

Alexandria Gazette Packet



25 CENTS

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SERVING ALEXANDRIA FOR OVER 200 YEARS • A CONNECTION NEWSPAPER

SEPTEMBER 24, 2009

Tech Rescue Team Trains with Ropes

PHOTOS BY LOUISE KRAFFT/GAZETTE

The Alexandria Fire Department's Tech Rescue Team members participated in rope training on Friday, Sept. 18. Using the parking garage behind the Shoppers Food Warehouse on Little River Turnpike, the fire personnel practiced rappelling down the exterior of the structure. The team participates in a monthly exercise in and around the city. The training is coordinated with similar emergency rescue drills with teams in Arlington County.



Newly promoted Fire Department Captain Tony Washington checks his equipment before his descent.



Lt. Dan Townsend lowers himself from the level three at the exercise site on Friday morning.

Recalling 'Queen of Lynnhaven'

Ruby Tucker was a passionate advocate for public-housing children and families.

BY MICHAEL LEE POPE
GAZETTE PACKET

Ruby Tucker, a longtime community activist known for her support of educational opportunities and affordable housing for low-income residents, died in Arlington on Sept. 20. She was 76.

"She was a voice for those in public housing," said Mayor Bill Euille. "She was certainly a strong advocate in the community for many causes — not just in the area of education but she was a foster parent for many children in this city, probably close to 30 or 40 kids over many years."

A native of Middleburg, Tucker was a member of the Alexandria Redevelopment and Housing Authority from 1996 to 2008. She had a reputation for pushing for services to be extended to public-housing residents. According to authority chairman Melvin Miller, that's why the family resource center at Hopkins-Tancil Court was recently named in her honor.

"She was tenacious," said Melvin Miller, "Once she got on an issue, she didn't just raise it and go away."



Ruby Tucker

SEE RECALLING, PAGE 28

Cultural Shift

Parents call for sense of urgency in special ed as new director begins.

BY MICHAEL LEE POPE
GAZETTE PACKET

A special education student in Alexandria is three times as likely to be suspended than a student without a disability, according to an analysis of data collected by the Alexandria City Public Schools and the Washington Area Boards of Education. Although that percentage appears to be narrowing over recent years, it's still a trend that concerns parents of special-education students in Alexandria, who are calling for a cultural shift in how the school system handles students with disabilities.

The outcry comes at a time when the system has been determined to be out of compliance with federal laws regarding special education.

Enter Margaret McLeod. She was recently appointed by Superintendent Morton Sherman to replace Michael Romanelli, the former director of special-education services. McLeod began her new job last month. Already, she's begun meeting with senior administration officials, teachers and parents to determine what kind of changes need to be made in the city's special-education system. She acknowledged that the school system could do more for special-education stu-

dents, and she seemed open to the idea that a cultural shift was needed at the central administration's Beauregard Street office.



McLeod

"I can't disagree with that," she said. "I think we are in the process of a cultural shift, although it's going to take some time."

In a strongly worded annual report issued over the summer, the Special Education Advisory Committee charged that the effort to bring the city school system into federal compliance does not have the full support of administrators. It calls for principals to be held accountable by including an evaluation of special-

education students to be part of their performance reviews. And it calls for a strategic plan to address the disproportionate number of special-education students who are suspended.

"SEAC awaits Dr. Sherman's specific recommendations on how to effectuate system-wide culture change in this upcoming school year," the report

concludes. "SEAC expectations are that Dr. Sherman will move with the same urgency as he has on other recent projects to fulfill his

"If the triggers for misbehavior are spelled out in an IEP, then there's really no reason they can't be avoided."

— School Board member
Ronnie Campbell

SEE FOCUSING, PAGE 28

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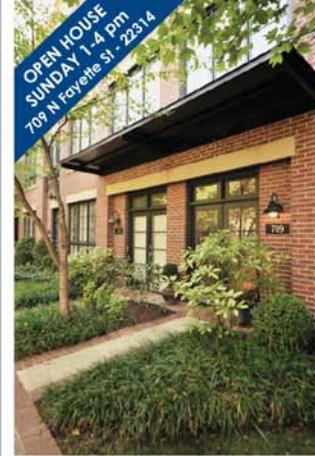
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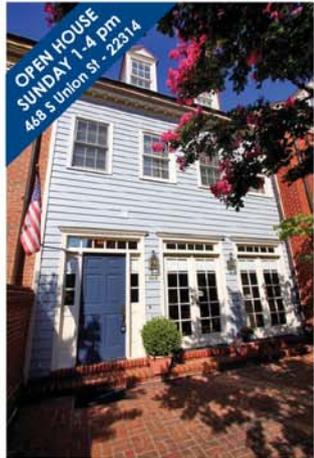
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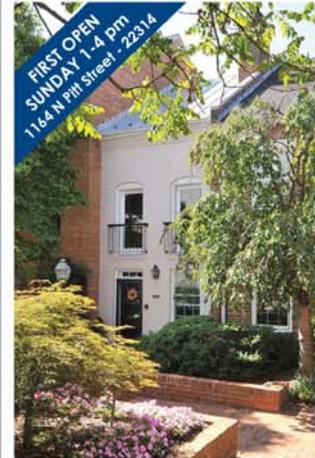
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Stimulating Alexandria

President **Barack Obama**'s plan to pump \$787 billion into the national economy has been criticized for getting a sluggish start, but the money is finally starting to arrive in Alexandria.

According to legislative director **Bernie Caton**, the city has already received \$5 million, and \$1.7 million more is expected soon. That money has already hired eight new employees, with more potentially on the way. Yet many of the city's potential big-ticket items are still waiting for approval, such as a \$70 million request to help build two fire stations. Caton said that the city's relatively low unemployment rate, which is currently at 4.9 percent, is a potential hindrance for receiving stimulus cash.

"This is a case where we are at a disadvantage for having a low unemployment rate," Caton told City Council members Tuesday night.

The stimulus money is going to everything from training for city employees in how to respond to domestic abuse among gay couples to upgrading wireless Internet service at the city's libraries, with the largest allocation will go toward purchasing a new fleet of trolleys for King Street. Vice Mayor **Kerry Donley** warned city officials to brace themselves for dealing with new programs and employees once the funds run out.

"When these funds go away, we are going to have pressure to continue funding," said Donley. "I do think a day of reckoning will come."

Clock Is Ticking

Sometimes small-area plans are driven by changing market forces and evolving ideas about land use, as was the case with the Landmark small area plan approved earlier this year. That plan dragged on for years as market forces evolved and ideas about what should happen in the neighborhood changed. But City Council members expect the Beauregard small-area plan to be different. It has to be, they say, because timing has to precede the relocation of the Washington Headquarters Service to Mark Center in 2011. According to a schedule approved Tuesday, the small-area plan should be completed no later than September 2010.

"We expect to achieve some time savings with a combination of streamlining the analytical foundations of the planning effort and looking at the schedules of the related studies to see how the information that may be needed by this plan could be front-loaded," wrote City Manager **Jim Hartmann** in his recommendation to amend the work schedule.

Councilman **Paul Smedberg** warned city officials not to be hasty.

"I hope an expedited planning process doesn't mean doing things cheap," he said. "Because I think there are numerous examples in this region and even right here in this city when things were done cheap. And I personally do not want to go back in time."

The first public hearing for the Beauregard small area plan is set for Oct. 29.

Setting a Precedent

Casting a dissenting vote to protest what he said was a lack of planning, Councilman **Frank Fannon** voted against allocating a loan of up to \$100,000 for the City Housing Opportunities Fund to Harambee Community and Economic Corporation. The loan, which was approved on a five-to-one vote, will help fund eight affordable housing rental units for seniors at a Duke Street location known as Beasley Square, a project that's already received a \$1 million loan from the city.

"I cast my vote to set a precedent," said Fannon after Tuesday night's meeting concluded. "We can't continue to have these cost overruns."

Construction for the project began in June 2008. Since then, anticipated development costs have increased \$416,000 because of unforeseen construction issues and additional architectural services created by the extended timeline. Shiloh Baptist Church, Virginia Community Capital and the Virginia Housing Development Authority have all contributed to closing that gap. But Harambee still needed to cover the remaining costs, which is why it asked the city for the additional loan.

— MICHAEL LEE POPE

NEWS



Jane Pease, Jami and Ted Borek are models at the 18th century fashion show.



PHOTOS BY LASHAWN AVERY / GAZETTE PACKET

Shane Kipperher, Adam Kipperher, Daniel Kipperher and Gena Gorzalez take a family portrait in the Carlyle garden.

Latest Trends in 18th Fashion



Model Kerry McClure



Model Pam Hostetter, looks towards the sky.

The Carlyle House terrace was transformed into a runway, exhibiting fashion from the colonial area on Sunday, Sept. 20. Living history interpreters modeled clothing from the later half of the 18th-century while historic fashion experts explained the changes in fashion during that period.

The program is part of the "Sewn Together" exhibit currently displayed at the Carlyle House until Sept. 30. The exhibit highlights the recreated 1747 wedding dress of Sarah Carlyle, and the 1797 ball gown her daughter made out of the same fabric.



Help in the Clean-Up

The Northern Virginia Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. seeks volunteers to participate in the sorority's Adopt-A-Block Clean-up Program — in collaboration with the City of Alexandria — on Saturday, Sept. 26, at 9:30 – 10:30 a.m. Start location is the corner of North Henry Street and Wythe Street — across from the Alexandria Post Office at 1100 Wythe St. RSVP to dstgirl1040@aol.com.

ON THE CAMPAIGN TRAIL

Campaign, Interrupted

Voters in the 46th House District haven't been seeing much of Republican candidate **Sasha Gong** lately. That's because she's been in China attending to her ailing father, who was diagnosed with pancreatic cancer in July. When she found out, the Republican candidate dropped her campaign and took the first flight out of Washington. She arrived at a Chinese hospital to find her ailing father in a room full of Gong campaign materials.

"Sasha, I never supported your involvement in politics when you were in China," her father said, according to a statement Gong released to supporters this week. "Now you are in America and out of danger. So do what you feel is right. I am so proud of you because you speak for all of us."

Gong said she made the difficult decision to leave his side and return to America to pursue her campaign against Democratic incumbent **Charniele Herring** (D-46). Although campaign-finance documents indicate Herring raised \$23,000 in July and August, Gong was not able to raise any money because she was out of the county. This week she returned to the campaign in full force, making phone calls, knocking on doors and asking supporters for campaign contributions.

"Although leaving my father and coming back to the campaign trail is difficult," Gong said. "I feel that I am truly blessed."

Purging Inactive Voters

Alexandria Registrar **Tom Parkins** expects about 35,000 Alexandria voters to head to the polls on Election Day. But at this point it's unclear what that will mean for calculating turnout. As of late August, the city had 93,704 active registered voters — a number the registrar said will be significantly reduced when he's finished moving voters from the active column to inactive status.

"I expect that number to change substantially," he said. "At this point, it's not clear exactly what the number of registered voters will be when we are done with this process."

The last time the registrar's office sent out a mailing, about 12,000 were returned undelivered. Those voters are among the list Parkins is moving to the inactive column. Parkins said he expects to have a clearer picture of the current number of active registered voters by the first week of October.

"I would anticipate that turnout in this election will be close to 2005," said Parkins. "That election had a turnout of 45 percent."

Dems Dominate Fundraising

It pays to be an incumbent — literally. Being a sitting member of the House of Delegates makes fundraising much easier than being a challenger, and recently released campaign finance reports from July and August illustrate this point.

Take Del. **David Englin** (D-45), the two-term incumbent who represents the eastern section of the city. In July and August, Englin raised added \$42,000 to his campaign war chest. His Republican opponent **Vicki Vasques**, on the other hand, was only able to raise \$5,000 during that two-month stretch. Meanwhile three-term incumbent Del. **Adam Ebbin** (D-49) raised \$18,000 in July and August even though he's running unopposed.

"Incumbents always have an edge in fundraising because they are better known," said Ebbin. "I plan on waging a modest get out the vote effort in my district, and I also want to help elect other Democrats so we can have a majority in the House of Delegates. That takes money."

Moran Returns

Brian Moran is tanned and ready to return to the arena. After spending the summer in Maine tending to a blueberry patch and catching up on reading favorite authors John Grisham and Malcolm Gladwell, Moran is now ready to jump back into the governor's race — this time as an energetic supporter of Democratic gubernatorial candidate **Creigh Deeds**, who beat Moran in the summertime primary. Later this week, Moran is scheduled to represent the Deeds campaign during a keynote address to the annual Kennedy-King Dinner.

"From now until Election Day, I'll be doing anything the Deeds campaign asks me to do," said Moran.

— MICHAEL LEE POPE

POLITICS

Herring Pursues Reelection

After narrow victory, and delayed installation, Charniele Herring seeks to retain seat in 46th.

BY MICHAEL LEE POPE
GAZETTE PACKET

Charniele Herring did not have an easy start in politics.

When former House Democratic Caucus Chairman Brian Moran made a last-minute decision to step down from his seat in the House of Delegates in December, he launched a frantically paced special-election cycle. The primary campaign was only five days, pitting Herring against health-care lobbyist Ariel Gonzalez. Herring won the blitzkrieg primary, then engaged in a 30-day campaign against Republican Joe Murray. When that election ended with a 16-vote margin of victory, Republicans called for a recount and asked that overseas military ballots be included even though they hadn't arrived by Election Day. Herring spent the first few weeks of the General Assembly session as a shadow member, sitting at the back of the chamber waiting for the recount to conclude.

"There were some humiliating points, of course," said Herring between calling voters in the 46th District. "But it also brought a lot of attention to me, and it showed people in Richmond what I'm made of."

Now Herring is facing Republican Sasha Gong, a Chinese dissident who lives in the district's lone Fairfax County precinct. Energized by their strong showing in the January special election and in the May city elections, Republicans are hoping Gong will be able to win support among people who might not otherwise vote for a Republican candidate. But the demographics of the district are heavily Democratic, with the 2005 election returns in the governor's race showing a 72 percent victory for Tim Kaine compared to 26 percent showing for Jerry Kilgore.

"Herring is obviously more vulnerable than a typical freshman," said Isaac Wood, assistant director of communications for the University of Virginia's Center for Politics. "But any incumbent is better than no incumbent."

HERRING FIRST BEGAN building support for a potential campaign to replace Moran in October 2008, resigning her position as vice chairwoman of the Alexandria Democratic Committee in charge of precinct operations in the West End. At that time, former Mayor Kerry Donley had already announced his intention to run for the seat, resigning from his position as athletic director of Alexandria City Public Schools in anticipation of launching a campaign. As Herring and Donley jockeyed for position in the party, questions lingered about whether or not Moran would resign his seat in the House of Delegates or try to run a simultaneous campaign for governor and reelection. Eventually, Donley decided to drop his House campaign and run for the City Council.

"I decided that I would be more effective as one of seven on City Council as opposed to one of 100 in Richmond," said Donley in November.

Many Democrats assumed that Moran would launch a simultaneous campaign, running for reelection to his House seat while vying for the Governor's Mansion. But Moran shocked many in the party by abruptly decided in December to resign from his



Brian Moran congratulates Charniele Herring after her 16-vote margin of victory over Republican Joe Murray in January.

House seat to focus on fundraising efforts for his gubernatorial bid because Virginia law forbids members from the General Assembly from fundraising during the session. The last-minute decision left Herring to face Gonzalez in a firehouse primary a few days later.

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

REPUBLICANS LAUNCHED an aggressive campaign for absentee ballots during the month-long special election over the winter holiday season. By the day of the special election on Jan. 13, G.O.P. leaders had set in place a strategy to use the low turnout in their favor by sending absentee ballots to military voters overseas. After Herring eked out a 16-vote margin of victory in the special election, Republican attorneys asked a three-judge recount panel to include 22 absentee ballots that were not counted on Election Day. The panel rejected that argument on Jan. 26, and within minutes of the decision Herring was sworn in on the House floor in Richmond.

"There was a lot of loud cheering and banging of desks on our side of the aisle," recalled Del. David Englin (D-45).

But the delay put Herring in a difficult position. By the time she became a member of the House, the deadline had already passed for introducing legislation. That meant that she had to receive unanimous consent to introduce legislation, which she was successful in doing for a piece of legislation Kaine asked her to carry. That legislation, House Bill 2672, was the only piece of legislation to bear her name during her first term in office. Herring's bill sought to change the name of the Department of Minority Business Enterprise to the Department of Supplier Diversity and Procurement Advocacy.

"Service-disabled vets didn't know this was a resource for them," said Herring. "The name seemed

SEE HERRING, PAGE 25

Charniele Herring, 39

Born in the Dominican Republic when her father was stationed there in the Army, Herring spent part of her childhood as a homeless high-school student being raised by a single mother. She has a bachelor of arts in economics from George Mason University and a juris doctorate from Catholic University. Herring is currently a trial lawyer. She is single, and her home precinct is the Ramsay Recreation Center.



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PEOPLE

Years of Renewal

BY MICHAEL LEE POPE
GAZETTE PACKET

A native of Summit, N.J., H. Winfield McConchie moved to Alexandria as a child in the 1940s and later became a stockbroker in the city. From 1970 to 1976, he was a Republican member of the Alexandria City Council.

Why did you run for the City Council in 1970?

Well I had already run for the House of Delegates against James Thompson, who was the speaker of the House of Delegates in Virginia. I lost that race, of course, but it was my first try. I had come out of the Jaycees, which were very business-oriented. Back then the Jaycees were a pretty powerful political organization. I was president and served in a number of offices, and we were very much behind urban renewal.

The concept of urban renewal is a sore subject for many people in Alexandria, especially in the historic preservation community. Do you still support the idea of urban renewal?

The old buildings were run down and dilapidated. Old Town was just beginning to come into its own as we know it now. I think everything was handled

beautifully. Look at King Street now. Would you want it full of pawnshops and dilapidated old buildings and businesses that weren't making any money? Urban renewal was the turning point. There was no building that was torn down that was worth saving.

What about the old Alexandria Gazette building?

I wouldn't want to tear it down as an isolated thing, that's for sure. But we had to sacrifice something. What would we be doing with that building now? You can't keep everything. There was a lot of feeling in 1970 that the city needed change and that we should throw out some people who were in office and put some new people in because we had been doing the same thing but we weren't getting anywhere.

Did that work?

Yeah. It worked big time. Now we have a viable business community where you had no viable business community before.

These guys claimed to represent the business community, but they didn't have any business community to represent. King Street was dying. We had no restaurants, and we had very few businesses.

Do you interpret your election in 1970 as a victory against the Byrd machine?

Former Councilman McConchie remembers his time at City Hall.

That whole period was sort of the end of the Byrd machine. Linwood Holton's ascendancy to the governorship of Virginia in 1970 was probably the key thing for the end of the Byrd machine. Before 1970, there were a number of members of the Alexandria City Council who were associated with the Byrd machine.

What did it mean to be associated with the Byrd machine?

It was a more conservative posture, and I wasn't particularly a conservative. We needed to progress as a city. We couldn't just stay as we were. When I came to the city I was 11 years old, and what greeted me was the Jim Crow laws. Blacks sit in the back of the bus, and there were separate drinking fountains and separate bathrooms. That was a shock for a little kid from New Jersey.

Why were you opposed to the Byrd machine?

I'm opposed to any machine. Nobody should have a lock in office. They should be in a competitive situation at all times. You're not going to progress as a city if you maintain only one point of view. So we needed more than one point of view, and that's what we got.

Do you think there are issues from the time you were on City Council that people are still talking about now?

As strange as it may seem, the same

issues keep coming back up. Like the distribution of housing in Old Town and making sure we don't completely wipe out indigenous populations like D.C. is doing right now by putting in all these condominiums and just wiping out neighborhood after neighborhood. We tried to resist that to some degree.

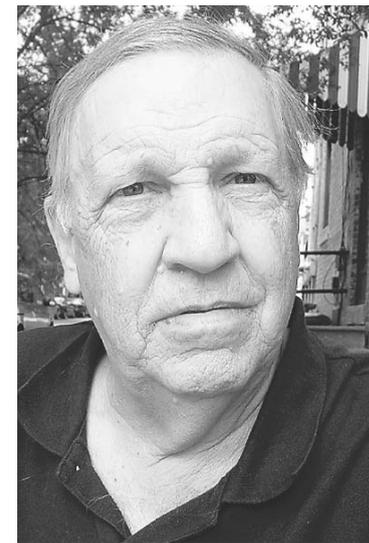
We wanted to make sure we had a viable and strong ethnic presence across the board. That's still a very big problem because it's very difficult to keep up a presence in an area that is economically going up. Unfortunately — or fortunately perhaps — we now have a recession, which is sort of slowing things down. I would imagine that the pressure will be back.

What other issues from that time remain part of the conversation?

I think King Street is still a very big issue. The preservation of the business community on King Street is still very much an issue. We're now going through a period where we may not be as strong as we were at one time in terms of the viability of King Street.

And that's why the trolley and a few other things have been done, which I approve of. I think we must keep King Street and Old Town business viable in order to exist.

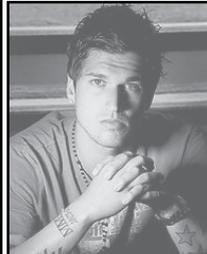
What are the major differences between your time on the City



Win McConchie

Council and today?

The whole western part of the city, where I live now, has changed tremendously. This is our biggest area of moderate income housing, and there's tremendous pressure out here. If the economy turns, we'll see great strength in trying to create condominiums out here, and we have a population that depends on lower income housing. But the city is committed to preserving low-income housing, and it always has been so I don't see any change there. But when the prices come back we'll see if we can preserve enough because we don't want to become a one-class city. That's something we've always resisted.



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BUSINESS

The Eyes Have It

First year a success for Del Ray optometrist.

BY SANDY LEVITZ LUNNER
GAZETTE PACKET

Imagine how it must have felt opening a new business last year, just as the economy was starting to tank.

Dora Adamopoulos, Doctor of Optometry, admits it was pretty scary for her at the time. But almost one year later, Eye2Eye Optometry Corner has become a welcome addition to the Del Ray community. In fact, says Adamopoulos, "It's been wonderful."

Although new to Del Ray, Adamopoulos had a practice for 10 years in the Landmark area of Alexandria. A large portion of her previous client base followed her to the Del Ray location. But about 40 per cent of her business since opening the store last September is from new clients.

"I think this type of eye care was lacking in this part of the community," said Adamopoulos.

Where

EYE2EYE OPTOMETRY CORNER
1502 Mount Vernon Avenue
Alexandria
703-548-0122
Hours: 9 a.m. – 6 p.m., Monday-Friday;
9 a.m. – 1 p.m., Saturday

Part of her success, she says, has come from her involvement in the Del Ray Business and Citizen Associations. Eye2Eye participates in local raffles and auctions at schools and community centers, donating gift certificates, discount coupons, even sunglasses. "It's a way to get known in a new community," she said, "but it's also a way to give back to the community, to say thanks for the support."

The Alexandria Chamber of Commerce has been helpful to Adamopoulos as well, organizing a ribbon-cutting ceremony in November that included Mayor Bill Euille who presented the big scissors to cut the ribbon and ended up making an appointment to have his eyes checked.

Tina Leone, the chamber's new president and CEO, describes Adamopoulos as just the kind of person you want to help out.

"Del Ray is a warm, cozy family-friendly community within Alexandria, and Dora fits in perfectly because she's very warm and friendly," says Leone. She adds that Del Ray is a bit eclectic and says Eye2Eye is definitely a reflection of the community.

"It's kind of cutting edge for optometry. It's eclectic and cool, and a perfect fit for



The Eye2Eye Team, from left to right: Optician Chris Oliva of Woodbridge; Optician Apprentice Meagan Paul, Owner Dora Adamopoulos, O.D., and Administrative Manager Mellanie Uarte, all of Alexandria.

PHOTO BY SANDY LEVITZ LUNNER/
GAZETTE PACKET

her to be there."

ADAMOPOULOS gives a lot of credit to her team. The Eye2Eye staff includes Chris Oliva of Woodbridge, a 20-year veteran optician who is an expert at fitting and adjusting glasses. Mellanie Uarte of Alexandria has been with Adamopoulos for seven years as administrative assistant and front desk manager. Meagan Paul, also of Alexandria, is an Optician Apprentice and, says Adamopoulos, a frame stylist who has a definite flair.

"I have a great front staff," Adamopoulos said.

Eye2Eye offers a variety of products, including designer frames, sunglasses and accessories. Adamopoulos also provides a range of services from complete eye exams to treating dry eye, allergies and eye infections to cataract evaluation and glaucoma screening. Also available are specialty contact lenses for hard to fit or unusual prescriptions.

A PARTICULAR passion of Adamopoulos is treating children ages 5 and up. She notes that one in every four children has eyesight problems and since 80 per cent of learning happens through the eyes, children can fall behind in school at an early age.

"Sometimes children are misdiagnosed as being ADHD when the real problem is that they can't see and that's what causes them to become bored and get fidgety," she said.

Adamopoulos lives in Alexandria with her husband and two daughters ages 7 and 3-1/2. Proudly displayed in the store is a framed collage of an eye created by her older daughter when she was in kindergarten.

Her practice in Landmark was identified only by her name — Dora Adamopoulos, O.D. When she decided to open a full-service optometry store, she wanted something a little more friendly and fun to reflect the mood she hoped to create: Eye2Eye Optometry Corner.

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Habitat ReStore in Alexandria is celebrating its 5th anniversary in October. The ReStore — open Mondays-Fridays from 10 a.m. – 5 p.m. and Saturdays, 9 a.m. – 5 p.m. — is in need of volunteers to work there. The store is located at 7770 Richmond Highway, behind the Gold's Gym. For more information, see www.restorenova.org. To volunteer, call the ReStore directly at 703-360-6700.

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On Political Signs

A little local enforcement would go a long way.

Candidates for public office uniformly define themselves as law-abiding citizens with the public good at heart.

So why then does virtually every candidate allow or encourage their campaign workers to violate the law by posting hundreds of signs in the public right-of-way in the medians of major roads?

Political signs on private property, homes and businesses, are part of good political discourse. The person who owns the home or business is endorsing a candidate in a powerful way.

Political signs which are not on private property are almost all illegal.

Political signs in roadway medians simply scream that the candidate in question has enough money to print signs and pay staff members to put them up. Certainly some signs are put in medians by enthusiastic volunteers.

Meanwhile it is not OK for a citizen to take down political signs even if they are illegally in the public right-of-way.

A little local enforcement, citing candidates for violations with an accompanying press release while removing the illegal signs, would go a long way towards curbing this unsightly practice.

Register, Vote

The deadline to register to vote or update your address for the Nov. 3 election is Monday, Oct. 5. To register to vote, download a form from:

www.sbe.virginia.gov/cms/Forms_Publications/Index.html

Fill it out and mail it to your local elections office, along with a copy of a photo identification or current utility bill, bank statement, government check, paycheck, or other government document that shows your name and address.

You can also register in person at the elections office during business hours or at the DMV, or you pick up a form in a library or other public places.

After you register, you will receive confirmation and a voting card in the mail. You can call the elections office to verify that you are registered.

To find your polling place, go to www.sbe.virginia.gov and click on "voter information." Polling places will be open from 6 a.m. to 7 p.m. on election day, Tuesday, Nov. 3. Check with your local elections office for information on absentee voting.

Absentee Voting

Virtually any Virginia voter can vote ahead of time in person or by mail if for any reason you expect to be away from home, including commuting to your job, on election day. You can mail in an application for an absentee ballot by downloading it at www.sbe.virginia.gov/cms/Forms_Publications/Index.html. A ballot will be mailed to you for you to fill out and mail back.

Or you can vote early in person at the local elections office and some satellite locations. Call the registrar or check the Web site for hours.

IN ALEXANDRIA:

Office of Voter Registration and Elections
132 North Royal Street
Alexandria, VA. 22314
Phone: 703-746-4050
alexandriava.gov/Elections

- ◆ In-person absentee voting in the North Royal Street office: Sept. 18 through Saturday, Oct. 31.
- ◆ Regular hours for in-person absentee voting: 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. Monday - Friday
- ◆ Extended hours for in-person absentee voting, weekdays until 7:30 p.m. on the following days: Tuesday, Oct. 6; Monday, Oct. 19; Tuesday, Oct. 20; Wednesday, Oct. 21, Monday, Oct. 26; Tuesday, Oct. 27; Wednesday, Oct. 28
- ◆ Saturdays, Oct. 3, 24, 31, 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.

EDITORIALS

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Wayward Signage

To the Editor:

You recently published a letter from Mike Sherman questioning the veracity of my pledge to keep Englin signs in the yards and windows of supporters and to avoid littering our community with cam-

paigned signs in public medians and rights of way. Rest assured that I remain committed to my pledge, as the conspicuous absence of Englin signs in public spaces throughout our community makes plainly obvious.

Mr. Sherman apparently witnessed one rogue Englin sign on a media along Seminary Road that was likely placed there by a well-

meaning supporter. Much to my chagrin, I cannot be everywhere all the time; therefore, I encourage concerned citizens like Mr. Sherman to contact me at info@davidenglin.org or 703-549-3203 so any wayward signs can be addressed. Better yet, feel free to remove the sign yourself — please just be certain it is not on the private property of a supporter.

Once again, I urge supporters to help me lead by example and refrain from placing Englin signs in public medians and instead display them in your yards and windows. After all, a sign in a yard represents a vote, a sign in a median does not.

David Englin
Delegate, 45th District

Crime on The Decline

To the Editor:

I wish to take the opportunity to respond to Michael Pope's article, "Old Town Crime Wave," and the information it presented. Mr. Pope reported that between Aug. 21 and Sept. 14, 13 burglaries occurred within the Old Town area, 9 of which we believe may be related. These burglaries occurred within a relatively short period of time and most occurred over the Labor Day weekend while many people were out of town. These cases were not reported to the police until the residents came home and determined that they had been burglarized.

While statistics like these can be alarming to residents, they should not be described as a crime wave. This acute series of burglaries appear to have certain similarities and are something our department takes

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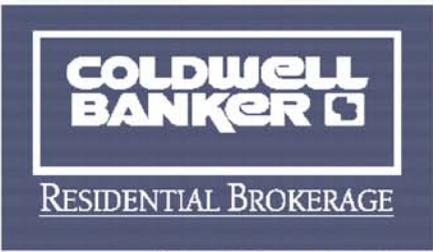
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PHOTO BY LOUISE KRAFFT/GAZETTE PACKET

Snapshot Saturday morning 9:46 a.m. 100 block South Union Street

SEE LETTERS, PAGE 12



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LETTERS

FROM PAGE 10

very seriously, as we do all crime. Including the series of burglaries, year-to-date Part 1 (or serious) crime in the area of the city that encompasses Old Town has actually declined 14.42 per cent compared to the same time period in 2008.

Prior to Mr. Pope's article, our department had identified this series of burglaries and created a Burglary Suppression plan for the area in which the crimes are occurring. This operation went into effect on Sept. 10 and will continue until the problem is resolved. The initiative is designed to deter and prevent the occurrence of burglaries by using a combination of high visibility directed patrols, investigation, crime analysis and other crime prevention techniques. Throughout the course of the initiative, Captain Tammy Hooper will evaluate and make adjustments to the plan as needed. Citizens can assist us in this initiative by reporting anything suspicious or out of the ordinary to our non-emergency line at 703-838-4444.

Mr. Pope's article also makes reference to the robbery of an Old Town couple that occurred in February 2009. Mr. Pope describes the crime in detail, a horrible event for

the victims involved; however, he fails to mention that our department closed that case by arresting the offenders shortly thereafter. Mr. Pope also did not note that so far this year, robberies in this area of the city are down over 32 per cent compared to the same period last year.

The dedicated men and women of the Alexandria Police Department are proud of our contribution to the reduction in crime in the Old Town area, but realize that there is still much work to be done. While the recent burglaries are disturbing to us all, I can assure residents that we are doing, and will continue to do everything possible to keep the streets and residents of Alexandria safe.

Earl L. Cook
Chief of Police

Non-Resident Criminals?

To the Editor:

In the Sept. 17-23 issue, an article on the recent Old Town crime wave quoted Linda Couture (a member of the Old Town Civic Association) thusly:

SEE LETTERS, PAGE 13

30TH ANNIVERSARY STOREWIDE SALE!!

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LETTERS

FROM PAGE 12

“Criminals in Prince George’s County and the District of Columbia need to get the word that Alexandria is a place where cops are on the beat.”

Nowhere in the article are any statistics cited supporting the implication that a spike in crime in Old Town is due to non-Virginian perpetrators. If this were the case, it would have been nice to know. And if it’s not proven out by the

facts, then this statement (which concluded the article I might add) is a gross stereotype at best and at worst, insulting; it leaps to the ugly conclusion that since these neighboring jurisdictions have higher crime rates, by definition Old Town is being negatively impacted. Without any hard figures behind the statement, it comes across pretty blunt and kind of a non sequitur.

Emory Damron
Alexandria

Good Art Makes Good Neighbors

To the Editor:

As the base relocation effort continues in Alexandria, many in our community are only coming to recognize the magnitude of the footprint that the Department of Defense will occupy. The key issue for many of our fellow citizens is: how can DOD accomplish its mission while being a good neighbor? The

BRAC Advisory Committee has been wrestling with some of the most prominent issues, from roads to access, and will soon turn its attention to other related issues.

What seems missing to many of us in Alexandria is consideration of how to improve the site from an aesthetic point of view. Some form of public art seems to be a good answer. Unlike other recently built federal buildings in Alexandria, such as the US District Courthouse, DOD does not participate

in the Arts in Architecture Program administered by the General Services Administration. Many of us believe that, even if it is not mandated by federal law, DOD could show its good intentions to be a good neighbor by enhancing the new construction by placing art on the site. This is a good idea not only for Alexandria, but also wherever else DOD is a major presence in a community. In Alexandria, a

SEE LETTERS, PAGE 14



MAKE A BREAK FOR IT



INTRODUCING NEW SERVICE FROM LYNCHBURG TO THE NORTHEAST CORRIDOR

Whether you need a break from traffic, or just plain need a break, let Amtrak® Virginia do the driving for you. Starting October 1st, a new train will originate from Lynchburg for the first time. This daily roundtrip will be available for **Lynchburg–DC–NY–Boston** and more. And now couldn't be a better time to try it because we're giving you a break on the price. Go to amtrakvirginia.com/HotDeals for special offers and pricing.

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LETTERS

FROM PAGE 13

modest investment of funds could help overcome the paucity of public art in the West End, and community residents would be grateful.

Good art does make good neighbors. Many arts supporters in Alexandria, along with many other citizens, would love to see DOD step up and help our efforts to enhance the quality of life in our fair city.

Ross B Simons
Commissioner, Alexandria
Commission for the Arts
Alexandria, Virginia

Looking for Fellow Manx

To the Editor:

My family originates from the Isle of Man, a small, independent island nation located in the Irish Sea between England and Ireland. People from the Isle of Man are called Manx. I am a member of the North American Manx Association and we are trying to locate people of Manx descent. The best way to find these people is through their names as the Isle of Man is a Celtic nation with a lot of unique names.

There are many names, some that look usual like Brew or Cain or Teare, and some that look very unusual such as Qualtrough or Mylchreest. Many Manx names begin with Call, Cann, or Qu such as Callister, Cannon or Quillan. There is a comprehensive list on the Genealogy page on our Web site <http://northamericanmanx.org>.

If you think you might be Manx, email kelly@mustgoto.com to find out how to get in touch with other Manx descendants in the Greater Washington area.

Gura mie ayd — That's "thank you" in Manx Gaelic!

Kelly McCarthy
Alexandria

Write

The Gazette Packet welcomes views on any public issue. The deadline for all material is noon Friday. Letters must be signed. Include home address and home and business numbers. Send to:

Letters to the Editor
Gazette Packet
1606 King St.
Alexandria VA 22314
Call: 703-778-9410.
By e-mail:
gazette@connectionnewspapers.com

OPEN HOUSE
Sept. 27, 1-4 pm
525 Queen Street - 22314

OLD TOWN
\$899,900
COME SEE THE CHANGES!
Extensive garden brickwork, water-proofing, painting on main and lower levels. This light-filled, home has spent over 200 years on this prime Old Town parade route corner. Its original period woodwork, grand windows, and high ceilings have been retained. The modern kitchen, baths, central air, and copper roof have been seamlessly interwoven. 3 or 4 bedrooms, 2 baths and private garden. MLS# AX7068145

OPEN HOUSE
Sept. 27, 1-4 pm
521 Tennessee Ave - 22305

BEVERLY HILLS
\$999,900
To see is to fall in love! Magnificent remodeling that welcomes and warms the heart! This finely remodeled Cape features gorgeous kitchen/breakfast/family room, sunny rec room, five bedrooms, three-and-a-half baths, butler's pantry. MLS# AX7070300

OPEN HOUSE
Oct. 4, 1-4 pm
1005 St Stephens Rd - 22304

SEMINARY RIDGE
\$1,085,000
Stately colonial with deep, beautifully landscaped lot. Now 4 bedrooms for more space, all baths are tastefully renovated. Major kitchen renovation, breakfast room, family room, finished basement with bonus room. Major renovations/improvements throughout.

OPEN HOUSE
Oct. 4, 1-4 pm
2814 S Columbus St - 22206

ARLINGTON/Fairlington
\$414,900
Located in a private cul-de-sac, this Clarendon model shines! Updates galore include the kitchen, windows, HVAC system with digital thermostat, alarm system and designer paint throughout! Enjoy all the Fairlington amenities!

ALEXANDRIA HOUSE
\$559,999 & \$459,900
Take your pick! Fully finished or make it your own! Choose from a wonderful 12th floor, 2BR/2BA w/gorgeous kitchen remodel renovated baths, or a 2BR/2BA that is move-in ready but in need of updates! 48' balconies, garage parking, views of River and Capitol dome.

COMING SOON!

COLECROFT STATION
Leave the car in your garage space and hop on the Braddock Road Metro for an easy commute! 2 bedrooms, 1.5 baths with the best view from your private balcony! New carpet/fresh paint!

COMING SOON!

BRADDOCK HEIGHTS
\$699,900
Enduring Investment - Classic center-hall Colonial with large eat-in kitchen overlooking serene setting. Three finely finished levels include den, rec room, office, 3 bedrooms, 2.5 baths, refinished hardwoods, crown moldings, and established plantings.

SPRINGFIELD
\$399,900
Well-built and well-loved, this 3 bedroom, 3 full bath Ravensworth rambler was built to last! Main level hardwoods, 2 fireplaces, lower level rec room and bonus room, loads of storage, fenced yard with deck and detached garage. Quiet street near parks and 495.



View photos, information, and brochures of these fine listings at
www.susanbruceanthony.com

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HOME SALES

AUGUST 2009
\$1,925,000 ~ \$765,000

Address	BR	FB	HB	Postal	City	Sold Price	Type	Lot	AC	Subdivision
7 WHARF ST	4	3	2	ALEXANDRIA	\$1,925,000	Townhouse	0.03			FORDS LANDING
600 UPLAND PL	5	4	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$1,467,500	Detached	0.25			GEORGE WASHINGTON PARK
105 QUAY ST	4	3	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$1,400,000	Townhouse	0.00			OLD TOWN
251 QUAKER LN	6	4	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$1,335,000	Detached	0.73			QUAKER LANE
427 FAIRFAX ST S	2	2	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$1,075,000	Townhouse	0.05			OLD TOWN
300 PRINCETON BLVD	4	3	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$948,000	Detached	0.15			QUAKER HILL
504 CANTERBURY LN	4	3	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$900,000	Detached	0.28			MALVERN HILL
11 MASONIC VIEW AVE W	4	2	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$899,000	Detached	0.10			ROSEMONT
205 SUMMERS DR	3	1	2	ALEXANDRIA	\$899,000	Detached	0.11			MOUNT VERNON PARK
212 MOUNT IDA AVE E	4	2	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$815,000	Detached	0.23			DEL RAY
313 FAYETTE ST S	3	3	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$799,000	Townhouse	0.02			OLD TOWN VILLAGE
5241 BESSLEY PL	4	3	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$789,000	Townhouse	0.05			CAMERON STATION
5235 BESSLEY PL	4	3	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$787,500	Townhouse	0.05			CAMERON STATION
501 CROWN VIEW DR	4	2	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$765,000	Detached	0.29			CLOVER
2181 JAMIESON AVE #1104/11053	2	1	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$765,000	Hi-Rise 9+ Floors				CARLYLE TOWERS

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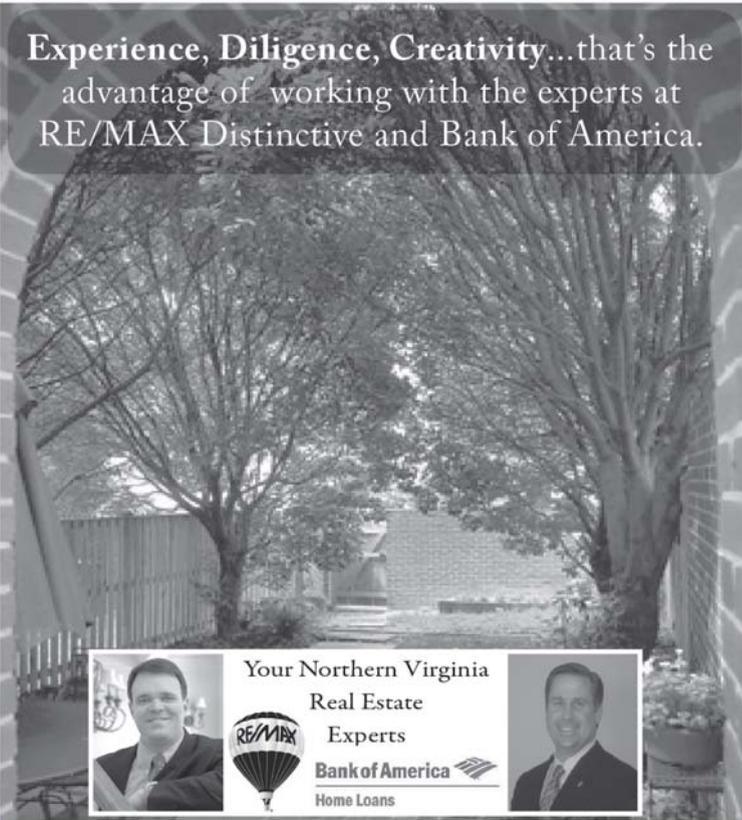
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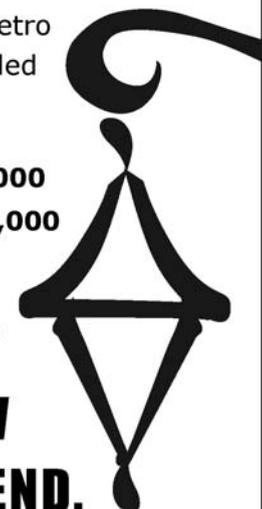
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OPEN SUN!

3906 Rive Drive \$998,500
Simply Stunning Property Near Potomac River!

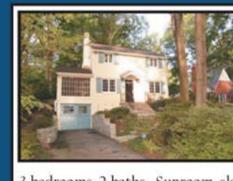
Truly the most spectacular property you will ever find! Unique home has been completely updated with breathtaking results! Bright and open floor plan, three finished levels including full walk-out lower level, four or five bedrooms, three and a half baths, updated gourmet kitchen, stunning master suite and custom river view screened porch house with deck. Expansive glass window walls capture river views and natural beauty of almost full acre site. Open Sun 1-4pm. S GW Pkwy, past estate continue on Rte 235 South, L Old Mt Vernon Rd, L Rive Dr.



NEW PRICE! OPEN SUN!

7501 Park Terrace Drive \$1,150,000
Stunning!

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



3210 OLD DOMINION BLVD Alexandria City Beverly Hills \$675,000

Charming 3 level Colonial with hardwood, mouldings and custom details. 3 bedrooms, 2 baths. Sunroom, slate and stone paths and walks. 1 car garage. See me on...

www.marylousage.com
Mary Lou Sage 703.851.5441



JUST LISTED

7330 STREAM WAY Springfield - \$365,000

Just turn the key & move right into this pristine 3BR, 2.5BA, 3 lvl townhome, conv to METRO, malls & major roadways. All new baths, new carpet & flooring, new siding, windows, roof, paint in/out, landscaping, HVAC & more!!! Finished low lvl walks out to fenced, private yard w/ lovely upper deck for outdoor enjoyment.

Kim Muffler 703.282.7739



OPEN SUN 1-4

25 WILKES STREET Alexandria \$760,000

RIVERFRONT COMMUNITY. Beautifully maintained, designer-inspired TH in the midst of all OT has to offer. Main living area opens to a private, bricked patio thru French doors. The study features wall-to-wall built-ins. Cozy fireplaces on each level. Plantation shutters thru-out. Ample guest parking.

Peggy Baldwin 703.772.5236



WATERFRONT!

4003 Belle Rive Terrace \$4,200,000
Riverfront!

Just reduced! Prime Mount 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!



WATERFRONT!

9380 Mt Vernon Circle \$3,500,000
Private Estate!

Classic Colonial facade with magnificent interior featuring glass walled addition across the rear. Meticulously maintained four bedroom, three level home is loaded with special features and upgrades. Stunning custom addition overlooks beautifully landscaped yard & the most spectacular custom pool you'll ever find!



WATERFRONT!

9516 Mt Vernon Landing \$2,900,000
Waterfront!

Waterfront homes rarely become available in Mount Vernon on the Potomac! This spacious custom Tudor was carefully crafted with the highest quality materials and planned with three levels of Pella window walls to maximize water views. Six bedrooms, five baths, full walk out lower level and many rooms with dramatic river views.



610 SOUTH WASHINGTON STREET Alex / Old Town - \$1,495,000

Detached 3,300sqft home with 3 bedrooms, 4.5 baths, chef's kitchen, bird's eye maple floors, roof deck with fireplace, 2 car garage and private backyard

Dayna Blumel / Kerry Adams 703.597.2252



1622 RIPON PLACE Alexandria - \$315,000

THE BEST OF PARK FAIRFAX! This coveted 'Madison' model has gracious living space on 2 levels with 2 bedrooms / 1 bath & an abundance of period charm. Outstanding cul-de-sac location with convenient parking right in front of your door. All the amenities of ParkFairfax & quick commutes to Old Town, Shirlington and DC.

Michael Manuel 703.615.6317



OPEN SUN 1-4

708 NORTH PATRICK ST Alexandria / Old Town - \$449,000

REDUCED! Spacious & off-street parking! Detached townhouse with 2 off street parking spaces, remodeled eat-in kitchen with granite. High ceilings, hardwood floors on 2 levels, 2BR & 1.5BA. Deep yard with flagstone patio.

The Kohler Team
Elke 703.967.7633 or Heidi 703.809.7367



JUST LISTED!

8108 East Boulevard Dr \$2,395,000
Premier Property!

Custom Boucher built classic on magnificent full acre lot just 3 miles to Old Town! Spacious residence with elegant Colonial detail, custom brick exterior, three finished levels, handcrafted cabinetry and brick work, gourmet kitchen, 4.5 luxurious baths, high ceilings, 4 fireplaces and three car garage. Magnificent private setting on professionally landscaped grounds, convenient to everything!



PRICE ASKED!

4307 Sheridan's Point \$794,500
Georgian Colonial!

Large price reduction! Classic updated Colonial in prime Mount Vernon location. This home has a combination of location, size and features typically only available in \$1,000,000+ homes! Three finished levels, open kitchen/family room, stunning master suite, two bonus rooms on lower level and dramatic sun room overlooking private fenced yard. Just off the GW Pkwy - easy commute to DC!



4401 Jackson Place \$495,000
Special Value!

Spacious brick home on gorgeous half acre lot with open floor plan, hardwood floors, family room with fireplace, covered parking and extra driveway space. Fabulous custom deck overlooks magnificent level grounds. Rare opportunity to find a well maintained Mount Vernon home for under \$500,000!



540 SECOND STREET #403 Old Town \$660,000

Sophisticated light-filled top floor condo with 9ft ceilings, hardwoods & plantation shutters. This 1,485 sqft, 2BR, 2.5BA home boasts Chef's kitchen, granite, stainless steel appliances, double sided fireplace & closets galore!

Sharon Edwards 703.408.8144



1804 WEST ABINGTON DR OT - \$237,000
OWNER SAYS "SELL IT NOW!"

Get A Tax Credit Now! Why rent when you can own a 1BR in popular Potomac Crossing and get a tax credit too. Has new neutral carpeting, new paint, first floor above ground, location, pool, tennis, river bike trails, close to DC.

ReneeSellsAlexandria.com
Renee Reymond 703.507.5330



7800 ELBA ROAD Hollin Hill Contemporary \$859,000

UPSCALE 2 level home w/4-6BR + den/office & 4FBA. LivRm w/gas fireplace - deluxe kitchen w/island - MstrBR suite w/spa bath - full finished walkout lower level w/masonry FP opens to brick patio w/seating & pond/fountain - FamRm features ceramic floor w/radiant heat - beautiful park-like landscaping backs to natural reserve - A very special home.

Frank Roberts 703.898.0840



8826 Camden Street \$899,500
Stratford Landing!

There's nothing like it on the market today! This fabulous new Wakefield Home has been 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!



9411 Brambly Lane \$975,000
New Luxury Home!

This top quality luxury home is loaded with custom features, including a bright and open floor plan, high ceilings, gourmet kitchen, fabulous large family room, hardwood floors, elegant trim detail and the most spectacular master suite you'll ever find! This home is almost complete and ready for occupancy! Special financing is available.



CONTRACT!

9500 Ferry Hall Court \$1,450,000



CONTRACT!

7116 Marlan Drive \$750,000



CONTRACT!

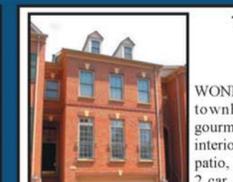
1210 N. Pegram Street \$1,351,500



1218 MICHIGAN CT Alexandria / Nethergate \$518,000

JUST REDUCED! NETHERGATE LOW low price! So much space for the money! Mason model with 3 levels, 2BR/2.5BA, 2 wood burning fireplaces, wood floors, large patio, walk to amenities. And walk everywhere. Close to DC.

ReneeSellsAlexandria.com
Renee Reymond



705 HAWKINS WAY Alexandria \$847,000

WONDERFUL sunlit 4BR / 4.5BA townhome. Warm hardwoods, gourmet kitchen & elegant inviting interior. Home features deck, stone patio, abundant storage, 2 fireplaces, 2 car garage & backs to greenspace. Minutes to Old Town and DC.

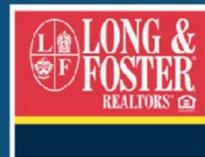
Laura Biederman 202.309.1350



601 BASHFORD LANE, #3 Alex / Old Town - \$359,000

2 bedrooms / 1 bath loft home with large skylight offering an updated kitchen with granite counters, stainless steel appliances, hardwood floors, washer/dryer, completely renovated bath, fireplace and more!

Dayna Blumel / Kerry Adams 703.597.2252



CHRIS WHITE 703.283.9028

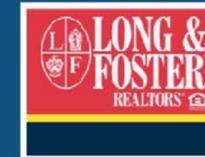
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A

ARTS ♦ ENTERTAINMENT ♦ LEISURE

3rd Annual Alexandria Film Fest

Thursday, Sept. 24
To Sunday, Sept. 27

The third annual Alexandria Film Festival, scheduled for Thursday, Sept. 24 through Sunday, Sept. 27, features a diverse program of short and feature-length films, including narratives, animation, documentaries, and entries by student filmmakers from the City of Alexandria and the Washington metropolitan region. Films will be shown at the George Washington Masonic Memorial, 101 Callahan Dr., across the street from the King Street Metro station.

The Festival kicks off on Thursday, Sept. 24 with “Contrasts,” a black-and-white extravaganza at the Torpedo Factory Art Center, 105 N. Union St., from 6-9 p.m. “Contrasts” is a free party that includes music, refreshments, open artists’ studios, and an array of “silent” films projected simultaneously throughout the Torpedo Factory Art Center. The public is invited to attend and to dress in black and white.

The Festival continues Friday, Sept. 25 from 7 p.m. to midnight; Saturday, Sept. 26 from 10 a.m. to midnight; and Sunday, Sept. 27 from 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. at the George Washington Masonic Memorial. For a complete schedule of film showings, including film narratives, visit www.AlexandriaFilm.org.

Festival passes can be purchased in advance for \$25, or are available for \$35 at the Festival. One-day passes are also available, and cost \$10 in advance or \$15 at the Festival.

To screen film trailers and to purchase tickets, visit www.alexandriafilm.org or call the Durant Center at 703-746-5560.



After the Storm



City of Borders



Clean Mic: Laughing Until it Hurts

♦ Film Festival kicks off with free party at Torpedo Factory Art Center on Sept. 24.

♦ Event includes comedies, foreign films, intriguing documentaries, discussions with filmmakers and a silent film with live organ accompaniment.



Yoo-Hoo, Mrs. Goldberg



Sebastian's Voodoo



Crude



Katyn



Redemption Stone

Art on the Avenue Is October 3

The 14th annual Art on the Avenue festival will take place Saturday, Oct. 3 from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. in the Del Ray neighborhood of Alexandria. The event is free and open to all. Held each fall on Mount Vernon Avenue between Hume and Bellefonte Avenues, Art on the Avenue celebrates the diversity of the Potomac West community. Now in its 14th year, the event is entirely volunteer-run, with support from the local business community.

Art on the Avenue strives to reflect the vibrant mix of the Del Ray community through the artists and their work. Last year's event drew more than 45,000 people from throughout the metropolitan Washington area.

The multicultural arts and music festival features over 325 area artists and craftspeople selling their original works, international food, and three stages of live music. Free children's craft activities and entertainment, artists' demonstrations and a pie-baking contest complete the day's program.

Free DASH transportation will be provided from the Braddock Road Metro Station to the festival. Call 703-683-3100, or visit www.artontheavenue.org.



Festival Schedule

THURSDAY, SEPT. 24

6 p.m. — Opening Night Event “Contrast” at the Torpedo Factory Art Center

FRIDAY, SEPT. 25

7 p.m. — “Bon Voyage”
7:15 p.m. — “Rumba”
8:45 p.m. — “Le Paradis de l’Imbecile” (Fool’s Paradise)
9 p.m. — “Clean Mic: Laughing Until It Hurts” — Special Guests: Director Will Gorham, Comedians Freddi Vernell, Sam Beamon
10:45 p.m. — “The Spam Job”
11 p.m. — “Idiots and Angels”

SATURDAY, SEPT. 26

10 a.m. — “Game Over and Bahama Frostbite”
10:20 a.m. — “Animated Poems”
10:45 a.m. — “The Art of Giving”
10:50 a.m. — “Eco Dude”
11 a.m. — “Living Legends of Alexandria”
11:15 a.m. — “The Story of Community Bridge”
12 p.m. — “Li Tong”
1:30 p.m. — “Shoot First, Pray You Live”
3:15 p.m. — “Katyn”
5:30 p.m. — “Fresh” — Special Guest: Rob Krupicka, City Councilmember
7 p.m. — “Yoo-Hoo, Mrs. Goldberg” — Special Guest: Director Aviva Kempner
9 p.m. — “Nosferatu” — Guest: Organist Andrew Simpson
11 p.m. — “City of Borders”

SUNDAY, SEPT. 27

10 a.m. — “Max”
10:15 a.m. — “Sebastian’s Voodoo”
10:20 a.m. — “The Miracle”
11 a.m. — “Land Gewinnen” (Gaining Ground)
11:30 a.m. — “After the Storm” — Special Guest: Hilla Medalia
1:45 p.m. — “Crude” — Special Guest: Attorney Steven Donziger
4:15 p.m. — “Redemption Stone” — Special Guests: Director Tom Dziedzic and Tom Lewis, founder of The Fishing School
5:15 p.m. — Awards Ceremony — Reception to Follow

THEATER

Teens Provide Energy For 'Bye Bye Birdie'

Revival takes the stage at Thomas Jefferson Theatre.

BY BRAD HATHAWAY
THE GAZETTE

The musical comedy "Bye Bye Birdie" being staged by the Arlington Players takes off with energy and the driving beat of Broadway's first rock-ish score when the teeny-bopper girls scream and swoon over a hip-swiveling singer in the days of Elvis.

The show premiered in New York nearly 50 years ago when the state-of-the-art "sound" of Broadway was "The Sound of Music" (although the strains of more adventurous fare were beginning to be heard with "Gypsy.") Then, the sound of the songs "Honestly Sincere" and "One Last Kiss," which were deliberately Elvis-like, was a bit of a shock. Today, they blend right in with more traditionally styled showtunes that make up the rest of the show's score.

Birdie's story concerns the plight of the agent/manager of that hip-swinging singing star. The agent, played by full-voiced Chris Gillespie, faces an uncertain future because his one saleable property, the recording star played with a surprisingly wholesome demeanor by Michael Bigley, has been drafted into the Army (a story stimulated by Mr. Pressley's induction in March, 1958).

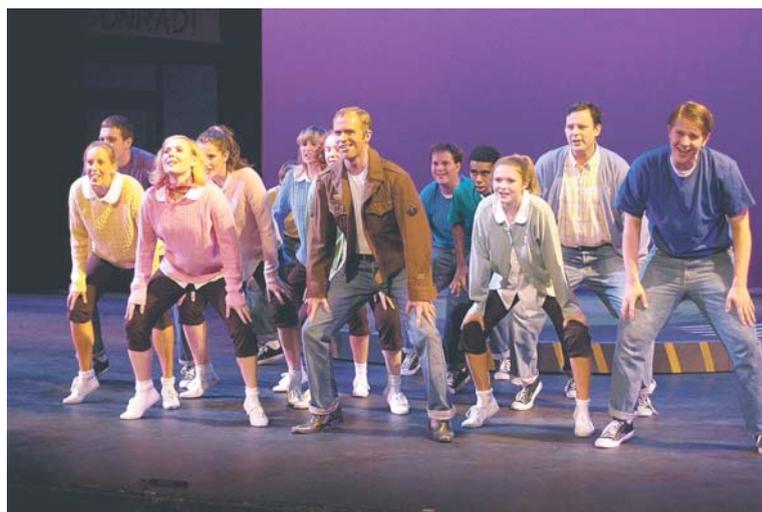
To salvage as much of the situation as possible, the agent arranges for the singer to bestow a goodbye kiss on a clean-cut all-American girl, the president of his fan club in Sweet Apple, Ohio.

Jordan Hougham plays that teenage fan with a clean, clear voice and a bright, blonde look. She and the chorus of her teenage friends give the show its full complement of energy and verve. Added to that is Allen McRae as her father who is insufferably anti-youth until he hears that his entire family will be appearing on the "Ed Sullivan Show" as the final civilian kiss is bestowed.

Today it is hard to imagine just how pervasive the "Ed Sullivan Show" was in the late 1950s and the early 1960s. Jay Leno at 10 o'clock may seem like an intriguing new programming venture for a network on the ropes. But in those days there weren't hundreds of cable stations competing for viewers and a significant section of the entire American population sat down on Sunday evening to watch Sullivan's variety show.

Its when the supposedly adult characters — other than McRae — take the stage that the Arlington Players' production seems to bog down. The characters of the manager and his girlfriend/secretary are written with such out-of-date stereotypes that Gillespie and Anne Marie Pinto can't seem to bring them to life in any kind of appealing way. Their "romance" is stilted and hard to root for.

On the other hand, Kat Brais as Gillespie's domineering mother is very funny as she doesn't even try to make a cartoon into a character. She just lets the apron-string humor take its own course, and her "A Mother Doesn't Matter Anymore" gets the audience response it deserves ... cheers.



PHOTOS BY MICHAEL DEBLOIS

The Teen Ensemble, Conrad Birdie (Michael Bigley) and Kim McAfee (Jordan Hougham).



Rosie Alvarez (Anne Marie Pinto) and Albert Peterson (Chris Gillespie).

Under music director David Rohde, the orchestra in the pit numbers 17 and they put out a rocking — if not rock — sound. The original orchestrations called for 26 players with as many as four flutes playing at a time. The scaled down version performed here still manages to exude a solid, jazzy feel anchored by a very strong reed section.

Where and When

The Arlington Players' production of "Bye Bye Birdie" plays through Oct. 3 at the Thomas Jefferson Theatre, 125 South Old Glebe Road in Arlington. Performances are Friday – Saturday at 8 p.m. and Sunday at 2:30 p.m. Tickets are \$15 - \$20. Call 703-549-1063 or log onto www.thearlingtonplayers.org.



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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 703-778-9412 with questions.

THURSDAY/SEPT. 24



Joy Jones

Author Joy Jones. 7 to 8:30 p.m. Joy Jones will be presenting "Is There A Griot In the House? Collecting Family Stories" at the Alexandria Black History Museum, 902 Wythe Street in the historic Parker-Gray community. Part of the Fall for the

Book Festival. To make a reservation, call 703-838-4356. Visit www.fallforthebook.org.

Alexandria Film Festival Kickoff. 6-9 p.m. Up to a dozen "silent" films will show simultaneously throughout the building with live music enhancing the sensory experience. Guests are encouraged to dress in black and white. The 3rd annual Alexandria Film Festival will be at the Masonic Temple from Sept. 25 to 27, 101 Callahan Drive, Alexandria. The festival includes high quality independent short and feature length films, documentaries, filmmaker panels and arts presentations. At the Torpedo Factory Art Center, 105 N. Union St., Alexandria. Call 703-838-4565, www.torpedofactory.org.

The Reverie Jazz Trio. 7-9 p.m. Will perform early jazz standards and forgotten favorites in a style reminiscent of a bygone era. At the Torpedo Factory Art Center, part of the Thursday Nite Local Spotlight series. At 105 N. Union St., Alexandria. Call 703-838-4565 or go to www.torpedofactory.org.

FRIDAY/SEPT. 25

The Harmony Invitational. 7:30 p.m. \$29.50. Four contemporary groups will be performing an a cappella showcase. At the Birchmere, 3701 Mount Vernon Avenue, Alexandria. Call 703-549-7500 or visit www.birchmere.com.

SATURDAY/SEPT. 26

Yard Sale to Benefit Del Ray Artisans. 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Selection of household goods, toys, books, artwork and supplies, furniture, etc. at the intersection of Commonwealth and



SUNDAY/SEPT. 27

Concerts with a Cause. 4 p.m. The Potomac River Chorale will present a concert of standard American folk songs and spirituals as well as some selections from legendary American composers such as Randall Thompson and Howard Hanson. At the Old Presbyterian Meeting House.

Mount Vernon Avenues in Alexandria. Contact the Del Ray Artisans gallery at 703-838-4827 or check www.TheDelRayArtisans.org.

Mile Long Yard Sale. 8:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. Free. Huge selection from over 100 vendors; food and beverages also available for purchase. At Taney Avenue and N. Pogram St, Alexandria. Contact jessimyd@comcast.net.

Alexandria Symphony Orchestra. 8 p.m. At the Rachel M. Schlesinger Concert Hall. With Kim Allen Kluge, conductor; Leonid Shushansky, violin; Carlos Rodriguez, piano. Tickets are \$20-\$80. Call 703-548-0885 or email alex@alexsym.org or visit online at www.alexsym.org.

Endless Summer Event. 7-11 p.m. Fund-raiser for Good Shepherd Housing and Family Services. Beach Boys music and dance at Good Shepherd Catholic Church Hall, 8710 Mt. Vernon Highway, Alexandria. Tickets are \$50/early bird; \$60 if after Sept. 14. Call 703-768-9404 or go to www.goodhousing.org.

Explore Civil War Shelter. 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Free. Discover what kind of living arrangements Civil War soldiers had at the Civil War Shelter program at Fort Ward Museum. The program will review some major types of Civil War tents, winter quarters and huts, and their furnishings. At 4301 West Braddock Road in Alexandria. Call Fort Ward Museum at 703-838-4848 or visit www.fortward.org.

Singer-Songwriter Rupert Wates! 7:30-9:30. Beer/wine available. At Spill the Beans, 1900 Elkin Street, Suite 4, Alexandria. Call 703-780-3561.

Book Signing Event. 11 a.m. With Author Jamey M. Long, who will be

available to sign copies of his children's book, "A Possum's Wild West and the Gunfight at the O.K. Corral." At Sherwood Library, 2501 Sherwood Hall Lane, Alexandria.

SUNDAY/SEPT. 27

Jazz Jam. 7 p.m. Features the Rick Whitehead Trio. Cost is \$10. Reception held afterwards. At the Episcopal Church of the Resurrection, 2280 N. Beauregard St., Alexandria. Call 703-768-5821.

Dash for Dad 10K Race. 8 a.m. Fund-raiser for Prostate Cancer research. At the AMC Hoffman Center, 2500 Eisenhower Ave., Alexandria, near the Eisenhower Metro. Register at www.DashForDad.org. Call Tracy Amish at 202-303-3111 or email tracy@zerocancer.org.

Concert With a Cause. 4 p.m. With the Potomac River Chorale, Matthew Irish, conductor. American folk songs and spirituals; works by Randall Thompson and Howard Hanson. At the Old Presbyterian Meeting House, 321 S. Fairfax Street, Alexandria. Call 703-549-6670; web site: www.opmh.org.

Tea at With Martha Washington. 3-4:30 p.m. The tea includes the museum's special blend of tea, pound cake, dried fruit, and assortment of cookies. Party attire is requested. Cost is \$25 per person or \$20 for groups of six or more. At Gadsby's Tavern Museum, 134 North Royal Street. Call 703-838-4242. Tickets may also be purchased online at www.gadsbystavern.org.

Odarka Polanskyj Stockert, harpist (Harp, Celtic Harp). 3 p.m. At The Lyceum, 201 S. Washington Street, Alexandria. \$20 suggested. Call 301-229-2615.

TUESDAY/SEPT. 29

Gallery Opening. 6:30 p.m. Ann Northrup: Ten Years of Mural Painting. At the Angie Newman Johnson Gallery, Episcopal High School, 399 W. Braddock Road, Alexandria. Opening reception will be followed by the National Chamber Players Concert. 703-933-4135 or www.episcopalhighschool.org.

The National Chamber Players. 7:30 p.m. The string quartet, who are members of the National Symphony Orchestra, with guest pianist Anne Epperson, will perform music of Clara and Robert Schumann. Pendleton Hall, Episcopal High School, 3900 W. Braddock Road in Alexandria. Call 703-933-4135 or www.episcopalhighschool.org. Free.

THURSDAY/OCT. 1

KUKU. 7-9 p.m. Free. KUKU performs uniquely soulful and captivating music inspired by his African heritage. Often singing in his native Yoruba tongue, this self-taught musician has enchanted

SEE CALENDAR, PAGE 21

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SATURDAY/SEPT. 26

Dance and Tango. 7:30 p.m. Kathy Harty Gray Dance Theatre presents a dance/music event with several works by Kathy Harty Gray and a collaborative performance with QuinTango. At Bishop Ireton High School's Whaley Auditorium in Alexandria. Tickets are \$20 general admission and \$15 students/seniors. Tickets may be purchased by phone at 703-413-3811 or at the door. Go to www.khgdt.org and QuinTango at www.quintango.com.

CALENDAR

FROM PAGE 20

audiences throughout the Washington, DC area. At the Torpedo Factory Art Center, part of the Thursday Nite Local Spotlight series. At 105 N. Union St., Alexandria. Call 703-838-4565 or go to www.torpedofactory.org.

OCT. 2, 3, 4

Mount Vernon's Fall Wine Festival & Sunset Tour. 6-9 p.m. Wines from 17 Virginia wineries and live blues music. Tickets are \$30/person. Fruit and cheese boxes are available by advance purchase (\$24 each; serves two). For details, go to www.MountVernon.org.

SATURDAY/OCT. 3

Blessing of the Animals. 11 a.m. At Aldersgate Church on the front lawn. Bring along a pet of any kind (leashed or caged) to be blessed. At 1301 Collingwood Road in the Mt. Vernon area of Alexandria. Call 703-765-6555 or visit www.aldersgate.net.

Solo Piano with Robin Spielberg. 8 p.m. Seats are \$16. At The Lyceum, 201 S. Washington Street, Alexandria. Call 1-800-836-0833, ext. 5.

Open House. At the Stabler-Leadbeater Apothecary Museum. 1-5 p.m. Free admission, tours and hands-on activities. Visitors will learn about the curative properties of plants in their own backyard, while discovering the important role the apothecary played in early Alexandria. At 105-107 South Fairfax Street in Alexandria. Call 703-838-3852 or visit www.apothecarymuseum.org

American Balalaika Symphony Performs. 7:30 p.m. Under the artistic direction of Peter Trofimenko, the ABS presents "Bitten by the Beat," the first concert of the 2009-10 season, At the Rachel M. Schlesinger Concert Hall, 3001 North Beauregard Street, Alexandria. Tickets are \$20/advance, \$25 at door. Charge online at www.ABSorchestra.org or call 703-351-1331.

SUNDAY/OCT. 4

"Recession-Proof Wine" Tasting. 3-5 p.m. \$25/person. Taste six highly-ranked but reasonably-priced (under \$20 a bottle) wines and learn from the experts. At the Lee-Fendall House Museum, 614 Oronco Street, Alexandria. Call 703-548-1789.

SATURDAY/OCT. 10

Alexandria Arts Safari Festival. Noon to 4 p.m. Children will enjoy the Clay Experience, Arts Safari Painting, Fabric Collage, Treasure Box Making, Giant Papier Mache Animal, and more. Free admission. At the Torpedo Factory Art Center, 105 N. Union St., Alexandria. Call 703-838-4565, www.torpedofactory.org.

THURSDAY/OCT. 15

Jim Stephanson and John Previti. 7-9 p.m. Free. Guitarist Jim Stephanson and bassist John Previti will treat visitors to an evening of blues, swing, and jazz inspired tunes. At the Torpedo Factory Art Center, part of the Thursday Nite Local Spotlight series. At 105 N. Union St., Alexandria. Call 703-838-4565 or go to www.torpedofactory.org.

SATURDAY/OCT. 17

UpBeat OffBeat Auction. 7-10 p.m. Del Ray Artisans' classic whacky artful fund-raiser, featuring a live auction of home furnishings "extremely made over" by local artists. At the Durant Center, 1605 Cameron Street, Alexandria. Details and tickets (\$15 in advance / \$20 at the door) at www.theDelRayArtisans.org.



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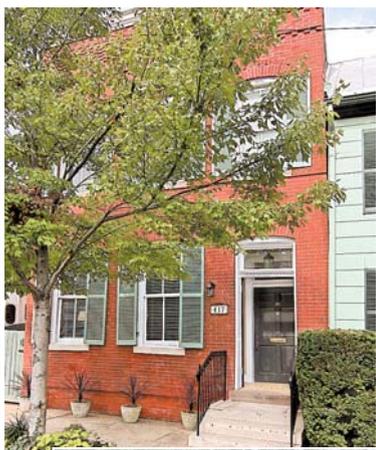
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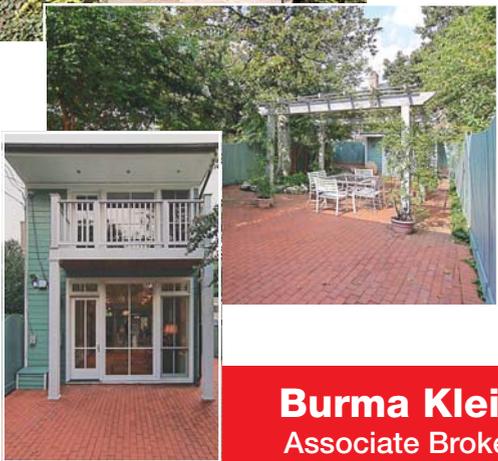
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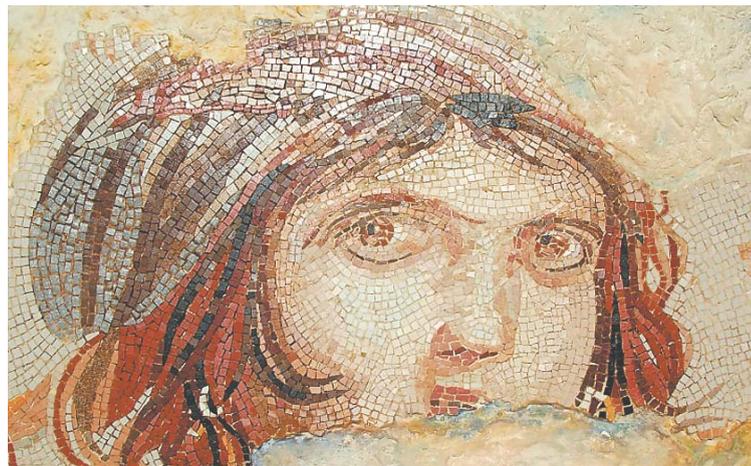
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FINE ARTS



THURSDAY/OCT. 1

Mosaics, Past and Present. 7 p.m. Free. Illustrated lecture and demonstration. The event features an illustrated lecture entitled "A Brief History of Mosaics" which explores the long and rich history of mosaic art. Our speaker is the noted Dr. JeanAnn Dabb, Professor of Art History at Mary Washington University. At the Torpedo Factory Art Center, 105 N. Union St. Alexandria. Call 703-838-4565, www.torpedofactory.org.

SEPT. 26 THROUGH OCT. 30

Andrew Macdonald: Celebrating Authentic Places and Cultures. At the AHM Fine Art Gallery, 215 South Union St., Old Town Alexandria. Call 603-512-9379 or 571-970-1466 or visit ahmacdonald@mac.com.

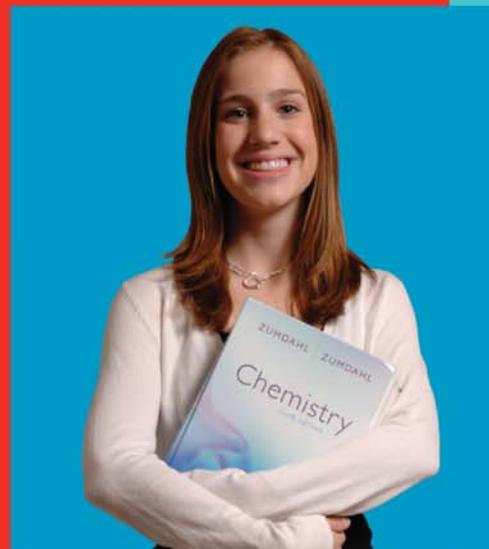
SEPT. 26 THROUGH OCT. 30

Architectural Landscapes and Watercolors by Maria Morga. Opening night reception with the artist is Saturday, Sept. 26 from 6-9 p.m. At the AHM Fine Art Gallery, 215 South Union Street, 2nd Floor, Alexandria. Contact Andrew Macdonald at ahmacdonald@mac.com or 603-512-9379.

OCT. 2-25

Del Ray Artisans members will present an exhibition of their artwork at the Del Ray Artisans gallery, in the Nicholas A. Colasanto Center at 2704 Mount Vernon Avenue, Alexandria. The opening reception will be at the gallery on Friday, Oct. 2 from 7-9:30 p.m. This event is free, handicapped accessible and open to the public. "The Arts Build Communities" is a statewide theme established by Virginians for the Arts Foundation.

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By DR. MORTON SHERMAN
SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

I am the proud father of three grown children who know how to ride bikes. In fact, I'm sure you would agree if you watched them today, that each of them deserves an A in bike-riding. If I had to give them grades after their first lessons, however, they would have received Cs or Ds depending on the number of falls and bruises. After the second lesson, their grades would have improved if they'd practiced, unless I taught them a new skill like jumping the curb or no-hands, which no doubt would have led to more bruises. They probably would have been discouraged by those poor grades and given up before the final test. Instead, like every other parent, I gave them plenty of encouragement along the way. When they fell, I dusted them off, kissed their boo-boos and helped them begin again. If they needed more practice and more time, they got it, because my ultimate goal was not only for them to become master bike-riders, but for them to love bike-riding.

I am very excited about a new policy on which the Alexandria School Board is scheduled to vote tonight. Proposed Policy IFA, Curriculum Design and Assessment, will help us focus on true mastery of subject

material. Quizzes, reports and projects will be used as teaching tools instead of "gotchas." Standards and expectations will be shared with students at the beginning of each course and all students, even those who may require additional time and academic supports, will be given opportunities to succeed in meeting or exceeding the benchmarks. The proposed policy is posted on the ACPS Web site at www.acps.k12.va.us/superintendent/policy-draft.pdf.

Under this policy, at the beginning of each course taught at the secondary level, students and parents/guardians shall be given, in writing, a syllabus which includes:

- ❖ A list of standards and benchmarks to be met or exceeded.
- ❖ An explanation of the various ways in which student learning will be evaluated.
- ❖ Student expectations in terms of assignments, skills to be demonstrated, required resources.
- ❖ The teacher's grading system.

Each syllabus shall be written in student and parent-friendly language, free of educational jargon, and shall be posted on Blackboard for easy access. Similar information, as is age-appropriate, shall be provided at the elementary level.

AFTER PRESENTING this proposed policy to the School Board on Sept. 10, I

asked for feedback from students and community members through an online survey. While the responses were overwhelmingly positive, some questioned the need to formalize a practice that great teachers already embrace.

The reason is that we want all of our teachers to be great teachers. An essential part of meeting the ACPS Strategic Plan's goal for each and every student to learn 21st Century skills at high levels of competence calls for meaningful classroom assessments focused on student achievement, not just grading.

To that end, a Board policy which focuses on high achievement for all students is an important part of the creation of a school division culture which allows students to revisit work, to be reassessed, and to be re-taught if it is clear that additional time and study will produce higher achievement.

This is not about lowering standards or dumbing down curriculum. In fact, this policy is about high expectations for all students. No more sliding by. Our exceptional teachers will work closely with students to know who should be encouraged to rewrite a paper or who doesn't deserve a reassessment opportunity because he or she did not work hard in the first place. The reality is that this policy makes best learning and teaching practices mandatory and makes clear that we expect high achievement from all.

Send announcements to the Alexandria Gazette Packet, by e-mail to gazette@connectionnewspapers.com. Deadline is Thursday at noon for the following week's paper. Photos are encouraged. Call Steve Hibbard at 703-778-9412 with questions.

T.C. Williams High School Band Boosters will hold its annual fundraising event — Tag Day — on Saturday, Oct. 3. Band members will fan out across Alexandria's neighborhoods seeking donations that will be used to support the band's many activities.

T.C. Williams' Class of 1989 is holding its 20-year reunion on Oct. 17 at the Embassy Suites Alexandria Old Town. Go to www.greatreunions.com. Or call 800-655-7971.

T.C. Williams' Class of 1999 is holding its 10-year reunion on Oct. 24 at the Embassy Suites Alexandria Old Town. Go to www.greatreunions.com. Or call 800-655-7971.

Robert W. Larkin received the B.A.C. degree on June 4 from Washington and Lee University. Larkin, an economics major, is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Paul J. Larkin of Alexandria.

Headmaster Jay Stroud has named **Elizabeth Wiley**, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. William Wiley Jr. of Alexandria, to the Commended List at Tabor Academy for semester 2 of the 2008-2009 school year.

The Brendan F. Fuller of Alexandria was among the 856 University of Scranton graduates who received bachelor's and associate's degrees at its undergraduate commencement ceremony on May 31, at Wachovia Arena. Fuller received a bachelor's degree in Communication.

Ciara Alexandra Robinson of Alexandria graduated from the Mary Baldwin College on May 24 with a degree in psychology. She is the daughter of Giovanna Athias of Alexandria.

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**NEED TO CALL RECREATION?
DIAL 746, IT'S OUR NEW PREFIX!**

The City of Alexandria is updating its telephone systems over the next two years. Most City government and agency telephone numbers will change to a new prefix, 746.

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

WE'RE CHANGING OUR PREFIX...

NEW NUMBERS EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY:

RECREATION CENTERS	PROGRAM AREAS
Charles Barrett Recreation Center 703.746.5551	Adopt-A-Garden & Adopt-A-Park.....703.746.5490
Charles Houston Recreation Center 703.746.5552	Alexandria Extension Office (4H)703.746.5544
Chinquapin Park Recreation Center 703.746.5553	Arts in Alexandria.....703.746.5588
Cora Kelly Recreation Center 703.746.5554	Athletic Field Permits703.746.5402
Dr. Oswald Durant Center 703.746.5560	City Arborist/Trees703.746.5496
Jerome Buddie Ford Nature Center 703.746.5559	Director's Office703.746.5500
Mt. Vernon Recreation Center 703.746.5556	Garden Plots703.746.5484
Nannie J. Lee Recreation Center 703.746.5550	Gypsy Moth703.746.5498
Patrick Henry Recreation Center 703.746.5557	Lee Center & Picnic Reservations.....703.746.5405
William Ramsay Recreation Center 703.746.5558	Marina Slips & Marina703.746.5487
	Out of School Time Programs703.746.5430
	Park Maintenance.....703.746.5484
	Park Planning & Design.....703.746.5488
	Recreation Classes & Camps.....703.746.5414
	Recreation Services.....703.746.5430
	Senior Programs703.746.5575
	Special Events & Major Park Rentals....703.746.5418
	Teen Programs.....703.746.5575
	Therapeutic Recreation703.746.5422
	Volunteer.....703.746.4343
	Youth & Adult Sports703.746.5402

Stay informed with eNews! Sign up for **Government Telephone Number Changes.**
For more information visit alexandriava.gov/Dial746

Who would you call a Living Legend of Alexandria?

Who do you know whose vision and energy has improved life in Alexandria? The Alexandria Gazette Packet is seeking nominations in order to recognize Alexandria's Living Legends throughout 2010.

On one page or less, explain why you consider this person a Legend. Criteria are the creation of something tangible that would not likely exist without that person's vision and dedication—or a minimum of 10 years of exemplary service to improve the quality of life in the City.

See www.tisaraphoto.com/legends or call 703-838-8098 for a nomination form. **Nominations must include contact info**—name, address, telephone number and email—for the nominator and nominee.

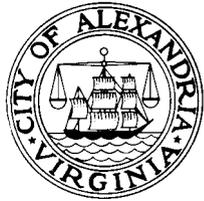
Send your nominations no later than September 30, to alexandria.legends@earthlink.net or mail to: Legends, 1607 King Street, Alexandria, VA 22314.

Alexandria Gazette Packet *Continuously Chronicling Alexandria since 1784*

BUY ALEXANDRIA
Our Dollars Count!

Alexandria Gazette Packet
Another Community Partnership

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, OCTOBER 7, 2009 beginning at 7:30 PM in Council Chambers, second floor of City Hall, 301 King Street, Alexandria, Virginia on the following applications:

CASE BAR2009-0185 Request for approval of signage and awnings at 109 S St. Asaph Street, zoned CD Commercial. APPLICANT: Columbia Firehouse Restaurant

CASE BAR2009-0192 Request for approval of signage at 685 N Wash-

Legal Notices

ington Street, zoned CRMU/X Commercial. APPLICANT: Site Enhancement Services

CASE BAR2009-0203 Request for approval of after-the-fact signage at 116 S. Royal Street, zoned CD Commercial. APPLICANT: Lavender Moon Cupcakery

CASE BAR2009-0205 Request for approval of alterations at 125 Cameron Mews, zoned RM Residential. APPLICANT: Cameron Mews Ltd. Home Owners Association

CASE BAR2009-0206 Request for approval of encapsulation at 716 S. Fairfax Street, zoned RM Residential. APPLICANT: Lyndl Thorsen

CASE BAR2009-0207 Request for approval of alterations at 807 S. Royal Street, zoned RM Residential. APPLICANT: Mr. & Mrs. B. Patrick Costello Jr.

CASE BAR2009-0213 Request for approval of demolition at 500 N. Columbus Street, zoned CL Commercial. APPLICANT: Jerry & Sara Killkenny

CASE BAR2009-0208 Request for approval of alterations at 500 N. Columbus Street, zoned CL Commercial.

Legal Notices

APPLICANT: Jerry & Sara Killkenny

CASE BAR2009-0209 Request for approval of signage at 625 First Street, zoned CD Commercial. APPLICANT: Carr 625 First St LLC

CASE BAR2009-0210 Request for approval of alterations at 407-415 Cameron Street, zoned CD Commercial. APPLICANT: R.L. Kane, Inc. Property Management for Humphrey FLP

CASE BAR2009-0211 Request for approval of signage and awnings at 609 King Street, zoned KR King Street Retail. APPLICANT: Cathy Bradford for Kings Jewelers

CASE BAR2009-0212 Request for reapproval of previously approved plans at 1200A King Street, zoned KR King Street Retail. APPLICANT: Alexandria Sculpture Festival & Alexandria Commission for the Arts

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

Legal Notices

federal lienholders or encumbrances, and agreements of record affecting the same, if any.

In the event the undersigned trustee is unable to convey to the purchaser good title, then purchaser's sole and exclusive remedy shall be in the refund of the deposit paid at the time of sale.

The subject property and all improvements thereon will be sold in "as is" condition without warranty of any kind. Purchaser shall be responsible for any and all building and/or zoning code violations whether of record or not of record, as well as for all unpaid and enforceable homeowners' or condominium owners' association dues and assessments, if any. Purchaser also shall be responsible for obtaining possession of the property at his/her expense. Purchaser shall assume the risk of loss and shall be responsible for any damage, vandalism, theft, destruction, or the like, of or to the property occurring after the time of sale. Conveyance will be by special warranty deed. Conveyancing, recording, transfer taxes, notary fees, examination of title, state stamps, and all other costs of conveyance are to be at the expense of purchaser. State and local taxes, public charges, and special or regular assessments, if any, shall be adjusted to the date of sale and thereafter shall be assumed by the purchaser.

The undersigned trustee unconditionally reserves the right: (i) to waive the deposit requirement; (ii) to approve or disapprove the creditworthiness of any bidder and/or purchaser; (iii) to withdraw the property from sale at any time prior to termination of the bidding; (iv) to extend the time for bidding; (v) to reject any or all bids; (vi) to postpone or set over the date or time of sale; and (vii) to extend the period of time for settlement hereunder.

Additional terms and conditions of sale may be announced at the time of sale.

DAVID N. PRENSKY Substitute Trustee

FOR INFORMATION CONTACT: David N. Prenskey Chasen & Chasen 5225 Wisconsin Avenue, N.W. #500 Washington, D.C. 20015 (202) 244-4000

Legal Notices

630 & 636 NORTH PATRICK STREET

CHURCH OF GOD AND SAINTS OF CHRIST

Public hearing and consideration of a request for a development special use permit, with site plan and modifications to construct an addition on an existing church building; zoned RB/Residential. Applicant: Church of God and Saints of Christ, Sixteenth Tabernacle by R. McGhee (#8, 9/1/09)

TEXT AMENDMENT #2009-0003

SMALL BUSINESSES IN CAMERON STATION

Public hearing and consideration of a request for an amendment to Section 11-513 of the City's Zoning Ordinance to apply the regulations governing certain small businesses to the Cameron Station development.

SPECIAL USE PERMIT#2009-0041

618 A SOUTH PICKETT STREET (Parcel Address: 600 S. Pickett Street)

GENERAL AUTOMOTIVE REPAIR

Public hearing and consideration of a request to operate a general automobile repair shop; zoned I/Industrial. Applicant: Tahir Mahmood

SPECIAL USE PERMIT#2009-0044

702 NORTH PATRICK STREET

PARKING REDUCTION

Public hearing and consideration of a request for a parking reduction; zoned RB/Residential. Applicant: Alamin and Nadia Negash.

SPECIAL USE PERMIT#2009-0045

1121 KING STREET

PERFORMING ARTS CENTER AND THEATER

Public hearing and consideration of a request to operate a performing arts center(amusement enterprise), and a request for a parking reduction; zoned KR/King Street Retail. Applicant: Foundation for the Preservation of Medieval Arts and History by Thomas Booth

THE FOLLOWING WILL BE HEARD BY PLANNING COMMISSION ONLY, (AND BY CITY COUNCIL ONLY UPON APPEAL.)

SUBDIVISION #2009-0002

720 SOUTH VIEW TERRACE

Public hearing and consideration of a request for a subdivision of the subject property; zoned R-5/Residential. Applicant: Kevin James

DEVELOPMENT SITE PLAN #2009-0009

5000 POLK AVENUE

POLK ELEMENTARY SCHOOL ADDITION

Public hearing and consideration of a request for a development site plan to construct an addition onto an elementary school including the installation of a geothermal well system, solar panels and a surface parking lot; zoned R-8/Residential and R-12/Residential. Applicant: City of Alexandria Public Schools

ABC LICENSE

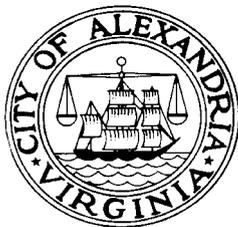
Amela Svalina/Ivica Svalina trading as Cosmopolitan Grill, LLC, 7770 Richmond Hwy, Alexandria, VA 22306. The above establishment is applying to the VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL for a mixed beverages on premises license to sell or manufacture alcoholic beverages. Amela Svalina/Ivica Svalina, owners

ABC LICENSE

Ansonia Imports, Inc trading as Ansonia Wines, 3211 Colvin Street, Alexandria, VA 22314. The above establishment is applying to the VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL for a Wine Importer and Wholesale Wine license to sell or manufacture alcoholic beverages. Mark M. Wilcox, President

ORDER OF PUBLICATION

Case No JJ030729-02-00 Commonwealth of Virginia VA. CODE § 8.01-316 Alexandria J & DR Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court Commonwealth of Virginia, in re ALEXA MENA The object of this suit is to: Terminate the residual parental rights and responsibilities of unknown father to Alexa Mena, born to mother Katherine Mena on 6/12/09 and to give the right to the Alexandria Department of Human Services to place the child for adoption. It is ORDERED that the defendant unknown father appear at the above named Court and protect his or her interests on or before 12/07/2009 at 3:00pm



CITY OF ALEXANDRIA 2009 PERSONAL AND BUSINESS PROPERTY TAXES ARE DUE

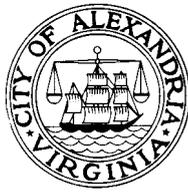
OCTOBER 5, 2009

Personal property taxes, decal fees and residential parking fees, if applicable, must be paid no later than October 5, 2009, to avoid late payment penalty and interest. Business property taxes must also be paid by October 5, 2009. Please see the City's webpage at alexandriava.gov/finance for more information.

A City license decal and residential parking decal, if applicable, were mailed with the personal property tax bills to most residents. The City license decal should be removed from the back of the bill and applied inside the front windshield next to the vehicle inspection decal. The residential parking decal should be applied to the driver's side rear bumper.

Payment can be made by credit card or eCheck on the City's web site at alexandriava.gov/payments, in person at City Hall or at any SunTrust Bank Branch located in the City. Personal property tax payments can also be mailed to City of Alexandria, PO Box 34710, Alexandria, VA 22334-0710. Business property tax payments can be mailed to City of Alexandria, PO Box 34745, Alexandria, VA 22334-0745.

For vehicle assessment questions or to receive a tax bill, please email vehicletax@alexandriava.gov or call Personal Property at 703.746.3901, option 4. For business assessment questions or to receive a tax bill, please email businesstax@alexandriava.gov or call Business Tax at 703.746.3903, option 2. For payment questions, please email payments@alexandriava.gov or call the Treasury Division at 703.746.3902. The Revenue and Treasury Divisions will be open to assist you, Monday through Friday, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., with extended hours until 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday, September 29 and Thursday, October 1.



TAKE NOTICE

The Alexandria City Council will hold its Retreat on the City's Strategic Plan on Saturday, September 26, 2009 at 8:30 a.m. at 2900 Business Center Drive, Alexandria, Virginia, the offices of the Department of Transportation and Environmental Services and Recreation, Parks and Cultural Activities Maintenance Division. The Retreat is open to the public.

For information, please call the City Clerk and Clerk of Council's Office at 703 746-4500.

Jackie M. Henderson City Clerk and Clerk of Council

TRUSTEE'S SALE OF VALUABLE IMPROVED REAL ESTATE

Improved by the premises known as 6319 Hillary Court, Alexandria, Virginia

In execution of a Deed of Trust from Fislume Andeberhan, Kinfe Andeberhan, Isaac Andeberhan and Tewodros Andeberhan, dated September 23, 2005, and recorded March 26, 2006, in Deed Book 17779 at page 508 among the Land Records of Fairfax County, Virginia, the undersigned substitute trustee will offer for sale at public auction at the front entrance of the Judicial Center for Fairfax County, at 4110 Chain Bridge Road, Fairfax, Virginia, on

Friday, September 25, 2009 at 11:00 a.m.

the following property being the property contained in said Deed of Trust, described as follows:

Lot 140, Section 3, Windsor Park, as the same appears duly dedicated, platted and recorded in Deed Book 3649 at page 72, among the Land Records of Fairfax County, Virginia.

Commonly known as 6319 Hillary Court, Alexandria, Virginia 22315.

TERMS OF SALE: A deposit of \$30,000.00 or ten percent (10%) of the sale price, whichever amount is less, in the form of cash or its equivalent will be required of the purchaser at the time and place of sale; the balance of the purchase money being due and payable within fifteen (15) days after sale, time expressly being of the essence, with interest at the rate of 6.125 percent per annum from date of sale to date of settlement. Provided, however, that if the holder of the secured promissory note is the successful bidder at the sale, no cash deposit shall be required, and part of or the entire indebtedness, including interest and costs, secured by the Deed of Trust, may be set off against the purchase price.

Any defaulting purchaser shall forfeit the deposit and stand the risk and cost of resale.

Sale shall be made subject to all existing easements and restrictive covenants as the same may lawfully affect the real estate. Sale is further subject to mechanic's and/or materialman's liens of record and not of record. The property will be sold subject to all conditions, covenants, restrictions, rights of redemption of



ALEXANDRIA PLANNING COMMISSION

OCTOBER - 2009

The items described below will be heard by the Planning Commission and the City Council on the following dates.

NOTICE: Some of the items listed below may be placed on a consent calendar. A consent item will be approved at the beginning of the meeting without discussion unless someone asks that it be taken off the consent calendar and considered separately. The Planning Commission reserves the right to recess and continue the public hearing to a future date. For further information call the Department of Planning and Zoning on 703-746-4666.

ALEXANDRIA PLANNING COMMISSION TUESDAY, OCTOBER 6, 2009 7:30 PM, CITY HALL CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS 301 KING STREET ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA

ALEXANDRIA CITY COUNCIL SATURDAY, OCTOBER 17, 2009 9:30 AM, CITY HALL CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS 301 KING STREET ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA

SPECIAL USE PERMIT #2009-0033

504 JOHN CARLYLE STREET

7-ELEVEN

Public hearing and consideration of a request to operate a convenience store; zoned CDD-1/Co-ordinated Development District. Applicant: 7-Eleven Incorporated (#6, 9/1/09)

DEVELOPMENT SPECIAL USE PERMIT #2007-0002



BB&T employees Jen Warren and Fernanda Howard reading with Biscuit to a group of boys at the Alexandria Health Department.



Student Kyrion Macon reads with Biscuit before cuddling up with him.

Herring

FROM PAGE 4

to imply this was just to help black people.” The bill went through a tortured path, with the name change being removed from the bill in the General Assembly before Kaine added that provision back. In the end, the General Assembly rejected Kaine’s amendment and agreed to a modified version of the bill that clarified which companies were able to receive benefits under the Department of Minority Business Enterprise. Under the final version of Herring’s legislation, business can’t qualify for services unless the owner and the manager of day-to-day operations are women or minorities.

“The problem with the old system was that large companies were often using small businesses to procure contracts,” said Herring. “We wanted to make sure that small businesses got a fair shot.”

HERRING ALSO played a key role in the special session called in the wake of the United States Supreme Court case *Melendez-Diaz v. Massachusetts*, which held that it was a violation of the Sixth Amendment right of confrontation for a prosecutor to submit a chemical drug test report without the testimony of the scientist. Herring’s bill laid out new procedures for prosecutors to so that Virginia would be in compliance with the Supreme Court’s ruling. Her bill was later incorporated into a separate bill introduced by House Majority Leader Moran Griffith (R-8). It was signed by Kaine last month.

“Being an attorney, I knew this was something Virginia had to respond to,” said Herring. “So I took the initiative to introduce a bill.”



Wright to Read volunteer Louise Buchanan reads to Cindy Argueta.

Supporting Immunizations

The Wright to Read Program, BB&T Bank, and Hooray for Books! combined forces to promote literacy and support the immunization clinic offered by the Alexandria Health Department on Aug. 31 and Sept. 1.

BB&T purchased a number of children’s books from Hooray for Books! In turn, Hooray for Books! enhanced the project by arranging for Biscuit, the children’s book

character, to visit the clinic both days. More than 15 BB&T volunteers attended the clinic and helped distribute new books to the children in attendance. BB&T employees also read to children waiting to receive immunizations.

Established in 1979 by the Frank & Betty Wright Foundation and administered by The Campagna Center, Wright to Read provides tutoring and mentoring services to more than 100 elementary school students.



Thank You!

from the Alexandria Tutoring Consortium (ATC)

Save the Date: ATC Forum for Tutors, November 4, 2009

We invite you to volunteer to tutor first and second graders in reading. Go to www.alexandriatutors.org for more information and to register.

Questions? E-mail: atc@opmh.org Phone: 703-549-6670 ext. 119

Contributing Congregations and Groups

- Alfred Street Baptist Church
- Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church
- Christ Church (Episcopal)
- Church of St. Clement
- Ebenezer Baptist Church
- Emmanuel Episcopal Church
- Fairlington United Methodist Church
- First Baptist Church
- Good Shepherd Lutheran Church
- Grace Episcopal Church
- Immanuel Church-on-the-Hill (Episcopal)
- Old Presbyterian Meeting House
- St. Mary’s Catholic Church
- St. Paul’s Episcopal Church
- Alexandria Tutoring Consortium Board
- City of Alexandria Employees
- Goodwin House East
- St. Martin de Porres
- United Way
- Alexandria Community

Tutors and Coordinators*

Julia Abell	Brigid Davis	Jennifer Hollings	Helen Morris	Shirley Siers
Doris Ablard	Michelle Davis	Ardelia Hunter*	Elsie Mosqueda	Gloria Sitton
Allen Anderson	Deborah Dawson	Jessica Jerrell	Scott Newsham	Katharine Smeallie
Debbie Anderson	Ruth Deardorff	Katherine Johnson	Kathleen Noe	Michele Smith*
John Anderson	Benedicte Dellaria	Martha Johnston	Becky Novick	Vicki Smith
Mary Lee Anderson*	Sue Dodge	Ken Jordan	Polly Ann Oliver	Patti Soltys*
Sue Anderson*	Rev. William Dols	Patricia Jordan	Monica Parry	Leslie Staples*
Priscilla Andre-Colton	Erin Drone	Bill Jourdan	Eloise Payne	Debi Steinbacher
Fatima Ast	Julie C. Duke	Rev. Duane Kay*	Angela Raish	Marilyn Stegman
Aubrey (Jay) Backus	Adrian Duncan	Catherine Keeley	Laura Redding*	Alida Stephens
Bianca Beeks	Rob Dunn	Louise Kenny	Jim Roberts	Patricia Sugrue
Andrew Biache	Timothy Elmore	Jennifer Kim	Mary Ann Roberts	Patricia Sullivan
Barbara Biebrich*	Carol Flanagan	Terri Kokinda	Shawn Roberts	Ellen Thompson
Cynthia Boyer	Judy Fulghum	Carter Land	Elizabeth Sabin	Heather Thompson
Loretta Britten	Cynthia Freese	Barbara Lehr	Beth Sanderson	Jill Tremblay
Julie Brodie	Margaret Goodman	Andrea Leidolf	Nash Sanderson	Susan Tuttle
Lillian Brooks	Sharon Goffe	Lois Lipson	Grace Schmitt	Meredith Wade
Doris Brown	Katie Greco	Karen Levy	Molly Schnure	Sissy Walker
Elaine Butkiewicz	Janet Hall	Jacqueline Levy*	Linda Schuessler	Jean Westcott
Jan Campbell*	Julia Hall	Debbie Ludington	Lisa Schumaier	Percy White
Sara Carran	Vance Hall	Joanne Lukens	Stephanie Scott	Claire Wiles
James Carroll	Lisle Hannah*	Mike Mackey	Troy Seals	Adryan Williams
Teresa Carroll	Rebecca Harmon	Joseph Malloy	Joanne Sedor	Harry Williams
Katherine Cook	Jackie Henderson	Susan McAdoo	Nicole Senchak	Nancy Woodford
Bennie Cooper	Judy Henriksen	Jim McClary	Deidre Shipley	Leslie Young*
Linda Cotton	Rev. Ann Herlin	Sue McIver	Ellen Shreve	

2008-2009 Literacy Partnership Honor Role

- Alexandria City Public Schools
- **Alexandria Gazette Packet**
- Ivakota Association, Inc.
- The Maple Tree Fund
- Washington Forrest Foundation
- Doris Ablard
- Julie C. Duke
- Gwen & John Mullen
- James S. Roberts
- Rotary Club of Alexandria
- Katy & John Anderson
- Burke & Herbert Bank & Trust Company
- Land, Clark, Carroll, Mendelson & Blair, PC
- Craig Powell & Mary Hill
- Stephen & Bobbie Rideout
- Beth Sanderson
- Margaret Whitesides
- Barbara Boehm & Bill Gallagher
- Judith & Donald Dahmann
- Cutler & Debbie Dawson
- William Dols
- Judi and Tim Elmore
- Lynn Gumowski & Jim Laychak
- Susan Henry
- Rev. Ann Herlin
- Ellen Holland
- Maura & Chase Nelson
- Peter H. Smeallie
- Susan & Tom Tuttle
- Heather Thompson
- John Woods, Jr. & Donna Crammer
- Susan Anderson
- Kate Angst
- Elizabeth Aupperlee
- Cynthia Bolbach
- Ed & Laura Cassidy
- Beth Clark
- P. N. Clopper
- Doug & Kathy Cochrane
- David Debus
- Beth Ann Eadie
- Debra Ellis
- Simone Fitzgibbon
- Sandra Freeman
- Marilyn Giovanetti
- Margaret Goodman
- Nancy Hamilton
- Martha Hopkins
- Eve Jelstrom
- Col. & Mrs. Donald W. Johnson
- Rich & Mary Johnson
- Jeanne Kavinski
- Christine Kent
- Lee S. Klousia
- Rev. & Mrs. Robert Laha, Jr.
- Bill & Joanne Lang
- Leslie Lautenslager
- Jeff & Marjorie Lenn
- Sylvia Linke
- Joanne Madison
- Frederick & Susan Morhart
- Sally Murray
- BrGen. & Mrs. Robert Neitz
- Scott & Chris Newsham
- David Pace & Marsha Rhea
- Eloise Payne
- James Phillip
- William Phillippe
- Nancy Rawlings
- Charlotte S. Read
- Frederick Reis
- Debra Richards
- Bill Richardson & Alice Reid
- Grace Schmitt
- Carolann Sharp
- Ellen Smith
- Joseph L. Spruill
- Barbara Steingaszner
- Tom & Pat Sugrue
- Ann Timberlake
- Jan Timmer
- Meredith Wade
- Hohn Weyrich
- David & Melynda Wilcox
- Margo J. Williams
- William Winslow

Special thanks to Alexandria Gazette Packet

Fumble Return TD Lifts TC over Oakton

Titans coach Randolph hopes win has lasting effect.

BY JON ROETMAN
THE GAZETTE PACKET

With the start of the 2009 season just days away, T.C. Williams football coach Dennis Randolph stood near the field's edge at Parker-Gray Memorial Stadium and spoke of his team's impending opener against Robinson.

The Titans would be without starting quarterback Joe Hargrove, who fractured his right, non-throwing wrist during a scrimmage. Randolph appeared confident moving forward, but the loss of Hargrove was yet another obstacle for a program which hasn't experienced a winning season since 1995.

Prior to discussing the team's quarterback situation, Randolph, entering his third season with T.C. Williams, shared an observation of how Titan football players handle adversity.

Or don't handle it.

"What I've found since I've been here is that these kids do well when everything's going their way," Randolph said on Aug. 31. "And then when something happens, they just implode and say, 'here we go again.'"

Fast forward to Sept. 17.

BACK ON ITS HOME field, T.C. Williams was locked in a battle with Oakton, a team which reached the Group AAA, Division 6 state semifinals in 2008. The Titans' defense was stout, but the offense struggled as Hargrove remained sidelined. Limited in the passing game, T.C. Williams managed seven points and trailed late in the fourth quarter.



PHOTO BY LOUISE KRAFT/THE GAZETTE PACKET

T.C. Williams right tackle Jay Whitmire overpowers an Oakton defender while Cortez Taylor runs with the football during Thursday's game at Parker-Gray Memorial Stadium.

T.C. Williams quarterback John Bray, attempting to bring the Titans back, misfired with a pass which Oakton defensive back Akil Jones intercepted near midfield. Oakton, leading 9-7, took over possession with good field position with less than two minutes remaining in the fourth quarter.

This is when the Titans were supposed to say, "Here we go again."

Instead, T.C. Williams linebackers Damien Benton and Chelo Abbe made a play which not only changed the outcome of the game, but could have a positive effect toward the revival of a once-dominant program.

Benton forced Oakton quarterback Jimmy Boone to fumble on first down and Abbe scooped up the loose ball and scampered 50 yards for a go-ahead touchdown.

Oakton had two more possessions, but each was thwarted by a T.C. Williams interception as the Titans held on for an improbable 15-9 victory.

"I was playing my position, the ball landed in my hands and I ran for a touchdown," Abbe said. "In my mind, when I got the ball, I thought people were behind me so I just ran as fast as I could."

What was Randolph thinking during the play?

"Run like hell," he said.

While Abbe's fumble return caused a rush of emotion for the Titans, Randolph said he hopes it has a lasting influence on the program.

"The biggest thing about some of these kids is they say they want to win and they work hard and do all the right things," the coach said, "but then in certain situations they kind of — and I don't want to say quit, because they don't quit — but it's like, 'Oh, here we go again.' ... I think — I hope — that this will show them that, hey, no matter what the circumstances that you have a chance."

While the Titans (2-1) were ecstatic about the win, the Cougars (2-1) were left to ponder what could have been.

We "needed to secure the ball at the end and we get out of there" with a victory, Oakton coach Joe Thompson said. "We didn't secure the ball and hopefully we learn from our experiences. ... [Boone has] played well all year for us. We really haven't turned it over up until now. Unfortunately for him it was bad timing. He's been real good, real solid and it's just a real bad break for him. But you've got to secure the ball to win the game."

Boone completed 9 of 21 passes for 73 yards, but turned the ball over on each of Oakton's final three plays of the game.

Oakton led 9-7 at halftime and each team's best second-half scoring opportunity ended with a missed field goal attempt.

T.C. Williams marched down to the Oakton 11-yard line on its opening drive of the third quarter, but came up empty on a 28-yard field goal try. The Titans offense didn't cross midfield the rest of the game.

"I thought we played well enough to win until the last minute, 50 seconds of the game," Thompson said. "There are no positives for losing."

Oakton struck first, taking a 6-0 lead when running back Mike Greene scored on a 23-yard run up the middle with 10:34 remaining in the second quarter. The Cougars increased their lead to 9-0 when Ray Goins booted a 42-yard field goal with 2:43 left in the half.

T.C. Williams answered with its lone offensive touchdown on the ensuing possession. Robert Carter's 9-yard touchdown run capped a five-play, 58-yard drive with 1:21 remaining in the half. Carter, part of a three-quarterback rotation with Cortez Taylor and Bray, looked to pass on third-and-five, but ended up scrambling to his left for a score.

Defenses dominated in the second half, and T.C. Williams' D eventually won the

SEE TITANS, PAGE 30

SPORTS BRIEFS

TC Volleyball Defeats Mt. Vernon

If the blocks and kills aren't enough to determine whether Kate Whitmire is playing well, the ear-to-ear grin on the face of the T.C. Williams freshman is a dead giveaway.

It was all smiles for Whitmire and her Titan teammates on Sept. 16 when T.C. Williams defeated Mount Vernon 3-0 (25-5, 25-8, 25-14) at The Garden. Whitmire, a 6-foot outside hitter, finished with 11 kills, five block and kills, and four aces.

"Whitmire was killing them with the block and just capitalizing on their mistakes," Titans coach Rhea Butler said. "Whitmire tore it up. She was our star tonight."

One of Whitmire's most noticeable reactions comes after a successful block.

"Every time I get a point, I have the biggest smile on my face," Whitmire said. "I come in and try to share the energy with the team. I hope they get the

vibe from it, too. ... It's just something in me that when I get a block, everything comes into it."

Butler was pleased with the way her team took care of business. The coach had said the Titans had a tendency to play to an opponent's level. Facing a winless Mount Vernon team, T.C. Williams held the Majors to a single-digit scoring output in each of the first two games. Butler said the Titans' ability to finish off the Majors should benefit T.C. Williams.

"We did what we came to do. We knew this was a game we could win," Butler said. "Even if a team is not at our level, we still have the capability of playing well."

T.C. Williams was swept by Oakton on Tuesday and fell to 2-4. The Titans host Lee tonight.

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SEE SPORTS BRIEFS, PAGE 30



PHOTO BY LOUISE KRAFT/THE GAZETTE PACKET

T.C. Williams freshman Kate Whitmire goes up for a block during a match against Yorktown.

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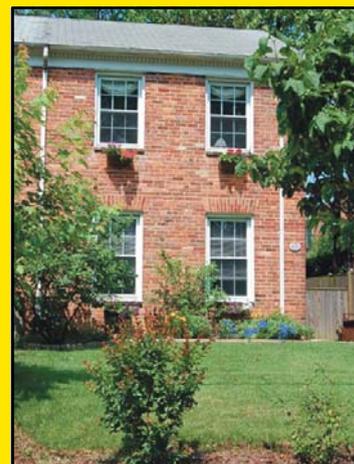


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Focusing on Special Ed

FROM PAGE 1

pledge to the community and the School Board.”

STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES have the lowest pass rates of any other group of students in Alexandria. The most recent test data, which was released by the Virginia Department of Education last month, show that 67 percent of these students passed the English test and 58 percent passed the math test. Those numbers are below the federal benchmark for No Child Left Behind and lower than the statewide average. Closing this achievement gap for is one of the major concerns members of the advisory committee outlined in their annual report.

“For ACPS students with disabilities there is a persistent, multi-year achievement gap for SOL passing rates, reading and math scores, in comparison to the state scores and other jurisdictions in Northern Virginia,” wrote committee co-chairs Vickie Cattaneo and Sandra Strachan-Vieira. “Since it took over a year to hire the first literacy coach, SEAC hopes the central office will put urgency into finding the second literacy coach.”

Last year, state officials with the Virginia Department of Education found six areas where the city is out of compliance with federal regulations under the federal Individuals with Disabilities Education Act. Alexandria school officials responded by submitting a corrective-action plan to address a number of deficiencies, and the Virginia Association of School Superintendents eventually conducted its own audit. That document was released in May, although members of the advisory committee responded that parental input was not reflected in the report.

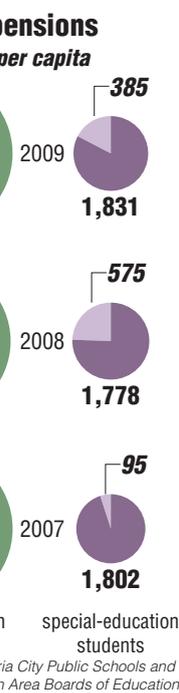
“I can’t re-write the VASS report,” said

Recalling ‘Queen of Lynnhaven’

FROM PAGE 1

She never let up until something got done, and she stuck with it until it was resolved.”

She is a former president of the Lynnhaven Civic Association, where she was known as the “Queen of Lynnhaven” because of her longtime advocacy for the neighborhood. She was an elections chief for the Cora Kelly Precinct, a member of the Alexandria Senior Services Agency board of directors and an officer of the First Agape Baptist Church. She was also a former director of ALIVE Child Development Center, where she pushed the center to receive accreditation National Association for Education of Young Children.



GRAPH BY LAURENCE FOONG/GAZETTE

Carter raised this issue during her campaign earlier this year, and she said she would like to see other members of the board support the idea.

“Principals need to have a real comprehension of what the requirements of the IEPs mean,” said Carter during a break at a recent School Board meeting. “In order for that to happen, our principals need more training in terms of how these plans should be implemented.”

Some policymakers say a familiarity with these plans is at the root of the disparity in suspension rates. Many special-education students have triggers that prompt emotional reactions. So knowing that those triggers are is the best way to preempt potential discipline problems. But some say that a lack of familiarity with these individualized plans has created a situation that has led to discipline problems that could have been avoided if administrators and teachers had a better grasp of what was in these documents.

“Students shouldn’t be held responsible for behavior they can’t control,” said School Board member Ronnie Campbell. “If the triggers for misbehavior are spelled out in an IEP, then there’s really no reason they can’t be avoided.”

“She was very gentle, and she loved the children,” said Ken Naser, executive director of ALIVE. “This is someone who devoted her entire life to serving low-income families and seeing that things that were made available to children of low-income families so kids can start Kindergarten on a level footing.”

She is survived by her husband, Eugene Tucker; two children; three grandchildren; three great-grandchildren; and a host of other relatives and friends. Visitation will be at the First Agape Baptist Church on Sept. 25 from 7 to 9 p.m., with services at the church on Sept. 26 at 11 a.m. Burial will be at the Mount Comfort Cemetery with the Rev. Daniel Brown officiating. Greene Funeral Home will be handling arrangements.

McLeod. “But moving forward, I want to make sure that parental concerns are reflected in the work we do.”

ONE POLICY SUGGESTION that School Board members may soon take up involves the “individual action plans” known as “IEPs.” The report suggests that principals should be held accountable for how these documents are implemented. To accomplish a greater sense of accountability, the report suggests, implementation of these plans should be part of performance evaluations for principals in Alexandria. School Board member Mimi

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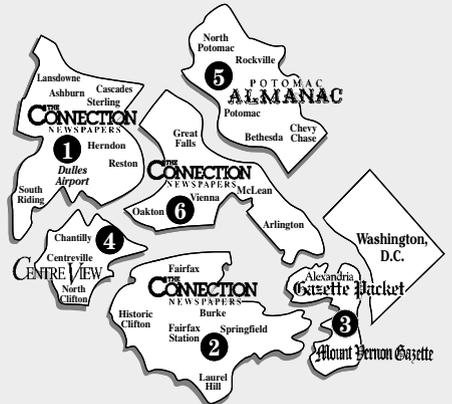
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SPORTS

TC Defeats Oakton

FROM PAGE 26
game with Abbe's fumble return. The Titans held Oakton to 178 total yards.

Benton's evening included a forced fumble, a fumble recovery and an interception for the Titans.

"THE MAIN FOCUS was to come out in the second half and don't give up, no matter what the score is," Benton said. "I don't think [anybody] ever believed in us, for real. The only person that believed in us was us." Thompson sounded like a Titan believer after the game.

"Has anybody watched T.C. lately? The last two years we've played them they've been a menace," the Oakton coach said. "They're a very good football team. Their coach does a great job. I don't know why they don't get more respect."

Oakton defeated T.C. Williams, 39-23, last season.

Carter rushed 12 times for 69 yards for T.C. Williams. Taylor carried 20 times for 63 yards and Aziz Coker caught three passes for 38 yards and Bennie Jenkins caught one pass for 30 yards.

Bray completed 5 of 13 passes for 77 yards. He was intercepted twice. Carter was 1-for-3 for 30 yards.

Thirty-five of T.C. Williams' 51 plays were rushes and 121 of the Titans' 228 yards came on the ground.

Next up for T.C. Williams is the Titans' Patriot District opener against Lake Braddock at 1 p.m. Saturday at Parker-Gray Memorial Stadium.

"We're trying to change things around here at T.C.," Abbe said. "We're not going through another losing season."

SPORTS BRIEFS

FROM PAGE 26

Bishop Ireton Cardinal 5K Run to be held at 9 a.m. Oct. 4 at Eisenhower Avenue, in Alexandria.

Runners can register online at www.bishopireton.org or mail registration form with check to BIHS, Attn: 5K run/athletic boosters, 201 Cambridge Rd., Alexandria, VA 22314.

Entry fee is \$25 through Oct. 3 and \$30

on race day. Participants will receive a free T-shirt. Fruit, snacks and beverages will be provided after the race. Each participant who brings a canned food donation will be invited to a post-race picnic. Awards will be presented to overall winners and top three finishers in each age group.

Age groups are: 19 and under, 20-29, 30-39, 40-49, 50-59, 60-69, 70 and older.

For questions, e-mail Larry Clark, athletic boosters vice VP at clarkplpmr@aol.com.

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21 Announcements 21 Announcements

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION FOR SOLID WASTE PERMIT-BY-RULE FACILITY

In accordance with Virginia Solid Waste Management regulations 9 VAC 20-80-485.2.g., citizens may comment on a permit-by-rule application for a materials recovery facility to be located at 10100 Furnace Road in Lorton, Virginia. COMMENT PERIOD: September 8, 2009 through October 19, 2009. NAME AND ADDRESS OF APPLICANT: W&N Material Recovery Facility, 10001 Furnace Road, Lorton, Virginia 22079. The facility is owned and operated by Furnace Associates, Inc. PURPOSE OF NOTICE: The purpose of this notice is to allow the public to comment on a proposed material recovery facility, which will operate under a permit-by-rule to be issued by the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality after public comments are received. PROJECT DESCRIPTION: The facility is located on a 9.7 acre property off Furnace Road. The facility will accept construction and demolition debris and will process the waste to recover recyclable materials, such as cardboard, steel, or brick. Recyclable materials will be shipped off-site and reused, while remaining residuals will be shipped off-site for disposal. No waste materials will be left on-site. TO REVIEW THE PERMIT APPLICATION: A copy of the permit-by-rule application document is available for review at the Lorton Public Library, 9520 Richmond Highway, Lorton, Virginia 22079 under the title W&N Material Recovery Facility. HOW TO COMMENT: Written comments may be submitted at any time during the comment period via e-mail to the following address: wncomments@geosyntec.com. Alternatively, written comments can be mailed to: Hearing Officer, c/o Geosyntec Consultants, 10220 Old Columbia Road, Suite A, Columbia, Maryland 21046. Comments must include the name and address of the person commenting as well as a brief statement regarding the interest of the person commenting and how the operation of the facility may affect the citizen. Oral and written comments will be received at a public meeting to be held at 7:00 p.m. on October 19, 2009 at the Lorton Public Library, 9520 Richmond Highway, Lorton, Virginia 22079.

21 Announcements 21 Announcements

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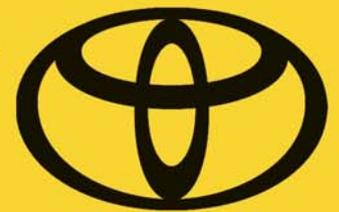
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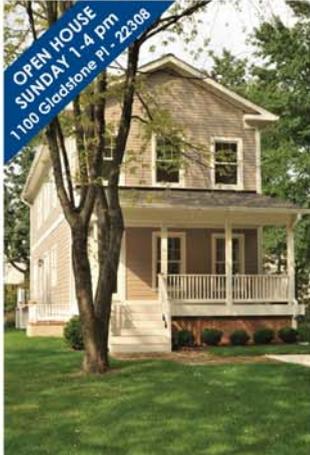
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