

Alexandria Gazette Packet



25 CENTS

VOL. CCXXVI, No. 12

SERVING ALEXANDRIA FOR OVER 200 YEARS • A CONNECTION NEWSPAPER

MARCH 25, 2010

Rule or Ruse?

Appeals court considers Alexandria's ability to impose a daily limit on trucks carrying ethanol.

BY MICHAEL LEE POPE
GAZETTE PACKET

Court of Appeals heard oral arguments in the case of Norfolk Southern versus Alexandria.

Does Alexandria have the right to limit the number of ethanol-laden trucks that can use city streets each day? Or does the city-issued permit limiting a West End ethanol transloading operation to 20 trucks a day amount to a local attempt to regulate hazardous materials? That's the issue that was before a three-judge panel Wednesday morning, March 24, in Richmond, where the Fourth Circuit

"Is it fair to suggest you are limiting the amount of ethanol that the railroad can transport and transload in Alexandria?" asked Judge Joseph Goodwin.

"I would say no, your honor," responded Eric Pilsk, an attorney

"The regulation of trucks is not railroad transportation. It's just that simple."

— Eric Pilsk, lawyer for Alexandria

representing the city. The regulation of trucks is not railroad transportation. It's just that simple."

Norfolk Southern took issue
SEE IN COURT, PAGE 3



CITY OF ALEXANDRIA

An interior view of what the current proposed design would look like at the Contrabands and Freedman's Cemetery Memorial would look like.

A Tale of Two Graveyards

After generations of neglect, African-American cemeteries come into their own.

BY MICHAEL LEE POPE
GAZETTE PACKET

City-owned maintenance vehicles were parked over one African-American graveyard. A gas station was constructed over the other. Together, the two long-neglected black cemeteries represent a lost chapter of Alexandria's history, one that's only now being written. But confronting the unsavory behavior from the past has not been easy, and it's created some dissension among the living. "It's a sad and shameful story," said Ferdinand Day, one of the city's preeminent civil-rights leaders. "And it shows a kind of Jim Crow attitude that prevailed in this city for many years."

— Ferdinand Day

At Freedman's Cemetery, opinions vary about

how to memorialize the dead. A consultant hired by the city has moved beyond a design approved in 2008 in favor of a more modern design. And a recent discovery of forgotten African-American burial sites at Fort Ward won't be completely excavated for four years because of a lack of funding. Together, the two sites still retain a sense of uncertainty about the best way to honor the men and women buried there.

"This is a city that was the largest slave-trading center on the East Coast, and I think that influenced the values of the people who ran the city for many years," said Glenn Eugster, who has been pressing

SEE BURIED HISTORY, PAGE 5



CITY OF ALEXANDRIA

A computer simulation of what the current proposed entrance of the Contrabands and Freedman's Cemetery Memorial would look like.

McKeag Leaves as AD

Basketball eligibility issues said to be reason for end of tenure.

BY JON ROETMAN
GAZETTE PACKET

Bob McKeag spent part of a recent afternoon in his office packing his belongings and wondering why his 18-month tenure as director of athletics at T.C. Williams High School had to end this way.

The 57-year-old McKeag will retire at the end of the school year, but Wednesday was his final day in the building. According to a statement written by McKeag, his retirement from the AD position,

as well as the timing of his departure, is the result of a March 10 meeting with ACPS Superintendent Dr. Morton Sherman.

The reason for the meeting, according to McKeag's statement, was "to inform me that the School Board needed to hold someone accountable for the eligibility issue

SEE MCKEAG, PAGE 32



McKeag

ATTENTION
POSTMASTER:
TIME-SENSITIVE
MATERIAL.
Address Service Requested
TO: 1604 KING ST.,
ALEXANDRIA, VA 22314





McENEARNEY ASSOCIATES, INC. REALTORS®

ALEXANDRIA \$1,250,000



Perfection! No Detail Overlooked.
Home has been totally updated within the last two years. Five renovated bathrooms, five spacious bedrooms, gorgeous formal living and dining rooms with charming detailing and hardwood floors throughout. The gorgeous kitchen with breakfast bar overlooks the family room with brick fireplace and large sun room opening to the back deck and yard.

Sue Goodhart
703.263.8321
www.suegoodhart.com



ALEXANDRIA/DEL RAY \$449,900



Welcome to Warwick Village

Take advantage of the homebuyers' tax credit and move right in to this unique rowhouse offering updated kitchen with newer appliances, Italian tiled breakfast bar, open floor plan, hardwood flooring, three upstairs bedrooms, spacious walk-out rec room opening to private deck and terraced yard.

Jennifer Walker
703.675.1566
www.jenwalker.com



ALEXANDRIA/DEL RAY \$524,900



Mount Vernon Court Just Listed

This townhouse is beautifully appointed with all of the important updates! Three bedrooms, two full and two half baths. Stunning eat-in kitchen, hardwoods throughout main level, decorator colors. Landscaped backyard with patio. One-car garage.

Cindy Clemmer
703.966.0403
www.cindyclemmer.com



ALEXANDRIA \$599,900



Renovated Head-to-Toe

Raised Rambler with contemporary flair, lively colors, hardwood throughout, kitchen with granite and stainless. Living room/dining room with surround gas fireplace. In-law suite with full kitchen, wood-burning fireplace, walk-out to private brick patio, enormous yard backs to woodland setting with adorable shed/playhouse/studio.

Honor Vandever Jane Manstof
703.615.0363 571.276.8116
www.honorjane.com



ALEXANDRIA CITY \$274,900



Sometimes "It's All About Location" in Parkfairfax

This stunning end-unit, updated with "all the right stuff" is situated on a quiet street, with an inviting stone walkway leading to ample parking outside your front door. Main-level one-bedroom has its own finished slate PATIO and backs to a beautiful, open, serene setting.

Diane R. Lee
703.812.7844
www.DianeRLee.com



OLD TOWN ALEXANDRIA \$369,500



La Petite Maison

Renovated carriage house in the heart of the historic district. Exposed brick, wood-burning fireplace, custom kitchen with antiqued maple cabinets and stainless steel appliances, "spa-style" bath, romantic sleeping loft, tiny walled garden, huge storage area. Stroll to Metro, Whole Foods, Starbucks.

Deborah Manarin
703.517.5005
www.mceneaney.com



ARLINGTON VILLAGE \$359,900



Renovated and Ready!

Two-level townhouse style condo in great close in location. Two bedrooms, one bath, updated kitchen with granite counters, new cabinets, new bath, replaced windows, new HVAC. Less than a mile to the Pentagon.

Donna Cramer
703.627.9578
www.donnacramer.com
MLS ID# AR7284886



WEST SPRINGFIELD \$369,900



Your Search Ends Here!

A great price for a brick townhome in sought-after Kenwood Hills! Features include hardwood floors, sunken living room, sunroom with French doors leading to the deck, three spacious bedrooms, master bedroom with a master bath, fully finished walk-out basement and a one-car garage. Excellent commuter location close to the Parkway and 95, and two shopping centers.

Jessica Richardson
703.864.3438
www.jessicarichardson.com
MLS ID# FX7286191



OLD TOWN ALEXANDRIA \$624,900



Old Town Charm Modern Convenience

Stunning sunlit townhome located in sought-after enclave. Rich with revival style architectural detail and modern convenience. This three-bedroom, three-and-a-half-bath home boasts high ceilings, beautiful moldings, hardwood flooring, granite kitchen, private patio, and more. Close to DC and walking distance to Metro and shops.

Jennifer Halm
703.851.2255
www.mceneaney.com
MLS ID# AX7288468



LEADING REAL ESTATE COMPANIES OF THE WORLD

703.549.9292
www.McEneaney.com
The BEST address for YOUR address



LUXURY PORTFOLIO FINE PROPERTY COLLECTION

Richmond Tumbleweeds

The legislative process is often compared to sausage making. And the psychology of legislative bodies is frequently equated to high-school cafeterias. But this year's General Assembly session has created a new analogy.

And it's criminal.

During a discussion of the late session, legislative director **Bernie Caton** touched on a phenomenon known as the "local aid to the state" program. Originally initiated in 2008, the program directs localities to essentially write a check to Richmond. This year, under a plan approved by the General Assembly, Alexandria will have to give back about \$1.3 million. City Manager Jim Hartmann's proposed budget did not include this hit to the budget, meaning the City Council members will have to reckon with the loss when they pass their budget in May.

"It used to be in the Old West, you needed a gun to rob somebody," said Vice Mayor **Kerry Donley**. "Now all you need is to be a member of the legislature."

The Spaghetti Incident

Spring is in the air, but the winter of discontent is lingering along the Shirley Memorial Highway.

A Transportation Master Plan has yet to materialize for the massive new building now under construction along the Interstate where more than 6,000 employees will work after the building opens in September 2011. And many are still bitter over a suggestion from the Virginia Department of Transportation to build a ramp through the Winkler Botanical Preserve. That chill was apparent in the tone of a draft letter to regional program director **Ronaldo Nicholson**.

In a draft of the letter considered by the City Council this week, the tone was a bit harsh: "Because your study has not identified improvements that fully address the transportation impacts of BRAC-133 while meeting the guiding principles of the BRAC Advisory Committee and council recommendations, we request that you continue to work with city staff and staff from adjacent jurisdictions to evaluate additional alternatives to relieve traffic pressures on Seminary Road."

Council members ended up approving the letter, but they asked city staffers to create a tone that was a bit warmer and friendlier. Meanwhile, a proposed public hearing in April to consider new alternatives has been jettisoned. None of the city's new concepts have been analyzed, and several council members felt the new proposals weren't ready for prime time.

"It seems to me that we are just throwing spaghetti at the wall to see what sticks," said Councilman **Rob Krupicka**. "This public hearing is another exercise in spaghetti throwing."

\$16 Million Stimulus

More than a year after President **Barack Obama** ushered his \$787 billion stimulus package through Congress, the contours of Alexandria's slice of the pie are beginning to emerge. According to a presentation to City Council members this week, Alexandria's share of the largess will be about \$16 million. That includes replacing traffic lights with LED bulbs, several new hybrid city vehicles and training for green jobs. The biggest ticket item is a \$2.4 million package that will purchase four new hybrid trolleys that are expected to hit King Street late next year.

"I realize that \$16 million might not seem like a lot of money," said Mayor **Bill Euille**. "But it's \$16 million we wouldn't have had otherwise, and it's being put to good use."

Correction

Last week's item about the potential for higher taxes included an incorrect maximum tax rate. According to the advertisement approved by the City Council last week, the maximum tax rate is 99.3 cents for every \$100 of assessed property.

— MICHAEL LEE POPE

In Court: Regulation or Ruse?

FROM PAGE 1

with this line of reasoning, arguing that the city's permit was a thinly veiled effort to regulate a hazardous material city leaders are on record opposing. In court filings and before the three-judge panel this week, railroad officials maintain that federal preemption of local authority applies to prevent a patchwork of different laws and regulations from taking effect every time liquid ethanol moves from one jurisdiction to another.

"If you don't have these preemption provisions, everybody is going to do exactly what Alexandria is doing," said Gary Bryant, the lawyer representing Norfolk Southern. "The last thing we want is go give the authority to make rules for handling hazardous materials to 50 different states and hundreds if not thousands of different localities. Otherwise, can you imagine, we would need several rail cars just to carry the manuals with all the rules."

THE CONFLICT between the railroad giant and city officials began in April 2008, when Norfolk Southern and RSI Leading began operating an ethanol transloading facility at the Van Dorn Yard behind Tucker Elementary School. Liquid ethanol is a class 3 hazardous substance, so many Cameron Station residents expressed a concern that an ethanol-filled truck would pose a serious risk to people and property. City officials first attempted to exert their right to regulate the loading operation, but the Surface Transportation Board rejected their authority. Then, in June 2008, the city issued a permit limiting the number of ethanol-filled trucks that could use Alexandria streets each day. Today, about 70 trucks carry ethanol from Van Dorn Yard to the Capital Beltway each day.

"When the facility opened, the city was faced with a problem, obviously, and the record reflects this, there were people in the city who objected to the facility," said Pilsk. "The city also recognized it had to deal with the cards it was dealt and do what it felt it needed to do to address the presence of these ethanol-filled trucks."

Over and over again, Norfolk Southern played its ace card — federal preemption. Railroad transpor-



PHOTO BY MICHAEL LEE POPE/GAZETTE PACKET

Lawyers for the city of Alexandria and Norfolk Southern squared off at the Fourth Circuit Court of Appeals in Richmond this week.

tation and hazardous materials are immune from local zoning authority. As a result, the railroad lawyer argued, any attempt by the city to use its permitting ability to limit how much ethanol could be transported from the railroad tracks amounted to an end-

"If you don't have these preemption provisions, everybody is going to do exactly what Alexandria is doing."

— Gary Bryant,
lawyer for Norfolk Southern.

run around federal laws that trumped local ordinances. Furthermore, he warned, enforcing the restriction would create a backlog of hazardous materials.

"I would love to hear what the citizens of Alexandria would have to say if we said we were going to build a tank farm and store two and a half million gallons of ethanol in their neighborhood," said

Bryant. "The bottom line is we can't do that."

The case could have wide-ranging implications. If Alexandria is successful in limiting trucks carrying ethanol, other jurisdictions are certain to use the case as a precedent to assume more control over their streets. And with increasing federal mandates requiring the use of liquid ethanol in gasoline, more areas throughout the county are going to find themselves in the same position Alexandria is in today.

"You need so much of it there around D.C. because your highway is cluttered up with automobiles," joked Chief Judge Robert King.

"I try to take the Metro and do my part that way," responded Pilsk.

DASH Stash Old Town Transit Shop manager admits to stealing.

Alexandria officials didn't even know what hit them. Not until they received a surprise resignation from Jean Stokes, 50, manager of the Old Town Transit Shop. Nobody even knew that money was missing until Stokes admitted stealing more than \$30,000 in a resignation letter, which was submitted on Jan. 25.

"It's a sad story," said Sandy Modell, general manager of DASH. "It wasn't all taken at once. This was money that was taken over a period of time."

After her resignation, the Alexandria Police Department launched an investigation into missing money from the daily deposits of the storefront lo-



Jean Stokes

cation retailing bus passes and DASH paraphernalia. Meanwhile, the city has hired the Charlottesville accounting firm Robinson, Farmer and Cox to conduct an audit and review of the Old Town Transit Shop's financial transactions and accounting.

According to the warrant for her arrest, Stokes embezzled \$30,232.85 between April 1, 2009 and Jan. 18, 2010. Stokes turned herself into the Alexandria Police Department on Sunday, March 21. A few days later, the Alexandria Police Department announced that they have charged her with one

count of embezzlement.

— MICHAEL LEE POPE

Special Evening at Union Street Public House

BY GALE CURCIO
GAZETTE PACKET

Water from flooding came down both sides of Union Street, but Union Street Public House not only remained dry, but was warm and inviting for the 150 or so guests

that attended Sunday's "Spring Forward to Union Street," Community Lodgings' Fifth Annual Spring Forward Event on March 14.

Initiated by Union Street's managing partner Robert J. Test, the restaurant donated the venue, food and wait staff for the evening. The connection was made through

Flooding doesn't stop Community Lodgings.

a local networking group.

While it's usually a nonprofit calling a restaurant to ask for donations, this time it was the other way around. Once Union Street selected Community Lodgings as the charity of choice, the call went out to Bonnie Baxley, Community Lodgings executive director. Even though they usually hold their spring event on a Saturday evening in April, Baxley quickly gathered her board members and explained that they had an opportunity. She quickly confirmed that they could make it work.

"When Union Street Pub chose to host Community Lodgings for our event, we knew we were fortunate. Their generosity, however, went well beyond our expectations. Guests all evening were commenting about how wonderful the venue, food and service were," said Baxley.

"Community Lodgings' programs could not be sustained without the help of others and we are extremely grateful to Union Street Public House for their exceptional willingness to give."

During the four-hour event, ample trays of Union Street's signature crab and lobster cakes were served, as well as miniature spanakopita and oversized shrimp. A raw bar included oysters and shrimp, while the carving station featured a 65-pound steamship round, salads, cheese and vegetable trays.



Co-chairs Maggie Johnston and Anne Lafond receive recognition for a job well done.

PHOTOS BY GALE CURCIO/GAZETTE



Chef Gordon Forester oversees the event at Union Street.

SEE COMMUNITY, PAGE 7

L A T I N
ALEXANDRIA ACADEMY

Rigorous Classical Curriculum

Dignified Standards of Student Conduct
& Civility

Historic Location in the Heart of Old
Town

Opening for Grades 5-8 this Fall

Now Accepting Applications

Contact Person:
Thomas A. Soule, Headmaster
tsoule@alexandria-academy.org

400 South Washington Street
Alexandria, VA 22314
703.535.5533

www.alexandria-academy.org

**Comparing some remodelers can be like
comparing a meek sapling to a mighty oak.**



Only one offers the countless advantages that come with size and age. That's why you need Case, the area's largest full-service residential remodeling company. Our business is rooted in providing superior craftsmanship and excellent service. And it has been from the very beginning, nearly fifty years ago. Plus, we offer popular name brand products and an unmatched five-year warranty, all at great value. So don't bark up the wrong tree. Call Case today for a free consultation.

CASE[®]
DESIGN/REMODELING, INC.

To register for our Free Remodeling Seminars visit casedesign.com/content/seminar or call 703-667-7397.

Buried History Finally Revealed

FROM PAGE 1

the city to recognize the burials at Fort Ward since 2008. "It took a long time for that to change, but there's now — finally — there's a recognition that these graves are important."

THE DISCOVERY of Freedman's Cemetery 20 years ago was a fluke. City Historian Michael Miller was leafing through the pages of old copies of the *Alexandria Gazette* when he came across an attention-grabbing headline: "Sensational Story." In the stilted Victorian language of that era, the article detailed the location of "a graveyard containing the bones of defunct colored people" located "at the southern end of Washington Street ... and directly opposite the Catholic cemetery."

That discovery prompted years of research, unraveling a chain of events beginning with the land being seized from a Confederate sympathizer to be used as a freedman's cemetery in 1864. The land passed through several owners before being donated to the Catholic Church, which put a stipulation on the deed that the land not be used for a gas station. What happened next is still somewhat of a mystery. Somehow, that stipulation was revoked in the 1955, and the City Council later approved the location of a gas station on the property.

"The tax map from the 1930s identified the property as 'Old Negro Cemetery.' So all they needed to do was look at their own records," said Miller in a 2008 interview. "I don't think the City Council acted totally out of ignorance."

Now a new challenge has presented itself at the cemetery — how to turn an approved design into a \$2 million reality. Back in 2008, architect C.J. Howard was the winner of a design contest featuring 200 proposals from 50 states and 20 countries. Since then, a consulting firm has been working on creating a site plan based on Howard's plan and suggestions from a steering committee. Last week, a new design was presented at a community meeting conducted at the Charles Houston Recreation Center.

"I liked how the original design included a cross," said Sam Shanklin, a descendant of one of the people buried at Freedman's Cemetery. "This is sacred ground, and I would like to see at least one cross incorporated into the final design."

HOWARD'S ORIGINAL design was dominated by a large pavilion, which has now been removed from the site plan. The current design has two walls bearing 1,792 inscribed names of those who are buried there. The new design will go before the Board of Architectural Review board in April before being considered by the Planning Commission in May. City officials are hoping to begin construction next year and schedule a dedication for late 2011.

"This is not a book, and it's not an exhibit," said Tracy Revis, the designer who was hired by the consultant to create a proposed site plan. "It's a memorial."

Two bas-relief sculptures portray the transient lives of Virginia freedmen — one showing a group crossing the Rappahannock River and the other depicting a group of blacks learning to read. One wall bears a

map of the city with streets of the 1860s. Symbols carved into the wall represent trades that employed the freedmen. When the new design was unveiled last week, some participants in the public meeting objected to the changes made to Howard's design. Others took issue with use of the word "contraband" in the title of the memorial reflecting the 19th century expression for liberated slaves.

"It means stolen," said Russell George, a member of the steering committee. "There were a lot of negative terms that were used to describe black people back then. We don't use those, do we?"

THE DEBATE ABOUT how to interpret the burials at Fort Ward hasn't even started yet. That's because city officials just realized about a year ago that the

area around the old Union artillery fort is surrounded by unmarked graves. After being approached by a number of concerned citizens about a year ago, city officials conducted a series of radar tests in the autumn that revealed 38 potential grave sites.

"We're cautiously optimistic," said Lance Mallamo, director of the Office of Historic Alexandria. "But at this point, we don't know if we're looking at a casket or a tree stump."

Six study areas at Fort Ward Park have been identified as possible burial locations. Each of the areas is believed to have multiple burials, and Mallamo hopes to start the process of "ground-truthing" by late summer. This is a process similar

to what happened at Freedman's Cemetery in which archeologists dig until they hit something — then identify it as a casket or something else. Mallamo says he expects the process to take four years because the amount of annual funding available for the project.

"We are going to phase this in as the funds are available," said Mallamo. "And we haven't even started talking about a design yet."

THE STORY OF HOW a city-owned maintenance yard ended up over a family cemetery is a story that dates back to a time when the Union army seized land that had once been a plantation. After the war was over, the Connecticut artillery brigade abandoned the property and recently freed slaves took possession of the land. By the time the city was trying to assemble lands to create Fort Ward Park in the 1960s, determining the titleholders to houses with no plumbing or sewer service created a problem.

"There may have been people who didn't want to sell but realized that their community was changing," said Wally Owen, curator at Fort Ward Park. "What's frustrating about this is that we don't have the full record of what went on back then."

Over time, the family burial plots were forgotten. Eventually, one of the burial yards became a maintenance yard where city-owned vehicles were parked. Now the city has initiated a multi-year effort to determine the full extent of the bodies buried there, bringing in archeologists, historians and genealogists to help piece together the buried secrets at Fort Ward.

"It's amazing how this kind of research can take a turn," explained Mallamo. "Right now, there are a lot of unanswered questions, and we could end up finding more burials as this moves forward."

"This is a city that was the largest slave-trading center on the East Coast, and I think that influenced the values of the people who ran the city for many years."

— Glenn Eugster

I'm Phillip Norris - Your Alex Neighbor



...for probably as long as you've lived in Alex. My wife and I grew up here. I'm a finish carpenter with 28 yrs. experience.

My work is meticulous, and I take great pride in completing jobs on time, and on budget. Let me give you a quote on that Spring home project you want to check off your list! My prices are reflective of the times.

Finish Carpentry & Trim Works

Licensed • Bonded • Insured.

References Upon Request.

Ofc: 703.684.5215 Cell: 703.403.2994

finishcarpentry1@verizon.net



Masonry Restoration and Renovation

- Stone and Brick Re-building
- Tuck Pointing
- Mortar Matching
- Concrete Re-surfacing
- Caulking and Waterproofing
- Terraces, walkways and stairs
- Masonry Cleaning
- New Design and Installations

703.247.3388



**ALEXANDRIA
CHAMBER
OF COMMERCE**

Proudly Presents

"Hot Topics" Breakfast

Thursday, April 1st 2010

7:30- 9:30 am

Virginia Theological Seminary

3737 Seminary Road, Alexandria, Virginia 22304

Featuring Guest Speaker Val Hawkins,
Alexandria Economic Development Partnership

We invite you to hear plans and strategies that the Alexandria Economic Development Partnership has in mind for attracting and retaining business in Alexandria.

This event is free to our members!!

To register for this event, please visit the Chambers website at www.alexchamber.com.
Non Member price \$25, On Site \$25

If you have any questions about this event, please contact Janelle Schmidt at jschmidt@alexchamber.com

LIVING LEGENDS

Betty Wright: With Gifts of Reading, Culture and History

By Stephanie Mansfield

Don't let Betty Wright's Southern manners fool you. Underneath that polite reserve is a woman with a sly wit, often irreverent observations and an infectious laugh which sets her eyes sparkling with a girlish mischievousness.

"You see her head turn sideways a little bit," laughs former Alexandria Mayor Patsy Ticer, now a state senator. "And she doesn't flaunt her accomplishments. You would never know that she's had such an illustrious history."

"This city would not be the same without Frank and Betty Wright."

— **Carolyn Abshire** Smart, savvy and generous, Betty Wright has made an impact on everything she touches, from historic preservation to Old Town civic causes to funding a nationally recognized literacy advocacy program in Alexandria for underprivileged children "The Wright To Read." "This was her baby. And it's really thriving," adds Ticer, who has known Wright since the late 1950's.

Born in Asheville, N.C., Betty Dale Rhoads arrived in Washington in 1942. She married insurance broker Frank Lester Wright, Jr. in 1949 and settled in Arlington.

One evening, she and her husband attended a production of "The Beggar's Opera" at The Little Theatre of Alexandria and the Wrights began their lifelong love affair with Old Town. The actor who played Mr. Peachum later sold them their first house in Old Town, 316 South Lee Street, in July, 1953 and the Wrights were early and staunch supporters of the theatre.

In 1979, they purchased the historic property on South Fairfax Street known as "The Doctor Brown House," once owned by William Brown, Surgeon General of the American Revolution and author of the first American Pharmacopeia. The Wrights lovingly preserved many details of the property, including the period woodwork, wide plank floors, hardware and even the original goat hair plas-



PHOTO BY NINA TISARA

Betty Wright

ter.

The couple also joined the burgeoning effort to preserve and protect the historic properties in Old Town, many of which were in disrepair and threatened with destruction. Their love of architecture was only rivaled by their keen interest in food and fine wine.

THAT YEAR, she and Frank began the Frank and Betty Wright Foundation and launched a mentoring and teaching program "The Wright to Read" giving the gift of literacy to underachieving children. The landmark program matches tutors with inner city students from kindergarten to the 5th grade and has helped thousands of children get a head start in life.

"She was really ahead of her time," says longtime Old Town resident Carolyn Abshire. "This city would not be the same without Frank and Betty Wright." Frank Wright died in 1993 after a battle with cancer. He was 73.

Betty Wright began her professional career at U.S. News & World Report as the promotion manager, and then joined the Historic Times Inc. in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania as a partner. The company eventually published seven magazines, including British Heritage, Civil War Times Illustrated,

Historic Times Illustrated and Early American Life. She retired when the company was sold to Coles Media.

Wright has had a lifelong passion for antiques. As a member of The International Society of Antique Scale Collectors, she is known for having one of the finest collections in the United States and is often fiercely bidding against other collectors on eBay.

After retiring as president of the Landmark Society, which then owned the Stabler-Leadbetter Shop Museum, she learned of the availability and purchased a large group of original records, letters and orders from the earliest days of the shop and donated the items to the Stabler-Leadbetter Apothecary Museum.

"I found out how important the records are," she once said. "It's really a record of Alexandria history. George and Martha Washington and Robert E. Lee all got their medicines there." The collection includes an inventory of documents dating from the 1790s to the 1930s. One famous order from Martha Washington asked for a quart of his finest castor oil to be delivered to Mt. Vernon. She was even able to track down Edward Stabler's 1790 journal, which is currently one of the most fascinating items in the museum. (The museum is now owned

as a video production intern.

Browne Academy sixth grader Patrick Higgins has qualified to represent Browne Academy at the state level of the National Geographic Bee. The state Bee will be held on Friday, April 9 at Shenandoah University.

Patrick won the school-level competition at Browne Academy on Thursday, January 7, 2010 to qualify for his place in the state competition.

Living Legends: The Project

Now in its third year, Living Legends of Alexandria is an ongoing 501(c)(3) photojournalistic project to identify, honor, and chronicle Alexandria's Living Legends. The project was conceived by Nina Tisara to create an enduring artistic record of the people whose vision and dedication make a tangible difference to the quality of life in Alexandria. The project is supported in part by the Rotary Club of Alexandria.

This is the second in a series of 12 profiles that will appear this year. For more information or to nominate a Legend for next year's program, visit www.alexandrialegends.com.

and operated by the City of Alexandria.)

WRIGHT HAS BEEN honored with many awards for her generosity, among them an award from The Alexandria Commission for Women in 2002, and a special award in 2004 from the Alexandria Historical Society.

During the 1980s, Wright became an integral part of refurbishing the State Department's official reception rooms. "For more than 20 years, Betty Wright has been a valued member of the Fine Arts Committee, U. S. Department of State," said Marcee Craighill, Curator of the Diplomatic Reception Rooms at the State Department. "Betty joined the committee because of her very persuasive friend and neighbor, Clement Conger. She remains a loyal, generous and engaged supporter of the Diplomatic Reception Rooms. Her contributions of objects, ideas and funds helped build a great national collection of Americana that provides a magnificent setting for American diplomacy. We truly congratulate Betty on becoming a Living Legend in Old Town."

As a Smithsonian Associate, Wright also funded one of their new display cases to feature objects not related to a specific exhibit. But it is literacy and books that are closest to her heart. In recognition of her work, Betty Wright received a special Daily Points of Light Award at the 2005 convention of the Points of Light Foundation held in Washington, D.C.

When she learned in the late 1990s that there were no funds to build a "reading garden" for the newly constructed Charles E. Beatley, Jr. Central Library, she offered to construct the 4,500 brick garden featuring benches, shade trees and colorful annuals. The garden, which was dedicated in June 2000, is a tranquil respite for reading, and is the site of chamber concerts and other events. The garden is also a living tribute to Betty Wright's warm and generous heart and commitment to the future generations of Alexandrians.

One winner from each state and territory will advance to the national competition, which will be held May 25th and 26th at the National Geographic Society headquarters in Washington, D.C. The final round of the 2010 National Geographic Bee, featuring Alex Trebek, will air on the National Geographic Channel on May 26. Browne Academy is a co-ed preschool through eighth grade independent school located in Alexandria.

PEOPLE NOTES

To have a People Note published in the Gazette-Packet, send an e-mail to gazette@connectionnewspapers or call Steve Hibbard 703-778-9412. Pictures encouraged.

George B. (Brooks) Eaton of Alexandria recently completed an 80-day course in Patagonia — the remote region encompassing parts of Argentina and Chile — with the Na-

tional Outdoor Leadership School (NOLS). Under the guidance of NOLS' professional instructors, Brooks and his fellow students traveled by sea kayak and foot through some of the wildest country on Earth, including the Patagonian Andes and the stormy coast of southern Patagonia, and also earned their Wilderness First Aid certifications in the process.

Brooks is a 2009 graduate of T.C. Williams High School and now works for NOLS in Lander, Wy.,

Springing Forward with Fundraiser

FROM PAGE 4

Guests had the run of the entire first floor to mingle while enjoying food and beverages. A selection of silent auction items was displayed in the Regatta Room.

WHEN THE SILENT auction was closed, guests were invited upstairs for dessert and coffee, presentations and a live auction.

Honored was Barry C. Stauffer, "A Man with a Hammer — A Man with a Mission." Board Chair Chris McMurray acknowledged Stauffer's extensive volunteer time and his ability to organize and lead groups of volunteers in repairing and beautifying no less than eight transitional apartments.

Also acknowledged was the late Jack Smircina, Community Lodgings' board member, who recently died. McMurray presented Smircina's wife, Alva, with a plaque that will be planted under a tree dedicated to Jack.

Alexandria Mayor William D. Euille served as honorary auctioneer before passing the gavel to auctioneer Tim Sullivan. The event wrapped up with a very profitable paddle challenge.

Anne LaFond and Maggie Johnston co-chaired the 2010 Spring Forward Gala, and said, "We would like to thank Union Street Public House for hosting our Spring Forward Gala, our sponsors, our donors and our many friends and neighbors who joined us for our 5th Annual Spring Forward Gala.

"This successful evening will ensure that Commu-



Barry C. Stauffer is acknowledged by Chris McMurray.

PHOTO BY GALE CURCIO/GAZETTE

nity Lodgings will continue providing homeless and at-risk families with housing and classes held in our Learning Center. Thank you, Alexandria."

"It was an event beyond our expectations. Union Street was wonderful, generous, fun," added La Fond.

Jim Dempsey, director of development, Community Lodgings, said, "We could not be happier about Union Street Public House's support in hosting Community Lodgings' 'Spring Forward to Union Street' event. It is a testament to the importance of our mission that the entire community chipped in to make last night a success. From the Mayor to local businesses to our amazing Board, staff and volunteers, we were excited to see such enthusiasm from supporters young and old."

Alexandria Gazette Packet

If you do not get The Alexandria Gazette Packet delivered to your home...

FIRST CLASS MAILED SUBSCRIPTIONS

are now available for the first time with timely postal carrier delivery: \$30 for six months. Help us meet the costs of providing first-rate community journalism on newsprint to your household.

Call 703-778-9426 (or -9427) or e-mail circulation@connectionnews.com

Trusted Dental Care Your Doctor Would Recommend.

Rejuvenate your smile and restore your youth!



FairlingtonDental
Local Expertise for Healthy Smiles

Michael B. Rogers, DDS
Dennis J. Holly, DMD

4850 S. 31st Street, Suite A, Arlington, VA 22206

703.671.1001

www.FairlingtonDental.com

Cosmetic Dental Services:

- Porcelain Veneers including Lunineers®
- In Office Whitening
- Invisalign® Clear Braces

Pain Management:

- Non-Surgical TMJ Treatment
- The Magic Wand-virtually painless anesthesia

Unique Dental Services:

- Dental Sleep Appliance
- Computer Preview of New Smile

Concierge Services:

- Relaxing, Spa-Inspired Atmosphere
- Relax and enjoy Direct TV® or music during your appointment
- Interest Free Financing
- Complimentary parking



Dr. Michael Rogers –

Trusted by the community and committed to the latest technology and highest standards.

- Featured on NBC4 with Doreen Gensler's Healthline
- Featured Dentist at NBC4 Health & Fitness Expo
- Selected as a Top Dentist in Checkbook Magazine
- Published in Washington Woman, Washington Parent, Ladies Home Journal, Perfect Smile Magazine & TMJ News-n-Views

Testimonials

"As a surgeon, I rely on Dr. Rogers and his team to manage the patients non-surgically to help avoid the need for surgery. I regard him as one of the premier dentists in the non-surgical management of TMJ Disorders."
—Dr. Joseph Arzadon

"Very professional environment, excellent level of service, up-to-date dental technology." — Anne

"Pleasant attitude and personal attention – took my concerns seriously." — Mary

"Organized, timely, and pain-free and you develop relationships with your patients." — Kim

"The best customer service of any office by far! You treat your patients with respect and courtesy in a way that is extremely rare." — Nancy

GW SCHOOL OF BUSINESS

ACCELERATED MASTER OF TOURISM ADMINISTRATION

Online!

Earn your degree with a convenient distance-learning format combined with short residencies.

Concentrate on your interest.

Choose from specializations including Event & Meeting Management and Sustainable Destination Management.

Internationally-recognized education.

Program is TedQual certified by United Nations World Tourism Organization (UNWTO).

Information Sessions

Thursday, April 1
1:00 pm ET

Wednesday, April 7
5:30 pm ET

Online

Rsvp Today!

202.973.1130

nearyou.gwu.edu/tourism

THE GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY
WASHINGTON DC

BRING US YOUR **AMBITION.**

www.gwu.edu/gradapply



THE GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY/AFFIRMATIVE ACTION INSTITUTION. CERTIFIED TO OPERATE IN VA BY SCHEV.

In Response to Your Requests...

ALEXANDRIA LIGHTING & SUPPLY

... is making some changes!

Starting **WEDNESDAY APRIL 7th**, we are Open Every Wednesday!

7:30AM - 7:00PM



ALEXANDRIA LIGHTING & SUPPLY
701 No. Henry St., Alexandria, VA

703-548-2320

www.alexandrialighting.com

Ample Free Parking

OPINION

Gazette Packet Wins Awards

The Connection Newspapers won more than 30 Virginia Press Association news awards — announced at the annual news conference held in Roanoke on Saturday, March 20.

Honors included multiple awards for business and financial writing, education writing, investigative reporting, election coverage, breaking news, public safety writing, editorial writing, photography, design, sports, special sections.

Political and education reporter Julia O'Donoghue won first place for her education writing, in particular three stories which appeared in the Connection's new special section,

A-plus. O'Donoghue also won multiple awards for business and financial writing and investigative reporting.

Reporter Michael Lee Pope won 11 awards in all, including first place for his breaking news coverage of the arrest of Alexandria's police chief for DUI. Pope also won awards for investigative reporting, election coverage, business and financial writing, education writing, government writing, feature writing and in-depth obituaries.

Photographer Louise Krafft won nine awards, including pictorial photo, picture story/essay, news photo and for her contributions to two special sections, HomeLifeStyle and A-Plus

Education, Learning, Fun.

Reporter Mike DiCicco won four awards, including first place for his coverage of a burglary spree that targeted local South Asians' gold jewelry. DiCicco also won for feature writing and education writing.

Mary Kimm won second place for editorial writing for a group of five editorials about education in Northern Virginia.

The Connection's design team including also won awards, two for special sections HomeLifeStyle and A-Plus Education, Learning, Fun.

The Alexandria Gazette Packet also won second place in general makeup, a measure of overall excellence.

EDITORIAL

Winners

Here is a partial listing of stories, photos, special sections and more that won awards in the Virginia Press Association news contests.

Julia Sheehan O'Donoghue, first place, Education writing, Springfield Connection
Michael Lee Pope, first place, Breaking news writing Police Chief Busted for DUI. Alexandria Gazette Packet
Michael Lee Pope, first place, Feature series or continuing story, Alexandria Gazette Packet
Michael Lee Pope, first place, Personal service writing. Three obituaries, an officer, a gentleman and a savior. Alexandria Gazette Packet
Michael Lee Pope, first place, Business and financial writing, Arlington Connection
Louise Krafft, first place, Pictorial photo, Alexandria Gazette Packet
Louise Krafft first place Pictorial photo, Arlington Connection
Robbie Hammer, first place, General news photo, Oak Hill/Herndon Connection
Mike DiCicco, first place, General news writing, Burglary Spree Targets South Asians' Gold Jewelry Oak Hill/Herndon Connection
Steven Mauren, Geovani Flores, Laurence Foong, Louise Krafft, Jean Card, Michael Lee Pope, second place, General makeup. Alexandria Gazette Packet

Michael Lee Pope, second place, Education writing, Alexandria Gazette Packet
Michael Lee Pope second place General news writing, Election 2009. Alexandria Gazette Packet
Michael Lee Pope second place Feature series or continuing story, Quackgate, Mount Vernon Gazette
Julia Sheehan O'Donoghue second place In-depth or investigative reporting, Mount Vernon Gazette
Mary Kimm second place Editorial writing, Five editorials about education.
Laurence Foong, Louise Krafft, Mary Kimm, Julia O'Donoghue, second place, Specialty pages or sections, A-Plus, Education, Learning, Fun. McLean Connection
Julia Sheehan O'Donoghue, second place, Business and financial writing, McLean Connection
Mike DiCicco, second place, Feature writing portfolio, Great Falls Connection.
Ken Moore, Bonnie Hobbs second place Public safety writing. Stories of embezzlement, murder, rampage, and more. Fairfax Connection.
Jason Mackey, second place, Sports writing portfolio, Centre View.
Louise Krafft, second place, Pictorial photo, Arlington Connection

Michael Lee Pope, second place, Government writing, Arlington Connection
Michael Lee Pope, third place, Government writing, Perks Pitfalls and Plastic, Alexandria Gazette Packet
Michael Lee Pope, third place, In-depth or investigative reporting, City Misses Potential Threat, Alexandria Gazette Packet
Louise Krafft, third place, Picture story or essay, Halloween, Alexandria Gazette Packet
Louise Krafft, third place, General news photo, Mount Vernon Estate celebrates 4th of July
Gerald Fill, third place, Public safety writing, Mount Vernon Gazette
Julia Sheehan O'Donoghue third place, Business and financial writing, Laurel Hill/Fairfax Station Connection
Louise Krafft, third place, Picture story or essay, HomeLifeStyle, Garden tour of Domaine St Charles, Great Falls Connection.
Louise Krafft, Laurence Foong, Mary Kimm, Julia O'Donoghue, Donna Manz, Mike DiCicco, third place, Specialty pages or sections, HomeLifeStyle. Great Falls Connection
Mike DiCicco, third place, Education writing. Great Falls Connection



PHOTO BY AMY CARLINI

Poster Contest Winners

Winners of the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., Poster Contest pose for a photo at last Thursday evening's School Board meeting. With the children are Carlton Funn, director of the Alexandria Black History Museum Louis Hicks, Superintendent of Schools Mort Sherman and School Board Chair Yvonne Folkerts.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR Confidentiality Trumps Disclosure

To the Editor:

I write in response to the article entitled "Transparency Blackout," March 18. Years ago some bright bulb in City Hall wanted to slap the City seal decals on the doors of unmarked police cars. A veteran detective sergeant inquired as to what would follow: name tags which say "hello, I am an undercover police officer"? Thankfully the idea died, skewered by a dose of common sense, as should the notion that the police should routinely make public details of operations or content of police reports. Police reports are protected from public disclosure for sound policy reasons which are consistent with the safety of the public, the rights of crime victims, and the rights of defendants. This editorial rant on the subject, thinly disguised as a news story, is very wide of the mark. Law enforcement investigations and prosecutions are not carried out for the primary purpose of providing fodder for his paper.

Crime victims are afforded rights to confidentiality which are set forth in the Code of Virginia. Perhaps the reporter might ask himself a few questions: would he welcome re

SEE LETTERS, PAGE 11

Alexandria Gazette Packet

www.AlexandriaGazette.com

Newspaper of Alexandria

An independent, locally owned weekly newspaper delivered to homes and businesses.

1606 King Street
Alexandria, Virginia 22314

NEWS DEPARTMENT:
To discuss ideas and concerns,
Call: 703-778-9410
e-mail:
gazette@connectionnewspapers.com

Steven Mauren
Editor, 703-778-9415
smauren@connectionnewspapers.com

Michael Lee Pope
Reporter, 703-778-9437
alexandriagazette@yahoo.com

Steve Hibbard
Associate Editor, 703-778-9412
shibbard@connectionnewspapers.com

Jon Roetman
Sports Editor, 703-224-3015
jroetman@connectionnewspapers.com

ADVERTISING:
To place an advertisement, call the ad department between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday - Friday.

Display ads 703-778-9410
Classified ads 703-778-9411
Employment ads 703-778-9413

Julie Ferrill
Display Advertising, 703-778-9446
jferrill@connectionnewspapers.com

Jane Hughes
Display Advertising, 703-778-9448
jhughes@connectionnewspapers.com

Tara Lloyd
Display Advertising, 703-778-9447
tlloyd@connectionnewspapers.com

Andrea Smith
Classified Advertising, 703-778-9411
asmith@connectionnewspapers.com

Barbara Parkinson
Employment Advertising
703-778-9413
bparkinson@connectionnewspapers.com

Publisher
Jerry Vernon

Editor & Publisher
Mary Kimm

Editor in Chief
Steven Mauren

Photography:
Louise Krafft, Robbie Hammer

Art/Design:
Geovani Flores, Laurence Foong,
John Heinly, Wayne Shipp,
John Smith

Production Manager:
Jean Card

Editor Emeritus:
Mary Anne Weber

CIRCULATION: 703-778-9427
Circulation Manager:
Ann Oliver

**CONNECTION NEWSPAPERS,
L.L.C.**
Peter Labovitz
President/CEO

Mary Kimm
Publisher/Chief Operating Officer
703-778-9433
mkimm@connectionnewspapers.com

Jerry Vernon
Publisher/Executive Vice President
jvernon@connectionnewspapers.com

Wesley DeBrosse
Controller

Debbie Funk
National Sales, 703-778-9444
debfunk@connectionnewspapers.com

A Connection Newspaper

The Alexandria Gazette Packet is distributed weekly to selected homes in the City of Alexandria. Any owners or occupants of premises that do not wish to receive the paper can notify the publisher by telephone at 703-917-6480 or by email to circulation@connectionnewspapers.com, and the distributor will be notified to discontinue service.

OPINION

Titan Pride: Moving From Good to Great

BY DR. MORTON SHERMAN
SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS



Sometimes I want to open the window like that character in the movie "Network" and shout, "Stop ... stop the federal and state madness which classifies and lumps schools together based on test scores."

T.C. Williams High School is not a failing school. It is a good school working hard to be a great school, but it has recently been designated by the state and federal governments as a Persistently Lowest Achieving (PLA) school.

The label "persistently lowest achieving" is not the same as persistently low achieving. This new category is based on comparisons to other Title I eligible schools in Virginia. The numbers on which this label is based:

- ❖ 84% of our 11th grade students passed the reading assessments last year.
- ❖ 77% of our 11th grade stu-

dents passed the end-of-course math assessments.

In the year and a half I have been here, we have talked candidly about how our school division and our individual schools are doing. The information about TC being a PLA school is not new. You may ask why we didn't do something about it earlier. Over the years, ACPS has made efforts, but they have not given us the results our students deserve. We must do our work better, and in some cases, differently.

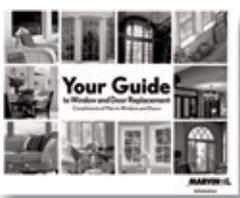
Our schools have helped many students achieve at exemplary levels. The flip side is that we have not put the spotlight and candor needed on the groups of students who have not achieved over the years. Strikingly, this new PLA

SEE TITAN, PAGE 28



ASK ABOUT ENERGY STAR





*If you're window shopping and want helpful information—visit MarvinReplacement.com to download your **FREE** Replacement Guide.*



Built around you.™

Considering Replacing Your Old, Drafty Windows?

Visit one of our Marvin showrooms in your area or call for a **FREE** in home estimate.

Download your **FREE REPLACEMENT GUIDE** at MARVINREPLACEMENT.com



Window and Door
SHOWPLACE

WindowAndDoorShowplace.com

Sales - Installation - Service

McLean, VA (703) 506-3650	Falls Church, VA (703) 560-6625	Rockville, MD (301) 315-8100
------------------------------	------------------------------------	---------------------------------

McEneaney's #1 Real Estate Agent and Alexandria's #1 Real Estate Firm
The perfect combination for your next transaction.

THE SPRING MARKET IS IN BLOOM! OPEN SUNDAY 1-4 PM



805 GRAND VIEW DR



505 CANTERBURY LANE



414 S. COLUMBUS STREET



804 RUSSELL ROAD



SUE GOODHART
and the Goodhart Group

Sue Goodhart has been the sales leader at McEneaney for the past seven years. Combined with McEneaney's 25 year history as the sales leader in Alexandria, it is the perfect combination to ensure success in your next transaction.



703.263.8321

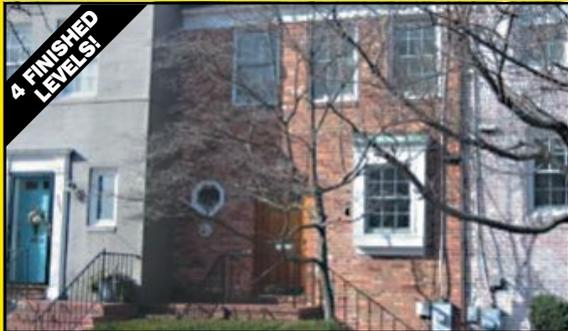
www.SueGoodhart.com



Weichert, Realtors®

Alexandria/Old Town
 121 N. Pitt Street, Alexandria, VA 22314
703-549-8700
 www.weichert.com

THINKING OF A REAL ESTATE CAREER? Call Kim Farina at the Alexandria/Old Town Office.



Alex/Old Town \$704,000
 Sensational master suite & private guest suite! Totally updated on 4 finished levels.
823 South Lee Street
Diann Hicks 703-628-2440



Alexandria \$475,000
 Beautifully maintained home w/hardwoods, updated kitchen & baths, huge deck for entertaining, 4 bedrooms, 2 baths & play house for the kids. A must-see!
3411 Beechcraft Drive
Mary Katherine Tyler 571-233-9855



Alexandria \$1,298,000
 Large landscaped lot with view. Updated kitchen & baths, 4 bedrooms, 2-car garage & 2 fireplaces.
1808 Hunting Cove Place
Diann Hicks 703-628-2440



Alexandria \$310,000
 You will love the convenience and pleasures of this super condo. 7th floor w/balcony, cosy fireplace & walk-in close. Low utilities and beautiful pool w/spa. Summers coming back!
1200 Braddock Place #706
Sue Feintheil 703-819-1964



Alex./Rosemont \$699,000
 Update Craftsman-style home w/3 bedrooms, 1 bath, garage & huge yard. Unfinished LL, walk-up attic & 7,250 SF lot offering expansion opportunities. Blocks to Metro, shops & restaurants in Old Town & Del Ray.
22 West Braddock Road
Christine Garner 703-587-4855



Alexandria \$725,000
 Elegant home w/3 bedrms, 3.5 baths & gourmet kitchen w/center island. Gorgeour master suite w/private bath, soaking tub & 2 separate vanities. LL family rm w/fireplace & walk-out to brick patio.
264 Medlock Lane
Gary Chute 703-371-9926



Springfield \$449,900
 Lovely renovated 4 bedrm, 2 bath colonial w/ garage. Beautiful family rm, cherry kitchen, library, workshop & great landscaping. Fantastic location.
6211 Bardu Avenue
Joyce Talley 703-451-8823



Arlington \$339,000
 Rarely available Ashlawn model unit w/ lovely cherry hardwoods thru-out. This sunny unit has 2 bedrms, renovated bath, & 2nd level loft that can be converted to living space.
4855 28th Street #81
Melanie Trainer 703-447-5860



Alex./Old Town \$549,000
 Light-filled updated 2 bedroom, 2 bath end unit with 3 finished levels and a deep backyard! Located in the Southeast Quadrant, steps from shops & restaurants.
909 S. Columbus Street
Christine Garner 703-587-4855



Alexandria \$849,000
 Pristine 4 level TH w/3 bedrm, 3.5 bath & roof terrace. Entry level den w/patio & garden. Cherry cabinets & granite in kitchen. Private & quiet. Only 2 blocks to metr.
440 Chauncey Court
Julie Hall 703-786-3634



Alexandria \$774,900
 Single family home in the heart of Del Ray nestled on tree lined street provides the convenience of city living in a small town atmosphere. Gourmet kitchen, 4 bedrms, 2 baths, & finished LL recreation rm.
100 Mt. Ida Avenue
Bobi Bomar 703-927-2213



Alexandria \$359,900
 Fantastic location and easy living. Bright open floor plan. 2 bedrooms, 1.5 baths w/easy parking. New TRANE heat & AC unit. New front-loading washer/dryer. Clean & fresh.
2312 Dearing Street
Julie Hall 703-786-3634

Visit Us at Weichert.com for a full Listing of New Properties

LETTERS

FROM PAGE 8

lease to the public domain a copy of a police report which listed his credit card numbers or bank account numbers if he were the victim of a financial crime? Would he welcome the release of his own name, address and telephone number (or that of his child or other family member) were any of them a witness to a serious crime such that he harbored fear of retribution if he testified against the defendant in court? Worse yet, were one of his family members the victim of a sexual assault, domestic assault, or other difficult and sensitive affront, would he welcome public knowledge of such matters? Who would, and to what good end? The sacred "right of the public to know" is still (barely) governed by standards of reasonableness and civility.

Persons accused of crimes have rights as well. If the reporter were accused of some criminal act detailed in an account contained in a police report, would he revel in the publication of such allegations before they could be proven beyond a reasonable doubt in a court of law? Does he believe that such public knowledge would enhance his, or anyone else's, ability to get

a fair trial, once potential members of a jury had read all about it on the front page before hearing one word of testimony? That is why we have trials in criminal cases, in the process of which defendants and their attorneys, rather than reporters, are furnished with all the information that is legally required for the preparation of a defense. As the reporter knows, such trials are matters of public record which he is welcome to attend, watch and report on. And what is the point of releasing a police report after a trial is over? So reporters, politicians and pundits who have no legal training can second guess the outcomes of legal proceedings or the exercise of prosecutorial discretion?

The most offensive theme of this article is the notion that law enforcement agencies decline to release these reports to protect their own, or to conceal corrupt behavior. Witness his rhetorical query regarding whether or not Arlington police tried to extend special treatment to Alexandria's chief of police when he was arrested for drunk driving. First, the outcome of the case demonstrates the absurdity of the query. Second, is the reporter so naïve that he actually

believes if such a thing really happened, it would be documented in a report written by an officer? Believe it or not, the reporter and his colleagues are not the last true guardians of truth and justice, the attainment of which does not hang on unfettered exercise of journalistic zeal. Last time I checked there were multiple safeguards in place to assure the integrity of the criminal justice system. Conscientious and dedicated judges, prosecutors, public defenders, and law enforcement officers work in a system which is as transparent as it needs to be, constrained by reasonable and appropriate limitations which are there for the greater good, not for purposes of playing hide the ball.

S. Randolph Sengel
Commonwealth's Attorney
Alexandria

Anyone's Property Can Be Taken

To the Editor:
On March 1, the Fox News Chan

SEE LETTERS, PAGE 15

All during the month of March



King's Jewelry is celebrating our 55th anniversary

up to 55% off
fine merchandise throughout the store!

Enjoy **once-a-year savings** on our fine jewelry, watches, and giftware.*

as an added value

All aquamarine jewelry specially priced at 30% off.

*Discount does not apply to Rolex watches, Hearts On Fire, Lladro, Swiss Army & our already competitively priced diamond engagement rings.
Items pictured not to scale. Discounts may not be combined.
Sale ends March 31, 2010

703-549-0011 **609 King Street**
KingsJewelry.NET **Alexandria, VA 22314**

Open Monday - Saturday, 10 am - 6 pm

BEAUTY • QUALITY • INTEGRITY • VALUE



INTENSITY. SPIRIT. PASSION. TEAM WORK.

MADEIRA ATHLETICS

“MADEIRA GIRLS have something to say”

The Madeira School
8328 Georgetown Pike • McLean, Virginia 22102 • 703-556-8273 • www.madeira.org



COLDWELL BANKER IS PLEASED TO RECOGNIZE ITS 2009 AWARD RECIPIENTS

RESIDENTIAL BROKERAGE

\$30 MILLION PLUS



THE SHERRY YORK TEAM

\$25 MILLION PLUS



DONNAN C. WINTERMUTE

\$20 MILLION PLUS



JOY DEEVY

\$20 MILLION PLUS



PHYLLIS PATTERSON

\$15 MILLION PLUS



LINDA TRINKLE WOLF

\$10 MILLION PLUS



CHRIS UPHAM



LIZ BUCUVALAS



MARIE MEYER



NANCY TOMPKINS



GRACE ALBRITTON



JEANNE VANDER-
MYDE- WARNER



BONNIE RIVKIN

NVAR TOP PRODUCER: \$6 MILLION PLUS



BRENDA STONE



KAREN LEONARD



TOM RICKERT



GREG DOHERTY



RITA MCCAULEY-
REDMOND



SUSAN GRAY
CHAMBERS



MARK SOUDER



J.D. Power and Associates
2009 Home Buyer/Seller StudySM
Awarded **Coldwell Banker**[®]

*"Highest Overall Satisfaction
For Home Sellers Among
National Full Service Real Estate Firms"*

FOR ALL OF YOUR REAL ESTATE NEEDS, GO TO:
WWW.CBMOVE.COM

NVAR MULTI MILLION DOLLAR CLUB: \$3 MILLION PLUS



CAROL HOOKS



MARY CAY HARRIS



HUGO ROMERO



JOHN RONVEAUX



FRAN ORR



YVONNE CROFT



ANN LOCKWOOD



BOOTS LEAVITT



GAYL WARMAN



JONATHON
KRIEGER



ANN-MARIE
GROTTICELLI



JANE COLE



ELOISE BRANTLEY



JENNIFER COLLIER

MANAGER'S CIRCLE: \$2 MILLION PLUS



RACHEL CARTER



DENISE DAVIS



CLAY SCHOEFFEL



NORA PARTLOW



CATHY
D'ANTUONO



AJ HEIDMAN



EDWARD PAGETT



BOB WOODS



CINDIE FISH



JAMES HASKINS



CINDEE JACKSON



NICKY
MCDONNELL



HYE PESSARO



JANICE KENDALL

703.518.8300 Main Office

310 King Street, Alexandria, Virginia 22314



Office Hours: Monday-Friday, 9am - 6pm Saturday, 9am - 4pm Sunday, 10am - 4pm

Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage is owned and operated by NRT, LLC.



**COLDWELL
BANKER**

RESIDENTIAL BROKERAGE

For all of your real estate needs, go to:
www.CBMove.com/Alexandria

SPACIOUS COLONIAL



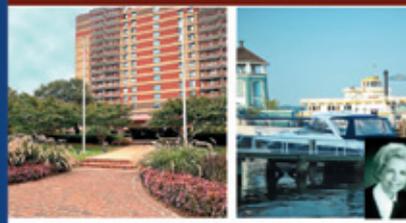
4122 SCOTLAND ROAD
\$689,000 | Mt Vernon Grove
5 BR, 2.5 BA Spacious, brick home with 2 car garage, upgrades throughout! Beautiful! www.4122Scotland.com
Rachel Carter | 703.851.4207

JUST LISTED



8210 MACK STREET
\$865,000 | Alex S / GW Parkway
3 MI col, stunning renovation, huge yd, culdesac, scr porch, hw flrs, Dir S GW Pkwy, R Collingwood, L Mack
www.PhyllisPatterson.com | 703.518.6158

PORT ROYAL STUDIO



801 NORTH PITT STREET
\$190,000 | MLM1606@aol.com
Darling renovated studio with full kitchen, crown molding and parking. 24 hr desk. www.PortRoyal311.com
Marie Louise Meyer | 703.836.2080

HEART OF OLD TOWN



425 - 427 N SAINT ASAPH STREET
\$1,375,000 | Old Town
Beautifully maintained 3BR townhome, circa 1810, plus buildable lot!
Donnan C. Wintermute | 703.518.6156

OPEN SATURDAY & SUNDAY, 1:00 - 4:00!



5644 GLENWOOD DRIVE
\$799,000 | Alexandria/ Clermont
10 new homes on quiet street, by Morris Construction custom builders. Luxury colonials on large lots.
www.PhyllisPatterson.com | 703.518.6158

PORTO VECCHIO PENTHOUSE!



PORTO VECCHIO PENTHOUSE!
\$1,400,000 | MLM1606@aol.com
On the Potomac, 50' terrace, prt lobby & elevator, 3000 SF w/ 4 BD, 4 BA. Go To: www.AlexPenthouse.com
Marie Louise Meyer | 703.836.2080

OPEN HOUSE SUNDAY, 1:00 - 4:00



912 DEWOLFE DRIVE
\$665,000 | Wayneswood
renovated Haddon model, 4 BR, 3BA, Living w/FP, sep dining, granite & stainless kit, hd/wd flrs, garage.
Clay Schoeffel | 703.518.6166

OPEN HOUSE SUNDAY, 1:00 - 4:00



5576 JOWETT COURT
\$419,000 | Kingstowne
Sunny brick-front garage home backing to trees on quiet cul-de-sac, wood flooring in foyer, crown molding.
Bonnie Rivkin | 703.598.7788

JUST LISTED!



213 NORTH PAYNE STREET
\$548,000 | Old Town
2 BR, 1.5 BA, historic home, totally renovated. Hardwoods, fireplace and parking. Convenient to Metro
Linda Trinkle Wolf | 703.836.8259

UNDER CONTRACT



505 PRINCE STREET www.505PrinceStreet.com
Old Town Alexandria MLM1606@aol.com
Fully renovated 3 BR, 3.5 BA townhome in the heart of Old Town! Kitch with custom cabinets, breakfast area, garden!
Marie Louise Meyer | 703.836.2080

UNDER CONTRACT IN 24 HOURS!



1507 BALTIMORE ROAD
\$465,000 | Alex, Hollin Hall Village
Charming and sunny, 3 BR, 1.5 BA w/ garage! Updated kitchen, hardwood floors, spacious family room.
Mary Cay Harris | 703.981.9976

OPEN SUNDAY, 1:00 - 4:00!



6621 WAKEFIELD DRIVE, #420
\$169,333 | River Towers
Freshly painted one bedroom home with new carpeting, new kitchen floor, new windows, great location!
Meredith McCullough | 703.780.8843

IN THE CENTER OF OLD TOWN



124 QUAY STREET
\$1,195,000 | Old Town Alexandria
Lovely 3 BR + 2 1/2 bath townhome with garage only 1 block to the Potomac River.
Donnan C. Wintermute | 703.518.6156

OPEN SATURDAY & SUNDAY, 1:00 - 4:00!



9104 VOLUNTEER DRIVE
\$649,000 | Mount Vernon
Smashing 2 BR + den + 2 1/2 bath pied-a-terre with open & airy floor plan, fp + 2 garage spaces.
Cindie Fish | 703.201.4451

PORTO VECCHIO



PORTO VECCHIO UNIT 824
\$668,000 | Old Town Alexandria
1582 sq ft 2BR 2.5 bath condo w/ river views, fireplace, balcony, reserved gar parking. dwilburndavis@aol.com
Denise Davis | 571.332.8531

EASY LIVING!



908 NORTH HOWARD STREET
\$745,000 | Alexandria
Easy one level living in this spacious 5BR + 3 1/2 bath home with fully finished lower level + 2 car garage.
Donnan C. Wintermute | 703.518.6156

310 King Street, Alexandria, Virginia 22314 703.518.8300 Main Office
Office Hours: Monday-Friday, 9am - 6pm Saturday, 9am - 4pm Sunday, 10am - 4pm



Information is deemed reliable but is not guaranteed. Equal housing opportunity. Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage is owned and operated by NRT, LLC.

A Dream Deferred No Longer

BY U.S. REP. JIM MORAN
U.S. REPRESENTATIVE

Over the course of many decades, Presidents and Congressional leaders have tried to bring meaningful reform to the way health care works in this country. Last weekend, I joined my House colleagues to fulfill a dream deferred for far too long: passage of comprehensive health care reform.

On Tuesday, President Obama signed this historic legislation that puts the interests of the American people ahead of the health insurance companies' bottom line. Some 32 million Americans currently locked out of the system will gain access to coverage, exploding premiums will begin to go down, and all Americans will be able to choose the plan that's best for them and their family. And under this new law, insurance companies for the first time ever, will be held accountable, putting a stop to the worst industry practices such as denying coverage based on pre-existing conditions and dropping your coverage when you get sick.

This reform is crucial to our economy. It is the largest deficit reduction measure enacted in 17 years, cutting the deficit by \$148 billion over the first 10 years, and \$1.2 trillion over the next 10 years. Small businesses will receive \$40 billion in tax credits to make it easier for them to provide coverage for their workers. Middle class families (with an income up to \$88,000 for a family of four) will get \$400 billion in tax credits to lower their premiums. It will save millions from bankruptcy do to medical expenses associated with the injury or sickness of a loved one. Children will be able to stay on their parent's health care plans until they turn 26, a major benefit for recent grads looking for work in this uncertain economy.

By allowing Americans to keep their insurance when they switch jobs and providing access to quality, affordable coverage on the individual market, this reform will give workers greater flexibility. No longer dependent on an employer for health insurance, people will be freer to leave an unfulfilling job for one that excites their passion, such as starting their own business, without fear of losing their insurance.

In the coming days, a House-passed package of improvements to the original Senate health care bill (which is now law) will be considered by the Senate. These improvements will maximize affordability

for the middle class, ensure that no one state is singled out for special deals, and ensure that the prescription drug "donut hole" is fully closed to lower costs for seniors.

While some aspects of this reform will take time to put into place, many changes will happen almost immediately. Within the next six months, insurers will no longer be allowed to drop people when they get sick. People with pre-existing conditions will no longer be denied coverage. Lifetime limits and restrictive annual limits on coverage will be eliminated. New private plans will be compelled to cover preventative services and immunizations with no co-payments and

ensure that consumers have access to an effective internal and external process to appeal new insurance plan decisions.

Within the first year of enactment, small businesses that provide coverage to their employees will be eligible for a tax credit of up to 35 percent of premium costs. Coverage for young people under their parents' plans will be extended, allowing them to remain covered until their 26th birthday. More funding for new training programs to train a greater number of primary care doctors, nurses, and public health professionals will be available. Our community health centers will finally get the resources they need to increase the number of patients they treat over the next five years by almost two fold.

Once the bill goes into effect, seniors will start to see immediate relief from high prescription drug prices with a \$250 rebate for Medicare beneficiaries who hit the "donut hole." The legislation also makes preventative services and immunizations free under Medicare right away — eliminating co-payments for preventative services and exempting preventative services from deductibles.

We have been struggling to deliver comprehensive access to health care for all Americans for more than six decades. It is unfortunate that Republicans refused to support this bill — and actively rallied against it — despite the inclusion of many of their own ideas. Even more troubling was the racist and homophobic comments hurled at black and gay lawmakers such as civil rights icon Congressman John Lewis and Chairman Barney Frank. But Democrats should be proud of the product, the outcome of this year-long battle; regardless of the political impact, it was the moral, right decision to make and has set America firmly on a path for greater fairness and prosperity for all.

COMMENTARY

LETTERS

FROM PAGE 11

nel ran a story nationally on government abuse of eminent domain authority and my ongoing battle with the Alexandria Sanitation Authority. The story had national interest because citizens are unhappy with government abuse of this authority. This case in Alexandria is no exception. Remarkably the Alexandria Gazette Packet weighed in on March 4. They have elected to ignore this story for four years, but now run a story with a focus out of step with the national debate.

The reporter's inaccurate reporting slandered me and my family, but more importantly failed to

address the main issues in this case, which are:

1. Does an authority/government have a legitimate need to take private property, which is a political decision; and

2. Just compensation if the property is taken: a legal decision.

All other matters in this or any eminent domain case are irrelevant.

These two issues are covered in our constitutions (both state and federal): the granting authority, and proper compensation.

The national debate for the past five years has been focused on the first issue. The proper taking for a legitimate public purpose has been the focus of numerous television

reports. There has been substantial evidence of abuse in this area. We have seen numerous cases across this country of seemingly illegitimate takings under the ruse of public purpose for private rewards to name a few, a new professional stadium, or merely to improve a neighborhood tax base. However, even the U.S. Supreme Court reaches to accommodate a taking authority in this area, and doesn't second-guess a political decision properly taken. This is what has the citizens of these United States inflamed, and rightly so.

This is the issue the AGP should have been focused on four years

SEE LETTERS, PAGE 16

tranzon AUCTION

OLD TOWN OFFICES
To highest bidder over \$175/sf

- Brick office condos
- 3,720+/- sf total
- Elevator, windows, balcony
- Street level & 2nd floor
- Wired for LAN
- 6 off-street pking spaces
- Zoned CD, FX6756

Wed., Mar. 31 @ 2pm

509-511 Wythe St., Alexandria, VA

888-621-2110 **tranzon FOX**
www.tranzon.com UAF423

THE CARLIN

☆ **The Best in Senior Living** ☆
Starting at 55 years

Offering

- Rents Starting at \$950
- All Utilities Included
- And Just Two Blocks from Ballston Metro
- Frost-Free Refrigerator
- Underground Garage Parking
- Spacious Kitchens and Bathrooms
- Wellness Programs
- Full-Time Social Services Coordinator
- Prices are Subject to Change

703-243-4300
Call Today
4300 N. Carlin Springs Road, Arlington, VA 22203

**International Brotherhood of Magicians
National Capital Ring 50 Presents**

An evening of Magic
*Featuring the Magic of Duane Laflin, Sammy Smith,
Jim Sisti, and D.C. Magician of the Year: Dick Christian*

SATURDAY APRIL 10, 2010

\$12 admission in advance
\$15 admission at the door

**Location: Bishop Ireton High School
201 Cambridge Rd, Alexandria, VA**

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

Order tickets at www.Magi-Whirl.com or at the door.
Military in uniform admitted free.

**Look and Feel your Best
with our Spring Specials!**

Laser Hair Removal - \$200 off any package
Microdermabrasion peels - series of 6 \$660 (savings of \$210)
Microdermabrasion/chemical peel combo - series of 3 \$540 (savings of \$90)
Customized one hour facial - series of 3 \$256 (savings of \$21)
Acne facial - series of 3 \$285 (savings of \$45)

Offer valid through April 30, 2010

Alternative Health Associates
215 N. Washington Street • Old Town Alexandria
703-683-5736 • www.althealthassociates.com
Conveniently open 7 days a week *Serving Northern Virginia for 25 years*

Join the Fight Against Colon Cancer Early

BY CHRISTINE CANDIO
CEO, INOVA ALEXANDRIA HOSPITAL

One day a 49-year-old teacher in good health, who exercises regularly, noticed some rectal bleeding. Initially, she thought her health issue was probably hemorrhoids, but weeks later she noticed that the bleeding continued. She immediately made an appointment to see her family physician, who suggested that she visit a gastroenterologist. A colonoscopy procedure was scheduled and pre-cancerous polyps were found. The polyps were discovered early enough that aggressive treat-



ment was not needed. This story highlights the importance of early detection in tackling any disease. At Inova Alexandria Hospital, we believe that knowledge about your health empowers you to be an advocate for your health. This month we would like to em-

power you with knowledge about colon cancer.

Colon cancer is caused by polyps, or growths forming in the colon and turning cancerous. A colonoscopy is the most widely used test for detecting polyps and the only

test that removes them, thereby reducing the risk of developing colorectal cancer. The procedure is painless, has few complications, and requires very little time and no overnight stay.

Nearly 150,000 people are diagnosed with colon cancer each year, according to the American Cancer Society, making it the third most common cancer in the nation. Almost 50,000 people die annually from this disease, but you can help reduce this number by educating yourself and others about the disease and getting a colon cancer screening or colonoscopy.

Some risk factors that can increase your chances of developing the disease are diets high in lamb, beef or other red meats, little

or no exercise, smoking, alcohol abuse, and being overweight. All of these factors, including being 50 or older, are reasons to consider having a colonoscopy regularly.

If the results of the colonoscopy are negative for cancer or other colon diseases, physicians recommend repeating a colon screening every two or three years.

Fortunately, the patient who was mentioned earlier was never diagnosed with colon cancer and as she continues to be diligent about getting her colonoscopies regularly. She hopes to never be diagnosed with colon cancer.

If you would like to learn more about colon screenings, contact our Endoscopy Department at 703-504-7801.

LETTERS

FROM PAGE 16

ago. The political debate in this case was raised by only the Alexandria Planning Commission, not the Gazette, or City Council. Questions of whether the ASA's needs exceeded the public good should have focused on the following:

- ❖ loss of a signature building prominently advertising Alexandria to every set of eyes crossing the Potomac from Maryland,
- ❖ loss of millions of dollars of potential tax revenue each year,
- ❖ loss of market place determination of highest and best use of a valuable parcel of real estate,
- ❖ loss of wet lands and open space,
- ❖ the wisdom of locating a sewage treatment plant that allocates 60 percent of its capacity to Fairfax County when Fairfax County has plenty of excess capacity with its existing plants and with arrangements with other jurisdictions.

This debate didn't take place except for a single Planning Commissioner questioning ASA. Where was the Gazette then? Their appearance in this critical debate until March 4 was to merely publish a letter to the editor from Mr. Semonian!

The second point at issue as to proper compensation is the current debate, and only debate. This is personal, and does not draw the national interest, although it should because rarely is the compensation proper, or sufficient.

This point is often lost in the concept promoted by Mr. Rak, ASA's attorney, that there is concern for public money. Nice, but this is not the issue. That was decided when the taking body filed its Certificate of Take (As an aside, maybe he should focus on the extensive fees collected by his law firm which is a guarded secret.)

There is a long history for just compensation. In America's first 200 years, as a colony we were required to quarter and feed the King's men. After our split with the mother country we felt sufficiently aggrieved to constitutionally protect our citizens from this government abuse by requiring the government to provide just compensation for taking its citizen's property. Thus, to suggest as one City Councilman told me that they would like to do the right thing, but

money was involved and they couldn't is not the debate on the table. If this were the driving issue we should follow the example of other totalitarian governments and merely take the property for the public purpose with a gun and without compensation to landowners. We haven't become so brazen yet, but the antics of ASA and their counsel are moving rapidly in this direction.

There are numerous warts in this case all of which are interesting, but these are not the issue at hand. The time has passed for the taking issue, and it is up to the court to decide the compensation issue.

However, all property owners should be alert to government discussions that may turn into mischief and an illegitimate taking. Our case is not isolated, and remote. What will you do when they come for your property!

Charles Hooff

Too Stupid To Decide?

To The Editor:

Last year, after the May Council elections, the Democrats in Alexandria (my hometown) were so steamed that they lost two seats in the election.

They tried (and failed) to challenge new Councilwoman Alicia Hughes' eligibility to serve and the lame duck members along with many of the current Democrats on Council voted to move the spring elections to November.

In June, during the last public hearing of the last Council, with two lame duck members attending, Council voted 5-2 to move the elections to November even though the number of people in opposition to the move far outweighs those in support. This is even though registered Democrats outnumber Republicans 2-1 in Alexandria.

Many Democrats and Republicans spoke at the hearing (about 5-1 against the move) and the Mayor and four liberals on the Council ignored the will of the people. The vote, which included former Councilman Wilson and former Councilman Lovain, was a clear abuse of power by the liberals in Alexandria. The move is a ploy by the

Democrats to keep them in power for years to come.

Think I'm wrong?

Arlington County, which moved their elections to November years ago, has seen one Republican win since. One.

So, the Alexandria City Council has been stuck since on whether to have the elections in November 2011 or November 2012 and whether or not to have staggered terms. As it stands right now, Alexandria's next general election date, November 2012, is coupled with a presidential election year.

In November 2012, what's going to matter more to voters in Alexandria? Getting President Obama re-elected or the local City election. With up to \$2 billion that is going to be spent in the next election, the City election will get second billing.

Councilwoman Alicia Hughes, during a recent Council meeting, threw her hat into the ring by proposing a resolution to have the voters decide what Council has yet to decide. Vice Mayor Kerry Donley, a big spending liberal, said the following:

"Quite frankly, the Council is elected to make decisions and I don't see that a referendum right now should substitute for our inability to arrive at a compromise ..."

Meaning you and I are too stupid to decide this via a referendum vote. The Vice Mayor then said:

"Because we can't arrive at a decision ... would we start doing the same thing on land use planning and fiscal matters?" he said. "I don't think so."

Councilman Smedberg said (think he's on the side of the people?): "I'm disturbed that we are even talking about this

[...] I hope we can tone down the rhetoric."

Getting people to decide the fate of their hometown is 'rhetoric?' Councilwoman Hughes responded: "Let the people decide. The people, not politicians, should rule."

Hughes' drafted resolution called for the Hobson Commission, a bipartisan committee that recommended preserving the election process in 2007, to come up with the wording of three referendum questions:

- ❖ Whether Alexandria's next election should be in November 2011 or 2012
- ❖ If terms should be staggered or remain in a single block

❖ If the terms should be changed from three to four years.

If the politicians can't decide, the voters in Alexandria are too stupid to decide this? I don't think so and the many folks I've spoken with don't think so either.

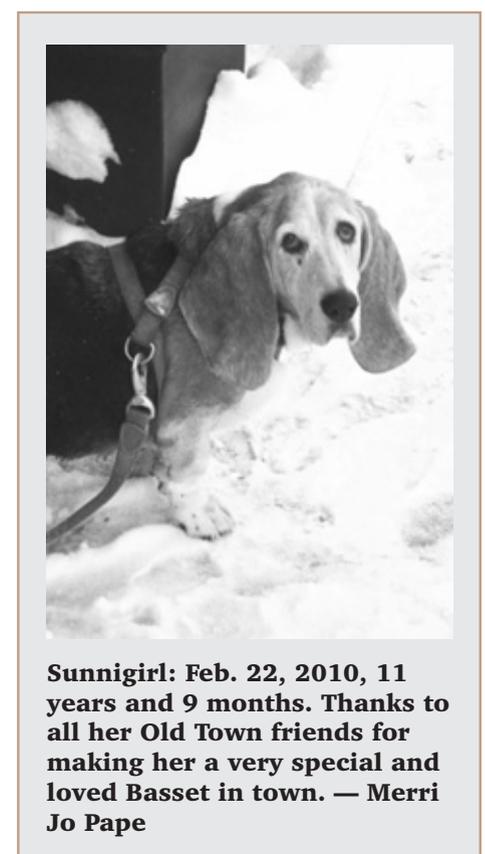
Lee Hernly

Miss Critical Reviews

To the Editor:

When I arrived in Alexandria more than 30 years ago, the Gazette was a much more interesting "read" than it is now. Then the newspaper had investigative reporting, serious restaurant reviews (not just puff pieces designed to attract advertisers), strong editorial positions, and even an architecture critic. For example, while the Gazette Packet

SEE LETTERS, PAGE 17



Sunnigirl: Feb. 22, 2010, 11 years and 9 months. Thanks to all her Old Town friends for making her a very special and loved Basset in town. — Merri Jo Pape

LETTERS

FROM PAGE 16

has reported on awards that the new Potomac Yard Fire Station has received from firefighter groups, it has said nothing about the architecture — which, in my opinion is grotesque. The old Gazette's architecture critic would certainly have commented on the building and its implications for the future development of the Yards.

H.J. Rosenbaum, Ph.D.
Alexandria

Diabetes Alert Day

To the Editor:

Did you know that Tuesday, March 23 was the American Diabetes Association Alert Day? Please help your readers discover their risk for developing type 2 diabetes — and join the movement to stop this terrible disease; tell them to visit stopdiabetes.com or call 800-DIABETES.

Early diagnosis of type 2 diabetes is critical to delay or prevent the debilitating com-

plications such as heart disease, blindness, kidney disease, stroke and amputation. Nearly six million Americans are unaware that they have diabetes. One in 5 Americans is at risk for type 2 diabetes.

Germaine Schaefer
Alexandria

Substitute Council Members?

To the Editor:

Is there a need for substitute council

members? I am just wondering since there are substitute teachers and judges.

The city council members, the mayor and vice mayor have very important roles and, with all do respect, I believe those seats should be filled at every meeting.

Former councilmen Andrew Macdonald and councilwoman Joyce Woodson have spoken at past city council meetings. It would be good to see either of them seated when needed. It would be good to see those

SEE LETTERS, PAGE 28

www.ExteriorMedics.com | 703-365-2511

- + ROOFING
- + SIDING
- + GUTTERS
- + WINDOWS
- + DOORS

Expect Greatness!

Exterior Medics

Old Town Paint & Plaster

LOCAL RELIABLE PROFESSIONAL PROMPT

- Interior/Exterior
- Plaster/Drywall
- Carpentry/Trim
- Pressure Washing
- Whole Home Makeovers
- Quality Painting
- Install & Repair
- Crown Moldings
- Deck Maintenance
- Budget Remodels

Enhancing The Value of Real Estate
Call Today!
703-683-0044
Or Email OldtownPaint@att.net

LICENSED OldTownPaint.com INSURED

COLDWELL BANKER RESIDENTIAL BROKERAGE

PHYLLIS PATTERSON

Selling the Best of Alexandria

Featured Listing— OPEN SUNDAY 1-4!



8210 Mack Street Alexandria, VA 22308

Owners have spared no expense in renovating and maintaining this charming three level colonial. 4 bedrooms, 2 1/2 baths. Over \$65,000 in recent improvements. New Roof-2009 ◊ Wonderful screened-in porch overlooking professionally landscaped backyard ◊ Totally remodeled kitchen with new granite, sinks, and faucets ◊ Appliances: Samsung side by side refrigerator with ice and water on door, GE Profile Gas 5 burner with 2 ovens ◊ Large master bedroom with new master bath



The Market is Moving...Are You?

2010 Sales by Phyllis



2734 Carter Farm Ct



2106 Foresthill Road



1250 Dartmouth Court



411 Pitt Mews



8296 Glen Cove Court

Phyllis Brought in the Buyer!

1401 Namassin Road
7831 Kent Road
1900 Hackamore Ln

www.PhyllisPatterson.com

Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage
310 King Street
Alexandria, VA 22314
Direct: 703.518.6158

PPatterson@cbmove.com



CHRIS WHITE

Planning to sell in 2010? Now is the time to call Chris & Peggy White!



LONG & FOSTER

ALEXANDRIA/OLD TOWN HISTORIC

#1 Office in Northern Virginia!



Managing Brokers
Anne Rector & Bill Jourdan



3906 Rive Drive \$998,500
Stunning Property!
The most spectacular property you will ever find has been completely updated with breathtaking results! Bright & open floor plan, 3 finished levels including full walkout LL, 4/5 BR, 3.5 BA, updated gourmet kitchen, stunning MBR suite and custom river view screened porch house with deck. Expansive glass window walls capture river views and natural beauty. Open Sun 3/28, 1-4. GW Pky S, past estate, L-Old Mt Vernon Rd, L-Rive Dr.



4706 Tarpon Ln \$630,000
Expanded Rambler - Near River!
One story luxury! Rare updated ranch. Prime location on gorgeous half acre lot. Home was expanded by leading local builder to create master suite with private bath and spacious foyer. Other features include: finished lower level, sunroom, 2 car garage and large deck. Just steps from Mt Vernon Yacht Club. Open Sun 3/21, 1-4PM. GW Pky S, past estate, L-Forest Haven, R-Tarpon.



1139 Cedar Dale Ln \$845,000
Character Abounds!
Exceptionally attractive Classic Cape in prime location on gorgeous .60 acre lot minutes from Old Town, just off scenic GW Parkway. Tastefully expanded & updated to preserve integrity of original home. Fabulous features include stunning family room, spacious first floor master suite, upgraded kitchen and more custom in ground pool.



110 S COLUMBUS ST Alexandria \$1,229,000
COMMERCIAL + TOWNHOME
located in heart of historic OT business district. All brick, 3 lvl + basement TH circa 1890's w/high ceilings, mouldings, HW, large sun filled rooms w/new windows, wood-burning FP. 8 blks to METRO, min to airport and more!



1200 BRADDOCK PL #611 Alexandria \$384,900
INCREDIBLY PRICED
• Check comps
• Shows like a model
• 2BR/1.5 BA w/balcony
• 1,000 sqft of living spaces
• Renovated kitchen
• 2 assigned pkg space
• 1 min to metro



1320 PRINCESS ST Old Town / Alexandria \$673,990
JUST LISTED! Newly sided end unit 3BR/2.5BA TH. Bright & airy, w/custom paint, & updated kit w/custom cabs, granite, travertine tile, & TOTL SS appl. HW floors, skylights, sep DR, spacious Master suite, & bkdy w/brick patio + more! Blocks from 2 METRO sta.



8313 Mount Vernon Hwy \$789,900
First Floor Master Suite!
Exciting new opportunity by Wakefield Homes. Luxurious new home with all the modern amenities including: high ceilings, lavish kitchen and baths, full basement, two car garage and stunning first floor master suite. Pre-construction sale provides maximum opportunity to customize. Prime location on large lot in heart of Mt. Vernon. (Picture is artist's rendition).



9316 Heather Glen \$699,000
Magnificent Addition!
Classic center hall colonial meticulously maintained offers many significant upgrades. Spectacular curved glass walled family room and fabulous screened porch both overlook amazing custom pool. Three levels, 4 bedrooms, updated kitchen, direct access to outside from lower level, 2 car garage and more!



5205 Polk Avenue \$999,000
Brand New Home!
Top quality luxury new home in prime West End Alexandria City location for under \$1,000,000! Bright and open floor plan, high ceilings, gourmet kitchen, luxury baths, 4BRs upstairs including stunning master suite and oversized side load garage. Prime location on rare almost half acre "in-town" lot. Pre-construction special allows for maximum customization!



105 MARTIN LANE Alex / Cameron Sta \$595,000
NOT YOUR STANDARD
builder grade home! Very special custom 3BR/2BA Gatsby model now available in popular Cameron Station community. Numerous custom appointments and upgrades thru-out. METRO shuttle or 1 block to bus.



619 S PITT ST Old Town \$1,150,000
JUST LISTED! Expansive & beautiful renovation in Historic Old Town. Highlights include: 3BR, 3.5BA, HW floors, granite, luxurious master suite, 3 gas fireplaces, garage w/carriage house & more!



3716 VALLEY VIEW DRIVE Alexandria City \$275,000
PARK FAIRFAX CONDO. Sunny tree house views from this 1BR/1BA condo. Completely updated w/new washer/dryer, new air/heat unit, newer windows, new closet organizers, refin floors & fresh paint. Community pools, tennis & fitness. Nearby METRO bus & shops/restaurants of Shirlington.



4401 Jackson Place \$475,000
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!



9324 Old Mansion Rd \$2,249,990
Breathtaking River Views!
Unique opportunity, brand new luxury home in exclusive enclave featuring the most spectacular views in area! Stunning new estate by Keswick Homes features spectacular floor plan and virtually every upgrade and modern amenity. Pre-construction sale allows maximum customization. Model Home and design center available.



9110 Chickawane Ct \$635,000
Wow!!-Spectacular Renovation!
One of the most fabulous properties you will ever find. Home has been remodeled and updated throughout. Features include: skylights, stunning custom kitchen, hardwood floors, updated baths, 2 car garage, located on cul-de-sac.



7705 ELBA ROAD Alex / Hollin Hills \$569,000
SPRINGTIME IN HOLLIN HILLS!
Expanded 1 level home w/3BR, 2BA plus den/study, carport & storage/garden shed. 2 frpls, skylights, wood flrs, floor to ceiling windows, updated kit, roof replace and most appl under 5yrs old. Community pool & tennis nearby plus schools, libraries, shopping & bike path.



600 SECOND STREET #205 Alex / Liberty Row - \$785,000
BACK ON THE MARKET WITH A NEW PRICE! Don't miss this fabulous, high end, luxury condo in OT. 2BR, 2.5BA + Den. This 1,769sqft home offers gourmet kit w/SS, granite & wine cooler. Also, bamboo floors, gas FP, W/D, plantation shutters, balcony, crown + 2 indoor garage spaces.



910 SLATERS LANE Old Town Alexandria \$875,000
Sun-splashed END TH offering 3,000+ custom decorated sqft! Featuring 4BR/4.5 BA, beautifully appointed w/HW floors, chef's kit, upgraded tile, and designer paint and window treatments. Main level patio PLUS rooftop terrace with monument views.



743 FAYETTE ST Alexandria \$775,000
SPECTACULAR, EYA built TH built in 2002. 10' ceilings, brick walls, cherry floors, granite, rooftop terrace, fitness room, shows beautifully priced for quick sale. Quick commute to Old Town and DC. Gourmet shops, restaurants and more nearby.



403 QUEEN ST Alexandria \$729,000
Everything you want in a renovated HISTORIC OT row house located 4 blocks from the river & 2 blocks from King St. 2BR, 2FBA, 3 fin. levels. Original wide plank wood floors, & gourmet kitchen. Back deck to brick patio. Wood burning frpl, too.



6216 RUBY VIRGINIA CT Alexandria \$469,900
JUST ON THE MARKET! Spacious 2 car TH freshly painted & updated w/granite in kitchen, & new flooring on main level. Check out this lovely 4BR, 3.5BA, 3 lvl TH w/frpl & extra room/office in fin basement. Under 2mi from Springfield-Franconia Metro & min to major rtes. Call..



CHRIS WHITE 703.283.9028

www.chrisandpeggywhite.com
chris.white@longandfoster.com

400 KING STREET, ALEXANDRIA 22314

703.683.0400 - FAX 703.683.1303

www.OldTownAlexandria.com



E

ARTS ♦ ENTERTAINMENT ♦ LEISURE



Porcelain 'Dancing Lizards' (6" tall) by Peggy Reichard of Accokeek, Md.

MARCH 30 TO APRIL 25

Kiln Club Annual Juried Show. Reception with awards presentation on April 1 from 6 to 9 p.m.; Scope Gallery hours are Monday through Sunday from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., with Thursdays open until 9 p.m. At 101 North Union Street, ground floor Studio 19, Alexandria. Call 703-548-6288 or visit www.torpedofactory.org/galleries/scope.htm

NOW THROUGH MARCH 31

Sidney Lowery's "Waves." Reception on March 28 from 4:30 to 9 p.m. At Blueberry Art Gallery, 116 E. Del Ray Ave., Alexandria. Call 703-894-8854 or info@blueberryartgallery.com.

MARCH 26 TO MAY 9

Cedric Williams' Nostalgia and Dereliction. Artist's reception is Sunday, April 18 from 4-6 p.m. The hours are 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday to Friday and during performances. At the Schlesinger Center Margaret W. & Joseph L. Fisher Gallery, at the Alexandria Campus of Northern Virginia Community College. Visit www.schlesingercenter.com.



NOW THROUGH MARCH 28

PastForward. Minds Wide Open: Virginia Celebrates Women in the Arts. PastForward will feature work of four former resident Torpedo Factory artists - Kathleen Dustin, Barbara Rachko, Anne Laddon and Joyce Zipperer. This exhibition kicks off the gallery's participation in Minds Wide Open. The artists will exhibit their latest works, from Rachko's pastel paintings, Zipperer's sculptures, Dustin's polymer clay works to Laddon's oil paintings. At the Torpedo Factory Art Center. The gallery is open daily from 10-6 p.m. and until 9 p.m. on Thursdays. Visit www.torpedofactory.org

Art Explosion in Old Town



APRIL 7 THROUGH MAY 2

Artist Gail C. Weyant Solo Show, "Storytelling Artwork." Straight Photography, Computer Enhanced Images, and Ceramics. At Gallery West, 1213 Duke Street, Old Town Alexandria. Artist's reception is Saturday, April 10 from 4-6 p.m. Hours are Wednesday to Sunday, 11-6 p.m.



APRIL 8 THROUGH MAY 3

Fierce Sonia's Solo Exhibit, "Paper Dolls." Opening reception on April 8 from 6:30-8 p.m. Joe Chiocca, Old Town's favorite band, will play and reunite with special guest singer Kim Kenny. Part of the statewide event, Minds Wide Open: Virginia Celebrates Women in the Arts. At the Art League Gallery, 105 North Union Street, Alexandria. Go to www.theartleague.org or call 703-683-1780.

NOW THROUGH MARCH 28

Garden of earthy delights: Pottery with flora and fauna. Monday through Sunday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., with Thursdays until 9 p.m. The Ceramic Guild at Studio 19, Torpedo Factory Art Center's Scope Gallery, 101 North Union Street, Alexandria. Call 703-548-6288 or visit www.torpedofactory.org/galleries/scope.

NOW THROUGH MARCH 31

Works from the Heart, Topics of Passion. Free. Artworks reflect that which comes from the heart. Subjects that touch, motivate, and move us to create, that which inspires. At the Gallery at Convergence, 1801 N. Quaker Lane, Alexandria. Call 703-998-6260 or visit www.convergenceccf.net

NOW THROUGH APRIL 4

Gallery West Presents: Creo, Maus, Estrada: New Members Show. Gallery West's March show highlights the work of new members Francesca Creo, Brian Maus, and Rachel Estrada. Located at 1213 King Street in Old Town Alexandria's Boutique District. Call 703-549-6006.



TUESDAY/APRIL 6

Art and the Arctic: Change, Challenge, and Inspiration. 6 to 8 p.m. Free. Alison Sigethy, Torpedo Factory Artist, presented by the Morrison House. Celebrate the 40th Earth Day with environmental artist Alison Sigethy who will discuss her earth-friendly sculptures inspired by her travels to the Arctic. Part of a Salon-Style Series celebrating culture through arts, literature, and history discussions. At Morrison House, 116 South Alfred Street, Alexandria. Visit www.torpedofactory.org or call 703-838-4565.

NOW THROUGH APRIL 5

Peep and Strip Show. In Rosemary Feit Covey's "Peep Show" series, she combines the secret, sexual world associated with the modern definition of "Peep Show" with the innocent world of Victorian-era peep show boxes. At the Art League Gallery, 105 North Union Street, Alexandria. Go to www.theartleague.org or call 703-683-1780.

APRIL 2-25

What's Your Bag? This show explores the "Bag as Art" in all mediums and interpretations — handbags, backpacks, tea bags, suitcases, sacks, paper or plastic. Opening reception Friday on April 2 from 7-10 p.m., closing reception Sunday, April 25 from 3-6 p.m. Numerous workshops and events scheduled. At the Del Ray Artisans gallery at the Nicholas A. Colasanto Center, 2704 Mount Vernon Avenue, Alexandria. Visit www.thedelrayartisans.org.

APRIL 6 THROUGH JUNE 7

Crown Me! Capital Pool Checkers Club. Photos by Peggy Fleming and Musings; new work by Suzanne Quinlan. Opening reception is Saturday, April 10 from 2-4 p.m. At Multiple Exposures Gallery in the Torpedo Factory. Hours are 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. daily.

SATURDAY/APRIL 10

Colors of Emotions. 7 p.m. Art Exhibit to Benefit the CANCER to 5K Program of the Ulman Cancer Fund. Month-long exhibit of fine art featuring The Cruz Collection by Puerto Rican artist and cancer survivor, Denny Cruz. At The Gallery at Convergence, 1801 North Quaker Lane, Alexandria. Visit <http://www.cancerto5k/colorsofemotions.com> or call the Colors of Emotions event coordinator, Liz Yap at 202-577-9507 or Leona Spencer at 571-212-2587.

APRIL 11 THROUGH JUNE 30

Art in Hand. 10 a.m. Free. Exhibit opening reception is Sunday, April 11. The art show will feature original artwork by Art in Hand students aged 18 months – 5 years. At the Durant Community Arts Center, 1605 Cameron Street, Alexandria.



Artist Megan Coyle

MAY 14 THROUGH JUNE 13

"Piece by Piece Figurative Collage." Collage artist Megan Coyle makes art from recycled magazines. At the age of 23, Coyle has developed a technique where she takes ordinary magazine pages and turns them into works of art. Her first major solo exhibition will be shown at the Fisher Gallery in the Schlesinger Arts Center in Alexandria. The show, titled "Piece by Piece Figurative Collage," opens May 14th, and runs through June 13th. The opening reception is on Saturday, May 22 from 3 to 5 p.m., with an artist talk at 4 p.m. The exhibition includes several 18x24-inch collage works on paper. Each piece is made entirely from recycled magazines and depicts different figures interacting with the environment around them.

By using a technique she calls "painting with paper," Megan creates colorful collages that reflect an influence from her formal training in painting. She recreates the look and feel of a painting through the manipulation of paper and magazine strips, where she cuts and pieces together shapes of paper to mimic brushstrokes. The work challenges traditional ideas of what makes a work of art a painting or a collage. Megan Coyle grew up in Del Ray in Alexandria, and attended T.C. Williams High School. She received a degree in Painting and Creative Writing from Elon University in 2008, and returned to Northern Virginia to begin her career as a professional artist. Another series of her figurative collages will be on display in July at the Art League in Old Town, Alexandria.



"Waiting for the X-10" by Susan LaMont.

MAY 5 TO JUNE 6

You Are Here by Susan LaMont, contemporary realism artist. The show features four large works that examine the relationship between people and their increasingly complex environments. Reception is Saturday, May 8 from 5-7 p.m. Second Thursday reception is May 13 from 6-9 p.m. At Gallery West, 1213 King Street, Alexandria. Visit www.gallery-west.com or call 703-549-6006.

NOW THROUGH APRIL 11

New Works. Jewelry, sculpture, clothing and wall pieces. Presented by Potomac Fiber Arts Gallery. At Studio 18 of the Torpedo Factory Art Center, 105 North Union St., Alexandria. The gallery is open daily from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., except on Thursdays when it is open from 1 p.m. to 9 p.m.

SUNDAY/APRIL 11

Creativity Workshop: Thinking In and Out of the Bag. 1-3 p.m. Workshop activities are designed to give you a new perspective on your creativity and get your creative expression flowing again. At the Del Ray Artisans Gallery, 2704 Mount Vernon Ave., Alexandria. Contact Lynn Wyvill at lwyvill@comcast.net or 703-299-0848.

THEATER

Arena's Charming 'Piazza'

Musical charm In Crystal City.

BY BRAD HATHAWAY
THE GAZETTE

Every once in a while, a truly lovely new musical finds its way onto local stages. When that happens, it is cause for rejoicing. It's happening now with "The Light in the Piazza," which Molly Smith has directed as something of a chamber musical at Arena Stage's temporary facility in Crystal City.

It gives us lush melodies, expressive lyrics in two languages as befits a story of lovers united in spite of cultural difference (she's American, he's Italian) and the lilt of five musicians on a perch hovering above a simple but effective set. It is delivered by a cast with both the musical chops and the acting skills to deliver the show's multiple pleasures. All together this is a delightful package that runs at least until April 11.

The show has a history of charming audiences. It began as a limited engagement at the Lincoln Center in New York but demand for tickets caused extension after extension until, after over a year, the Center really had to close it so they could put on other shows in their theater. Before they did, however, it garnered six Tony Awards including best score for a musical.

And what a score it is! In an age that seems dominated by juke box musicals using the catalogues of pop and rock stars and musicals attempting (sometimes successfully) to use rock, salsa, rap or hip hop in theatrical settings, it is refreshing indeed to find a score that harkens back to a time when melody and melodic lines were the bread and butter of musical shows.

The melodies of "The Light in the Piazza" range from soaring to scintillating. Its composer is Adam Guettel who, in "Floyd Collins" a few years back, demonstrated both a melodic inventiveness and a flare for capturing the sound of a time and place. With "The Light in the Piazza" the time is the early 1950s and the place is Florence, Italy, just beginning to burst back to life after the devastation of World War II. Guettel found the blend of sounds that linked the place to its historical roots as a cultural capital over the centuries and the excitement of the post war boom in pop developments.

That Guettel would be gifted melodically may not be much of a



PHOTO BY SCOTT SUCHMAN

Margaret Anne Florence as Clara Johnson and Nicholas Rodriguez as Fabrizio Naccarelli in the Arena Stage production of "The Light in the Piazza."

surprise. After all, his grandfather was Richard Rodgers of Rodgers and Hammerstein and also of Rodgers and Hart. His mother is that other Broadway veteran Rodgers, Mary — who composed the score for "Once Upon a Mattress"). Surprise or not, his felicity with melody is matched by an intelligent approach to structuring a score. His way with a tune may be inherited, but there is also ample evidence of the kind of craft in creating a full score that comes only from diligent study and practice.

Here, Guettel has the benefit of a well crafted script for a compelling story, which gives him plenty of opportunity for standout musical moments. That script, by Craig Lucas, is an adaptation of the novel by Elizabeth Spencer about a somewhat developmentally delayed American girl touring Italy with her mother and a young Italian boy who falls for her at first sight.

Margaret Anne Florence (yes, that is her last name!) is "Clara," the young lady in question, and her performance is marked by the flashes of immaturity that reveal her character with both subtlety and charm. Her young man is Nicholas Rodriguez, who is remarkable for his ability to sing melodic lines that are operatic in their intensity without making it sound pretentious. Instead it sounds like the flood of emotion filling his heart simply can't be contained. As he sings — mostly in Italian, occasionally in a broken English that is enchanting and even at times wordless in an entrancing flight of fancy — he carries the entire production to lovely heights.

Hollis Resnik is quite good as the girl's mother who has devoted her

life to protecting her innocent daughter only to find that she's got to let her make her own transition from child to adult at some point — and that he she might grow a bit herself in the process. It is a very meaty part that requires not only a wide range of acting skills but also a wide vocal range for revealing solos ("Dividing Day" and "The Beauty Is" are both highly demanding.)

Molly Smith's staging facilitates the clean, clear storytelling techniques that marked Lucas' score. Anne Patterson's set design seems a bit simplistic and plain when you enter the theater when there's no curtain drawn over the stage. It is transformed, however, with Adam Larsen's projections, which turn its surfaces into specific locales in Florence and Rome and contribute to the sense of disorientation for a key scene when Clara's mental capacities are first brought into question.

What might seem a light romantic tale becomes something richer at that point and the entire production — which might look like just a light romantic musical at first glance — is revealed as something both sumptuous and sensuous.

Brad Hathaway reviews theater in Virginia, Washington and Maryland as well as Broadway and writes about theater for a number of national magazines. He can be reached at Brad@PotomacStages.com.

Where and When

"The Light in the Piazza" runs through April 11 at Arena Stage in Crystal City, 1800 South Bell Street. Performances are Tuesday, Wednesday and Sunday at 7:30 p.m., Thursday - Saturday at 8 p.m. with Saturday and Sunday matinees at 2 p.m. and special weekday matinees at noon on March 30 and April 7. Tickets range from \$25 to \$74. Call 202-488-3300 or log on to www.arenastage.org.

The Junior League of Washington's
18th Annual Tossed & Found Sale
March 26-28, 2010

In the Crystal City Shops
2100 Crystal Drive, Arlington, VA
Near the Crystal City Metro Station



Purchase quality used goods including furniture, children's items, antiques, jewelry, books, kitchenware, electronics, and clothing at bargain prices.

Hoops & High Heels Preview Night Party:
Friday, March 26 – 7:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.
Sponsored by Walmart
Tickets are \$40 at www.jlw.org/\$45 at door
Food, Drink, Live & Silent Auction Included

General Shopping Hours:
Saturday, March 27 – 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Sunday, March 28 – 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

All proceeds benefit the Junior League's literacy programs. Find out more at www.jlw.org or call (202) 337-2001, Ext. 18.

The Junior League of Washington strives in all endeavors to be sensitive to the special needs of its members and guests. If you have any special needs pertaining to the attendance of these events, please let us know.

TORPEDO FACTORY ART CENTER
ON THE WATERFRONT IN OLD TOWN ALEXANDRIA



SHOP 3 FLOORS OF
ORIGINAL ART
MEET ARTISTS IN THEIR
OPEN STUDIOS

82 ARTIST STUDIOS • 6 GALLERIES • THE ART LEAGUE SCHOOL

**Torpedo
Factory
ART CENTER**

OPEN DAILY 10AM-6PM • THURSDAYS 'TIL 9PM
ARTISTS' HOURS VARY • 703-838-4565
105 N. UNION STREET • ALEXANDRIA, VA 22314
www.torpedofactory.org

The Royal Restaurant

(now smoke free)

"What's for Dinner?!"

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

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

Real food, for real people at reasonable prices.

Monday - Kids Night

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

Tuesday - Greek Night

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

Wednesday - All American Night

Meatloaf, Chicken Fried Chicken. Va. Ham

Thursday - Italian Night

Lasagna, Chicken Alfredo, Calamari

Friday - Fish Night

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

Saturday - Steak and Chop Night

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

Sunday

Brunch served 7am - 2pm

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

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

Ample Free Parking

Community Lodgings
would like to thank our host



As well as Nixon Peabody and all event supporters for making our "Spring Forward to Union Street" event a huge success! With your help, we raised nearly \$35,000 for the homeless and low-income families that we serve.

www.communitylodgings.org

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/MARCH 25

Eighteenth-Century Dance Classes. 7:30 p.m. - 9:30 p.m. At Gadsby's Tavern Museum, 134 North Royal Street, Alexandria. Cost for lessons is \$30 for the series or \$12 per class. Reservations at 703-746-4242.

Free Blood Pressure Screening. 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. Also medication reviews. At The Neighborhood Pharmacy of Del Ray, 2204 Mt. Vernon Ave., Alexandria. Walk-ins are welcome but appointments are preferred. Call 703-836-1700.

The Mango Project. 7-9 p.m. Features the sounds of contemporary and Latin-Jazz, as well as a variety of jazz standards and musical treatment of well known pop, R&B, and smooth jazz selections. At the Torpedo Factory Art Center, 105 N. Union St., Alexandria. Call 703-838-4565 or go to www.torpedofactory.org.

MARCH 25-27

Book Sale. Mount Vernon Unitarian Church. The book sale has been a fixture in the Mount Vernon/Alexandria/Fairfax community for many years with many thousands of books available for purchase. The books will be available in the "mansion" and in the "chapel" on the church grounds.

- ❖ On Thursday, March 25 the sale will be open from 1 to 5 p.m.
- ❖ On Friday, March 26 the sale will be open from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Special on this day will be 1/2 price books all day in the Mansion.
- ❖ On Saturday, March 27 the sale will be open from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Extra Special on this day will be \$5 for a bag of books in the mansion and 1/2 price books in the chapel all day. The church is south of Alexandria off Fort Hunt Road. Follow signs at the intersection of Mason Hill and Fort Hunt Road. At 1909 Windmill Lane, Alexandria. Call 703-765-5950.

FRIDAY/MARCH 26

Vocal Chamber Music. 8 p.m. Free. With members of the Singing Sergeants of the U.S. Air Force Band. At George Washington Masonic National Memorial, 101 Callahan Drive, Alexandria. Call 202-767-5658 or visit www.usafband.af.mil.

Spring Vegetable Gardening Tips. 1:30-2:30 p.m. The master gardeners at Green Spring Gardens share gardening tips, dazzle you with time-saving techniques, clarify simple steps and debunk horticulture myths. Reservations are required. The cost is \$12. Call 703-642-5173 to register. At Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road in Alexandria.

MARCH 26, 27, 28

"Into the Woods." Staged by Bishop O'Connell Theatre. Performances are Friday and Saturday, March 26 and 27 at 7:30 p.m. and Sunday, March 28 at 2 p.m. General admission tickets are \$10; students and seniors \$5. At 6600 Little Falls Road, Arlington. Visit www.bishopoconnell.org/theatre or call the box office at 703-237-1448.

SATURDAY/MARCH 27

Easter Eggstravaganza and Egg Hunt. 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Free. With 5,000 eggs for the Egg Hunt, games,



Last year, Bittersweet won the Fifth Annual Great Rum Punch Challenge.

SATURDAY/MARCH 27

Great Rum Punch Challenge. 7 to 9:30 p.m. Enjoy different rum punch creations from local distilleries, restaurants and caterers and vote for your favorite. Tickets, which include admission (food and drink all evening), are \$50 per person, or \$100, which include admission and a special VIP pre-event tasting of Bacardi's special rums. At Gadsby's Tavern Museum, 134 North Royal Street, Old Town Alexandria. Call 703-746-4242 or visit www.gadsbystavern.org.

Moon Bounce, kiddie train, balloon artist and more. Sponsored by National Community Church. At Top Golf, 6225 S. Van Dorn Street, Alexandria. Visit www.eggstravaganzad.com.

Generation to Generation Gala. 6:30-11 p.m. Sponsored by the Senior Services of Alexandria. Honoring Mollie Abraham and her granddaughter Mary Abraham; Dr. Frank Carroll and his son Drew Carroll; Charlie Collum and his son Joseph Collum; and Ferdinand Day and his daughter Gwen Fuller Day. Entertainment by Johnnie Steele. At the Hilton Alexandria Mark Center, 5000 Seminary Road, Alexandria. Go to www.seniorservicesalex.org/gala or call 703-836-4414, ext.10

Car Wash. 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Sponsored by the Mount Vernon High School Girls' Tennis Team. At Mt. Vernon High School, 8515 Old Mount Vernon Road (Entrance 1), at the front of the school near the football field.

Author Signing. 2-4 p.m. Tod Steward, author of Juliet's Opera. At Barnes & Noble Bookstore, 3651 Jefferson Davis Highway, Alexandria.

Yoga for Rookies. 10 a.m. Free Class. At The Body in Balance Center, 1423 Powhatan Street, Suite 7, Alexandria. Call 703-578-4434.

Fort Hunt Preschool Rummage Sale. 8 a.m. to noon. Features high-quality used infants', children's and maternity gear, including clothing, toys, games, books and furniture. At Fort Hunt Preschool, 1909 Windmill Lane, Alexandria.

Celebrations Around the Globe. 4 p.m. Presented by the ACCT (Alexandria's City Community Theatre). At the Kauffman Auditorium at the Lee Center, 1108 Jefferson Street, Old Town Alexandria. Contact Ms. Dilworth-Abdalla at 703-746-5533

"JUMPPIN 4 JESUS." First Annual Double Dutch Tournament fundraiser. To benefit the return, updated, and revised educational stage production of "Nefertiti 18th Dynasty." Visit www.biblestoriestheatre.org.

Sari to Skin. 7-9 p.m. A one-woman performance featuring Neelam Patel

in celebration of Women's History Month. Presented by Empowered Women International. Tickets are \$15/person in advance or \$20/door. At Convergence, 1801 N. Quaker Lane, Alexandria. Email events@ewint.org to RSVP.

Night Hike. 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. At Huntley Meadows Park. Walk through the woods to the wetland with a naturalist. Hike some of the park's 1,428 acres which include wetlands, forests, meadows, streams and ponds and see resident deer, heron and other animals. Reservations are required. The cost is \$6 per person. Call 703-768-2525. At 3701 Lockheed Boulevard in Alexandria.

SUNDAY/MARCH 28

Great Del Ray Easter Egg Hunt. 11 a.m. Over 2,000 eggs will be hidden. The Easter Bunny will be available to have its picture taken with children. Free. Meet in the parking lot behind ACKC Del Ray, 2003A Mt. Vernon Ave., Alexandria.

2010 Spring Goodwill Concert Tour. 4 p.m. Free. The Wiley College A. Cappella Choir of Marshall, Texas, will perform. At Roberts Memorial United Methodist Church, 606 South Washington Street, Alexandria.

Team F.W.I.K Fund-Raiser. 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Pamper yourself for the cure. 50% of sales will be donated to Team F.W.I.K. (Fabulous Women I Know) At Salon deZEN, 1008 King Street Alexandria. Call Salon deZEN, 703-549-1400. Visit www.fwik.org.

An Evening of Italian Opera Choruses. 3 p.m. NOVA Community Chorus (Dr. Mark Whitmire, Director) and the Washington Metropolitan Philharmonic will present "An Evening of Italian Opera Choruses," including music from Macbeth, Il trovatore, Lucia di Lammermoor and Aida. At Bishop Ireton High School (201 Cambridge Rd, Alexandria). Call 703-845-6097 or e-mail: mwhitmire@nvcc.edu.

Snow Crab Legs and Shrimp Feast. 1-4 p.m. Sponsored by the Merrifield Lions Club. There will be a Deejay. Advanced tickets are \$38/adults, \$40/door, \$15/children, and groups of 8 or more are \$36/person. At the Dunn Loring Fire Department, 2128 Gallows Road, Dunn Loring. Call 703-255-2468 or email kdalton@landon-ip.com.

The Dream Hour. 2 p.m. The U.S. Marine Band with Col. Michael J. Colburn conducting and Mark Shields, moderator. At the Rachel M. Schlesinger Concert Hall and Arts Center, NVCC, Alexandria Campus.

Wiley College A. Cappella Choir. 4 p.m. Free. Performs at Roberts Memorial United Methodist Church, 606 South Washington Street, Alexandria.

TUESDAY/MARCH 30

Life Line Screening. 9 a.m. Get screened for risks of having strokes or bone fractures. Hosted by St. Luke's Episcopal Church. Packages start at \$139. All five screenings take 60-90 minutes. At 8009 Fort Hunt Road in Alexandria. Call 1-877-237-1287 or visit www.lifelinescreening.com.

Mount Vernon Quilters Unlimited. 12:30 p.m. Community Service Workshop - Quilters will be working on quilts to donate to various organizations. At Hollin Hall Sr. Center, 1500 Shenandoah Road, Alexandria. Visit www.quiltersunlimited.org/mtv.htm.

Sounds of the Saxophone. 7:30 p.m. Free. Presented by the Washington Saxophone Quartet. At Pendleton Hall, Episcopal High School, 3900 W. Braddock Road, SEE CALENDAR, PAGE 24

Old Town's most authentic country
French restaurant since 1983

Le Refuge

It's Finally Spring

Welcome back to Le Refuge
after a long snowy winter!

The Shad Roe Season
is almost over.
Hurry in before its gone.

Open Easter Sunday
3 Seatings • 3 Courses
Call for Reservations

127 N. Washington St., Old Town • 703-548-4661

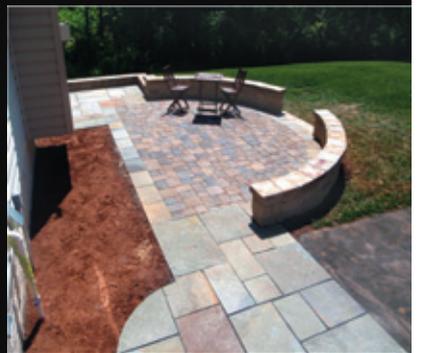
Smoke Free Restaurant
www.lerefugealexandria.com



**60-75%
OFF
Pots**



Pansies
Regularly
\$1.89
**Now
.97¢**



**2009
Trees
&
Shrubs
50%
OFF**



**Patios
Walls
Walkways
Paver
Driveways
& So Much
More**



www.CravensNursery.com



**FREE
Landscape
&
Hardscape
Estimates**

*Landscape Design
Services Available*



**Encore
Azaleas
\$24.95
3
Gallon**



**Stone Masons
& Bricklayers
on Staff**

**No
Sub-Contracting**

**We're proud of
their craftsmanship**



**Talavera Pots,
Animals, Suns**
**Great
Selection**
*Below Prices in
Cancun, Mexico*



\$2.89 2 cu. ft.
\$3.39 3 cu. ft.
**Shredded
Hardwood Mulch**
**Topsoil
\$1.89 bag**

Bulk Mulch
Playground Chips
Organic Compost
\$24.99 cu. yd.

**9023 Arlington Blvd.,
Fairfax, Virginia**
**2 miles west of I-495
on Rt. 50.**
**1 mile from I-66
(Vienna Metro)**
703-573-5025
Open 8-7, 7 days a week

 **The United States AIR FORCE BAND**
WASHINGTON, D.C.
AMERICA'S INTERNATIONAL MUSICAL AMBASSADORS

Chamber Players Series
"An Evening of Vocal Chamber Music"
Friday, March 26 at 8 p.m.

George Washington Masonic Memorial
101 Callahan Drive, Alexandria, Virginia 22301

Upcoming recitals at GW Masonic Memorial:
Friday, April 16 at 8 p.m. ~ "An Evening of Music for Strings"

FREE and open to the public; no tickets needed
★ www.USAFBand.af.mil ★

SINCE 1990
ORIENTAL STAR
Chinese~Japanese~Thai Fusion Restaurant

EXCEPTIONAL VEGETARIAN MENU * CARRY-OUT MENU
Fine Dining with Full-Service Bar & Catering
Free Delivery Minimum \$15 • Within 3 Miles
We Use 100% Vegetable Oil
OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK
www.orientalstarva.com
10% off with this ad, Dinner Only 

Business Hours
Mon-Thurs & Sun: 11:00 a.m.-10:00 p.m.
Fri & Sat: 11:00 a.m.-10:30 p.m.

3221 Duke St., Alexandria Commons • 703-370-4100



 **Pacino**
RISTORANTE ITALIANO

PRE EASTER CELEBRATION
Saturday, April 3
3 Course Meal & A Bottle of Fine Italian Wine
Only \$59 per couple

VOTED TOP TEN ITALIAN RESTAURANTS IN VA, DC & MD BY WTOP NEW 103.5 FM
Las Vegas Style Easter Brunch Buffet
Sunday April 4, 10am - 4pm • Limited Seating • Reservation Requested

www.pacinatoristorante.com

 Family Owned & Operated

703-222-5885 Catering and / or Private Rooms Available. Call for More Information.
5653 Stone Rd., Centreville, VA 20120

AFTER EASTER SURPRISE!
Monday April 5, 5pm - 9pm Only
You Could Eat FREE!
A drawing held every hour to select a winner!
Call for Details

- Omelet Station
- Five Star Carving Station
- Scrumptious Seafood Station
- Delicious Desserts
- Chef Selected Fine Italian & Greek Entrees
- Fresh Fruit Station with Chocolate Fountain

Adults: \$17.99
Children Under 12 \$7.99
Under 3 Free
M-Th 11am-10pm • Fri & Sat 11am-11pm
Sunday 10-9pm

CALENDAR

FROM PAGE 22

Alexandria. Call 703-933-4135 or visit www.episcopalhighschool.org.

THURSDAY, APRIL 1

The Jefferson Street Strutters. 7-9 p.m. Free. Enjoy hand-clapping, toe-tapping music from the Jefferson Street Strutters who will treat visitors to traditional jazz and American popular songs from the early years of the 20th century. At the Torpedo Factory Art Center, 105 N. Union St., Alexandria. Call 703-838-4565 or go to www.torpedofactory.org.

SATURDAY/APRIL 3

Easter Egg Hunt at Woodlawn. Free. For ages 1-7. 12:30 to 1:30 p.m. is entertainment and food; 1:30-2 p.m. is egg hunt in the formal garden; 2-3 p.m. more entertainment and food. Woodlawn is located at 9000 Richmond Highway, three miles west of Mount Vernon. Call 703-780-4000, ext. 26327.

Easter Tea. 11 a.m. or 1 p.m. 18th-century style tea held in the ballroom. Includes tea, pound cake, dried fruit and cookies. Cost is \$25/person. At Gadsby's Tavern Museum, 134 North Royal Street in Old Town Alexandria. Call 703-746-4242 or www.gadsbystavern.org.

Community Egg Hunt. 11 a.m. Kids up to sixth grade bring their Easter baskets for an egg hunt. At Harvest Church, 7401 Beulah Street, Kingstown area, Alexandria. Call 703-971-7070 or visit www.harvestchurch.org.

WEDNESDAY/APRIL 7

Spring Gardening Workshop. 9:30-2:30 p.m. Cost is \$30/master gardeners, \$45 for non-master gardeners. At Potomac Overlook

Regional Park Nature Center, 2845 N. Marcey Road, Arlington. Call 703-528-5406. Or contact Kirsten Buhls at kbuhls@vt.edu.

THURSDAY/APRIL 8

Laura Baron. 7 p.m. Laura brings a poet's sensitivity to her writing and is known for the beauty of her voice and style of jazz. At The Athenaeum, 201 Prince Street, Alexandria. Call 703-548-0035. Visit www.laurabaronmusic.com.

APRIL 9-10

"Snow White & The Seven Dwarfs." Presented by Rose Hill Elementary School. Friday, April 9 at 7 p.m.; Saturday, April 10 at 7 p.m. Tickets are \$5/adults, \$3/children. At Hayfield Secondary School, 7630 Telegraph Road, Alexandria.

SATURDAY/APRIL 10

An Evening of Magic. 7:30 p.m. Magician Duane Laflin performs along with Darwin Ortiz, Jim Sisti, Samuel Patrick Smith, Eric Henning and Dick Christian. Admission is \$15/person, \$10/children and seniors. At Bishop Ireton High school, at Duke street and Cambridge Road in Alexandria. Contact Laurie Curry at 703-698-6952.

FSGW Special Event: Mike Agranoff. 8 p.m. Musician and storyteller. Donation: \$15. At the home of Linda Goodman, 123 E. Glendale Ave., Alexandria. Call Linda Goodman at 202-386-8252 or email SwallowtailJig@yahoo.com to reserve your space.

Homeownership Fair. 9:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Features lenders, Realtors and nonprofits, as well as seminars on the home buying process and foreclosure

prevention. At George Washington Middle School, 1005 Mt. Vernon Avenue in Alexandria. Call 703-746-4990.

Benefit Luncheon and Fashion Show at Aldersgate UMC, 1301 Collingwood Road for benefit of UCM and Rising Hope. Sponsored by Aldersgate United Methodist Women. 10 a.m.- Vendors and Silent Auction, 11:15 a.m.- Luncheon and Fashion Show. Tickets \$20. Call 703-765-6555 or go to www.aldersgate.net.

Potomac River Watershed Cleanup. 9 a.m. to noon. Hundreds of site locations throughout the area. Visit www.PotomacCleanup.org or contact Becky Horner at 202-518-7415 or email bhorner@fergusonfoundation.org.

Genealogist Char McCargo Bah. 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Free. Will give a lecture on how she traced descendants of people buried at Freedmen's Cemetery. At the Alexandria Black History Museum, 902 Wythe Street, Alexandria. Call 703-746-4356 or visit www.alexblackhistory.org.

"The Grandest Congress." Noon to 4 p.m. Free. French and Indian War Re-enactment. Visitors will enjoy costumed re-enactors representing Gen. Braddock and the five colonial governors as well as John and Sarah Carlyle. At Carlyle House Historic Park, 121 N. Fairfax Street in Old Town Alexandria.

SUNDAY/APRIL 11

American Youth Philharmonic Concert. 3 p.m. Led by music director emeritus Luis Haza. Tickets are \$14/adults, \$10/seniors and students. At the Rachel M. Schlesinger Concert Hall, NVCC, Alexandria Campus. Visit www.aypo.org.

BRING THIS VIP TICKET FOR 2-FOR-1 ALL ACCESS VIP ADMISSION


metropolitan
FOOD, LIBATIONS & LUXURY HOME SHOW
GAYLORD NATIONAL HOTEL AT NATIONAL HARBOR

ALSO TAKING PLACE INSIDE LUXURY SHOW
metropolitan ART EXPO

SHOP FROM 200 ELEGANT DESIGN, STYLE, HOME AND ART VIGNETTES
TREND SETTING KITCHENS & ARCHITECTURE • ENJOY FINE WINE, ARTISAN BREWS AND UNIQUE SPIRITS TASTINGS • TASTE AND PURCHASE GOURMET FOOD
201 WATERFRONT STREET • NATIONAL HARBOR, MD 20745 • INFO 410-612-9330
CONVENIENT PARKING / VALET PARKING AVAILABLE

MAR 27-28, 2010 sat & sun 11am-5pm
www.theluxuryhomeshows.com

VIP TICKET
2-FOR-1 ALL ACCESS VIP TICKET - INCLUDES COMPLIMENTARY ADMISSION PLUS ALCOHOL TASTINGS AND GOURMET FOOD TASTINGS FOR 2 ADULTS (REGULAR PRICE \$70 - YOUR PRICE WITH THIS TICKET \$35 FOR 2 ADULTS)

Mount Vernon Paint Company
(703) 768-1975





\$4.00 OFF
Per gallon of any Regal Product
Must be presented at time of purchase.

FREE
Drop Cloth and Sanding Sponge
6229 Richmond Hwy
Must be presented at time of purchase.

ENTERTAINMENT

Woodrow Wilson Bridge Half Marathon

Endurance Enterprises LLC announced the new Woodrow Wilson Bridge Half Marathon, set for Sunday, Sept. 19, 2010.

The destination half marathon will begin at the historic Mount Vernon home of George Washington in Alexandria, and will end at the new luxurious National Harbor resort in Maryland. The 13.1-mile course will be USATF certified.

Registration can be found at www.wilsonbridgehalf.com. Entries will be limited to 4,000 starters for the inaugural running. The race is being presented by Burke & Herbert Bank.

The half marathon is the first organized race ever across the new Woodrow Wilson Bridge. Completed in 2008, the wider new bridge removed an infamous I-95 bottleneck that had been the bane of frustration for Beltway motorists for decades.

As runners approach Alexandria, they will catch several glimpses of the graceful new Wilson Bridge, inviting them across the Potomac River and to the finish line at National Harbor.

"Runners love bridges, and until you actually run up and over the Wilson Bridge, you cannot believe what a cool feeling that is," said Steve Nearman, founder of Endurance Enterprises and event director of Woodrow Wilson Bridge Half Marathon. "You are right there with the vehicles and

the view of Washington's monuments is spectacular."

Runners will be transported from National Harbor by bus to the start line at Mount Vernon. From there, the scenic course rolls along the George Washington Memorial Parkway and over the Potomac River via the Woodrow Wilson Bridge. The Awakening statue will greet the runners at the finish line at National Harbor.

Pacers Events, the race director for the highly successful GW Parkway Classic 10-Miler and other quality Washington area running events, will serve as race director for the Woodrow Wilson Bridge Half Marathon. See runpacers.com.

The race will benefit six charity partners: the American Heart Association, Autism Speaks, Alice Ferguson Foundation, Child & Family Network Centers of Alexandria, Washington Area Women's Foundation and Back on My Feet - DC.

Training programs associated with the half marathon will be announced soon. Age group awards and prize money will be announced as well.

Hotel packages are being arranged for those athletes and their families interested in a weekend sight-seeing visit to Washington's plethora of attractions.

Visit wilsonbridgehalf.com or call Steve Nearman at 703-587-4321.

WHERE LUXURY MEETS AFFORDABILITY

HARBOUR INN SPA

COMPLIMENTARY SHUTTLE SERVICE TO AND FROM TOWN

COMPLIMENTARY BICYCLES AVAILABLE

Complimentary high speed internet

Waterfront suites with unparalleled views

Full Service resort Marina on the quiet side of town

Pascal's Restaurant Newly Renovated Waterfront Eclectic Seafood Restaurant

Special Easter Brunch Served 10am - 2pm

ST. MICHAELS HARBOUR INN MARINA & SPA

Visit us on the web at www.harbourinn.com
101 North Harbor Road • St. Michaels, MD 21663
410.745.9001

Northern Virginia Recycling Day

SHRED-N-SHARE

MARCH 27

SHRED

up to 5 medium-sized boxes of paper!

- Personal documents ONLY
- Remove paper from binders
- No binder clips
- Paper documents ONLY

at **Landmark Mall**
Duke Street Entrance (follow signs)
10 AM - 4 PM
Questions: 703-746-4133
www.alexandriava.gov/recycling

or at the **South County Government Center**
8350 Richmond Highway, Alexandria
9 AM - 2 PM
Questions: 703-324-5230, TTY 711
www.fairfaxcounty.gov/recycling

-N-SHARE

a variety of household items.

- Toilets
- Tubs (not cast-iron)
- Hot Tubs
- Building Materials
- Electrical & Plumbing Supplies
- Televisions
- DVD players
- VCRs
- Radios
- Video games
- New carpet and tile
- Hardwood Flooring
- Hardware/Tools
- Home Furnishings
- Kitchen Cabinetry
- Lumber (6 feet or longer)
- Office Furniture
- Appliances
- New Windows
- Cars (drivable condition)
- Lawn equipment
- Light fixtures - all parts
- Furnaces
- Ceiling fans - all parts
- Counter tops
- Exercise equipment
- Hot Water Heaters
- New Shower Doors
- Mirrors with trimming
- New Mattresses
- Splash boards

Alexandria ReStore
7770 Richmond Highway, Alexandria
10 AM - 4 PM
Questions: 703-360-6700
www.restorenova.org

Landmark Mall
Duke Street Entrance
10 AM - 4 PM
Questions: 703-746-4133
www.alexandriava.gov/recycling

-These FREE events are made possible in partnership with:

PROSHRED SECURITY DOCUMENT DESTRUCTION AT YOUR DOOR

ECO-CITY ALEXANDRIA

Habitat for Humanity

ReStore LANDMARK MALL

BUSINESS MATTERS

Hungry for Representation

Restaurants of the city unite! That's the clarion call of the Alexandria Chamber of Commerce, which is in the midst of creating a new restaurant commission. Earlier this week, more than 50 restaurants gathered to hear a presentation from city officials about the waterfront planning process. The meeting was the first of its kind gathering of city restaurants, although details about how the commission will work won't be hammered out until May. That's when chamber officials are planning an organizational meeting to outline how the commission will work.

"The restaurant community has needed this kind of representation for some time," said Alexandria Chamber of Commerce president **Tina Leone**. "So we're pleased to provide that."

Leone said that the commission will be administered and funded by the chamber, although membership will be open to restaurants that are not chamber members. She said the first chairman of the commission is expected to be **Mike Anderson** —known in Alexandria as "Mango Mike" for his eponymous Duke Street eatery. As the incoming chairman for 2011, Leone said, Anderson will be able to provide the kind of leadership needed for a successful launch. "The energy right now for this is fantastic," said Leone. "Hopefully, the commission will help shape the future of the city by providing a place for restaurants to sound off."

No Case in Alexandria

Herb Cooper-Levy has been placed on paid administrative leave from his position as executive director of Robert Pierre Johnson Housing Development Corporation, an Alexandria-based affordable-housing nonprofit. The move comes in response to a debarment notice sent earlier this month by Fairfax County. The March 9 letter accused Cooper-Levy of submitting forged zoning documents in order to secure financing for a multi-family affordable housing facility located near the Huntington Metro station.

"We take this very seriously," said **Eric Bonetti**, acting executive director of RPJ. "At this juncture, we are going to wait and see what our investigation reveals."

Although Fairfax County officials forwarded the case to Alexandria, where the nonprofit agency's headquarters is located, Alexandria Commonwealth's Attorney **Randy Sengel** has concluded that he doesn't have sufficient basis to bring charges in the city. As a result, Fairfax County Chief Deputy Commonwealth's Attorney **Ian Rodway** said his office will consider bringing charges against Cooper-Levy. Meanwhile, RPJ officials have until early next month to respond to the notice of debarment, which would prevent the nonprofit from procuring county contracts for three years. "We intend to appeal," said Bonetti.

On the Menu

For many people, an appropriate menu for St. Patrick's Day involves cabbage and a Guinness stout. Not President **Barack Obama**. This year, he hosted a reception at the White House featuring a menu of traditional Irish hors d'oeuvres prepared by Alexandria celebrity chef **Cathal Armstrong**.

The spread included Dublin-spiced lamb chops with heirloom carrot mayonnaise, cashel blue terrine with Virginia pecans and wildflower honey and Irish oak smoked salmon with lemon emulsion. The First Family hosted Irish Prime Minister **Brian Cowen**, Pulitzer Prize winner **Paul Muldoon** and famed Irish golfer **Padraig Harrington**. "To complement Chef Armstrong's vibrant cuisine, waiters even poured green sparkling wine from a California vineyard," according to a press released issued after the event.

Automatic Fraud Machine

High-tech thieves scammed at least \$60,000 in fraudulent charges from Wachovia bank cards, according to a press release issued this week by the Alexandria Police Department. Police officials say an ATM technician noticed the skimming device and went inside to notify the bank's security officer. By the time he returned a few minutes later, the device had been removed.

Detectives are encouraging Wachovia customers who used the ATM at 3624 King Street on Feb. 28 to carefully check their account information.

— MICHAEL LEE POPE

BUSINESS



PHOTO BY JULIA HEINE

This modern pool house constructed by Bonitt Builders was awarded the 2009 Grand Honor Award from the Potomac Valley Chapter of AIA.

Company Honored for Pool House

Bonitt Builders recognized by Maryland architect association.

BY SANDY LEVITZ LUNNER
GAZETTE PACKET



PHOTO BY SANDY LEVITZ LUNNER/GAZETTE PACKET

Murray Bonitt, in the shop of Bonitt Builders, earned top honors from the Potomac Valley Chapter of the American Institute of Architects.

well on me. They are incredible craftsmen."

The award-winning structure is an ultra modern pool house set on the banks of the Rappahannock
SEE BONITT BUILDERS, PAGE 29

Advice on Repairing Water Infiltration

BY SENITRA MCCOMBS
GAZETTE PACKET

Recently, Alexandria contractor Jeffrey Schroeder talked about a major concern of many home owners after the Blizzard of 2010 and the subsequent flooding from recent rains.

Would you describe your job?

Jeffrey Schroeder: I'm a Class A general contractor here in Alexandria and we specialize in residential renovation, construction/ design build and maintenance. We are a referral-based company. Since we do everything We are a full service company. We do any-

thing that our customers ask us. While we specialize in renovation and repair, right now we are in maintenance mode for water damage.

How can people find you?

Schroeder: We have a Facebook page. Honeycomb Construction. People don't have to be members of Facebook to look at it.

What is your educational training? Years on the job?

Schroeder: I started my company 10 years ago. I've been independent for 10 years. I becoming more of a specialist with water problems because every other call I get has something to do with water. It's almost like when Mickey



Jeffrey Schroeder

Mouse cast a spell in Fantasia to get the brooms to carry water and he can't get them to stop. That's the problem with water it doesn't get better, it only gets worse. Water is insidious and it doesn't let

SEE ADVISE, PAGE 29

WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

BUSINESS

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

Burke & Herbert Bank & Trust Company reported record net income of \$32.7 million, or \$170.17 per share, for 2009. Fourth quarter net income was \$8.7 million, or \$45.66 per share, also a record high. Net income was up 30 percent for the year.

The bank achieved growth in profit, revenue, loans and deposits in 2009 while at the same time maintaining its long-standing sound capital and liquidity positions. Revenue for the year increased to \$94 million, a 30 percent improvement, on strong growth in net interest income. Loans rose by \$175 million or 16 percent and deposits increased 21% or \$269 million. Total assets now surpass \$2 billion, up 18 percent over the prior year.

Senior Services of Alexandria will honor four local families who represent the importance of generations of civic leaders who create strong and caring communities.

On March 27, a "Generation to Generation" Gala will be held at the Hilton Alexandria Mark Center to recognize Mollie Abraham and Mary Abraham, Dr. Frank Carroll and Drew Carroll, Charlie Collum and Joseph Collum, Ferdinand Day and Gwen Day-Fuller.

These families have served Alexandria through their businesses, faith communities, and civic organizations. Their contributions have created a better place to live and set an important example in the community.

GW ALEXANDRIA CENTER

MASTER'S DEGREE IN
HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT

Become a strategic HR partner.
Lead change initiatives to support your organization's strategic direction.

Earn a top-rate education.
Awarded Outstanding HRD Academic Program of the Year twice by the Academy of Human Resource Development.

Power up your weekend.
Classes conveniently meet on alternating Saturdays in Alexandria.

Begin as early as Summer 2010.

Information Session
Saturday, April 10
11:00 am

New Location
garage entrance: 1925 Ballenger Ave.
street entrance: 413 John Carlyle St.
Suite 250, Alexandria, VA
Metro: Blue or Yellow Line to King St.

Rsvp Today!
202.973.1130
nearyou.gwu.edu/hrd-ax



BRING US YOUR AMBITION.
www.gwu.edu/gradapply



GEORGETOWN UNIVERSITY



MS Degree with Specialization in
BIOTECHNOLOGY

One year program with rolling admission
Fall 2010 deadline is June 1, 2010
Contact the Program Coordinator for details
202-687-1070

E-mail: biotechprogram@georgetown.edu
Website: <http://biotechnology.georgetown.edu>



Allsports Grand Prix
High Speed Indoor Kart Racing

AllsportsGP Racing Coupon
Cut out and bring this coupon in during the month of MARCH and get your 2nd 'Arrive & Drive' race for FREE!



*Only 1 coupon per person, per visit
*Coupons CANNOT be duplicated or copied
*Must purchase 1st race
*Cannot be combined with any other offers or promos
*Please visit our website for more details and reservations: www.ALLSPORTSGP.com

Allsports Grand Prix
45915 Maries Road
Dulles, VA. 20166

Office (571) 434-9566
Fax (571) 434-9570
www.AllsportsGP.com

RANDOLPH-MACON COLLEGE

— EXCELLENCE —





Congratulations Randolph-Macon College Men's Basketball Team
2010 NCAA Division III National Semifinalist

Thank you to our Seniors and Head Coach Nathan Davis for your outstanding leadership! Go Yellow Jackets!

— VISIT RANDOLPH-MACON COLLEGE —

Individual Interviews · Group Information Sessions · Campus Tours · www.rmc.edu/tour · 800-888-1762

LETTERS

FROM PAGE 7

who have made decisions for the betterment of our city still have a voice and just maybe would like to apply as a substitute when in need. Something to think about ...

Geri Baldwin
Alexandria

Focus on Learning

To the Editor:

.... So tell us all, why do you have an article about condom distribution at T.C. Williams and ignore that fact that the school is one of the bottom 17 in the state of Virginia and was recently designated as a failing school by the U.S Department of Education? Perhaps we ought to pay more attention to the learning habits and less to the breeding habits of these students.

John Mac Michael
Alexandria

Editor's note, "T.C. in Crisis," the story above the teen health center story on page one, concerned that issue.

POETRY

Street Sense

The street life of a man is his desire or demand. Disregarding a reason why many neglect to understand. Many people are alienated because of rejection of family at home. Lack of respect and various abuse can cause one to roam. People on the streets portray many examples of role play. Well-educated individuals recognize games played everyday. Many talented street people work and hustle on the side. Several of them save money to acquire financial pride. Respect in this world is a value you should have learned. Deceit and lack of etiquette can cause you to get burned. A person is educated in all the environments they are in. Intelligence is enhanced and wisdom is increased within. Any method of obtaining knowledge is considered as education. Capital gain from improved decisions is miraculous creation. There are many people that have twenty-twenty vision. However in many important situations they make wrong decision. Success is enhanced by supportive families and friends. Lacking that combination arouses suspicion if company blends. I try to be polite and empathetic most of the time. However that emotion must be mutual in the other person's mind. Some people are dissatisfied in life and want attention. If pessimistic ways are used they can create dissension. Prestigious people are those who are productive in this life. If accomplishments are recognized that enhances life.

— WAVELY BROWN

Write

The Gazette Packet welcomes views on any public issue.
Send to: Letters to the Editor
The Gazette Packet
1606 King St.
Alexandria VA 22314
By e-mail: gazette@connectionnewspapers.com

Titan Pride

FROM PAGE 9

classification rating is for "all students," not for any one or two subgroups.

Some good and bad news:

❖ Newsweek's Challenge Index puts TC's participation rate in college-level courses and tests in the top four percent of U.S. public high schools.

❖ More than 80 percent of T.C. grads go on to post-secondary education and attend some of the nation's top colleges and universities.

❖ About one in four students don't pass state assessments in Algebra I, Algebra II or Geometry. About one in seven students don't pass the reading tests.

I don't agree with the new state designation for many reasons (see my open letter to President Obama and Education Secretary Duncan posted on the ACPS Web site). Judgments about schools must include test scores as part of a larger picture. However, the federal guidelines for reauthorization of the No Child Left Behind Law must not stop at test scores. We are proud of our programs in the arts, athletics, career and technical education. TC has a heart and a his-

tory that deserves celebration.

We will not ignore this wake-up call. We will not rest until all students are achieving at their highest potential.

Over the past year and a half, we created a consolidated 9-12 program and a College and Career Center, added graduation coaches and are working to create a comprehensive Teen Wellness Center to address health care and teen pregnancy issues. We've partnered with several community organizations, consulted with national experts, and created a T.C. Vision and Action committee to help shape our future.

PLA schools must choose one of four U.S Department of Education-approved models of intervention: the turnaround model, which requires replacement of 50 percent of staff; the closure model, which can only be accomplished with more than one high school; the restart model, under which the school would reopen as a charter school; the transformation model, which includes comprehensive instructional and programmatic changes. The fourth option is similar to plans that are already being considered for T.C. Williams.

We can reject the label of PLA, but we can't deny it.

Visit These Houses of Worship

Join A Club, Make New Friends, or Expand Your Horizons...

To Advertise Your Faith Community, call Karen at 703-917-6468

Christ the Saviour Anglican Church
"To Love & Serve the Lord with Gladness & Singleness of Heart"
Location - Washington Mill ES
9100 Cherrytree Drive
Worship Service - 10 a.m.
Inter-generational Sunday School - after service
Vicar, The Rev. Huey J Sevier
www.christthesaviouranglican.org
703-953-2854

Christ Is Risen!
Easter Services April 4th
7:00am Pancake breakfast
9:30am & 11:00am Worship services
12:15 Easter Egg Hunt
Wesley United Methodist Church
8412 Richmond Ave, Alexandria, VA 22309
(just off Richmond Highway, near Fort Belvoir & Mount Vernon)
703-780-5019 • www.wesleyva.org

HOLY WEEK
Bethany Lutheran Church
2501 Beacon Hill Road, Alexandria, Virginia 22306
(703) 765-8255
Palm Sunday, March 28
Procession of the Palms, 8:30 & 11a.m. Worship
Mauudy Thursday, April 1, 7:30 p.m.
The Gift of the Eucharist
Good Friday, April 2
11a.m., Family Worship, Jesus' walk to Calvary
7:30 p.m., TENEBRAE, The Darkness before the Light
EASTER SUNDAY, April 4
7:00 a.m., Sunrise Worship at Mt. Comfort
8:05 and 10:35 a.m., Music of the Resurrection
8:30 & 11:00 a.m., Festival Worship
With Holy Communion
Easter Pancake Breakfast
Served 7:30-10:30 a.m.
More info (703) 765-8255 or www.bethany-lcms.org

- CHURCHES—PRESBYTERIAN**
CALVARY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH...703-768-8510
ALEXANDRIA PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH...703-683-3348
OLD PRESBYTERIAN MEETING HOUSE...703-549-6670
HERITAGE PRESBYTERIAN...703-360-9546
MT. VERNON PRESBYTERIAN...703-765-6118
WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH...703-549-4766
- CHURCHES—UNITED METHODIST**
ALDERSGATE UNITED METHODIST...703-765-6553
BEVERLY HILLS COMMUNITY UNITED METHODIST...703-836-2406
DEL RAY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH...703-549-2088
FAIRLINGTON UNITED METHODIST CHURCH...703-671-8557
ROBERTS MEMORIAL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH...703-836-7332
ST. ANDREW'S UNITED METHODIST CHURCH...703-751-4666
TRINITY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH...703-549-5500
WASHINGTON FARM UNITED METHODIST...703-780-4696
WASHINGTON STREET UNITED METHODIST CHURCH...703-836-4324
- CHURCHES—UNITARIAN**
MT. VERNON UNITARIAN...703-765-5950
- CHURCHES—UNITY**
UNITY IN ALEXANDRIA...703-931-8507
- SYNAGOGUES**
AGUDAS ACHIM CONGREGATION...703-998-6460
- SYNAGOGUES—ORTHODOX**
CHABAD LUVAVITZ OF ALEXANDRIA-ARLINGTON...703-370-2774
- SYNAGOGUES—REFORM**
BETH EL HEBREW CONGREGATION...703-370-9400
- THE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS**
ALEXANDRIA I WARD...703-683-7577
ALEXANDRIA II WARD...703-549-9891
COLONIAL II SINGLES WARD...703-313-6249
OLD TOWN SPANISH WARD...703-519-9545
BELLE HAVEN WARD...703-780-4789
KINGSTOWNE WARD...703-313-6140
FRANCONIA WARD...703-313-6147
MT. VERNON WARD...703-780-9577
- SALVATION ARMY**
ALEXANDRIA CITADEL...703-836-2427

St. James' Episcopal Church
8 AM - Holy Eucharist - no music
All Education programs - 9:00 AM
10:15 AM - Holy Eucharist - music
5614 Old Mill Road, Mt. Vernon, Virginia
Office: 703-780-3081
www.StJamesMV.org

Good Shepherd Catholic Church
Mass Schedule
Saturday Evening
5:00 pm; 6:30 pm (en Español)
Sunday
7:30; 9:00; 10:30 am; 12:00 Noon
2:00 pm (en Español)
6:30 pm Mass (Starts Sept. 13)
Weekdays
(Mass or Communion Service)
9:00 am (followed by Rosary)
Children's Liturgy of the Word
Sundays (Sept.-July) during 9:00 am Mass (English)
Sign Language Interpreter
Sunday at 9:00 am Mass
8710 Mount Vernon Highway, Alexandria VA, 22309
Tel: 703-780-4055 Fax: 703-360-5385 www.gs-cc.org
Loving as Christ loves, serving as Christ serves

- PROVIDENCE- ST. JOHN BAPTIST CHURCH...703-683-2565
SHILOH BAPTIST...703-683-4573
MT. PLEASANT BAPTIST CHURCH...703-256-1239
VICTORY TEMPLE...703-370-2233
PLYMOUTH HAVEN BAPTIST...703-360-4370
- CHURCHES—BAPTIST**
GRACE BRETHREN CHURCH...703-548-1808
ALEXANDRIA CHURCH OF GOD...703-548-5084
- BUDDHISM**
THE VAJRAYOGINI BUDDHIST CENTER...202-331-2122
- CHURCHES—ROMAN CATHOLIC**
GOOD SHEPHERD
- CATHOLIC CHURCH...703-780-4055
ST. JOSEPH CATHOLIC CHURCH...703-836-3725
ST. LOUIS CATHOLIC CHURCH...703-765-4421
ST. MARY CATHOLIC CHURCH...703-836-4100
- CHURCHES—CHRISTIAN**
HIS KINGDOM MINISTRIES...703-313-5029
FIRST CHRISTIAN OF ALEXANDRIA CHURCH...703-549-3911
- CHURCHES—CHRISTIAN SCIENCE**
FIRST CHURCH OF CHRIST SCIENTIST ALEXANDRIA...703-549-7973
CHRISTIAN SCIENCE CHURCH MT. VERNON...703-768-2494
- CHURCH OF CHRIST**
ALEXANDRIA CHURCH OF CHRIST...703-836-3083
- CHURCHES—EPISCOPAL**
EMMANUEL EPISCOPAL CHURCH...703-683-0798
ST. AIDAN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH...703-360-4220
ST. JAMES EPISCOPAL CHURCH...703-780-3081
ST. LUKE'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH...703-765-4342
ST. MARK EPISCOPAL CHURCH...703-765-3949
- CHURCHES—LUTHERAN**
EPIPHANY LUTHERAN CHURCH-ELCA...703-780-5077
BETHANY LUTHERAN...703-765-8255
- EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH...703-765-5003
GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH-ELCA...703-548-8608
IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH, MISSOURI SYNOD...703-549-0155
MESSIAH EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH, ELCA...703-765-5003
NATIVITY LUTHERAN CHURCH, ELCA...703-768-1112
- ORTHODOX**
SAINT APHRAIM SYRIAC...201-312-7678
ALL SAINTS OF AMERICA...703-417-9665

Bonitt Builders Recognized by Architectural Association

FROM PAGE 26

River in King George, Md. When citing the award, the AIA chapter wrote, "The jury was unanimous in its praise of this year's Grand Honor Award winner. The clarity of concept, the rich palette of materials, the exquisite detailing and the masterful design were all roundly applauded."

Bonitt worked with Bethesda-based McInturff Architects whose firm designed the project. Mark McInturff is a friend and colleague who collaborates frequently with Bonitt.

"It was tedious to complete," Bonitt

shared, "but in the end, it was worth it. We're really proud of it."

In fact, Bonitt says, he loves what he does. "It's a fun way to make a living," he added, speaking from his contemporary Alexandria office, complete with a drum set he says belongs to his 12-year old son Daniel. But, he admitted, he's been known to do a bit of banging on stressful days.

Sometimes, he says, it seems like a long way from his Joplin, Missouri roots and his political science degree from the University of Missouri. His first job in Washington, D.C. was working for Iowa Senator John Culver.

But, he explained, growing up in Joplin, he worked summers doing construction.

"I kind of got the bug," he said. "Plus, I always had an entrepreneurial spirit."

About 70 percent of the work Bonitt Builders does is residential, but they also do commercial work, including small office buildings and even some restaurants. One of his favorite projects was restoring and renovating The Majestic in Old Town. Mark McInturff designed the interior for that project which won an Award of Excellence for Extraordinary Achievement in Historic Resources from the Washington chapter of

AIA in 2003.

Bonitt Builders has been featured in a number of national magazines including The Washingtonian, Town and Country, and Custom Home. Last fall, American Builders Quarterly led a section on renovations with Bonitt Builders. The six-page spread featured seven photographs of Bonitt's work and called the company "masters of combining the old with the new."

Bonitt lives in Alexandria with his wife Meg and their son Daniel. His 19-year old daughter Meredith is a freshman at Radford University.

Advice on Repairs after Water Damage

FROM PAGE 26
up.

What are the most common questions that you get about water infiltration?

Schroeder: The most common questions: When will the water stop? Why is it getting in? How is it getting in? Water is difficult because it doesn't necessarily get in where it drops down into your house. Water has surface tension. Water can travel uphill or on a beam before it gets to where it drops. The question of how water gets end? It's always more complicated. And so we look at the variables of where it's getting in. And then we can address what to do about it. Water is very, very tricky and it travels.

What are some of the challenges of your job?

Schroeder: When we're doing repair work, we use a clear vision for a short distance. What that means is in theory it's pretty simple to put the gutters on or take them off, but in practice it's fairly ... complicated process. No two projects are the same. And so things get more complicated than they appear to be. Sometimes people say I need my gutters replaced, and then the whole side of the house is rotten. Sometimes we don't know what we're going to get until we actually get into it.

Is there a particular project your proud of?

Schroeder: Funny you should say that. No one walks up to me at my local Safeway and says "Thanks for the gutters". Repair work is a thankless job. It's hard to get excited about gutters. We get excited about our kitchen repair because it's big, glamorous and sexy projects. But at the same time, the work that needs to get done is the unglamorous work. I

can't say there's a gutter out there that I'm particularly proud of. I'm proud of all our work.

What's the most difficult case that you've come across in your work?

Schroeder: Now I'm working with a case where the ceiling collapsed and the water could have come from any number of places, there was a two tier roof or the sides. It was fairly complicated. In a case like that we just have to work from the top down. Fortunately, that's the worst case I've seen so far although I'm sure there are worst ones.

What is Fascia? How is PVC Fascia better than the standard wooden Fascia?

Schroeder: Fascia is a piece of wood that the gutter's attached to. That wood gets a lot of water because it's at the end of the roof. Up to this point it's been primarily wood and the paint wears off and you have rotten Fascia. What some people will do is wrap that wood with aluminum. However, in the event that there is significant deterioration in that Fascia it'll cause the gutters to fall off, sag or misalign. If you're replacing the Fascia go with a plastic PVC Fascia. It (PVC) last longer and it's greener. It doesn't rot. It'll out last the house.

Do you recommend that people make home repairs? Or should they always contact a contractor?

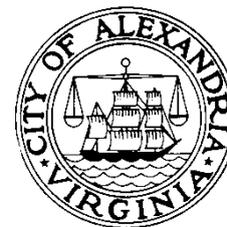
Schroeder: I think that it's not that difficult if it's a first floor house. The first thing people can do is spray water up on the roof and when it comes down into the gutter check the volume of the water coming out of the down spout. And you can also look to see that the gutter hasn't pulled away from the edges. But in terms of consequential repair I always recommend letting someone else do it, someone who's insured.



PHOTO BY LASHAWN AVERY/GAZETTE PACKET

On March 14, following rainstorms, local businesses and streets were flooded in Old Town.

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, APRIL 7, 2010 beginning at 7:30 PM in Council Chambers, second floor of City Hall, 301 King Street, Alexandria, Virginia on the following applications:

CASE BAR2008-0235
Request for approval of alterations and signage at 134 N. Royal St, zoned CD Commercial.
APPLICANT: City of Alexandria

CASE BAR2009-0035
Request for approval of alterations and waiver of HVAC screening requirement at 202 Duke St, zoned RM Residential.
APPLICANT: Lynn Rogerson Lewis

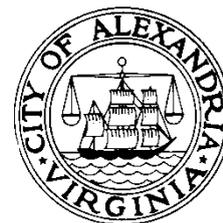
CASE BAR2009-0174
Request for approval of alterations at 3737 Seminary Rd, zoned R-20.
APPLICANT: T-Mobile Northeast LLC.

CASE BAR2009-0295
Request for approval of alterations at 211 N Patrick St, zoned RB Residential.
APPLICANT: Patrick Street Associates, LLC by Duncan W. Blair, Esquire

CASE BAR2010-0042
Request for approval of demolition at 313 N Columbus St, zoned CD Commercial.
APPLICANT: North Washington Realty, LC.

CASE BAR2010-0035
Request for approval of alterations at 217 N Columbus St, zoned RM Residential.
APPLICANT: Andrew H. Macdonald
BOARD ACTION:

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) 746-4666



ALEXANDRIA PLANNING COMMISSION
APRIL - 2010

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

Legal Notices

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 838-4666.

ALEXANDRIA PLANNING COMMISSION
TUESDAY, APRIL 6, 2010
7:30 PM, CITY HALL
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS
301 KING STREET
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA

ALEXANDRIA CITY COUNCIL
SATURDAY, APRIL 17, 2010
9:30 AM, CITY HALL
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS
301 KING STREET
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA

Advisory recommendations to the City Manager, under Section 6.14 of the City Charter, regarding the Capital Improvement Program. Staff: Office of Management and Budget.

CDD CONCEPT PLAN #2009-0002
MASTER PLAN AMENDMENT #2009-0002

DEVELOPMENT SPECIAL USE PERMIT #2009-0004

TRANSPORTATION MANAGEMENT PLAN SUP #2009-0063

STREET NAME CASE #2009-0002 and #2009-0009

2210 EISENHOWER AVENUE
HOFFMAN BLOCKS 11 AND 12

Public hearing and consideration of a request for A) an amendment to the CDD Concept Plan for the Hoffman properties B) an amendment to the Eisenhower East Small Area Plan to increase height limits on Blocks 11 and 12; C) a development special use permit, with site plan and modifications, for a mixed-use residential and retail development, approval of a density bonus for affordable housing in accordance with Section 7-700 of the Zoning Ordinance, increased penthouse heights and to construct more than one penthouse; D) approval of an amendment to the transportation management plan for Blocks 2-5, 9A & B, 11, 12, 24 and 25A; and E) approval of two street names; zoned CDD-2/Coordinated Development District-2. Applicant: Hoffman Company, LLC represented by Johnathan Rak, attorney

DEVELOPMENT SPECIAL USE PERMIT #2009-0017

1500 EISENHOWER AVENUE
ALEXANDRIA SANITATION AUTHORITY
Public hearing and consideration of a request for a development special use permit, with site plan and modifications, to construct additional treatment facilities and for an increase in building height; zoned UT/Utilities. Applicant: Alexandria Sanitation Authority represented by Jonathan Rak, attorney

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE TO ANY AND ALL LENDERS HOLDING MORTGAGES AT HUNTING CREEK CLUB APARTMENTS BE ADVISED THAT ON APRIL 21, 2010 THAT AT THE ANNUAL MEETING A VOTE WILL BE TAKEN TO AMEND THE EXISTING BY LAWS AS TO THE "PET RULES". SHOULD YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS PLEASE CONTACT LIBERTY MANAGEMENT AT 703 914-2100.

EMPLOYMENT

Home Instead SENIOR CARE
COMPANIONS & CNA's NEEDED
Enable seniors to live independently in their own homes with our non-medical companionship and home care services. Rewarding P/T days, evenings, weekends, live-ins, medical benefits offered.
Home Instead Senior Care.
Call Today: 703-750-6665

LIFEGUARDS / POOL OPERATORS / POOL MANAGERS
Free training, competitive wages. Must be good swimmer. 703-996-1300 x109

Electronics Maintainer
P/T position. Will visit customer halls in evenings to support Bingo equipment. Thur-Sun schedule. Must have transp. FAX: 443-927-7532 or e-mail hr@atlanticbingosupply.com

TELEPHONE WORK AT HOME!
A great opportunity to
NATIONAL CHILDRENS CENTER
No sell! Salary + Bonus + Benefits!
301-333-1900
Weekdays 9-4

TELEPHONE WORK AT HOME!
A great opportunity to
NATIONAL CHILDRENS CENTER
No sell! Salary + Bonus + Benefits!
301-333-1900
Weekdays 9-4

MECHANIC & HELPER
WOODLAWN AUTO CENTER
5634 MT VERNON MEM HWY 22309
Looking for mechanic & helper.
703-780-4707 ask for Chris

GIFT STORE CLERK
Perfect for Semi Retired
King St. Old Town
Fax Resume to: 703-360-5439

George Washington's
MOUNT VERNON
ESTATE & GARDENS
Learn a Trade at Mount Vernon
Now hiring part-time/seasonal staff to work as historic interpreters at George Washington's Gristmill, Distillery, Pioneer Farm & Blacksmith Shop. Help tell the story of George Washington the entrepreneur. Prior interpretive experience preferred. Please contact Steve Bashore, Manager Historic Trades
703-799-6805 or by e-mail sbashore@mountvernon.org

Case Worker/Service Coordinator Part Time
An established Section 8 Elderly Property in Alexandria, VA is seeking a mature, highly motivated, self-starter to fill the position of Part-Time Service Coordinator.
Must have experience working with elderly and disabled. Extensive knowledge of Medicare, Medicaid, Social Services and SSI a must. Experience with Fairfax County Social Services a plus. Only qualified applicants need to apply.
Work schedule is 30 hours per week. Salary based on experience. Equal Opportunity Employer. Send resume to:
HR@mvhouse.org
No phone calls.

INTERIOR DESIGN / SALES
The ideal candidate is professional, creative, outgoing and experienced with design software. While no prior sales experience is necessary, Interior design training or experience is a must.
Salary + Commission; Income potential \$75K. Advancement Opportunity, Benefits and 401K Offered. Car essential. Must be available Evenings and Saturdays, no overnight travel. Call Philip McPhail Today:
301-560-1408
Closet America
www.closetamerica.com

Mechanic- level 2
Must have basic tools and cabinet. Must have advanced knowledge of diesel engines - air brakes and experienced in trailer work. Advanced experience in trouble shooting and some electric. Must have Class B or A drivers license and a clean driving record. Must have Virginia State Inspection certificate or willing to obtain certification. Must have supervisory experience.
• Location: Springfield, VA
• Compensation: Starting at \$14.00 per hour
E-mail resume: gina.hinton@invan.com

703-917-6400
ZONE 3 AD DEADLINE:
TUESDAY NOON

CLASSIFIED

Area Sales Leader
Norandex Building Material Distribution is a \$700 million unit of Saint-Gobain & is one of the largest distributors of vinyl siding in the U.S. We are looking for an area sales leader in the Gainesville, Va region. The ASL is resp for selling siding, windows, & other exterior building products to remodeling & new-home contractors. The selected candidate must have 1-3 yrs of direct sales exp, preferably in the building products industry. We offer a generous benefit pkg that inclds pd vacation, compny vehicle, medical/dental/life insurance, 401K (with company match), and bonus. To apply, please go to WWW.NORANDEX.COM and click on the ABOUT US tab and then careers. The reference code for this job is BD6233

IMMEDIATE OPENINGS
\$17.00 Base-Appt.
FT/PT. Temp/Perm. Ideal for students/others. Sales/Svc, Flex Schedules. Conditions apply. All ages 18+.
703-359-7600

3 RE for Rent	21 Announcements	101 Computers	101 Computers
Alex/Del Ray TH rental 1810 Leslie Ave. 2 br, cac, appl, w/d, outdoor storage, off street prking Open Sunday 3/28 noon-4. call before open house Sunday 3/28 601-583-6233	Seeking Grace Richards Worked together in Wash, DC in the 40's. Madeline Hoerbelt would like to hear from her. 714-871-8463	HDI EASY COMPUTER SOLUTIONS FOR INDIVIDUALS & SMALL BUSINESSES JENNIFER O. SMITH • COMPUTER CONSULTANT > TRAINING > INSTALLATION > TROUBLE-SHOOTING > LET US TAME THAT BEAST FOR YOU Serving the Area Since 1995 (703) 765-2222 JSMITHHDI@aol.com	

Seasonal Garden Center Positions
Bell Nursery, a nationally recognized grower/vendor of plants and nursery stock is looking for hardworking, enthusiastic people to merchandise our products at a Home Depot garden center near you. Must be flexible for weekend work. Supervisory and Merchandising positions are available. Please view job descriptions, locations and apply online at bellimpact.com

26 Antiques	21 Announcements	21 Announcements	21 Announcements
We consign/pay top \$ for antique/semi antique furn. including mid century & danish modern Teak furniture, sterling, mens watches, painting/art glass, clocks, jewelry, costume jewelry, etc. Call Schefer Antiques @ 703-241-0790.	117 Adoption Adoption: A lifetime of endless love, laughter, security & every opportunity await your precious newborn. Expenses pd. Private/ Legal. Jen & Greg 1-877-205-2780	Local Man Gallops 1.2 Miles Without Pain BEXAR COUNTY – After using Thera-Gesic® pain creme on his sore legs, Tom W. was comfortably romping through town while laughing, according to witnesses. When asked about the laughing, he replied, "The price on this product is silly!"  Go painlessly with Thera-Gesic®	

Hersheys Part-Time Retail Sales Merchandiser Alexandria, VA
You will sell and maintain the distribution of Hersheys products, making multiple sales calls daily. Responsible for merchandising and building displays. 20 hrs/wk, Mon-Thurs 9am-2pm.
QUALIFIED CANDIDATES will have:
• Reliable transportation with adequate insurance and valid driver's license required.
• HS Diploma required
• Ability to lift up to 40 pounds
• Sales and merchandising experience preferred
• Must reside in Alexandria, VA area.
For a detailed job description and to apply online, visit us at:
www.hersheys.com/careers
www.hersheys.com/careers
EOE M/F/D/V

The Perfect Job
Work in your community. Build a professional career as a **Sales and Marketing Consultant** helping local businesses plan, design and execute advertising and marketing campaigns. Flexible hours. Full or part-time. Salary and commission. Old Town Alexandria based company. Free Parking.
Respond to:
sales@connectionnewspapers.com

THE CONNECTION NEWSPAPERS

Buildings for Every Project ~ Solutions for Every Budget

ECONOMICAL AFFORDABLE QUALITY

...and everything in between... Financing Available!

Building Specials!

44x32x10 \$7,999	40x40x14 \$18,999
30x40x10 \$9,999	40x60x12 \$22,999
30x50x12 \$12,999	40x120x16 \$93,999

Dutchway Structures **CONESTOGA Buildings**

1-877-434-3133 www.cbstructuresinc.com

We're looking for a few Good Hands.

See if the Allstate Agent opportunity is right for you.

IF YOU HAVE: entrepreneurial spirit capital to invest the drive to succeed	WE OFFER: business development team opportunity for unlimited income potential no franchise fees
--	--

Open your own business as an Allstate Agent.
CONTACT OUR TALENT ACQUISITION TEAM TODAY.

1-877-605-9280
AllstateAgent.com

Allstate
You're in good hands.
Auto Home Life Retirement

Allstate agents are not franchisees; rather they are exclusive agent independent contractors and are not employed by Allstate. Allstate is an Equal Opportunity Company. Allstate Insurance Company, Northbrook, IL. In New Jersey, Allstate New Jersey Insurance Company, Bridgewater, NJ. © 2000 Allstate Insurance Company

ZONE 3: • ALEXANDRIA
• MOUNT VERNON

HOME & GARDEN

CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

CONTRACTORS.com

703-917-6400

ZONE 3 AD DEADLINE:
TUESDAY NOON

CARPENTRY **CARPENTRY**

Carpentry

by Keith Cross

- All forms of carpentry Rough & Finish
- Built to order Bookcases, shelves and cabinets, sheds and picnic tables
- Loads of Local References

Since 1991
703-863-7567
1502 B, Mt. Vernon Ave., Delray, Alexandria 22301

GUTTER **GUTTER**

Metro Gutter

Clean/Install/Repair

- Wood Replace & Wrapping
- Pressure Washing
- Chimney Sweeping & Repair

20 YEARS EXP.
703-354-4333
metro-gutter.com

PINNACLE SERVICES,

- GUTTER CLEANING
- SMALL REPAIRS
- SCREENING
- POWER WASHING

703-802-0483
GROUP RATES AVAILABLE
FREE EST.

AL'S HAULING
Junk & Rubbish

Concrete, furn., office, yard, construction debris

Low Rates NOVA
703-360-4364
703-304-4798 cell

7 DAYS A WEEK

The HANDYMAN
A DIVISION OF NURSE CONSTRUCTION

BATHROOM REMODELING
REPAIRS, CERAMIC TILE
PAINTING, DRYWALL,
CARPENTRY, CUSTOM
WOOD REPAIR, LT. PLUMBING &
ELECTRICAL, POWER WASHING

Since 1964
We Accept VISA/MC
703-441-8811

JDF Masonry CO, LLC
703-283-9479

- Bricks
- Blocks
- Flagstone
- Concrete
- Handyman

Free Est. Lic & Ins.
Affordable Prices

CLEANING **CLEANING**

Y & Y CLEANING

13 yrs Exp.
Excellent Refs,
Guaranteed Satisfaction,
Call Yamilet

703-967-7412

HANDYMAN **HANDYMAN**

RCL HOME REPAIRS

Handyman Services

Springfld • Burke • Kingstowne

Light Electrical • Plumbing •
Bathroom Renovation • Ceramic Tile •
Drywall Repair

703-922-4190
LIC. www.rclhomerepairs.com INS.

HAULING

ANGEL'S TRASH HAULING
Construction Debris,
Residential, Office
& Tree Removal

703-863-1086
New# - 571-312-7227

RICK'S

HAULING POWERWASHING PAINTING
Yard Debris Decks Interior-Exterior
Furniture Sidewalks Deck Staining
Appliances Houses Gutter Cleaning
Concrete etc. Mobile Homes etc. Gutter Guards

FREE ESTIMATES
703-360-5252
RicksHauling1@aol.com

LANDSCAPING

ANGEL'S LAWN MOWING
• Trimming • Edging
• Mulching • Yard Cleaning
• Hauling • Tree Work

703-863-1086
New# 571-312-7227

PAINTING

PATRIOT PAINTING

www.PatriotPainting.net

Wallpaper Removal,
Carpentry,
Power Washing,
Int/Ext Painting

Free Est. • Satisfaction Guar.
Lic./Ins. Int./Ext.

703-502-7840
Cell
571-283-4883

CARE MORE
CLEANING SOLUTIONS

Residential & Commercial
10% Senior Citizen Discount

703-862-5904
OR
703-780-6749
caremorecleaning.com

THE #1 HANDYMAN
Services

LICENSED • INSURED • RELIABLE

- BATHROOMS
- KITCHENS
- CAULKING
- PLUMBING
- DECK REPAIR
- STORM DOORS
- ELECTRICAL
- PAINTING

No JOB TOO SMALL • LOW PRICES • ON TIME
www.the1handyman.com
CALL: 703-444-0806

IMPROVEMENTS **IMPROVEMENTS**

M. C. Lynch

Home Improvement
Family Owned & Operated

Rotten Wood, Wind Damage, Trims,
Windows, Doors, Deck, Stairs, Vanity,
Basement Framing, Garbage Disposal,
Painting, Power Wash, Siding Repairs.

Licensed, Bonded, Insured
703-266-1233

SPRING CLEAN-UP
Yard Work, Trees & Shrubs
Trimmed/Removed!
Mulching, Hauling,
Gutter Cleaning, etc.
Free estimates!
703-385-3338

ROOFING

Roofing & Siding

(All Types)

Soffit & Fascia Wrapping
New Gutters
Chimney Crowns
Leaks Repaired
No job too small
703-975-2375

A CLEANING SERVICE
Since 1985/Ins & Bonded

Quality Service at a Fair Price
Satisfaction Guaranteed
Comm/Res. MD VA DC

acleaningserviceinc.com
703-892-8648

Hand and Hand Handyman

General Remodeling
Residential & Commercial
Specializing in:

Kitchen/Bathroom/Basement Remodeling
Plumbing • Electrical • Custom Carpentry
Doors Windows • Hardwood Floors
Crown Molding • House Cleaning
Interior/Exterior Painting • Brick/Stone Work
Ceramic Tile • Decks, Fences, Patios
HOA Maintenance, Granite Counter Tops
Realtors Work and Much More

Licensed and Insured Serving Northern Virginia
703-296-6409

LAWN SERVICE **LAWN SERVICE**

The Yard Man

LAWN SERVICE

- Mowing • Trim • Edging • Mulching
- General Clean-Up • Hauling
- Tree Work • Leaf Removal

703-660-1666

A&S LANDSCAPING
Spring Clean-up • Planting
Mulching • Sodding • Patios
Decks • Retaining Walls
Drainage Solutions
703-863-7465

TREE SERVICE

ANGEL'S TREE & HEAVY TRASH HAULING
• Mulch
• Clean-up Grounds
• Spring Clean-up

703-863-1086
New# - 571-312-7227

DECKS **DECKS**

Enjoy Your Deck This Spring
Revitalize, Restore, & Preserve Your Decks Natural Luster

- 16 Years Experience
- Contracts with Arlington National Cemetery
- Handrail Sanding with Deck Seal / Stain Purchase
- Deck Brightener with Deck Washing Service

\$ 20 OFF any Pressure Washing Service

Elite Pressure Cleaning
703.583.9274 • www.WashMyDeck.com

IMPROVEMENTS **IMPROVEMENTS**

R&N Carpentry

- BASEMENTS
- BATHS
- KITCHENS

Foreclosure specialist/Power washing
♦ Exterior Wood Rot More!
Deck & Fence repair, Screen Porches

No jobs too large or small
Free est. 37 yrs exp. Licensed, Insured
703-987-5096

J.E.S Services
LANDSCAPE & CONSTRUCTION

- Patios • Walkways
- Retaining Walls
- Drainage Problems
- Landscape Makeovers

Call: **703-912-6886**
Free Estimates

DBS Roofing, LLC
Whether it's Repair or Replace... Relax, We've Got You Covered.

Residential & Commercial Roofing Expert

Full Service Roofing Company
Repair • Refurbish • Replace
All Major Roof Types
703-455-Roof (7663)
Call today for your Free Estimate Lic. & Ins.

ELECTRICAL **ELECTRICAL**

K & D ELECTRIC

COMMERCIAL / RESIDENTIAL SERVICE
Family Owned & Operated

Recessed Lighting
Ceiling Fans
Phone/CATV
Computer Network Cabeling
Service Upgrades
Hot Tubs, etc...

Licensed/Bonded/Insured
Office 703-335-0854
Mobile 703-499-0522

A&S Landscaping

- All Concrete work
- Retaining Walls • Patios
- Decks • Porches (incl. screened) • Erosion & Grading Solutions
- French Drains • Sump Pumps
- Driveway Asphalt Sealing

703-863-7465
LICENSED
Serving All of N. Virginia

MASONRY **MASONRY**

MOTTERN MASONRY DESIGN

Specializing in Custom
Stone and Brick Walkways, Patios,
& Small and Large Repairs

Licensed, Insured
• Free estimates • All work guaranteed •
www.motternmasonry.com
Phone **703-496-7491**

GUTTER **GUTTER**

PINNACLE SERVICES, INC.
LAWN SERVICE

MOWING, TRIMMING,
EDGING, MULCHING
& TRIM HEDGES

Group Rates Avail!
703-802-0483

PAINTING **PAINTING**

Rolan Painting Plus

••• Free Estimates •••

- Interior / Exterior
- Drywall, Wallpaper removal, Tiling,
- Flooring and more.

Over 20 years experience
Excellent references
Call us: **703-887-9706**
Location: Northern Virginia
E-mail us: capo4u@verizon.net

ALEXANDRIA
Gazette Packet CLASSIFIED

Classified or Home • Lawn • Garden:
703-917-6400

Employment: **703-917-6464**

CONNECTION
to your community
E-mail: classified@connectionnewspapers.com

SSSAS Pitcher Warren Falls Just Shy of No-Hitter

Saints open season with 9-2 victory over Bishop Ireton.

BY JON ROETMAN
GAZETTE PACKET

With the St. Stephen's/St. Agnes baseball team comfortably ahead, the only thing in question on March 18 was whether Saints pitcher Joe Warren could hold Bishop Ireton hitless for one more inning.

It was the top of the seventh at SSSAS and the sophomore ace had struck out 12 and walked just one. He needed three outs for the second no-hitter of his life — first as a Saint.

"I was sitting there so nervous," he would later say. "I was like, 'Ahhh, I have to go out there and do it again.'"

Right fielder Andrew Selby led off the seventh for Ireton. He became strikeout victim No. 13.

Shortstop Lem Zeigler was the next Car-



PHOTO BY LOUISE KRAFFT/THE GAZETTE PACKET
St. Stephen's/St. Agnes sophomore Joe Warren lost a no-hitter with two outs in the seventh inning against Bishop Ireton on March 18. Warren struck out 13 in 6 2/3 innings and the Saints won 9-2.

dinal to take a hack. He grounded out to Warren.

Second baseman Brian Lewis then entered the batter's box as Ireton's final hope. Two balls and one strike later, Lewis made contact — ping! — sending skyward what appeared to be a harmless infield pop up. But the ball was dropped by a Saints infielder, allowing Lewis to reach on an error while bringing Ireton third baseman Wes Jenkins to the plate.

After a seven-pitch struggle, including a wild pitch that allowed Lewis to score, Jenkins lined the eighth pitch of his at-bat against Warren into right field for a double, ending the right-hander's hopes of a no-hitter.

Warren then allowed an RBI double to Andrew Bladen and was pulled from the mound. He finished the game as the team's right fielder and the Saints went on to win 9-2.

After the game, the sophomore was disappointed, but handled the situation with class and poise.

"I wish he would have caught it," Warren said of his teammate, "but he's been playing [well] for us for awhile and he had a

couple key hits so I can't really get too angry."

St. Stephen's/St. Agnes catcher Josh Smith spoke highly of Warren's mental and physical maturation.

"He was throwing it hard, hitting his spot — he probably missed his spot once every two innings," Smith said. "... He's made a lot of progress since last year: put on velocity, commanding the zone. He's got great poise out there."

The Saints blew the game open in the bottom of the sixth inning. Leading 5-0, Smith belted a three-run triple.

David Bell had two RBIs early in the game for the Saints and Kendall Smith had one.

Warren and Smith said their goal is to repeat as Interstate Athletic Conference champions.

Ireton has reached the Washington Catholic Athletic Conference final each of the last two seasons but this year's team returns only one starter.

"We're a young team and we're going to go through some growing pains," Ireton coach Michael Gallagher said. "... It was nice to see the boys continue to compete."

Bomberger Shines But T.C. Williams Falls to Edison

BY JON ROETMAN
GAZETTE PACKET

Attackman Robin Bomberger scored a career-high seven goals, including three in a clutch 63-second span in the fourth quarter. Offensive standouts Ben Goodwin, Ben Bilodeau and Kodie Richards each scored a goal. And the Titans continued to battle, even when they trailed late.

But in the end, penalties and a five-goal, fourth-quarter deficit were too much to overcome for the T.C. Williams boys lacrosse

team. The Titans suffered their first loss of the season on March 18, losing 15-12 to Edison at Howard Field.

T.C. Williams seemingly played a man down every couple minutes after as the Titans committed a slew of penalties. "I think we played a good game," first-year T.C. head coach Michael Mulherin said. "It's just that we let the penalties kill us and made some sloppy mistakes. ... Other than that, we've improved." The Titans, playing in their first home game of 2010, trailed 14-9 when Bomberger scored with 5:29 to play. The

junior scored again seven seconds later and a third time at the 4:26 mark to cut the Edison lead to 14-12. But the Eagles scored again with 3:33 remaining and neither team scored again. Bomberger's previous single-game career high for goals was four.

"We thought we were getting good looks on the crease," Mulherin said. Bomberger "was putting himself in the right position and taking advantage of the opportunities he had. ... He just has a real knack for being able to find the open hole for himself."

Bomberger said playing time as a fresh-

man and sophomore has helped him improve as a goal scorer. He also said the team has its sights set on once again becoming a winner. "I think the expectations we all have are to have a winning record for the first time since we won the districts in 2006," he said, "and make it to regionals."

Kirk Cooper and Jimmy Carragher each scored one goal for T.C. Williams. Cameron Lyons was the Titans' goaltender. The Titans lost to West Springfield 18-1 Saturday. T.C. Williams faces Oakton at 6 p.m. on Friday at Madison High School.

McKeag 'Disturbed' About Retirement as TC AD

FROM PAGE 1

that involved two varsity boys basketball players during the past winter sports season. Dr. Sherman said the School Board voted not to renew my contract at the conclusion of the current school year, and in fact, wanted me out of ACPS as soon as possible. Dr. Sherman said the reason he and I were meeting was to come to an agreement on how I was to end my tenure as athletic director at T.C. Williams High School.

McKeag will spend the rest of the school year on accumulated leave before officially retiring June 30 — a decision he said was forced upon him.

"I had no intention of going anywhere," McKeag said Wednesday.

Messages left for Sherman and ACPS seeking comment on Wednesday morning were not immediately returned. A statement on the ACPS Web site titled "T.C. Transformation Continues" says McKeag announced he will retire and "we appreciate Mr.

McKeag's professional and energetic support of athletics during the past year and a half."

According to McKeag's statement, McKeag has never "been asked to speak to the School Board about any issue that involves student/athletes and it is disturbing that a decision about my employment was made without ever hearing from me. Had I been asked to address them concerning this issue I would have been able to tell them the steps I have already put in place in an effort to ensure an eligibility issue of this nature does not happen again."

The issue at hand involved T.C. Williams basketball players Billy Rowland and Darrius Porter, who were found during the 2009-10 season to be fifth-year students; Virginia High School League rules allow athletes four seasons of eligibility. Each athlete attended a school in another state before transferring to T.C. Williams in 2008. Both students arrived at the school before McKeag was hired as AD in September

2008.

The Titans were 12-3 when the issues were announced on Feb. 1 and T.C. Williams was forced to forfeit its victories. The forfeits snapped an 80-game Patriot District winning streak for the Titans, who ended their season with a loss in the opening round of the district tournament.

According to McKeag's statement, Porter registered at T.C. Williams as a sophomore in January 2008 after transferring from a school in North Carolina during his sophomore year. It was later discovered Porter had repeated the ninth grade in North Carolina and started high school in 2005, which "was not noted anywhere in documentation received by the athletic office."

Rowland completed two years of high school in Maryland before transferring to Bishop Ireton in Alexandria, where he repeated his sophomore year, the statement read. When he transferred to T.C. Williams in August 2008, a counselor "told his parents he 'had enough credits to be a senior,'

but at the request of the parents [the counselor] registered him as a junior.

"The athletic office was not notified at any time," the statement continued. "In fact, this issue did not come to light until the former basketball coach at Bishop Ireton phoned a Northern Region administrator in January 2010 with the information."

Both players were listed on the master eligibility list sent to the VHSL for the 2008-09 winter season as having entered the ninth grade in 2006, the statement read. Both were listed as juniors taking junior classes and met criteria for the VHSL Grade Rule (must be enrolled in the last four years of high school) and the school's 2.0 GPA rule.

"Since both students had registered for classes at TCW before I became the athletic director — and no red flags were raised by anyone at any point in this process — there was no reason to question the junior status of either student/athlete," McKeag wrote.

SEE MCKEAG, PAGE 33

WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

5Qs

Five questions with St. Stephen's/St. Agnes pitcher Joe Warren



Q: What location is the farthest from the Washington, D.C. metro area you've traveled?

A: Juneau, Alaska. We went on a [family] cruise up there.

Q: Do you have a favorite pro baseball team or player?

A: I'm a huge [Atlanta] Braves fan and probably [pitcher] Tim Hudson. My family is from Atlanta and [they] moved up here and since we didn't have a team they kind of brainwashed me.

Q: Who is your favorite music artist?

A: Pink Floyd. I know how to play guitar so I'm a big fan of classic rock.

Q: What's your favorite

movie?

A: [The] Shawshank Redemption. It's just a great story.

Q: What do you like to do away from baseball?

A: I'm really into the guitar. It's probably my favorite. [I've been playing for] about seven years. I'm all right. I'm not good enough to play in front of anyone but it entertains me when I'm in my room by myself.

— JON ROETMAN

McKeag

FROM PAGE 32

Jim Clark, vice president of the T.C. Williams Unified Athletic Boosters, said on Tuesday night the group authorized a three-person committee to address McKeag's retirement with Sherman and the School Board. Clark said the group has "an eye toward trying to get honest answers about how Mr. McKeag came to be relieved of his duties."

McKeag has 35 years experience — 28 in the Northern Region — as a teacher, coach or administrator. His other stops include being South County Secondary School's first AD when it opened in 2005 and leading the Robinson Secondary School boys basketball team to the 1987 Northern Region championship.

"My plan was to be [at T.C. Williams] a minimum of five years, because experience has taught me that establishing a program that will stand the test of time takes at least that long to implement," his statement read. "I came to T.C. Williams with a clear vision of how the athletic department could be an integral part of an overall outstanding school — and one the entire Alexandria community could be proud of. It is a shame that vision has been cut short."

My trainer changed my idea of just how good 47 can look.

Gift Certificates Available

Celebrating 5 Years in Alexandria

FORGET THE FAD DIETS. FORGET THE GIMMICKS.

Get results with a Fitness Together personal trainer.

I was hoping a personal trainer could help me lose a few pounds, Maybe tighten up my midsection a bit. I had no idea that, at 47, I could get into the best shape of my life. It didn't happen overnight — and I've tried enough diets and gimmicks to know that it can't. But it can happen. Because you're stronger than you know. And the right trainer can prove it to you. I found that trainer at Fitness Together.

Call today and schedule a free Fitness Evaluation and Personal Training Session.

Get a **FREE** personal training session (an \$85 Value)

Alexandria
300 N. Washington St., Suite 106
877-345-FTFT
www.ftalexandria.com • ftalexandria@fitnesstogether.com

EMERGENCY FURNITURE LIQUIDATION!

EVERYTHING MUST GO!

ALL FURNITURE MUST BE SOLD!
EVERY BEDROOM, EVERY SOFA, EVERY DINETTE, EVERY LIVING ROOM, EVERY LOVESEAT, EVERY DINING ROOM, EVERY SLEEP SOFA, EVERY RECLINER, EVERY TABLE, EVERY CHAIR, ALL ENTERTAINMENT CENTERS, ALL HOME OFFICE ALL MATTRESSES, ALL ACCESSORIES AND MORE!
NOW IS THE TIME TO BUY!

AMAZING COLLECTION OF QUALITY FURNITURE AT GIGANTIC SAVINGS!

NOTHING HELD BACK!
OUR WAREHOUSE AND SHOWROOM ARE JAM PACKED WITH MERCHANDISE!

BRAND NAME MATTRESSES 50% OFF!

DELIVERY AVAILABLE!

FURNITURE & MATTRESS OUTLET

LANDMARK MALL (next to Sears, 2nd floor)
ALEXANDRIA, VA • 703.354.2223
HOURS: MON-SAT 10-9:30, SUN 11-6

Offering 15th Century Food and Fun in Old Town

Medieval Madness at Renaissance Hall features dinner and a show.

BY SANDY LEVITZ LUNNER
GAZETTE PACKET

M'Lords and M'Ladies: The Duke and Duchess of Salem hope you'll join them for a night of comedy, medieval feasting, beer drinking, and men in tights. Expect to laugh until it hurts, eat hearty until you're stuffed and get just a little taste of how they used to party in 15th century England.

Medieval Madness at Renaissance Hall, located at 1121 King Street, is the creation of Old Town residents Thomas Booth (The Duke) and Karla Ziegenbalg (The Duchess), and it's part of their commitment to help put actors, singers and other artists to work.

"This is a way to use history and the arts to enhance community life," said Booth. "We deliberately chose middle King Street for our location to help bring more activity to this part of Old Town."

The fun at Medieval Madness happens on Friday and Saturday nights starting at 7 p.m. As soon as patrons walk into Renaissance Hall, the cast of characters helps everyone get into the proper frame of mind.

Fair maidens deliver libations as the crowd sits down to begin a four-course meal

Details

Medieval Madness at Renaissance Hall
Address: 1121 King Street, Old Town
Parking: 1101 King Street, enter on Cameron Street.
Cost: \$49 per person. Discount for eight or more.
Space is limited. Tickets are required.
Purchase online at: www.medievalmadness.org
Or by phone: 703-329-3075

that features the type of fare one might have experienced in the early 1400s: Cornish hen or roasted beef, for example, for the third course. The menu and the entertainment vary from week to week. And, without a doubt, the star of the evening is the show itself featuring original comedy, singing, and even a non-choreographed, live sword fight. The cast is also available for personal appearances and off-site performances for corporate or personal events.

Booth, CEO and president, and Ziegenbalg, COO and vice president, have been working on this concept for more than two years including several months of test runs of the show at Alexandria's Durant Center.

In addition to being the home of Medieval Madness, Renaissance Hall is available for private events like weddings. Booth and Ziegenbalg, real-life fiancées, are planning to hold their own wedding celebration there. The space is also available to arts organizations as a rehearsal and performance venue.

Part of their business model includes The King's Own Shoppe at 213 King St., a gift store that features well-crafted historical



PHOTO BY SANDY LEVITZ LUNNER /GAZETTE PACKET

Thomas Booth and Karla Ziegenbalg are the Duke and Duchess of Salem. See them perform at Old Town's Medieval Madness at Renaissance Hall, 1121 King Street, where patrons can enjoy beer, dinner and a show.

replicas. They will begin carrying products from The History Channel this spring. The store's purpose is to promote history while also promoting Medieval Madness and Renaissance Hall.

Booth and Ziegenbalg both have a deep interest in medieval history and have been

known to frequent Renaissance Fairs. Booth ran medieval restaurants in North Carolina before moving to Alexandria. He holds a master's degree in classical history at Yale University, and he's published two books with historical themes under the pen name T. Michael Booth.

Choirs Gather for Treble Festival

Participants are affiliates of the Royal School of Church Music.

BY SENITRA MCCOMBS
GAZETTE PACKET

St. Paul Episcopalian church hosted its Treble Choir Festival Choral Evensong on March 14. However, this year there was a surprise.

"This service on Sunday is the first time we have children in it. We've always used our adult choirs," said Douglas A Beck, St. Paul's organist and choirmaster.

Evensong is held four times throughout the year. St. Paul's will hold the next Evensong on May 9. Admission is free since the Evensong is apart of the regular worship schedule.

The Treble Festival — or more commonly known as the Evensong — is basically a prayer service sung by the clergy and the choirs on "behalf of the world."

St. Paul's St. Cecilia Choir was joined by St. Mary's Episcopalian Church's the Boys and

Girls Choir and St. Luke's Episcopalian Church's St. Cecilia Choir from East Greenwich, R.I.

All of the choirs are affiliates of the Royal School of Church Music.

The choir showcased songs taken from the Bible including the Psalm 46 and the Song of Mary.

"The primary goal of the music program is to service the worship services but also to reach out beyond the church into the community. Last summer to celebrate the biennial of this church, two of the choirs went to England and we sung at churches there." Beck said.

St. Paul's community choir is an important part of there community outreach. They are planning a concert in Washington soon.

Beck has been the choirmaster at St. Paul's since September 2006.

When he first came to St. Paul's in September, Beck's primary responsibility was to develop a large number of groups that people could participate in. That's completed.

Now he is a vital part of the music program at St. Paul's helping to select music for three weekly services and as the organists for the church's eight choirs.

"One of the challenges is it requires a lot

of flexibility and realizing that the 120 volunteers we have here have lives outside of this." Beck said.

In addition, he also finds it challenging to work in the daily themes of the Episcopalian church into his musical selections in advance.

However, the rewards far outweigh any scheduling issues.

"And also to know that the work that we do touches people's lives in such deep ways." Beck said.

He also noted that the children's choir was special because it gives children the opportunity to learn how to work together while serving the greater community.

The Evensong dates back to the start of the Anglican Church in 1549, which is connected to the Episcopalian church during the reign of King Henry. St. Paul's have held



Douglas A Beck, St. Paul's organist and choirmaster.

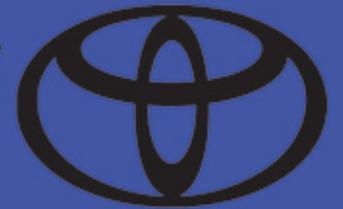
Evensong ceremonies for three years and they will have 50 singers as well as choirs and instrumentalists at this program.

According to Beck, St. Paul's is unique because it brings together "people with different ideas and backgrounds knowing that the center of life here is the prayer and worship. People from different corners of this area come to gather around what is most important in their lives."

Beck graduated from the Peabody Conservatory of Music at John Hopkins University.

JACK TAYLOR'S ALEXANDRIA TOYOTA

FANTASTIC DEALS!



CELEBRATING OVER 35 YEARS OF BUSINESS!

WWW.ALEXANDRIATOYOTA.COM

**ALL-NEW
3RD GENERATION
PRIUS
AVAILABLE NOW!**



GREAT DEALS ON ALL HYBRIDS!

NEW '10 PRIUS



FANTASTIC LEASES!

GREAT FINANCING OPTIONS!

GOT MPG? WE DO!

NEW '10 CAMRY



0% APR FINANCING FOR UP TO 5 YEARS ON 8 NEW 2010 TOYOTA MODELS*

0% APR FINANCING FOR UP TO 5 YEARS ON 8 NEW 2010 TOYOTA MODELS*



Camry (excludes hybrids)



Corolla



Yaris



Rav4



Highlander (excludes hybrids)



Matrix



Avalon



Tundra

*0% APR FINANCING UP TO 60 MONTHS AVAILABLE ON APPROVED CREDIT. TOTAL FINANCED CANNOT EXCEED MSRP PLUS OPTIONS, TAX & LICENSE FEES. 60 MONTHLY PAYMENTS OF \$16.67 FOR EACH \$1000 BORROWED. NOT ALL BUYERS WILL QUALIFY. OFFER ENDS 3/31/10.

(703) 684-0700 WWW.ALEXANDRIATOYOTA.COM OPEN SUNDAY 12-5
3750 Jefferson Davis HWY Alexandria, VA South of Reagan National on Rt. 1

PRICES PLUS TAX, TAGS, FREIGHT OF \$750 FOR CARS, \$800 FOR VANS, SUV'S, AND TRUCKS, PROCESSING FEE OF \$379 & ACQUISITION FEE OF \$650 ARE EXTRA. NO SECURITY DEPOSIT. APR FINANCING ON APPROVED CREDIT. INCLUDES ALL INCENTIVES. *CUSTOMER CASH PROVIDED BY CAT. ALL CUSTOMER CASH MUST BE TFS SPECIAL LEASE TO QUALIFY. **EPA HIGHWAY FUEL ESTIMATE. OFFER ENDS 3/31/10.

**CHECK OUT OUR
PRE-OWNED
VEHICLES ONLINE!**



The Best New Cars Make The Best Used Cars

The Toyota Certified Used Vehicles Advantage
3 month / 3,000 mile Comprehensive Warranty
7 year / 100,000 mile Limited Powertrain Warranty
7 year / 100,000 mile Roadside Assistance Plan
160 Point Quality Assurance Inspection
CARFAX Vehicle History Report
Certified customers are eligible for standard new car financing rates



XD



TC



XB





MCENEARNEY ASSOCIATES, INC. REALTORS®

ALEXANDRIA/BEVERLEY HILLS \$799,900



Renovated Beverley Hills Charmer
Owners have lovingly renovated this charming Beverley Hills home. The wonderful kitchen is all new with gorgeous cabinets and appliances. The upstairs bath has been renovated and expanded for extra space. The wonderful lower level has been finished with a family room space, built-in cabinetry and new carpeting. Here is your chance!

Sue Goodhart
703.263.8321
www.suegoodhart.com
MLS ID# AX7287194



ALEXANDRIA/DEL RAY \$839,900



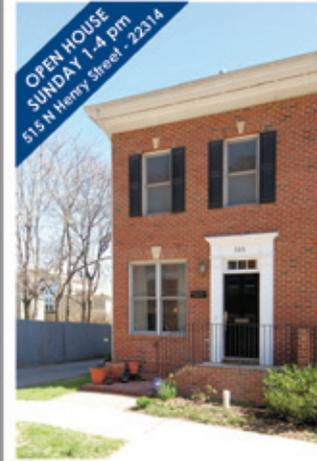
Spectacular Farmhouse Renovation

Combines the charm of yesterday with today's modern conveniences. Open floor plan with architectural columns, three bedrooms, two-and-a-half baths, fabulous chef's granite and stainless kitchen with maple cabinetry opening to spacious family room with gas fireplace, wide planked wood flooring, master suite, welcoming front porch. Steps to "The Avenue."

Jennifer Walker
703.675.1566
www.jenwalker.com



ALEXANDRIA \$875,000



Live and Work Here

Fabulous seven year old semi-detached house zoned downtown commercial, residential or both. All the right finishes, hardwood floors, granite counters, beautiful master bedroom and bath. Patio, rooftop balcony and deep lot. Two + off-street parking spaces. Easy walk to Metro and all that Old Town has to offer! Located in the Historic and developing Parker Gray District.

Robin Arnold
703.966.5457
www.robinarnoldsells.com
MLS ID# AX7285260



ALEXANDRIA \$825,000



It's All Here!

Fantastic, huge Colonial in pristine condition on a large wooded lot. Three fully finished levels feature space to live, play and work. Office, sunroom and library complete the upper levels. Lower level boasts an au pair/in-law suite/huge rec room, workshop, and tons of storage. Located in a small community of homes built in 2001. Minutes from Metro and Fort Belvoir.

Vicki Binkley
703.994.0778
www.vickibinkley.com
MLS ID# FX7279280



OLD TOWN LUXURY NEVER LOOKED SO AFFORDABLE.



In Old Town Alexandria at N. Washington and Powhatan St.

Model Now Open Thurs/Fri 12-3 pm Sat/Sun 1-5 pm Call 703.851.2255 today Or visit www.900nw.com Jennifer Halm

BRAND NEW CONDOMINIUMS
1 bedroom from \$379,900
2 bedrooms from \$479,900
FHA Approved

900 NORTH WASHINGTON STREET

ALEXANDRIA/DEL RAY \$689,000



Uniquely Historic Del Ray Home

Corner lot with ROOF DECK. Entertain in the large & updated kitchen adjacent to the spacious dining room. A wood-burning fireplace invites you to relax in the living room. A large window seat in the family room provides a cozy reading nook & natural light. Two bedrooms & two modern baths are well placed for privacy. Walk to shops & restaurants.

Elizabeth Lucchesi
703.286.1239
www.lizluc.com
MLS ID# AX7280203



ALEXANDRIA \$799,000



A Home for All Reasons

At Alexandria's Governor's Hill. Perfect location, incredible space (5,200+ square feet), imaginative floor plan and great price. Gourmet kitchen, five bedrooms, four-and-a-half baths, two-story lower-level with in-law suite and craft room, two fireplaces, close to Metro and Old Town.

Deborah Manarin
703.517.5005
www.mceneaney.com



ALEXANDRIA/JEFFERSON MANOR \$376,900



A Perfect 10!

Enjoy a lazy afternoon on the open front porch! With wood floors and soothing colors that accent the high profile trim, included in this restoration is a two-story rear porch addition and window egress from finished lower level. Upscale kitchen features maple cabinets, stainless appliances and granite counters. Privacy fence, off-street parking, close to park & Metro.

Honor Vandever Jane Manstof
703.615.0363 571.276.8116
www.honorjane.com
MLS ID# FX7285860



ALEXANDRIA/PARKFAIRFAX \$299,900



Mount Eagle End Unit!!

Private, light-filled Madison model with new tile/wood entry, new kitchen floors, countertops, sink and faucet, new air conditioning units, new light fixtures. Two-level townhouse with two bedrooms, one bath, park-like setting in favorite Parkfairfax location. Easy commute to DC, Pentagon, and National Airport.

Donna Cramer
703.627.9578
www.donnacramer.com
MLS ID# AX7284949



LEADING REAL ESTATE COMPANIES OF THE WORLD

703.549.9292
www.McEneaney.com
The BEST address for YOUR address



LUXURY PORTFOLIO FINE PROPERTY COLLECTION