

Alexandria Gazette Packet



25 CENTS

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SERVING ALEXANDRIA FOR OVER 200 YEARS • A CONNECTION NEWSPAPER

APRIL 16, 2009



Members from the Royal Scottish Dance Society of Northern Virginia dance to the music of the Scottish Celtic Band 'The Devil's Tailors.'

Tartan Day

The National Capital Tartan Day Committee held its festival at Market Square on April 4. National Tartan Day, which officially falls on April 6, celebrates Scottish heritage and the anniversary of the Declaration of Arbroath.

The declaration, a formal declaration of Scottish Independence, was written in 1320 by the abbot of Arbroath and chancellor of Scotland, Bernard de Linton, and sent to the Pope John XXII on April 6. The declaration was authorized by the Scottish king Robert the Bruce.



Gil Smith, president of the National Capital Tartan Day Committee and his dog, Speed, visit with Jocelyn La Force.

PHOTOS BY
LOUISE KRAFFT/
GAZETTE PACKET



Susanne Bard plays the fiddle with the Devil's Tailors. Also in the band are Jim Stimson, Chris Lindsay, Peter Walker and sound man Anaud "Andy" Rao. For more information on the band visit www.devilstailors.com



Rod Clarke recalls some of the history. The first National Tartan Day celebrating Scottish ancestry in the United States was celebrated in 1997.

'Toast' Is Toast

Campagna Center cancels spring-time events to focus on its mission.

BY MICHAEL LEE POPE
GAZETTE PACKET

When Karen Hughes arrived in the corner office at the Campagna Center's landmark South Washington Street address, the nonprofit's new executive indicated she would be moving in a different direction. As far back as a November 2006, Hughes was already hinting that she might have second thoughts about the hoopla surrounding the Scottish Walk every winter in Old Town and a garden party known as the Toast of Alexandria at Collingwood Library every spring.

"It's evident that we have somewhat of a branding issue," said Hughes in a November 2006 interview, shortly after she assumed the title of president the previous month. "People will say that they have been to the parade and

they've never heard of the Campagna Center. Some people know the building very well, but don't know anything about what we do here."

Flash forward to planning for 2009, when Hughes and her board of directors came to a consensus that some of the social events were distracting. Staff members were being pulled away from providing educational and developmental programming for more than 1,500 children each day at 65 sites across the city. Meanwhile, the harsh economic environment created a framework for drastic measure.

"Signature events, when well attended, can be big fundr-aisers for a non-profit," said Councilman Rob Krupicka, who is a member of the nonprofit organization's board of directors. "But with this economy, they can also be a lot of

SEE CAMPAGNA, PAGE 5

3 Seats, 5 Candidates

City's East End district boasts only competitive race for School Board.

BY MICHAEL LEE POPE
GAZETTE PACKET

The city's enrollment is rapidly expanding. Homeless children are appearing in city schools at unprecedented rates. Dropout rates at the high school are the highest in the region. Yet the campaign for Alexandria's next School Board has very little competition, with two-thirds of the incumbent members facing no opposition at the

polls next month.

In nine precincts known as "District A" on the city's East End, five candidates are seeking election to three seats. With incumbent member Eileen Cassidy Rivera declining to seek a second term, the two incumbent members seeking reelection in District A are Sheryl Gorsuch and Scott Newsham. They will be joined on the ballot by newcomers Bill Campbell, Mimi Carter and Helen Morris. The

SEE COMPETITION, PAGE 3

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Long-Awaited Kickoff

A year ago this month, Del. **Brian Moran** (D-45) held a widely attended fund-raising event at T.C. Williams High School to build support behind his campaign for governor. Yet Moran had not yet formally announced his gubernatorial candidacy. At the time, Moran campaign officials estimated they could be holding a formal campaign kickoff event as early as June. "He can't run on the Kaine legacy if he doesn't help make it happen first," said spokesman **Jesse Ferguson** at the T.C. Williams event in April 2008.

But then no kickoff event was scheduled, and the campaign for governor became much more complicated. First there was the entry of former Democratic National Committee Chairman **Terry McAuliffe** into the race. Then there was the difficult decision about whether Moran should run a simultaneous campaign for House of Delegates and governor. That was followed by Moran's unexpected resignation in late December, then a contentious recount in which the Republican candidate came within 16 votes of winning the seat in a special election.

Now, with fewer than two months before the June 9 primary, Moran campaign officials are preparing for what they are calling a "hometown kickoff" at 3:30 p.m. at the Charles Houston Recreation Center, where he is expected to receive formal endorsements of Democratic Alexandria officials. "We've spent the last five months travelling around Virginia conducting events that show regional support behind Brian," said Ferguson this week, adding that Republican challenger **Bob McDonnell** held a kickoff event last month. "Now it's time to come back to the hometown and have Alexandria stand firmly behind Brian as we head into the home stretch of the primary campaign."

In a related note, Republican candidate **Sasha Gong** filed paperwork last week indicating she will be on the ballot for Moran's old seat that is currently held by incumbent Del. **Charniele Her-ring** (D-46).

Cartoon Head Candidate

Last weekend, the streets of Alexandria were flooded with a new kind of political yard signs sporting a whimsical cartoon image of independent candidate **Rich Williamson**. Unlike most of the season's yard signs, Williamson's signs featured a cartoon image of himself, crafted for \$50 two years ago by an Internet-based company known as "FastIcon." Although Williamson initially intended the image as a Facebook avatar, now that he is in the heat of a difficult campaign for the City Council the cartoon icon has found its way into the campaign. Cartoon images of the candidate have now been planted in every major thoroughfare as well as several side streets. Williamson said he has had several requests for individual yard signs specifically because children are attracted to the cartoon candidate. "When people open the door now, they'll recognize me instantly from the cartoon," said Williamson, who said he paid less than \$1,000 for 100 of the 2-foot-by-two-foot placards. "One woman answered the door and immediately called for kids because the guy on the cartoon man was here."

Twenty Percent Expected

Election officials predicted this week that they expect about 15,000 voters to participate in the May 5 election, which is about 20 percent of the active registered voters in the city. That's only 13 percent of the population that is 18 or older. City demographer **Ralph Rosenbaum** said the relatively low voter participation rates for the city election are heavily influenced by the high rate of mobility, with about 15 percent of city residents having lived in Alexandria less than a year. "So many people in this city don't stay here long enough to get involved in local politics," said Rosenbaum.

City registrar **Tom Parkins** said he would expect participation rates to be higher if voters were presented with a competitive race for mayor, as happened in 2003. In that election, about 20,000 of the 76,000 registered voters took part — a 27 percent participation rate. But this year's turnout is expected to be much closer to the 2006 numbers, in which about 15,000 of the city's 76,000 registered voters took part. That election had a 20 percent participation rate, which is the basis for this year's projection.

"Voters need to be aware that the candidates will not have a party affiliation next to their names," said Parkins. "So if that's important to them, they need to learn ahead of time what the party designations are."

— MICHAEL LEE POPE



PHOTO BY MICHAEL LEE POPE

District A candidates for the School Board, from left to right: Bill Campbell, Mimi Carter, Sheryl Gorsuch, Helen Morris and Scott Newsham.

Competition in District A

FROM PAGE 1

three candidates with the most number of votes will win a seat on the School Board.

SCOTT NEWSHAM: A native of Hollin Hills in Fairfax County, Newsham has lived in Alexandria since 1994. In the 2006 election, he received 2,468 votes putting him in third place in a field of five candidates who were running in that election. He is a 23-year veteran of the Coast Guard with a bachelor's degree in biology from Virginia Commonwealth University and a master's degree in marine affairs from the University of Washington. Newsham has worked as a school bus driver in Alexandria, and he has been an active member of several parent-teacher associations.

"I believe that I have contributed toward increasing the public confidence people have in the school system," said Newsham in an interview about his reelection. "That makes them more comfortable as taxpayers contributing to the system."

In one-on-one settings and in public forums this campaign season, Newsham has been careful to be clear about his vision for the role of a board member. In a number of settings this campaign cycle, Newsham said he would prefer to leave much of the day-to-day decision-making to Superintendent Morton Sherman and the central administrative office on Beauregard Street. As a board member, he stresses, it's his job to hold the superintendent accountable. "I don't bring a personal agenda," said Newsham. "As a board member, you are one of nine. So you have to get four other people to agree with your perspective."

Newsham said one of his most important accomplishments during his first term in office was supporting an initiative to make the school system more environmentally conscious. During the last election, Newsham said, he heard from many voters about the importance of directing the division toward environmental stewardship. So he worked with others to help create an environmental stewardship advisory committee to prioritize opportunities for improvement. As a board member, Newsham also played a key role in creating a program encouraging children to walk to school.

"I don't have any bearing over teachers," said Newsham during one recent forum about special education. "But I do have power over the superintendent."

SHERYL GORSUCH: A native of Burbank, Calif., Gorsuch has lived in Alexandria since 1986. In the 2006 election, she received 3,054 votes putting her in first place in the field of five candidates who were running in that election. She has a bachelor's degree in economics from Ponomo College in Claremont, Calif., and she is a former restaurant manager who currently owns an independent business.

"The next three years are going to be very important," said Gorsuch in an interview about her reelection campaign. "We are going to need to follow through on a lot of what we started in the last term."

Gorsuch said one of her most important accomplishments during her first term in office was opposing a plan at the state level that would have removed the requirement for parents to approve individual special-education plans for students with disabilities. She also opposed a federal plan she said would have calculated test results for students with limited English proficiency before they were ready. During a recent meeting with parents of special-education children, Gorsuch pledged action on their concerns.

"It's obvious that we are not doing very well," said Gorsuch, who is currently the vice chairwoman of the board. "And it's very frustrating to me that we haven't had more of a discussion about the data."

If she is elected to a second term, Gorsuch said, she would like to focus her attention on improving the division's responsiveness to students with disabilities. Calling the school system's performance in this area "abysmal," the vice chairwoman said she thinks ending the practice of segregating these students from the general student population will help create a new sense of accountability.

"Before we instituted the inclusion model, I think it may not have always been clear who was responsible," said Gorsuch. "I think that principals need to be held accountable by prioritizing their performance in this area as part of their evaluation."

BILL CAMPBELL: A native of Fairmont, W.Va., Campbell has lived in Alexandria since 2005. He has a bachelor's degree in mechanical engineering from the University of West Virginia and a master's degree in paralegal studies from Georgetown University. On the campaign trail, Campbell often points out that although blacks form a majority of the student population, candidates' forums are often dominated by white parents.

"This meeting is out of order," Campbell has said a number of times this year, drawing attention to the racial makeup at the campaign events. "There aren't enough minorities in the room."

Campbell said that his involvement with the school system began one day in 2005, when a real-estate agent was showing him houses in zone slated for Jefferson-Houston Elementary School. According to Campbell, the Realtor said that the school had a poor reputation and that it would be easy for him to opt out of sending his child there in favor of a school with better test scores. That sparked Campbell to get involved, becoming president of the Jefferson-Houston Parent-Teacher Association and ultimately launch a campaign for the School Board.

"There are two things this school system doesn't do very well," said Campbell at a recent candidates' forum. "And that's educate minority children and

SEE CANDIDATES, PAGE 7

ALEXANDRIA GAZETTE PACKET ♦ APRIL 16-22, 2009 ♦ 3

COUNCIL NOTEBOOK

Rethinking Fort Ward

With the recent discovery of long-neglected African-American graves at Fort Ward Park, city officials are grappling with how to handle the new developments. Back in the 1960s, the city government condemned several properties in the area in order to assemble lands to construct the park. Now, 40 years later, city officials are realizing that the grounds of the park are riddled with unmarked graves from African-American burial yards.

“Quite amazingly within the past few months, we’ve actually made contact with a number of the descendants of these families who have come forward,” said **Lance Mallamo**, director of the Office of Historic Alexandria. “We really are developing a whole new awareness of the resources at the park that have been overlooked for many years.”

The discovery of gravesites dovetails with concerns from neighborhood residents who are troubled by excessive noise at the park and overuse of the facilities. In two notorious cases, individuals have filed a permit for an event indicating that 35 people were expected then showed up with hundreds. It was during the discussion of overuse that the topic of neglected African-American graves entered the debate. Now city officials are trying to figure out how to honor those who were buried there while reducing picnic areas at Fort Ward and simultaneously designating the area as an arboretum.

“At some point, we are going to have to do a survey,” said Mallamo, explaining that nobody knows exactly where the graves are located. “We are going to be looking at the museum’s mission statement to be more inclusive of the history of the park.”

Event Overload

Eager to find every last penny of available money in the budget, City Council members are considering a plan that may reduce or eliminate some expenses associated with special events. Last year, for example, the city spent \$575,000 on special events but was only reimbursed \$154,000, leaving a net expenditure of \$421,000. With the economic crisis forcing drastic changes, city officials are trying to maximize the money used for city-sponsored events such as the Alexandria Festival for the Arts, city sponsored events such as the Scottish Christmas Walk and non-city sponsored special events such as Art on the Avenue.

“What we are really trying to get at is efficiency,” said Mayor **Bill Euille**. “We need to cut down on the number of these events.”

Draft language presented to council members this week emphasizes that the city should take a cost recovery approach rather than expect revenue generation, aiming for events to break even without exceeding costs. Other proposals include consolidating various ethnic festivals into one international event, instituting a fee scale for certain events, simplifying the permitting process and increasing reliance on volunteers rather than city employees receiving overtime. Ultimately, the draft report said City Hall should be trying to seek private and corporate sponsorships.

“We have to be careful about putting some of these out of business,” cautioned Vice Mayor **Del Pepper**. “I like the thought that you wouldn’t shut down the George Washington Parade because that gets national coverage for heaven’s sake.”

No Driveway, No Sale

Looking to sell your car? Be careful where you park it.

At the end of Tuesday night’s City Council meeting, Councilman **Rob Krupicka** said he has been in contact with an Alexandria resident who got a ticket from the Alexandria Police Department because a car with a “for sale” sign was not parked in a driveway. Noting the frustration from the constituent who sent the e-mail, Krupicka called for an end to the driveway-only restriction on cars with for-sale signs.

“We certainly don’t want to create used car lots on our streets,” said Krupicka. “But there need to be a balance we can find that doesn’t currently exist in the code.”

— MICHAEL LEE POPE

COMMUNITY



PHOTOS BY DENNIS McDONALD

From left to right: Mark Rotter, Kate Sirpis and Kelly Gillespie at the Timber Branch Clean-up.

Working Together for Environment

Invasive ivy removal protects ecosystems.

BY CLAUDIA HAMBLIN-KATNIK, PH.D.
WATERSHED PROGRAM ADMINISTRATOR
CITY OF ALEXANDRIA

A targeted, combined effort of invasive species removal at Monticello, Holmes Run, Timber Branch, and Chinquapin Parks occurred on Saturday, March 28. It was a drizzly day after a good rain — just right for removing *Hedera helix*, better known as English Ivy. While it looks lovely curling up trees, it weakens the trees by adding additional weight and changing the types of bugs that normally inhabit the bark. On the ground it also diminishes biological diversity, affects nutrient cycling and alters the delicate ecosystem structure, causing wildlife declines, altering regional distinctiveness of flora and fauna, introducing diseases and parasites and having a host of other negative effects on our public lands. Basically it changes the light and moisture regime of the ground that it covers making it inferior, or at least altered, habitat for bugs. And very few insects eat English Ivy leaves — so the ivy looks green, but is a toxic desert for insects. No bugs, no birds.

THE GROUP of hearty volunteers worked diligently with the biggest turnout at Chinquapin Park due to the generous turnout of a group from a Master Gardener class as well as students earning community service credits from T.C. Williams High School. The Timber Branch community was having its semi-annual park clean-up and beautification with the ivy pull one of many activities completed to maintain



PHOTO BY ROD SIMMONS

Don and Susan Chinquapin pull ivy off of a tree.

an attractive functioning riparian buffer adjacent to the stream. Monticello Park is one of the best places in the city for bird abundance and diversity. The ivy removal efforts there are really making a difference in increasing bird habitat. Ivy removal at Holmes Run is a big project because Holmes Run Park is a big place, and the ivy is so widespread. The weekend’s efforts put a dent in the patch behind Beatley Library, but there is still a lot left to remove.

OUR NEXT targeted event — Saturday May 2 — will involve the removal of Garlic Mustard, *Alliaria petiolata*, first recorded in the United States around 1868, from Long Island, New York, and likely introduced by settlers for food and medicinal purposes. Garlic mustard invades areas disturbed by human activities and appears to be aided by white-tailed deer that prefer to eat native wildflowers and leave garlic mustard untouched. Garlic mustard displaces many native spring wildflowers that occur in the same habitat. It is also credited with the decline of the West Virginia white butterfly because chemicals in garlic mustard appear to be toxic to the butterfly’s eggs.

For more information on invasive species removal in the City of Alexandria contact Rod Simmons at 703-838-6325 or Claudia Hamblin-Katnik at 703-838-4334.



PHOTO BY GREG ZELL

Susan McLaughlin removes ivy at Holmes Run.

Campagna's Mission

FROM PAGE 1
 expense for limited return.”
 The decision to cancel Toast to Alexandria ends a 36-year tradition at Collingwood, the scenic mansion that was once part of George Washington's River Farm. For many retailers, the event was an opportunity for restaurants and caterers to offer samples of their food along with wine and beer. From a branding perspective, the event was billed as a social trifecta — support the Campagna Center while enjoying a crisp Chardonnay on the Potomac River. But Hughes and the board had other plans.
 “These kinds of events don't raise as much money as you might think,” said former Del. Marian Van Landingham (D-45), a long-time member of the nonprofit's board of directors. “There was a feeling that the staff should be working on programs but they get caught up in events.”
 The cancellation of the Toast to Alexandria comes at a time when most nonprofit leaders are struggling to navigate through difficult times. City officials say middle-
 SEE EVALUATING, PAGE 9

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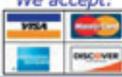
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NEWS

Three Seats, Five Candidates

FROM PAGE 3

education children with disabilities.” On the campaign trail, Campbell has been particularly strident on the issue of parental involvement. He has said on a number of occasions that parents should take their own initiative to become more involved in their children’s education. Of all the School Board members who are up for election this cycle, Campbell was the first to launch his candidacy — during a 2007 School Board meeting. “If I’m everyone’s second choice,” Campbell predicted last summer. “I’ll end up with more votes than anyone else.”

HELEN MORRIS: A native of Kingston, Pa., Morris grew up in Binghamton, N.Y., and has lived in Alexandria since 2001. She received a bachelor’s degree in linguistics from the University of Michigan and a master’s degree in Irish mythology from University College Dublin. Morris said the catalyst for her involvement with the school system was her involvement with Jefferson-Houston Elementary School, where she said central administrators were not forthcoming about their plans.

“I started asking questions, but I kept getting increasingly frustrated,” said Morris in an interview about her campaign for the School Board. “I felt like a lot of what the central administration was doing with this school was tinkering around the edges.”

Morris said she is pleased that the school is being considered as a candidate for the new “Primary Years Program” recently funded by the current School Board. She said she has no opinion on the now-defunct arts focus at the school, which was cancelled in October 2007. Although she acknowledges that the school system would need to enter a better fi-

nancial situation before she could launch a serious effort, Morris said she would support demolishing the current facility and building a new school in its place. “At this point, I think that retrofitting the existing building would be a waste of money,” said Morris. “The improvements that were made last year will make the school last for a few more years, but I would love to see a new building.”

MIMI CARTER: A native Muskogee, Okla., Mimi Carter has lived in Alexandria since 1991. She received a bachelor’s degree in American Literature from George Washington University and a master’s degree in journalism and public policy from American University. She became involved with the school system as member of the education committee of the Del Ray Civic Association and was a founder of the annual State of the Schools forum.

“What prompted me to run was probably when the modified school calendar at Mount Vernon was put on the delete list,” said Carter, who is a former PTA president of the Mount Vernon Community School. “This was after we had already invested a lot of money into it.” The year-round school schedule, known by education professionals as a “modified school calendar,” was saved for the day. But Carter embarked on an aggressive campaign of advocating for improvement at her school. Last year, she spoke in support an additional Spanish-language teacher. She lost that battle, with School Board members ultimately denying the position.

“We don’t have a system in place to evaluate specific programs,” said Carter. “I would support budgeting more money for evaluation of programs so that we have metrics to make better decisions.”

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Please make reservations by 12 noon, April 27th



NEWS



PHOTO BY LOUISE KRAFFT/GAZETTE

Dr. Pam Schiller answers a question from Jean Czernia and other local preschool teachers during a break in the morning presentation.

How Children Learn

The Children Together, Inc. Board held its 13th annual conference March 27 at the First Baptist Church in Alexandria. The non-profit organization is committed to increasing opportunities for young children with and without disabilities to participate in early childhood experiences together. The conference speaker was Dr. Pam Schiller. In attendance were 165 parents, teachers, social workers and administrators.

Schiller, a curriculum specialist and freelance author, has worked as a classroom teacher and a child care administrator, as well as a professor at the University of Houston. She is the author of several early childhood curriculums

and 30 teacher and parent resource books. In her presentation, Schiller talked about the latest brain research and the correlation with language acquisition and learning to read. She noted that teachers must understand the "windows of opportunity" that children have for learning language. The windows open at birth and unfold until the age of puberty. Children learn best through play and in environments that are language rich and clutter free. Also learning environments should have consistent routines, lots of time for reading and exploring, teachers who build a relationship of trust with the children and rooms should have a cozy feel to them.

OBITUARY

Cheryl Hussey



Cheryl Hussey

Dr. Cheryl Hussey died on April 13, 2009 at age 57, after a long and arduous, yet courageous, struggle with pancreatic cancer. Cheryl was born in Tucson, Ariz. on Jan. 24, 1952, where she attended Amphi High School and stayed through her undergraduate college years at the University of Arizona. She moved to Cincinnati for a short time and then came to Virginia where she worked in government while she pursued a Master's Degree from Catholic University, followed by a second Master's Degree and then an EdD doctorate from George Washington University. A good listener, Cheryl spent her working time as a clinical family psychologist and enjoyed her encounters with all of her patients. Her fun time was spent with her children and menagerie of animals

she had rescued and adopted.

Her house has four cats, many birds, various small creatures and of course her beloved dog, Mac. She was a passionate equestrian who spent many weekends with her two horses, Avenlee and Cano.

Cheryl is survived by her children, Elizabeth, Michael and Katherine, the children's father, Thom, all in Alexandria and Cheryl's brother, Mark, of Tucson, Ariz.

Services will be held at 3 p.m. Friday, April 17, 2009 in the Immanuel Chapel on the grounds of Virginia Theological Seminary, 3737 Seminary Road, Alexandria with a reception to follow in the Parish Hall. Donations can be made, in lieu of flowers, to Pancreatic Cancer Action Network, 2141 Rosecrans Ave, Suite 7000, El Segundo, CA 90245. Call 877-272-6226. Arrangements by Everly Wheatley. www.everlyfuneralhomes.com

NEWS

Evaluating Fundraising Events

FROM PAGE 5

class residents who have never been part of the system before are now applying for public assistance, adding to the strain of an existing network of people who are already among the city's most vulnerable.

"In these economic times, non-profits are being forced to focus on their core services and missions," said Krupicka. "I think many non-profits are being forced to evaluate which fund-raising approaches are the most effective for them."

One concern about the decision to cancel

the Toast to Alexandria is the feeling that canceling a well-known signature event with a long tradition might have unintended consequences. Van Landingham said she shared a concern expressed by others that some of the volunteers who enjoyed the Toast might feel slightly alienated by the cancellation, but those individuals should be strongly encouraged to use their volunteer time to the nonprofit's core programs.

"The Campagna Center is trying to move in a direction of maximizing direct appeals for fund-raising rather than hosting lavish social events," said Van Landingham.



Potomac River Generating Station Community Open House

Saturday, May 2nd

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For more information, please visit our website at <http://potomac.mirant.com>.

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May 2nd

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• 10 a.m. – noon

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OPINION

More Unemployed in Northern Virginia

House of Delegates votes to turn away millions for local people without jobs.

If you live in Northern Virginia and, like most people here, you still have a job, you might have read with a certain detachment the news that the Virginia House of Delegates voted to turn away millions of dollars in federal money for people.

After all, the unemployment rate here is the lowest in the state, Northern Virginia is the economic engine of the state, so it might not matter much up here, right?

Wrong.

There are more unemployed people in Northern Virginia than in any other part of the state, 75,390 unemployed people looking for full time work here in Northern Virginia in February, according to the Virginia Employment Commission, up from 38,100 last year. That's 75,390 of the statewide total of 291,100.

The unemployment rate in Northern Virginia of 5.2 percent, up from 2.7 percent in February, 2008, pales in comparison to, say Danville's

rate of 12.3 percent. But in Danville, that rate translates to 6,450 unemployed people, less than 10 percent of the number here.

Every local jurisdiction in Northern Virginia is facing its highest unemployment rate in more than a decade.

Arlington has the lowest unemployment rate in the state at 4.4 percent, up from 2.3 percent last year at this time, and 1.6 percent a decade ago.

Fairfax County's unemployment rate is 4.7 percent, up from 2.6 percent this time last year and 1.5 percent a decade ago.

Loudoun County's unemployment rate is 4.8 percent, up from 2.7 percent last year at this time and 2.4 percent a decade ago.

The City of Alexandria's unemployment rate is 5.1 percent, up from 2.7 percent a year ago and 2.8 percent a decade ago.

The City of Fairfax's unemployment rate is 5.6 percent, up from 3.3 percent a year ago, and 1.3 percent a decade ago.

This is one instance where there is no competition between jurisdictions. Unemployed people in Northern Virginia were hurt the same amount as unemployed people in other parts of the state when the Virginia House of Delegates voted not to alter Virginia's unemployment requirements, voted to turn away millions in aid for the unemployed.

While those who voted against the changes said they did so to protect Virginia's pro-business environment, the changes required — extending unemployment benefits to part-time workers and unemployed people in certain job training programs — would not have moved Virginia down from the very top of the list as a pro-business state.

What businesses in Virginia need right now is to bolster consumer confidence. Turning away federal stimulus money does just the opposite.

Local members of the General Assembly who voted against the benefits will likely discover that many more of their constituents than they thought are currently unemployed.

The economy here is already showing signs of recovery, meaning job opportunities for the unemployed. But in the meantime, check in with your legislators to see how they voted.

Here are the local representatives who voted no:

In the Senate, just one from Northern Virginia, Sen. Ken Cuccinelli.

In the House, Northern Virginia delegates voting against the unemployed included Dave Albo, Tim Hugo, Bob Marshall, Joe May and Tom Rust.

— MARY KIMM,
MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

EDITORIAL

April Is Alcohol Awareness Month Community, together, must support prevention.

BY ALLEN C. LOMAX
SAPCA CHAIR

April is heralded as Alcohol Awareness Month — recognition that alcohol abuse is a serious national issue. Alcohol use and abuse, especially among teens, is a serious local issue too. According to a recent survey of Alexandria public school youth, 67 percent of Alexandria teens responded that have tried alcohol and 36 percent are currently using alcohol. Further, 30 percent of Alexandria's high school seniors responded that they have had five or more drinks in a row (binge drinking) at least once in the previous month.

In 2007, in its first Call to Action against underage drinking, the U.S. Surgeon General's Office appealed to Americans to do more to stop America's 11 million underage drinkers from using alcohol, and to keep other young people from starting. The acting surgeon general at that time, Kenneth Moritsugu, M.D., M.P.H., noted, "Alcohol remains the most heavily abused substance by America's youth. This Call to Action is attempting to change the culture and attitudes toward drinking in America. We can no longer ignore what alcohol is doing to our children."

In Alexandria, the Substance Abuse Prevention Coalition (SAPCA) is answering the "call to action."

Recognizing that alcohol abuse among the City's youth is a year-round problem that affects our entire community, SAPCA has mobilized a diverse

group of community partners to address the problem. Working with parents, law enforcement, health providers, city agencies, youth service providers, the media and others, we have begun to implement a targeted, focused prevention plan that will reduce youth substance use and abuse in Alexandria, including alcohol use by teens. For example, we are engaging parents and schools in discussions about the need to consistently enforce rules and consequences for youth abusing alcohol and other drugs. We also are working with our law enforcement partners to support enforcement of alcohol and marijuana laws. SAPCA is developing workshops for parents, giving them the additional tools they need to talk to their children about the risks of alcohol and substance use, and to monitor risk factors such as sliding grades and increased absences from school. We are also planning outreach to community organizations and faith-based groups.

SAPCA is making alcohol and substance abuse prevention a year-round community issue. Alcohol awareness month should be the catalyst for our community to come together in support of prevention. No one group can do this alone. Only a comprehensive, holistic effort by youth, parents, schools, law enforcement, businesses, policymakers, the media, and the community at large will yield success. Together we must work both collaboratively and cross-culturally to reduce underage substance abuse. If you want to get involved, please participate in SAPCA's quarterly meeting on April 28 at 7 p.m. at the T.C. Williams High School's Minnie Howard campus and visit our Web site at www.alexhealth.org/partnership/sapca.html to learn more about how you can become involved with SAPCA and our work.

LETTERS

Help Those With Autism

To the Editor:

April is Autism Awareness Month and this special opportunity to educate the public has been recognized since the 1970s. Autism is a developmental disorder affecting the way a person communicates with and relates to people around them. Autism is the fastest growing disability in the United States, affecting 1 in every 150 children. My son, who has autism, over the course of his life, will need a variety of treatments, such as occupational therapy, to help with behavior, communication and life skills. So I think that it is fortunate that the American Occupational Therapist Association celebrates April as National Occupational Therapy Month as well.

Occupational therapy services help my son focus on enhancing daily living skills (e.g., feeding, dressing), as well as helping him

SEE LETTERS, PAGE 13

Correction

The letter, "Needed More Than Ever" by Dorothea Peters and Scott Barstow (Gazette Packet, April 9-15) was originally published in January. It was mistakenly re-published last week.

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As part of Virginia's five-year-long I-495 HOT lanes construction project, a new Capital Beltway bridge will be built over Route 123 (Chain Bridge Road) in Tysons Corner.

Although Route 123 will remain open throughout the entire project, motorists should expect long-term lane closures and delays on this road when construction begins in late April.

Drivers: what to look for now

- The left lane in each direction of Route 123 will be closed beneath the I-495 overpass (approximately 500 feet in each direction)—these lane closures will be in effect 24 hours a day until Thanksgiving, when the two lanes will reopen for the 2009 holiday shopping season, and then close again in early 2010 until work is completed in 18–24 months
- When driving through the work zone, expect delays during a.m. and p.m. rush hours—please allow extra time to reach your destination
- There will be no lane closures on the Beltway during rush hours, and no routine work done on weekends
- Arterial roads like Route 7 will remain open throughout the entire project—motorists may experience additional delays due to utility relocation and rail extension work taking place as part of the Dulles Corridor Metrorail project

Get help navigating construction: Big roadwork projects like these can be challenging to deal with. But rest assured—when completed, they'll improve traffic flow, business efficiency and personal mobility for everyone in the area. Until then, you can sign up to receive project updates and helpful information on commuter solutions at VAmegaprojects.com.

The I-495 HOT lanes construction is part of the Virginia Megaprojects—a series of large-scale transportation improvements designed to ease traffic congestion and provide you with more choices and better transportation options than ever before.



Tysons Corner Construction Lane Closures on Route 123 at I-495



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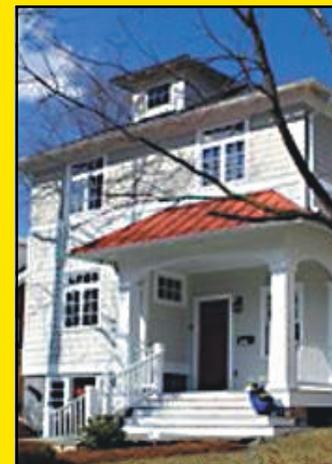
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OPINION

Think Ahead about Health Directives

BY CHRISTINE CANDIO
INOVA ALEXANDRIA HOSPITAL CEO

Inova Alexandria Hospital, along with other national, state and community organizations, are leading the effort to highlight the importance of making advance healthcare decisions or advance medical directives.

On April 16 the nation will recognize National Healthcare Decisions Day (NHDD). More than 450 organizations throughout the country, including Inova Alexandria Hospital, will hold events to encourage their communities to prepare advance medical directives.

An advance medical directive is a legally binding document that allows you to convey your wishes about end-of-life care ahead of time. It provides a way for you to communicate your decisions to your family, friends and healthcare professionals to avoid confusion when a difficult health choices need to be made. Advance directives also give you the ability to document the types of treatment you will and will not accept as well as name a healthcare "agent" to speak for you if you are unable to communicate your wishes. Directives can be filled out without the help of a lawyer and are free. Despite this, a study by the National Hospice and Palliative Care Organization stated that as few as 25 percent of Americans have an advance directive.

The goal of NHDD campaign is to ensure that all adults with decision-making capacity have both the information they need and the opportunity to communicate and document their end-of-life healthcare



Christine Candio

about advance healthcare planning for patients.

As a participant of NHDD, Inova Alexandria Hospital is providing information and tools for the public to convey their wishes and execute written directives, including a healthcare power of attorney and a living will.

End-of-life care for a loved one is a difficult decision to make and it becomes even more difficult when these decisions have not been discussed in advance.

NHDD at our hospital will allow a greater number of people in the Alexandria community to have open conversations about their healthcare decisions and complete the necessary directives. If just one family doesn't have to grapple with making a difficult end-of-life decision without the guidance of their loved one, we have succeeded.

Use April 16 to decide, discuss, and document your wishes, whatever they may be. For more information about NHDD at Inova Alexandria Hospital please contact Ann Medford, Patient Relations at 703-504-3128.

decisions.

In recognition of NHDD, we are providing much needed information to the public and to help reduce the number of tragedies that occur when a patient's wishes are unknown or not followed. This improves the ability of hospitals, healthcare facilities and providers to offer guidance

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

FROM PAGE 10

improve engaging in social interactions and completing school works. My son is one of the many children growing up with autism in Virginia and the lack of community supports for him, and others with disabilities, will make it hard for my son to navigate his community. Virginia is one of the few states that clings to outmoded institutional settings for people with intellectual disabilities and ranks 46th in its funding for community-based services. For many Virginians with disabilities, like my son, there are no real options because Virginia offers limited choices in terms of housing, services and employment help. For all those we

care for — our brothers, our sisters, our sons, our daughters, our friends and loved ones — we need to care about Virginia's 46th place ranking and begin pushing hard those running for public office this year — especially all those running for Governor — to make sure they commit to and implement policies that make Virginia a place where those with disabilities can and do live successfully in communities of their own choice and where the necessary infrastructure is there to help them do that.

Michael J. Carrasco
Former Chair,
Alexandria City Public Schools
Special Education
Advisory Committee

Change the Mix

To the Editor:

An idea whose time has certainly come is the need to change the mix in the City's Council. For the past several years the City has been governed by a group of like-minded council members who have routinely demonstrated their commitment to ever larger government spending. However, times have changed. We are in the middle of a deep and lasting recession and the scramble is on to live more prudently. But is our current council up to the task of making difficult choices?

I think not! This point is exem
SEE LETTERS, PAGE 14

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Door open 6:30 p.m. Show starts at 7:30 p.m.

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We are proud to have:

- Maintained one of the lowest tax rates in Northern Virginia
- Committed the city government to environmentally and economically sustainable practices
- Invested in the City's future through comprehensive land use and mass transit planning
- Invested in Alexandria's future by supporting pre-school education and strengthening our public schools

Mayor Bill Euille
www.billeuille.com

Former Mayor Kerry Donley
www.votekerrydonley.com

Councilman Rob Krupicka
www.krupicka.com

Councilmember Tim Lovain
www.timlovain.com

Vice Mayor Del Pepper
www.delpepper.com

Councilman Paul Smedberg
www.PaulSmedberg.org

Councilman Justin Wilson
www.justin.net

Vote Democratic on May 5, 2009

Are you eligible to vote absentee?
Visit www.alexdem.org to find out.

For a ride to vote absentee in person or to the polls on Election Day
Call 703-549-3367

Authorized and Paid for by the Alexandria Democratic Committee

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LETTERS

FROM PAGE 13

plified by the recent controversy over non-residents attending Alexandria schools. This represents a drain on city resources at a time when cuts to social services for residents are under review. Yet when Frank Fannon noted this problem at the recent ECO debate, a city council member replied by noting to the effect that this is just the way it has always been in Alexandria. A failure to understand that everything has to be on the table when resources are strained and that legacies have to be included is an unfortunate consequence of like-minded thinking by our council.

It is time to change the mix! I urge a vote for Frank Fannon to add reasoned judgment to the Council's future decision making.

A J Kearney
Alexandria

On Right Track

To the Editor:

I am writing to encourage the Alexandria Gazette Packet to endorse Rob Krupicka for City Council in the May 5 elections. As a new parent in the Del Ray neighborhood, I am especially interested in Rob's efforts to improve Alexandria's public schools. I strongly believe he is on the right track. I was also very impressed with the Eco-City program. Rob's ability to engage and work with all stakeholders is unique and critical to addressing the city's environmental policies.

Julie Segal Walters
Alexandria

Few Women Candidates

To the Editor:

Alexandria. Our town is usually the standard bearer for progressiveness in the Commonwealth and, in some cases, the U.S. Alexandria has been the birthplace of some of the strongest and most notable women in business and state politics, beginning in the 18th century with Margaret Brent, who owned most of the land in Northern Virginia we now call Alexandria and Fairfax County

Recently, however, our progressive City seems to have come to a standstill when it comes to promoting women candidates. On the Democratic side, we have five men and one woman. Among Republicans and Independents combined there is one woman candidate.

It was just in 2003 that Alexandria was named by Ladies Home Journal as one of the best cities for women. What has happened since then? To be honest, no one

SEE LETTERS, PAGE 27

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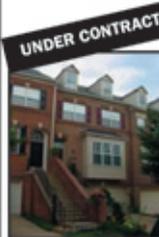
Stonegate
\$599,900



- ♦ Popular 3 BR, 2.55 BA, 3 finished levels, 2 car garage Jefferson Model w/soaring 14 foot ceilings, 3 sets of French doors w/ Palladium Windows that walks out to 1 of 2 decks and gas fireplace
- ♦ Many custom features thru-out: freshly painted inside & out, extra wide crown molding, chair rail, wainscoting, & hardwood floors
- ♦ Updated kitchen with new GE Profile appliances & Corian counters
- ♦ Large master suite with luxury bath with corner tub
- ♦ Finished lower level with fireplace, half bath and lots of storage

Alexandria
4635 Latrobe Place

Stonegate
\$659,900



- ♦ This Emerson Model has gleaming hardwoods on every level
- ♦ 3 levels, 3 BR, 3.5 BA, 2 car garage Townhome w/custom paint, crown molding, chair rail, Plantation Shutters & custom blinds
- ♦ Gourmet kitchen w/center island cook top, Granite countertops, upgraded Maple cabinets, nook, & adjoining family room
- ♦ Master has many closets, luxury bath with corner tub and separate shower, and private deck with endless views
- ♦ Lower level is finished & walks out to fenced in stone patio

Arlington
2829 11th Street, N

Clarendon Park
\$899,900



- ♦ Beautiful 4 level, 3 BR, 3.5 BA, 2 car garage Fullerton Model
- ♦ Hardwood floors on 3 levels, custom paint, crown molding and wainscoting
- ♦ Gourmet kitchen with Granite countertops, all stainless appliances, adjoining breakfast/family room
- ♦ Master suite has luxury BA with custom tile and soaking tub
- ♦ Fourth level has separate living area with bedroom, full bath and walks out to large rooftop deck
- ♦ Finished lower level has corner fireplace

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Potomac, MD

Stoney Creek Farm

House/Lot Packages
\$1.7 million

Located in Montgomery County, MD and just off River Road in Potomac, this extraordinary community boasts beautiful rolling hills, mature trees, breathtaking vistas, and gorgeous 2-acre+ home sites. We are offering 3 remaining lots for \$750,000 each.



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SAVE THE DATE

Monday, June 1st, 2009
Mount Vernon Country Club

We're looking for players, SPONSORS, volunteers or donations. This year's tournament will benefit Women's Imaging Center @ INOVA Mount Vernon Hospital.

GRAND PRIZE \$1,000,000 Shootout

Randy Bender 703.906.1749

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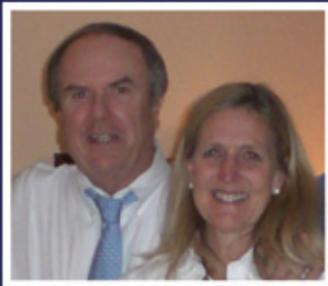
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Great Home Values – Record Low Mortgage Rates!



7501
Park Terrace Dr
\$1,300,000
Stunning!
Inspired by Frank Lloyd Wright's Prairie style, this 1.13 acre property sits on a bluff overlooking acres of parkland with seasonal river views! Heart of redwood features, large room sizes, high ceilings and expansive glass window walls capture the natural beauty of grounds. Off GW Pkwy, 3 miles from Old Town. (Adjoining 1.18 acre available for \$975,000). Open Sun 1-4pm. S GW Pkwy, R Morningside Ln, R Park Terr Dr.



4327
Ferry Lndg Rd
\$475,000
Yacht Haven Estates!
Truly special home lovingly maintained by long term owners. Large room sizes, high ceilings and open floor plan provide unlimited potential! Brick exterior, two fireplaces, hardwood floors, walk-out lower level and gas heat & hot water. Glass walls and private screened porch overlook gorgeous half acre grounds. Super value! Open Sun 1-4pm. S GW Pkwy, past estate, L Ferry Lndg Rd.



9405
Ferry Lndg Ct
\$795,000
Magnificent Setting!
Stately Colonial on highly desirable quiet cul-de-sac near the river. Traditional exterior is complimented by bright, sunny interior opening to spectacular sun room Large room sizes, updated baths, elegant trim detail, oversized garage and absolutely pristine condition on beautifully landscaped half acre grounds! Open Sun 1-4pm. S GW Pkwy, past estate, L Ferry Lndg Rd, R Ferry Lndg Ct.



1210
N Pegram St
\$1,351,500
Classic Colonial!
Come see Alexandria's most exciting new home opportunity! See our top quality construction, open floor plans and magnificent site in the heart of Alexandria's Seminary area. This home is now almost complete and is awaiting your finishing touches! Special financing is available! Open Sat & Sun 1-4pm. 1-395: Exit Seminary Rd East, R Pickett St, bear right onto Pegram St.



9516
Mt Vernon Landing
\$2,900,000
Waterfront!
Waterfront homes rarely become available in Mt Vernon on the Potomac! Spacious custom Tudor was carefully crafted with the highest quality materials and planned with three levels of Pella window walls to maximize water views. 6BRs, 5BAs, full walk out LL and many rooms with dramatic river views.



9304
Allwood Drive
\$698,000
"Green" House!
Expanded and updated, this spectacular home features uniquely bright, open floor plan, soaring cathedral ceilings and updated kitchen and baths. Expansion was done with carefully selected natural materials to minimize environmental impact. Prime location on large lot in the heart of Mount Vernon's nicest neighborhoods. "One of a kind" home!



4003
Belle Rive Terr
\$4,800,000
Riverfront!
Prime Mt Vernon location with the most breathtaking river views you have ever seen! Over 11,000 sq ft with five bedrooms including main level river view master suite with enormous luxury bath and huge closets. Extensive balconies, deck and roof deck capitalize on the majestic setting high above the Potomac River.



4307
Sheridan's Point
\$879,000
Georgian Colonial!
Large Price Reduction! Classic updated Colonial in prime Mt Vernon location. Home has a combination of location, size and features typically only available in \$1,000,000+ homes! Three finished levels, open kitchen/family room, stunning master suite, two bonus rooms on lower level and dramatic sun room overlooking private fenced yard. Just off the GW Pkwy – easy commute to DC!



8304
Riverton Ln
\$825,000
Stunning!
Victorian home combines farm house exterior with stunning open interior. 3 fin levels, 4BR, 3.5BA, hardwood floors and spectacular kitchen with custom wood cabinets, granite counters & center island. Prime location on quiet cul-de-sac within walking distance to highly regarded Stratford Landing and Sandburg schools.



8826
Camden Street
\$899,500
Gorgeous Setting!
There's nothing like it on the market today – fabulous new Wakefield Home custom designed for this half acre lot overlooking acres of natural conservation land. Bright and open floor plan, high ceilings, granite countertops and two car garage. Pre-construction sale allows for maximum customization.



Brambly Lane
\$969,900
FREE FINISHED BASEMENT FOR FIRST CONTRACT IN APRIL –\$50,000 VALUE! Pre-construction special makes this new luxury home available at a price that is simply incomprehensible! Same model sold a few months ago for over \$1,600,000! High ceilings, open floor plan, 4BR, 3.5BA, energy conserving features, oversize garage & more! (Picture of same model for illustration purposes only.)



4203 Adrienne Dr
\$459,000



4300 Neptune Dr
\$425,000



9333 Brambly Ln
\$539,000



9305 Mt Vernon Circle
\$985,900

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4028 MOSS PLACE
Alexandria / Seminary Ridge - \$1,195,000

Williamsburg Colonial sited on prestigious cul-de-sac w/ exquisite master suite & magnificent Ba w/lg closets. 4 additional Br along w/2.5 updated Ba. Kit w/cherry cabs opens up to a treed yard & patio. LL. rec room, workrm + 2car garage.

Shane Canny 703.346.2067
Mary Bourke 703.906.5825



1915 DUFFIELD LANE
Alexandria - \$589,900

MOVE RIGHT IN! 3VL garage TH in Belle Haven, just mins to GWPkwy, OT & Potomac! Modern updates thruout to incl a to-die-for Mstr lux Ba & generously sized gourmet kit. 3Br/3.5Ba/2FP private patio & more. GWPkwy to R on Belle Haven Rd to R on Ft Hunt Rd to L on Woodmont to R on Duffield

Kim Muffler 703.282.7739



5432 DAWES AVENUE
Alexandria - \$724,999

QUIET NEIGHBORHOOD! 3 levels of freshly painted rooms, 4Br/2.5Ba - hardwood floors throughout 1st/2nd levels. Remodeled gourmet kitchen with lots of cabinet space, updated SS. Cozy living room with fireplace, separate dining room. Screened-in porch.

Lauren Leggett 703.582.7354



1819 DUFFIELD LANE
Alexandria / Belle Haven - \$585,000

BELLE HAVEN ON THE GREEN. Turn key 3 lvl TH w/ garage on prime lot backing to woods. 3-4BR, 3.5Ba, open floor plan, new granite & SS. Kit opens to DR & LR w/FP, rec room & spacious tiered patio. Updated thru-out. \$40K in extras NOT INCLUDED in price. Only one light to Old Town & GW Parkway. Owner / Agent.

Francena Alvarez 804.690.1618



911 PRINCESS STREET
Alexandria - \$549,900

JUST LISTED! Detached 1900 home located in the Historic Parker Gray District; walking distance to 2 METROS; charming front porch; updated throughout; private rear patio; hardwood floors; plantation shutters.

www.BobSkinnerHomes.org
Bob Skinner 703.598.7279



1105 POTOMAC LANE
Alexandria - \$750,000

Exceptional fully fenced backyard & garage parking in this 5-6Br/3Ba home. Beautifully updated country Kit w/brick hearth & FP. Family room w/FP and walk-out. Walk to school, pool & park.

Catherine.Foltz@longandfoster.com
Catherine Foltz 703.626.6914



3803 COURTLAND CIRCLE
Alexandria - \$550,000

3Br, 2.55Ba luxury Townhouse. Dramatic open floor plan! Cathedral ceilings, Palladian windows, built-ins, designer niches & quality upgrades throughout. Mins to Pentagon, DC & OT. Dir: I-395, exit-7/S Glebe, bear R onto W Glebe, L on Charles, bear L on Charles, R on Courtland.

Pictures: www.ijumani.com
Inderjeet Jumani 703.472.8804
Brandy Buzinski 202.277.5478



7030 BEDROCK ROAD
Alexandria - \$560,000

SPRING'S FINEST! Move up & into this pristine, like new, ctr hall Colonial featuring 4Br/2.5Ba, lg formal rms, renovated chef's kit, fam rm w/FP, private library/den, qtr acre level yd w/ oversized deck & 2 car gar, + new roof, windows, paint, siding & more! Near METRO

Kim Muffler 703.282.7739



1302 BELLE VIEW BOULEVARD #C1
Alexandria - \$269,000

SELLER TO PAY 6 MOS CONDO FEES! 2Br/1Ba Belle View Condo. Sunny top-floor end unit with porch. Updated kit & Ba. Move-in condition! Plenty off-street parking. Public trans to METRO. Walk to river, bike/jog trail, shops.

Martha Deal 703.622.6797



801 NORTH PITT ST, UNIT 218
Alexandria - \$187,000

GREAT INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITY! Charming sunny Port Royal corner unit studio w/priv balc. Updated bath, new HVAC. Rooftop grill deck w/smashing views, low condo fee incl all utilities. 24hr concierge. Pet friendly bldg. Plenty of free parking. Fabulous location!

Martha Deal 703.622.6797



745 FAYETTE STREET
Alexandria - \$719,900

BRADDOCK LOFTS. 1 block from the Braddock METRO. New York style loft offering open floor plan. Large windows & plenty of space, upgraded Kit w/ breakfast bar & desk area. Huge 20x20 rooftop terrace. View tour at:

www.BobSkinnerHomes.org
Bob Skinner 703.598.7279



6918 DUKE DRIVE
Alexandria - \$345,000

DETACHED HOME FOR THE PRICE OF A CONDO!!! Well cared for house near Belle View. Kitchen View. Kitchen opens to large family room addition. Beautifully landscaped and fenced backyard. Entertain on the patio. Carport plus Workroom. Near to schools, library, and rec center. Roof and AC replaced in 2007!

www.6918DUKE.COM
Deborah Alea 703.447.1315



431 NORTH PATRICK STREET
Old Town - \$535,000

HAS IT ALL!
• 2Br - 2.5Ba and 1 car Garage
• Deep backyard
• Kitchen w/eat-in space or family room
• Separate Dining room
• Living room w/gas FP

Martine Irmer 703.346.7283



2552 HOLLY MANOR DRIVE
Falls Church - \$679,900

Well kept 5Br/4.5Ba home in convenient location. Features include: Hwd fls, open kit, sep DR, Master suite, fin LLw/FP & wet bar, 2 car garage & more. Bank owned property.

Blumel Adams Group
Dayna Blumel/Kerry Adams 703.587.7841



RENTALS

- 2 Auburn Court #2D** \$975
Auburn Village Garden 1Br/1Ba
Steve Kindrick 703.683.0400
- 820 South Arlington Mill Dr #3-102** \$1,295
Park Glen Garden 2Br/1Ba
Brad Kintz 703.629.0103
- 805 North Howard St #331** \$1,600
The Plaza Garden 2Br/2Ba 1Parking
Brian Hong 703.929.5764
- 400 Madison St #1201** \$2,200
Alexandria House Hi-Rise 2Br/2Ba
Ann Kavaljian 703.549.4980
- 631 D Street, NW #531** \$2,250
Lafayette Hi-Rise 1Br/1Ba
Betsy Gorman 703.861.4825

RENTALS

- 5105 Donovan Dr #172** \$2,295
Cameron Station TH 2Br/2.5Ba 1FP 1 Garage
Susan Haughton 703.470.4545
- 1800 Wilson Blvd #245** \$2,350
Wilson Blvd Garden 1Br/1Ba 1Parking
Norma Gantz 703.548.2313
- 1830 17th Street, NW #206** \$2,400
Old City #2 Mid-Rise 1Br/1.5Ba
Sean Satkus 703.731.8086
- 1250 South Washington St #324** \$2,950
Porto Vecchio Hi-Rise 2Br/2.5Ba 2 Parking
Patricia Tierney 703.850.5630
- 714 Carpenter Road** \$3,400
Potomac Greens Colonial TH 3Br/2.55Ba
1FP 2 Garage Parking
Sheryl Lambson 703.518.8768



6008 BUSH HILL DRIVE
Alexandria / Bush Hill Woods - \$399,900

GREAT LOCATION! Custom brick rambler on 20,000sf lot - detached brick 2 car garage - 3Br/2Ba - wood and tile floors - replacement windows, gourmet Kitchen w/Italian custom cabs, Viking stove, Miele appliances. Must see to appreciate.

Louise Devers 703.795.9944



2106 FORESTHILL ROAD
Alexandria / Belle Haven - \$1,549,000

Classic ctr hall Col. 5Br/3.5 Ba, updated kit w/eat-in space, exposed brick FP, butler's pantry & heartpine flrs. Hwd flrs, deep moldings, slate roof, copper gutters & plaster walls, fin rec rm & enclosed garden. For a private showing call . . .

Betty Quirk 703.851.3447
bettyquirk.com or liveinbellehaven.com





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OPEN SUNDAY 1-4!

1126/1128 Gladstone Place
\$799,000 | Alexandria South
4 bedroom, 3 bath, 2 car carport, 2 fireplaces. Kitchen with granite counters, custom cabinets, family room with vaulted ceilings, skylights, deck, grilling station. Walk out lower level with bath, kitchen, study, recreation. Dir: S on GW Parkway, R Wellington, L West Blvd, R Gladstone. www.phyllispatterson.com.

Phyllis Patterson | 703.518.6158



OPEN SUNDAY 1-4!

1122 Waynewood Boulevard
\$599,000 | Alexandria South / Waynewood
4 bedrooms, 2.5 baths, 2 car garage, stone patio and fenced yard. Bright family room with vaulted ceiling, skylights, music room, updated eat-in kitchen, living room with fireplace. Walk to school, pool and GW Parkway. From Old Town: S on GW Parkway, R Waynewood Blvd. www.phyllispatterson.com.

Phyllis Patterson | 703.518.6158



OPEN SUNDAY 1-4!

2151 Jamieson Avenue #606-607
Carlyle Towers
3 bedrooms, 3 baths, large glass enclosed balcony. Sunny view of fountain park. Wood floors! Large eat in kitchen, expanded master bedroom with extra closet, garage parking. Duke St to Lion statues on Delaney, R Jamieson to 2151 MLM1606@aol.com www.CarlyleTowers2-607.com.

Marie Louise Meyer | 703.836.2080



FIXER UPPER

3509 Franconia Road
\$300,000 | Wilton Woods
Unique Farm House built in 1913 features 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, half-acre lot, wood floors, living room with fireplace, sep dining room, side porch, patio, front porch, wooded setting. FHA 203k "fix-up" financing is available with 3.5% down payment. www.sherryyork.com.

Sherry York | 703.625.3377

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Learn about energy efficient mortgages and their
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Mortgage

April 22 through April 26th 9:00 - 5:30



OPEN SUNDAY 1-4!

543 South Saint Asaph Street
\$605,000 | Old Town Alexandria
Charming 3 bedroom home in desirable Old Town location. Beamed ceilings, exposed brick hearth, hardwood floors, kitchen with granite and stainless steel appliances, three bedrooms, two and one half nicely renovated bathrooms, neutral paint and fresh décor. Private patio. Shopping, dining and more!

Cindie Fish | 703.201.4451



OPEN SUNDAY 1-4!

1718 Abingdon Drive West, Unit 102
\$247,000 | Potowmack Crossing
Charming one bedroom condo near everything that Old Town has to offer! Spacious room sizes, open floor plan with lots of natural light from two sides of windows. Completely renovated kitchen, crown molding, neutral decor throughout. Washer/dryer inside unit, extra storage, and ample parking. A great value!

Bob Woods | 703.244.8726



OPEN SUNDAY 1-4!

5081 Donovan Drive
\$439,900 | Cameron Station
Pristine 2-1/2 end-unit condo TH w/garage, prime Cameron Station location. Two BRs, 2.5 BAs, warm hardwood floors, stylish granite kitchen. Designer touches throughout. Close to community amenities, easy access to free shuttle to Metro. Photos on www.paddockhomes.com.

Vaughn & Diane Paddock | 703.628.2828



OPEN SUNDAY 1-4!

4 Rosemont Lane
\$849,000 | Alexandria City
Classic Rosemont beauty just blocks to Metro. 3 bedroom, 2.5 baths. Comfortable, flowing floor plan with sunny living room leading to charming porch, large formal dining room, gourmet kitchen, family room that opens to private patio/yard. Dir: From King St, N on Russell Rd, R on Rosemont Ave.

Karen Leonard | 703.328.7041



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Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage is proud to present these luxury listings. With innovative technology, targeted marketing and a strong national presence, we know your neighborhood and reach the world.



ESTATE QUALITY HOME

3616 North Albemarle Street
\$1,800,000 | Country Club Estates, Arlington
 Elegant estate home in sought after neighborhood with beautiful formal rooms, handsome moldings and medallions, hardwood flooring and dramatic two story foyer flooded with sunlight. Amazing stone landscaping with patio and walls, detached garage and peaceful garden spaces.

Nancy Tompkins | 703.518.2813



GRAND BELLE HAVEN HOME

6226 Ft. Willard Circle
\$2,100,000 | Belle Haven
 Stunning home in prime location with exquisite moldings, elegant formal rooms, hardwood flooring, sun room with soaring ceilings and hand painting, dazzling kitchen with Omega cabinets and skylights, soaring 10' ceilings, beautiful landscaping. 5 bedrooms, 4.5 baths.

Jeanne Warner | 703.980.9106
Phyllis Patterson | 703.518.6158



PRICE REDUCED

904 North Overlook Drive
\$745,000 | Beverley Hills
 Significantly reduced for a speedy sale, this beautifully maintained brick 3 bedroom plus 2 1/2 bath colonial is an outstanding value! Bright and sunny rooms, sparkling rooms, sparkling hardwood floors, totally updated eat-in kitchen, full basement plus garage. This is a gem!

Donnan C. Wintermute | 703.518.6156



OPEN SUNDAY 1-4!

5116 Kenwood Drive
\$1,399,000 | Annandale
 Nantucket Estate with wrap porches and cupolas on nearly one acre. This home features heated stone floors, see-thru fireplace, copper roof, gourmet kitchen, exercise/media rooms, private patio and deck. Dir: 495 to Braddock East, Left Kenwood. www.PhyllisPatterson.com.

Phyllis Patterson | 703.518.6158



CLASSIC COLONIAL

2219 Lakeshire Drive
\$974,000 | South Alexandria
 Center Hall Colonial complete with 2 car garage, and great flow for entertaining and today's living. 4 bedrooms, 4.5 baths, numerous upgrades, 3 finished levels, sprinkler system, and so much more. Sunlight streams through every room because of its southern exposure.

Bonnie Rivkin | 703.598.7788



AMAZING NEW PRICE! OPEN SUNDAY 1- 4!

610 South Washington Street
\$1,799,000 | Old Town
 Everything on your wish list! Semi-detached home, two years old. Amazing attention to detail, four finished levels, reclaimed pine wood floors, two car garage, gourmet kitchen, four gas fireplaces, 3 bedrooms, 4.5 baths 3,400+ square feet.

Bonnie Rivkin | 703.598.7788



OPEN SUNDAY 1-4!

1500 Grassymeade Lane
\$899,000 | Alexandria S / Fort Hunt
 All brick colonial featuring 5/6 bedrooms, 3.5 baths with 2-car garage. Off a "country lane" on a wooded lot. Open and spacious with 2 cozy fireplaces, hardwoods, eat in kitchen with large island and granite, inviting family room for gatherings. Dir: South on GW Parkway, right on Collingwood Rd, left on Fort. Hunt Rd, right on Grassymeade Lane.

Karen Leonard | 703.328.7041



OPEN SATURDAY AND SUNDAY 1-4!

1250 Dartmouth Court
\$1,200,000 | Alexandria City, Quaker Hill
 Elegant five bedroom home located near historic Old Town is exquisitely appointed and combines open space with the ultimate in interior and exterior detailing. An exceptional property featuring renovated kitchen awash in natural light. A great room with walls of windows opens to spacious deck. Master suite with super bath and expansive walk-in closets. The only way to describe this home is fabulous!

Frann Orr | 703.623.4070



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Lena Teveris from Bittersweet accepts first place award.

Alexandria's own **Bittersweet** was the winner April 4 at the Fifth Annual Great Rum Punch Challenge at Gadsby's Tavern Musuem, beating out the city speakeasy, PX, by a narrow margin. Inspired by one of their amazing baked goods, Bittersweet presented the Apple Brown Betty Punch which won over the crowd of 150 tasters.

The George Washington Birthday Celebration Committee has picked the winners of the Cherry Challenge. They are:

* **Starters Category:** *Insalata di Ceresa e Mela di Fuji* (a salad featuring cherries) from Tempo Restaurant

* **Entree Category:** *Duck a la Cherry* from Murphy's Irish Pub and Restaurant

* **Drinks Category:** *Dirty Cherry Martini* from Tempo Restaurant

* **Dessert Category:** *Cherry Cheesecake* from Layla's

BRABO by Robert Wiedmaier, located at 1600 King Street, opened Feb. 12. BRABO by Robert Wiedmaier is open for breakfast daily from 7 a.m. to 10 a.m. The breakfast items range from \$5-\$14. Lunch is served Monday-Friday from 11:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Dinner menu is offered from 5 p.m. to 11 p.m., Sunday through Wednesday, and 5:30 p.m. to midnight, Thursday through Saturday.

For reservations, 703-894-3440 and for BRABO Tasting Room call 703-894-5252. Visit www.BRABOrestaurant.com.

The **West End Farmers' Market** is open on Sundays from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., from May 3 through Nov. 22 at Ben Brenman Park, 4800 Brenman Park Drive. The first Sunday of each month features local artists and crafters. 703-838-4343.



PHOTO BY MICHAEL O'CONNELL/GAZETTE PACKET

A signature item available at Nationals Stadium for the first time this year is The Big Catch, a foot-long Crab Louie sandwich that comes with a foot of crab-spiced fries.

Fresh Taste at the Ballpark

Washington Nationals hope to win fans over with revised concession menu.

BY MICHAEL O'CONNELL
GAZETTE PACKET

In its sophomore season at the Nationals Stadium, Washington, D.C.'s Major League Baseball club is hoping the way to a fan's heart may be through his stomach. That was at least part of the message Stan Kasten, Nationals team president, offered Friday, April 3, during a "What's New at Nationals Park" media tour.

Between raindrops, Kasten showed off improvements that the team has made to the one-year-old stadium during the off-season, including a set of oversized starting line-up signs fashioned after baseball cards, additional picnic tables throughout the concourse and 7-foot tall bobblehead statues of the racing presidents, waiting to have their photos taken with fans.

But the centerpiece of the tour was the new food unveiled by Executive Chef Phil Bucco of the Levy Restaurants. During the off-season, the Nationals hired Levy as its new concessionaire and asked them to freshen up the stadium's menu.

From day one, Bucco sought to blow the stadium's menu out of the water. "We try to work in the local favorites as well as give a lot of new options," he said. "There are going to be a lot of surprises, from the healthy options that we're going to put out there now, from the upgraded items that we've put on." As an example, he pointed to the

"quasi-dilla," an inside out sandwich with the quesadilla as the bread.

"It's filled like a sandwich," he said. "That kind of innovative approach is what sets us apart."

Among the other new items available at the park this spring are a variety of hamburger selections, including a spicy shrimp po boy and a veggie burger; a Healthy Plate cart featuring fresh produce; and The Big Catch, a Crab Louise sandwich. Lightly smothered in dressing, lumps of crab meat and thinly sliced red onions fill up The Big Catch's foot-long soft bun, making it the signature item of the new menu.

"We loved the Crab Louis sandwich," said Jeff Saffelle of Alexandria, who authors the Nationals blog Nats320 [www.Nats320.blogspot.com]. "The shrimp burger is very spicy. It's got a nice taste to it."

Saffelle and his wife Sohna are season-ticket owners and expect to be at every game. Eighty-two home games means 82 opportunities to eat at the ballpark. The new expanded menu was something that they welcomed.

"We like the fact that there are some fresh new offerings," said Jeff Saffelle. "Coming to every game like we do, it gets a little boring eating the same thing all the time like we did last year. This spices it up and makes it a little different."

"They also introduced more healthy food,"

said Sohna Saffelle. "Since we like to eat healthy, we have a problem with potato chips and that stuff." She appreciated having healthier choices at the ballpark.

"This year we're going to have a fresh food stand," said Kasten, "featuring fresh fruit, fresh vegetables, hummus and things like that."

The new menu is just one more draw for fans that may be looking for a nice, inexpensive entertainment experience.

"There's no question that the entertainment business is feeling the problems that our customers are feeling," said Kasten. "We recognize that. We've reached out in the ways that we can."

The Nationals have lowered ticket prices and offered smaller ticket packages, all in the interest of drawing families to the ballpark.

Kasten pointed to the availability of \$5 tickets for every game and the proximity of the stadium to Metro as draws for people looking for an inexpensive evening out. "We're reaching out in all the ways we can to help our customers still come out and enjoy what has always been the most affordable sports alternative," he said.

"Coming to every game like we do, it gets a little boring eating the same thing all the time."

— Jeff Saffelle, Alexandria

CALENDAR

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

ONGOING

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

Fairfax County Department of Community and Recreation Services present free **dance workshops** at Hollin Hall Senior Center, 1500 Shenandoah Road, from 3:30-5 p.m. on April 24 and May 8. To register, 703-324-4386.

Beginning Feb. 25, the **T.C. Williams High School Planetarium** will welcome the Alexandria community one night each month during the school year for a free hour-long show. Doors will open at 7 p.m. for "A Night With the Stars," which will run from 7:30 to 8:30 p.m. Advance registration, required, may be completed online at <http://www.acps.k12.va.us/tcw/planetarium/> or by calling the planetarium at 703-824-6805, extension 6300.

Mount Vernon will bring back its popular **National Treasure Tour through Oct. 31**. Included in this approximately hour-long walking tour is the Mansion's basement and cornerstone, the setting for a pivotal scene in the movie. This daily tour is

limited to 25 visitors per time slot, takes place at 9:30 a.m., 11:30 a.m., 1 p.m., and 3 p.m., and costs \$5 per tour in addition to Estate admission: \$15 adults; \$14 seniors; \$7 children (6-11); free for children 5 & under. Advance tickets are available online at MountVernon.org.

Spectacular gardens are in bloom as Mount Vernon hosts its annual **outdoor garden and gift sale beginning April 11 through May 10** from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. This annual sale includes ornamentals, perennials and annuals, garden items, books, and heirloom plants propagated from historic cuttings. No admission is required to shop in the Gardening Days tent (located in front of the Mount Vernon Inn Complex). Visit MountVernon.org or 703-780-2000.

Join City archaeologists and trained volunteers for a program for children of all ages at Alexandria Archaeology **Family Dig Days**. Monthly Family Dig Days will be held from 1:30 to 3 p.m. on the grounds of the George Washington Masonic National Memorial, 101 Callahan Drive, in Alexandria. The 2009 dates are: Saturday, May 30; Saturday, July 18; Saturday, Aug. 15; Saturday, Sept. 12; Saturday, Oct. 17. \$5/person. Registration required, 703-838-4399 or visit www.alexandriarchaeology.org.

FRIDAY/APRIL 17

Spring Plant Sale. 9 a.m.-6 p.m. at River Farm. Browse plants, herbs, vegetables, supplies and more. \$3/nonmember to park. Free admission. Visit www.ahs.org/river_farm or 703-768-5700 ext. 114.

Sing Along with Mr. Skip. 12:30 p.m. at Spill the Beans Coffee House, 1900 Elkin St., Suite 4. Enjoy singing and dancing with Mr. Skip. \$5 per child. No pre-registration required. More info at spillthebeansva.com.

U is for Umbrella. 10:30 a.m. at Sherwood Hall Lane, 2501 Sherwood Hall Lane. Children 4-5. Free. Registration required, 703-765-3645.

Lunch Bunch. Noon at John Marshall Library, 6209 Rose Hill Drive. Children up to age 5 can bring lunch and enjoy stories. Free. Registration required, 703-971-0010.

Music Performance. 7:30 p.m. at Aldersgate United Methodist Church, 1301 Collingwood Road. Hear the American Boychoir. Free. Visit www.aldersgate.net or 703-765-6555.

Hike. 7:30 p.m. at Huntley Meadows Park, 3701 Lockheed Blvd. Teens can take a night hike and search for bats, beavers and more. Bring a flashlight. \$4/person. Reservations required, 703-768-2525.

Ballroom Dancing for Couples. 8:30-11:30 p.m. dancing to live music. \$15/person. Reservations required, www.fridaynightersdancingclub.com.

Art Explorers: Journey Through Artistic Media. 9:20 or 10:30 a.m. at Art at the Center, 2804 Sherwood Hall Lane. Children 18 months to 5 years will work with a parent or caregiver to explore paint, clay, collage, line, color and shape through open-ended activities. Visit www.artatthecenter.org/classes for cost.

Story Time. 10:30 a.m. at Hooray for Books!, 1555 King St. Children up to age 2 can join in music, stories and more. Free. Visit

SEE CALENDAR, PAGE 22



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THEATER

Musical Goes to New York

“Rooms: A Rock Romance” opens off-Broadway.

BY BRAD HATHAWAY
GAZETTE PACKET

The road between our area and the theater district of New York has become a two-way street. Sure, there are still Broadway shows sending tours out which play here, and many local production companies mount new productions of shows that have played on and off Broadway. But more and more, shows that got their start here are moving up north.

Alexandria's MetroStage gave us the world premiere of “Rooms: A Rock Romance” – a two performer musical with a score that ranges from folk rock to punk rock by Scotland-born rocker/composer/playwright Paul Scott Goodman and his wife actor/director/playwright Miriam Gordon last summer in a co-production with the Geva Theatre in Rochester New York. Now the semi-autobiographical look back at their early days transitioning from Glasgow to London to New York and back again has opened at Stage Two of the New World Stages.

It is almost the same show in that 350-seat house on New York's West 50th Street as it was in MetroStage's 130-seat house on Alexandria's North Royal Street. I say “almost the same show” because there has been a significant change in the cast with Broadway veteran Leslie Kritzer taking the role of the young woman who writes lyrics, which was played at MetroStage by Natascia Diaz, herself a Broadway veteran of note. Kritzer is a bit more nuanced and not quite as emotionally charged in the role but carries her half of the load with impressive effect. The co-starring role of the hard drinking composer is still performed by Doug Kreeger.

The play is fairly traditional in structure (boy and girl meet, fall in love, team up but break up only to

get back together) but with a unique mix of the Scottish blend of skepticism and romanticism and a score of punk rock and lyrical ballads backed by a five-member rock band.

The hour and a half, one-act musical has the same fully formed characters with a strong attraction to each other and the chemistry between Kritzer and Kreeger works well and each handles solos with style.

Well known director Scott Schwartz, who guided the development of “Tick, Tick ... Boom!” is at the helm and has polished the production nicely. The entire design team did sharp work here at MetroStage and that design has transferred intact (with a new sound designer, however).

The set design by Adam Koch is as effective as ever. While the story takes place in multiple locations, he provided a single set featuring a door on wheels, which the cast members rotate into different positions to represent location changes. While the battered white door moves about, the brick back wall remains exposed with two platforms for the musicians.

Throughout, the concentration on story telling never wavers. Each song has a narrative purpose and the story, brief as it is, is tellingly and satisfyingly delivered.

There is one notable difference between Alexandria and New York, however. The top ticket price for “Rooms” in New York is fifty percent higher than it was here at MetroStage. What would have cost you \$45 here last summer now costs \$69.50 on New York's upper west side.

Brad Hathaway reviews theater in Virginia, Washington and Maryland as well as Broadway, and edits Potomac Stages, (www.PotomacStages.com). He can be reached at Brad@PotomacStages.com.

CALENDAR

FROM PAGE 21

www.hooray4books.com or 703-548-4092.

Creating Colorful Containers. 1:30 p.m. at Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road. Learn simple techniques and more. \$12/person. 703-642-5173 to register.

SATURDAY/APRIL 18

Art Exhibit. Noon-5 p.m. The Kingstowne Area Artists Association, and other area artists who wish to exhibit, will have a show and sale of their work at the Snyder Center, 6450 S. Van Dorn St. Free. Visit www.kingstowne.org for more.

Old Town Alexandria Homes Tour. 10 a.m.-4 p.m. around Old Town. Browse flower arrangements and more. \$35/advance; \$40/day of event. Visit www.VAGardentweek.org or 703-838-5005.

Spring Plant Sale. 9 a.m.-3 p.m. at River Farm. Browse plants, herbs, vegetables, supplies and more. \$3/nonmember to park. Free admission. Visit www.ahs.org/river_farm or 703-768-5700 ext. 114.

Yard Sale. 8:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. at Alexandria Black History Museum, 902 Wythe St. Browse jewelry, pottery, cds, electronics and more. Free. Visit www.alexblackhistory.org.

Fill the Fords with Food. 9 a.m.-3 p.m. at Bushido Studios, corner of Hayfield Road and Telegraph Road. Proceeds benefit Our Daily Bread.

Visit www.our-daily-bread.org or 703-273-8829.

Music Performance. 7 p.m. at St. Paul's Episcopal Church, 228 S. Pitt St. Hear the Ars Choralis. Reception follows. Fundraiser. 202-267-7772.

Art Show. Noon-5 p.m. at Snyder Center, 6450 S. Van Dorn St. Browse works by Kingstowne Area Artists Association. Free. Visit www.kingstowne.org for more.

Magic Show. 6:30 p.m. at Bishop Ireton High School. Enjoy strolling magic until the show starts at 7:30 p.m. \$15/person. 703-698-6952.

Harambee Readers. 10:30 a.m. at Sherwood Library, 2501 Sherwood Hall Lane. Discuss “Life on the Color Line” by Gregory Howard Williams. Free. 703-765-3645.

Gardening With Children. 2 p.m. at Burke Library, 4701 Seminary Road. Children 6-11 can learn how to garden. Register at 703-228-6414.

Growing Wildflowers. 10 a.m. at Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road. Learn how to grow spring wildflowers like bluebells and trout lilies. \$12/person. Register, 703-642-5173.

Garden Market. 9 a.m.-1 p.m. at Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road. Browse local vendors and browse plants, herbs and more. Free. 703-642-5173.

Healthy Kids Day. 11 a.m.-2 p.m. at YMCA Alexandria, 420 E. Monroe Ave. Enjoy browsing the interactive video gym, family swim, healthy food

and more. Free.

Pancake Breakfast. Enjoy all you can eat from 8:30-11:30 a.m. at Lincolnia United Methodist Church, 6535 Little River Turnpike. \$5/adult; child free. 703-333-6005.

Music Performance. 7 p.m. at St. Paul's Episcopal Church, 228 S. Pitt St. Hear Ars Choralis. Free.

Walk. West Potomac High School is hosting “Walk it Out” a walk for the homeless from 10 a.m.-noon at the school track. Contact Kimberly.Thompson2@fcps.edu for more information.

Yard Sale. Girl Scout Troop 4600 is holding a yard sale at 500 High St., from 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Free.

Saturday Studio. 9-10 a.m. at Art at the Center, 2804 Sherwood Hall Lane. Parents and children learn together in a studio environment. Visit www.artatthecenter.org/classes for cost.

Watch it Grow Story Time. 11 a.m. at Hooray for Books!, 1555 King St. Children age 2 and up can meet Curious George and enjoy stories about things that grow. Free. Visit www.hooray4books.com or 703-548-4092.

Garden Market. 9 a.m.-1 p.m. at Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road. Browse shrubs, plants, flowers and more from local growers. Free. Visit www.greenspring.org or 703-642-5173.

SEE CALENDAR, PAGE 23

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Friday - Fish Night

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CALENDAR

FROM PAGE 22

Growing Wildflowers. 10 a.m. at Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road. Learn names of local wildflowers and how to incorporate them into garden. \$12/person. 703-642-5173 to register.

Tea 101. 2 p.m. at Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road. Learn how to brew the perfect pot of tea and enjoy a traditional cream tea. \$18/person. 703-941-7987 to register.

Saturday Stories. 10:30 a.m. at Beatley Library, 5005 Duke St. All ages can enjoy stories. Free. Registration required, 703-519-5900.

Fund-raiser. 7 p.m. at Janet's Java, 5735 Telegraph Road. Benefits Multiple Sclerosis Society's MS Walk. Hear Fight the Bear perform. Visit www.fightthebearonline.com for more.

SUNDAY/APRIL 19

Music Performance. 7 p.m. at Church of the Resurrection, 2280 N. Beauregard St. Hear Buskin & Batteau with Dulcie Taylor. \$15/adult; \$12/member or advance. Visit www.focusmusic.org or 703-501-6061.

Music Performance. 2 p.m. at Schlesinger Concert Hall, 3001 N. Beauregard St. Hear the Marine Chamber Orchestra. Free. Visit www.schlesingercenter.com for more.

Card Collage. Noon-4 p.m. at Colasanto Center, 2704 Mount Vernon Ave. Bring snacks, beverages and supplies to share. Free, but first come, first serve. Visit www.thedelrayartisans.org or 703-283-0399.

Music Performance. 4 p.m. at Lyceum, 201 S. Washington St. Hear Doug Bowles, Cindy Hutchins and Alex Hassan perform. Free, donations accepted. 703-549-1421.

Opening Reception. 2-5 p.m., see a photography exhibit by Grace Taylor and Clifford Wheeler from April 7 through May 31 at Multiple Exposures Gallery in the Torpedo Factory, 105 N. Union St. Visit www.torpedofactory.org or 703-683-2205.

Bridge Club. 4 p.m. at Sherwood Library, 2501 Sherwood Hall Lane. Adults and teens can learn how to play. Free. 703-765-3645.

Lecture. 3:30 p.m. at Gunston Hall Plantation, 10709 Gunston Road, Mason Neck. Learn about the early days of the plantation. \$9/adult; \$8/senior; \$5/child. Visit www.gunstonhall.org for more.

Volunteer Open House. 1-5 p.m. at Stabler-Leadbeater Apothecary, 105-107 S. Fairfax St. Learn about how to become a volunteer. Free. Visit www.apothecarymuseum.org or 703-838-3852.

Doug Bowles Plays Cabaret. 4 p.m. at the Lyceum, 201 S. Washington St. Free, donations accepted.

Music Performance. 4 p.m. at Meade Memorial Episcopal Church, 322 N. Alfred St. Hear music by Maurice Lyles Quintet. Free. Visit meadechurch.org or 703-549-1334.

MONDAY/APRIL 20

Tavern Toddlers. 10:30 a.m.-noon at Gadsby's Tavern, 134 N. Royal St. Toddlers up to 36 months can enjoy games and more. \$7/group of three, one adult and 2 children; \$3/additional person. Visit www.gadsbystavern.org or 703-838-4242.

Yoga for Gardeners. 9:30 a.m. at Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road. Features the Vinyasa method. \$66/six-class session. To register, 703-642-5173.

Stretch Your Mind. 2 p.m. at Kingstowne Library, 6500

Landsdowne Centre. Children ages 6-12 can enjoy brain teasers, puzzles and more. Free. 703-339-4610.

Compost Critters. 3:30 p.m. at Duncan Branch, 2501 Commonwealth Ave. Children in grades 2-5 can join Miss Peggy in learning how bugs aid in composting. Free. Register at 703-838-4566 ext. 11.

Music Performance. 7:30 p.m. at the Birchmere. Hear Halau Ho'omau I ka Wai Ola O Hawai'i perform with Kola & Moana Beamer and Raiatea Helm. Visit www.birchmere.com for more.

Book Discussion. 7 p.m. at Duncan Library, 2501 Commonwealth Ave. Discuss "Animal, Vegetable, Miracle" by Barbara Kingsolver. Free. 703-838-4566.

After-School Studio. 1:30 p.m. at Art at the Center, 2804 Sherwood Hall Lane. Children ages 4-10 engage in a studio learning experience where time in the studio becomes a weekly routine. Visit www.artatthecenter.org for cost.

Little One-Ders. 10 a.m. or 10:45 a.m. at Beatley Library, 5005 Duke St. Children ages 12-23 months can enjoy stories and more. Registration required, 703-519-5900.

Family Story Night. 7 p.m. at Beatley Library, 5005 Duke St. All ages can enjoy stories. Free. 703-519-5900.

TUESDAY/APRIL 21

Read-Along. 10:30 a.m. at Spill the Beans Coffee House, 1900 Elkin St., Suite 4. Bring the children to Spill the Beans for some read along fun with StagePlay's own Heather Sanderson. Free. Visit spillthebeansva.com or 703-780-3561.

Down Came the Rain. 10:30 a.m. at Kingstowne Library, 6500 Landsdowne Centre. Children ages 13-23 months enjoy raindrop stories and more. Free. Registration required, 703-339-4610.

Mother-Daughter book Group. 7 p.m. at John Marshall Library, 6209 Rose Hill Drive. Children ages 9-11. Call for title. Registration required, 703-971-0010.

Evening Book Discussion. 7:30 p.m. at Kingstowne Library, 6500 Landsdowne Centre. Discuss "Dreams from my Father" by Barack Obama. Free. 703-339-4610.

Time for 2's. 10 a.m. at Beatley Library, 5005 Duke St. Children ages 24-36 months enjoy stories and more. Registration required, 703-519-5900. Free.

WEDNESDAY/APRIL 22

Alexandria History Awards. 7:30 p.m. at the Lyceum, 201 South Washington St. Also, the 2009 Alexandria High School History Awards will be presented by state Sen. Patsy Ticer to a student from each of Alexandria's four high schools. A reception will follow. Free. Visit www.alexandriahistorical.org or 703-683-2636.

StoryTime with Colleen! 10:30 a.m. at Spill the Beans Coffee House, 1900 Elkin St., Suite 4. Free. Visit spillthebeansva.com or 703-780-3561.

Small Wonders. 10:30 a.m. at John Marshall Library, 6209 Rose Hill Drive. Children ages 13-23 months enjoy fingerplays, stories and more. Free. Registration required, 703-971-0010.

Earth Day Birthday. 10:30 a.m. at Sherwood Library, 2501 Sherwood Hall Lane. Children ages 2-5 enjoy stories and activities. Free. Registration required, 703-765-3645.

Meet the Author. 2 p.m. at Sherwood Library, 2501 Sherwood Hall Lane. Ruth Baja Williams discusses her memoir "Detour Berlin." Free. 703-765-3645.

Older Adults Book Group. 2 p.m. at

Kingstowne Library, 6500 Landsdowne Centre. Discuss "Presidential Courage: Brave Leaders" by Michael Beschloss. Free. 703-339-4610.

Writer's Review. 7 p.m. at Kingstowne Library, 6500 Landsdowne Centre. Free. Bring works to get feedback. 703-339-4610.

Dance Invasion. 7 p.m. at the Torpedo Factory, 105 N. Union St. Jane Franklin Dance performs. Free. Visit www.torpedofactory.org for information.

THURSDAY/APRIL 23

Preschool Storytime. 1 p.m. at Kingstowne Library, 6500 Landsdowne Centre. Children 3-5 can enjoy stories, songs and more. Free. Registration required, 703-339-4610.

Dance Invasion. 7:30 p.m. at the Torpedo Factory, 105 N. Union St. BosmaDance performs. Free. Visit www.torpedofactory.org for information.

Pint-Sized Playacting. 3 p.m. at Hooray for Books!, 1555 King St. Children age 3-6 can join in reading, performing and more. \$3/session. Visit www.hooray4books.com or 703-548-4092 to register.

Garden Stroll and Tea. 1 p.m. at Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road. Take a stroll through the gardens and enjoy a full English tea. \$25/person. 703-941-7987 to register.

Story Time. 10 a.m. or 3 p.m. at Beatley Library, 5005 Duke St. Children ages 3-5 can enjoy stories. Free. 703-519-5900.

FRIDAY/APRIL 24

Golf Benefit. 1 p.m. at Fort Belvoir. \$100/person includes golf, cart, dinner and more. E-mail mvhs2010golf@live.com. Proceeds benefit MV Grad Party.

Sing Along with Mr. Skip. 12:30 p.m. at Spill the Beans Coffee House, 1900 Elkin St., Suite 4. Enjoy singing and dancing with Mr. Skip. \$5 per child. No pre-registration required. More info at spillthebeansva.com.

Lunch Bunch. Noon at John Marshall Library, 6209 Rose Hill Drive. Children up to age 5 can bring lunch and enjoy stories. Free. Registration required, 703-971-0010.

Golf Scramble. 1 p.m. at Fort Belvoir Gunston Golf Course. Benefits Mt. Vernon High School All Night Grad Party. All levels welcome. \$100/person. Visit www.fcps.edu/MtVernonHS for more.

Story Time. 10:30 a.m. at Hooray for Books!, 1555 King St. Children up to age 2 can join in music, stories and more. Free. Visit www.hooray4books.com or 703-548-4092.

Time for 2's. 10 a.m. at Beatley Library, 5005 Duke St. Children ages 24-36 months enjoy stories and more. Registration required, 703-519-5900. Free.

SATURDAY/APRIL 25

Movement in Response to Nature. 11 a.m.-1 p.m. Come participate in improvisational movement in response to the magic that is Huntley Meadows Park, 3701 Lockheed Blvd. Reservations required. \$10. 703-768-2525.

Is Mount Vernon Burning? 9 a.m.-5 p.m. at Mount Vernon Estate. Watch as the British land at Mount Vernon and make their demands and more. \$15/adult; \$14/senior; \$7/child. Visit MountVernon.org or 703-780-2000.

Eagle Festival. 10 a.m. at Mason Neck, 7301 High Point Road. Enjoy a 5k walk/run, demonstrations, exhibits, music and more. Free admission, but separate cost for 5k. 703-339-2385.

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Funding the Campaign

People with business before the City Council make a point of contributing to favored candidates.

BY MICHAEL LEE POPE
GAZETTE PACKET

When he received a campaign contribution from Eakin-Youngentob Associates, Councilman Rob Krupicka was faced with a choice. Was he going to accept a check from a developer that may have business before the City Council? He decided against receiving the money, returning the contribution as part of a new effort to refuse money from individuals who appear be-

fore council members with specific requests.

"There are a lot of people in this town who will write big contributions," admitted Krupicka. "Saying no to people with business before the City Council has affected my ability to raise funds. It may make me a better public servant, but I'm not sure it's making me a better politician."

Krupicka acknowledged that he did not have such a rule in place during the previous election cycle. Campaign finance records show that the councilman took money

from land-use attorney Engin Artemel, Simpson Development and an individual who was seeking approval for construction of an addition to a South Lee Street house who cut the check in April 2006 as his request was being considered.

"That late in a campaign," said Krupicka. "I wasn't paying attention to who was paying for campaign contributions then. But now I am."

THE INCUMBENT City Council members running for reelection were elected in 2006 with campaign contributions from an array of people with business at City Hall. That includes Bernard Fagelson, the land-use attorney who is currently involved in property negotiations with the Alexandria Sanitation Authority. He wrote Vice Mayor Del Pepper a check for \$250 in 2006 and then another check for \$500 last month. Pepper said that she felt comfortable accepting the check because her position on the issue in question is already well known.

"I really don't see it that they expect anything from me."

— Councilman Paul Smedberg

"I am very careful with who I will accept money from," said Pepper. "When my position is already well known, it's not like their contribution is influencing me."

Councilman Paul Smedberg expressed a similar position when asked about his fundraising reports from the 2006 cycle. The list included Alexandria businessman T.J. Fannon, land-use attorney Fagelson, the Washington Gas political action committee and Potomac Riverboat Company. Smedberg, who is a former chairman of the Alexandria Democratic Committee, said that he considered the money an indication of the support that he was doing as an elected official rather than plea for support.

"To be honest, no one has ever asked me to vote a certain way because of a contribution," said Smedberg. "I really don't see it that they expect anything from me."

THOSE WHO GIVE money include a wide cross section of the community. Alexandria car dealer Jack Taylor is one of the city's most prolific political donors, including multiple donations to many candidates. In some cases, Taylor employees who live in Fairfax Station or Maryland also contribute to Alexandria candidates. In one case, Taylor's college-age son was listed as making a \$500 contribution to Smedberg. Potomac Riverboat Company vice president Charlotte Hall said she considered the contributions she makes to candidates as the beginning of a relationship rather than a *quid pro quo*.

"I want to make sure that person I'm investing in is truly committed to the wellbeing of the community," said Hall. "But even after the contribution I'm still going to have to work out a plan and do the politicking."

Legal Notices

Legal Notices

IN MEMORIAM



Lonzell Rashad Adkins
November 12, 1977 - April 17, 1994

It's been 15 years, but we still miss you more today than yesterday. You're gone from our touch, but not from our hearts. Missing you. Love Ya! Michael, Connie, Danielle and Rashad

AN ORDINANCE making supplemental appropriations for the support of the government of the City of Alexandria, Virginia, for fiscal year 2009.

The proposed ordinance makes supplemental appropriations of funds for the operation of the city government in fiscal year 2009.

AN ORDINANCE to initiate and establish the process for granting a franchise by the City of Alexandria, Virginia, to use the public rights-of-way to provide Telecommunications Services, excluding Cable Services, in the City.

The proposed ordinance initiates the City of Alexandria's solicitation of bids, and negotiation and grant of a franchise for Telecommunications Services, excluding Cable Service, in the City.

Public Hearing on the Draft One-Year Action Plan for Housing and Community Development for City Fiscal Year 2010.

Public Hearing and Consideration of the Revised Citizen Participation Plan for Housing and Community Development Activities.

THE PUBLIC IS ADVISED THAT AMENDMENTS OR ADDITIONS MAY BE MADE TO PROPOSED ORDINANCES WITHOUT FURTHER PUBLICATION. IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT PERSONS INTERESTED IN ANY OF THESE ORDINANCES OBTAIN FREE FULL-TEXT COPIES FROM THE CITY CLERK AT CITY HALL. JACKIE M. HENDERSON, CMC, CITY CLERK

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
ALEXANDRIA TRANSIT COMPANY**

A Public Hearing to receive public input on the proposed service reductions and restructuring will be held on Thursday, April 23, 2009, at 5:30 p.m., in the Sister Cities Conference Center, Room 1101, City Hall, 301 King Street, Alexandria, VA 22314.

The proposed service reductions and restructuring plan include:

Elimination of weekday midday, Saturday and Sunday AT2 service on King Street between the King Street Metro Station, Old Town, and the Braddock Road Metro Station. Service between Bashford Lane and the Braddock Road Metro Station will be provided by an alternate route extension during off-peak and weekend periods.

Elimination of weekday midday and Saturday service on the AT4 route, including service to the Lee Center, South Royal, Gibbon and Franklin Streets, South Payne, Jefferson and South Fayette Streets. Service between Slaters Lane and the Braddock Road Metro Station will be provided by an alternate route extension during off-peak and weekend periods.

Elimination of weekday midday, Saturday and Sunday service on the AT3-4 Loop.

If approved, the changes become effective July 19, 2009.

Paul R. Abramson, Chairman

BULLETIN BOARD

SATURDAY/APRIL 18

College Survival 101 Program.

8:30 a.m. at Northern Virginia Community College, 3001 N. Beauregard St. High school juniors and seniors can attend this and learn about all aspects of college. 703-310-6190.

Blood Drive. 7:15 a.m.-1:15 p.m. at

Blessed Sacrament Catholic Community, 1427 W. Braddock Road. Donate blood in honor of Greg Berry and then enjoy some of his favorite treats. Schedule an appointment at www.soltys.org/blooddrive/.

SUNDAY/APRIL 19

Chinese Corner. 2-4 p.m. at Sampan Café, 6116 Franconia Road. All levels

welcome to speak Chinese but learn about the language. Free. 703-868-1509.

MONDAY/APRIL 20

UKSNA Meeting. 7:30 p.m. at Durant Center. Ask questions of the school board members.

International Adoption. 6-8 p.m. at Adoption Center of Washington, 100 Daingerfield Road, Suite 101. Free. RSVP to 703-549-7774.

TUESDAY/APRIL 21

Lecture. 9 a.m. at Commonwealth Academy, 1321 Leslie Ave. Parents, teachers, counselors and anyone working with students with learning challenges can attend. \$80/person includes all materials, snacks and

lunch. See www.landmark.edu/nova.

WEDNESDAY/APRIL 22

Forum. 7 p.m. at George Washington Middle School. The 10 candidates for City Council will present ideas and answer questions. Free. 703-549-3367 or 703-823-1801.

THURSDAY/APRIL 23

Waterfront Plan Meeting. 6:30 p.m. at location to be determined. Discuss ideas for the future of the waterfront. Free. Visit www.alexandriava.gov/waterfront or 703-838-3866 ext. 665.
Commonwealth Republican Women's Reception. 7 p.m. at Lloyd House, 220 N. Washington St. Ed Gillespie will speak. Free. 757-748-4374.

NEIGHBORHOODS

**Taylor Run
TO THE LADIES**

Some years ago, before liquor-by-the-drink hit Alexandria, there were three white-table-cloth restaurants here whose owners regretted the fact they could only offer wine or beer while high-spending patrons crossed the Potomac to where scotch, bourbon, martinis etc. were available.

The Virginia General Assembly, charmed as always by the idea of appearing conservative, had passed the local option law as sort of a graceful farewell to Prohibition.

COUNTER ATTACK

The restaurateurs worked up a

plan; they invited 50 women very active in politics to a splendid luncheon of champagne and filet mignon bearnaise.

With great sincerity they told us what a good thing we would be doing for Alexandria's tax base if we helped pass the liquor-by-the-drink law.

LANDSLIDE

We heard, we believed, we campaigned — I myself collected hundreds of signatures on the petition — and Alexandria passed the ordinance by about 10 to 1.

Jan Killalea and Caroline Hodgin, who sat at our table, have died, but Alice Leonard and I remember that luncheon.

A GOODLY CROP

Shortly thereafter really good restaurants like LaBergerie started to appear, until we are now, so I am told by a friend who writes restaurant reviews, a Mecca for lovers of good food.

Mind you, I am not saying that good restaurants must be awash in whiskey. Actually, what one finds in really good restaurants is terribly expensive wine.

In any case, we determined lunchers had the satisfaction of having told the absolute truth in one election campaign: the tax base did increase enormously.

— LOIS KELSO HUNT



Public Hearing will be held by the City Council of the City of Alexandria, Virginia, in the Council Chambers, City Hall, City of Alexandria, Virginia, on Saturday, April 18, 2009, at 9:30 a.m., or as soon thereafter as may be heard on the hereinafter described items.

AN ORDINANCE to amend and reordain Section 10-106 (ISSUANCE AND EXPIRATION OF CERTIFICATES OF APPROPRIATENESS OR PERMITS), under Section 10-100 (OLD AND HISTORIC ALEXANDRIA DISTRICT), and Section 10-206 (ISSUANCE AND EXPIRATION OF CERTIFICATES OF APPROPRIATENESS OR PERMITS), under Section 10-200 (PARKER-GRAY DISTRICT), of Article X (HISTORIC DISTRICTS AND BUILDINGS), and Section 11-418 (TIME OF VALIDITY), under Section 11-400 (SITE PLAN), and Section 11-506 (DURATION OF VALID PERMITS), under Section 11-500 (SPECIAL USE PERMITS), of Article XI (DEVELOPMENT APPROVALS AND PROCEDURES) of the City of Alexandria Zoning Ordinance, in accordance with the text amendment heretofore approved by the city council as Text Amendment No. 2009-0001.

The proposed ordinance accomplishes the final adoption of Text Amendment No. 2009-0001 to extend the validity period of approved site plans and development special use permits, along with associated permits or plans.

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LETTERS

FROM PAGE 14

really knows. We do know, however, that a siren call is needed to support the right women candidates. There is plenty of evidence, academic, scientific, and otherwise demonstrating that women bring a different perspective, a style of doing business, a willingness to collaborate and consider other perspectives, that can result in different outcomes. Given the state of our national affairs, our burdensome taxes, and our uncertain economic outlook, it seems that it would serve us well to keep these different perspectives as part of City governance.

This is why I am supporting Del Pepper and am asking other Alexandrians to join me. Please attend an afternoon reception for Del Pepper, Sunday, April 19 at the Crowne Plaza hotel, in Old Town Alexandria, 3-4:30 p.m. We'll toast the spring with champagne and live music as we support a great candidate for City Council.

Aside from supporting Del, you can also take a look at your local Democratic, Republican, and other political Committees and ask "what are you doing to promote women candidates." I suspect you will be surprised at the answer.

You can also join the Farm Team at www.FarmTeam.org, a virtual

SEE LETTERS, PAGE 28

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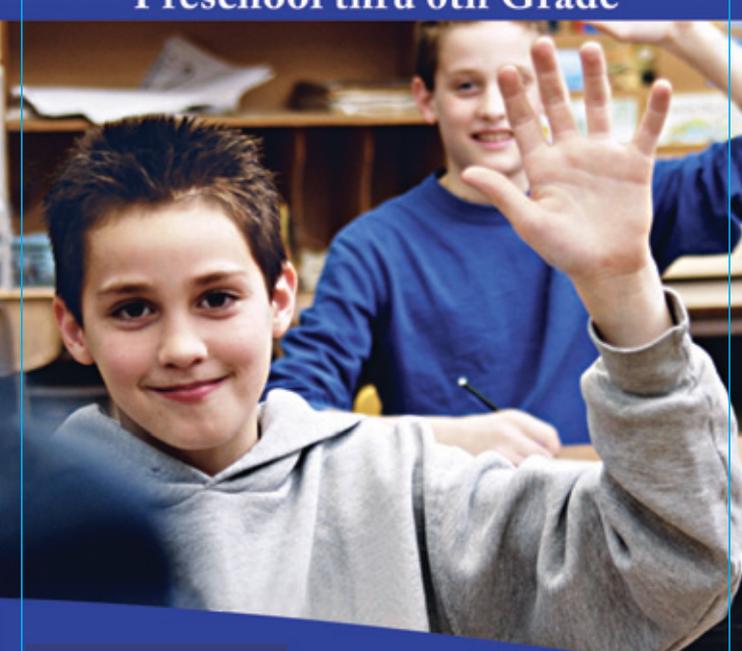
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LETTERS

FROM PAGE 27

community designed to support Democratic women candidates around the Commonwealth. Whatever you do, vote Tuesday, May 6 and have your say in city governance.

Laura J. Mandala
Alexandria

Land Swap In Del Ray?

To the Editor:

Del Ray citizens will soon face some major choices about how we protect our open space, and, ultimately, what we value as a community. Alexandria city planners are in the early stages of considering a "land swap" that would allow developers to build hundreds of townhouse and condominium units on the widely used Braddock Fields at the intersection of Mt. Vernon Avenue and Braddock Road. In return, the city would get a slightly larger wedged shaped track of land (called "Land Bay E") that lies behind GW Middle School and extends from Monroe Bridge to nearly the Braddock Metro. This area now is slated for 358 townhouses.

City planning officials tried to highlight the positives of such a swap at an April 13 Del Ray Citi-

zens Association (DRSA) meeting.

Concentrating residential units within a quarter mile of the Metro station would result in less vehicular traffic as commuters are more likely to take the train to work than those who lived farther away, they argued. Other speakers at the meeting also contended the swap would result in a net increase of open space for the city.

While these points may be true theoretically, I strongly oppose the land swap for several reasons.

First, there is no guarantee that the swap would actually result in more open space. One has only to look at the track record of city development for that assessment. As one long-time Del Ray resident told the DRSA meeting, the city always promises us parks and they never materialize.

Second, the Braddock Fields are now heavily used by the adjacent GW Middle School and many other neighborhood and community groups. Moving these fields north to the fat end of the Land Bay L wedge (the narrow end runs behind the school) would be hugely disruptive for GW students who potentially would have to walk several blocks to and from their activities. In addition, development on the fields would hem in the school, while reducing its potential for future development.

Third, I don't buy the argument that swapping the land will reduce traffic congestion in a significant way. If newcomers aren't willing to walk a half a mile to the Metro, they're not going to walk a quarter-mile.

Unfortunately, in many ways, our fate is sealed. With Potomac Yard's 2,000 new residential units, 1.8 million square feet of office space and a 300-room hotel, not to mention the 360 units of Land Bay L and whatever else is going up at the intersection of Commonwealth and Mt. Vernon avenues, getting around our city will only become more maddening than it already is.

But it's not too late to mitigate some of the worst outcomes, and to demonstrate our values as a progressive and green city.

Our leaders should start by insisting that developers of Land Bay L locate the school on that property, and let Simpson Park expand in the way that the city was led to believe it would. The city also should get more green space out of the existing Braddock Fields by reclaiming one of the GW Middle School parking lots and building a two-story green parking garage on the other. Let's see if our city is up to this challenge.

Neal Learner
Del Ray

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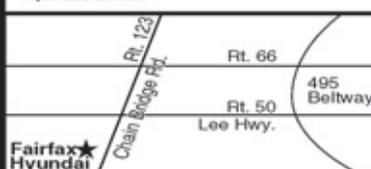
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No Frank, No Problem for Surging Titans

T.C. Williams boys' soccer rebounds from poor start to win three straight.

BY MARK GIANNOTTO
THE GAZETTE PACKET

Usually T.C. Williams senior and reigning Patriot District Player of the Year Bryan Frank is the one called on to take crunch time free kicks for the Titan boys' soccer team. Sometimes the midfielder is also asked to take throw-ins from deep in the opponent's territory since he's able to launch the ball halfway across the field.

So with Frank sick for Monday's game against Washington-Lee, the fact that T.C. Williams escaped with a 2-0 win — its third-straight victory — thanks in large part to those two skills speaks mountains about how much these Titans have overcome since beginning the season 1-5-1.

First it was sophomore defenseman Nazzareno "Trip" Spurio, whose long throw in with 14 minutes remaining in the opening half was misplayed by the Generals' goal keeper, allowing sophomore Teddy Opoku-Amoah to set up junior forward Conor Boyle for the game's initial score.

"Those long throw-ins are a big help, it's like a corner kick every time we get down



PHOTO BY LOUISE KRAFT/GAZETTE PACKET

T.C. Williams junior Kevin Perreira had a second-half goal via a curling free kick in the Titans' 2-0 win over Washington-Lee Monday night.

there," said Boyle. "It helps us a lot. It gives us a lot more opportunities in the box and that's why we scored."

Junior Kevin Perreira made sure that tally stood the test of time with a little more than 10 minutes remaining in the second half. After a Washington-Lee yellow card, the Titans received a free kick just outside the Generals' penalty box.

Perreira then fired a curling David Beckham-esque shot that had the W-L keeper stuck in his tracks. The Titan midfielder admitted afterwards it was the first time he had done something like that in a game.

"Bryan usually takes most of them," said

Perreira. "So since he wasn't here today, I got a chance to take it. ... When I was warming up I wasn't missing any shots, so we just decided I was taking free kicks today."

W-L did mount a comeback late, getting several good opportunities in the Titans' zone, but goalie Matthew Crawley made a few tough saves look routine. Crawley combined with junior Jose Flores, who played the first half, to make eight saves.

NOTHING HAS COME easy for this year's version of T.C. Williams soccer. Coupled with the return of Frank, the defending Patriot District champions had high hopes early on. But after dropping a heartbreak-

ing 5-4 loss to Mount Vernon to start the season, the Titans had trouble putting the ball in the back of the net, scoring more than one goal just once in their next six matches.

However, a convincing 3-0 win over district favorite South County on April 2 has buoyed the Titans as they try to re-enter the conversation amongst the region's elite.

"I think we just got a reality check," said Spurio. "We knew we needed to step up and start winning some games because we wanted to keep that reputation up from last year."

Coach Martin Nickley said the most frustrating part about the early losing skid was that his players were putting forth a strong effort, they just weren't seeing any results for their hard work. But he said starting with that victory over South County, his team has seemed more focused.

Another piece to the puzzle was simply getting familiar with one another. With just three returning starters on this year's squad, it took Nickley and his team some time to figure out what works best for this team.

So with or without its star player, that T.C. Williams scored on two set plays was no coincidence. "As you get into the season, you figure out what your strengths can be," said Nickley. "You try to find out what those strengths are and try to play to them as much as you can. When you get off to a poor start, there's two ways you can go. You can keep off on that pace or you can really regroup and refocus and I think that's what our players did."

Jenkins, Kalipinde Star at Capital Classic

BY MARK GIANNOTTO
THE GAZETTE PACKET

Guard Marcus Rouse of DeMatha, the No. 7 high school team in the entire country according to ESPN, was coasting down the court for an easy layup during last Thursday's Suburban vs. District All-Star game as part of the 36th annual Capital Classic at American University's Bender Arena, when flying out of nowhere came 5-foot-9 T.C. Williams star Edward Jenkins to swat his shot away.

Jenkins played to the shocked crowd a bit, posturing over Rouse to soak in the moment. It was fitting since the undersized guard has made a high school career out of playing catch up to more heralded foes only to end up on top.

And although his suburban team lost, 113-104, the end result was more about Jenkins and his pursuit of continuing his basketball career at the Division-I level in college. Despite leading the Titans to a litany of achievements — 71-consecutive Patriot District wins, four-straight district titles, three-consecutive region titles, and one state title — as well as being recognized as this year's Northern Region Player of the Year and an all-state selection, Jenkins is still uncertain on where he will

take his basketball talents next season.

"He's definitely a Division-I basketball player, it's just unfortunate he's trapped in a Division-II body," said T.C. Williams coach Julian King, who coached Jenkins in the Capital Classic and played Division-I basketball at Temple and Coppin State during his career. "It's a shame some coaches won't give him a second look because of that. Everybody has their preferences for what size guard they want, but you can't make up for heart."

THE ALL-STAR GAME circuit is an important time for players like Jenkins, who averaged 21 points, five rebounds, and five assists as the senior leader during T.C. Williams run to the state quarterfinals.

Not only do college coaches get to see players go up against some of the best competition around, the players themselves can get a glimpse of just what it will be like once they arrive on campus. Everyone taking part in last week's Capital Classic was the best player on their high school team, which means sometimes the biggest adjustment is finding a niche amongst all the talent.

"It gives me exposure for new things," said Jenkins, who finished with 13 points in the game. "There's new players, so you have to step up your game even more so to com-

pete at this high level. And this gives me looks, more looks for colleges."

Jenkins currently lists interest from Division-I schools like Winston-Salem State and Liberty and Division-II programs Mount Olive, St. Andrew's, and Virginia Wise. At this late of a date, chances are he ends up going the Division-II route.

For now, though, Jenkins says he's just going to focus on getting his grades up and working out with King during the offseason so that whatever school he ends up at, he'll be best prepared to prove all the doubters wrong.

"I just like being here, playing the game," Jenkins said as he mingled with other top players from the area. "I'm trying to push for D-I but I'll take whatever I can get."

EPISCOPAL'S GIVEN KALIPINDE has no such worries. He's been signed on to play college basketball for Division-I Loyola-Marymount since last summer. As part of the district all-stars, Kalipinde was able to take it all in and enjoy the benefits of having such a strong year for the Maroon.

After leading Episcopal to a state title in soccer in the fall, the multi-dimensional Kalipinde averaged 22 points, nine rebounds, five assists, and four steals on the basketball court, taking home first team

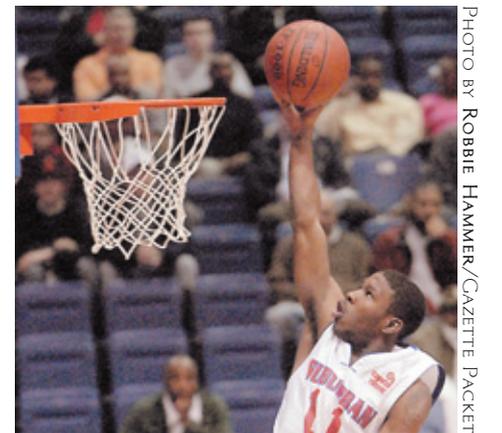


PHOTO BY ROBBIE HAMMER/GAZETTE PACKET

T.C. Williams senior Edward Jenkins had 13 points for the suburban all stars at last week's Capital Classic.

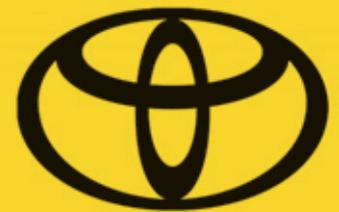
all-State and first team all-IAC honors in the process.

Originally from Lusaka, Zambia, Kalipinde came to the Alexandria boarding school last year and will stay in the area to work out with coach Jim Fitzpatrick this summer before heading off to the west coast to begin his college career.

"You get to have a lot more fun at all-star games," said Kalipinde, who scored eight points and grabbed eight rebounds in the high-scoring affair. "You come out to win, but you get to see highlight reel dunks and kids making good plays. It's all about having fun and that's the best part about it."

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3.9% APR FOR UP TO 60 MONTHS

FANTASTIC LEASES!

GREAT FINANCING OPTIONS!

UP TO \$6,000 CUSTOMER CASH BACK!*

NEW '09 CAMRY

31 MPG** **\$178** /MONTH FOR 36 MONTHS***
 OR \$1,500 CUSTOMER CASH*

NEW '08 SOLARA CONVERTIBLE

26 MPG** **\$1,500** CUSTOMER CASH*

NEW '09 YARIS

39 MPG** **\$99** /MONTH FOR 36 MONTHS***
 OR \$1,000 CUSTOMER CASH*

NEW '09 MATRIX

25 MPG** **\$1,250** CUSTOMER CASH*

NEW '09 COROLLA

35 MPG** **\$124** /MONTH FOR 36 MONTHS***
 OR \$1,750 CUSTOMER CASH ON S MODEL ONLY,
 \$1,000 CUSTOMER CASH ON REMAINING MODELS*

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PRICES PLUS TAX, TAGS, FREIGHT: \$720 ON CARS AND \$745 ON LT. TRUCKS, & \$379 PROCESSING FEE. INCLUDES ALL INCENTIVES. SPECIAL APR ON APPROVED CREDIT. *CUSTOMER CASH PROVIDED BY CAT. **EPA HIGHWAY FUEL ESTIMATE. OFFER EXPIRES C.O.B. 4/30/09. ***YARIS: \$2,000 DUE AT SIGNING, CAMRY: \$1,900 DUE AT SIGNING, COROLLA: \$2,000 DUE AT SIGNING. NO SECURITY DEPOSIT. TAX, TAGS, FREIGHT, PROCESSING FEE OF \$379 & ACQUISITION FEE OF \$650 ARE EXTRA. FOR YARIS: MODEL 1421 ONLY. 3 DOOR, MANUAL. OFFER ENDS 4/30/09.

CHECK OUT OUR PRE-OWNED VEHICLES!	02 FORD MUSTANG GT 5SPD LTHR. LDED 69K.MI \$11995	06 LEXUS GS300 AWD LTHR. NAV 41K.MI \$24995
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SCION

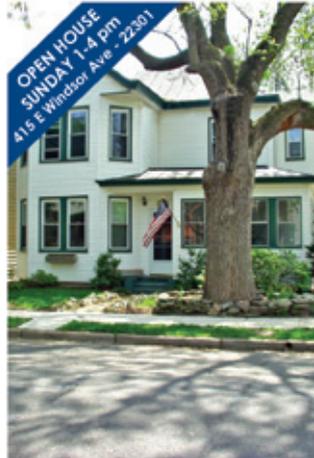
XD  33 MPG**	TC  29 MPG**	XB  28 MPG**
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MCENEARNEY ASSOCIATES, INC. REALTORS®

ALEXANDRIA/DEL RAY

\$694,000



Historic Victorian

This Classic Del Ray Victorian home offers three bedrooms, gleaming hardwoods throughout, new gourmet kitchen, large picture windows, updated baths, french doors that lead to a screened-in porch, and huge fenced yard. The partial finished basement has a wine cellar, French drain, updated electrical, and walk out basement. A quick walk to Braddock Metro, "The Avenue," Del Ray farmers market, shops, and restaurants. More photos at jenwalker.com.

Jennifer Walker
703.675.1566
www.jenwalker.com
MLS ID# AX6992278



OLD TOWN ALEXANDRIA

\$735,000



NY Living in Old Town

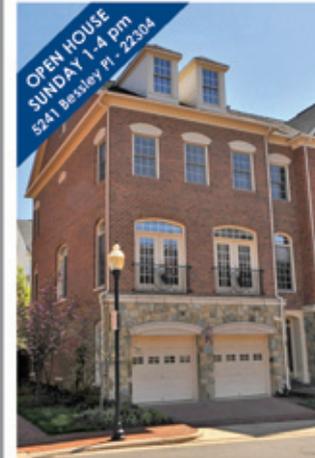
So special is this freshly painted, two-bedroom, two-and-a-half-bath townhouse with glorious light, dramatic living space, gleaming wood floors, two outdoor spaces, a cosmopolitan kitchen and two garage parking spaces. Renovated baths, organized closets, an office or exercise room and an additional storage room contribute to the delights of this conveniently located, contemporary abode.

Carol Cleary
703.625.6829
www.carolcleary.com
MLS ID# AX7030978



ALEXANDRIA

\$819,000



Filled with Sunshine

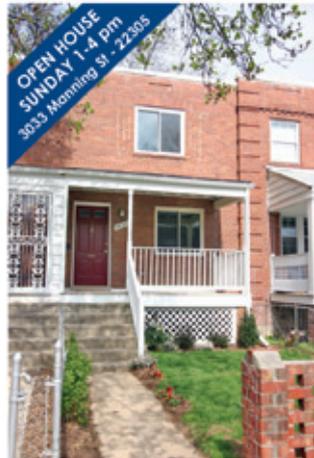
This elegant town home boasts three levels of bright and open living! Enjoy three bedrooms on the upper level, including a decadent master suite with two-sided gas fireplace, an open living room/dining room combination lined with French doors, kitchen with breakfast bar overlooking the family room, main level study with French doors, and lower level recreation room and bonus room. A lower level patio and main level deck are a great extension of living space.

Elizabeth Lucchesi
703.286.1239
www.lizluke.com
MLS ID# AX7030402



ALEXANDRIA CITY

\$329,900



Stunning Updates!

Cute two-bedroom, two-full-bath townhome has been completely renovated. Beautiful hardwood floors on two levels highlight the quality and care this home has received. A new kitchen with stainless appliances and a new full bath on the lower level make this home ready for an immediate move and easy living. New windows and paint. Walk to the restaurants and shops of Del Ray.

Chris Hayes
703.944.7737
www.homesbyhayes.com



SOUTH ALEXANDRIA

\$549,000



Welcome to the Neighborhood

This home is located on a cul-de-sac in a vibrant active community. It is walking distance to the highly sought-after Hollin Meadows Math Science Focus School, the community swim and tennis club and local library. With five bedrooms and three full baths, eat-in kitchen and full finished basement there is room for everyone. Photos at robinarnoldsells.com.

Robin Arnold
703.966.5457
www.robinarnoldsells.com



ALEXANDRIA/QUAKER LANE

\$749,900



What a Price!

Situated at the end of a cul-de-sac and backing to park land, this updated Colonial features four bedrooms upstairs with two full baths, formal foyer, gracious living and dining rooms, eat-in kitchen, main level family room with fireplace, powder room, refinished hardwood floors, a full basement, carport, large deck and patio surrounded by lush landscaping.

Brian Murphy
703.823.6644
www.mceneaney.com
MLS ID# AX6971507



OLD TOWN ALEXANDRIA

\$1,135,000



A Truly Class Act

Comfortable elegance guaranteed, this sparkling three-bedroom, four-and-a-half-bath, four-level townhome boasts spacious rooms, chef's kitchen, bookcases, lower-level study with en-suite bath, large fenced flagstone terrace and two-car garage! Located in the popular Backyard Boats community and just steps away from the Potomac River, bike path, and all that Old Town has to offer!

Ann Duff
703.965.8700
www.annduff.com
MLS ID# AX7020544



ALEXANDRIA/DEL RAY

\$969,000



Beautifully Renovated

Four-bedroom, three-bath home in the center of Del Ray, just three blocks from Mount Vernon Avenue. The 2004 addition greatly expands this lovely home with a family room and huge kitchen with beverage refrigerator, granite counters and stainless steel appliances. The master suite boasts tons of closet space, and a very modern bathroom renovation. Large lot with professional landscaping and shed, plus off-street parking.

Elizabeth Lucchesi
703.286.1239
www.lizluke.com



SPRINGFIELD

\$425,000



Completely Renovated Townhome

on a quiet cul-de-sac, with three bedrooms plus a finished basement with bonus room. Enjoy upscale features such as hardwood flooring, fresh and neutral paint, renovated kitchen with granite counters and sunny eating area, updated bathrooms with modern fixtures and ceramic tile. A fenced stone patio with views of trees and plenty of privacy complete this lovely home.

Kevin Lonergan
703.786.6132
www.klonergan.com
MLS ID# FX7028895



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