

Alexandria Gazette Packet

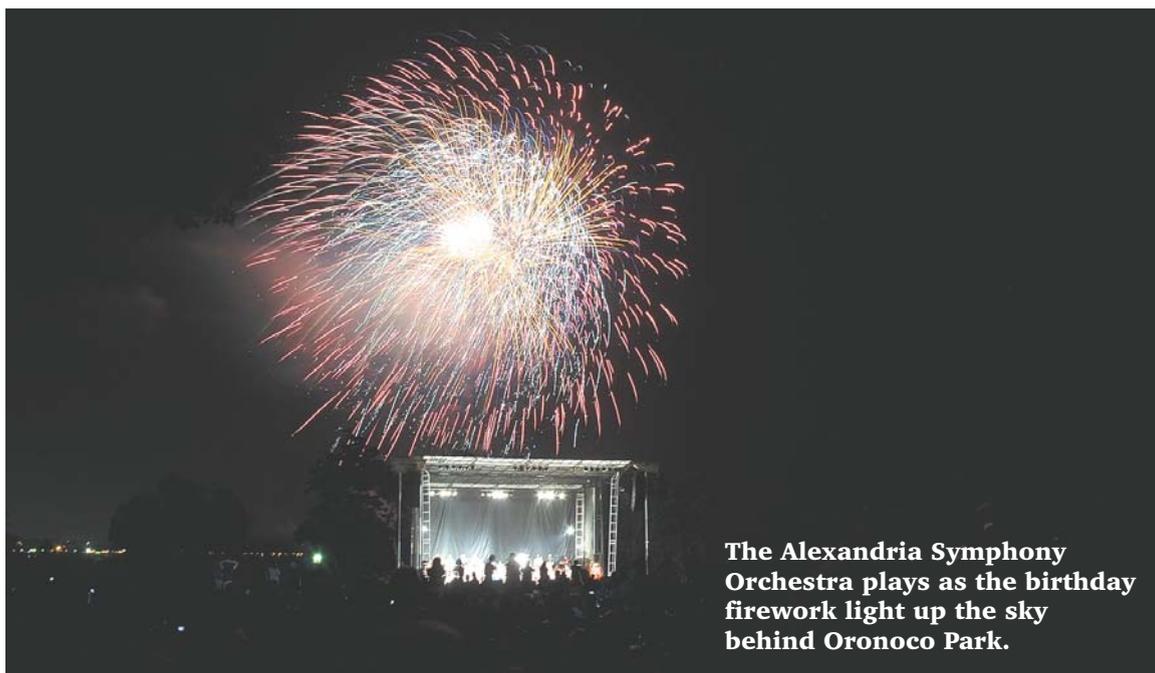


25 CENTS

VOL. CCXXV, No. 28

SERVING ALEXANDRIA FOR OVER 200 YEARS • A CONNECTION NEWSPAPER

JULY 16, 2009

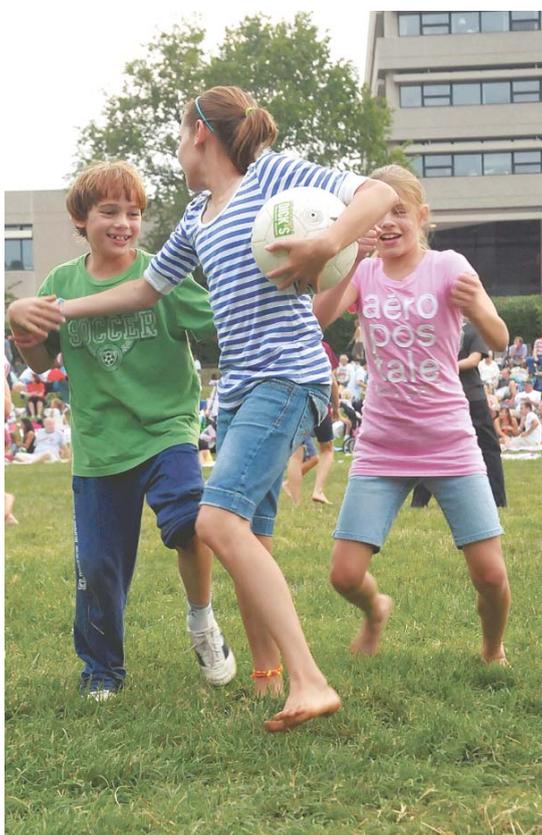


The Alexandria Symphony Orchestra plays as the birthday firework light up the sky behind Oronoco Park.

Alexandria Celebrates 260 Years



Victorian Society members Hallene Swenson and Sue Perlin wait for Mack Gross to arrive before searching for a spot to set up their picnic.



Holly Garrett plays a ball game with Sandrine and Marcel Janowsky before the concert.

PHOTOS BY LOUISE KRAFT/GAZETTE PACKET



Molly Brenner and Margaret Hughes.



Kate and Lisa Sapparth.



Town crier William North Rudin welcomes all to the annual birthday celebration.

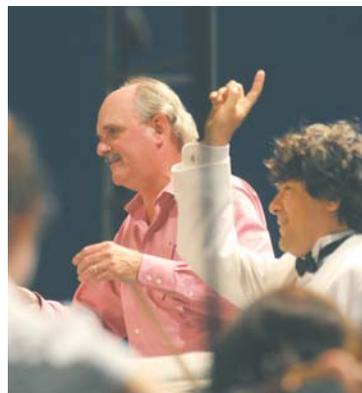
Spike In Fraud

Proliferation of plastic creates opportunities for criminals.

BY MICHAEL LEE POPE
GAZETTE PACKET

As a waiter at the Red Lobster on South Van Dorn Street, Kevin Maples developed a way to trick customers into leaving their credit cards behind. After charging the bill, Maples said, he would wrap the receipt around the card in a way that obscured it from view. Eventually he realized that many people would simply walk away from the table without

SEE CREDIT-CARD, PAGE 6



Special guest conductor Adron Krekeler with Maestro Kim Allen Kluge.

Waiting for Stimulus

Alexandria has yet to receive one cent.

BY MICHAEL LEE POPE
GAZETTE PACKET

Five months after the landmark American Recovery and Reinvestment Act was signed by President Barack Obama, the city of Alexandria has yet to receive one cent of stimulus money. Although City Hall is ex

SEE CITY WAITING, PAGE 6



Soloist Millicent Scarlet joins the orchestra for a tribute to Duke Ellington.

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Carmel Peterson will attend Alabama State University in Montgomery, Ala.



PHOTOS BY LOUISE KRAFFT/GAZETTE

2009 Graduates: Amina Uwwais (TCW), Latisha Arrington (TCW), Rivnee Ross (TCW), Antionette Harris (TCW) and Carmel Peterson (WPHS).

Six Who Succeeded

2009 high school graduates and counselor aides honored at recognition dinner.

BY MARY ANNE WEBER
FOR THE GAZETTE

For six young women this year's graduation from high school was more than just a celebration. It marked how far they came, and how their own choices changed their futures. Friday evening, as the hot summer sun poured in the windows of the Charles Houston Recreation Center, the young peer advisors/counselors Latisha Arrington, Antionette Harris, Carmel Peterson, Rivnee Ross, Amina Uwwais and the absent Shaniqua Thomas were praised and teased as family friends and mentors cheered their high school graduation and their acceptance to college. Five graduated from TC Williams, one, Carmel Peterson graduated from West Potomac High School but came back that night to celebrate with

her fellow classmates.

High school graduation followed by college might seem the usual path for students in Alexandria but these six took a special route to success, the Peer Advisor Program. First started in 1985, the after school leadership program is offered to young people of promise noticed by teachers and counselors. Those chosen, some as young as 13 are given training in public speaking, communication skills, peer pressure resistance skills, drug and alcohol information and mediation. Along the way they in turn act as mentors and role models to younger youth, give presentations on prevention topics and participate in community service activities. Once their skills are honed, they become eligible for paid jobs as counselor aides with the Community Services Board while they continue their training. These young peer advisors and counselor aides work with children at the Charles Houston



Latisha Arrington will attend the Richard Bland College of the College of William & Mary in Petersburg, Va.

Recreation Center, the Kids are Terrific Camp and the CSB's programs at Brent Place. While they teach the children,

SEE RECOGNITION, PAGE 4



Former Graduate Peer Advisors Marcella Rivera and Vicky Rodriguez with CSB Prevention Therapist Debra Smalley.



Tanya Banks listens and smiles as the graduates talk of their plans for the future and how it might have been.

Achievement Gap Persists

Alexandria schools set stage for combating lingering racial disparities.

BY MICHAEL LEE POPE
GAZETTE PACKET

Although a new federal report shows that Virginia has been narrowing the achievement gap between black and white students, Alexandria test scores show that racial disparities remain a problem in the city school system. Superintendent Morton Sherman has not shied away from acknowledging the racial disparities in the school system, repeatedly pointing out that white students are the only category of students to meet federal standards in Alexandria.

"Shame on us for even needing to have this conversation," said Alexandria Superintendent Morton Sherman. "We need to change our thinking."

The new report titled "Achievement Gaps," was released this week by the United States Department of Education. It compared the performance of students nationwide

"We tolerate low achievement to an extent that is unacceptable."

— Councilman Rob Krupicka

with state-level achievement on fourth- and eighth-grade reading tests, including an analysis that showed Virginia is one of only three states where the achievement gap in fourth-grade reading narrowed because of increased black achievement. The report also showed that Virginia is one of 13 states where fourth-grade reading achievement is higher for both black and white students than in 1992.

"Closing these gaps will required the continued commitment of educators, parents and community leaders to high standards and accountability," said Virginia Superintendent of Public Instruction Patricia Wright in a written statement. "The progress cited in today's report provides encouragement that we can eliminate historic disparities even as we seek to raise the achievement of all students."

ACCORDING TO the most recent
SEE MINORITY, PAGE 19

T.C. Williams High School Parents & Faculty Congratulate the Class of 2009

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NEWS



Rivnee Ross will attend the Richard Bland College of the College of William & Mary in Petersburg, Va.



Amina Uwwais will attend Virginia State University in Petersburg Va.

PHOTOS BY LOUISE KRAFFT/GAZETTE

Recognition

FROM PAGE 3

they learn to plan for their own futures, preparing for college and with help, figuring out how they will get there.

Offering them praise and advice was Vicky Rodriguez, a 2002 graduate of the Peer Advisor program, who went on to graduate from college and now works for a not-for-profit in Maryland as a counselor and case manager. After her speech members of the audience were invited to speak to and about the graduates.

"I've seen these girls from the beginning," Debra Smalley CSB prevention therapist said. "I am proud of all of you."

Her comments were echoed by Angela Wilbon, once a therapist at George Washington Middle School, now working at Children's Hospital with HIV patients and children. "I knew you at GW. I knew you when you were little girls. Now I get to see you as women. As a group you are a force to be reckoned with."

Bill Smith, with the Untouchables, said he had "built a rapport" with the young women over the years who first arrived "raw and rough around the edges." "I commend them for sticking with it," he said.

"I've been doing this for 38 years," said Ann Fierstos who noted how well the young women could take over a session with younger children and how well they were able to lead them.

James "Chucky" Moore, a CSB prevention therapist who works with the Peer Advisor Program said, "I am glad I had an opportunity to work with them. I've seen a lot of growth," while Theodore



Antionette Harris will attend the Northern Virginia Community College in Alexandria.

"Teddy" Jones, a CSB prevention therapist noted, "I've been doing this since 1985. I look forward to working with the next group."

Perhaps the most emotional was Rivnee Ross's mother, Bonnie, who talked about all the choices good and bad facing young women today and how her daughter, tough as she needed to be, made the right choices and succeeded. Her pride was obvious.

Ross along with Latisha Arrington will be heading for the Richard Bland College of the College of William and Mary in Petersburg. Carmel Peterson will go to Alabama State University in Montgomery; Amina Uwwais to Virginia State University in Petersburg, Antionette Harris to Northern Virginia Community College and Shaniqua Thomas, who was away on a family trip, will be headed to Saint Augustine's College in Raleigh, N.C.



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Two hundred years ago, the port of Alexandria was known for its welcoming taverns for those arriving by ship, coach or horse. Among the Alexandria taverns of note was Spring Gardens. General George Washington was a visitor many times and on July 4, 1798 he recorded in his diary: "Went up to the Celebration of the Anniversary of Independence and dined in the Spring Gardens near Alexandria with a large company of the Civil and Military of Fairfax County." Today, Spring Gardens is one of Old Town's premier residences. Built in 1780, Spring Gardens is situated on a half acre of beautifully landscaped land and offers five bedrooms, four and a half bath, original wide plank pine floors, 5 fp's and a recently renovated kitchen with large adjoining family room. The brick carriage house includes a guest suite, game room plus two car garage. Recently reduced to \$4,450,000.

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Phyllis Patterson | 703.518.6158



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Joy Deevy | 703.930.5198



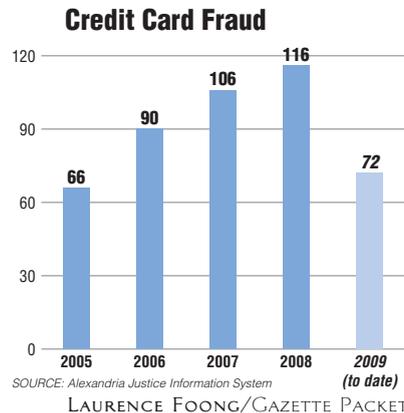
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Credit-Card Fraud Spikes

FROM PAGE 1



even looking at the receipt — leaving the card behind and giving him the opportunity to go on shopping sprees that would allow him to support his heroin habit.

“If you left it there,” said Maples, 28, who is now serving time in the Alexandria jail. “Obviously you weren’t too worried about that particular credit card.”

One night in February, Maples carefully wrapped a Red Lobster receipt around the Bank of America Visa of West End resident Frank Kistler. Like so many other customers, Kistler walked out of the seafood restaurant and left the card behind. Within minutes, Maples was across the street at Safeway, where he charged \$110. Six minutes later he charged \$111 to a nearby Giant. Ten minutes later he was at the Wal-Mart, where he charged \$188. Ten minutes later, he was at a 7-Eleven. Five minutes later, he was at another 7-Eleven.

“The bank called me the next morning,” said Kistler. “They suggested I call the police.”

KISTER WORKED with police detectives, who eventually used security footage from a 7-Eleven in Arlington to track down Maples — who lived just a few blocks from the convenience store. After he was arrested and the case moved through the prosecu-

tion stage, Kistler learned the danger of leaving his card behind. Detectives explained that Maples was able to make cash withdrawals at each of the stops he made that February day, walking out of each location with a fistful of dollars. Maples said that the crime started as stealing a card here and there but mushroomed into a large-scale operation.

“In order for it to be more lucrative, I branched out and started propositioning friends I knew that worked at other businesses that had access to the cards as well,” said Maples, a native of California who recently received a GED behind bars.

But stealing Kister’s card would end up being the crime Maples couldn’t get away with, as Alexandria police officials executed an arrest warrant in early March. Chief Judge Donald Haddock Sr. eventually sentenced Maples to eight months in jail, three months of probation and \$637.04 in restitution to Bank of America. For Kister, the case illustrated how quickly a criminal could use a stolen card to get hundreds of dollars in cash and how police investigators could use modern technology to arrest those responsible.

“I had no idea you could use a credit card to get cash,” said Kister. “You don’t need to type in a PIN or

SEE FRAUD, PAGE 7

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NEWS

City Waiting on Stimulus Funds

FROM PAGE 1

pecting about \$15 million, the funding has been caught up in bureaucratic delays, administrative review and endless paperwork. Some of the applications haven't even been submitted yet because the city is waiting on the federal government to provide the necessary forms.

"I would imagine the pressure is going to be on the federal government to start spending this money pretty soon," said Bernard Caton, Alexandria's legislative director. "When we receive these funds is really something that's out of our control."

A small portion of the federal stimulus money the city will receive is directly tied to the economic crisis, with funding directed aimed helping unemployed workers find a job and ward off homelessness. Yet other stimulus money has a more indirect aim of helping the economy by spreading the wealth, with funding aimed at hiring contractors to install bulletproof glass at the courthouse or purchasing touchscreen computers to help Alexandria police officers sharpen their firearm skills. One of the largest expenditures is a \$3.5 million allocation to purchase a new fleet of King Street trolleys.

"I'm not sure that any of this stimulus spending will be able to undo the damage done by City Council, which raised taxes during the most severe recession in living memory," said Bud Miller, president of Alexandria Taxpayers United. "In my opinion, the best stimulus would be tax relief for local businesses."

SOME OF THE MONEY has already been allocated in so-called "entitlement" grants that the city will receive as a result of language in the bill or department guidance. Other funding includes "competitive" grants in which the city will compete with other jurisdictions to receive available funds. These projects include everything from Head Start expansion to an education specialist to train city employees on domestic violence among those who identify as "lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer or questioning."

"We may get these or we may not," said Caton. "We have just as much chance as any other jurisdiction that applied for the competitive grants."

At Alexandria City Public Schools, officials are waiting to receive about \$6.9 million over a two-year period. Because School Board members added the stimulus money to the fiscal year budget that began earlier this month, some of the school system's stimulus spending for professional development has already taken place. But the federal money won't arrive

Allocated Stimulus Money

- ❖ \$3.5 million for new King Street trolleys
- ❖ \$750,000 for a new underpass at Holmes Run Parkway
- ❖ \$512,000 for rental assistance for households facing homelessness
- ❖ \$335,000 for renovation of Lacy Court Apartments
- ❖ \$185,000 to help unemployed workers find jobs
- ❖ \$127,000 for staff development and benefits for Alexandria's Head Start employees
- ❖ \$116,000 for improved security at the Alexandria courthouse
- ❖ \$50,000 for mentoring at-risk youth
- ❖ \$45,000 for new police fingerprint technology
- ❖ \$35,000 to expand the Seaport Foundation's math curriculum for at-risk youth
- ❖ \$30,000 for nutrition services to seniors
- ❖ \$18,000 for police firearms training
- ❖ \$14,000 for a new police database server

until the school system applies for reimbursement.

"Most of the money hasn't been spent yet because we're only two weeks into the school year," said Margaret Byess, budget director for the school system. "We expect the federal reimbursements to start arriving sometime in September."

About half of the federal stimulus money aimed at the schools is directed at special-education programs, with 18 percent directed at improving facilities and 16 percent for professional development. Seven percent of the stimulus funds will be directed toward services to students. Programs include \$200,000 for the creation of an umbrella group to oversee professional development, \$151,000 for a citywide early childhood education coordinator and \$75,000 for two days of training for teachers to learn about the School Board's strategic plan.

"The purpose of the stimulus money was never supposed to be instantaneous, especially with the schools," said Byess. "It was always supposed to be capacity building and to prevent elimination of jobs."

School officials say the professional development programs will allow for the kind of capacity expansion they hope will be able to allow them to better serve the city's students. And because only 22 school positions were eliminated, they feel that the money helped head off the kind of massive job losses that could have happened without the massive federal spending approved in the first month of the Obama administration.

"I think a lot of people have the expectation that the money was supposed to arrive instantaneously," said Byess. "But the way we approached this, it was a much more strategic decision about how to expand capacity than a way to simply replace lost revenue."

Fraud Follows Increased Credit-Card Use

FROM PAGE 6

anything, just sign your name as Mickey Mouse and no one is the wiser."

ACCORDING TO CRIME statistics from the Alexandria Justice Information System, the number of credit card crimes has almost doubled over the last five years. Public-safety officials say a number of motivating factors is behind the trend. The most obvious is the economic crisis, which has pushed more people into a life of crime to make ends meet. But the other motivating factor is a much longer-term trend of increasing reliance on credit cards and debit cards instead of greenbacks.

"Cash has kind of disappeared," said Alexandria Commonwealth's Attorney Randy Sengel. "And with that increased use of credit cards also comes the increased opportunity for credit card fraud."

Detectives in the city's financial crimes unit say they have seen an increasing number of cases being reported in recent years for a number of reasons. Aside from the consumer trend of increasing reliance on plastic, police say that criminals are becoming more knowledgeable about how to perpetrate credit-card fraud by talking to each other about methods. In addition to these trends, credit-card companies are increasingly requiring cardholders to submit a police report before they will credit money back to those who have been victimized.

"The credit-card companies want to discourage cardholders from making fraudulent claims," said Detective Charles Pak. "So that may be one of the reasons we are seeing more of these crimes reported."

Police officials say tracking down criminals is easier when transactions are done in person, creating a trail

SEE FRAUD, PAGE 25



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OPINION

Community College To Lead the Way

Options for students looking for a way to get into top schools while saving money.

Northern Virginia Community College offers many local students of all ages an accessible and affordable path to success.

In the Connection this week, education reporter Julia O'Donoghue highlights one little known program at NVCC that the region's top students should carefully consider.

Competition is so steep to get into Virginia's top colleges and universities, like the University of Virginia and the College of William and Mary, that students with excellent grades and SAT scores, plus many other accomplishments, still have been unable to win acceptance to the schools of their dreams.

But those students who really want a degree from a particular Virginia school can control their own fate by first enrolling at Northern Virginia Community College.

The process is not simple; students and their families must carefully study all of the requirements. But if a student gets their associate degree while taking the required classes set by the college where they would like to transfer, achieving the required grade point average, filing the letters of intent with the state college of their choice, then that student is guaranteed acceptance as a transfer student.

Students who make use of this program can graduate from a top Virginia college or university in four years, and they will have saved thousands of dollars in tuition along the way.

Another advantage of attending NVCC for two years is evident for the many students who have taken International Baccalaureate courses. NVCC will accept those classes (with passing test scores) for credit; then four-year

colleges will accept the NVCC credits. For many students, the Advanced Placement and International Baccalaureate credits they carry forward into college can save a full year of college, and college tuition, for some students saving as much as \$40,000.

NVCC also offers degree and certification programs in myriad fields that meet the needs of older students and students who are not headed for a four-year degree.

Demand is surging at NVCC, not surprisingly. The institution will need funding and flexibility going forward.

Read our story, Northern Virginia Community College "Guarantees," inside our July issue of our new monthly camps and schools section, A+: Education, Learning, Fun in this issue or online at www.ConnectionNewspapers.com. Click on "print editions online" in the red bar at the top of the page.

Let us know your thoughts and experiences.

— MARY KIMM,

MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

EDITORIAL

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Elect Council By Wards?

To the Editor:

The lingering hullabaloo over the elections — moving the time they're held and electing a stranger to city council — is misplaced angst. They are just symptoms of the larger problem needlessly besetting Alexandria, which is the lack of democracy, plain and simple.

Admittedly, the previous city council did not distinguish itself by its duplicity; that is, publicly proclaiming they would punt the question — whether to vote in the fall or in the spring—to the incoming council. Sadly, all along their real intention was to take action.

Also stunning is electing a civic minded, well-educated lady who is such a total stranger to the city and its issues that she hasn't had time to formally change her permanent residence from Baltimore to Alexandria.

It does seem unfair that this particular new council member has so little experience in the city on whose council she will serve. Of course, she will be a fast study and will probably bring solid problem solving skills to her council tasks. But, let's face it, she's an unknown.

The solution to ensuring we don't put on our city council more nice people with no city tenure is to elect our council members by ward or district. It's not a difficult concept to grasp; it was used in Alexandria until the mid-1950s

and it has enormous merits, not the least of which is neighbors will be electing a neighbor.

Less expensive too. Candidates don't need to seek votes from every corner of the city; they need only to persuade enough of their neighbors that they will be more effective representing their community's interests on city council than their opponent.

Another worthy benefit: improved civic associations. Every ward or district has several civic associations. These venues, long the realm of close friends who enlist other close friends to join them, will become more vital. Ambitious prospective council candidates will use civic associations to demonstrate their civic mindedness as a precursor to running for council.

An additional significant benefit is an informed voter. Voters need to focus only on the council candidate seeking to represent just their ward or district. No longer will it be necessary to assess all 15 or 20 candidates running city-wide.

Also, a valuable feature of any local election is the personal touch, literally. The best candidates will try to meet each voter, a task no longer insurmountable. This is because implementing a ward or district system will dramatically shrink the boundaries within which the candidates will seek votes to roughly 15 percent what they are now.

If members of the school board can be effortlessly elected by ward,

then so can our council members. Doing so will restore representational democracy in Alexandria, produce informed voters, be less expensive and serve to ensure only those with records of service to their communities are elected to city council. Anything wrong with these outcomes?

Jim Roberts
Alexandria

Truth and Accuracy Needed

To The Editor:

Regarding Michael Pope's quote from former Councilmember Tim Lovain's top 10 list (Gazette Packet, July 9, Council Notebook), Mr. Lovain stated "#2, two words, Annabelle Fisher." Mr. Lovain further stated that he knew I was in the audience and that he could say something using my name. I don't know what council swearing-in ceremony Mr. Pope attended, but it certainly was not the same one I was at nor members of the council and many members of city staff and other elected officials. ...

Much thanks goes to former Council Member Ludwig Gaines for writing his letter to the editor several weeks ago taking Mr. Pope to task for his mistaken quotes. ...

It is time for the editors to not only scrutinize Mr. Pope's articles, but to read and supervise any and all of his writings prior to going

into print. It is amazing that his story "Raising the Roof" (Gazette packet, July 9) and Mr. Pope's photo on page 4, of the new council being sworn in with the caption beneath the picture "The historic building on King Street where owner Michael Zarlenga's plans were denied later became a shop selling sex toys known as Le Tache."

Accurate and honest reporting is what makes for a good reporter and journalist. Mr. Pope continues to show his total lack of professionalism and certainly cannot claim the title of reporter nor journalist.

Annabelle Fisher
Alexandria

Editor's note: The wrong photo accompanying "Raising the Roof" was the editor's production error, not the reporter's. The correctly matched photo and caption were printed on page 25 of that issue.

Bias Showing

To the Editor:

Trying to attach the HOT lane project to the "Bush Administration" is a bit of stretch don't you think? This project was born and reared in Richmond by VDOT. It's also being pushed by VDOT, to the exclusion of any local voices, not by any former administration's Highway Administration. I think most everybody in Alexandria agrees the project is a bombasm,

SEE LETTERS, PAGE 25

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OPINION

Injuries on the Increase

BY CHRISTINE CANDIO
CEO, INOVA ALEXANDRIA HOSPITAL



Recently, while two young boys were playing in Alexandria, one of them fell and hit his head. The child didn't lose consciousness, but several hours later he began complaining of a headache. The parents, worried about a possible head injury, went to the Emergency Department at Inova Alexandria Hospital. While here, our skilled staff discovered the boy was bleeding in his brain. After treatment and monitoring, he returned home fully recovered after a few days.

As summer swings into high gear, our Emergency Department sees an increase in playground- and pool-related injuries in children. Each day, nearly 8,000 children are treated in emergency rooms across the country due to falls. According to the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), falls are the leading cause of injuries in

children ages 0-19. Fortunately, many falls can be prevented. And even when they do occur, the expert team at the Inova Alexandria Hospital Emergency Department can treat just about any fall or injury a

child may suffer. Oftentimes, falls outside the home can be prevented by simply playing safely. When parents take time to make sure the equipment that their children are playing on is safe and well-maintained injuries are less likely to occur. Faulty playground equipment can lead to very serious injuries and possibly death.

Another way to help ensure children in your care have fewer falls is to implement safety routines in your home. Preventative measures such as stair gates and window and rail guards can also be used. These simple steps can prevent an accidental fall from occurring in your home. When skating, biking

SEE INJURIES, PAGE 25

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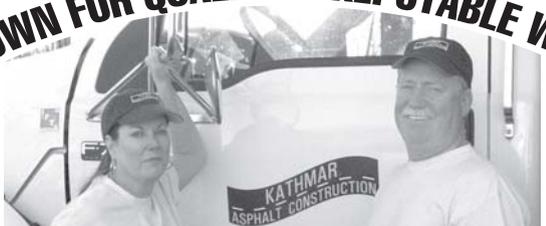
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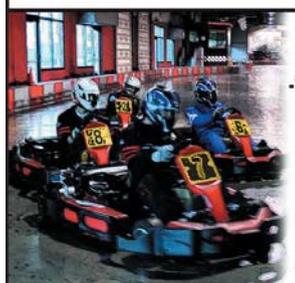
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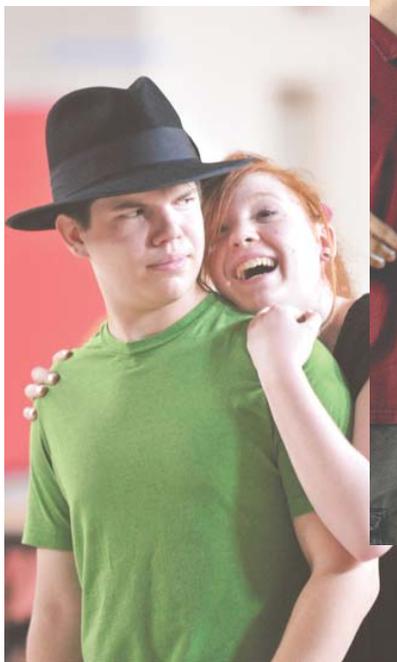


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Sam Jones and Caroline Menna as Billy and Hope.



Zachary Frank leads a line of sailors in a dance routine.

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ARTS ♦ ENTERTAINMENT ♦ LEISURE

Alexandria and Mt. Vernon are full of consignment, antique & thrift shops.

BY ERICA KICAK-VANDERHOEVEN
THE GAZETTE

If you're looking for an out-of-the-ordinary bargain or if you've just cleaned-out the items in your closet that you never seem to wear, try checking out consignment shops in Alexandria, Del Ray, and Mount Vernon. You may fall in love with items that you could never find anywhere else. From children's goods at The Purple Goose to furniture at Reunions, there is a wide range to explore — if you take the time to look.

PURPLE GOOSE

2005 Mt. Vernon Ave., Alexandria; thepurplegoose.com; 703-683-2918; open Monday through Friday 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Saturdays 10:30 a.m. to 6 p.m., Open Saturdays for consignment — no appointment required.

The Purple Goose is a children's boutique that sells "unique" new and used items, with a consignment section in the back of the store. Consignment clothing ranges in price from \$2.99 to \$24.99. It carries children's clothing from newborn sizes through size 7, as well as children's books, toys, furniture and accessories. The store has also begun to carry maternity accessories (but not maternity clothing).

DIVA DESIGNER CONSIGNMENT

116 Pitt St., Alexandria; divaboutiqueva.com; 703-683-1022; open Tuesdays through Saturdays 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Diva Boutique is a consignment shop that specializes in designer clothing. It carries many of the same designer brands as department stores. Prices start at around \$10 and go up to \$500 for evening gowns. Diva also carries consignment designer shoes, handbags and other accessories, as well as new jewelry.

MINT CONDITION

114 S Royal St., Alexandria; 703-836-6468; open Tuesday through Saturday 11 a.m. to 7 p.m., Sundays noon to 4 p.m.

Mint Condition is the newest of the Alex-

Where To Find Great Bargains



Hand-turned wooden tops by Patrick O'Brien at A Show of Hands at 2301 Mt. Vernon Ave. in Del Ray.



PHOTOS BY LOUISE KRAFFT/GAZETTE

The staff of Not Too Shabby Consignments and Potomac West Interiors and Antique Gallery Sarah, CJ and Annyce. Not pictured is Susan. The Shops are located at 1515 and 1517 Mt. Vernon Ave. in Del Ray.



Potomac West Interiors and Antiques at 1517 Mt. Vernon Ave. in Del Ray.



Mint Condition is at 114 S Royal St., Alexandria.



Ann Donohue, owner of Reunions at 1709 Centre Plaza in the Fairlington Shopping Center.



Encore Consignment Shop at 110 S. Union Street in Old Town.



The Purple Goose at 2005 Mt. Vernon Ave. in Del Ray offers new and used clothing ... for the younger set.



Diva Designer Consignment is at 116 Pitt St., Alexandria.

andria consignment shops, opening last month. It carries women's high-end designer clothes, shoes, and accessories. Mint Condition targets a younger clientele than most consignment shops, carrying designer jeans but also featuring a section devoted

to business clothing.

Most of the items are in recent styles; little is over a year or two old. Prices stick close to actual retail value, starting at around \$25 up to designer handbags, which are priced in the \$100s.

ENCORE CONSIGNMENT BOUTIQUE

110 S Union St., Alexandria; 703-683-1756
Encore specializes in upscale women's clothing, carrying brand-name and designer
SEE BARGAINS, PAGE 12

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ENTERTAINMENT



Samantha Mathis of Encore Consignment Shop.



PHOTOS BY LOUISE KRAFFT/GAZETTE

Hand-painted children's furniture at A Show of Hands at 2301 Mt. Vernon Ave. in Del Ray.

Where To Find Great Bargains

FROM PAGE II
clothing and accessories.

REUNIONS

1709 Centre Plaza, Alexandria; 703-931-8161; open Monday through Friday 10 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.; Saturdays 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., Sundays noon to 5 p.m.

Reunions, described by its owner as an "antique gift shop" is located in the Fairlington Shopping Center. The shop is set up like a house, furnished with tables, rugs, lamps, and other antiques. Although Reunions specializes in furniture, it also has a selection of silver and china, and is branching out to include new jewelry items and handbags. Prices vary widely, as does the store's selection. There are modestly priced small gifts up through furniture, which can go as high as \$2,000.

NOT TOO SHABBY

1515 Mt Vernon Ave., Alexandria; nottooshabbyconsignments.com; 703-519-1951; open Tuesday through Saturday 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Sunday 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

POTOMAC WEST INTERIORS AND ANTIQUE GALLERY

1517 Mt Vernon Ave., Alexandria, potomacwestantiques.com; 703-519-1911; Hours same as Not Too Shabby.

Not Too Shabby was opened as a second location for Potomac West antiques. Both stores carry the same selection of items, such as furniture, crystal, china, lamps, and jewelry. Not Too Shabby veers from the traditional antique shop fare with more eclectic items, such as vintage toys — than its counterpart. Consignment items can be found in Not Too Shabby as opposed to Potomac West.

There is a wide price range for the two stores, and furniture can cost up to \$2,000. All consignment items priced over \$30 are lowered in price by 20



Not Too Shabby Consignment Shop at 1515 Mt. Vernon Ave. in Del Ray.

percent for each month that they remain in the store.

A SHOW OF HANDS

2301 Mt Vernon Ave., Alexandria; ashowofhands.biz; 703-683-2905; open Tuesdays and Wednesdays 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Thursdays and Fridays 11 a.m. to 8 p.m.; Saturday 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Sunday noon to 5 p.m.

A Show of Hands is a consignment art shop that supports local artists, some of whom are just starting out as well as more accomplished artists. Prices go from \$4 to the \$1,200 range. The store carries all kinds of art work, including paintings, jewelry, needlework, handmade cards, and various mediums of sculpture.

ELINOR COLEMAN VINTAGE MIRAGE

210 N Lee St Suite 201, Alexandria; vintageirage.com 703-535-8200; open Wednesday through Saturday 1 to 6 p.m.

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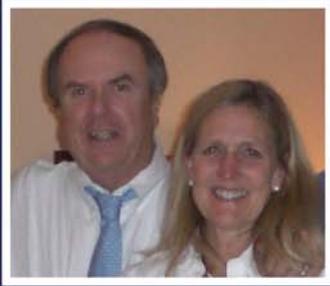
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\$639,000

"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!



9316
Heather Glen Dr
\$775,000

Fantastic Price!
Classic Colonial façade with magnificent interior featuring glass walled addition across the rear. Meticulously maintained 4 BR, three level home is loaded with special features and upgrades. Stunning custom addition overlooks beautifully landscaped yard and the most spectacular custom pool you'll ever find! You won't believe that this extraordinary home can be yours for such a reasonable price!



9380
Mt Vernon Cir
\$3,500,000

Private Waterfront Estate!
Stunning value! Majestic Colonial custom designed to capitalize on panoramic water vistas from all four levels and dramatic riverfront swimming pool! Abundant superlatives include: Over 9,400 total sq ft, 4 levels, 5 BRs, 5.55 BAs, 7 fireplaces, stunning 2 level MBR suite, custom built-ins, dock with power lifts, the list goes on & on! Price slashed over \$200,000 to expedite sale!



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.



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.



9500
Ferry Hall Court
\$1,450,000

Dream Home!
Builder's loss is your gain! Originally priced at almost \$2,000,000 - just reduced another \$300,000 to create a once in a lifetime opportunity! Stunning model offers the best of everything: open floor plan, high ceilings, 6BR, 6.5BA, 3 finished levels, top of the line kitchen & baths, 3 car garage and more!



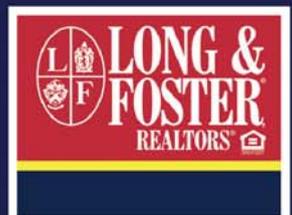
9403
Brambly Lane
\$975,000

Luxury Home! Special Financing!
10% down 30 yr fixed low rate makes it easy to purchase this luxurious brand new home by Wakefield Homes. Fabulous Mason model with bright, open floor plan loaded with upgrades and special features. House will be ready for its new owners by mid-August! Price + Special Terms - Best New Home Value in Alexandria!

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JUST LISTED!



7214 STOVER COURT
Alexandria - \$325,000

CONTEMPORARY & CLASSY. 3 level TH updated top to bottom! Spectacular kitchen renovation, plus "Ritz"-like baths! 2BR/2BAs, fin lower level, gorgeous deck backing to woods! New HVAC, hardwoods, windows, paint, lighting, flooring and more. *Hurry!*

Kim Muffler 703.282.7739



8063 FAIRFAX ROAD
Alexandria - \$789,500

NEW HOMES starting at \$789,500 INCREIBLE VALUE!
Delivery 90-110 days Gorgeous stone & Hardiplank front Colonial loaded w/charm & character. 4Br/3.5Ba, front porch, 2 car garage, gourmet kitchen w/granite, hardwood floors. Walk to shopping, restaurants, parks and pool! **Other models & lots available! Call for a showing of the model home.

Jill DiPasquale 571.436.8699



707 WEST ABINGDON DR
Old Town - \$614,900

ANTIQUE LOVER'S DREAM! Showcase your antiques in this Nethergate four level townhouse with modern kitchen, three fireplaces, 2/3 bedrooms, shady yard.

NethergateHomes.com
Renee Reymond 703.507.5330



502 BASHFORD LANE #3212
Old Town - \$274,900

RIVERTON! One bedroom w/southern exposure & lots of windows. First floor above ground location, new granite & SS kitchen, new bath, W/D, see pictures online. Pool is open!

ReneeSellsAlexandria.com
Renee Reymond 703.507.5330



2218 WINDSOR ROAD
Belle Haven \$750,000

1,954 sqft main level, 1,954 sqft unfin walkout bsmt w/BA rough-in. Center stair to unfin attic adds another 1,954 sqft for expansion. Solarium, skylight, all brick/flagstone. Wood floors thru-out. Large Family room off huge formal Dining room. 3BR/2BA. *Bring offers!*

Delaine Campbell 703.518.8740



Parker Grey 418 NORTH PATRICK STREET

- SHOWS LIKE A MODEL!
- VERY wide home
- Spacious rooms
- 1,700 sq ft of living space
- Formal LR / DR with Fireplace
- 3 Bedrooms
- Totally updated

Kitchen with granite and more!

- Deep Yard
- 2 off-street Pkg & a few blks to METRO
- \$689,000

Martine Imer 703.346.7283



835 FONTAINE STREET
Alex / Timber Branch Park - \$675,000

GREAT LOCATION! Over 2,400 sqft of living space on 1 level w/great potential for renovation. 3BR/2FBA, hwd floors, large Family room w/ adjacent sunroom, stone backyd patio w/detached screened-in porch., full bsmt & attic. Close to METRO. *Priced to sell. Move right in...*

Klanci Vanderhyde 703.919.4460



635 FIRST STREET #101
Alexandria / Liberty Row - \$899,900

DISTINCTIVE LUXURY CONDOS! Graciously appointed w/rich hardwood, custom molding, gourmet Kit w/granite, Viking SS, custom built-ins, custom sound system & 2 underground parking spaces. Private first floor entrance off porch is ideal for pets.

Klanci Vanderhyde 703.919.4460

REDUCED!



1025 DUCHESS LANE
McLean - \$1,495,000

OPPORTUNITY KNOCKS! Make an excellent investment in your future. Beautiful 3 lvl classic - backs to stream & woods, cul-de-sac, lge gourmet Kit, library, 2-story FR w/FP, huge Mstr suite w/sitting room + FP, LL rec room w/FP and walk-out to an expansive deck. 4Br/4.5Ba

Franki Roberts 703.898.0840



8801 THOMAS STOCKTON PARKWAY
Alexandria / Mt Vernon - \$850,000

This beautiful home has been completely renovated beginning in 2004 & expanded from the original model. With huge & luxurious spaces it sits on over 1/3 acre. Three lovely levels await your preview.

Leah Chapla 703.929.4875

OPEN SUN. 1-4



5745 GOVERNORS POND CIRCLE
Alexandria - \$585,000

STUNNING end unit "Cheswicke" model. 3 lvl, loft style interior, 2.5BA, finished basement w/FR. Huge deck from LR, private fenced patio, large open kit and sitting room, hwd, new carpet. Amazing Mstr Suite w/Jacuzzi & sep shower. Bright & very well maintained. Minutes to OT, 95 and METRO.

www.homesfromanita.com
Anita D'Antonio 202.460.1809



1250 SOUTH WASHINGTON ST
Porto Vecchio - #408 \$419,000 & #608 \$482,500

#408 is ready for updating w/a \$31,000 PRICE REDUCTION to help create the home of your dreams! Over 1,000 sqft — #608, Penthouse, is loaded w/designer touches, a FP, over 1,200 sqft & a solarium. Seller offers fantastic buyer incentives.

Pat Tierney 703.850.5630

OPEN SUN. 1-4



601 BASHFORD LANE, #3
Alex / Old Town - \$369,000

Stunning condo in North OT's Harbor Terrace. 2BR/1BA loft home has many features incl a renovated kitchen w/granite & SS, renovated BA, hwd flrs, W/D, fireplace & more!

Blumel Adams Group
Dayna Blumel/Kerry Adams 703.597.2252



4105 FAITH COURT
Alexandria - \$899,999

SHOWS LIKE NEW! 2 story foyer, gourmet kit w/ granite, huge sep DR, family room w/FP off kit, den/office on 1st fl, full fin w/o basement and 2 FP. Luxury bath w/jetted tub/sep shower, large deck. 4Br/3.5Ba, 2 car garage.

Gary Ansley 202.288.7946

RENTALS

5901 Mount Eagle Drive #212 \$1,400
Montebello 1BR/1BA
Michael Lekas 703.927.9895

3512 Gunston Road #717-35 \$1,400
Park Fairfax 2BR/1BA
JoAnn LaFon 703.618.2500

11381 Aristotle Drive #10-410 \$1,550
Fairfax Ridge 1BR/1BA/1FP & 1Pkg
Cathy Smyles 571.274.1190

4854 Eisenhower Avenue #451 \$1,600
Exchange at Van Dorn 2BR/1BA/1FP & 1Pkg
Lauren Leggett 703.582.7354

5814 Wvomissing Court \$1,950
Berkshire 4BR/3.5BA/1FP & 1Pkg
Pat Garrity 703.298.2287

RENTALS

3831 Watkins Mill Drive \$2,350
Townes at Cameron Parke 3BR/2.55BA/1FP & 1Pkg
Sheryl Lambson 703.217.7012

6814 Duke Street \$2,450
Bucknell Manor 3BR/2BA
Sheryl Vermont 703.472.6925

1002 Royal Street #1002 \$2,700
Watergate of Alexandria 3BR/2BA/1FP & 2Pkg
Steve Kindrick 703.518.8709

7870 Southdown Road \$3,200
Wellington Villa 1BR/1BA/1FP
Suzanne Briar 703.728.4999

620 Pitt Street \$3,500
Portners Landing 3BR/3.5BA/1FP & 2Pkg
Mike Lekas 703.927.9895



5432 DAWES AVENUE
Alexandria - \$680,000

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



712 WOLFE ST
Old Town - \$649,500

WOLFE STREET GEM Magnificent circa 1820 historic plaqued 2BR/1.5BA end unit Townhouse in heart of Old Town. New updated Granite / Stainless Kitchen with exposed Wood Beams, period Hutch, Old Pine Floors, Crown moulding, large "6 over 6" windows bask rooms in warm glows. Fabulously deep garden. 4 blocks to King Street.

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Philip G. Matyas 703.518.8727

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Real food, for real people at reasonable prices.

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

Tuesday - Greek Night
Lamb Marinated and Roasted for 3 hours, Athenian Roast Chicken, Moussaka!

Wednesday - All American Night
Meatloaf, Chicken Fried Chicken. Va. Ham

Thursday - Italian Night
Lasagna, Chicken Alfredo, Calamari

Friday - Fish Night
Crab Cakes, Shrimp & Scallops over penne pasta with white sauce

Saturday -Steak and Chop Night
Prime Rib, Lamb, Surf and Turf, Pork Chops, and Moussaka

Sunday
Brunch served 7am - 2pm

Dine in or call ahead and your dinner will be ready for pick up.
Dinner hours 2:30-9:30pm
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Alexandria, VA 22314
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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 Steve Hibbard at 703-917-6407 with questions.

ONGOING

The Third Annual Alexandria Film Festival is soliciting entries from U.S. and international filmmakers. The festival will be held Sept. 24-27 at the George Washington Memorial Masonic Temple. This year, the Film Festival is partnering with Withoutabox, the film industry's premier online service platform. To submit your film online, visit www.withoutabox.com/login/7816. All entries submitted through Withoutabox will receive an additional discount. For more information or to obtain entry forms and submission guidelines, visit www.alexandriafilm.org. Call 703-838-6348.

THURSDAY/JULY 16

Music at Twilight Concert. 7:30 p.m. Presented by the Ebenezer Baptist Church Evangelical Women's Choir. At Fort Ward Park, 4301 W. Braddock Rd. Call 703-883-4686 or visit www.alexandriava.gov/recreation.

Printmaking. 7-8:30 p.m. Adults can enjoy an evening out to explore monoprints, monotypes, collographs and found object prints. Visit www.artatthecenter.org.

Preschool Palettes. All ages. 9:30-11:30 a.m. Celebrate your child's flair for the artistic by transforming their unique creations into beautiful keepsake books! Call to register. 703-548-4092. Hooray for Books! Children's Bookstore, 1555 King St., Alexandria. www.hooray4books.com

Summer Quest Reading Program. 11 a.m. Keep your children reading through the summer with the Alexandria Library's Summer Quest program! This week, children ages 3 and older are invited to come to Barrett Branch Library (717 Queen St.) to enjoy messy outdoor fun that includes bubbles and coloring chalk. Free. Contact Lisa Springer at 703-838-4555.

JULY 16-18

"Anything Goes." Show times are Thursday, July 16 at 7:30 p.m.; Friday, July 17 at 7:30 p.m.; and Saturday, July 18 at 2 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. Tickets are \$8/adult, \$6/senior, student; \$7 and \$5 if reserved in advance. Call 703-998-6100, ext. 20, and leave message. At Bishop Ireton High School.

FRIDAY, JULY 17

"Twilight," the movie. Starts at dusk. Part of the Comcast Outdoor Film Festival. Food and beverage sales open at 7 p.m. At Ben Brenman Park, 4800 Brenman Park Drive. Call 703-883-4686 or go to www.alexandriava.gov/recreation.

Lantern Tours. Gadsby's Tavern Museum by candlelight with a costumed guide to experience the historic tavern and hotel before the advent of electricity. 7-10 p.m. Cost is \$5 per person, ages 5 and up. The museum may be closed on some occasions; at 134 N. Royal St., call 703-838-4242.

Sounds of a Dixieland Band. 7:30-8:30 p.m. Free concert at Grist Mill Park, 4710 Mt. Vernon Memorial Hwy., Alexandria. Call 703-324-7469 after 6 p.m. for cancellation updates.

Alexandria Citizens Band. 7:30 p.m. concert. Jack Dusek, interim conductor. At Market Square, 301 King Street, Old Towne Alexandria. Call 703-339-6643 or go to



THURSDAY/JULY 16

Dave Tucker Trio. 7-9 p.m. Free. Part of the Live Music at the Torpedo Factory. Early jazz and ragtime music featuring Dave Tucker on piano, Les Elkins on trumpet and Terry Brown on rhythm guitar. At the Torpedo Factory Art Center, 105 N. Union St., Alexandria. Call 703-838-4565 or visit www.torpedofactory.org.

www.band.alexandria.va.us.

Black Moon Tonic. 7-9 p.m. Family-friendly ice cream social. Free admission. Performing classic rock dance music. At Saint Aidan's Episcopal Church, 8531 Riverside Rd., Alexandria. Call 703-360-0033 or email bardsplay@aol.com.

Clover-College Park Day. Begins at 5:30 p.m. The Clover-College Park Civic Association is hosting 'Clover-College Park Day' at the corner of Cambridge and Vassar Roads. (Rain date is Saturday, July 18 at 5:30 p.m.) 5:30-6:30 p.m. Dedication of the new sidewalks on the 300 and 400 blocks of Cambridge Road. An official ribbon-cutting will take place. 6:30-7:30 p.m. 1st Annual Watermelon Eating and Seed Spitting Contest will take place at the corner of Cambridge and Vassar Roads. This is where President Gerald Ford called 'home' for more than 20 years.

SATURDAY/JULY 18

"Kung Foo Panda," the movie. Starts at dusk. Part of the Comcast Outdoor Film Festival. Food and beverage sales open at 7 p.m. At Ben Brenman Park, 4800 Brenman Park Drive. Call 703-883-4686 or go to www.alexandriava.gov/recreation.

Afternoon Tea Offering. 1-3 p.m. \$24.95/person. This is the first in a monthly series full of tiers of sweets and delicate teapots boasting aromatic loose teas. At Fontaine Caffe & Creperie, 119 S. Royal Street, Alexandria. Call 703-535-8151.

A World Away Storytime. Ages 3 and up. 11:30 a.m. Adventures are fun, whether they take place in the far-flung reaches of the globe or your own backyard! Free. 703-548-4092. Hooray for Books! Children's Bookstore, 1555 King St., Alexandria. www.hooray4books.com.

"The President's Own" United States Marine Band and Marine Chamber Orchestra performs. 7:30 p.m. At Rachel M. Schlesinger Concert Hall, Northern Virginia Community College, 3001 North Beauregard Street, Alexandria. Call 703-845-6156 or www.schlesingercenter.com.

Fort Ward Civil War Camp Day and Skirmish. 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. A day-long living history event highlighted by bayonet drills, cannon firing and skirmish drill. Admission is \$5 per adult and \$10 for families with children. At Fort Ward Park, 4301 West Braddock Road in Alexandria. Call 703-838-4848 or visit www.fortward.org.

SUNDAY/JULY 19

Fort Hunt Concert. 7-8 p.m. Vernonberg an Potomak Volksmusikblaskapelle (the Mount Vernon German Band) will present a free concert of authentic German

music. At Fort Hunt Park. Visit www.mvbands.com or call 703-768-4172.

Jazz at Meade with Joel Holmes. 4 p.m. Holmes composes his own style of music, blending an array of traditional and contemporary jazz, gospel, R&B, soul, hip-hop, neo soul, funk, classical and pop. \$15 donation. At Meade Memorial Episcopal Church, 322 N. Alfred St., Alexandria. Call 703-549-1334. Go to <http://meadechurch.org>.

Architecture in the Afternoon Tours. 2 p.m. Discover the architecture of George Mason's home. This 90-minute tour explores the mansion's exterior and interior. At Gunston Hall Plantation, 10709 Gunston Rd., Mason Neck. 703-550-9220 or <http://www.gunstonhall.org>.

1759 Conversations: Establishing Gunston Hall. 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. Enjoy a conversation with costumed interpreters portraying a member of George Mason's family or a visitor to Gunston Hall. At Gunston Hall Plantation, 10709 Gunston Rd., Mason Neck. 703-550-9220 or <http://www.gunstonhall.org>. Included in site admission: \$9, \$8 seniors, \$5 ages 6 to 18, younger free.

Summer Chamber Music Series. 3 p.m. Free. The Covington String Quartet. Washington Metropolitan Philharmonic Association. At The Lyceum, 201 S. Washington St., Alexandria.

TUESDAY/JULY 21

Sculpture in Motion. 9:30-11:30 a.m. Artist-builders ages 4 to 10 will sculpt forms in wire to create a framework for a moving sculpture. Explore light, shadow, balance, and sound while building with wire, recycled materials and loose parts. Visit www.artatthecenter.org for details.

THURSDAY/JULY 23

Cocktails and Conversation. 6-8 p.m. \$35/person. Led by The Protocol School of Washington-certified Susanna Theo, the program focuses on artful conversation skills for business/social networking. Discussion will include the do's and don'ts of positive conversation; how to correctly handle food and drink while networking; and answer questions like "how can one back away from the incessant talker." At Indigo Landing Restaurant, 1 Marine Drive, Alexandria. Contact Katherine Turner at turnerk@indigolanding.com or 703-548-9227.

Bob Brown Puppets. 3:30 p.m. Presents "Old MacDonald's Farm." Recommended for children ages 2 & up. At Barrett Library, 717 Queen St., Alexandria. Call 703-838-4555, ext. 3.

FRIDAY/JULY 24

Ms. Virginia Senior America Pageant. 2-4 p.m. Free admission. Silver Jubilee celebration. At the Lee Center, Kauffman Auditorium, 1108 Jefferson St., Alexandria. Suggested donation \$10. Reception follows. Call 703-425-7258.

Pablo Antonio y La Firma. 7:30-8:30 p.m. 13-piece Latin band specializing in salsa, cumbia, bachata, regaeton and merengue. Performing as part of the Mt. Vernon Nights summer concert. At Grist Mill Park, 4710 Mt. Vernon Memorial Hwy., Alexandria. Concerts are cancelled if it is raining. If there is a threat of bad weather, call 703-324-SHOW (7469) after 6 p.m. for cancellation updates.

FINE ARTS

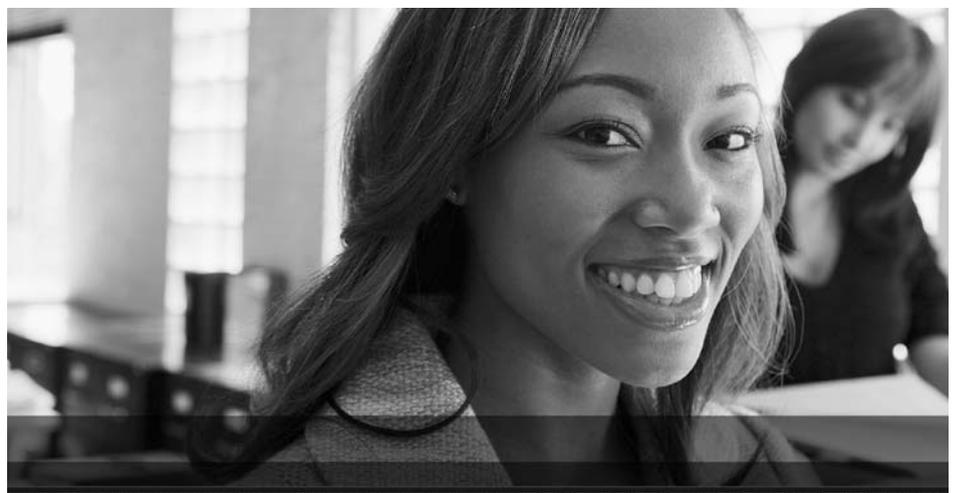
Neighborhood Watch at The Corcoran



The Dickert sisters.



The Corcoran Gallery of Art and College of Art + Design presents Neighborhood Watch, an exhibition of vintage and contemporary photographs by Corcoran faculty member and Rosemont resident Claudia Smigrod. In Neighborhood Watch, Smigrod revisits the subjects she photographed for her 1989 exhibition, Portraits of Innocence, a documentation of the purity of childhood. Through a recent resurvey of the original Portraits of Innocence participants, Smigrod records the evolution of 20 individuals as she captures them within their native environments in Alexandria.



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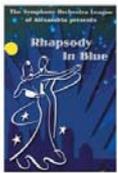
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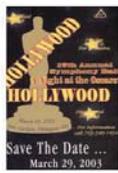
Westwood College has been certified to operate in Virginia by the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia (SCHEV).

WESTWOOD COLLEGE

"NAME THAT BALL" CONTEST



Please submit entries between July 15 & August 13, 2009 to the Alexandria Symphony Orchestra (ASO) via phone: 703-548-0885 or e-mail: alex@alexsym.org.



The lucky winner will receive two tickets (valued at \$200 per ticket) to the 23rd Symphony Orchestra League of Alexandria's gala at the Ritz Carlton, Pentagon City on March 6, 2010. All proceeds are donated to the ASO, Northern Virginia's premiere, fully-professional orchestra, directed by award-winning Kim Allen Kluge.

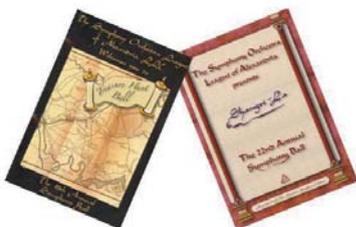
The name of the ball sets the theme – two rare Tibetan sacred scrolls were auctioned at the 2009 "Shangri-La" Ball and Richard J. Egan, former U.S. Ambassador to Ireland, was the honorary chairman at the 2007 "Emerald" Ball. Senator and Mrs. John Warner were the honorary patrons last year.



Senator John Warner & his wife Jeanne Vander Myde



Nancy Rowe, Pauline Hurd, Cecily Lupo Winchell, Richard Egan & Nancy Lasley



Photos and design by Susan Knighton Cavanaugh



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The Advisory Council and the staff of the Alexandria Department of Human Services express our boundless gratitude to you, our friends and contributors.

For more information or to make a tax-deductible donation, please call 703.838.0762 or visit www.alexandriava.gov/thefundforalexchild



The Fund for Alexandria's Child
Community Resources Program
Alexandria Department of Human Services
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Not everyone can be a foster parent, but **EVERYONE** can help a foster child.

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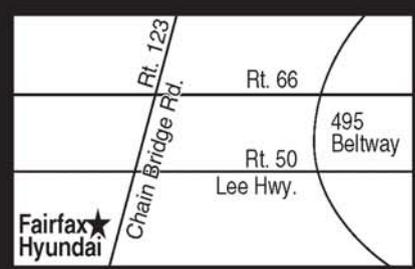
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Minority Achievement Gap Persists

FROM PAGE 3

test scores released under No Child Left Behind, every category of student other than whites failed to meet the federal standards, including black students, Hispanic students, disadvantaged students, students who speak limited English and students with disabilities. One of the most dramatic manifestations of racial disparities is at George Washington Middle School, where 89 percent of white students passed the math test yet only 48 percent of black students were able to make the grade.

"I'm glad that progress is being made in the rest of the state," said Melynda Wilcox, immediate past president of the Alexandria PTA Council. "But parents in Alexandria are focused on Alexandria, and we have to be coming up with solutions that work for our students."

Sherman said he is planning a number of changes for the next school year to narrow the achievement gaps in the city — everything from administrative reorganization to increased professional development for teachers. Perhaps the most drastic change will take place in September, when the school system will assume oversight of the Head Start program, which has historically been the domain of the city's Department of Human Services. By 2010, Sherman hopes that the school system will receive the federal money for all pre-Kindergarten programs, which will allow the city's school system to start offering its own

pre-K classes for the 25 percent of students who currently have no experience before the first day of school.

"Our goal is to eventually provide universal access to pre-Kindergarten programs," said Sherman. "So we might need to go broader than the Head Start requirements to do that."

Other ways Sherman said he is planning to narrow achievement gaps in the city is offering writing workshops to all elementary school teachers, expanding individual achievement plans for at-risk students to include English and putting the final pieces into place of a middle-school reorganization. The new administrative design, set to launch in September, will create five new school administrations in the two existing middle schools.

"Too many of our middle school kids are falling through the cracks," he said. "Next year, our middle schools will be structured in a way that every student gets the kind of individualized attention they need to thrive."

THE ISSUE OF racial disparities has been a problem in Alexandria for many years, in some ways dating back to the period of integration. In 2007, a report titled "Obstacles to Opportunity" concluded that the city schools operated as a "two-track system," in which a privileged white minority receives an edu

SEE SCHOOLS, PAGE 21

"Shame on us for even needing to have this conversation."

— Superintendent Morton Sherman

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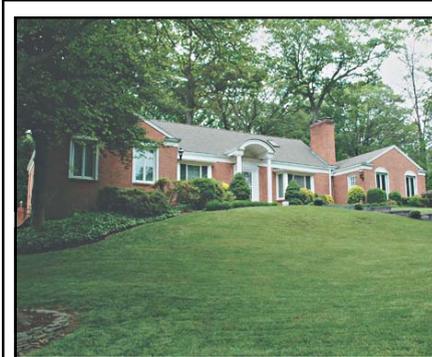


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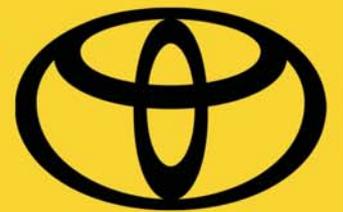
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Alexandria Country Day School: Class of 2009

Alexandria Country Day School graduated its 24th class of 8th grade students on June 4. Above are: Back row, Dylan Scott, Amir Carter, Marcus Rasmussen, Terry Hunter, Kieran Hampl, Malachi Edmond, Henry Rodgers, Jack Benson, Ilkka Kovanen and Emarii Lopes. Middle Row: Jeremy Simmons, Anders Hedman, Caroline Olsson, Shaina Mack, Trey Sutherland, Carly Reed, Seydi Diaz, Altynai Turdukulov, Laura Krieger, Chase Whitley and Li Chien. Front row: Ginna Semmes, Lane Blackwood, Katya Roman, Natascha Zelloe, Claire Malkie and Lizzy Spooner. This class boasts a Virginia State Senate page —Rodgers — and a state finalist in the National Geographic Society's Geography Bee —Kovanen.



COURTESY PHOTO

State Finalist

Michaleen Eife of Alexandria has been selected as a state finalist for the 2009 Miss Virginia Pre-Teen Pageant. The pageant is scheduled for July 30 - Aug. 1 at the Hyatt Regency in Reston. Michaleen attends George Washington Middle School. For more information on the pageant visit www.namiss.com



Newly Renovated Celebrating the re-opening of the renovated Giant Food at 3131 Duke St., Giant Food District Manager Tim Baker, Mayor William Euille, Giant Food Store Manager Gary Maryland, state Sen. Patricia Ticer and Vice Mayor Del Pepper officially cut the ribbon.

Schools Focus on Achievement Gap

FROM PAGE 19

cation that sets them on a path for college while blacks and Latino students are marginalized or ignored. For many, that report highlighted a systematic problem that has been festering for years.

"I think Alexandria makes the mistake of not assuming all children can be successful, and that has permeated the education culture in the city for a long time," said Councilman Rob Krupicka, a member of the Virginia School Board. "We tol-

erate low achievement to an extent that is unacceptable."

Krupicka said he feels that trend is changing, citing recent School Board actions to expand access to honors classes and encourage more students to take Advanced Placement classes. On a statewide level, Krupicka said, he is proud of Virginia's progress in closing the achievement gap in comparison to other states.

"The goal needs to be to get to a day where there is no gap," he said.

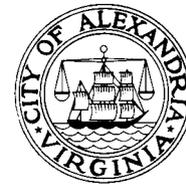


PHOTO BY JEFF FASANO PHOTOGRAPHY

High Tea Fashion Show

Gurvur Dhindsa, FOX5 anchor (far right) hosted the a Fashionista High Tea to support The Clarity Breast Cancer Foundation (CBCF) in May in Alexandria. Models included cancer survivors and professionals from T.H.E. Artist Agency. Minoo Mobin-Ventura (seated center) owner of Belafigura Swimwear debuted her latest line and donated a portion of the proceeds to the foundation. Executive director and founder Alexandra Boos (third from left) is a full figure model with the Ford Agency. The foundation provides education and medical products directly to uninsured and underinsured women battling breast cancer (www.info@claritybcf.org).

Legal Notices



Alexandria Board of Architectural Review
Old & Historic Alexandria District

LEGAL NOTICE OF A PUBLIC HEARING

A public hearing will be held by the Alexandria Board of Architectural Review on WEDNESDAY, JULY 29, 2009 beginning at 7:30 PM in Council Chambers, second floor of City Hall, 301 King Street, Alexandria, Virginia on the following applications:

CASE BAR2009-0117
Request for approval of alterations at 123 S. West Street, zoned CD Commercial.
APPLICANT: Valda Anderson

CASE BAR2009-0119
Request for approval of signage at 102 N. Fayette Street, zoned CD Commercial.
APPLICANT: Knit-a-Gogo, Inc.

CASE BAR2009-0144
Request for approval of demolition/encapsulation at 922 S. Alfred Street, zoned RM Residential.
APPLICANT: Victoria Sackett

CASE BAR2009-0145
Request for approval of addition/alterations at 922 S. Alfred Street, zoned RM Residential.
APPLICANT: Victoria Sackett

CASE BAR2009-0146
Request for approval of signage at 1019 King Street, zoned KR King Street Retail.
APPLICANT: Thai Cuisine By Sam Phao

CASE BAR2009-0147
Request for approval of alterations at 1600 King Street, zoned KR King Street Retail.
APPLICANT: DSF Long King Street LLC

CASE BAR2009-0148
Request for approval of demolition at 424 N. Washington Street, zoned CD Commercial.
APPLICANT: Wheeler & Associates Architects By Michael Wheeler

CASE BAR2009-0149
Request for approval of alterations at 424 N. Washington Street, zoned CD Commercial.
APPLICANT: Wheeler & Associates Architects By Michael Wheeler

CASE BAR2009-0150
Request for approval of alterations at 620 Jefferson Street, zoned RCX Residential Commercial Mixed Use.
APPLICANT: Scott Management Inc.

CASE BAR2009-0151
Request for approval of alterations at 1 Wharf

Legal Notices

Street, zoned W-1 Waterfront.
APPLICANT: James McNeil

CASE BAR2009-0152
Request for approval of alterations at 900 King Street, zoned KR King Street Retail.
APPLICANT: Prevention of Blindness Society By Michele HarHove

CASE BAR2009-0153
Request for approval of alterations at 219 N. Columbus Street, zoned RM Residential.
APPLICANT: Barbara J. Waite

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

TRUSTEE'S SALE OF PROPERTY

101 S. Jordan Street
Alexandria, VA 22304

Tax Map No. 059.02-03-04

In execution of a Deed of Trust dated December 29, 2006, recorded in the Clerk's Office of the Circuit Court of the City of Alexandria, Virginia, as Instrument No. 070000159, Woods Rogers PLC, Substitute Trustee, will offer for sale at public auction at the front entrance of the Courthouse of the Circuit Court for the City of Alexandria, Virginia, on the 21st day of July, 2009, at 12:30 p.m., the property described in said Deed of Trust lying in the City of Alexandria, Virginia, and more particularly described as follows:

Lot 7-1, Block 3159, of a resubdivision of Part of Section One, Tarleton, per resubdivision recorded in Deed Book 466, page 190 among the land records of the City of Alexandria, Virginia.

TERMS: Cash - Bidder's deposit of ten percent (10%) of the sales price by cashier's or certified check may be required. Balance of purchase price shall be due and payable not later than ten (10) days after sale.

WOODS ROGERS PLC
Substitute Trustee

For Information Contact:

Richard C. Maxwell, Esq.
Woods Rogers PLC
P.O. Box 14125
Roanoke, VA 24038-4125
540-983-7600

LEGAL NOTICE

The object of this suit is to Custody It is ordered that the Father Jose David Diaz appear at the Alexandria J & DR - Juvenile court in Alexandria VA on August 27, 2009 at 11:00am

NEIGHBORHOODS

Seminary Valley

How appropriate for July 4th weekend, to see a house all decked out to welcome home a soldier! The Eckman Family of Pegram Street happily welcomed home Dad Craig, on leave from a stint in Kabul. The house was festooned with posters and ribbons, and even the car was bedazzled. Hopefully Craig will get to take out his sailboat and do some cruising before he heads back in a few short weeks.

Also overseas is neighbor David Gilmer, on his fourth trip to the Middle East (three trips to Iraq, one to Afghanistan). David does communications work for a government contractor (if he told me what he was doing, he'd have to kill me). Wife Michelle adds that David would love to spend next summer in Virginia (so if you can employ someone with a top secret clearance, I'll pass along any job opportunities).

Please let me know if you know of any other neighbors serving their country, and I'll give them a shout-out in this space.

If you are looking for some light summer entertainment, look no further than Bishop Ireton High School where Blessed Sacrament is sponsoring a teens-only production of Cole Porter's "Anything Goes". Several West End teens are taking part: Andrew Flack, Zachary Frank, Sam Jones, Maria Jones, Abby Keller and Maria Simpkins. On another side of teen-hood is yours truly and John and Sarah Fargo, taking our annual turn in the pit orchestra. The production runs from Thursday, July 16 through Saturday, July 18 at 7:30 p.m.; there is a matinee on Saturday afternoon at 2 p.m. As Cole Porter says, "It's Delightful, It's Delectable!"

Many Seminary Valley children are part of the Dowden Terrace Dolphins swim team. The Dolphins are ranked number one in the Northern Virginia Swimming League's Division 6. Several swimmers have already set team records! Names, dates and serial numbers to come

MIA JONES
MAMAMIAJONES@GMAIL.COM

Taylor Run

WISHFUL VOTERS

The vociferous critics who were so displeased by the low turnout in the May election might perhaps be comforted by the great effort put forth by the 825 voters who wrote in votes for a mayor other than Bill Euille.

Writing in a vote is complicated on the machines Alexandria is now using; this may account for some of the 138 votes labeled invalid by the registrar; others he suspected of being fictitious – Mickey Mouse for one.

REPUBLICAN DREAMS

One senses, reading the list, a deep yearning for a Republican candidate. Fifty-six people wanted Frank Fannon for mayor, five wanted George Bush, 45 looked back to an earlier election and suggested Bill Cleveland, 18 wanted Chris Marston, Alexandria's current Republican chairman, two wanted Richard Nixon, two Sarah Pallin, while seven asked for recent

newcomer to our political contests, Alicia Hughes, and one suggested Joe McCain.

THE ANTI VOTE

An objection to government in general may have motivated those who wrote in Rush Limbaugh, Karl Marx, Pat Buchanan and Stephen Colbert.

Many rose above partisanship and plunked for Democrats. There were 16 votes for Kerry Donley, two for Rob Krupicka, two for former Vice Mayor Andrew MacDonald, and eleven for Del Pepper.

THE NOSTALGIA VOTE

Former candidates still have their supporters – 35 for Pat Troy, three for Boyd Walker, and four for Townsend Van Fleet.

Poul Hertel, a Danish citizen received one vote, perhaps in recognition of his long battle to lessen Mirant's pollution of our air. Charles Collum, president of Burke and Herbert, received one vote; Chris Campagna got three; Thomas Hulfish got two; and Sandi Modell, who runs our bus system, one.

APPLAUSE VOTE

Simple admiration may have caused one voter to write in a vote for Alex Ovechkin, and another to plunk for William J. Clinton. I do feel empathy with the Alexandrian who wrote in Pallas Athena; either as an advocate for wisdom or a fan of a good restaurant, this voter has the right idea. I cannot imagine what motivated the person who wrote in Ru Paul.



Laurie Cameron

ALEXANDRIA MYSTERY

Laurie Cameron, first-time author, has co-written a mystery set in Alexandria, where Laurie formerly lived right up here on Shooter's Hill.

Laurie and her niece Laura Meagher of Plainfield, Ill., communicated only by e-mail as they wrote the book, Laurie being in the Dominican Republic at the time.

The Ghost at Old Oak Way recounts the adventures of Eliza Hamilton, whose family owned The Bookshop in Alexandria during the Civil War.

— LOIS KELSO HUNT

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-Elizabeth Barret Browing

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By DALE KELLER

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PEOPLE

To have a People Note published in the Gazette- Packet, send an e-mail to gazette@connectionnewspapers.com or call Steve Hibbard 703-917-6407. Pictures encouraged.

Shawn McLaughlin, Alexandria businessman was recently appointed to the Board of Trustees for the Virginia College Savings Plan by Gov. Tim Kaine. The board administers all college savings programs used by tens of thousands of residents in Virginia and across the nation.



McLaughlin is the founding president of McLaughlin Ryder Investments, LLC, an Alexandria money management firm. Prior to starting McLaughlin Ryder Investments, in 2003 he worked as Senior Vice President of Investments for Legg Mason Wood Walker Inc. in Alexandria for 20 years. A graduate of Georgetown University, he was selected by the Alexandria Chamber of Commerce as the Alexandria Business Leader of the Year in 2005. He serves on numerous civic and community boards throughout the Commonwealth of Virginia including Burke and Herbert Bank & Trust Company, the Alexandria Police Foundation and Inova Health Systems. McLaughlin resides in Alexandria with his wife and four children.

Bryan Wells, son of Kent and Debbie Wells of Alexandria, recently completed a summer internship in the Washington, D.C., office of U.S. Sen. Pat Roberts (R-KS). Bryan will be a senior at the University of Wisconsin and will graduate in December with a degree



in political science. After earning his undergraduate degree, he plans to attend law school. Bryan graduated from TC Williams High School in 2006. His responsibilities in Sen. Roberts' office included researching legislation, assisting with constituent correspondence, conducting tours of the U.S. Capitol Building, and providing general support to the administrative staff.

DeNancy Brown of Alexandria, a student at George Washington Middle School, has been named an United States National Leadership and Service Award Winner. She will appear in the United States Achievement Academy's Official Yearbook. She is the daughter of David and Sandra Brown of Alexandria. The grandparents are the late David and Phyllis Carter of Alexandria and the late Clem Brown of Arlington.



Luis Perez was recently voted by the Alexandria community to receive the Let's Dish! Teacher of the Year Award. The prize was a month's worth of dinners to help make the end-of-the-school-year routine a little easier at home.

Perez, nominated by music booster club president Kathleen Mahboob, is a band teacher at Holmes Middle School in Alexandria. He received over 1,500 of votes to come out a winner. Let's Dish! received dozens of nominees and narrowed the group down to five finalists in the Alexandria area, including Perez.

Lafayette Frederick ('52) of Alexandria, received the Washington State University Alumni Association (WSUAA) Alumni Achievement Award. The award is the highest honor bestowed by the WSUAA and recognizes Frederick for his outstanding teaching, research, mentoring and contributions to the fields of botany and mycology.

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For more information visit alexandriava.gov/Dial746

Injuries Increase in Summer

FROM PAGE 9

or playing other sports, it is important that children wear the appropriate protective gear, such as wrist guards, knee and elbow pads, and a helmet.

The number of children who drown is another sad statistic that increases during the summer months. The CDC reports about

4,000 cases of near drownings in the United States each year. Although these people survived, more than half of these victims required lengthy hospital stays and long-term care in specialized facilities. Drownings are highest among children four years old and younger. Injuries and deaths from drowning, can be decreased by frequenting swimming pools that

have an on-duty lifeguard, supervising children properly when at the pool and installing pool fences.

To help you and your family stay safe during the summer and year round, check out Inova's HealthSource classes which offer training in first aid, CPR and more. To learn more about these and other HealthSource educational opportunities call 703-750-8800.

LETTERS

FROM PAGE 8

but you distract mightily from the true debate when you attempt to gin up support by banging on a [no doubt, much-hated in Alexandria] third-party that couldn't care less whether the project gets built or not.

I would have expected someone in your position to have been a bit more objective, but your true colors have been shown very clearly with this story. Your bias serves to help no one, including yourself and the Packet. I suggest you leave it at home next time.

Steven M. McLain, P.E.
Alexandria

Fraud Spike

FROM PAGE 7

of eyewitness reports, handwriting samples and security-camera footage. When fraudulent transactions are done over the phone or online, however, investigators say they have a much more difficult time identifying those responsible. That sense of anonymity is yet another reason why this kind of crime is on the rise, according to those charged with tracking down perpetrators.

"Someone who is resourceful can steal a lot more money with credit card fraud than robbing a bank, and it's safer," said Pak. "Unfortunately, here's a lot of money to be made in this kind of crime."

National crime statistics show a dramatic increase in Internet fraud this year, as the economic crisis has continued to tighten its grip. According to the Internet Crime Complaint Center, Internet fraud has increased 30 to 40 percent over the first quarter of this year compared to the first quarter of last year.

"With every downturn in the economy, there's always a corresponding increase in property crime," said Craig Butterworth, a spokesman for the National White Collar Crime Center. "The bad guys are trying to exploit the vulnerabilities in our economy that are typically associated with a southbound economy."



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Legion Baseball Hits Home Stretch

Local American Legion teams get set for this weekend's 17th District playoffs.

BY MARK GIANNOTTO
THE GAZETTE

After Alexandria Post 129 collected the last out Tuesday night in its 13-10 win over Post 1976 of Annadale, manager Robert Mannel gathered his team in left field at Frank Mann Field in Four Mile Run Park for a final talk.

Despite the threat of the lights going out following a three-hour baseball game, Mannel wanted to make sure his message was heard loud and clear. One of the most competitive seasons in recent memory for the American Legion 17th District is now over, the playoffs are here.

"You've got to be ready," Mannel implored his squad.

This year, the 17th District reworked its rules so that just six teams qualify for the postseason, rather than having all eight automatically advance. That means the top two teams get first round byes, while seeds three through six face off in what amount to play-in games.

With the top six teams in the league separated by just five games in the regular season, the one-loss elimination format means somebody good is likely going home earlier than expected. Post 129's victory Tuesday gave it a solid 14-9 record, good enough for

third place in the league.

NEARBY OLD TOWN Alexandria Post 24 also qualified for the playoffs this week, completing a late-season surge with two victories Tuesday night, defeating Post 130 of Falls Church, 5-4, in a shortened seven-inning affair. They followed it up with a dominant 17-0 win in the second part of the doubleheader.

Post 24, which features players from Mount Vernon, West Potomac, and Hayfield High Schools, closed the season with six-consecutive victories to finish with a 12-11 record, good enough for the fifth seed in the playoffs.

Manager Jim Glassman credits his team's recent hot streak to the improved play of West Potomac slugger Grady O' Hagen, pitchers

"You can lose on any given day and that's what makes it exciting."

— **Josh Knupp**
of Alexandria Post 129

Brett Schaeffer and Peterson, and Mount Vernon's Andrew Sable and Andrew Zumwalt.

"Winning makes you happy and this has been the most fun we've had all season," said Glassman. "We started out slow, but now ... guys who want to play ball are playing ball and they're playing it well."

Post 129 consists of players from T.C. Williams, Edison, Bishop Ireton, and St. Stephen's/St. Agnes. The synergy between the top players of every school helps to create what can be an electric atmosphere in the postseason, de-

spite the general assumption that summer baseball is more laid back than the spring scholastic season.

"I would say high school playoffs get more publicity, but legion playoffs are more exciting," said catcher John Kane of Post 129. "There's fewer teams, and each team is built with the best players from the local high schools. You're looking at the highest competition in the area."

BUT IT'S THE PARITY within the league this season that has some foaming at the mouth in anticipation of Saturday. And it only takes looking at recent results to understand just how evenly spread the baseball talent is this year.

Post 130 of Falls Church currently has the best record in the 17th District with two regular season games remaining. And yet, Post 24 defeated them soundly Tuesday night behind a complete game shutout from pitcher Danny Peterson of West Potomac.

Post 129 had its hands full Tuesday night against Post 1976, the league's worst team. After jumping out to an early 12-2 lead, Post 24 watched it

slowly evaporate before pitcher Tim Mannel came in to shut the door in the eighth and ninth innings to give Alexandria the 13-10 victory. Kane finished with two doubles and three RBIs, while third baseman Josh Knupp, second baseman Geoff Goff, rightfielder Dan O'Keefe, and starting pitcher Chris Cattaneo all collected two hits as well.

That, though, came on the heels of Monday night, when Post 24 routed its neighbors from Post 129, 14-1. It just proves how high the level of competition could be come this weekend.



PHOTO BY LOUISE KRAFT/THE GAZETTE

Chris Cattaneo of Alexandria Post 129 throws a pitch during his team's 13-10 win over Annadale Post 1976 Tuesday night. Post 129 finished the American Legion District 17 regular season with a 14-9 record.

"The teams this year are a lot better," said Knupp. Last year, there were two or three teams that didn't really have it every night, but this year you can lose on any given day and that's what makes it exciting."

Post 129 will likely face Spring-

field Post 176 in its play in game, while Post 24 will likely take on Vienna Post 180. Falls Church Post 130 and Arlington Post 139 will receive first-round byes. The winner of the 17th District tournament moves on to the state tournament beginning July 27.

SPORTS BRIEFS

Competitive Eating

Two weeks ago at the annual July 4th Nathan's Famous Hot Dog Eating contest, Alexandria resident Sonya "The Black Widow" Thomas set a new women's world record by devouring 41 hot dogs in just 10 minutes.

Introduced by over the top competitive eating emcee George Shea as "the Leader of the Four Horsemen of the Esophagus" two weeks ago, the 98-pound Thomas is the No. 5 ranked competitive eater in the nation with 29 world titles and records in more than 25 different competitions. She's nicknamed "The Black Widow" because of her ability to out eat men three and four times her size.

Thomas did not return a phone call seeking comment on her accomplishments, but here's a sampling of just some of her achievements within the world of competitive eating over the years.

- ❖ 8.4 pounds of baked beans in 2 minutes, 47 seconds
- ❖ 65 hard boiled eggs in 6 minutes, 40 seconds (take that Cool Hand Luke)
- ❖ 44 Maine lobsters (11.3 pounds of meat) in 12 minutes
- ❖ 11 pounds of cheesecake in nine minutes
- ❖ 446 Phillips crab cakes in 10 minutes
- ❖ 48 soft chicken tacos in 11 minutes.

Local Rock Climbing

Five local youths from the Sport Rock climbing teams in Alexandria and Sterling recently traveled to Salt Lake City, Utah to compete at the Sport Climbing Series Youth National Championship. Sasha

SEE SPORTS BRIEF, PAGE 27



COURTESY OF MAJOR LEAGUE EATING

Alexandria resident Sonya Thomas holds up her scorecard from the 2009 Nathan's Famous Hot Dog Eating Contest, held on July 4. Thomas set a women's world record by eating 41 hot dogs in 10 minutes.

SPORTS BRIEFS

FROM PAGE 26

Diguilian, Randy Fawcett, Peter Grill, Ada Saker, and Tegan Wilson earned invitations to the event through local, regional, and divisional climbing competitions. Four hundred boys and girls, ages 8- 19, from across the United States took part in 10 different age and gender categories competing in both sport climbing or difficulty and speed climbing. The top finishers in each category receive invitations to join the U.S. National Climbing team and ages 14 and older receive invitations to the Junior World Championships in Valence, France in late August.

Sasha Diguilian of Alexandria placed second in sport climbing in her age category at the national competition. Diguilian has accumulated numerous climbing awards including three-time North American Continental Champion in her age group and placing fourth at the Junior World Championship in 2008. By placing second, Diguilian earns a spot on the U.S. National Climbing Team.

Wilson, 13, of Alexandria placed 4th in sport climbing and 5th in speed earning spots on both the U.S. National Climbing Team for sport and speed. A member of the National Team in bouldering, this is Tegan's second year to qualify for a place on the National Team for both sport and speed.



COURTESY OF THEO ANDROUS

Nine-year-old Alexandria resident Audrey Androus (in yellow) became the youngest ever winner of the 12-and-under division at Reedville, Va. Firecracker 5K.

24 minutes, 33 seconds placed her in the top 15 percent of all women and top 20 percent of all runners. Nearly 500 people entered the race. Androus became the youngest runner to ever win the 12-and-under division. She is a rising 4th grader at Charles Barrett Elementary School and a member of the Alexandria United U10 Girls travel soccer team.

Alexandria Youth Wins Race

Audrey Androus, 9, of Alexandria won the 12-and-under division of the 7th annual Reedville, Va. Firecracker 5k race on July 4. Androus's winning time of

Alexandria Chamber Cup Golf Classic!



On August 19th, the Alexandria Chamber of Commerce will be holding our annual Chamber Cup Golf Classic at the newly renovated National Golf Club at Tantallon in Fort Washington, MD. Come join us for a fun-filled day of golf, raffles, and prize packs followed by a BBQ feast catered by Mango Mikes. Prizes include a 3-day, 2-night golf trip to Melbourne, Florida for two; a 3-day, 2-night golf trip to Madeira Beach, Florida for two; a 5-day, 4-night trip to St. Thomas for two; and a 5-day, 4-night trip to Hawaii for two. Plus great giveaways and complimentary golfing!

Non-Members Welcome!

Register as a foursome or by yourself!

Sponsorships still available.

For more information, contact Special Events Coordinator Janelle Schmidt at jschmidt@alexchamber.com or

703.739.3808

Date: Wednesday, August 19, 2009

Tee Time: 7:00 am registration begins

9:00 am tee time

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**Saturday, July 18th 7:00pm
Aces vs. Bethesda Big Train**

**Game Night Sponsor
Old Town Hardware
809 South Washington St.
703.879.0475
Open 7 days a week**



**Monday, July 20th 7:00pm
Aces vs. Bethesda Big Train**

**Alexandria GOP Night
Come by the ballpark to meet your newly elected officials and fall candidates**



**Thursday, July 23rd 7:00pm
Aces vs. Silver Spring-Takoma T-Bolts**

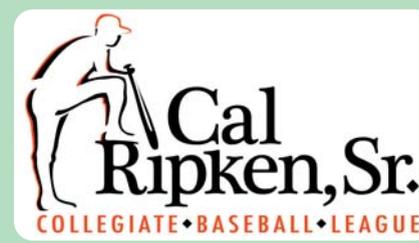
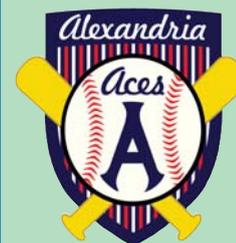
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Alexandria Aces

**Collegiate Summer Baseball
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ALEXANDRIA/DEL RAY

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Front Porch Townhome

A summer-perfect front porch welcomes you to this two-bedroom, all-brick home on a quiet street. The wonderfully sunny kitchen with updated appliances and maple cabinets, is open to the dining area, and walks out to the back yard. Gorgeous hardwoods throughout the open living/dining areas and both bedrooms; cozy family room and laundry room with walk-out to back yard on lower level. A short walk to the restaurants and shops of Del Ray.

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\$699,000



Builders, Contractors, Investors Take Notice

First time available in over five decades, this historic home is said to be more than 200 years old. Rarely has there been an opportunity to purchase a home on such a desirable block which is ready for a complete face lift. The house is situated on a deep lot with opportunities galore to restore the property and build it out to meet your personal specifications. Call Noel Kaupinen for additional information or to arrange a private showing.

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ALEXANDRIA

\$499,000



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beautiful appointments • elegant kitchens • upgraded appliances • stylish baths

ALEXANDRIA

\$1,295,000



Alexandria Waterfront!

Million-dollar views, unparalleled privacy, and two docks come with this beautifully-updated waterfront home with great main-level living, four bedrooms, three baths, gourmet kitchen, luxury master suite, gleaming hardwoods, two fireplaces and two-car garage.

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ALEXANDRIA/DEL RAY

\$649,900



Surprises Aboard!

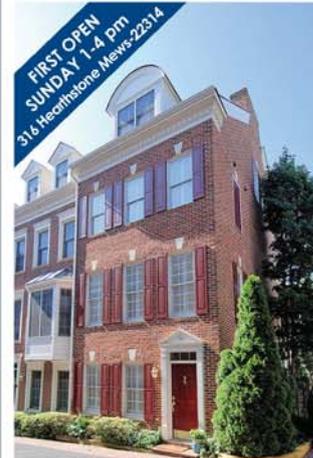
Traditional Cape Cod with many pleasantries. Two bedrooms and three finished levels. Recently renovated kitchen, hardwood floors throughout and a vintage bathroom upstairs. Half bath and an office/study on the main level, great deck off the back. Wine room and bedroom option in the lower level. Off-street parking and a fabulous walk to Del Ray happenings.

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\$779,000



Decorative and Functional

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