

# Alexandria Gazette Packet



25 CENTS

VOL. CCXXVI, No. 32

SERVING ALEXANDRIA FOR OVER 200 YEARS • A CONNECTION NEWSPAPER

AUGUST 19, 2010



PHOTO BY LOUISE KRAFFT/GAZETTE PACKET

**Annual Irish Festival** Students from the O'Neill School of Irish Dancing dance the finale with festival goers on stage at Waterfront Park on Saturday, Aug. 14. More photos, page 6.

## A Plan for All

**'Persistently lowest achieving school' fails again, braces for 'transformation.'**

BY MICHAEL LEE POPE  
GAZETTE PACKET

**F**rom her corner office at one of the largest high schools in Virginia, new principal Suzanne Maxey has found herself in a big job with a big mandate. Since taking the reins at T.C. Williams High School three months ago, she's been given the job of transforming the school — to change the years of failing test scores. Her motto this year will be emblazoned on gold letters in the front office: Remember the Titans, Imagine the Titans, Fulfill the

Promise.

"What we are doing is taking the things that have worked, the rich heritage that's at T.C. Williams High School, and combined it with some new and innovative programs to fulfill the promise of being a Titan," said Maxey.

Now, only weeks into the job, she's got fresh evidence of the road ahead. Once again the school has failed to meet federal standards, according to documents released last week by the Virginia Department of Education. The determination was significant, but not

SEE A PLAN, PAGE 8

## Inequality Is Elementary

**Standardized test results show racial disparities at elementary schools.**

BY MICHAEL LEE POPE  
GAZETTE PACKET

**T**he way Superintendent Morton Sherman looks at it, there's not much more he can throw at Jefferson-Houston School. It's failed to meet federal standards again and again. Ever since the landmark education reform known as No Child Left Behind was enacted almost a decade ago, the elementary school has received every level of sanction devised by the legislation. That includes everything from bringing in officials from Richmond to moni-

tor a "transformation" plan to allowing parents to abandon the school in favor of other schools with higher test scores.

None of the sanctions have worked.

Now the troubled school has failed again, according to stan-

**"There's enough blame to go around to everybody, and we have a lot of work to do in this city."**

— Ferdinand Day, former School Board chairman

dardized test result released last week by the Virginia Department of Education. This year's scores reveal something more than the fact that Jefferson-Houston is the persistently lowest achieving elementary school. They also show a stark racial divide in the city:

SEE DISPARITIES, PAGE 8

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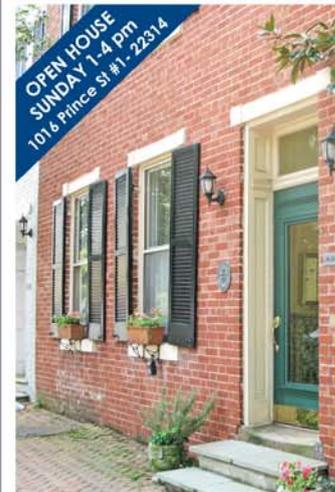
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## Consultant Mystery

How much money does the city spend on consultants? Councilwoman **Alicia Hughes** wants to know, but she'll have to wait.

Hughes first asked the question in a formal budget memorandum back in April. Budget officials responded with a list of spending totals for general categories, but said a list of specific contracted services was unavailable. Hughes ended up voting against the budget, explaining that her decision was based in part on the city's money going into what she called a "black hole."

"The response was not adequate," said Hughes. "People have a right to know where their money is going."

Budget officials say they have information about who the vendors are and how much money they are getting. But the accounting system currently in place lacks a description of what services were delivered. Budget Director **Bruce Johnson** said his staff has been working on creating a detailed list of contracted services, and that he hopes to report on his progress in early October and produce a final report in November.

"We are going to spend a lot of time focusing on what we are getting from the consultants," said Johnson. "That seems to be at the heart of the political issue."

## Commenting on Wisdom

Everybody seems to have an opinion about the proposed Islamic cultural center two blocks from Ground Zero in lower Manhattan. Now that President **Barack Obama** and Virginia Republican Gov. **Bob McDonnell** have weighed in, candidates across the country are taking a position on the Manhattan land-use issue. And Virginia's eighth Congressional District is no exception.

Through a spokesman, 10-term incumbent Democrat **Jim Moran** said he supports the president's position. Essentially Obama and Moran believe that Muslims have the constitutionally protected right to locate wherever they want, although they stop short on making a pronouncement about the wisdom of such a decision. Yet Moran's Republican challenger, retired diplomat **Patrick Murray**, has no qualms about commenting on the wisdom of the decision.

"Patrick believes it's inappropriate," said **Mike Lane**, a spokesman for the Republican candidate. "The developers say their objective is reconciliation, but the evidence shows this is divisive."

## Cashing In

Despite reports of its demise, cash is not dead. Just look at the lines that form at City Hall each October when personal property taxes are due. City records show about 25 percent of the people waiting in line are paying cash.

"City Hall is a wonderful place to come for the farmers' market," said Finance Director **Laura Triggs**. "But it's not always a good place to come to pay your taxes."

This week city officials launched a new service that allows city residents to pay parking tickets and personal property taxes in cash at various locations throughout the Northern Virginia region. Through a partnership with Global Express Bill Payment Centers, Alexandria residents can go to any of the 50 walk-in payment centers at grocery stores, convenience stores, dollar stores and check-cashing stores. There is no cost to the taxpayer, although the city will be responsible for a processing fee.

## Stop Shouting

Superintendent **Morton Sherman** likes to use examples to make a point. Pouring over standardized test scores this week, the superintendent dusted off one of his favorite pop culture references from the not-too-distant past. Recalling an old Saturday Night Live gag from when **Chevy Chase** was the host of Weekend Update, Sherman compared the school division's problems to a skit involving **Garret Morris** portraying the New York School for the Hard of Hearing.

In the sketch, dubbed "News for the Hard of Hearing," Chase reads the news while Morris appears in a corner of the screen and shouts the same script at the top of his lungs.

"Too often we continuing to take what I call the Garret Morris approach to education," said Sherman. "We just keep yelling when, in reality, we need to change the way we work."

— MICHAEL LEE POPE



Vice Mayor Del Pepper cuts the birthday cake.

PHOTOS BY LOUISE KRAFT/GAZETTE PACKET

## Friendship Firehouse Celebrates 236th



Summer Shtay-Edwards displays a line of Mary Kay products at the vendor boutique.



Former Office of Historic Alexandria director Jean Federico talks with Dr. FJ Pepper at the street festival.



Working towards his Eagle Scout badge, St. Stephen's & St. Agnes School sophomore Douglas Maggs interacts with his public safety game that he created as part of his Eagle Scout project at the annual Friendship Firehouse birthday celebration.



Kiara Randhtwawa watches over her father's India Import booth at the market.

## Weekend Crime Spree

Is your business secure? Criminals are looking for vulnerabilities, and your office could become a target. That's what happened at an office building on the northwest corner of Queen and North Washington streets, where nine separate instances of breaking-and-entering were reported to the Alexandria Police Department.

The department routinely denies requests for incident reports, but summaries of the secret documents that are available to the public show a crime spree at the red-brick structure known as the "300 building." The summaries show that a suspect or suspects pried open the front door to gain entry, then attempted to gain access to the offices inside. Sometimes the suspect or suspects gained entry but didn't seem to take anything, as was the case at the Physicians Assistant Education Association. Other times an attempt was made but access was denied, as was the case with a dentist's office.

The thief or thieves did make off with some loot. There was the Hitachi video camera and Blackberry that were taken from the front office. And there was also a 40-inch television that was stolen from another office. One victim reported antique coins and Confederate money stolen from under a desk.

"We're looking into whether these cases are related," said **Ashley Hildebrandt**, a spokeswoman for the police department. "

## Breathing: A Civil Right?

It's been three months since the Alexandria City Council approved a special-use permit for a restaurant on Mount Vernon Avenue that will include a barbecue smoker. But the air hasn't cleared yet, at least not for one neighbor who filed a suit against the city.

Del Ray Attorney **Ed Ablard** is challenging the restaurant as a violation of his civil rights. Because the gas-fueled smoker will release particulate matter into the air, his suit charges, his civil rights will be violated. Ablard, a white man who is representing himself in the case, is a member of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People and the Alexandria Society for the Preservation of Black History. He charges that the restaurant will "provide a clubhouse for conservative persons to gather to drink until late hours and thereby form a barrier against the encroachment of persons of color ..."

"Plaintiff believes ... that he is representative of a class of persons who are persons with colored skin, persons whose ancestry stems from the importation of slaves and free emigration to the United States ... " the complaint explains.

Responding to the lawsuit, City Attorney **James Banks** described Ablard's complaint as filled with "numerous theories" that are "irrelevant to the proper actions taken by City Council."

"He is essentially seeking to assert claims on behalf of others," Banks wrote in a motion to dismiss the case.

The case is scheduled for a pre-trial hearing in Circuit Court next week.

## Virginia is for Wine

When people think about American wine, thoughts almost immediately turn to California. But Virginia is wine country too.

This week, the commonwealth won the ESTO Mercury Award for Niche Marketing for wine tourism promotion. The award specifically recognized "Vintage Tweets," a public relations effort that incorporated social media to promote wine travel in Virginia.

"Tourism is one of Virginia's most powerful industries, generating billions in revenue for our economy," McDonnell said in a written statement. "Our wine industry is a key part of what attracts visitors to this state."

Back in September, the Virginia Tourism Cooperation organized Vintage Tweets in Arlington. Since that time, the state tourism agency has been using the social media network Twitter to target media, bloggers and consumers.

"Public relations is one of the most effective means of marketing using social media," said **Alisa Bailey**, president and CEO of the Virginia Tourism Corporation.

— MICHAEL LEE POPE



PHOTOS BY LA SHAWN AVERY-SIMONS /GAZETTE PACKET

Franklin Street townhomes received tree damage from the Aug. 5 thunderstorm.

## SBDC Seeks Storm Damage Info

**T**he Alexandria Small Business Development Center is seeking information on damages to businesses as a result of the storms that moved through the area Aug. 5.

Spearheaded by Executive Director Bill Reagan, the SBDC is collecting information in an effort to determine if the city is eligible for any sort of disaster assistance.

"The thresholds for any type of disaster assistance are high and we're not at all certain that Alexandria can meet those thresholds," Reagan said. "But we feel it's worth consolidating a list of businesses and their damages."

Businesses are asked to provide the SBDC with their business name, contact information, dollar amount of damages, a brief description of the damage such as "spoilage from power outage" and how much of the loss is likely to be covered by insurance.

Information can be sent to [info@alexandriasbdc.org](mailto:info@alexandriasbdc.org). For more information, call 703-778-1292.

— JEANNE THEISMANN



Power lines are repaired outside homes on Commonwealth Avenue on Aug. 7.

## Another Downpour



Metro riders took shelter from a thunderstorm Thursday morning, Aug. 12, as they waited for their buses and train to arrive at the King Street station.

PHOTO BY LA SHAWN AVERY-SIMONS /GAZETTE PACKET

**BUSINESS**



**Hysteria Boutique on S. Fairfax St. offered shoppers a wide selection on the racks in front of their shop.**

**Old Town Sidewalk Sale**

**The ShoeHive cleared out another summer stock at the sale.**

PHOTOS BY LOUISE KRAFFT/ GAZETTE PACKET



**Diva Consignment Shop owner Cindy McCartney helps a customer match earrings at the Saturday sale.**



**Samantha Guile of King's Own Shop introduces finger puppets Thomas Jefferson and Ben Franklin.**

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# COMMUNITY



Ovie paints a white cat on Jemma Jordan's face.



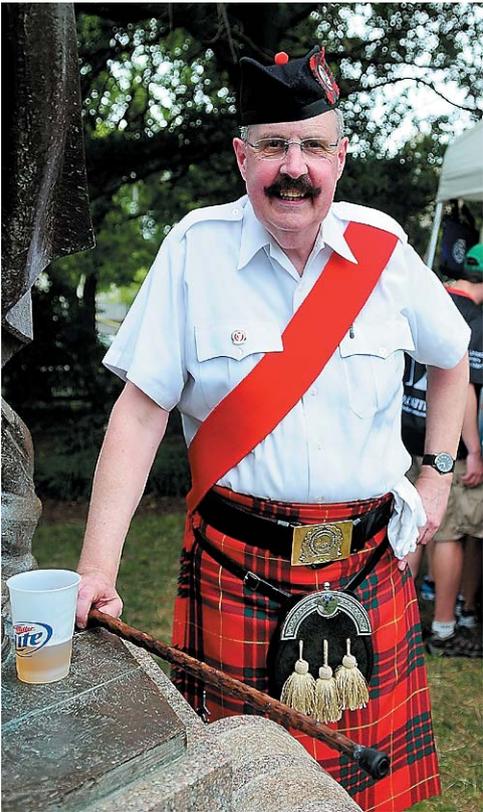
Audrey and Olivia Loudon wait their turn in line for Ovie to paint their faces at the annual Irish Festival.



Lisa Miller and Cristina Rotaru hand out information at the Alexandria Tea Party booth.

# Éire-vryone's Irish

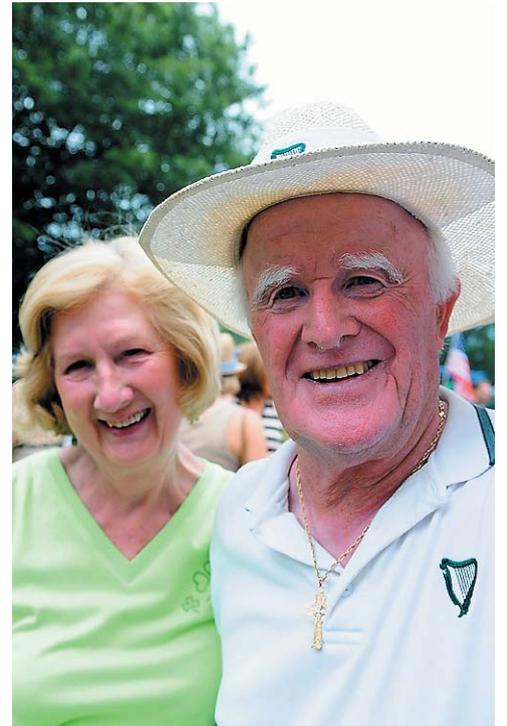
PHOTOS BY LOUISE KRAFFT/GAZETTE PACKET



JJ Powers, drum major of the Alexandria Pipes and Drums, relaxes with a beer after leading the group in a performance.



Cups brimming with Guinness foam wait to be served at the festival.



Bernadette and Pat Troy.



Van Van Fleet talks with co-chair of the festival JJ Kelly.



Republican candidate for the Congressional 8<sup>th</sup> District, Patrick Murray.

PHOTOS BY LA SHAWN AVERY-SIMONS / GAZETTE PACKET



Painter Carol Fogelson displays her paintings outside the Del Ray Artisans gallery during the Alexandria Art Market on Saturday, Aug. 7.



Paula Wulff stands next to her display of fused glass creations.

Del Ray Art Market

## MS-13 Member Sentenced to 40 Years

**A**dolfo Amaya Portillo, 27, of Alexandria, was sentenced last week to 480 months in prison, followed by five years of supervised release, for his role in the murder of a pimp while robbing the pimp and a prostitute in Alexandria on July 29, 2009.

Neil H. MacBride, United States Attorney for the Eastern District of Virginia; Shawn Henry, Assistant Director in Charge of the FBI Washington Field Office; and Earl L. Cook, Alexandria Chief of Police, made the announcement after sentencing by United States District Judge Anthony J. Trenga.

On April 30, Portillo pled guilty to the use of a firearm during a crime of violence resulting in the death of the pimp, Claros Luna, through the use of a handgun.

According to court records, Portillo and two other MS-13 gang members – Eris Ramon Arguera and Alcides Umaña – posed as potential customers for prostitution and lured Luna and a prostitute to Manor Road in Alexandria, on July 29, 2009.

Once Luna and the prostitute arrived at Manor Road, the prostitute exited the vehicle and entered the apartment building at 704 Manor Road. Arguera, brandishing a handgun, met the prostitute in the

lobby and directed her to the nearby vehicle where Luna sat waiting in the driver's seat. Arguera and the prostitute entered the rear driver's side door of the vehicle. Portillo, armed with a handgun, entered the front passenger door. Umaña, armed with a knife, entered the rear passenger-side door of the vehicle. Portillo demanded rent or extortion payments from Luna. Luna attempted to grab Portillo's handgun. Umaña then put his knife to Luna's throat. Portillo and Arguera fatally shot Luna three times. Portillo fired two of the three fatal shots – one to Luna's chest and a second contact wound to Luna's head. A third shot entered the left side of Luna's back and exited his chest. Portillo, Arguera, and Umaña then took the money that Luna and the prostitute had earned from the prostitution business that day.

On July 9, Arguera was sentenced to 324 months in prison. Umaña was sentenced to 240 months on June 4.

This case was investigated by the Alexandria Police Department and FBI's Washington Field Office, with assistance from the Fairfax County and Arlington County Police Departments and U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE)'s Office of Investigations in Washington, D.C.

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## SCHOOLS

# A Plan for Every Student, Every Teacher

FROM PAGE 1

exactly surprising because the school has never made adequate yearly progress since the No Child Left Behind Law was implemented almost a decade ago.

"I'm disappointed," admitted Superintendent Morton Sherman. "But I'm also encouraged."

Back in March, T.C. Williams was dubbed a "persistently lowest achieving school" by the Virginia Department of Education — a designation that came with a \$6 million windfall over a three-year period. That created a considerable amount of soul searching in the city, including a coordinated community effort spearheaded by a coalition of former School Board chairmen. Among parents and students, the negative publicity created a black eye that many say will be hard to shake.

"What's going on with T.C. is ridiculous," said Cecil Marsh, a rising senior. "Even though I take AP classes and honors classes, my dad's thinking about putting me in a private school."

**AT THE HIGH SCHOOLS** new \$100 million facility, the designation provoked something more than soul searching. As the result of federal requirements tied to a \$6 million windfall, the designation has created a plan for "transformation." Essentially, transformation works this way — everybody gets a plan, the students and the teachers. To administer the plans, a host of newly created administrative positions will be created to continuously monitor progress.

"We have to get to a place where we honestly believe to a person that every child can be successful," said Alexandria City Councilman Rob Krupicka, who is also a member of the Virginia School Board. "And I think



PHOTO BY LOUISE KRAFFT/GAZETTE PACKET

### For the new school year, all students at T.C. Williams High School will receive individualized achievement plans

it's fair to say we weren't at that place in the past, and we're not at that place right now."

When the school year begins early next month, each student at the school will have an "individualized achievement plan." Administrators hope this will help school officials drill down to the level of each individual student and ensure the school is offering a cadre of professionals that stay with them during their years at the school — a counselor, a social worker, a dean and an academic principal. Maxey says the model is more than record-keeping and paper-pushing.

"The plan is a documentation and a promise of what each students is going to do," said Maxey. "What are your strengths? What are your weaknesses? And what strategies can we develop to make you more success-

ful? That's the key to the process, not the piece of paper."

Somebody has got to oversee all that new paperwork, which is part of the reason for a reorganization that has moved around employees in a way that school administrators hope will be more efficient. Five new deans have been appointed at the school, displacing academy principals. Part of the \$6 million of funding tied to the "persistently lowest achieving school" moniker went to counselors that will oversee implementation of the individual achievement plans. Each counselor will oversee 180 students.

"There is no model that exists out there without supervisors," said Sherman. "I will know monthly where every kid is at that school in terms of their level of progress,

### Students' Perspective

"[TC] needs more communication between the principal to the teachers and the teachers to the students," senior Caroine Goree said.

Goree and other seniors at T.C. like Haider Arshad and Ashley Divers do not really care about the changes that will occur, or are just glad to be leaving before they take place. "I don't really care since I won't be here," Divers said.

Lanna Wolfe, another senior, thinks the change is for the better. "I think that what they are trying to accomplish is something they should have done many years ago. What they are going to do with T.C. will make the school better academically," Wolfe said.

"You have to make the students want to go to school and want to learn," junior Bradley Ashe said, who is not supportive of the changes. "Parents need to get motivated into their child's school, parents need to put their foot down and say 'Do your homework, study for your test,'" said Nicolas Ahumada, a sophomore at T.C.

— CHELSEA HOPSON

and that way we can make changes if they are needed."

Teachers will also have individualized goals, known as "professional learning plans." These documents will be designed to encourage professional development for content areas, pedagogical philosophy and building relationships. Each year, teachers will put together a "portfolio" to show the progress of their students. And performance evaluations will be aligned with student performance. In addition, some of the new

SEE A PLAN, PAGE 30

# Standardized Test Results Show Racial Disparities

FROM PAGE 1

Elementary schools with a higher percentage of white students, such as Lyles-Crouch and George Mason, are more likely to succeed. Yet schools with a higher percentage of black and Latino students, such as Jefferson-Houston and Mount Vernon Community School, are more likely to fail.

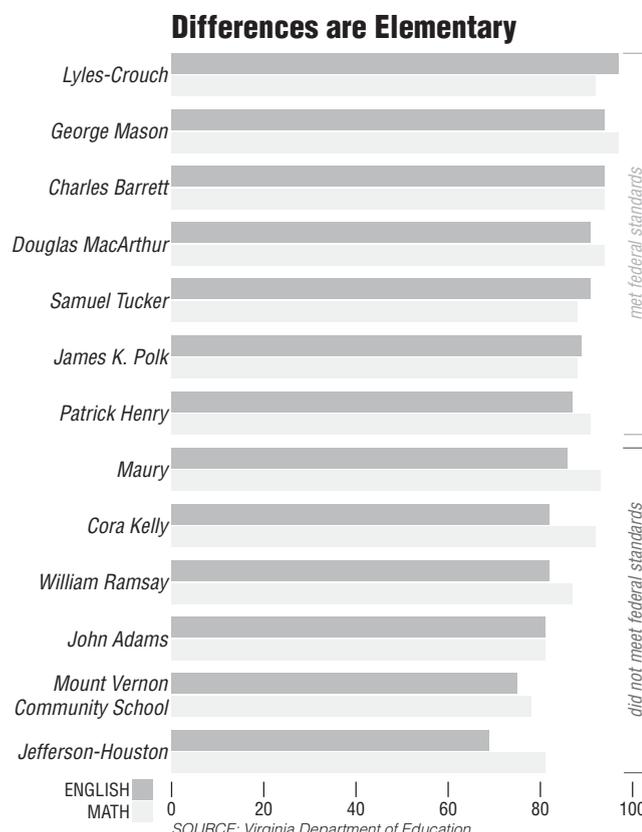
"It's a shameful situation," said former School Board Chairman Ferdinand Day, who worked to integrate the city's school system in the 1960s and 1970s. "There's enough blame to go around to everybody, and we have a lot of work to do in this city."

**ONCE AGAIN,** Alexandria City Public Schools failed to meet federal standards under No Child Left Behind. Although the division met the benchmark for Math performance, it failed to make the grade in English. In fact, all subgroups except white students failed to make adequate yearly progress in English as outlined in the federal act. At the school level, six out of 13 elementary schools were unable to meet minimum standards. All of the secondary

schools failed.

"Alexandria is on the road to being great, but we're not there yet," explained the superintendent. "And I can't pretend that we are."

Flipping through charts and spreadsheets in his second-floor office at the Beauregard Street headquarters, Sherman said he was pleasantly surprised to learn that Patrick Henry, Polk and Tucker elementary schools were able to make adequate yearly progress. On the other had, he said he was surprised to learn that Maury Elementary School did not make adequate yearly progress. And now that Mount Vernon Community School has failed two consecutive years in a row, Sherman must send a letter to parents of the Del Ray elementary school informing them they can opt-out of sending their children there as the result of the



sanctions model at the heart of No Child Left Behind.

"I was disappointed to hear the news, but it wasn't unexpected," said Jennifer Curry, president of the Mount Vernon Community School PTA. "We have a lot of English-language learners, and we're working to bring those scores up."

**ONE TREND** that Sherman said he finds troubling is the performance of Latino girls, who perform at significantly lower rates than Latino boys at the high-school level. The superintendent said he wasn't sure what was driving the trend, although it's possible that it could be tied to high pregnancy rates or the number of Latino students that hold jobs. Sherman said it's possible that higher absentee rates among Latino girls might be contributing to the gender disparity.

"We're looking at whether that's a cultural issue within the community," he said. "We're wondering if the dropout rate we're seeing in that community is because so many of

SEE DISPARITIES, PAGE 30

# Alexandria's Own Pat Troy

PHOTOS BY NINA TISARA

**A consistent voice for small business.**

Pat Troy may have been born in Ireland, but for the past 40 years he has called Alexandria his home. When the former butler and friend to presidents, prime ministers and busboys first opened Pat Troy's Ireland's Own in Alexandria, he instantly became a part of the business and civic community.

Troy was raised near the banks of the Shannon River in Kilcormac County, Ireland. In the 1960s, a 21-year-old Troy emigrated to the U.S. with \$50 in his pocket. A deeply religious man, he has been a parishioner at St. Mary's Catho-

lic Church for more than 30 years. Troy has been married to his wife, Bernadette, for 45 years.

For decades, Pat Troy's Ireland's Own has been a gathering place for lovers of Irish music, food, humor, beer, and, of course, whisky. Patrons used to travel from throughout the metropolitan area just to watch a costumed Troy lead them in "The Unicorn Song." On St. Patrick's Day in 1988, Troy, a staunch Republican, hosted then-President Ronald Reagan. After Troy roused the crowd with Irish songs, Reagan took the stage. "When I was a little boy, my father proudly told me that the Irish built the jails in this country," Reagan said. "Then they proceeded to fill them."

Troy has also welcomed numerous Irish ambassadors. On Inauguration Day, 2009, he hosted a

celebration of President Barack Obama's swearing-in. "After all, he is partly Irish and we all wish him well," he said.

In recent years, Troy's daughter Kathleen has assumed responsibility for the day-to-day management of the restaurant. Despite his deteriorating sight, he still makes his way from his home on Wolfe Street to chat with patrons nearly every day.

"I can't read newspapers anymore and it's hard to recognize people unless I am very close to them but I still like to get out and walk around Old Town," he said.

**TROY LED** the effort to begin the St. Patrick's Day parade 29 years ago. It is held the first Saturday in March, making it "the earliest St. Patrick's Day parade in the United States," Troy said.

Through the years, he has raised funds to supplement the City's contribution and has attracted local and national celebrities to serve as the Parade's Grand Marshal, including Alexandria's own Willard Scott. After 9/11, Troy invited the Chief of the New York Fire Department to serve as the Grand Marshal for the St. Patrick's Day Parade. He is supportive of Alexandria's public safety community and gives generously to their charities.

Troy was also instrumental in starting the City's Irish festival, which helps raise money for various local charities. The festival and the parade attract thousands of visitors to Old Town each year. This year's festival was held last weekend, Aug. 14, at Waterfront Park.

Troy is a tireless advocate for small businesses and has twice run for a seat on the Alexandria City Council. "I'm running because someone has to speak up for the small business owner," he said during his first campaign in 2003.



**"Alexandria's history is filled with the contributions of the Irish people who lived here," Troy said. "It is appropriate that we celebrate and recognize their contributions."**

Although his campaigns were unsuccessful, he continues to appear before Council to advocate for street lights to be replaced and for Council to support its small businesses, which are "the life blood of the City," Troy has told Council. He vigorously opposed the statewide smoking ban in restaurants and spoke against it at every opportunity. "People deserve a choice," he said.

Troy served two terms as a Gov-

ernor on the Alexandria Convention and Visitors Association. In 1980, he founded The Ballyshanners for the purpose of organizing and raising funds for the parade and to promote Irish culture.

"Alexandria's history is filled with the contributions of the Irish people who lived here," Troy said. "It is appropriate that we celebrate and recognize their contributions."



**Living Legend Pat Troy demonstrates the Living Legends salute while modeling his t-shirt.**

## 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. Gold Sponsors of the project this year are Rotary Club of Alexandria, McEneaney Associates and Dominion Virginia Power.

This one 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.alexandrialivinglegends.com](http://www.alexandrialivinglegends.com).



**Mount Vernon Primary Care Associates proudly welcomes Allison Valentine, M.D. to our practice as of September 2010.**

Dr. Valentine is a graduate of The University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, NC. She completed her residency at Fairfax Family Practice in Fairfax, VA. Dr. Valentine grew up in North Carolina and moved to Northern Virginia for her residency training in 2007. Her professional interests include prevention and wellness, women's health, and a holistic approach to health and life. Outside of work, she spends much of her time running, cycling, swimming, and practicing yoga.

*To schedule an appointment with Dr. Valentine, please contact our office at 703-799-4000.*

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# World Press Freedom Heroes

**Kemal Kurspahic, Connection editor, one of the original 50 press freedom heroes of the world.**

In September, the International Press Institute will celebrate its 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary in Vienna, Austria by adding 10 journalists to its list of World Press Freedom Heroes, bringing the total to 60.

The International Press Institute is a global network of editors, media executives and journalists dedicated to freedom of the press, the protection of freedom of opinion and expression, the promotion of the free flow of news and information, and the improvement of the practices of journalism.

Why does it matter? Halfway through 2010, at least 45 journalists, 10 of them in Mexico, have been killed around the world to silence them. 109 were killed in 2009. Both organized criminals (like drug cartels in Mexico) and government authorities who do not want to see their activities exposed go to extreme lengths to suppress information.

Why is it local? Of the 50 World Press Freedom Heroes named 10 years ago — and who will be honored again in Vienna next month — one is Kemal Kurspahic, managing editor and community editor for the Vienna, McLean, Great Falls, Reston and Oak Hill/Herndon Connections — sister papers to the Gazette.

According to the World Press Freedom award:

In December 1988, Kurspahic was named editor-in-chief of Oslobodjenje, Sarajevo's 70,000 circulation daily newspaper, the first elected by the paper's staff. Until then, the Communist Party had controlled all editorial appointments.

Then after the communists were ousted and Bosnia's first democratic elections held, one of Kurspahic's first battles was to maintain his paper's newly acquired editorial independence against a coalition of nationalist parties, through a constitutional court case in 1991.

During the war in Bosnia and Herzegovina, despite snipers' bullets, constant shelling, and newsprint shortages, the paper's multi-ethnic staff of Bosniaks, Serbs and

EDITORIAL

Croats — guided by Kurspahic — worked day and night in a nuclear bomb shelter to put out a daily issue of the paper, providing one of the city's only sources of information. The paper's modern high-rise building was reduced to rubble by the shelling, and yet the paper was produced every day. Oslobodjenje was a symbol of coexistence and the struggle against intolerance and "ethnic cleansing."

Between 1992 and 1995, more than 10,500 people were killed in the Sarajevo area. Five employees were killed and more than 20 wounded. Kurspahic himself was injured in a car crash in 1992 while eluding sniper fire. Throughout this period, Kurspahic and his staff never missed a day of publication, despite shortages of electricity, fuel, paper and ink.

Kurspahic was a Nieman Fellow at Harvard University; Clark Fellow at Cornell University;



Kurspahic

and a Senior Fellow at the US Institute of Peace and worked for five years for the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, first as the spokesman in Vienna (2001-2004) and then as the Caribbean regional representative, responsible for 29 states and territories. Kurspahic served as the managing editor of The Connection Newspapers from 1997-2001, returning in the spring of 2007 after his time with United Nations. Kurspahic has excelled at community journalism in Northern Virginia, winning many awards here, teaching editors and reporters by example, and serving the community by continuously increasing the number of local voices in the papers he edits.

He is the author of four books, including "Prime Time Crime: Balkan Media in War and Peace" (US Institute of Peace Press, 2003) and "As Long as Sarajevo Exists" (Pamphleteer's Press, 1997).

Sometimes in the last two years during the recession, it has taken what feels like heroic efforts to continue to publish independently owned, hyper-local newspapers that have to operate on current revenues. But the biggest physical threat to reporters here is probably the automobile accident. As for intimidation, it is garden variety, officials who threaten to withhold information when they don't like what we write.

Here at the Connection Newspapers, we have Kemal Kurspahic to remind us about true heroic efforts of journalism.

Sources: [www.freemedia.at/awards/kemal-kurspahic](http://www.freemedia.at/awards/kemal-kurspahic), [www.mediaindemocracy.org](http://www.mediaindemocracy.org)

## They Are Trying To Earn a Living

BY MARY ANNE WEBER  
CHAIR, ALEXANDRIA COMMUNITY SERVICES BOARD

It's no secret that the road to economic recovery has been rocky and that the unemployment rate has remained stubbornly high. And if finding and keeping a job is difficult for those with no handicaps, the barriers

are really high for those with disabilities, particularly intellectual disabilities. That's why the city of Alexandria runs a vocational services program under the newly-re-organized and renamed Department of Community and Health Services (Office of Mental Health, Mental Retardation and Substance Abuse).

Godwin Okafor is the director of ID Vocational Services and it is his role to provide job

training for 44 clients. Another 10 have moved beyond training and are now employed. Training is a lot more than just how to do a job. It involves everything from filling out job applications to proper attire, good grooming and appropriate behavior. It is not enough to be skilled at the work, the clients must also learn how to get along with their supervisors and their fellow employees.

To provide training opportunities, Okafor works hard at getting contracts from private businesses, not for profit agencies and even churches. His trainees provide janitorial services, sort and file paperwork, do mailings and deliver newspapers among other things. In return the businesses pay the city for the services provided and the trainees also get paid.

This kind of public private partnership to provide employment training and work is not new and goes on under various guises in communities throughout the United States and has been going on for at least 50 years.



Weber



Snapshot 3:20 p.m., Aug. 14, Waterfront Park

## Park Needs Involvement

To the Editor:

Alarming conditions at Fort Ward Park on Braddock Road have gone from bad to worse. Over the last several years, the park has suffered from neglect, in part due to cost-cutting measures taken by the City of Alexandria Recreation Parks and Cultural Activities. The gate used to close the park at night to cars has been removed, a seldom used ticket booth welcomes visitors, a sign reminds pedestrians to "yield to vehicles," and picnic areas along Braddock Road look un-kept, set-aside ostensibly to a "native plan and wildlife habitat area."

**LETTER**

The area of the park behind the high chain link once used to store compost material and used as a maintenance yard remains unsightly and still off limits to the public. Spring Azaleas and plants that adorned the walk through the park have nearly disappeared.

These changes have been made unilaterally by City staff without any planning or involvement by



**Fort Ward Park**

citizens and users. Comments and suggestions provided at various meetings are often lost in the bureaucratic shuffle and little real progress is made.

To calm concerns, the City has formed an advisory group to evaluate current management of the park. It is expected their report may be finalized towards the end of the year. Hopefully they will be able to reach consensus on a process that will facilitate a more direct empowerment by citizens in

Fort Ward park decisions.

Fort Ward is a wonderful public resource. The various uses and amenities should be managed in a manner that protects those resources but also reflects the desires of the community. Since there is no overall management plan guiding use and maintenance of the park, it is becoming more essential that citizens be involved in decisions that fundamentally change the character of the park.

**Dave Cavanaugh**

## Trying To Earn a Living

FROM PAGE 10

But it is the newspaper delivery part of the service that has raised controversy probably because it is visible. The clients are after all providing service door to door. And they are driven to the neighborhoods in city vans.

Vocational Services has contracted with Connection Newspapers for years to deliver the Alexandria Gazette Packet and the Mount Vernon Gazette and every once in a while a resident questions why the city has such a contract.

Last year according to Okafor, Vocational Services received \$6,728.67 from the newspaper. Each client who helps deliver the papers receives six cents a paper, the going rate. Okafor notes that the contract is a steady reliable one providing employment all year around.

"The individuals we serve get numerous benefits from this contract," Okafor said. "Some of them get exercise by walking around in the community. For others the income is steady and much looked forward to."

"I don't know what we would do without them," said Ann Oliver who handles circulation for the Gazette Packet and Mount Vernon Gazette. She has dealt with teams from the city's vocational services for years as well as teams provided by at least two not-

for-profits and by group homes. She noted that the Alexandria team delivers 1,100 papers in Alexandria each week and 1,157 in Mount Vernon on a variety of routes. "I always have confidence that the routes will be done correctly and on time. They are extremely responsive."

"Of all the handicapped teams, Alexandria Vocational Services has such a stability to its organization, a reliability and continuity. It is real peace of mind to have them on the job."

She credits both Okafor and Sharon Graham, day support supervisor, for how smoothly the program runs and said she does occasionally get a call from someone who questions the delivery services. Usually when she explains, she said, people are approving.

Both City Hall and Vocational Services also get questions and most times people are satisfied with the answers although some persist in believing something illegal is going on.

To help spread the word Okafor has had signs made for all the vans which have Vocational Services number on it if anyone has any questions. So far there haven't been any.

But if you want to know more about the city's attempt to help the most vulnerable find employment or better yet if you have a job to offer, call Godwin Okafor at Vocational Services. His direct number is 703-746-3344.

**Write**

The Gazette Packet welcomes views on any public issue.

The deadline for all material is noon Friday. Letters must be signed. Include home address and home and business numbers. Letters are routinely edited for libel, grammar, good taste and factual errors. Send to:

Letters to the Editor  
Gazette Packet  
1606 King St.  
Alexandria VA 22314

By e-mail: [gazette@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:gazette@connectionnewspapers.com)

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## Vietnam Era Vet

I joined the United States Marine Corp in April 1975.

After finishing my tour of duty I did not take any jive.

The physical training was tough. I came out physically fit.

Aware of my discipline and mentality I was proud of it.

I played football and made the All Star Team,

Winning two championships. I possessed plenty of self-esteem.

I worked very hard, joining, I put my life on the line.

Plus completing most of my missions I was not one to decline.

The communication center required skills and enhanced expertise,

So I dedicated myself to my job and kept secrets I could not release.

In my opinion all armed forces veterans should be treated the same.

Their missions coincide and their goals are basically the same.

— **Wavely Lee Brown**  
The Rhyming Writer



PHOTO BY LA SHAWN AVERY-SIMONS / GAZETTE PACKET

## Run for the Red

Local residents line up in front of the Eisenhower Metro station to participate in the 5k Run for the Red on Eisenhower Avenue in June.

## Spring

I captured the spring today  
with my eyes.

I saw the sharp young leaves  
dressed in green.

They wore the snow-like sheen  
of winter past.

I said to our neighbor, "Hello!"  
as he stood, watching crocuses unfold.

As though not seeing me, he said,  
"The spring has come.  
Last year I planted these."

I looked at him and saw  
that he had aged.

The year had summed his cares  
and sprinkled silver in his hair.

The crocuses, though, do not change.  
Each year they unpack their trumpets

purple, yellow, white  
to herald on life's cycling  
ever constant, ever bright.

— **Ruth Baja Williams**

## I'm a Martian

Come to think of it i am not from this planet

Mentally-wise i'm finer than granite  
I am the man on the moon but the universe is my hammock

Been thru so much pain it's like the world blitz and i ran it

I'm like steve nash i play with the sun  
I remember back in the day life used to be just fun

I am an outcast like Pluto but Pluto's got me too numb

My swag is like Venus out of everyone else it's the meanest

But i am Mars everyone's starting to notice

Me i'm just one of these upcoming stars

**Andrew**

Hammond Middle School

## Life

Does a bird fly and rest at the same time?

As when one sleeps, does one's mind rest?

Echo of days through visions of one's future ...

Of a height at a level one can achieve ...

As we all reach for a goal of achievement.

— **Geri Baldwin**  
Alexandria

## the backstretch at Pimlico

no more neighing  
along the backstretch  
the horses are gone  
the daily routine  
mucking out stalls  
bridling and saddling  
hosing down hot horses  
all gone  
so too are  
the grooms  
the hot walkers  
the stablehands  
all gone  
the smell  
of hay and manure  
no longer  
lingers in the air  
rope and leather  
gone from the tackroom  
no whinny or neigh  
just silence  
along the backstretch  
the wrangling days  
are done  
at Pimlico

— **Peter Lattu**  
September, 2008

## WRITINGS

### Alexandria By Gone

We didn't have television in my younger years. We had an old scratchy radio. I can remember my grandfather with his ear up to the radio, a Camel cigarette in one hand and a cup of coffee in the other trying to get news of WWII.

We lived in a big old house in the Del Ray section of Alexandria. I can still remember every nook and corner of that house. Even though it has been gone for years and replaced by townhouses. I remember thinking it was so big, but the truth is, it probably wasn't as big as I thought. I was just so small, the house looked big to me.

My grandfather worked for the Torpedo Plant in downtown Alexandria which is now a thriving metropolis. In my day, that area was less desirable, if you know what I mean.

During the war my family survived on a total of one car for the entire family. Tires and gas were rationed so everyone

rode the bus. Bus fares were five cents to go to downtown Alexandria and 10 cents to go to Washington.

When the Pentagon was built, the first cloverleaf was constructed. When finally completed, my grandmother and I got on the bus to go to Washington, she became very disturbed when we arrived at the cloverleaf. She thought the bus was taking us back home. It took a lot of explanation from the bus driver to keep us on that bus.

With the exception of an occasional air raid warning test, life was really laid back in those days in Alexandria. I, as a child, roamed the countryside with my friends on bikes. We went through woods and waded in the creeks of Hume Springs. We only came home when we got hungry. No one ever worried about us. No one thought they needed to.

Oh, for the tranquility of non-violence once more. I'm just sorry for the children of today who have to be constantly on guard.

— **Dene Tothill Nichols**

### supper's solace

lengthening shadows  
evening coming down fast  
sun disappearing  
into supertime  
simple fare  
corn scraped  
off the cob  
with onion and tomato  
tossed with basil and parsley  
eaten with steak and baked potato  
supper's solace  
amid lengthening shadows  
of early fall

— **Peter Lattu**  
September, 2007

### Summer

Let there be watermelon,  
Watermelon smiles all around.  
And let there be drumsticks,  
Large drumsticks in small fists.  
Let there be drumsticks all around.  
Let there be pea pods and pies,  
Eyes bigger than stomachs all around.  
Pea pods and pies and fireflies,  
Fireflies flickering up from the ground.

Watermelon, drumsticks, pea pods and pies,  
Laughter and fireflies all around.  
Laughter and fireflies all around.

— **Amy Young**  
Poet Laureate of the City of Alexandria



PHOTO BY LA SHAWN AVERY-SIMONS

## Community Day

Mayor Bill Euille and Bill Campbell of the Parker Gray Round Table give opening remarks before the Parker Gray Roundtable Community Day begins at Charles Houston Recreation Center in June.



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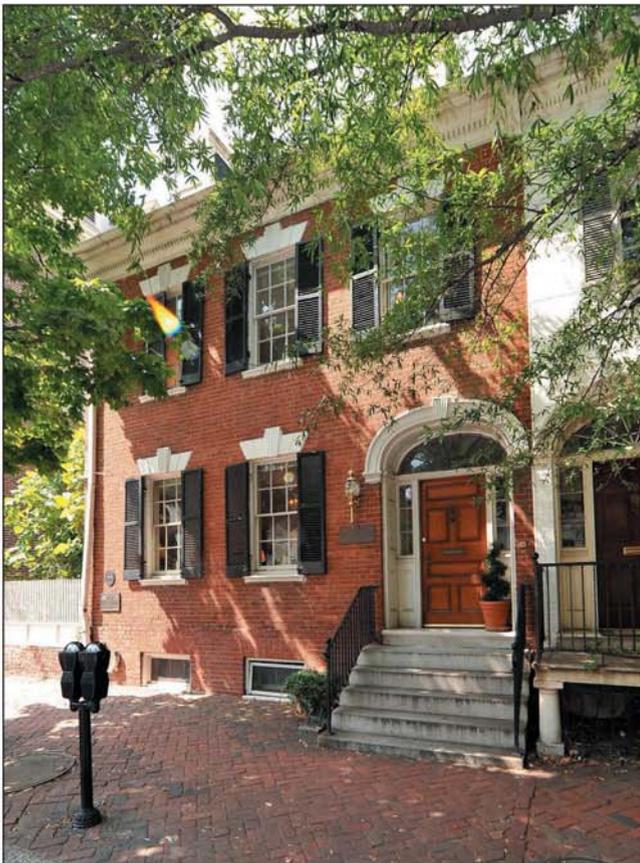
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PHOTOS BY JEANNE THEISMANN/GAZETTE PACKET



Living Legends and nominees for 2010 gather at the Del Ray Artisans reception Friday evening.

# 2010 'Legends' Honored in Del Ray

BY JEANNE THEISMANN  
GAZETTE PACKET

The Del Ray Artisans was the setting for the opening reception of the 2010 Living Legends exhibit Friday evening, Aug. 13, where more than 75 people gathered to honor this year's newest Legends.

"The people who are here are the fabric of the city," said Vice Mayor Kerry Donley in his welcoming remarks. "You make the city a better place to live, work and also have fun."

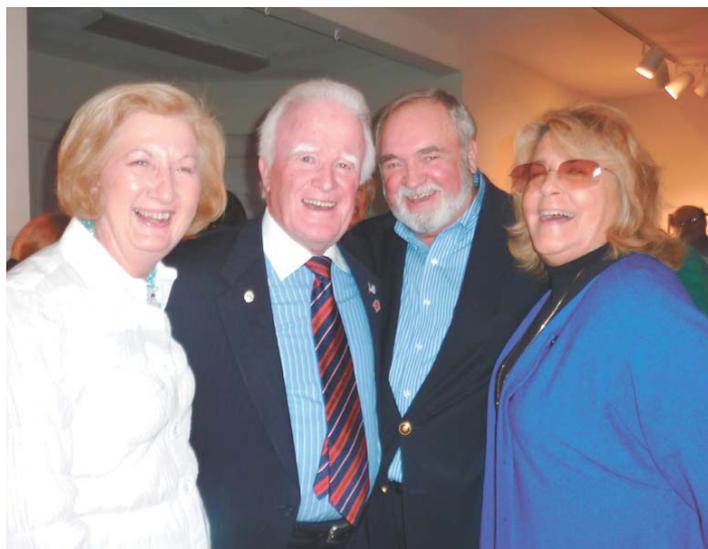
Attendees enjoyed the music of Ann Reesman of the Alexandria Pipe and Drum Corps and dined on a buffet donated by "Mango" Mike Anderson on behalf of Pork Barrel BBQ.

"Thank you for being examples of having an idea and making it happen," said photographer Nina Tisara, founder of the Living Legends project. "Thank you for making your dreams a reality for the city of Alexandria."

The 2010 Living Legends include Chet Avery, Rosalind Bovey, Rodger Digilio,



Vice Mayor Kerry Donley addresses the crowd at the 2010 Living Legends reception at the Del Ray Artisans Friday evening.



Bernadette and Pat Troy, a 2010 Living Legend, enjoy the festivities with Murphy's Irish Pub owners Tom and Melinda Mooney.

Nelson Greene, Sr., T. Michael Miller, Linda Odell and Alice Merrill, John Porter, Joan and John Renner, David Speck, Pat Troy, Lois Walker and Betty Wright.

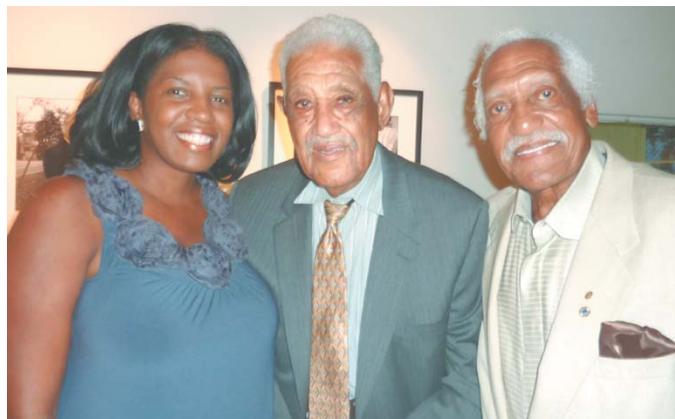
Portraits of this year's Living Legends and nominees will be on display at the Del Ray

Artisans through Aug. 22.

"Thank you to all of the Living Legends for all you've done," Donley said in closing. "Thank you for your service to community and for the values we are passing on to the next generation of Living Legends."



Living Legends Joan Renner and Rodger Digilio enjoy the reception Friday evening.



City Councilwoman Alicia Hughes joins Ferdinand Day and Charles Nelson, Sr. at the Living Legends reception Friday evening at the Del Ray Artisans.



Living Legends Chet Avery and Lynwood Campbell listen to remarks at the Del Ray Artisans reception Friday evening.

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

**Before almost 400 ovarian cancer survivors**, scientists and leaders attending the annual conference of the Ovarian Cancer National Alliance (OCNA), U.S. Rep. James Moran of Virginia's 8<sup>th</sup> Congressional District presented the "Spirit of Survivorship" award to Alexandrian Susan Lowell Butler. The award is given for long-term leadership and activism on behalf of ovarian cancer survivors.

Butler, a 15-year survivor of both breast and ovarian cancer, is a founder, former vice president and board member of OCNA, and a founder, board member and past chair of the Ovarian and Gynecologic Cancer Coalition of Greater Washington, and OCNA partner member. She has served on numerous bodies at the National Cancer Institute and the National Institutes of Health. She is executive director of the D.C. Cancer Consortium, a 60-organization collaborative funded by the District of Columbia to reduce cancer incidence and mortality.

Butler and her husband Jim are Alexandria residents of 22 years. She is a member and past chair of the Alexandria Commission for Women, and chairs the Friends of the Commission for Women, which raises funds for Commission and Office on Women programs.

**Messiah Evangelical Lutheran Church of Alexandria** welcomes its new Interim, Pastor Heidi Moore. Moore began her ministry on Sunday, Aug. 15. She comes from Emmanuel Lutheran Church in Virginia Beach, after serving there since 2003 as associate pastor. She graduated with a master's degree in Divinity from Lutheran Theological Southern Seminary in Columbia, S.C., in 2002.

**Glenda Ridgely of Alexandria** is the new vice president for business and administration at Lander University in Greenwood, S.C. She emerged as the top candidate for Lander's VP position on the strength of a resume that includes 13 years as budget director and assistant budget director at James Madison University. From 2001 until 2004, she held similar positions at the University of South Carolina, where she oversaw budget development and fiscal planning for a \$762 million operating budget. As vice president, Ridgely will not only be responsible for Lander's \$35.5 million budget, but also the bookstore, business office, engineering services, equestrian center, human resources, information technology services, post office, physical plant, printing services and procurement.

**Matthew Jones** was recently selected by the American Rental Association Foundation to receive the first Leonard Hawk Founders Scholarship in the amount of \$3,000. In addition, Jones also received a \$2,500 ARA Insurance Services Scholarship and a \$500 Ron Marshall Scholarship, presented by ARA Region Two. Jones will be a senior at Virginia Tech and is pursuing a degree in finance. He is the son of Doug Jones, co-owner of Rent All Center, Alexandria, and Bonnie Peabody.



**Nathaniel Skolnik**, spent a week of his summer planning a mission to Mars. Skolnik, from Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology in Alexandria, was one of 48 rising high school seniors from across the Commonwealth selected to take part in the Virginia Aerospace Science and Technology Scholars (VASTS) academy. The academy was held June 26-July 2 at NASA Langley Research Center in Hampton, Va., and was hosted by NASA Langley in a partnership with the Virginia Space Grant Consortium.

**Louise Fauth of Alexandria** recently completed a 75-day course in Australia with the National Outdoor Leadership School (NOLS.) From March 18 to May 31, Louise and her fellow

SEE PEOPLE NOTES, PAGE 15

[WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM](http://WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM)

# PEOPLE



PHOTO BY SANDY LEVITZ LUNNER/GAZETTE PACKET

## Is Photojournalism Art?

In conjunction with the "Gathering of the 2010 Legends" photo exhibition at the Del Ray Artisans gallery, photographer Nina Tisara moderated an interactive discussion between the audience and panelists (above) Northern Virginia videographer Abby Sternberg, Photographer Nina Tisara, Cinematographer and Photographer John W. Hiller of Mount Vernon, former editor of the Alexandria Gazette Mary Anne Weber, and Photographer Kathryn Brown.

## PEOPLE NOTES

FROM PAGE 14  
students spent 39 days canoeing on the remote Drysdale River in the center of the Kimberley, 23 days backpacking in the Australian outback, and one week learning the traditions and culture of the Aboriginal communities of the northern Australian islands.

The expedition began in Broome, Australia where the students and their instructors met to prepare for the expedition. Students then traveled to the Drysdale River Station where they prepared for the canoeing portion of their course. During this time, students began the process of mastering wilderness camping skills and Leave No Trace ethics that would serve them throughout the remainder of their course. From the Drysdale, students exchanged their canoes for backpacks and traveled 75

miles in a largely untouched region of Australia.

Following the backpacking section, students spent time with Aboriginal guides who accompanied them to the now-vacated homeland of Aboriginal people. Here, they learned traditional methods of fishing, hunting, and food-gathering as well as various styles of tool-making. Students left their course with a strong foundation in backcountry living and travel, Leave No Trace outdoor ethics, and a greater understanding of their own leadership strengths and styles.

**Cadet Major Margaret Strain of Alexandria**, graduated from Randolph-Macon Academy on May 29. Margaret is the daughter of David and Charlotte Strain. At the end-of-year awards ceremony,

Margaret received the President's Award for Academic Achievement, the Outstanding Cadet Award, the American Citizenship Award, the Certificate of Excellence for Honors American Dream/Honors Utopia & Dystopia, and the Certificate of Excellence for Global Politics. Throughout her high school career at R-MA, she was regularly named to the President's List for maintaining a GPA above 4.0. She managed the Academy's varsity lacrosse, girls' basketball and girls' volleyball teams. Margaret served the Air Force JROTC Corps of Cadets as the Alpha Flight Commander, leading her flight to claim the "Honor Flight" title for the year. She was also the Senior Class President.

Margaret plans to attend Longwood University in the fall. She was offered \$86,000 in scholarships.



DOING THE MOST GOOD<sup>SM</sup>



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### Things To Do Today

- 1. Breakfast w/ Mary & Bob—8:30
- 2. Tai chi group at 10
- 3. Stop by library before lunch?
- 4. Pottery class—1:00
- 5. Scrabble club at 3:00

#### Notes:

Asian Night in the dining room!



## This is assisted living?

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# LONG & FOSTER

## ALEXANDRIA/OLD TOWN HISTORIC

Call the #1 Office in Northern Virginia!



Managing Brokers  
Anne Rector & Bill Jourdan



**7106 Colgate Dr**  
\$550,000  
*Hollin Glen-Super Value!*

Owner's relocation provides unique opportunity in prestigious "close-in" Hollin Glen. Spacious well maintained home just minutes from Old Town. Many fabulous features include: 4 BRs, 3 BAs, updated gourmet kitchen, hardwood floors and 2 fireplaces. Custom two tiered deck. Check the comps! Nothing like it in close-in Fort Hunt are for under \$600,000! OPEN SUN 8/22, 1-4. GW Pkwy S, R-Belle Haven, L-Fort Hunt, R-Rollins, L-Colgate.



**1204 HillsideTerr**  
\$698,500  
*Stunning Home-Great Price!*

Unique opportunity-fabulous home in pristine condition with gorgeous lot in premier setting on quiet street in prime Braddock Heights location. Features include: bright, open floorplan, brick exterior, 3BAs, hardwood floors, oversized gar. and Pella replacement windows. Stunning updated kit w/granite, SS & cherry cabs. Two tiered deck and patio. Large fenced yard. OPEN SUN 8/22, 1-4. From Old Town: Braddock Rd W, R-Valley Dr, L-Hillside Terr.



**7406 Rippon Rd**  
\$759,900  
*Mason Hill-Stunner!*

No Stairs- This spectacular home offer luxurious living on one level! Rare, large rambler with 2836 sq ft. Custom home features exceptionally bright, open floorplan and large room sizes. Other features include: high ceilings, updated kitchen, 4BRs including private master suite overlooking wooded grounds. Oversized garage. Expansive glass walls and back patio on 2/3 acre grounds. A truly unique property. OPEN SUN 8/22, 1-4. GW Pkwy S, R-Morningside, R-Fort Hunt, L-Mason Hill, L-Rippon.



**9617 COUNSELLOR DR**  
Vienna  
\$ 699,000

Wonderful 5BR, 2.5BA in sought-after Barrister's Place. Light filled colonial w/large lot & 2 car garage located in the Archer/Thoreau/Madison school district. Close to downtown Vienna, Whole Foods, Tyson's Corner - you'll love the conv. location and tranquil setting.



Laura Blederman 202.309.1350

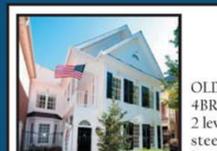


**7808 LEE AVE**  
Alex / Mt Vernon  
\$ 799,000

ONE ACRE LOT! Don't buy someone else's grand home when you can build your own on a beautiful tree level lot in sought after Welling-ton just off the GW Parkway. "As is" estate sale offers options: renovate, add on, or start over. Original owners built their dream home in 1953. Now you can build yours.



Ruth Gulrard 703.609.3343

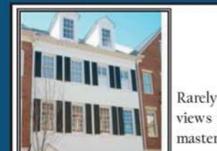


**1103 WILKES ST**  
Alex / Old Town  
\$ 1,195,000

OLD TOWN VILLAGE! Rare 4BR, 2.5BA with 2 car garage on 2 levels. New granite, new stainless steel appliances, new paint, hardwood floors, almost 3000 sqft private courtyard & separate patio. Community pool & fitness center - close to King St Metro - stroll to OT or take the bike path to National Harbor.



Rich Ragan 703.307.5891



**703 Kahn Pl**  
\$1,349,000  
*Ford's Landing!*

Rarely found Henry Model with water views from your living room! Elegant master suite with sitting area and luxurious bath. Cooks kitchen with granite, Jenn-Air stainless steel and abundant cabinet space. 3 Bedrooms plus office, 3.5 Baths, 2 car garage, balcony off dining room and walk out lower level to patio. Absolutely beautiful! Shows like a model!



**6515 Princeton Dr**  
\$815,000  
*Classic Colonial - Near Old Town!*

Spacious home in Belle Haven area. Center hall colonial with up to date floor plan. Features include open kitchen with SS and granite, 3 finished levels, 4 large BRs and oversized 2 car garage. Formal living and dining rooms, family room off breakfast area. Prime "close-in" location. Two tiered deck and seasonal river views. Lower level hosts large rec room, full bath, huge storage area and direct outside access.



**1002 N. Royal St**  
\$568,000  
*Old Town Living!*

Fabulous 3 bedroom unit in Watergate of Alexandria. Many features include: hardwood floors, bright updated kitchen, separate dining area, sunken living room with fireplace and built-in bookshelves, master bedroom with private bath and gorgeous fenced rear patio. 2 Parking Spaces! Prime location to airport, D.C. and all of Old Town Alexandria.



**6112 HOLLY TREE DR**  
Alex / \$ 625,000

IMPECCABLE STYLE & COMFORT surround you in this 3/4 Bedroom, 2 full & 2 half bath Colonial in highly desirable Wilton Woods. Updated contemporary kit, fin walk-out lower level w/bonus room, rec room & half bath, garage parking, private lot on no-thru street & more. Minutes to BW, Metro, Pentagon & Ft. Belvoir.



Kim Muffler 703.282.7739



**6133 MANCHESTER PARK CIR**  
Alex / \$ 560,000

UPSCALE- LIGHT & BRIGHT! An immaculate end unit of approx. 2,600 sqft w/9' vaulted ceilings, sunny eat-in kit w/family rm, library/office on main lvl, formal living rm opens onto deck. Huge MstrBR has walk-in closet/soaking tub & double vanity. LL walk-out rec rm w/gas fireplace provides perfect get-away. 2 car garage. Fios access.



Connie McKeen 703.626.4417



**5902 MT EAGLE DR**  
#706 / Montebello  
\$ 365,000

You will feel right at home in this beautifully appointed 2BR, 2BA condo at Alexandria's premiere gated community. Resort living with an array of award-winning amenities, garage parking & a nice pool view. See virtual tour: www.susanmovesyou.com



Susan Haughton / Mindy Brubaker 571.242.9913



**8418 Aylee Pl**  
\$698,900  
*Classic Colonial - Just off Parkway!*

This is the one you've been waiting for! Rare 4 bedroom, 3 level colonial in Prime Collingwood-Waynewood location. Spacious home features updated eat-in kitchen with stainless steel appliances and granite, 3 finished levels, 2.5 updated baths, 2 fireplaces and large garage. Elegant dining and living rooms. Gorgeous fenced yard with privacy fence and patio on quite cul-de-sac in Waynewood School area.



**9316 Heather Glen Dr**  
\$675,000  
*Major Price Reduction - Super Value!*

Don't miss out on this unique opportunity-Price Slashed on fabulous colonial. Expanded with the most dramatic family room addition you'll ever find! All glass window walls overlooks magnificent custom pool! Other features include: screen porch, 3 level, 4bedroom and 2 car garage.



**8614 Vernon Ave**  
\$399,500  
*This Is Not A Typo!*

Real Price! Unbelievable opportunity! Totally updated 3 level colonial near Mt. Vernon Estate (at give away price)! Total renovation: gourmet kitchen with granite, stainless steel, 42' cherry cabinets, new paint, new roof, 3.5 baths, 4 bedrooms and finished lower level. You will not find a home in this location & condition even those priced \$100,000 higher!



**619 S PITT ST**  
Alex / Old Town  
\$ 998,000

Expansive & beautiful renovation of one of Old Town's historic homes in the SE quadrant. Highlights include: 3BR/3.5BA, hardwood floors, granite, luxurious master suite, 3 gas fireplaces, detached gar has private BR & full BA.



Dayna Blumel / Kerry Adams 703.587.7841



**7227 STOVER CT**  
Alexandria  
\$ 335,000

RARELY AVAILABLE MODEL! Large 3BR & den/4th BR, 3.5 BA TH in Woodstone w/sep DR, LR & eat-in Kit. HDWDs main lvl, fenced yard, deck, fin. basement. Updates: windows, carpet, siding, HVAC, HWH, kit w/granite, SSA, pantry + more. Convenient to Ft. Belvoir, DC, I495.



Inderjeet Juman 703.472.8804



**1675 HUNTING CREEK DR**  
Alex / \$ 825,000

Come see our GORGEOUS kitchen renovation - lovely granite countertops & upgraded GE Profile stainless steel appliances. This elegant space is a cook's paradise! Open floor plan, spacious rooms w/master suite, loft w/private bath. Family room and deck, LL rec room & a patio oasis. 1 mile to Metro, 2 lights to DC.



Laura Blederman 202.309.1350



**8714 Bluedale St**  
\$629,000  
*Stratford Landing - Colonial!*

Classic four bedroom center hall colonial on gorgeous level lot in prime Stratford Landing location. Home has been exceptionally well maintained and has had major updates such as thermal windows, new HVAC unit and foyer extension. Large deck overlooks landscaped private yard. Priced to sell!



**9316 Allwood Dr**  
\$507,500  
*Absolutely Impeccable!*

New Price! Stunning home features bright open floor plan with soaring cathedral ceilings on main level. This fabulous property has been substantially updated and is in absolutely impeccable condition. Gleaming hardwood floors, track lighting, finished lower level, garage and much more! Gorgeous setting on half acre tract fronting a quiet street in the heart of Mt. Vernon.



**Field of Dreams!**  
Lofty Oaks \$755,900

Build your Wakefield dream home on fabulous 3/4 acre estate site in the heart of Mt. Vernon. New low price! Pre-Construction opportunity allows for maximum customization. Call for details.

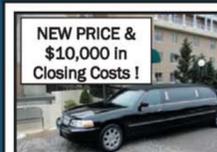


**6103 WIGMORE LA**  
#L / Alex  
\$ 300,000

You'll love this stunning home. Light/bright w/ vaulted ceilings in all rooms - gleaming HWD floors thru-out - chef's kit w/granite, upgraded appl & skylight - gas fireplace. MstrBR has walk-in closet, spa bath jetted tub, sep shower, granite & skylight. Large balcony, extra storage, lots of visitor parking - all between 2 METRO stops.



Connie McKeen 703.626.4417



**1250 SOUTH WASHINGTON ST**  
Porto Vecchio  
\$ 480,000

EXCELLENT VALUE & OPPORTUNITY! Elegant 2BR/2BA one-lvl residence features designer paint, crown molding, hardwood floors & is in immaculate condition. Garage, 24-hr desk, pool, tennis, security. Owners enjoy amenities galore including limo service. OPEN SUNDAY 1 - 4pm!



Pat Tierney 703.850.5630



**4126 N 11th Pl**  
Arlington  
\$ 525,000

POTENTIAL AIRING ON HGTV! 2 blks to METRO! Completely renovated 2BR/2BA, 3 level TH! Spacious kit w/breakfast bar, custom cabinets, all new SSA, Brazilian HWD, brand new baths. Huge 3rd level bonus room / 3rdBR. Up to 3 prkg spaces available. A PERFECT 10!



Tricia Wikert Driscoll 571.213.0187



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chris.white@longandfoster.com

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# The Potomack Company

AUCTIONS ~ APPRAISALS

## Estate Sale

The Swann - Daingerfield House  
706 Prince Street, No. 5

Saturday, August 21st  
9:00 am - 4:00 pm

Home of Fred and Patricia Gage  
Furniture, paintings and decorative items



The Potomack Company  
potomackcompany.com  
Tel: 703-684-4550

# HOME SALES

JULY 2010  
\$2,840,000 ~ \$405,000

Address	BR	FB	HB	Postal	City	Sold Price	Type	Lot	AC	Subdivision
207 FAIRFAX ST S	5	3	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$2,840,000	Townhouse	0.13			OLD TOWN
502 CATHEDRAL DR	5	5	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$2,200,000	Detached	0.49			MALVERN
2000 RUSSELL RD	4	4	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$1,850,000	Detached	0.64			CAMPBELL PROP
430 LEE ST S	3	2	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$1,528,000	Townhouse	0.07			OLD TOWN
505 CANTERBURY LN	5	5	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$1,180,000	Detached	0.28			MALVERN HILL
9 SPRING ST W	4	2	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$1,137,500	Detached	0.19			ROSEMONT
20 KEITHS LN	3	3	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$1,010,000	Townhouse	0.02			FORDS LANDING
117 QUAY ST	2	2	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$876,000	Townhouse	0.03			BRANDT TOWNHOUSE
428 FAYETTE ST S	3	3	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$860,000	Townhouse	0.03			OLD TOWN VILLAGE
2904 CAMERON MILLS RD	4	3	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$845,000	Detached	0.11			BRADDOCK HEIGHTS
813 DUKE ST	3	3	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$845,000	Townhouse	0.04			FARNEY
523 LEE ST S	3	2	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$825,000	Semi-Detached	0.03			OLD TOWN
631 SAINT ASAPH ST S	4	2	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$817,000	Townhouse	0.04			THOMAS SHELTON ESTATE
1116 ALLISON ST	4	2	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$769,900	Detached	0.18			BEVERLEY ESTATES
206 LOCUST LN	3	3	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$767,500	Detached	0.12			ROSEMONT
3300 ELMORE DR	3	2	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$750,000	Detached	0.19			BEVERLY HILLS
410 TENNESSEE AVE	3	2	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$750,000	Detached	0.15			BEVERLY HILLS
323 OAK ST E	4	3	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$749,900	Detached	0.13			ROSEMONT PARK
3312 CIRCLE HILL RD	3	3	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$749,900	Detached	0.15			BEVERLY HILLS
2800 CENTRAL AVE	3	2	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$740,000	Detached	0.22			BRADDOCK HEIGHTS
3209 OLD DOMINION BLVD	3	2	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$735,000	Detached	0.22			BEVERLY
716 GIBBON ST	3	2	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$735,000	Townhouse	0.04			GOLDFARBS
709 WAYNE ST	4	2	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$725,000	Detached	0.10			ROSEMONT PARK
600 SECOND ST #405	2	2	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$725,000	Garden 1-4 Floors				LIBERTY ROW
2151 JAMIESON AVE #2-1904	3	2	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$725,000	Hi-Rise 9+ Floors				CARLYLE TOWERS
332 ALFRED ST S	3	2	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$715,000	Townhouse	0.04			BURGESS SQUARE
802 RAMSEY ST	4	2	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$692,500	Detached	0.09			ROSEMONT PARK
1307 BRADDOCK RD	3	2	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$690,000	Detached	0.18			BRADDOCK HEIGHTS
2805 HOLLY ST	4	3	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$684,000	Detached	0.13			MOUNT IDA
264 MEDLOCK LN	3	3	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$680,000	Townhouse	0.07			CAMERON STATION
1250 WASHINGTON ST S #501	2	2	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$675,000	Mid-Rise 5-8 Floors				PORTO VECCHIO
1303 JULIANA PL	4	2	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$659,900	Detached	0.27			VARSITY PARK
2105 MINOR ST	3	3	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$650,000	Detached	0.24			MCKENZIE LEWIS PROPERTY
1101 QUAKER HILL CT	3	3	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$645,000	Townhouse	0.08			QUAKER HILL
4525 LA SALLE AVE	4	3	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$635,000	Detached	0.21			VARSITY PARK
122N PEYTON ST	2	2	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$635,000	Townhouse	0.04			OLD TOWN
1403 PRINCESS ST	3	3	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$627,500	Townhouse	0.04			OLD TOWN
18-A MT. IDA AVE W	3	2	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$625,000	Townhouse	0.06			DEL RAY/MT IDA
2517 GADSBY PL	3	2	2	ALEXANDRIA	\$619,000	Townhouse	0.03			STONEGATE
700 FONTAINE ST	3	2	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$617,000	Detached	0.32			BRADDOCK HEIGHTS
817 ROYAL ST S	2	2	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$610,000	Townhouse	0.05			YATES GARDENS
824 PITT ST S	2	1	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$600,000	Townhouse	0.05			YATES GARDENS
320 WEST ST S #106	2	2	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$599,900	Garden 1-4 Floors				THE DUKE
31 DEL RAY AVE	3	3	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$590,000	Townhouse	0.04			OAK CLUSTER
110 UNION ST #TH-110	3	3	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$590,000	Townhouse				TORPEDO FACTORY
512 GIBBON ST	2	2	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$589,500	Townhouse	0.02			THOMAS SHELTON ESTATE
223 WEST ST S	3	2	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$585,000	Townhouse	0.05			OLD TOWN
4641 KEARNEY CT	3	2	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$584,900	Townhouse	0.04			STONEGATE
1404 MOUNT VERNON AVE	4	2	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$573,000	Att/Row Hse	0.07			DEL RAY
2718 KENWOOD AVE	3	3	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$570,000	Townhouse	0.07			BRIGHTON
114 UNION ST #TH-114	3	3	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$562,800	Townhouse				TORPEDO FACTORY
110 COVILLE DR	4	2	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$559,500	Townhouse	0.04			TOWNES AT CAMERON PARKE
5060 GRIMM DR	3	2	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$555,000	Townhouse	0.03			CAMERON STATION
113 LAKE COOK DR	4	3	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$549,900	Townhouse	0.04			TOWNES AT CAMERON PARKE
607 VIRGINIA AVE	2	1	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$549,000	Detached	0.16			JEFFERSON PARK
1032 ROYAL ST N	2	2	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$548,000	Townhouse				WATERGATE OF ALEXANDRIA
6346 STEVENSON AVE	3	2	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$547,500	Townhouse	0.10			STEVENSON AVE TOWNES
111 SHOOTERS CT	3	2	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$546,000	Townhouse	0.03			SHUTERS HILL
2540 GADSBY PL	3	2	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$542,500	Townhouse	0.04			STONEGATE
117 LAKE COOK DR	3	2	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$540,000	Townhouse	0.05			TOWNES AT CAMERON PARKE
1222 QUAKER HILL DR	3	2	2	ALEXANDRIA	\$539,990	Townhouse	0.04			QUAKER HILL
912 PATRICK ST S	2	1	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$539,500	Townhouse	0.04			HUNTING CREEK
909 COLUMBUS ST S	2	2	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$528,000	Townhouse	0.06			HUNTING CREEK
3915 CHARLES AVE	4	3	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$525,000	Townhouse	0.04			SUNNYSIDE
1111 POWHATAN ST	2	1	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$525,000	Townhouse	0.05			OLD TOWN
1121 MICHIGAN CT	3	2	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$525,000	Townhouse	0.02			NETHERGATE
101 BROWNS MILL DR	4	3	2	ALEXANDRIA	\$520,200	Townhouse	0.05			TOWNES AT CAMERON PARKE
5066 KILBURN ST	3	2	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$520,000	Townhouse	0.02			CAMERON STATION
828 SLATERS LN #305	2	2	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$519,000	Garden 1-4 Floors				OLD TOWN CRESCENT
970 PAXTON ST N	3	2	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$515,000	Detached	0.31			SEMINARY VALLEY
910 POWHATAN ST #104S	2	2	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$500,000	Garden 1-4 Floors				900 N WASHINGTON ST CONDOS
1214 POWHATAN ST	2	1	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$500,000	Townhouse	0.03			WESTOVER
422 NELSON AVE E	3	1	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$495,000	Townhouse	0.05			DEL RAY
4678 STRATHBLANE PL	4	2	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$494,000	Detached	0.25			SEMINARY VALLEY
305 MOUNT VERNON AVE	2	1	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$493,500	Townhouse	0.03			ROSEMONT
471 CAMERON STATION BLVD #30	3	2	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$485,000	Townhouse				CAMERON STATION
5152 WOODMIRE LN	3	2	2	ALEXANDRIA	\$485,000	Townhouse	0.04			SEMINARY PARK
705 CHETWORTH PL	2	1	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$485,000	Townhouse	0.03			MT VERNON CONST CO
15 HERBERT ST	3	2	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$480,000	Townhouse	0.02			LAND OF HERBERT
656 COLUMBUS ST S #28	2	2	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$480,000	Townhouse				WASHINGTON SQUARE
103 MEADOWS LN	3	2	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$475,000	Townhouse	0.04			TOWNES AT CAMERON PARKE
724 GLEBE RD	3	3	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$475,000	Townhouse	0.04			BEVERLEY HILLS CREST
2050 JAMIESON AVE #1110	2	2	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$475,000	Hi-Rise 9+ Floors				OLD TOWN
1343 CHETWORTH CT	2	2	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$473,500	Townhouse	0.02			BASHFORD LANE CLUSTER
307 PAYNE ST #6	2	2	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$465,000	Townhouse				OLD TOWN VILLAGE
1007 VERNON STREET	2	1	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$455,000	Townhouse	0.06			WESTOVER
5916 LOMACK CT	4	2	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$450,000	Detached	0.53			LINCOLNIA HILLS
621 HENRY ST N	2	2	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$446,000	Townhouse	0.02			OLD TOWN
3810 DOMINION MILL DR	3	2	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$445,000	Townhouse	0.03			TOWNES AT CAMERON PARKE
116 CAHILL DR	2	2	2	ALEXANDRIA	\$445,000	Townhouse	0.04			TOWNES AT CAMERON PARKE
5080 ENGLISH TER #483	2	2	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$445,000	Townhouse				CAMERON STATION
675 COLUMBUS ST S #675	2	1	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$440,000	Semi-Detached				ARCH HALL
21 TAYLOR RUN PKWY	4	2	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$439,900	Duplex	0.09			TAYLOR RUN
2944 SYCAMORE ST	3	2	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$439,000	Townhouse	0.04			WARWICK VILLAGE
4950 BRENMAN PARK DR #102	2	2	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$429,000	Garden 1-4 Floors				CAMERON STATION
699 GLEBE RD #7	3	4	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$425,000	Townhouse				COURTLAND MANOR
47 ANCELL ST	3	2	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$417,604	Att/Row Hse	0.09			WARWICK VILLAGE
503 PATRICK ST S	3	1	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$412,000	Townhouse	0.06			OLDE TOWNE SOUTH
293 PICKETT ST S #2	3	2	2	ALEXANDRIA	\$411,900	Townhouse				TOWNES OF HILLWOOD
309 HOLLAND LN #313	2	2	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$410,000	Garden 1-4 Floors				THE ROYALTON
181 REED AVE E #310	2	2	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$408,000	Mid-Rise 5-8 Floors				PRESTON
684 ARMISTEAD ST #43	3	3	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$405,000	Townhouse				BEAUREGARD HEIGHTS

## Who would you call a Living Legend of Alexandria?

Who do you know whose vision and energy has improved life in Alexandria? Living Legends of Alexandria is seeking nominations in order to recognize Alexandria's Living Legends throughout 2011.



### Nomination Categories:

(1) Those who have contributed at least one tangible improvement to the quality of the city's life that would likely be missing without this person's vision and energy.

(2) Those demonstrating exemplary service to the city over an extended time (ten years or more) especially service on Boards, Commissions, Committees or Service Organizations that improve the quality of life in Alexandria.

Nominees must live or work in Alexandria. Those currently running for or holding political office are not eligible for consideration. The contributions of City employees should be beyond the responsibilities of their jobs.

See [www.AlexandriaLegends.com](http://www.AlexandriaLegends.com) or call 703-625-2330 for a nomination form to explain why you consider this person a Living Legend. Send your nominations no later than November 15 to Living Legends, P.O. Box 10485, Alexandria, VA 22310.

Special Thanks to **Alexandria Gazette Packet**  
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Walls of glass and beautiful views in this gorgeous 2 bedroom, 2.5 bath condo in popular Odyssey between Courthouse and Rosslyn Metros. 1,635 sq feet, gourmet kitchen with Wolf, Subzero, Bosch, Viking appliances. Full-size washer/dryer, two balconies. Luxury at its best. **Open Sunday. Call 703-360-4805.**



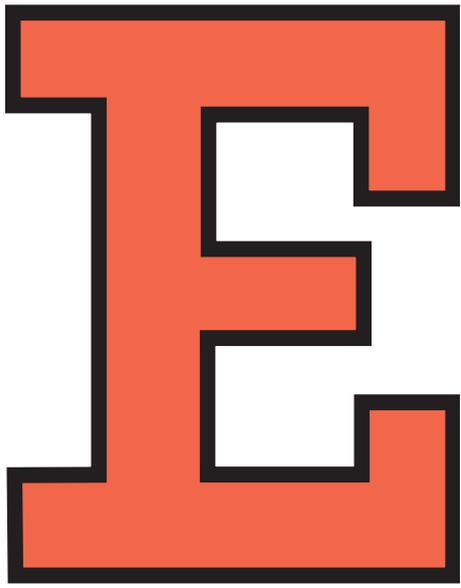
### Alexandria/Ft Belvoir \$330,000

Beautiful living and value plus in this three level townhouse with 3 bedrooms, 2.5 baths, 1-car garage, gourmet kitchen, deck, family room. Built in 2001.

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



ARTS ♦ ENTERTAINMENT ♦ LEISURE

# A Tempting Theatre Season

## Local companies slot a variety of shows for the fall.

BY BRAD HATHAWAY  
THE GAZETTE

**T**he number of theaters offering productions in Alexandria and Arlington may have dropped during the recession, but the variety of material for their dramas, comedies and musicals has remained high, and the 2010-2011 season offers great choices for theater lovers at a wide range of price and professionalism.

We mourn the loss of Firebelly, a small company that specialized in giving new performers meaty parts into which to sink their teeth. It has closed down. We will no longer have the productions of Charter Theatre, which specialized in new plays. They have decided to confine themselves to presenting readings of plays. At the same time, we wish Keegan Theatre well as they have moved out of Northern Virginia to a house in Washington. But the companies that continue to produce have announced some very interesting productions.

For Alexandrians, the best news of the season is that the venerable Port City Playhouse has found a solution to its long-standing problem of an inappropriate venue. For years they have struggled to fill even a small percentage of the too many seats in the Lee Center and to keep its too-large-for-them stage from look-



The new Artisphere Arts Complex will use the space that used to house the Newseum in Rosslyn.

ing as empty as the auditorium. Now, the company which does its best work when its doing small, intimate pieces before small, attentive audiences, will begin performing in a new space, The Lab at Convergence Creative Community on Quaker Lane.

Port City will perform its last two productions, "Farragut North" and "Rashomon," at the Lee Center and then take up residence in their new space in February. They kick it off with a drama of life in North Carolina under the Jim Crow laws in the 1940s. It has a provocative title taken from the signs in shops and restaurants of the area that excluded both African Americans and Jews, "No Niggers, No Jews, No Dogs." In the Spring, Bruce Folmer directs the crime thriller "Mindgame."

The Little Theatre of Alexandria has a full season of intriguing productions beginning with Noel Coward's comedy of modern art,

"Nude with Violin," followed by the play "The Visit" on which Kander and Ebb's last musical was based. During the holiday season, as they have in recent years, LTA will have both a full production, this year it will be a musical version of Dickens' "A Christmas Carol," and a late-night show which will be the quirky musical parody by Christopher Durang, "Mrs. Bob Cratchit's Wild Christmas Binge."

In 2011 LTA will present a mystery set in Wales called "Widdershins," a bedroom farce "Move Over, Mrs. Markham," the lively four-character musical comedy about writing a musical titled "[Title of Show]" and the comedy "The Little Dog Laughed."

Aldersgate Church Community Theatre has set dates for its fall show, "Saving Grace." It will be performed Oct. 15 - 31, but they have

SEE SEASON, PAGE 23

## Alexandria Restaurant Week is Aug. 20-29

The first-ever summer Alexandria Restaurant Week will delight dining enthusiasts from Aug. 20-29. Some 60 restaurants throughout the city will feature either a \$35 prix-fixe three-course dinner or \$35 dinner for two; a \$3.50 sweet treat is offered at participating local bakeries, chocolatiers and dessert shops.

Restaurant Week menus and online reservations are available now on [VisitAlexandriaVA.com](http://VisitAlexandriaVA.com).

A one-stop shop for a complete Alexandria Restaurant Week experience, the website invites diners to browse the diverse list of delectable restaurant choices. Many of the city's favorite foodie establishments are participating.

# Royal Laughs-Out-Loud at The Birchmere

## Queer Queens of Qomedy to perform at Birchmere.

BY DYLAN YEP  
GAZETTE PACKET

**F**ive years ago, Poppy Champlin was a comedian looking for publicity that could result in more bookings. She was working as her own manager and agent and wanted to perform in bigger theaters. She contacted the Birchmere in Alexandria about performing, but they declined because she lacked enough name recognition. That's when she decided to bring in two other lesbian comedians and pitch the show as the "Queer Queens of Qomedy." The Birchmere agreed to book the show. It was a successful idea and she has been touring the country with the show every year since.

On Aug. 21, Poppy Champlin, Carol Leifer, and Dana Goldberg will be headlining the Queer Queens of Qomedy at The Birchmere.

Champlin went to college to play basketball at the University of Rhode Island. At the time there was no professional league she could play in after college, so she decided to major in theater. This led her to stand-up comedy in the form of a cabaret sponsored by the University's Oceanography Department. Inspired by Lucille Ball in "I Love Lucy" and



Poppy Champlin



Carol Leifer



Dana Goldberg

comedian Joan Rivers, she performed a "fish shtick" standup routine that stole the show.

Champlin observed that the field of comedy has been dominated by men. "I was inspired by Lucille Ball to be a strong female role model. She showed that it's still sexy to be funny," said Champlin.

Upon leaving college, Champlin took a job dancing in front of a deli dressed in a pork chop costume that she made herself. When a bakery down the block saw her act, they were so impressed that they later hired her to dance in front of their store in a loaf of bread costume. "I was a hot commodity," quipped Champlin.

Champlin moved to Chicago and became a member of the Second City comedy troupe, known for its many famous alumni including John Belushi, Steve Carell and Tina Fey. Champlin compiled an impressive resume performing on the Showtime, VH-1, and A&E

channels in addition to opening for comedians like Ray Romano, Denis Leary, and Rosie O'Donnell.

The most famous comedian on the Queer Queens

of Qomedy bill is Carol Leifer. Her recently released book "When You Lie About Your Age, The Terrorists Win" is on the Wall Street Journal's best seller list. Leifer has been nominated for a Primetime Emmy Award for her work as a writer of the 2010 Academy Awards show. This is her third nomination, the first two were for her writing and producing the television shows, "Seinfeld," and "The Larry Sanders Show." She has also written for "Saturday Night Live" and performed on "The Tonight Show Starring Johnny Carson" and "The Tonight Show with Jay Leno."

She began doing comedy as a child when she performed shows for her neighbors. When she went on to college, she did stand up on open mic nights and began performing at clubs in New York. By the time she was a senior in college, she had decided that she wanted to be a comedian. She continued to

work in New York clubs until David Letterman happened to be at one of her performances. This meeting eventually led to 25 appearances on "The Late Show with David Letterman."

Dana Goldberg is the youngest comedian performing, but she's not without experience.

Being a comedian was a childhood dream for Goldberg. Her kindergarten teacher described her as the funniest 5-year-old she had ever met. In middle school, she began listening to comedy tapes of Steven Wright and Robin Williams. In high school, Goldberg won her school talent show performing a 10-minute standup comedy routine. She performed at open mic nights and did her best to get recognized by sending information about herself to magazines and newspapers. Eventually, her name and her talent were recognized which resulted in numerous bookings at many venues.

"I think when you're doing what you're supposed to be doing in life, sometimes doors just open to you. I was in the right place at the right time," said Goldberg.

She has been touring as a standup comedian for the last several years and performing at festivals around the world. She was voted one of the top five "Funniest Lesbians in the Country" by CURVE Magazine readers and released a DVD "Hot & Bothered-Dana Goldberg Live." Currently she can be seen in her comedy special, "One Night Stand Up; Episode 4" on the LOGO network.

# Talk of the Town

Talk of the Town is a new Alexandria Gazette Packet feature. Questions, comments, or suggestions can be e-mailed to [thewanderer@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:thewanderer@connectionnewspapers.com).

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## Dining Around-the-World

In his day, The Wanderer has traveled to the far corners of the earth. Although these memories remain pleasant, he is no longer interested in the inconveniences of travel. Alexandria is his final destination and eating is his favorite pastime. So follow him around the world with a fork, chopsticks or skilled fingers to a few of his international culinary finds. And forget about the suitcase.

**Oops!** The Wanderer forgot his history last week. It was the Movahed family that first opened the doors to Alexandria's beloved Table Talk Restaurant.



**I MURPHY'S GRAND IRISH PUB**  
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907 King Street. 703 684-3288 [www.laylasrestaurant.com](http://www.laylasrestaurant.com)

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1504 King Street, 703 549-6464.  
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**E GERANIO**  
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Bright, intimate atmosphere with a large selection of Indian dishes.  
719 King Street, 703 706-5701.

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[www.lastapas.us](http://www.lastapas.us)

**B MAI TAI**  
Authentic Thai food in a very stylish interior served at the base of King Street.  
6 King Street, 703 548-0600.  
[www.maithai.us](http://www.maithai.us)

**A CAFÉ SALSA**  
Try the Nueva Ropa Vieja (shredded flank steak) with a mojito. If you go on a weekend, you can work off dinner with salsa dancing upstairs.  
808 King Street, 703 684-4100.  
[www.cafesalsagrill.com](http://www.cafesalsagrill.com)

# CALENDAR

E-mail announcements to the Gazette, [gazette@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto: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/AUG. 19

### Dave Tucker Combo. 7-9 p.m. Free.

Dave Tucker is an internationally-known performer of early jazz styles. Dave specializes in performing ragtime, novelty, blues and Harlem stride piano music, but has expanded in recent years to include performing with dance orchestras and several small combos. At Torpedo Factory Art Center, 105 N. Union St. Alexandria. Call 703-838-4565, [www.torpedofactory.org](http://www.torpedofactory.org).

### Garden Stroll and Tea. 1-3 p.m. \$27

Take a relaxing docent-led stroll through the demonstration gardens and enjoy an afternoon tea at the Historic House. This is a delightful introduction to the mission and history of Green Spring Gardens, one of the preeminent places for horticulture in the Washington, D.C. area. Individuals and groups are welcome. At Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road, Alexandria. Call 703-642-5173 to register. Visit [www.greenspring.org](http://www.greenspring.org).

### Earl Lloyd Book Signing. 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Alexandria native and NBA pioneer Earl Lloyd will discuss and sign copies of his book "Moonfixer" at a reception. Lloyd, a graduate of Parker-Gray High School, became the first African American to play in the NBA in 1950. At the Alexandria Black History Museum, 902 Wythe St., Alexandria. Visit [www.alexblackhistory.org](http://www.alexblackhistory.org) or call 703-746-4356.

### "Breast Talk." 6-8 p.m. Free. The Full Cup Women's Health Series Presents "Breast Talk" with Beth Becker, executive director, Capital Breast Care Center. Beth will speak on the importance of regular mammograms, self exams, how diet affects breast health and the benefits of all as they relate to breast cancer. At The Full Cup - Old Town - 218 N. Lee Street, Suite 206, Alexandria. RSVP to [lindsey@thefullcup.com](mailto:lindsey@thefullcup.com) by August 17. Space is limited. [www.thefullcup.com](http://www.thefullcup.com).

### Great Books Discussion Group. 7 p.m. Will discuss Jane Austen's book, Emma. Meets at Beatley Library, 5005 Duke Street, Alexandria. Call Bill Scouton at 703-931-3559.

### FRIDAY/AUG. 20

### Dixie Melody Boys. 7:30 p.m. At the Mt. Calvary Community Church. Call 703-971-0165 or visit [www.mtcalvarycc.com](http://www.mtcalvarycc.com).

### Squeeze Bayou (Cajun). 7:30-8:30 p.m. Free. Squeeze Bayou Cajun Band, based in the D.C. area, plays traditional Cajun and zydeco dance music from Southwestern Louisiana, specializing in two steps and waltzes. Their music reflects a blend of many styles including country music, blues and Creole. At Grist Mill Park, 4710 Mt. Vernon Memorial Hwy., Alexandria. Call 703-324-SHOW (7469). Visit [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/performances](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/performances).

### AUG. 20-29

### Alexandria Restaurant Week. 60 restaurants offer a \$35 prix-fixe three-course dinner, \$35 dinner for two, or \$3.50 sweet treat. Participants include Bastille, La Bergerie, the Grille at Morrison House, Del Merei Grille, A La Lucia, Tempo, Cheesetique, Fontaine Caffé & Creperie, and ACKC Cocoa Bar. 703-746-3301. Menus and online reservations on [VisitAlexandriaVA.com](http://VisitAlexandriaVA.com).

### SATURDAY/AUG. 21

### Neighborhood Craft Show. 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. The Belle View neighborhood will be hosting its first craft show at the Town Center, 1204 Belle View Blvd., Alexandria. Enjoy lively jazz



## SUNDAY/SEPT. 5

**Lesson Zero (new adult contemporary indie rock/blues).** 3-4 p.m. Free. A concert performed by Lesson Zero, new adult contemporary indie rock/blues. At Collingwood, 4.3 miles south of Old Town Alexandria, 8301 East Boulevard Drive. Visit [www.collingwoodlibrary.com](http://www.collingwoodlibrary.com) or call Judie Kunkle at 703-765-1652.

music as you peruse a variety of handcrafted items. Refreshments will be available. The rain date for the craft show is Aug. 28.

### Summer Concert Series. 7 p.m. Free. Featuring the Concert Band and the Soldiers' Chorus. At Centennial Park, off of English Ave., Fort Meade.

### Singer-songwriter Anne Hills performs. 7 p.m. Sponsored by Focus Music, a nonprofit supporter and presenter of folk and acoustic music that holds concerts in west Alexandria on Sundays. Tickets are \$18 general, \$15 in advance at [FocusMusic.org](http://FocusMusic.org). Contact Gilliam at 703-975-8027 or [markg@ssosystems.com](mailto:markg@ssosystems.com). St. Aiden's is at 8531 Riverside Rd., Alexandria, between Fort Hunt Road and Route 1.

### Unusual Fruits Tasting. 1-3 p.m. \$27. Ugli fruit, cherimoya, kumquat, star fruit... Many unfamiliar fruits are readily available in supermarkets, but are often ignored. Try some! Delight your taste buds as we serve up a selection of intriguing fruits and tell their stories. At Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road, Alexandria. Call 703-642-5173 to register. Visit [www.greenspring.org](http://www.greenspring.org).

### Breakfast Reach Out Meeting. 9:15 a.m. Sponsored by Arlington Aglow with speaker Marilyn Henretty. Breakfast is provided; \$3.25 donation. At St. Paul's Episcopal Church, 3439 Payne Street, Bailey's Crossroads. Call Betty Rose Forsell at 703-671-9264.

### Green Day Event. 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Helen Olivia Flowers will host a Green Day event at their store. The floral design business will showcase their efforts toward environmental consciousness. At 128 N. Pitt St., Alexandria.

### SUNDAY/AUG. 22

### Summer Chamber Music Series. 3 p.m. Free. The Eastmont Trio performing string trios by Mozart and Dohnanyi. At the Lyceum, 201 S. Washington Street, Alexandria.

### Alte Kameraden. 7 to 8 p.m. Free. A German Festmusik band concert in Ft. Hunt Park, six miles south of Old Town Alexandria on the GW Parkway, 703-289-2550 or [www.nps.gov/gwmp](http://www.nps.gov/gwmp) and go to "News and Fun Things to Do."

### West End Farmers' Market Closed. The West End Farmers' Market will be closed in preparation for the Annual Cambodian Community Day Festival. At Ben Brenman Park. The West End Farmers' Market will reopen Sunday, August 29 and continue Sundays through November 21. For more information, call 703.746.4343.

### AUG. 23-27

### The Play's The Thing Camp! 1 to 4 p.m. Cost is \$30/day - Ages 5-9.

Theatre games, improvisations, creative costume play, story time theatre and imagination exercises combine forces to help youngsters develop verbal skills, build confidence and individuality, and expand and improve collaborative and communicative skills. Although each daily workshop is different, they all have one thing in common - serious fun! All camps take place at St. Aidan's Episcopal Church, 8531 Riverside Road, 22308. Email Heather Sanderson at [bardsplay@aol.com](mailto:bardsplay@aol.com).

## TUESDAY/AUG. 24

### Veteran and Pets Lecture and Fund-Raiser. 5-9 p.m. P2V, a non-profit that pairs veterans and active duty military who suffer from service related trauma, including Post-traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) and traumatic brain injury, with shelter animals, is holding its first lecture and fundraiser at Busboys & Poets, 4251 South Campbell Ave., in Shirlington. Visit <http://www.pets2vets.org>.

### WEDNESDAY/AUG. 25

### Fall Open House. 6:15 to 8 p.m. UCM's Sacramento Neighborhood Center opens its doors for Fall Open House and Resource Reception. The event will feature presentations about SNC's offerings and other local resources, registration for the latest free programs and distribution of school supplies for those families who signed up in advance. At 8792 E Sacramento Drive, Alexandria.

### THURSDAY/AUG. 26

### Open Auditions. 7 p.m. Alexandria Harmonizers Chorus is seeking male singers. At Durant Community Arts Center, 1605 Cameron St., Alexandria (one block from the King Street Metro). Visit [www.harmonizers.org](http://www.harmonizers.org) or contact [PhilHarmonizer@gmail.com](mailto:PhilHarmonizer@gmail.com).

### Beatboxchip. 7-9 p.m. Free. Beatbox performer with a random eclectic mix of vocal and electronic elements. At Torpedo Factory Art Center, 105 N. Union St. Alexandria. Call 703-838-4565, [www.torpedofactory.org](http://www.torpedofactory.org).

### Shopping Fund-raiser. 5-9 p.m. Ten Thousand Villages in Old Town Alexandria is joining the fight against modern slavery in the DC region with a shopping fundraiser. The fair trade retailer will donate 20% of the evening sales to the community organization, DC Stop Modern Slavery, in support of their efforts to put a halt to human trafficking in the Washington metropolitan area.

### FRIDAY/AUG. 27

### SEE CALENDAR, PAGE 22

## POTOMAC RIVERBOAT COMPANY

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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

# CALENDAR

FROM PAGE 21

**Andrew Acosta & Speedy Tolliver String Band (Folk/Bluegrass).** 7:30-8:30 p.m. Free. Acosta is a traditional/roots/originals guitarist and singer from the Washington, D.C. area. At Grist Mill Park, 4710 Mt. Vernon Memorial Highway, Alexandria. Call 703-324-SHOW (7469). Visit [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/performances](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/performances).

**Quin Tango.** 7:30-8:30 p.m. At Mason District Park Amphitheater, 6621 Columbia Pike, Annandale. For information, directions and rain cancellation call 703-324-SHOW (7469) or see [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/performances](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/performances)

## SATURDAY/AUG. 28

**Alexandria Surrenders: War of 1812 Reenactment.** Noon to 4 p.m. The Carlyle House will recreate the occupation of Alexandria by His Royal Majesty's naval forces. Historic interpreters attired as British Tars, Royal Marines, and Alexandria civilians will entertain your questions about life during the war. Free admission to the grounds. At the Carlyle House in Alexandria. Call 703-549-2997 or visit [www.nvrpa.org](http://www.nvrpa.org).

## AUG. 28-29

**28<sup>th</sup> Annual Begonia Show and Sale.** 9-4:30 p.m. on Aug. 28. 12-3:30 p.m. on Aug. 29. Expand your plant palette! Be tempted with splashes of color and shape for homes and greenhouses that last long after frosts have put our outdoor gardens to bed! The sale offers a wide variety of begonias, including subtropical species. At Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road, Alexandria. Call 703-642-5173 to register. Visit [www.greenspring.org](http://www.greenspring.org).

## SUNDAY/AUG. 29

**Summer Chamber Music Series.** 3 p.m. Free. Pianist John Earle, violinists David Brown and Sheyna Burt, violist Suzanna Sitomer and cellist Ryan Bridgland performing piano quintets by Dvorak and Robert Schumann. At the Lyceum, 201 S. Washington Street, Alexandria.

**Kings Park Concert Band.** 7 to 8 p.m. Free. A concert in Ft. Hunt Park, six miles south of Old Town Alexandria on the GW Parkway, 703-289-2550 or [www.nps.gov/gwmp](http://www.nps.gov/gwmp) and go to "News and Fun Things to do."

**The Fabulous Flapper Tea Program.** 1-3 p.m. \$27. In the 1920s, a new kind of woman was born. She voted, drank, smoked and danced the Charleston. She wore short hair and short skirts. How shocking! We'll explore the birth of the Flapper Girl and the decade - the Roaring Twenties - that gave life to her unique image and attitude. A full English tea is included in this program. At Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road, Alexandria. Call 703-642-5173 to register. Visit [www.greenspring.org](http://www.greenspring.org).

**Sundae in the Park.** 3-5 p.m. An ice cream social with AHA! At Home in Alexandria, which supports Alexandrians who prefer to remain independently in their homes. On Madison Street between No. Royal and Fairfax Streets.

## WEDNESDAY/SEPT. 1

**Swing Dancing.** 9-11 p.m. Admission is \$6. DJ Dance Party with DJ Dabe Murphy. At Nick's Nightclub, 641 South Pickett Street, Alexandria.

## THURSDAY/SEPT. 2

**Britt Neal.** 7-9 p.m. Free. Britt Neal's

sound is rich with gospel and blues, and glimpses of the world she's heard whenever she turned on her radio. Country and bluegrass, and good old Southern rock. At Torpedo Factory Art Center, 105 N. Union St. Alexandria. Call 703-838-4565, [www.torpedofactory.org](http://www.torpedofactory.org).

## SATURDAY/SEPT. 4

**Alexandria Art Market.** 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. A variety of original artwork from over 20 artists will be displayed for sale including painting, photography, pottery, jewelry, and glasswork. At the Nicholas A. Colasanto Park, adjoining the Del Ray Artisans Gallery, 2704 Mount Vernon Ave., Alexandria (corner of Commonwealth Avenue and Mount Vernon Avenue). Contact Kimberley Bush at 703-627-7656 or email [DRA.AlexandriaArtMarket@gmail.com](mailto:DRA.AlexandriaArtMarket@gmail.com).

## SUNDAY/SEPT. 5

**Summer Chamber Music Series.** 3 p.m. Free. Pianist William McDaniel performing works by Chopin, Debussy and Prokofiev's Sonata No. 8. At the Lyceum, 201 S. Washington Street, Alexandria.

## WEDNESDAY/SEPT. 8

**Women's Luncheon.** 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Cost is \$17. Special guest includes Rosa Maria Faulkner, a Certified Personality Trainer. Sponsored by the Springfield/Alexandria Women's Connection. At the Springfield Golf & Country Club, 8301 Old Keene Mill Road, Springfield. Reservations must be made by Sept. 3 at 703-590-6562 or email to [SpringWmConn@yahoo.com](mailto:SpringWmConn@yahoo.com).

## FINE ARTS

### AUG. 21 THROUGH SEPT. 26

**Systems Failure.** Reception is Sept. 9 from 6-8 p.m. Special Programming on Sept. 23 at 7 p.m. with a Juror Discussion with Sarah Tanguy. This exhibition examines the current crises facing our country and the world and the plight of the people who must suffer from the failures. At the Target Gallery at the Torpedo Factory. Located in Old Town Alexandria, the gallery is open daily from 10-6 p.m. and until 9 p.m. on Thursdays; [www.torpedofactory.org](http://www.torpedofactory.org).

### AUG. 23 THROUGH SEPT. 26

**Cultural Clay: East Meets West.** At the Torpedo Factory Art Center's Scope Gallery. Hours are Monday Through Sunday from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; open until 9 p.m. on Thursdays. At 101 North Union St., ground floor Studio 19, Alexandria. Call the Scope Gallery at 703-548-6288 or visit [www.torpedofactory.org/galleries/scope.htm](http://www.torpedofactory.org/galleries/scope.htm)

### NOW THROUGH AUG. 29

**McLean Art Society's Summer Show.** Juried by Gwen Bragg, teacher and award-winning artist. At River Farm, home of the American Horticultural Society, 7931 E. Boulevard Drive, South of Old Town. The themes are flower painting and still life as well as landscapes. Hours are 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday, and 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturdays.

### NOW THROUGH AUG. 29

**Artist Diane Shiely Frykman.** Free. Show entitled "The Four Seasons" includes still life and landscape oil paintings. At the Historic House at Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road, in Alexandria. Call 703-642-5173.

### NOW THROUGH SEPT. 12

**Shelf Life / Mary "Mimi" Frank.** At The Athenaeum, 201 Prince Street, Alexandria. Hours are Thursday, Friday and Sunday from 12 to 4 p.m., and Saturday from 1 to 4 p.m. Call 703-548-0035 or visit [nvfaa.org](http://nvfaa.org).

### NOW THROUGH SEPT. 6

**"Scapes: The Annual Landscape Exhibit."** Opening reception is Thursday, Aug. 12 from 6:30-8 p.m. Artwork inspired by all environments may be a part of this exhibit - urban and rural, industrialized and primitive, coastal and arid, and works portraying the beauty and destruction created by Mother Nature. "Scapes was juried by artist Joey Manlapaz, instructor at the Corcoran College of Art and Design. At the Art League Gallery, 105 North Union Street, Alexandria. Visit [www.theartleague.org](http://www.theartleague.org).

### NOW THROUGH SEPT. 5

**Artist Genevieve Lynn.** "In Misty China" captures moments in landscape, people and culture. At Gallery West, 1213 King street, Alexandria. Visit [www.jaderiverstudio.com](http://www.jaderiverstudio.com).



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# A Tempting Theatre Season

FROM PAGE 19

yet to set dates for their Spring musical which will be "Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat," a musical that Andrew Lloyd Webber and Tim Rice created before either of them had a "Sir" before their name.

Professional theatre in Alexandria is principally MetroStage on North Royal Street. The season there starts with a new jazz age musical "Glimpses of the Moon." The cast will be led by Natascia Diaz who won a Helen Hayes Award for her work on MetroStage's "Rooms: A Rock Romance." Later, they offer "A Broadway Christmas Carol" by Kathy Feininger. In 2011, MetroStage presents Bernardine Mitchell as Ethel Waters in a bio-play titled "His Eye Is On The Sparrow" and then they reunite the trio of Ralph Cosham, John Dow and Michael Tolaydo who won the Helen Hayes Award for Outstanding Ensemble last season. This time out they share the stage with Catherine Flye in Tom Stoppard's "The Real Inspector Hound."

Zemfira Stage will return to the Lyceum on Sept. 11 for its annual one-night-only staging of Artie Van Why's play about his experiences during the terrorist attacks in New York in 2001, "That Day in September."

For Arlingtonians the big news this season is yet another indication of the incredible support for the arts that is the county's tradition, the opening in October of the new Artisphere Arts Complex that will use the space that used to house the Newseum in Rosslyn. It will have two theaters, a ballroom and art galleries. The new Dome Theatre in the space that used to be a planetarium and which is such a visible landmark in Rosslyn will seat 220. A 125-seat black box theater will be the home of the Washington Shakespeare Company, which is losing its long-time venue, the Clark Street Playhouse, to redevelopment north of Crystal City. Among the offerings in its first season at Artisphere will be Shakespeare's "Richard III" in repertory with "Mary Stuart" by Friedrich Schiller.

Artisphere is a continuation of the commitment to the arts that Norma Kaplan, director of the Cultural Affairs Division of the Department of Parks and Recreation has maintained for over a decade. In 1996 the County's Art's Incubator program became the first arts effort ever to win the Ford Foundation/Harvard University award for Innovations in American Government. Among the successes of the program have been the growth of Signature Theatre into a Tony Award-winning professional company and the nurturing of smaller companies that fill defined niches such as the American Century Theatre, which is one of the few theater companies in the nation concentrating on the influential or initially acclaimed American plays of the 20th century that are rarely performed today, and Synetic Theater which will have new performance opportunities in the Crystal City facility being vacated after a temporary residency by Arena Stage.

**BUILDING ON** their phenomenal success using movement, mime and music to tell complex stories in highly dramatic form, Synetic has announced two productions for the new season in Crystal City. In October their Artistic Director Paata Tsikurishvili directs Ben Cunis in the title role in a wordless "King Arthur." Next June Tsikurishvili directs company regular Dan Istrate in

"Don Quixote." (In between, the company will perform two shows in Washington at the Lansburgh Theatre on 7th Street NW.)

The American Century Theater season includes such tempting fare as Paddy Chayefsky's "The Tenth Man," Gore Vidal's "Visit to a Small Planet," George S. Kaufman and Edna Ferber's "Stage Door," and Eugene O'Neill's "Beyond the Horizon," which is rarely performed despite having won him a Pulitzer Prize.

Artisphere may be the latest new space for Arlington, but it has only been three years since Signature Theatre opened its two-theater complex upstairs from the County Library in Shirlington. This season's fare in the larger of the theatres, the 230-seat MAX, will be the major musicals "Chess," "Sunset Boulevard," "Side by Side by Sondheim," and "Wheatley's Folly," a new musical about the oldest American musical — "The Black Crook," which came about in 1866 when a

stranded touring French ballet company joined forces with an American melodrama theater to create a show that is generally considered to be the genesis of today's musicals. The MAX will also host a new farce by Ken Ludwig starring Holly Twyford, "A Fox on the Fairway."

Signature's smaller theater, the 99-seat ARK,

will have Sherri L. Edelen and Nancy Robinette in a new two-actress play by Joe Calarco titled "Walter Cronkite is Dead," and a new production of Yazmina Riza's three-actor play "Art."

Teatro De La Luna will host the International Festival of Hispanic Theatre for the 13th year at the Gunston Arts Center this fall, and then mount two full productions of its own. They haven't yet announced the titles or which Hispanic theaters will participate in the festival, but each year they manage to host a wide range of productions by theaters from around the Hispanic world. The majority of their productions and the shows they host from other nations are performed in Spanish with English surtitles projected above the stage.

Arlington's support isn't confined to professional companies. Among the highlights of the new season are offerings from the Arlington Players and Dominion Stage, two quality community theater companies. The Arlington Players will stage three shows at the Thomas Jefferson Theatre on South Old Glebe Road, the Kander and Ebb musical "Cabaret," Anton Chekhov's "The Seagull," and the stage version of the musical movie "42nd Street." Dominion Stage mounts its shows at the Gunston Arts Center on South Lang Street. Their season also includes two musicals and one non-musical. One can't really call Charles Busch's "Psycho Beach Party" a "strait play." It is a bizarre parody of both the beach movies popular in the 1960s and the slasher films of the 1970s. The musicals for the season are "The Best Little Whorehouse in Texas" and the up-tempo "Altar Boyz."

There may well be fewer theatre companies mounting shows this season, but the variety of their offerings remains impressive.



*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.*



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# SCHOOLS

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

**The Alumni Association** of Parker-Gray School is having its 90th Anniversary and 11th School Reunion in Alexandria on Aug. 20-22. Contact Doris Surratt - 703-823-1772; Alice Thompson - 703-548-8178; or Lovell Lee - 703-780-0812.

**The 1960 class of George Washington High School** (now a middle school) is having its 50th Reunion in Alexandria, Oct. 8-10. Contact persons are Carolyn Weaver Whitaker, 386-447-5420, [gwshs60carolynw@yahoo.com](mailto:gwshs60carolynw@yahoo.com) or Doug Garthoff, 703-683-2584, [dgarthoff@verizon.net](mailto:dgarthoff@verizon.net).

**Zachary Charles Whitacre** of Alexandria was named to the dean's list for the fall 2009 semester at Washington University in St. Louis. Whitacre is a graduate of T. C. Williams High School

in Alexandria and is enrolled in the university's Olin Business School.

The following students were named to the Virginia Tech Corps of Cadets Commandant's List.

❖ **Andrew Blacker of Alexandria** is a Marine cadet and a sophomore majoring in history in the College of Liberal Arts and Human Sciences.

❖ **Jacob Reihl of Alexandria** is an Army cadet and a freshman majoring in university studies at Virginia Tech.

❖ **Justin Firaben of Alexandria** is a civilian track cadet and a senior majoring in political science in the College of Liberal Arts and Human Sciences.

**Travor Malstrom of Alexandria** was named to the dean's list at Eastern Oregon University in La Grande, Ore., for the 2009 fall semester.

**Everton Nascimento Batista of Alexandria** has been elected to the Student Senate at Hampden-Sydney College. As a junior representative, he will serve for the 2010-2011 academic

SEE SCHOOL NOTES, PAGE 25

# Back-to-School Supplies Needed

Community Partners for Children (CPC), an Alexandria nonprofit organization, kicked off its 19<sup>th</sup> annual Back-to-School Drive for school supplies with the acceptance of a donation from Dr. Robert M. Knapp, an Alexandria chiropractor.

Each year, Knapp offers free services to patients on a special Patient Appreciation Day. This year, Knapp invited those receiving free services to make a donation to CPC, and he matched the funds with his own contribution.

CPC is asking the community to donate school supplies to help youngsters who can't afford them.

In partnership with local sponsors, CPC will collect supplies for all age groups: composition books, spiral notebooks, wide-rule notebook paper, pens, pencils, crayons, erasers, pocket folders, pencil pouches, scissors, rulers, and other items.

The Back-to-School Drive runs from now through Sept. 2, 2010. Anyone wishing to contribute can help as follows:

❖ Donate school supplies by dropping them off in one of the donation boxes at the locations listed below.

❖ Send a tax-deductible check to support the Back-to-School Drive to Community Partners for Children, P.O. Box 2738, Alexandria, VA 22301.

❖ Volunteer to help sort school supplies on Friday, Sept. 3, at Mount Vernon Recreation Center, 2701 Commonwealth Avenue. To volunteer, email Kendra at [kendrajanedc@aol.com](mailto:kendrajanedc@aol.com).

CPC's local sponsors provide sites for the donation boxes. Donation boxes are located at:

- ❖ A Show of Hands, 2301 Mt. Vernon Avenue
- ❖ Alexandria Health Department, 4480 King Street
- ❖ Alexandria INOVA Hospital, 4320 Seminary Road
- ❖ Artfully Chocolate/Artfully Paper, 2003A Mt. Vernon Avenue
- ❖ Alexandria City Hall, 301 King Street
- ❖ Alexandria Public Library (all branches):  
Beatley-5005 Duke Street  
Barrett-717 Queen Street



**Dr. Robert M. Knapp, an Alexandria chiropractor, with his assistant Alyson Newsom.**

- Burke-4701 Seminary Road
  - Duncan-2501 Commonwealth Avenue
  - ❖ Burke & Herbert Bank:  
Main office: 100 South Fairfax Street  
Carlyle: 1775 Jamieson Avenue  
King and Washington Street Branch: 621 King Street
  - Landmark: 155 N. Paxton Street
  - Monroe Avenue: 306 E. Monroe Avenue
  - ❖ Chinquapin Recreation Center, 3210 King Street
  - ❖ Church of St. Clement, 1701 North Quaker Lane
  - ❖ Commonwealth Federal Credit Union, 4875 Eisenhower Avenue
  - ❖ Curves Del Ray, 2609 Mount Vernon Avenue
  - ❖ Curves Foxchase, 4613B Duke Street
  - ❖ Dairy Godmother, 2310 Mount Vernon Avenue
  - ❖ Grace Episcopal Church, 3601 Russell Road
  - ❖ FireFlies, 1501 Mt. Vernon Avenue
  - ❖ Karing by Kristina, 2006 Mt. Vernon Avenue
  - ❖ Long & Foster Realtors, 5845 Richmond Highway
  - ❖ Mancini's Café and Bakery, 1508 Mt. Vernon
- SEE SUPPLIES NEEDED, PAGE 25

## Legal Notices

### Notice of Initiation of the Section 106 Process: Public Participation

Clear Wireless, LLC is proposing telecommunications facilities at the following address in Alexandria, Virginia. The proposed developments will include attaching antennas to an existing transmission tower and placement of associated equipment within a 10' x 10' lease area.

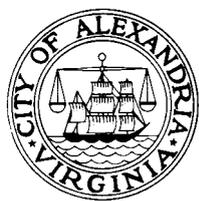
4500 Roundhill Road

Members of the public interested in submitting comments on the possible effects that these proposed projects may have on historic properties included in or eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places may send their comments to Bailor Bell, RESCOM Environmental Corp., P.O. Box 6225, Traverse City, MI 49696 or call 1.231.947.4454. Project Reference #: 1008005

## Legal Notices

### ABC LICENSE

La Fromagerie, LLC trading as La Fromagerie, 1222 King St, Alexandria, VA 22314. The above establishment is applying to the VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL for a Beer and Wine off and on premises and keg license to sell or manufacture alcoholic beverages.  
Sebastien Tevel, Owner



### LEGAL NOTICE OF A PUBLIC HEARING

Alexandria Board of Architectural Review  
Old & Historic Alexandria District

A public hearing will be held by the Alexandria Board of Architectural Review on WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 1, 2010 beginning at 7:30 PM in Council Chambers, second floor of City Hall, 301 King Street, Alexandria, Virginia on the following applications:

**CASE BAR2010-0217**  
Request for a Certificate of Appropriateness for a fence and HVAC installation at **600 S. Washington St.**, zoned CL Commercial.  
APPLICANT: Soonja Purdy

**CASE BAR2010-0218**  
Request for a Certificate of Appropriateness for a garden wall with a waiver of vision clearance requirement at **505 S. Lee St.**, zoned RM Residential.  
APPLICANT: Lisa Collis

**CASE BAR2010-0219**  
Request for Certificate of Appropriateness for window replacement at **904 Green St.**, zoned RM Residential.  
APPLICANT: Lois Ember By Old Town Windows and Doors

**CASE BAR2010-0220**  
Request for a Certificate of Appropriateness for cellular antennas at **105 N. Union St.**, zoned CD Commercial.  
APPLICANT: New Cingular Wireless d/b/a AT&T Mobility

**CASE BAR2010-0221**  
Request for a Certificate of Appropriateness for window replacement at **808 S. Fairfax St.**, zoned RM Residential.  
APPLICANT: Joseph Schulte and Chris Goode

**CASE BAR2010-0229**  
Request for a Certificate of Appropriateness for replacement windows at **1600 W. Abingdon Drive**, zoned R-C Residential.  
APPLICANT: Potowmack Crossing Condominium

**CASE BAR2010-0185**  
Request for approval of alterations at **418 Queen Street**, zoned RM Residential.  
APPLICANT: David & Kimberly Kaplan

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

## Obituary

### Natalie Lauren Richards



On August 3, 2010 adored Natalie, 19, peacefully began her new journey following a courageous battle against brain cancer. Her spirit lives on in all who knew her. A graduate of St. Stephens St. Agnes School, Natalie was an accomplished pianist, singer, songwriter and performer and a gifted linguist. Even in adversity, her benevolence shown through in all she did. She is survived by her loving parents, Debbie and Doug; brother, Chris; grandparents, Tom and Ellen. A joyous, musical service at Mount Olivet Methodist Church in Arlington, VA was held August 12th where Natalie's rich musical talents and life were lovingly remembered. Contributions can be made to Accelerate Brain Cancer Cure, [www.abc2.org/donate](http://www.abc2.org/donate). Cunningham Life Celebration Home, 811 Cameron Street, Alexandria is in charge of arrangements.

## Saints Latin Competitors Win National Championship

Four members of the Saints Latin Club traveled to North Dakota State University in late July to compete in the National Junior Classical League Convention.

During the convention, Evan Draim '13 competed in the National Certamen Championship as a member of the Virginia Intermediate State Team, which included students from various schools across the state. The team, which was coached by St. Stephen's & St. Agnes School Upper School Latin Teacher Ian Hochberg, competed against 15 other state teams to win the intermediate level National Certamen Championship. In addition, Draim was named the MVP of the entire Intermediate Level, best-in-show in Latin Oratory, and ranked number one overall student in academics.

Hochberg, who has managed the SSSAS Latin program for the past eight years, said the team he coached showed incredible resilience and determination in pursuing the championship this year.

The St. Stephen's & St. Agnes School Latin club involves more than 100 students who participate



**Saints Latin team members from left: Justin Klingenberger '11, David Thomas '11, Claire Niemann '11, Evan Draim '13, and Latin Teacher Ian Hochberg.**

in a variety of different events throughout the school year. Events include: in-school activities, field trips, conventions, certamina, national exams, and Middle and Upper School classes.

In other events during the convention, Claire Niemann '11 ran for the national office of second vice president as the only candidate selected to run from Virginia. In academics for level three, she placed

first in Greek Life and Literature, second in Hellenic History and third in Classical Art. In the graphic arts category, she placed first in Pottery for 11th-12th grade students.

In addition, Justin Klingenberger '11 placed first in the Large Models for his life-size catapult in the graphic arts category, while David Thomas '11 placed 10th in Reading Comprehension Prose III in the academics category.

# SCHOOLS

## Back-to-School Supplies Needed

FROM PAGE 24

- ❖ Avenue
- ❖ McEneaney Associates Realtors, 109 South Pitt Street
- ❖ Nature's Nibbles, 2601 Mt. Vernon Avenue
- ❖ Old Town Transit Shop, 1775 C Duke Street
- ❖ St. Elmo's Coffee Pub, 2300 Mount Vernon Avenue

- ❖ Today's Cargo, 1102 King Street
- ❖ Torpedo Factory Art Center, 105 North Union Street
- ❖ Virginia Commerce Bank, 2401 Mount Vernon Avenue
- ❖ Yates Automotive Service Station, 317 E. Braddock Road
- ❖ Yoga in Daily Life, 2402 Mount Vernon Avenue

Community Partners for Children is an all-volunteer 501(c)3 nonprofit organization that helps Alexandria children by collecting and distributing donated school supplies and holiday gifts to those who need them. For more information about CPC, contact Pat Miller at pmiller1806@comcast.net.

### SCHOOL NOTES

FROM PAGE 24

year. A Davis Fellow, Everton is a Dean's List student and a member of the Garnet & Grey Society (student admissions committee). He played defense on the varsity soccer team last year. An economics and commerce major, he is a graduate of St. Stephens & St. Agnes School and is the son of Louis Masochini and Jonathan Harkness of Alexandria.

**John Kroon and Christopher Willis of Alexandria** represented James Madison University at the National Conference on Undergraduate Research at the University of Montana, April 15-17. Kroon presented, "Glue Testing for JLab CLAS12 Detector." Willis presented, "Direct Observation of the Sigma-Hyperon in Electroproduction Using the CLAS Detector at Jefferson Lab."

The following students from Alexandria were inducted into Phi Beta Kappa at James Madison University on

March 17, 2010: Elizabeth Loveless, Alexandria; and Kate McFarland, Alexandria.

Two local students — one from Arlington and one from Alexandria — were selected as the winners of the Del Ray Greens Mosaic Contest.

The first place winner was **Sarah Concepcion**, a 9th grader from Alexandria's TC/Minnie Howard Campus, who receives a \$1,000 prize along with her school's art department. The second place winner was **Khanh-Chau Mai**, a 7th grader from Arlington's Swanson Middle School, who wins \$500 as does her school. Selecting the winners was a distinguished panel of judges that included Alexandria Mayor Bill Euille, Arlington School Board Member Libby Garvey, Architect Skip Maginniss, Alexandria City Planner Maya Contreras, and building owner Julie Wadler.

**John Adams**, building supervisor at Stratford Landing Elementary School, and **Delores (Dee) Herndon**, profes-

sional development specialist in the Department of Professional Learning and Accountability, have been named Fairfax County Public Schools (FCPS) 2010 Support Employees of the Year.

The following Alexandria students have graduated from Excelsior College. **Luis A. Marrero** has earned a Bachelor of Science.

**Ariana Sarita Ramirez** has earned a Bachelor of Science.

**Nancy Vo** has earned a Bachelor of Science.

The Universities at Shady Grove is honored to recognize **Minkyung Kim of Alexandria** as an undergraduate student academic achievement winner from the University of Maryland Eastern Shore at USG Hotel & Restaurant Management Program. Kim is a member of the Eta Sigma Delta International Hospitality Management Honors Society and an active volunteer at the UMES student organization Campus Kitchens.

You are cordially invited to attend the Alexandria Chamber of Commerce's Annual Business Awards Dinner

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**Sunday**  
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## New Trustees Named to Scholarship Fund

**T**hree new members were elected to the Scholarship Fund of Alexandria's Board of Trustees – Dwight Dunton, John Leary and Terese Wilson.

Dunton is founder and president of Bonaventure Realty Group, LLC, a real estate management and investment firm. Bonaventure currently owns and is performing a complete renovation and redevelopment of The Encore, a 461-unit apartment complex in Alexandria as well as properties in Richmond, Va., Charleston, S.C. and Chesapeake, Va. Dunton is a member of the Alexandria Chamber of Commerce, the National Multi-Housing Council, the Apartment and Office Building Owners Association and the Virginia Development Housing Authority.

A native of Alexandria, Dunton is a 1992 graduate of T.C. Williams High School. He received a B.S. in commerce from the University of Virginia's McIntire School of Commerce in 1996. Mr. Dunton and his wife Sara and their three daughters reside in Alexandria.

Leary is a partner and executive vice president of Washington Media Group (WVG), a strategic communications firm based in Washington, D.C. WVG provides



**Dwight Dunton**



**John Leary**



**Terese Wilson**

international, corporate, and industry association clients with communications solutions to a range of public policy and market challenges. A 20-year veteran of the public affairs arena, Leary founded the Opinion Leader Network, an online advertising network optimized for public affairs campaigns.

A sixth-generation Alexandrian and 1987 graduate of T.C. Williams High School, Leary received his B.A. in government and international studies from The University of South Carolina in 1991. Leary and his wife Maureen have been active in the school community. Leary served as president of Maury Elementary School PTA, where his three sons attend school, and has served on the School Board Budget Advisory Committee and Health Advisory Committee

Wilson is a founding partner and designer with Lehman Smith McLeish, an architectural design strategy firm headquartered in Washington, D.C. She has overseen the design and construction of over 25 million square feet of award-winning office space around the world.

Residents of the North Ridge area Alexandria, Wilson and her husband Jim have been active in the ACPS school community at Cora Kelley Elementary, George Washington Middle School, and T.C. Williams High School where their children attended. She has served on the Scholarship Fund's Gala Committee and co-chaired the May 2010 event.

For more information about the Scholarship Fund of Alexandria, visit [www.AlexScholarshipFund.org](http://www.AlexScholarshipFund.org) or call 703 824-6730.

## State Princess

**Maya Simone Wood, daughter of Clarence and Derlene Daniels of Alexandria, will be attending the National American Miss Pageant in Anaheim, Calif., at Disneyland during Thanksgiving week, representing the Commonwealth of Virginia. Maya's activities include singing, ballet, playing with her dolls, and playing soccer. She was recently crowned National American Miss Virginia Princess Queen and received a photo shoot certificate, \$1,000 cash award and paid air fare to Anaheim, Calif.**



## Dawson Honored

Rose T. Dawson, director of Alexandria Library, received the Distinguished Service to the Library Profession Award at the National Conference of African American Librarians of the Black Caucus of the American Library Association held in Birmingham, Ala., Aug. 4 to 8. The award recognizes an individual member of the library profession who has, over a significant period of time, made an outstanding national contribution to librarianship and library development.

Dawson, the director of the Alexandria Library since 2008, served as deputy director for two years before becoming director of libraries. Dawson earned both her bachelor of arts in education and master of library science from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Additionally, she completed the program at George Washington University's Center for Excellence in Municipal Management to be-



**Rose T. Dawson, director of Alexandria Library**

come a certified public manager. She is an active member of the American Library Association, Public Library Association, Library Administration and Management Association, and Association of Library Services to Children.



**SummerTimes** More than 1,200 campers are making the most of their summers by learning new skills and making friends at the St. Stephen's & St. Agnes School SummerTimes program. For more than 30 years, SummerTimes has offered area students a variety of fun camps to match their interests. This summer's program started June 14 and runs through Aug. 27. More than 60 different types of camp are offered for students ages 3 to 18, with more than 120 different sessions that include everything from traditional day camps, specialty camps, and sports camps, to summer studies/academic enrichment. Above, at Archery Camp (Rising Grades 4-6) with Lower School Music Teacher Matt Gehlhoff, students learn how to hold the bow, develop correct drawing technique, as well as aiming and sighting solutions. Camp included games and a tournament to test their new skills. Spanish Camp/Exploring the Spanish World (Rising Grades 2-5) with Senora Macarena Jenkins. Campers were immersed in a week of Spanish exploration and learned about different world cultures.



## Boren Scholar

**Benjamin (Ben) Cohen of Alexandria, a mass communications senior at VCU, has been selected to receive a national Boren Scholarship for a one-year immersion program of study in China during which he will study Mandarin Chinese in Beijing and will be immersed in China's culture. He is a 2004 graduate of T.C. Williams High School.**



Dancemaster Corky Palmer calls out the steps for the guests at Saturday's night sold-out Jane Austen Ball at Gadsby's Tavern.

# At the Jane Austen Ball



PHOTO BY LOUISE KRAFFT/GAZETTE

Lauren Gleason and Erik Patten.



Francis and Ann Leslie



Rick Sowers talks with friends during a break in the dancing.



Ruth and Frans Verbunt traveled from Greensboro, N.C., to attend the Saturday night ball.



TJ Robinson and his grandson Brendon Nixon.



William Gilbert and his fiancée Anneliese Hatcher.



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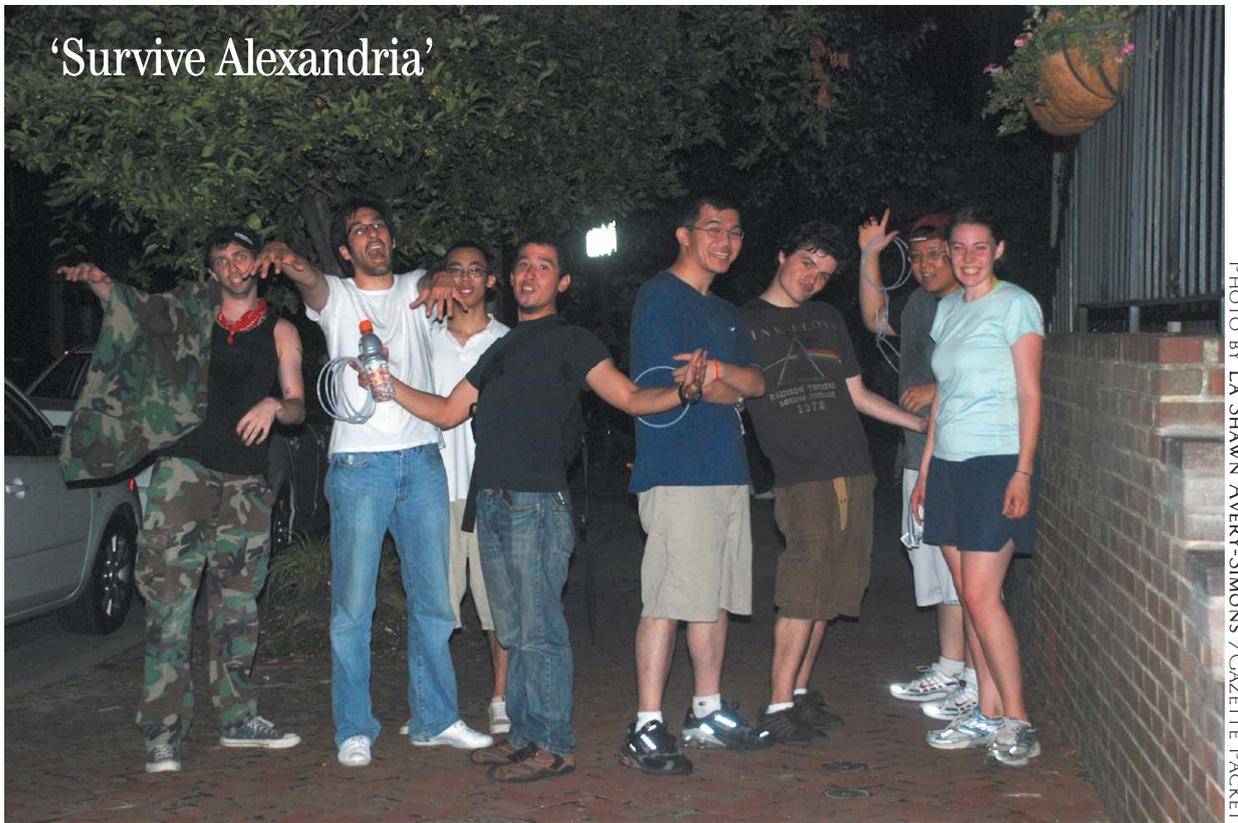


PHOTO BY LA SHAWN AVERY-SIMONS / GAZETTE PACKET

Local players have been caught and turned into zombies on Saturday, Aug. 14. The game, "Survive Alexandria," was sponsored by Urban Evolution.



Jennifer Young, Stephnie Young, Tricia Doran and Ashley Grillispie can't wait to play zombie tag on Saturday, Aug. 14.



Edwin Tom has reached the final destination at Eisenhower metro station during the game of zombie tag.



Volunteers hand out glow necklaces and supplies as players prepared to play zombie tag at Oronoco Bay Park.



Steve Goetz and Jeb Watson are prepared to kick zombie butt.



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-Arthur Wing Pinero

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-Ethiopian Proverb

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I believe the future is only the past again, entered through another gate.  
-Arthur Wing Pinero

## Disparities

FROM PAGE 8

them are going to work.”

Unlike previous years, the annual measurable objective for making adequate yearly progress did not rise this year. That's because the Virginia School Board got special permission from the U.S. Department of Education to keep the guidelines the same, provided that the standard was exceeding the objective rather than merely meeting it. Alexandria City Councilman Rob Krupicka, who is a member of the Virginia School Board, said the reason for the move was to account for inevitable budget cuts tied to the slumping economy as well as providing time to adjust to changes in how the standardized tests were scored.

“It would be unwise to dramatically raise the bar during a time when schools are cutting back,” said Krupicka. “The action we took was a recognition of that, as well as an opportunity to adjust to changes that were made to the Standards of Learning.”

**ALTHOUGH THE DIVISION** did not make adequate yearly progress and the majority of the city's schools failed to meet minimum standards, Sherman said the data includes some positive trends. Algebra participation increased in the eighth grade. Advanced Placement participation has increased. Writing scores have gone up. And 28 of 35 standardized indicators have gone up. Although he acknowledged racial disparities exist, the superintendent said city schools are working hard to close the gap.

“In the past two years, all subgroups of the NCLB categories have increased their scores as the achievement gaps have been reduced between blacks and whites and Hispanics and whites on both reading and mathematics (Standards of Learning),” Sherman said in a written statement.

## A Plan for All

FROM PAGE 8

federal money tied to being labeled a “persistently lowest achieving school” will go toward hiring new English and Math teachers, allowing them to teach four classes each day instead of five.

“If transformation is going to happen, it's going to happen in the classroom,” said Maxey. “That's where real learning takes place, so this is an important piece of the transformation process.”

In addition to the plans for teachers and students, another critical element of transformation is creating more discipline at the school. Maxey plans to crack down on discipline by using the five newly created dean positions to create a sense of order at the high school. Students say the T.C. Williams has developed a bad reputation as a school with a sense of lawlessness. Administrators are hopeful operational changes will address behavioral problems.

“In the last year, I've heard a lot of stories about kids mouthing off to teachers,” said Mallory Lawhorne, who graduated earlier this year. “I've witnessed it myself, and I think it has a lot to do with the culture of the school.”

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## ALEXANDRIA/ROSEMONT

\$818,000



### Rosemont Cape Cod!

This expanded Cape Cod features two master suites complete with walk in closets and window seats. Spacious fenced in backyard and screened porch perfect for entertaining on summer nights. Sunny family room off the kitchen is the perfect gathering spot for lazy breakfasts and lingering over the Sunday paper. Close to Braddock Metro, Del Ray and Old Town.

**Elizabeth Lucchesi**

703.868.5676

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

MLS ID# AX7406847



## OLD TOWN ALEXANDRIA

\$665,000



### Spectacular Townhome

Spectacular private setting backing up to parkland and woods this three-bedroom townhouse has many updates - Brazilian hardwood floors, Palladium windows, new HVAC, new carpeting, wainscoting and updated kitchen with granite and SS appliances.

**Cecily Winchell**

703.851.9292

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

MLS ID# AX7409807



## OLD TOWN ALEXANDRIA

\$1,395,000



### Historic Integrity

blends nicely with 21st century amenities in this sun-drenched three bedroom, three and a half bath brick abode with delicate appointments, gleaming reclaimed wood floors, four fireplaces and tall ceilings. Beautiful formal rooms for entertaining are complemented by casual spaces including a family room adjacent to the up-to-date handsome kitchen and a second level den. A kitchen garden as well as a large rear patio garden provide ample outdoor space.

**Carol Cleary**

703.625.6829

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

MLS ID# AX7156297



## ALEXANDRIA/CLOVER

\$624,900



### Convenient Clover Neighborhood

Stylish one level living offering sleek open floor plan perfect for entertaining, three spacious bedrooms, two full baths, numerous upgrades including new kitchen with granite counters, stainless appliances and ceramic flooring, ample sized dining and living room with fireplace, sunroom/home office opens to private slate patio.

**Jen Walker & Joy Sutherland**

703.675.1556

703.725.5061

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Brosar Village	3 BR/2.5 BA	\$1,450	MLS# FX7401531
Old Town	1 BR/1 BA	\$1,595	MLS# AX7399028
Watergate at Landmark	2 BR/2 BA	\$1,680	MLS# AX7402778
City Park Homes	3 BR/1.5 BA	\$1,950	MLS# FX7401518
Olde Mill	3 BR/2.5 BA	\$2,100	MLS# FX7391220
Island Creek	3 BR/3 BA	\$2,500	MLS# FX7371307
Old Town Crescent	2 BR/2 BA	\$2,500	MLS# AX7391067
Alexandria House	2 BR/2 BA	\$2,525	MLS# AX7398328
Yates Gardens	2 BR/2 BA	\$2,975	MLS# AX7387033
Potomac Greens	3 BR/3.5 BA	\$3,500	MLS# AX7384647
Fort Williams Park	9 BR/4.5 BA	\$3,500	MLS# AX7402819
Old Town Village	3 BR/3.5 BA	\$3,900	MLS# AX7403212

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