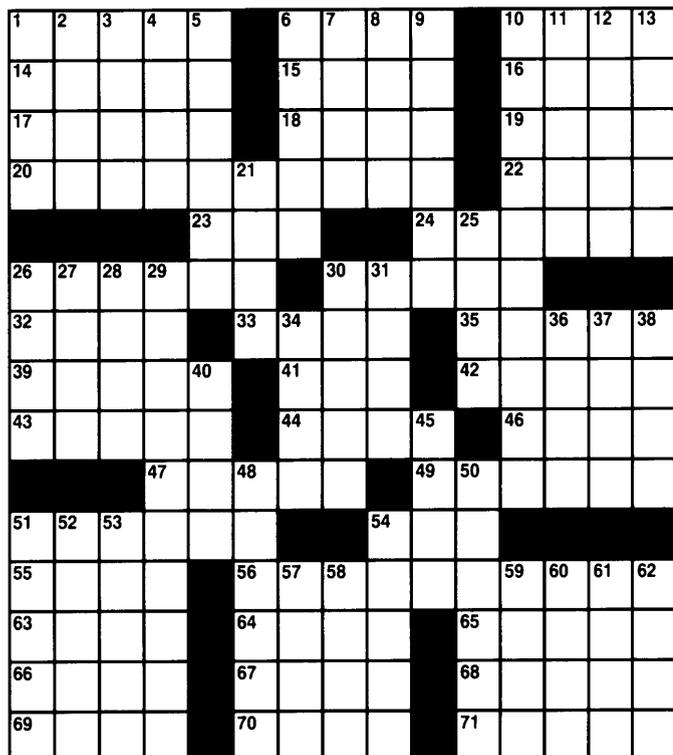
<p><b>To vote absentee by mail:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ Download the application from <a href="http://www.alexandriavoter.org">www.alexandriavoter.org</a>, or</li> <li>▶ Contact the Voter Registration Office and ask for an <b>absentee application</b></li> </ul> <p>Return your completed application:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ By Mail to Voter Registration Office</li> <li>▶ By Fax to 703-838-6449</li> </ul> <p><b>Deadlines:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ <b>Mailed or faxed absentee application must be received by Tues, January 6, at 5 pm</b></li> <li>▶ <b>Return mailed Absentee Ballot by Election Day, Tues Jan. 13, 7 pm</b></li> </ul>	<p><b>To vote absentee in person:</b></p> <p>Vote absentee in person at the Office of Voter Registration 132 North Royal Street, Suite 100</p> <p><b>In-Person Absentee Voting Hours:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ Monday thru Friday, 8 am to 5 pm</li> </ul> <p><b>Deadline for in-person absentee voting:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ <b>Saturday, January 10, at 5 pm</b></li> </ul>
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<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Special Services:</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">All requests for reasonable accommodation due to a disability should be made to the Registrar of Voters with at least a 48 hour notice. Call 703-838-4050 TTY number for hearing impaired persons is 703-838-5056.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Alexandria Electoral Board</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Anna Leider, Secretary Donald E. Ledwig, Chairman Peter Newbould, Vice Chair <b>Voter Registration Office</b> 132 N. Royal Street, Suite 100 703-838-4050 Fax: 703-838-6449 <a href="http://www.alexandriavoter.org">www.alexandriavoter.org</a></p>
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# NEW YORK TIMES CROSSWORD

Edited by Will Shortz

No. 0413-3



Puzzle by Fred Piscop

### ACROSS

- 1 False witnesses
- 6 Vocalizes like the Beastie Boys
- 10 Parks in 1955 news
- 14 Venezuela's — Falls
- 15 Clairvoyant's start
- 16 Has a tab
- 17 Suffix with sea or moon
- 18 Grocery vehicle
- 19 College course division
- 20 Production in a given period
- 22 Trait determinant
- 23 Pirouette point
- 24 MacNeil's longtime partner
- 26 Sombrero accompanier
- 30 Transparent
- 32 "—'Clock Jump"
- 33 Classic soft drink
- 35 Italian tourist center
- 39 Third-stringer

- 41 Sharpshooter's gift
- 42 Beat by a whisker
- 43 Use weasel words
- 44 Meat loaf serving
- 46 "Holy moly!"
- 47 Papa Doc ruled it
- 49 Stats for a porous defense
- 51 Battle site of 1916
- 54 Gulped down
- 55 Mideast bigwig
- 56 Pro-slavery Northerners, before the Civil War
- 63 Mission cancellation
- 64 Folklore fiend
- 65 Speechify
- 66 Lone Star State sch.
- 67 Chemicals giant
- 68 Hertz — Car
- 69 Slippery critters
- 70 Sit a spell
- 71 Alma —

### DOWN

- 1 In the cellar

- 26 Swanky
- 27 Years ago
- 28 Uncool sort
- 29 Cold comfort?
- 30 Burger or dog topper
- 31 Vegetable soup bean
- 34 All-star game side, often
- 36 Waffle brand
- 37 Warm, so to speak
- 38 States further
- 40 Belle's man
- 45 One of Alcott's "Little Women"

- 2 Rainfall measurement
- 3 Lab gel
- 4 Bank takeback
- 5 Mr. Moto, e.g.
- 6 Nouveau —
- 7 "Hurry, please!"
- 8 Pizarro conquest
- 9 Avoid a trial
- 10 Hero of 1898
- 11 Dog tag datum
- 12 Left Bank river
- 13 Autumn bloomer
- 21 Hoodlum
- 25 Move carefully (into)
- 48 Like some pools or paint
- 50 — Judaism
- 51 Stage or stadium, say
- 52 Ham it up
- 53 Star in Orion
- 54 Insurance seller
- 57 Look lustfully
- 58 "QB VII" author
- 59 Field of study
- 60 Defeatist's word
- 61 Politically incorrect suffix
- 62 Mark with a branding iron

### ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE



## SEE YOUR NAME IN PRINT!

Be the first person to fax in the correct crossword puzzle answers, and we'll put your name here! Fax the completed puzzle, with your name, the puzzle number, and the time and date of the fax, to the Crossword Puzzle Desk, fax #703-917-0998.

Note: Due to space limitations, the crossword may not appear from time to time. In that case, you may look on our Web site: [www.connectionnewspapers.com](http://www.connectionnewspapers.com) and click on the "Print Editions" button. It should appear in a newspaper from a different Classifieds zone.

# EMPLOYMENT

ZONE 3: • ALEXANDRIA  
• MOUNT VERNON

703-917-6464

ZONE 3 Ad DEADLINE:  
TUESDAY 4 P.M.

**TELEPHONE**  
A great opportunity to  
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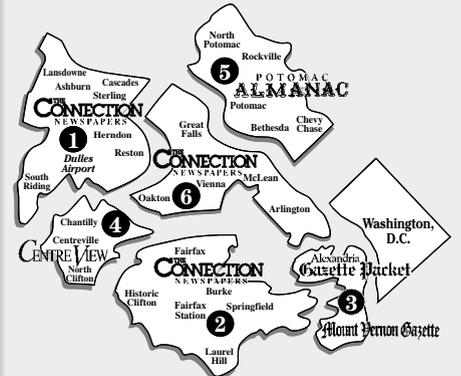
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## Recession Sends Pets To Shelter

FROM PAGE 1  
larly cats, the shelter started staying open until midnight for the past several Saturday nights.

**THERE IS NO** set time limit on how long an animal may reside at the shelter. "As long as the animal is healthy and doing well here, we will keep them," she said.

But, once a person leaves their pet with us for adoption they have to realize that if it is adopted by someone we will not retrieve it from that person if the original owner either changes their mind or is financially able to take the pet back. "That would cause a double hardship. And, we

"... they were turning the pet over to us because of losing their homes to foreclosure."

— Megan Brooks, director, Shelter Operations

won't do that," she said.  
"We try to really talk to people before they make the decision to put their pet up for adoption. Sometimes people need us to help them through the guilt they are feeling," Brooks said. If the original owner's situation changes and the pet is still at the shelter they can retrieve them. "But, that is a real risk. Particularly if that pet is very desirable," she said.

There are a number of reasons for placing a pet up for adoption. "One man came in with a large dog that had been with the family since it was pup. He said that he had to make a choice of feeding the dog or feeding his kids. That's the kind of story we are now hearing more and more," Brooks said.

The Alexandria shelter also is supplying a pet food bank to ease just that sort of economic decision. It is one of several organizations donating to "Animeals," a Fairfax County operation that supplies pet food to people who need budgetary help.

But, it's not always just the financial burden. People are giving up their pets because they are moving to a smaller home that can't accommodate a certain size pet, moving where pets are not allowed, moving in with relatives who have allergies or just don't want an animal in the house, or the pet becomes ill and the owner can't afford veterinary bills — the list goes on.

Hopefully, people will bring their pets to the shelter if they need to relinquish them and not just abandon them. The Animal Welfare League is ready willing and able to lend a helping hand — for both the pet and the owner. Located at 4101 Eisenhower Ave., Alexandria, its phone number is 703-838-4774 or visit its Web site at [www.alexandrianimals.org](http://www.alexandrianimals.org).

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**Second place:**  
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The Old Town Walled Garden Club announced their results for the 2008 holiday decorating contest:

- ❖ First place - 201 Duke Street
- ❖ Second Place - 207 S. Lee Street
- ❖ Third Place - 607 S. Fairfax Street

Honorable mention- 201 S. Fairfax Street.  
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**Priest Sees It Differently**

FROM PAGE 4

we have a lot of work to do," he said. "Roy has brought new talents to bear on our many challenges. He is the link connecting our main constituencies," Ring said. Priest sees one of his primary initial challenges as changing the perception of ARHA as a functioning agency. "When I arrived, people saw ARHA as a non-participatory agency with other elements of Alexandria City government. I have tried to change that and continue to work on it at every opportunity," he said.

"I have been invited to meetings and community gathering and I have attended as a way of building a better relationship with all the city's residents. I intend to do more of that," he said. "We also need to continue to improve our [ARHA] relations with our own residents." That has been evidenced through the continuing development of what many see as the second Chatham Square experiment. The next redevelopment of public housing into a combined mixed use of public and market rate housing is taking shape in the James Bland area on the west side of Old Town. "After that project is complete, Bland will have 60 less public housing units," Priest said.

"Forty-four of those are scheduled to be relocated to the Glebe Park/Old Dominion area. We have to find other sites for the 16 remaining units," he said.

In the 1970s Alexandria City Council passed Resolution 830 calling for a one for one replacement of any public housing units taken out of the total count. It was in response to a similar HUD rule.

However, when HUD repealed its one-for-one rule, Alexandria kept the requirement. Now HUD is considering reestablishing its one-for-one rule, according to Priest.

Although there were reported troubles between some Chatham Square residents and the residents of Hopkins Tancil Hous-

ing, a Section 8 housing development just across North Royal Street, this past summer, Priest points to Chatham Square as a sociological success.

"Inside Chatham Square there is a definite rapport between the public housing residents and the market rate residents. The experiment is working," he said.

"But, Alexandria's demographics are changing dramatically, both in terms of income and ethnic makeup. There are now many non-blacks moving into neighborhood that have been traditionally, primarily black. That is causing a changing housing market," Priest said.

With the present housing market, persons with Section 8 vouchers have more choices that when the market was booming. "We also have begun making direct deposits to landlord bank account for Section 8 vouchers. This has greatly increased the program's credibility and has had a very positive impact," he said.

**PRIEST HAS ALSO** found Alexandria to be a very welcoming and enlightened city. "I was like a lot of people who live across the river. My wife and I came here only occasionally for dinner or to do some shopping," he said. Priest and his wife, Sue, have lived in Silver Spring, Md., for the past 36 years. They have two grown sons and four grandchildren who all reside in the Washington Metropolitan Area. "I have found this last year at ARHA and working in Alexandria to be very educational for me," Priest said.

"We have to focus on the people we serve and not just the housing inventory. I hope we will be able to concentrate more on the needs of our [ARHA] residents — to help them move socially," he said. "We need to change from just being landlords. We need to be able to help with other aspects of our residents' lives," Priest said.

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