

Alexandria Gazette Packet



25 CENTS

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FEBRUARY 10, 2011



PHOTOS BY LOUISE KRAFFT/GAZETTE PACKET

The 'Gilligan's Island cast' with greeters Jay Streeter and Garrett Quinn: Stephanie Brown (Mary Ann), Jeff Byron (The Professor), Joan Renner (Mrs. Howell), John Renner (Thurston Howell III), Tina Leone (Ginger Grant), Jim Hartmann (Skipper) and Mark Jenks (Gilligan).

'Cautious' Budget

Add-on tax and funding for schools likely to be focus of discussion.

BY MICHAEL LEE POPE
GAZETTE PACKET

For the first time since the global financial crisis erupted in 2008, City Manager Jim Hartmann wasn't facing a shortfall as he put together the pieces for his proposed operating budget for the coming fiscal year. Nevertheless, he described the \$553 million budget he presented to City Council members Tuesday night as "cautious," a plan that refrains from increasing the tax rate, adding new employees or cutting services.

"We're being very mindful moving forward about the sustainability of our expenditures for the future," said Hartmann, who recently announced he will be

stepping down after the budget is approved in May. "I think we're coming out of this faster than across the river because we don't have a dependency on income taxes."

But the city does depend heavily on property taxes, and Hartmann's plan would dramatically increase the burden for commercial property owners. If Alexandria adopts the add-on tax, it would be the third jurisdiction to use the funding mechanism approved by the General Assembly in 2007. The city manager's proposal would add 12.5 cents to the existing tax rate for commercial property owners, the maximum rate allowed under Virginia law.

SEE BUDGET, PAGE 4

Aloha!

Chamber celebrates 'Mango' Mike style.

The evening was all about the islands — part Fantasy and part Gilligan's — as the Chamber of Commerce celebrated its annual gala Tiki-style in honor of incoming chairman 'Mango' Mike Anderson.



SEE ALOHA, PAGE 4 Eric Nelson, Edward Hart and Nora and John Parlow.

Waiting on the Waterfront

Fifteen-year small-area plan to cost as much as \$42 million.

BY MICHAEL LEE POPE
GAZETTE PACKET

Over a scale model of the city's waterfront plan Tuesday night, Planning Director Farrol Hamer and Old Dominion Boat Club member Bert Ely could not come to an agreement. She wants to use Old Dominion's parking lot at the foot of King Street for the location of a new park, but he didn't think the idea would ever fly with boat club members.

"Times change. People change," said Hamer. "We are all going to die and young people are going to replace us."

That may be so, Ely acknowledged, But he didn't think future generations of members at the Old Dominion Boat Club would be any more receptive to giving up their parking lot, which also serves as a boat launch into the Potomac River. Hamer envisions a deal that would move the boat club's parking to a new building that would

SEE WATERFRONT, PAGE 5



Peter Converse, Roger Parks and Susan Yellowshan.



Carol and Fred Parker with Sandy Collum.

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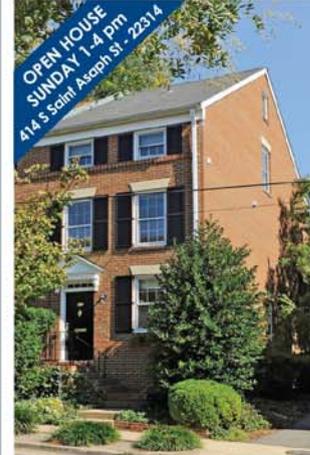
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OLD TOWN ALEXANDRIA \$940,000



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Brenda Gail Brown

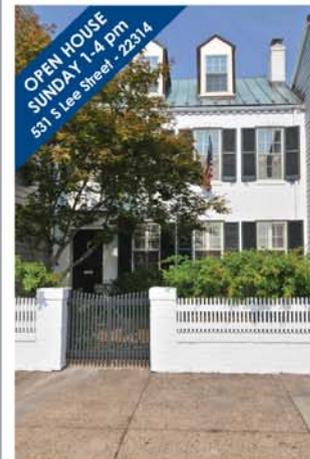
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OLD TOWN ALEXANDRIA \$1,295,000



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Smiling at the River

and Lee Street park is this sophisticated, early nineteenth-century brick residence which has been thoughtfully expanded, maintained and perfected. Two fireplaces and many built-ins add to the treasures found within including an up-to-date kitchen with stainless appliances and three baths. A master suite with dressing room and an additional bedroom, as well as breakfast room and library complete this special gem complemented by a master gardener's garden.

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Ramp Relief

Don't expect the Virginia Department of Transportation to complete construction on a new ramp connecting the High Occupancy Vehicle lane to the Washington Headquarters Service anytime soon. When the massive new facility opens in September, the ramp will still be in the planning stages and Department of Defense employees will be forced to take Seminary Road to a triple left turn lane to Beauregard Street into the campus of buildings.

That's the bad news.

But the good news is that state transportation officials announced last week that they hope to begin construction on the ramp next year. Normally a project like this would take a minimum of six years, but this ramp has been moved to the fast lane. Instead of receiving a full environmental review, the ramp will receive a "categorical exclusion," ironically the same designation that initiated Arlington County's lawsuit that resulted in the announcement of the ramp. Transportation officials will also need to simultaneously conduct the traffic analysis while the abbreviated environmental analysis is taking place.

"It's an aggressive schedule," said Alexandria transportation director **Rich Baier**. "But it's doable."

The configuration of the ramp approved by VDOT is known as "Alternative F." When completed, the new infrastructure will connect motorists in the HOV lane to the "upper deck" of Seminary Road, allowing them to enter the left turn lane into Mark Center Drive. This will ease congestion at the intersection of Beauregard Street and Seminary Road, a major concern of city officials who feared tens of thousands of daily commuters would create a crippling gridlock.

"VDOT rejected Alternative F more than a year ago," said Mayor **Bill Euille**. "I'm glad to see they've come to their senses."

Election Maneuvering

The Democratic primary for the state Senate races will be on the same day as the Democratic primary for the House of Delegates, leaving Del. **Adam Ebbin** (D-49) in a tough spot. Because he's already announced his intention to be a candidate in the contested race to replace Sen. **Patsy Ticer** (D-30), who is expected to announce her retirement at the end of this year's General Assembly session, that means he can't be a candidate for the Democratic primary in the seat he has held since he was first elected in 2003.

"I won't be running for another term in the House," Ebbin said, "unless the redistricting moves me out of the district, which seems unlikely because I live in the middle."

Several names have already emerged as potential candidates to replace Ebbin in the Democratic primary, which is expected to take place in September. The list includes former Arlington Young Democrats president **Alfonso Lopez**, USAID general counsel **Jaime Arezago-Soto** and Podesta Group director of special events **Stephanie Clifford**.

"They're all dedicated people who would do a good job," said Ebbin, who is expected to face Arlington School Board Chairwoman **Libby Garvey** and Alexandria City Councilman **Rob Krupicka** in the Senate primary.

Funding Tabled

When Councilwoman **Alicia Hughes** learned that the city's Meals on Wheels program needed \$57,000 to provide services on Sundays, she sprang into action — asking City Council members to docket the item for immediate consideration.

"Where I'm from," she said, "I was told to not withhold good when it is in your power to do so."

But City Council members decided it wasn't in her power, at least not this week. During a discussion of the request for \$57,000, other members of City Council agreed that the request should be part of the upcoming budget deliberations. Hughes disagreed, saying she would feel "like a hypocrite" for approving money to keep the light display along King Street but denying seniors meals on Sundays.

"This is not a debate about lights versus meals," said Vice Mayor **Kerry Donley**.

"I don't want to vote against supporting Meals on Wheels," said Councilman **Rob Krupicka** before offering a motion to table the funding request.

— MICHAEL LEE POPE

CAC Sponsors Oscar Night Gala

Nonprofit helps children.

BY GALE CURCIO
GAZETTE PACKET

When children step through the doors of Suite 200 at 1900 N. Beauregard Street in Alexandria, they will be in the safest place that some of have been in their young lives.

These are the children who have been burned with their father's cigarette, raped when they were six-years-old or shaken so severely as a two-month-old that they had retinal hemorrhages.

The facts are not pretty, but the people who work for the Center for Alexandria's Children (CAC) transform these children's lives — working with parents and children to get them the help they need.

"It was clear that if we came together as a community, we could better serve these children," CAC executive director Giselle Pelaez said. "Our goal is to minimize trauma to these children, begin the healing process and create real systemic change, with the ultimate goal of eradicating child abuse in the City of Alexandria."

To help fund these initiatives, CAC is sponsoring their second annual Oscar Night Gala. It will be held on Thursday, Feb. 24, at Belle Haven Country Club, 6023 Fort Hunt Road, Alexandria.

Once again, the Center will roll out the red carpet to recognize and honor two individuals who have exhibited exceptional dedication and service to improving the lives of Alexandria's children.

This year's honorees are:

- ◆ Dave Cleary, founder of SCAN (Stop Child Abuse Now of Northern VA), an organization he started in 1988 that has helped ensure the safety of thousands of children in northern Virginia. Cleary will be honored with the 2011 CAC Champion of Children Award.

- ◆ Alexandria Police Sergeant Bartholomew Bailey will be honored with the 2011 Outstanding Dedication to Alexandria's Children's Award for his significant contributions to the Center and dedication to Alexandria's children and families.

More

to report suspected child abuse call 703-746-5800 or 1-800-552-7096.

Washington Capitals Forward Mike Knuble and wife, Megan, will serve as honorary co-chairs for an evening of Hollywood glitz and glamour, featuring a mini Oscar raffle, silent auction and cocktail buffet.

Last year's event attracted more 225 people and raised over \$75,000 — more than double the budgeted amount. Co-chairs Lauren Garcia and Lori Morris are looking forward to raising at least that much again this year.

Serving abused children wasn't always this seamless. Prior to 2007 when the CAC opened its doors, the City of Alexandria had a fragmented approach to serving abused and neglected children. The impetus to create a better system came after the death in 2000 of a preschooler who was killed by her mother's boyfriend shortly after being returned to her mother's custody.

The incident underscored gaps in the system and became a catalyst for a public-private Child Welfare Partnership to examine ways to improve the community's response. To address this situation, the City of Alexandria looked to the Children's Advocacy Center (CAC) model, a nationally recognized model for dealing with child maltreatment.

The new model was designed to minimize trauma



PHOTO BY GALE CURCIO/GAZETTE PACKET

Christina Mark, left, (parent facilitator) and, in the foreground right corner with resource materials, Amira Ebied (parent facilitator) participate in the weekly playgroup held at the Center for Alexandria's Children.

to the child and provide support for families in crisis. Utilizing a Multidisciplinary Team (MDT), the Center coordinates the investigation, prosecution, treatment and prevention of child abuse in one safe, child-friendly facility.

In 2003, the Alexandria Community Trust, now ACT for Alexandria, in partnership with the City of Alexandria committed funds, recruited a board of directors, and equipped a child-friendly facility. The Center for Alexandria's Children was incorporated in November 2006, and opened for business in April 2007.

In a short time, the Center has had a significant impact on the community, providing the impetus for key city leaders to pledge to coordinate their disparate efforts, and to mandate changes in how their respective agencies handle child abuse and neglect cases.

The CAC houses 27 co-located social workers and therapists from Child Protection & Mental Health. The City of Alexandria pays their salaries and currently shares rent for the facility. Additional public and private agencies provide child and family support services at the Center, including the City's Department of Community and Human Services; Alexandria's Community Services Board; the Sexual Assault Center; Alexandria Police Department; Alexandria Sheriff's Office; the City Attorney's Office; the Alexandria Health Department; and the Office of the Commonwealth's Attorney.

This arrangement allows the Center to promote cross-agency communication and collaboration as well as to provide services for children and families in one location.

CAC also works to prevent child abuse. Parent education, developmental playgroups, and other family programs strengthen and support vulnerable children

SEE CAC, PAGE 4

Hartmann Unveils Budget

FROM PAGE 1

“That’s way too much,” responded Councilman Frank Fannon, who voted against the budget last year. “I’d like it to be less than a nickel if we had to do it at all.”

In a drastic cut to Superintendent Morton Sherman’s proposed budget, Hartmann funded less than half of the requested money for capital needs. Although the School Board has yet to vote on a capital budget, the superintendent outlined a need for \$372.6 million to meet the needs of growing enrollment by taking on five major new projects. Yet Hartmann included only \$158.1 million in his proposal, setting the stage for a confrontation between the city government and the school system.

“What the city manager proposed will not meet the needs of the school division,” said Alexandria City Public Schools Budget Director Jean Sina. “Most of the needs are capacity driven because the school system needs to build additional classrooms.”

TO OFFSET the increased burden on commercial property owners, Hartmann has proposed a plan that would reduce business and professional licenses for some small businesses. For example, the business license gross receipts tax would be eliminated for those earning less than \$350,000 a year. And it would be cut in half for those earning less than \$750,000 a year. In total, about 2,250 small businesses would see some kind of tax relief.

“That’s a nice gesture,” said Tina Leone, president of the Alexandria Chamber of Commerce. “But that money has got to come from somewhere unless you are going to reduce expenditures, and we don’t think it’s fair or equitable to ask the business community to shoulder the burden of transportation that everybody uses.”

Although the amount of the tax relief adds up to \$1.6 million a year, the increased burden on commercial property owners would be about \$12 million a year. That’s an imbalance that Leone says the business community in Alexandria will oppose in the coming weeks, including a coordinated e-mail campaign that was launched half an hour before Hartmann announced his proposal to City Council members. Despite the expected opposition, the city manager stood by the proposal.

“We expect this is going to stimulate a lot of discussion in the business community, but I think it’s an extremely important debate,” said Hartmann. “Transportation issues loom so large for us that we need how to adequately fund those needs for the future.”

AS EXPECTED, the property assessments that were mailed this week showed a slight appreciation in value with total assessments up 2.55 percent. Residential properties increased 1.25 percent, with single-family

New Spending

❖ **\$375,000** for the Alexandria Convention and Visitors Association to increase tourism. That includes \$300,000 for a destination advertising campaign aimed at generating overnight stays by targeting people who live within a five-mile driving radius by advertising in culinary and lifestyle publications as well as direct mailings and online advertising. Another increased expenditure would include \$75,000 to fund an additional employee at the association who would expand the focus of the sales department to include attracting reunions to Alexandria.

❖ **\$230,000** for snow removal and other emergencies. This new money would supplement an existing emergency fund of \$770,000, bringing the total reserve account to \$1 million. That wouldn’t be able to handle the \$13 million the city spent last year to clean up after last year’s massive snowstorms, but budget officials feel the new amount provides a more realistic annual budget for emergency spending.

❖ **\$120,000** for the Department of Planning and Zoning to pay for small-area plans. The increased funding would restore spending cut last year because of a one-time federal planning grant that was allocated for the Beauregard corridor planning efforts. Planning officials hope to have three neighborhood planning initiatives in progress this year as opposed to the two that are currently moving forward.

❖ **\$100,000** for training for operations of the Department of Emergency Communications. Now that emergency communications have been consolidated, the new funding is needed to train members of the Police Department to respond to Fire and EMS calls.

houses increasing 1.84 percent and condominiums increasing 0.73 percent. Commercial properties saw the biggest increase, rising in value 4.9 percent compared to last year.

Because the proposal keeps the existing tax rate, which is 97.8 cents for every \$100 of assessed value, the average residential property tax payer would see an \$18 increase in the tax bill. That means that 46 percent of property owners will see an increase while 38 percent will see a decrease and the balance will see no change. As a result, the average single-family residential property owner will see an increase of \$62 while the average condominium owner would see a decrease of \$30.

“In past years, we’ve had some tax rate increases to keep things at about the same level,” said Hartmann. “So that’s a significant policy question that council will have to deal with.”

Once again, city employees are being asked to share an increased percentage of their retirement and health care. Last year, for example, the health-care premium was 13 percent. This year, under the city manager’s plan, it would be 16 percent. Budget officials say they plan to increase it again next year to 20 percent. This comes at a time when city employees will see no cost-of-living increase, although many employees will get a “merit step” increase.

“You have to have an adequate performance evaluation in order to get that,” said Hartmann. “Most of our employees do because we manage things closely.”

“We’re being very mindful moving forward about the sustainability of our expenditures for the future.”

— City Manager Jim Hartmann

Aloha!

FROM PAGE 1

“This is a real honor for me,” said Anderson, who was channeling Ricardo Montalban. “I am excited by the opportunities ahead for the Chamber and the business community.”

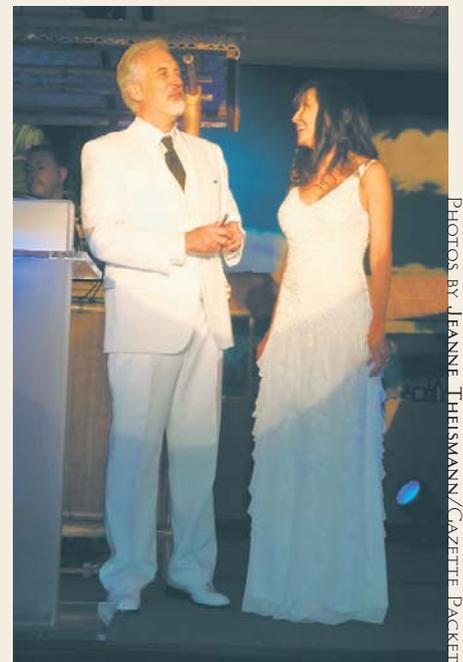
The Castaways were there, with City Manager Jim Hartmann as the Skipper and Deputy City Manager Mark Jinks as Gilligan. Chamber president Tina Leone joined in the fun as Ginger, as did Joan and John Renner as Lovie and Thurston Howell III, Jeff Byron as the Professor and ACVA’s Stephanie Brown as Mary Ann.

More than 200 people turned out in their best Hawaiian attire for the event at the Mark Center Hilton Feb. 5, where the center of attention was “Coconut,” otherwise known as PTO employee and Artfully Gifts and Chocolate co-owner Edward Hart.

“Sometimes you can’t take yourself too seriously,” laughed Hart, who donned a grass skirt and coconut bra for the evening. “This was a lot of fun.”

— JEANNE THEISMANN

‘Mango’ Mike Anderson, left, presents outgoing Chamber chairman Charlie Banta with a pair of custom made cufflinks by David Martin.



PHOTOS BY JEANNE THEISMANN/GAZETTE PACKET

‘Mango’ Mike Anderson, who neglected to acknowledge his wife Donna when he won the Best New Restaurant award in 1996, wisely remembers to thank her at the Tiki Ball Feb. 5.



PHOTO BY ‘MANGO’ MIKE ANDERSON

Danielle, 21, Chelsea, 19, and Dakota, 16, give a good-natured roast of their father, ‘Mango’ Mike Anderson, at the Chamber of Commerce Tiki Ball.

CAC Sponsors Oscar Night Gala

FROM PAGE 3

and their families and empower them to improve their circumstances and promote the healthy development of their children.

Playgroups focus on the importance of learning through play and the key role parents play. Developmental playgroups aim to improve school-readiness by providing a social environment for children ages 0 to 5 with developmentally appropriate activities.

Playgroups also provide parents an opportunity to connect with each other and to community resources. Developmental playgroups, including one administered in Spanish, are provided in partnership with

SCAN of Northern Virginia, the Giving Circle of Alexandria and ACT for Alexandria.

“The Center for Alexandria’s Children has served over a thousand children and families affected by abuse and neglect since opening its doors in 2006,” Dana Lawhorne, Alexandria Sheriff and CAC Board Member said. “It is a powerful new tool in our city’s arsenal to fight and eventually eradicate child abuse and neglect.”

Oscar Night Tickets start at \$125 each and are available online at www.oscarnight.com or by phone at 703-746-6008.

Gale Curcio is an independent writer and public relations consultant in Mount Vernon.

Waiting on the Waterfront

FROM PAGE 1

be constructed at the western edge of Waterfront Park, although she acknowledges making that happen would require amending a 1980s-era settlement agreement limiting development along certain parcels of land along the waterfront.

"There's going to be a hell of a battle with the settlement agreement," responded Ely. "Farrol wants to assume away all the challenges."

THE SMALL-AREA PLAN that Hamer expects to release next week is full of assumptions about traffic, parking, development and tax revenue. The 15-year plan could cost city taxpayers as much as \$42 million, most of which would pay for flood mitigation to cut back on nuisance flooding. If the financial assumptions are correct, the city will take in an additional \$45 million in new revenue from property taxes, meals taxes, sales taxes and hotel taxes.

"It's big, it's bold, it's opportunistic," said Mayor Bill Euille. "But it's got to have balance."

Members of the Old Town Civic Association say they are concerned that the city is moving toward allowing large-scale hotels along the waterfront, bringing additional traffic and parking to neighborhood streets. Part of the logic planning officials have used for supporting hotel rooms is they would have comparatively muted peak intensity compared to commercial office space, which would likely include workers commuting during morning and afternoon rush hours. Yet many feel the scale needed to meet the financial assumptions would undermine the traffic assumptions.

"We are concerned this plan will have too many hotel rooms," said Old Town Civic Association President John Gosling. "If the plan calls for full-service hotels, they could be off-peak traffic generators."

THE PLAN HAS been in the works for almost two years, and the expected release date has been pushed back several times. During a work session on Tuesday, Hamer said she would like to see City Council members approve it in April, leaving about three months for members of the public to comment on the specifics and suggest changes. Areas of intense interest include the new building that would be constructed in Waterfront Park, a 200-foot pier that extends into waters owned by the District of Columbia, the hotels proposed for two industrial sites on the waterfront and a series of triggers that will increase availability of parking spaces in Old Town.

"The public has a right to be skeptical of our progress so far," said Councilman Rob Krupicka. "I know I'm eager to see the parking triggers."

Supporters of the plan say increased development is needed to pay for flood mitigation and new public parks. But opponents say that's a false choice, pitting the financial interests of developers against Old Town residents who are concerned about a diminishing quality of life. For many, the plan Hamer releases next week will represent a threat to the dream of a waterfront that's open to the public and accessible to everybody.

"This is a waterfront being planned by businessmen, developers and banks," said former Vice Mayor Andrew Macdonald, "not the community."

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Shopping & Events

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"Last Minute" Valentine's Shopping
Sunday, February 13, 3-5pm

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Facebook **Twitter**

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Mary Smith 703-626-9207

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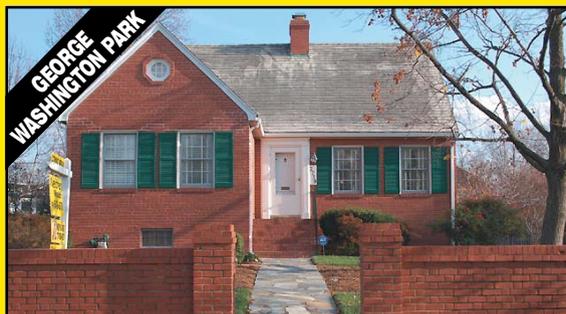
Alexandria \$695,000
 Stately 3 bedroom, 2.5 bath home on large corner lot lovingly kept by meticulous sellers. Perched at top of the hill in park-like setting. Shows very well.
518 N. Overlook Drive
Diann Hicks 703-628-2440

ALEXANDRIA CITY!



Alexandria \$499,000
 Convenient 1-level living w/3 bedrms, 2 baths & updated kitchen w/breakfast room. Cozy 2-sided fireplace shared by living & dining rooms. Partially finished LL has plenty of space for expansion. Large fully fenced rear yard w/patio.
5337 Thayer Avenue
Bob Bazzle 703-599-8964

GEORGE WASHINGTON PARK



Alexandria \$650,000
 Great opportunity! Solid brick 3-level Cape Cod w/2-car garage close to METRO! Enclosed sun porch, 3 bedrms, 2 baths, fireplace & wonderful gardens.
2719 King Street
Christine Garner 703-587-4855

DEL RAY!



Alexandria \$959,000
 Expanded Col w/3-level addition, 4 bedrooms, 3.5 baths & updated for today's lifestyle. Front porch, family rm w/French doors to screened back porch & deck. Kitchen has granite counters & SS appliances. Master suite w/luxury bath. Finished LL w/rec rm, office or guest room.
211 Howell Avenue, E
Christine Garner 703-587-4855

GOVERNORS GROVE!



Alexandria \$535,000
 Dramatic floor plan! Soaring Palladian windows w/13-ft. ceilings in sunken living rm, 3 bedrms & 2.5 baths. French doors to large deck & master suite w/luxury bath. Kitchen w/granite, upgraded cabinets & 2-car garage w/ plenty of guest parking. Close to Pentagon & Huntington Metro.
3162 Grovehurst Place
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Alexandria \$699,500
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1316 Ivanhoe Street
Mary Smith 703-626-9207

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Alexandria \$550,000
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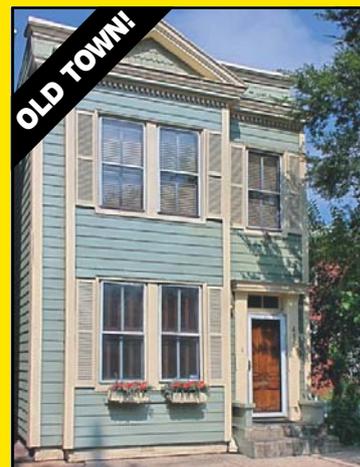
Alexandria \$289,900
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Kerrie Price 703-901-2778

BURKE COVE!



Burke \$199,000
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5831 Cove Landing Road #304
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OLD TOWN!



Alexandria \$639,000
 Lovely detached Victorian w/spacious rooms, high ceilings, large windows, pocket doors & original hardwoods. Large kitchen w/beamed ceiling, granite, island & breakfast nook w/skylight. Rooftop deck, deep yard w/arbor, covered patio & walk.
418 Patrick Street
Christine Garner
703-587-4855

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OBITUARY

A Watercolor Life

Artist, historian and long-time Alexandria resident Betty Harrington Macdonald dies at 98.

BY MICHAEL LEE POPE
GAZETTE PACKET

Betty Macdonald, a celebrated watercolor painter and longtime Old Town resident, died Feb. 1 at her home on South Lee Street. She was 98.

"Watercolors sort of reflected her view of the world, which is why she could produce them without any effort," said former Vice Mayor Andrew Macdonald, her son. "It fit her way of looking at history by capturing the feel or the mood or the impression of a landscape."

Mary Elizabeth Watson Harrington was born on July 19, 1912 in Dover, Del., to Sarah Godwin and William Watson Harrington. She grew up in a colonial revival house in one of the state's most prominent families, which included several governors. From 1935 to 1950, her father served as chancellor of the state, presiding over the Court of Chancery. Mary Elizabeth, known to friends and family as "Betty," spent her summers riding horses in Rehoboth Beach and developed an artistic sensibility at an early age.



Betty Macdonald

"I have painted ever since I can remember," she said in a 1998 interview.

As a teenager, she attended the Holmquist School in Pennsylvania and the Philadelphia School of Design for Women, now known as the Moore College of Art. A problem with her eyesight nearly ended her artistic career, but her vision improved while she was studying in Philadelphia. In 1936, she was among the first classes to graduate with a four-year degree from Sarah Lawrence College, where she majored in fine art although she rejected the modernist style that was popular with her instructors. After college she studied with noted American painter Harvey Dunn, a student of Howard Pyle, in night classes at Grand Central Station in New York City, where she became influenced by his vigorous painterly style.

While in New York, she developed a talent for painting watercolors. Her earliest successes came in Rehoboth Beach in the late 1930s at the Annual Art Exhibitions initiated by Ethel Leach, another student of Pyle. She was an early member of the Rehoboth Art League, where she became one of its first instructors and taught youth classes in art during the first few summers. She spent the late 1930s traveling with the older sister to the Virgin Islands, Haiti and Hawaii.

After World War II, she met William Warburton Ruly Macdonald, a 1933 graduate of the United States Naval Academy. They were married in 1950. Although he was stationed Boston and San Diego, most of his military career was spent in Washington D.C.

For three years in the 1950s, they lived in Paris, France, where their son Andrew was born. After their return to the United States, they Macdonalds settled in Old Town. A nature lover, Betty Macdonald kept detailed lists of all the birds that visited her garden,

which she made sure was protected by a local preservation easement.

"She was one of a kind," said Marion Young, a longtime friend who lives on Fairfax Street. "She was not the kind of person who was easily persuaded to change her opinions, and she was a great artist."

MACDONALD'S WORK has been shown at the Corcoran Gallery of Art in Washington, D.C., and the Delaware Art Museum. Her pen and ink drawings of historic sites and buildings became books when the Delaware State Society of the Daughters of American Colonists published "*Historic Landmarks of Delaware and the Eastern Shore*" in 1963 and in 1976. In 1998, the Sewell C. Biggs Museum of American Art in Dover honored her with a retrospective exhibit titled "Painting Ever Since She Can Remember."

"Her artwork is characterized by a love for a time past and an interpretation of historic architecture in harmony with nature," wrote Jann Haynes Gilmore in an essay that accompanied the exhibit. "Many of her compositions of landscape and seascape show hallowed man-made structures cradled and framed by remarkably intricate and diverse trees whose great forms are modeled by use of simple line."

She continued to paint the subjects she loved through the 1960s and 1970s in Alexandria and New England, although her passion took another direction in 1980s when she spent years researching the history of shipbuilding in southern Delaware. In 1990, the Milford Historical Society published her book, "Mispillion-Built Sailing Vessels, 1761-1917." As a member of the Alexandria Historical Society, she also wrote an essay titled "The Port of Alexandria" that

was part of a book called "Alexandria: A Composite History," published by the Alexandria Bicentennial Commission in 1975. Her research on the maritime history of Alexandria if part of the Alexandria Library collection. In her later years, she painted watercolors at her summer home in Harrisville, N.H., and commissioned portraits in Alexandria in winter.

"Almost all of her interpretations of early church architecture are composed from the vantage point of their silent forebears' perspective in the nearby church cemetery," Gilmore wrote in the 1998 essay. "While she has had great success as a watercolorist, she professes to have had little training in the medium, having taught herself the technique as she eschewed the modernist instruction of her art teachers."

She was a former member of the Colonial Dames of America, the Historical Society of Delaware and the Potomac Appalachian Trail Club. She loved the outdoors, family and history. She and her husband U.S. Navy retired Capt. W.R. Macdonald enjoyed hiking and traveling. Her husband, two beloved sisters, Sarah and Nancy, and her nephew Dan predeceased her.

"She was very forthright, and she didn't mince words," said Andrew Macdonald, who was frequently seen on the streets of Old Town taking walks with his mother. "She had strong opinions about right and wrong, which she inherited from her father's sense of equity and fairness."

SHE IS SURVIVED by her son, Andrew Macdonald of Alexandria, and stepson Charles Macdonald of Aix-en-Provence, France; granddaughters Lisa

SEE BETTY MACDONALD, PAGE 25



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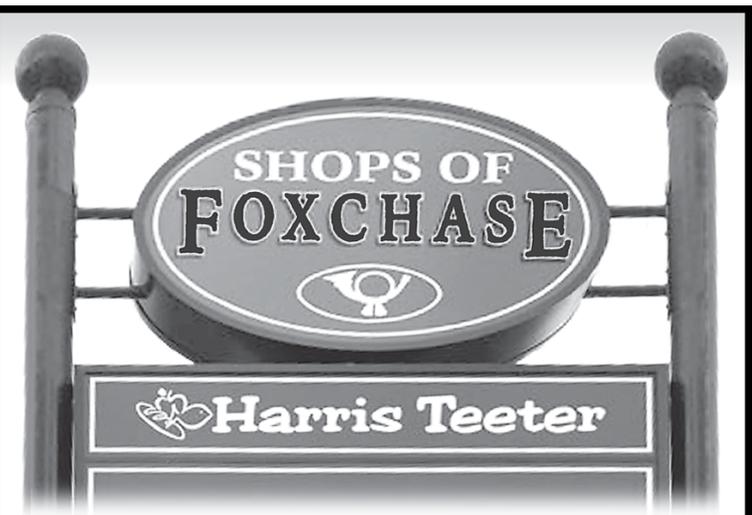
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BUSINESS MATTERS

Phantom Songs

Del Ray resident **Neal Learner** says he was having an otherwise unremarkable dinnertime conversation when it happened. The discussion was the standard fare about ferries and princesses until one of the daughters turned to the other and asked a simple question: "Would you like to be a mermaid?"

His ears perked up, and he knew she was onto something.

So he went to work writing and performing tunes, playing every instrument in a multi-track studio he's playfully dubbed the Del Ray Phantom Orchestra. Now, hundreds of man-hours later, Learner has self-published a new CD titled "Would You Like to Be a Mermaid?" The 12 tracks include songs with titles like "Eat Good Food" and "Hubcap Heaven."

"It's an upbeat and uplifting compilation," said Learner, a journalist and communications professional who started playing violin as a child. "It's got touches of doo-wop, bluegrass and pop."

Hard copies of the album are available from CD Baby for \$14, although some Del Ray establishments are selling it for \$10. Like all modern musicians, Learner is also selling his music online for 99 cents a song or \$10 for all 12 tracks. But that doesn't mean he's happy about it.

"I'm kind of old school in that way because I still think about CDs as innovative new technology," he said. "As an artist, I don't think it's a good trend to sell songs in bits and pieces instead of having an album that you can play front to back."

Shock Value

People in the theater community sometimes use the expression "The No Play" because the title of **John Henry Redwood's** 2001 drama is so shockingly controversial. It includes a racial invective so offensive that many people call it "the N word."

"It took me a long time before I could say the word in front of my cast," said director **Frank Pasqualino**. "It's a provocative title, and we realize that."

Fortunately for the Port City Playhouse, no publicity is bad publicity. Ticket sales have been brisk — better than anticipated and much better than recent performances. And the controversy surrounding the title of the play has only served to add an element of drama to the drama. The more people talk about the title of the play, the more they may be interested in purchasing a ticket for the show, which opens Feb. 18 in a space known as the Lab at Convergence. The name of the play comes from a sign the author saw at a business during the 1940s in Kansas, essentially letting customers know that blacks, Jews and dogs were not allowed. But the sign didn't use the word "blacks."

"The timing of this performance was chosen to commemorate Black History Month," said Pasqualino. "Most of the people who seem to have a problem with the title are middle-class whites."

Tis the Season

Businesses along King Street can expect the holiday season to extend a little bit longer this year — or at least the holiday lights that festoon the trees from the river to the rails. This week, City Council members approved a \$9,000 appropriation to keep the tree light display up through March instead of taking it down at the beginning of February.

"I like to call them business-development lights," said Councilwoman **Del Pepper**. "There's nothing frivolous about them."

"I don't think they are frivolous either," responded Councilman **Paul Smedberg**, the lone vote against the expenditure. "But only at the appropriate times of the year."

Businesses along Old Town's commercial strip have been pushing to keep the lights up all year, and Pepper has been a vocal champion for the tree light display for years. But budget officials estimated that keeping the lights on all year would cost \$43,500. So she offered a compromise measure to keep them up until the end of the fiscal year in June, although that had to be scaled back to get a majority on council. Councilman **Frank Fannon** said it was clear that businesses were solidly behind keeping the lights, especially during the darkest part of the year.

"It's like the old saying goes," said Fannon. "If you are going to tax me, at least kiss me."

— MICHAEL LEE POPE

BUSINESS



Joseph Duffy, Catherone Imperatore and Cynthia Wanschura sample the Essential Pale Ale from Port City Brewing Feb. 6.



President Bill Butcher explains the stages of the bottling line at the new Port City Brewing Company.

Cheers!

Port City Brewing opens in Alexandria.

BY JEANNE THEISMANN
GAZETTE PACKET

Lured by the promise of free beer, Alexandria's new Port City Brewing Company drew hundreds of craft beer aficionados to its tasting room during a special open house weekend Feb. 4-6.

"This is very good," said Cynthia Wanschura, who was sampling the Essential Pale Ale with friends prior to the start of Sunday's Super Bowl. "But we are already fans of microbrews."

The first production brewery to operate in the city since Prohibition, Port City Brewing offered two beers on tap for opening weekend visitors: Essential Pale Ale, a dry-hopped pale ale made with English and German malts, and Optimal Wit, a Belgian-style witbier brewed with orange peel and coriander.

"We've been packed all weekend," said life-long Alexandrian and Port City Brewing president Bill Butcher. "But then again, you don't often find places giving away free beer."

Butcher and head brewer Jonathan Reeves began operations Jan. 15 in a 21,000-square-foot warehouse on Wheeler Avenue and opened the tasting room in time for Super Bowl Sunday.

"We wanted to be open for Super Bowl weekend," Butcher said. "We have the growlers available now and will do our first bottling run Feb. 14."

Port City Brewing currently houses four 60- and 90-barrel fermentation tanks with plans to eventually expand to 19.

"Our production will average 70 percent kegs and 30 percent bottles," Butcher said. "Once the bottling line is operating, we'll do 400 cases a day in each run."

In addition to the tasting room, Port City's Optimal Wit is on tap at 10 restaurants in the D.C. area, including Food Matters, Evening Star and Columbia Firehouse in Alexandria. All four of Port City's brews — including the Monumental IPA and Porter — will be shipping to grocery and independent wine and beer stores by the end of the month.

"The growlers have been very popular," Butcher said of the 64 oz. refillable bottles that sell for \$13.99 or \$10 for a refill. "They really are a great way to enjoy the freshest possible brew at home and introduce your friends to a local craft beer."



Julian Gallo fills a 64 oz. growler container at the new Port City Brewing Company on Wheeler Avenue.

A fairly new concept to the region, a growler is equivalent to four pints of beer.

"We're really the first ones introducing the concept to a lot of people," Butcher said. "We believe it will catch on, especially because of the 'green' aspect of being refillable and for recycling."

More than 600 people took advantage of the open house weekend, sampling the equivalent of 10 kegs of beer.

"Growlers are a great way to enjoy the freshest possible brew at home."

— Port City Brewing Company president Bill Butcher

"I'm not sure I went through that much beer in my fraternity days," laughed Butcher. "But even though we gave people a taste for free, pretty much everyone bought a growler to bring home so it was a great opening weekend for us."

Port City Brewing Company is located at 3950 Wheeler Ave. The tasting room is open Fridays from 4-8 p.m. and Saturdays from noon to 5 p.m. For more information, visit www.portcitybrewing.com.

OBITUARY

Mark J. Hulkower

Mark J. Hulkower, 53, who served as a federal prosecutor and for the last 16 years as a renowned criminal defense attorney, died Feb. 5, 2011, at Capital Hospice in Arlington, Virginia. He had colon cancer.

Mr. Hulkower was an Assistant United States Attorney for the Eastern District of Virginia from 1989 to 1995, where he handled a number of prominent cases, culminating in the prosecution and conviction of former CIA intelligence agent Aldrich H. Ames and his wife Rosario for espionage. Ames is currently serving life in prison for funneling classified information to the Soviet Union.

After leaving government service, Mr. Hulkower became a partner at the D.C. law firm Steptoe & Johnson, where he was head of the firm's white-collar criminal defense practice group. He won acquittals in a number of high profile cases, including the prosecutions of former Teamsters Union president Ron Carey and former Tyco General Counsel Mark Belnick. Most recently, he obtained the acquittal of John Tuli, a former AOL executive charged with securities fraud, and the dismissal of all charges against a Blackwater contractor accused of shooting Iraqi citizens in Nisoor Square on Sept. 16, 2007. He was consistently listed in prestigious peer-reviewed publications for his expertise in criminal defense of white-collar crimes, including Chambers USA and Best Lawyers in America.

Reid Weingarten, also a partner at Steptoe & Johnson and one of the top white collar defense at-



torneys in the country, said, "Mark was the best trial lawyer I've ever seen. He was a brilliant examiner and persuasive advocate. He was the consummate professional, and an even better person."

Mark Hulkower was born in The Bronx and raised in Westchester County, New York. He graduated from Cornell University in 1980 and obtained his law degree, magna cum laude, in 1984 from the Georgetown University Law Center, where he was an editor of the Georgetown Law Journal. An avid runner who completed several marathons,

he frequently stated that his proudest accomplishment was coaching his children's soccer and basketball teams for 14 years despite maintaining a busy trial practice that required regular domestic and international travel.

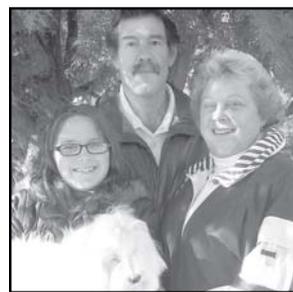
He is survived by his wife of 22 years, Nancy Hulkower, and his three children, Annie, Griffin, and Maggie. Survivors also include his parents, Gustave Hulkower of Tucson, Ariz., and Rita Hulkower of Westchester County, N.Y., and his brother, Steve Hulkower, MD, of Asheville, N.C.

The visitation was held Tuesday, Feb. 8, at St. Paul's Episcopal Church, 228 South Pitt Street, Alexandria. The funeral was scheduled for Wednesday, Feb 9, at St. Paul's Episcopal Church, 228 South Pitt Street, Alexandria. A reception followed at Belle Haven Country Club, 6023 Fort Hunt Road, Alexandria.

Memorials contributions may be sent to the Lombardi Comprehensive Cancer Center, Georgetown University Hospital, Attn: Office of Development, Harris Building, Suite 4000, 3300 Whitehaven Street, N.W., Washington, D.C., 20007

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Fairfax County Park Authority to Hold Public Comment Meeting on Banks Property

The Fairfax County Park Authority will hold a Public Comment Meeting on the draft master plan for the Olander and Margaret Banks Neighborhood Park located at 7400 Old Telegraph Road in Alexandria, VA. The meeting will be held on Thursday, February 17, 2011 at 7 p.m. in the Lane Elementary School cafeteria. The school is located at 7137 Beulah Street in Alexandria.

This is the second public meeting held to discuss community ideas, suggestions and concerns about this property. The meeting will feature a short presentation about current site conditions, uses and changes proposed in the draft master plan. Following the presentation, a moderated public comment session will be held to solicit community input.

The proposed plan is available online at <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/plandev/Downloads/banksMP.htm>. A hard copy of the plan can also be examined in the Fairfax County Park Authority Planning Division offices in the Herrity Building located at 12055 Government Center Parkway, Suite 406, Fairfax, VA.

Anyone wishing to speak may sign up in advance by contacting the Public Information Office at 703-324-8662 or by sending a request to Parkmail@fairfaxcounty.gov. Speakers may also sign up at the meeting. Comments on the plan will be accepted for 30 days after the meeting with the comment period closing on March 21, 2011. Written comments should be directed to Project Manager Pat Rosend, Planning and Development Division, Fairfax County Park Authority, 12055 Government Center Parkway, Suite 406, Fairfax, VA 22035. After all comments have been considered, the final plan will be presented to the Park Authority Board for consideration. For more information contact the Public Information Office at 703-324-8662.



If accommodations and/or alternative formats are needed, please call (703) 324-8563, at least ten working days in advance of the registration deadline or event. TTY (703) 803-3354 703-324-8700 • ONLINE : www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks • E-mail: parkmail@fairfaxcounty.gov

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OPINION

Happy Valentine's Day

Better than roses or chocolate, ratify equal rights for women; 35 states have done so but not Virginia; 38 states needed to amend the constitution.

‘Equality of rights under the law shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any State on account of sex.”

These words, conceived in 1923 by Alice Paul, who was jailed at the Occoquan Workhouse in Lorton for demonstrating for women's right to vote, were approved by the United States Congress in 1972 as the Equal Rights Amendment to the United States Constitution.

To amend the constitution required the approval of 38 states; 35 voted in favor. Virginia was not among them.

This year, some of Northern Virginia's representatives in the General Assembly reintroduced the measure, and a resolu-

tion supporting the Equal Rights Amendment passed in the Virginia Senate 24-16, with all of Northern Virginia's senators voting in favor.

Thanks especially to state Sen. Patsy Ticer for advocating for what could have been a gift to all the women of Virginia and the United States, and thanks to Senators George Barker, Mark Herring, Janet Howell, Dave Marsden, Chap Petersen, Toddy Puller, Dick Saslaw, and Mary Margaret Whipple for voting in favor of equal rights for women.

Delegates Mark Sickles, Kay Kory and Scott Surovell sponsored the same legislation in the Virginia House of Delegates, but the measure, which previously died in the Virginia General

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 357

RESOLVED by the Senate of Virginia, the House of Delegates concurring, That the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Virginia hereby ratifies and affirms the Equal Rights Amendment to the United States Constitution proposed by the United States Congress on March 22, 1972, and ratified by 35 state legislatures.

Assembly in 1980, languished in subcommittee.

With equal pay for women still just a goal or dream in the United States as just one example ongoing limits to women's rights, ratification of the Equal Rights Amendment would be welcome at the state and national level, and a worthy Valentine's Day present to the mothers, wives, daughters, sisters in Virginia and beyond. With women's rights as a concern worldwide and a consideration in U.S. foreign policy, such a step would send the message that the U.S. is committed to women's rights at home and beyond.

— MARY KIMM,

MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

EDITORIAL

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Re-making the Waterfront

To the Editor:

The current waterfront planning process can seem overwhelming at times, with the various currents of opinion and the range of subjects up for discussion. It is important to remember that a plan is as much an embodiment of a process as a final document. And so, in order to make sense of the City's current undertaking, it might help to look back at the sequence of steps that led to Alexandria's first Waterfront Plan, all of which occurred while I was planning director from 1977-1984.

The state of the waterfront in 1977, when the planning process began, was horrendous. Access to the shore was blocked by decaying industrial relics, such as the Texaco tank farm in what is now Oronoco Bay Park and the Ford Plant at Ford's Landing. The Torpedo Factory had sat empty since the end of World War II, and arsenic was leaching out of the grounds occupied by a weed-killer factory. There was an obvious need to find solutions.

And so the plan began with the input of all the stakeholders. Ten general waterfront policies arose from the inputs of citizens' groups, the National Park Service, land owners, and environmental groups.

These policies, including a continuous pedestrian promenade and the preservation of the existing shoreline, became the guides for subsequent design and policy

efforts. Once these diverse stakeholders reached a consensus on the 10 policies, the Planning Department staff and the National Park Service each drafted three alternatives, which were eventually edited and whittled down to one.

Meanwhile, the City began acquiring land, mostly through donations and land swaps, for the eventual implementation of the plan.

By laying the groundwork for eventual changes along the waterfront, the plan was given teeth, and a way to succeed. While the planning process was delving into the nitty-gritty late stages of design and policy-making, the more general parts of the plan were already being implemented. In this way, the planning process and the implementation were mutually reinforcing, as changes could be made to later parts of the plan based on the outcome of early actions.

What made this plan so successful was the will behind it. Stakeholders were invited into the process very early on, and came to direct it. It is what I call a 'consensus plan.' This will for the plan to succeed was also shown in the steady implementation of the 10 principles, creating a vibrant waterfront. The before-and-after is stunning: from toxic industries to continuous parks and public access, the plan very quickly transformed Alexandria into a place enjoyable to its residents, but also an attraction for people from all over the D.C. metro area and beyond.

For the most part, the current planning effort is an embellishment of the 1982 plan, adding details where the plan has not yet been completely implemented. One major departure from the 1982 plan is the addition of new piers and docking facilities in front of the foot of King Street and the Torpedo Factory.

Where the current plan differs from the 1982 plan in terms of process, is that the 1982 plan was fully vetted with all stakeholders and was known to be implementable before City Council was asked to approve it.

The new plan's proposed capital improvements will be costly, and will require inter jurisdictional agreements and permits from various federal agencies, as well as an agreement with the Old Dominion Boat Club and other landowners. These agreements are far from being obtained; in many cases, only preliminary contacts with the relevant organizations have been made; in others, there is clear disagreement.

What is lacking from the current draft waterfront plan is not a vision, but rather a realistic implementation strategy that addresses necessary agreements, realistic estimates of capital costs, achievable deployment and phasing of plan elements, and a means of funding the improvements the community wants. I hope that before the plan is presented to Planning Commission and City Council for approval, an accompanying implementation strategy, based on preliminary agreements with key stakeholders, and a realistic fi-

nancing plan will be developed and presented.

Without that commitment to implementation, the plan is unlikely to be more than a vision. This would be sad, as Alexandria has a truly beautiful waterfront, and it will be wonderful to see it further improved.

Engin Artemel
Alexandria

The author was director of Planning and Community Development for the City of Alexandria from 1977 to 1984, and currently serves on the City's Waterfront Committee. He lives in Old Town North by the waterfront.

Stay Off His Street

To the Editor:

I live on East Custis Avenue in Del Ray. My taxes on my home are \$5000 a year and I can't even find a place to park my car during the day. Seems like the people who work on the Avenue have decided to move in. It ain't right. Free parking at my expense. They're slowly inching their way down my street. I understand that my street isn't the only one. They park their cars and leave them there for 8 to 10 hours a day. Something has to be done. Not meters. The bus line goes right down Mt. Vernon Avenue. Take the bus and stay off my street.

Patrick Kirby
Alexandria

SEE LETTERS, PAGE 24

Alexandria Gazette Packet

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

Michael Lee Pope
Reporter, 703-615-0960
mpope@connectionnewspapers.com

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

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

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

Jane Hughes
Display Advertising, 703-778-9448
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Tara Lloyd
Display Advertising, 703-778-9447
tlloyd@connectionnewspapers.com

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

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

Photography:
Louise Krafft

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

Production Manager:
Jean Card

Editor Emeritus:
Mary Anne Weber

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

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

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

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

Wesley DeBrosse
Controller

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

Jeanne Theismann
Special Assistant to the Publisher
703-778-9436
jtheismann@connectionnewspapers.com

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VALENTINE'S DAY



Chuck and Verlee Hucka, married 60 years, met at a radio station where they both worked. They stayed happy by working, raising their two children and participating in everything together at home. His work involved traveling but she nearly always went with him and helped by planning social functions.

Chuck was 45 before spending a night away from Verlee. Their advice: Be more concerned about your partner's health, welfare and happiness than you are about your own.

Tips for Lasting Love

These couples, all residing at The Fountains at Washington House on Fillmore Avenue, shared their thoughts on lasting love. Throughout February, view more tips for lasting love at www.watermarkcommunities.com/misc/lastingvalentines



Marvin and Phyllis Ribiyat, married 64 years, would play together as children whenever Phyllis would visit her Syracuse relatives from Toronto. After Marvin was discharged from the Army, they renewed their friendship and were married four months later. Their advice: Each must bend, give a little, sometimes a bit more, show love, respect, concern, warmth and allow each other space.



Daniel and Jean Schilling, married 62 years, met on a blind date. Their advice: Treat your spouse as you want to be treated. Marriage is not always 50/50 it may be 90/10 or 10/90. You must compromise and be willing to change and share.

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This Valentine's Day practice yoga at Yoga in Daily Life® with your partner, a friend, family member, or someone special. Register for our next six-week session of yoga and meditation classes at our **2-4-1 sweetheart special rate**. Our next session begins February 14, Valentine's Day. Classes offered daily. Beginners welcomed. Expert instruction by certified teachers.

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\$935,000

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Classic Elegance! This beautifully maintained brick end 4 bedroom and 3.5 bath townhome features a light-filled gourmet kitchen with adjoining family room & fireplace. Overlooks gorgeous parkland, and located only minutes to downtown DC.



Donnan C. Wintermute
703-518-6156



Lake Barcroft \$859,000
6334 Crosswoods Drive, Falls Church, VA 22044

Open Sunday 1-4pm! Absolutely charming, 4 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, 2 car garage, 2 level home with views of Lake Barcroft from the living room, family room, and two tiered patio. Lots of storage, windows and sunlight.



Ed Pagett 571-237-4753



Old Town \$764,000
813 Oronoco Street, Alexandria, VA 22314

www.813OronocoSt.com. Total renovation & historic character. Granite, stainless steel, HW floors, exposed brick/beams & huge sunny rooms. 1,958 sq ft. Old Town dining, shopping, waterfront, free gym & pool.



Chris Upham 202-359-1308



The Eclipse \$438,500
3650 Glebe Road South #240, Arlington, VA 22202

Open Sunday 1-4pm. Sophisticated, perfectly maintained, and shows like a model! 2 bedroom and 2 bath condo. Fabulous Crystal City location with many upgrades. Close to metro, highway and bus. Don't miss this one!



Linda Wolf 703-518-6165



Sacramento Mews
\$1,950/month

5503 Sacramento Mews Pl, Alexandria, VA 22309

For Rent! Brick front townhouse with 1 car garage. In great condition with 3 bedrooms, 2.5 bathrooms & fireplace in recreation room. Large eat-in kitchen with granite countertops & island. Deck off kitchen and large, fenced-in patio.



Jane E. King
703-498-1034



Beauregard Heights \$425,000
660 North Armistead St, Alexandria, VA 22312

Open Sunday! Beautifully renovated 3 level all brick townhouse with 4 bedrooms and 3.5 baths. Updated kitchen/baths, HW floors, crown molding, private patio & more. Minutes to everything!



Joy Deevy 703-930-5198



Mount Vernon \$675,000
9216 Patton Boulevard, Alexandria, VA 22309

Shows Like a Model! Open Sunday 1-4pm! 4 BR and 3 BA home. 2 car garage, renovated kitchen/baths, beautiful HW, sunny master with 3+ closets, large LR with fireplace & huge rec room with built-ins.



Phyllis Patterson 703-518-6158



The Olympus \$173,250
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VALENTINE'S DAY

What's Love Got To Do With It? Couples share their secrets to happiness.



Newlyweds Marcus and Pam Fisk.

BY JEANNE THEISMANN
GAZETTE PACKET

Love is in the air and some couples know better than others how to make that love last beyond the wilting petals of a dozen roses. Here, three Alexandria couples share their love stories and secrets to relationship success.

MARCUS FISK AND PAM COLLINS FISK, married seven months

Pam Collins was returning to Boston from Salt Lake City on Sept. 6, 2009, when a circuitous flight route landed her in Phoenix for an extended layover. "The last thing on my mind was meeting someone," Collins said. "I had been married twice — the first



Pam and Marcus Fisk on their wedding day, July 2, 2010.

time I was widowed and the second was a disaster — and I was sitting in a restaurant trying to figure out how to get out of an engagement when Marcus came along."

Marcus Fisk, a retired Navy Captain and longtime Alexandria resident, introduced himself. The two talked for hours and had "a major connection," according to Collins.

"When I got on my flight, he sent me a text saying that he missed me already," Collins said. "The 'Danger! Will Robinson!' lights were flashing in my head. He was ending a relationship himself and I was still thinking how awful men were."

But the following month, the two decided to meet again, this time in Annapolis, where Fisk had graduated from the U.S. Naval Academy in 1978.

"Imagine something out of a movie,"



Pam and Marcus Fisk at a Navy football game last fall.

Collins said. "It was magical. People were stopping us on the street to say what a beautiful couple we were. When I looked into his eyes that night at dinner, I knew we had fallen in love."

The couple married on July 2, 2010, and Collins sold her 20-room Victorian Bed and Breakfast on Boston Harbor to move to Alexandria.

"Now I'm learning how to wear polo shirts and cheer on the Midshipmen at Navy games," Collins laughed.

Asked what advice he would give to other couples, Fisk replied "It's really important



Marcus and Pam Fisk enjoyed a whirlwind romance.

that you talk with one another. Be open and don't worry about any re-creation. It's all about building a bond of trust that will last forever." Fisk, known as much for his artistic side — he's a sculptor, writer and actor — as for his military career,

"Every day I wake up and know I am the luckiest man in the world to have found her."

— Marcus Fisk, married for seven months to Pam Collins Fisk

couldn't be happier. "When I met Pam, I fell like a rock — hard and fast," Fisk said. "Now every day I wake up and know I am the luckiest man in the world to have found her."



Eric Nelson and Edward Hart in their new store, Artfully Gifts and Chocolate.

ERIC NELSON AND EDWARD HART, together six years

A single father of two, Edward Hart was not looking for a relationship when he met Eric Nelson six years ago.

"I had been divorced since 1994 and was just trying to raise my two kids," said Hart, a PTO employee and co-owner with Nelson in the new Artfully Gifts and Chocolate on John Carlyle Street. "But I was smitten right away and knew after our first date that I had fallen in love."

Both men grew up in the area and were previously married — Hart for nine years and Nelson for 12.

"I wasn't looking for anything serious, but I did have in my mind the type of person I wanted to be in a relationship with," Nelson



Eric Nelson and Edward Hart, shown here on Halloween 2010, are known for their sense of humor.

said. "Edward matched all of them."

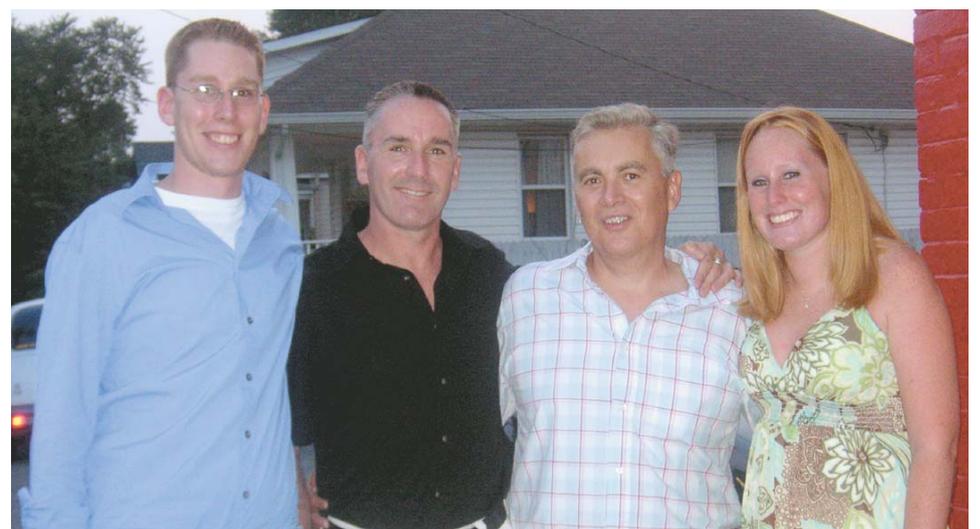
As the relationship deepened, Nelson became more at ease discussing it.

"I grew up at a time when gay men were hidden," Nelson said. "Now I see that the more comfortable I am in my own skin, the more comfortable people are interacting with me." With the opening of their new store, the two have managed to navigate the tricky world of both living and working together.

"We bring different things to the table," Nelson said. "But we respect those differences and complement each other. We also know when to back off from each other."

Seldom without a smile, Hart and Nelson are known for their sense of humor.

"You have to have humor and fun in a



Eric Nelson and Edward Hart with Edward's children Chris and Leslie.

relationship," Nelson said. "If you take every aspect of your life too seriously, you lose the joy of living."

Both say conflicts between them are rare and usually resolved quickly.

"The basis of our relationship is so strong, we know these little hiccups that we have are just that — little hiccups," Nelson said. The couple, who will celebrate six years together next week, will spend Valentine's Day working at the new store.

"What can I say?" Nelson laughed. "Men

will be men. They are notorious for coming in at 3 p.m. on Valentine's Day for a gift. They don't want to be in the doghouse but they don't think of that ahead of time."

"You have to have humor and fun in a relationship. If you take every aspect of your life too seriously, you lose the joy of living."

— Eric Nelson, celebrating six years with Edward Hart

Hart offered his own simple advice to other couples.

"Don't focus on the superficial," Hart said. "It's the person on the inside that will stay with you forever."

VALENTINE'S DAY

NANCY AND 'BUZZIE' HARRIS, married 51 years

It was 1957 when Nancy Cooper and Claude "Buzzie" Harris first laid eyes on each other at a pajama party at George Washington University.

"I thought she was real cute," said Buzzie as he recalled that first night. "But we didn't start dating right away since we both had other dates that night."

Both graduates of George Washington High School — he in 1949 and she in 1956 — the couple eventually began dating but broke up after a year.

"We spent some time apart but once we started dating again, we knew we wanted to be together," Nancy said.

Buzzie proposed on New Year's Eve and the couple was married less than two months later on Feb. 27, 1960, at the old Second Presbyterian Church at the corner of Prince and St. Asaph streets.

"And did he tell you why we got married when we did?" Nancy asked.

Buzzie was quick to admit with a laugh, "It fit in between hunting and fishing seasons."

Their son David was born in 1962 and the couple now has three grandchildren. Buzzie, a retired real estate appraiser is "a kept man," according to Nancy, who works for the Salvation Army National Headquarters.

"Of course we had our rough patches but we worked through them," Nancy said. "I wanted to kill him at times, but I never wished I wasn't married to him."

Asked to share their secret to a happy marriage, Buzzie said, "Be considerate of each other and don't go to bed mad. It's a cliché but it works."

Nancy agreed. "Be understanding and don't try to be the boss," she said. "We have a great deal of respect for each other and talk about everything. We're best friends."

As their 51st anniversary approaches, Nancy still remembers some advice two of Buzzie's friends gave her before her wedding.

"They told me to forget about him, that he wasn't the marrying kind," Nancy recalled. "And what happened to them? They're both divorced."

"I wanted to kill him at times, but I never wished I wasn't married to him."

— Nancy Harris, married for 51 years to 'Buzzie' Harris



Nancy and Buzzie Harris on their wedding day, Feb. 27, 1960.

COURTESY PHOTO



Buzzie and Nancy Harris at home today looking at photos from over the years.

PHOTO BY JEANNE THEISMANN/GAZETTE PACKET

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Owner just spent thousands on upgrades. All the work has been done for you. Move right in and enjoy! Classic colonial with 2 car side load garage. Elegant foyer, formal din rm w/built-ins, family room off kit leading to deck. Table space kit features silestone counters. LL boasts rec. room, den, full bath & storage. Two fireplaces, 4 bedrooms, 3.5 baths. Huge lot with mature trees and gardens. OPEN SUN 2/13, 1-4. GW Pky S, past estate; L-Old Mt Vernon Rd; R-Robertson.

JUST LISTED

Waterfront Perfection!
2335 Creek Dr \$989,900
Gorgeous waterfront grounds-165 foot custom dock. Sweeping water views! Three levels of luxury featuring: updated kitchen and baths, expanded MBR with water view, garage.

OPEN SUN

Just Completed!
8826 Camden St \$879,900
Unique opportunity-Brand new custom home by Wakefield on stunning large tract spanning both sides of creek in prestigious Stratford Landing. Fabulous floor plan loaded with upgrades! OPEN SUN 2/13, 1-4. GW Pky S, R-Stratford; L-Camden.

272 S STEVENSON SQ
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\$275,000
Great price for this well-maintained, 4BR/1.5BA, 2 level, brick townhouse in a fantastic location near I-95, parks and playgrounds. Off-street parking but near public transportation.
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Norma Gants 703.408.2560

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Charming/sophisticated 3 lvl semi-detached home, w/in mins to King St, shops & eateries. 3BR/1.5BA, tastefully updated kit, refn hdwds & fully fin w/out LL. Private/fenced backyard, fab landscaping + driveway. DIR: fr Old Town, W on Duke, R on W Taylor Run, R on Cambridge, L on E Taylor Run to 218 on left.

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1926 CHARMING brick, bungalow style home w/ detached garage, located just min from King St Metro. 2BRs on first floor & a 3rd large BR on upper level plus den. Front & rear porches, fireplace, hardwood floors & updated kitchen.

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Mary Lou Sage 703.851.5441

JUST LISTED

9212
Cherrytree Dr
\$675,000
Expanded and Updated!
Fabulous large home with bright, open floor plan with many major updates including: gourmet kit, updated baths, thermal replacement windows. Stunning main level family room with large windows, recessed lighting and FP. Glass doors lead to multi-tiered deck overlooking beautifully landscaped grounds. Expanded driveway and oversized 2 car garage. This property offers size, location and condition!

7406 Rippon Rd
\$759,900
Mason Hill—Stunner!
No Stairs— This spectacular home offer luxurious living on one level! Rare, large ramblar with 2836 sq ft. Custom home features exceptionally bright, open floorplan and large room sizes. Other features include: high ceilings, updated kitchen, 4 bedrooms including private master suite overlooking wooded grounds. Oversized garage. Expansive glass walls and back patio on 2/3 acre grounds. A truly unique property.

4408
Tarpon Ln
\$625,000
Yacht Haven—Near River!
Spacious four level home has been meticulously maintained. Absolutely gorgeous half acre lot within walking distance of clubhouse and river in this fabulous waterfront community. Both home and grounds are in exceptional condition. Significant upgrades include luxurious baths, hardwood floors and much updating throughout. Unique opportunity to be near water at reasonable price.

OPEN SUNDAY 1-4!
6108 REDWOOD LN
Wilton Woods
Alexandria
\$629,000
Rarely available 4BR/2.5BA colonial w/2 car garage. Beautifully renovated kitchen & baths, brick & new siding, updated windows. Lovely family room w/fireplace & finished lower level.

Catherine Foltz/longandfoster.com
Catherine Foltz 703.626.6914

OPEN SUNDAY 1-4!
7122 MARINE DR
Alex/Marlan Forest
\$525,000
Large ALL brick & stone, 4BR/2.5BA, ramblar w/2-car garage on nearly 1/2 acre treed level lot. Hardwood floors, 2 fireplaces, huge LR & DR, family room off kitchen & much more! DIR: from Old Town: S on GW Pkwy - R on Talane Dr (exit after Bellview Blvd) - follow signs to 7122 Marine Drive.

Gary Ansley 202.288.7946

SATURDAY OPEN 1-4!
2708
FARNSWORTH DR
Alex / \$375,000
JUST LISTED! 2BR/2BA Charming Duplex just 2 blocks to Huntington Metro. Updated kit & baths, new appliances, wood floors, finished lower level, sep Dining room. Leave the car at home & take Metro everywhere! Enjoy Duplex living for a condo price — no HOA fees or Condo dues! Off-street parking.

Susan Batchelder 703.919.8359

3800
Great Neck Ct
\$549,000
Huge House— Little Price!
Huge potential! 5BR home on one of Mt Vernon's nicest streets just across from Estate grounds. Spacious home with spectacular glass walled addition overlooks gorgeous grounds. Many special features include expanded kitchen with custom cherry cabs, 2FPs. Open foyer, hardwood floors on main level and replacement thermal windows. Most of interior has just been painted. Great Value! Huge house and lot for price!

9316
Heather Glen Dr
\$650,000
Price Slashed— Large Colonial!
The most house for the money in area! 3 level, 4BR, 2 car garage colonial with the most spectacular family room addition you will ever find! Curved all glass walls and screen porch overlook fabulous custom pool. Originally priced in the \$800's. Owner wants immediate sale and has slashed the price accordingly!

NEW PRICE!

9316
Allwood Dr
\$489,500
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.

OPEN SUN. 1-4pm!
507 S SAINT ASAPH ST
Old Town / Alex
\$779,999
Tannery Yard 4 lvl TH renovated & upgraded: 4BR/2.5BA, sparkling hardwoods, fireplace granite & stainless. Perfect for entertaining. French doors to slate patio & unique loft w/roof deck views. Private parking.

Georgia McLaughlin / Patricia Landaeta
703.628.4663

OPEN SUNDAY 1-4!
1250 S WASHINGTON ST
#314 Porto Vecchio
\$450,000
MOTIVATED SELLER - make an offer / \$10,000 CC credit. 2BR/2BA w/ popular split BR arrangement. Plantation shutters in Master & den, mirrored DR wall, teak parquet floor in LR/DR/ den. 1 year warranty. Very comfortable home & excellent value.

Pat Tierney 703.850.5630

OPEN SUNDAY 1-4!
4161 LEGATO RD
Fairfax / \$624,900
Sophisticated 3BR/3.5BA town-home in Centerpointe. With 4 finished levels, this home features an open gourmet kit, master suite, two gas fireplaces, finished loft w/full bath, rooftop terrace, two-car garage and more!

Dayna Blumel / Kerry Adams
703.587.7841

SOLD!

7106
Colgate Dr
\$499,500
Hollin Glen—Super Value!
WOW!!! MAJOR PRICE REDUCTION! OWNER WANTS IMMEDIATE SALE. Owners have priced to sell immediately! Spacious home in prime location just minutes from Old Town. Many special features include: updated kitchen, 4 large BRs, 3BAs, hardwood floors, fin LL, 2 fireplaces, fenced in rear yard with two level deck. Move fast nothing like it at this price in prime 'close-in' market!

SOLD!

8531
Mount Vernon Hwy
\$475,000
Huge House— Little Price!
Spacious 5 bedroom home in pristine condition! Many new features include large room sizes, recently remodeled baths, kitchen w/cherry cabs and corian counters, fresh paint, new carpet, new windows and siding, 2 car garage, patio and more! Deck overlooking beautiful backyard.

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6515
Princeton Dr
\$749,900
Classic Colonial— Near Old Town!
PRICE REDUCTION!
Move in ready! Spacious home in Belle Haven area. Center hall colonial with up to date floor plan featuring kit with SS & granite, family room, 4BRs, 3.5BAs, fin LL & oversized 2 car gar. 'Close In' location with 2 tiered deck & seasonal river views.

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212 GREEN ST
Yates Gardens / Alex
\$732,000
WELL MAINTAINED home w/3 finished levels. Gleaming wood floors, 2 large BRs, 2.5BAs, & 2FPs. Kitchen & baths tastefully updated. LL family rm w/ built-ins opens to enclosed brick patio & much more.

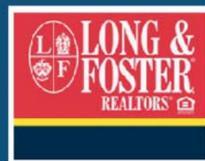
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706 PRINCE ST #5
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Rarely available Swann Daingerfield 2BR, 1.5 bath, first floor unit. New Karastan carpet, fireplace, separate dining room, eat-in kitchen. Beautifully updated. Nice outdoor space. Assigned parking. Seller will pay \$8,000 in closing costs.

Virginia Jacob 703.683.0400
Suzanne Backus 703.338.3594

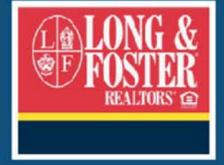
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Our intrepid neighbor, David Beckmann, head of Bread for the World, is off on another mission. He goes first to Chicago for a meeting of the Council on Foreign Affairs, then to New Delhi for a conference on agriculture and nutrition.

Next he goes to Bangladesh where he will make an extra trip to see what has happened to the tiny village where Janet and he lived 30 years ago when they were first married.

PLEASANT MEMORIES

"I loved it," recalls Janet. "The people were so great. Reconstruction was just starting after the partition from Pakistan."

"We pumped our own water, and rode around on motorbikes. I taught in a girls' school where the girls were my window to the world of Bangladesh."

"Now, of course, it is a developing area, so I'm sure David will see many changes."

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ARTS ♦ ENTERTAINMENT ♦ LEISURE

Parade Day Open Houses

On Monday, Feb. 21, the day of the George Washington Birthday Parade in Alexandria, several Historic Alexandria sites will be hosting special open houses with free admission.

♦ Gadsby's Tavern Museum, 134 North Royal Street, and the Stabler-Leadbeater Apothecary Museum, 105-107 South Fairfax Street, will both be open from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.; the Friendship Firehouse Museum, 107 South Alfred Street, will be open from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.; and The Lyceum, Alexandria's History Museum, 201 South Washington Street, will be open from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Visitors may tour these historic sites for free on this day.

♦ Also open from noon to 5 p.m. is the Historic Alexandria History Center & Museum Store, 101 North Union Street, where you can stop in and get dressed for the parade in 18th-century style! Make a tricorne hat to take with you, get your picture taken with the George and Martha Washington cut-out, and try on 18th-century clothing.

Did you know that Thomas Jefferson celebrated his inauguration in 1801 in the Gadsby's Tavern ballroom? What was a popular tavern beverage of the time? What was considered luxurious for overnight accommodations in the 18th century? Visitors to Gadsby's Tavern Museum will find out at the place George Washington dined and danced.

At the Apothecary, which opened in 1792, visitors will see its unique collection of herbs and botanicals, while discovering the important role the Apothecary played in early Alexandria. Among featured display items will be documents from Martha Washington, our country's first First Lady, one of several famous customers who relied on the Apothecary.

♦ At the Friendship Firehouse, first built in 1855 and remodeled in 1871, see hand-drawn fire engines, leather water buckets, axes, sections of early rubber hose and other historic firefighting equipment. The Friendship Fire Company, established in 1774, was Alexandria's first volunteer fire company, and the restoration of Friendship's distinctive cupola was just completed last year.

♦ At The Lyceum, Alexandria's History Museum, stop in for the special program "Meet the President" before the parade. At 11 a.m., Brian Hilton will portray President Woodrow Wilson and discuss events of the time of his presidency, 1913 to 1921, before taking questions from the audience. And before or after the parade, guests can explore The Lyceum's exhibitions.

For more information about these events, please visit www.historicalexandria.org.

George Washington Parade Over Washington's Birthday

Birthday festivities throughout the weekend of Feb. 19 to Feb. 21.

George Washington, the nation's first president, will be honored on the 279th anniversary of his birth with a parade in his hometown of Alexandria, on Monday, Feb. 21, from 1 to 3 p.m. in Old Town.

The George Washington Birthday Parade, the largest and oldest in the country celebrating this Founding Father, will wind its way through the historic streets of Old Town where Washington lived, worshiped and conducted business. Annually the parade includes thousands of participants including historical, community and youth groups, bands, horses and canines. Spectators line the brick sidewalks along the one-mile parade route.

Events throughout the weekend in Alexandria will celebrate Washington's legacy with an historic reenactment at Fort Ward Park, the Birthnight Banquet & Ball at Gadsby's Tavern, a 10-K race, the first ever one-mile race just before the parade, plus free admission to historic sites on parade day. Historic Mount Vernon presents a Surprise Birthday Party for General Washington daily through the weekend.

From Feb. 6 through 12, local restaurants are competing in the third-annual Cherry Challenge as they create unique dishes and cocktails featuring cherry recipes in celebration of one of the most cherished legends surrounding George Washington. A popular vote will determine the winners, and those restaurants will receive recognition at the parade.

Festivities:

♦ Feb. 6 - 12 — Third Annual Cherry Challenge

Alexandria restaurants are creating unique menu items featuring cherries in celebration of one of the most cherished legends surrounding George Washington. Each restaurant will develop its own cherry cocktail, appetizer, entrée, or dessert. Try them all and vote for your favorite. Winners are given special recognition at the George Washington Birthday Parade. Participating restaurants include Dishes of India, Fontaine Caffe and Creperie, Food Matters, Hank's Oyster Bar, King Street Blues Old Town, Murphy's Irish Pub, Pizzaiolo Café, Ramparts, Seagar's Restaurant (Hilton Old Town), Shooter McGee's, St. Elmo's Coffee Pub, Tempo and The Light Horse.

♦ Saturday, Feb. 19 — George Washington Birthday Classic 10-K Race and 2-K Fun Run

8 a.m. to 11 a.m. rain or shine
\$35; after February 10: \$40
Certified racecourse through Eisenhower Valley and Alexandria's parklands. Cash prizes, T-shirts and refreshments will be provided for runners, with the proceeds benefiting George Washington Birthday Celebration.

♦ Saturday, Feb. 19 — Washington's Birthnight Banquet & Ball

5:30 p.m. to 10:30 p.m.
Gadsby's Tavern Museum, 134 N. Royal St.
\$100 for banquet and ball, \$50 for ball only; reservations required, 703-746-4242
Participate in a reenactment of the 1798 and 1799 balls George Washington attended to celebrate his birthday. Colonial attire encouraged but



Fife Band marching in last year's George Washington Birthday Parade.

not required. Dancing lessons are available prior to the Ball.

♦ Saturday and Sunday, Feb. 19-20

Breakfast with George Washington at Historic Mount Vernon
9 a.m. to noon, while supplies last
George Washington's Mount Vernon Estate and Gardens, 3200 Mount Vernon Memorial Hwy.
Included in regular admission

Celebrate George Washington's birthday by joining the General for breakfast as he enjoys his favorite morning meal, "hoecakes swimming in butter and honey," cooked over an open fire (while supplies last). Pull up a hay bale and chat with the Father of Our Country about politics, farming, the Revolutionary War, and life in the 18th century. Following the breakfast sampling, families can participate in a "Surprise Birthday Party" for General Washington that includes rousing birthday cheers and a serenade, patriotic music and more.

♦ Saturday, Sunday, and Monday, Feb. 19-21

George Washington's Surprise Birthday Party at Historic Mount Vernon
George Washington's Mount Vernon Estate and Gardens, 3200 Mount Vernon Memorial Hwy.
Included in regular admission; Free admission on Monday, Feb. 21

1:30 p.m.
Join characters from the 18th century as they help visitors surprise General Washington with rousing birthday cheers and a serenade. After the birthday surprise Washington will be presented with gifts which he will describe and react to during a speech to his birthday visitors. The surprise is reminiscent of Washington's birthday in 1778 during which the Continental Artillery band serenaded Washington at Valley Forge.

♦ Sunday, Feb. 20

Revolutionary War Reenactment at Fort Ward Park
10 a.m. to 3 p.m. (Skirmish at 2 p.m.)
Fort Ward Park, 4301 W. Braddock Rd.
Free
Historic camp and tactical demonstrations throughout the day including a Revolutionary War skirmish between the Redcoats and the Colonial Army.

♦ Parade Day, Monday, Feb. 21

Breakfast & Meeting of the Friendship Veterans Fire Engine Association
9 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.
Holiday Inn & Suites, 625 First St.

Tickets are \$30; Purchase at www.WashingtonBirthday.com or by calling 703-751-6416

The Friendship Veterans Fire Engine Association sponsors this meeting at the Holiday Inn & Suites where a hearty breakfast is served. Those in attendance are treated to the first appearance of the day by George Washington and an address by a distinguished speaker.

George Washington Birthday Parade Mile

12:30 p.m. rain or shine
Old Town Alexandria
\$20 per runner
Be a part of the first-ever Parade Mile. Run occurs just before the parade on the parade route. Special winter fleece beanies will be given to pre-registered race participants. Start Time: 12:30 p.m.; Start & Finish Location: The parade reviewing stands at King and Royal streets. Note that you must be able to finish the mile in 15 minutes or less. Absolutely no strollers or pets.

George Washington Birthday Parade

1 p.m. to 3 p.m.
Old Town Alexandria
Free
The nation's largest George Washington birthday parade marches a one-mile route through the streets of Old Town Alexandria. With nearly 3,500 participants including historical groups, youth from scouting groups and animals, this is still a local, community parade in honor of one of the City's favorite sons. The parade starts at 1 p.m. at the intersection of Gibbon and S. Fairfax streets. The reviewing stand is located near City Hall's Market Square, at the intersection of King and Royal streets, and ends at Wilkes and S. Royal streets.

Free Admission to Historic Mount Vernon

9 a.m. to 4 p.m.
George Washington's Mount Vernon Estate and Gardens, 3200 Mount Vernon Memorial Hwy.
Free
Celebrate the national observance of George Washington's birthday by visiting his home and burial site free of charge on this day. Enjoy a grand holiday party with musical and military performances. Festivities begin with a 10 a.m. ceremony at Washington's tomb, followed by Miss America 2010 singing the national anthem, spirited military demonstrations by the Old Guard Fife & Drum Corps, and the new "Surprise Birthday Party" celebration.

Talk of the Town

The Hearts Desire

The Wanderer has done some research on the history of Valentine's Day. He is pleased to report that the French do not have the monopoly on love. It was actually the Victorian English that found it much more socially acceptable to express their affections in writing rather than crease their stiff upper lips. But leave it to us Americans to turn the day into a commercial boomday. Enough history. The Wanderer plans on leaving some delectable sweet tidbits from his favorite confectioners on several Alexandria doorsteps. He knows the quickest way to anyone's heart. Move over, Cupid. The Wanderer is on his way!

Photos by Louise Krafft

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ENTERTAINMENT

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

ONGOING

Children enter a world of fantasy and fables

when costumed interpreters weave three tales together during Mount Vernon's storytelling session, "Once Upon a Time at Mount Vernon," held every Saturday and Sunday at 2 p.m. and 3 p.m. Storytelling sessions will take place in the Hands-On History Room in the Donald W. Reynolds Education Center. "Working Together" is the theme for January's storytelling sessions. During the 20-minute session, children learn Aesop's fables and listen to stories about George Washington's life! The storytelling program is recommended for children ages 3 to 8. Parental supervision is required. "Once Upon a Time at Mount Vernon" is included in regular Estate admission: adults, \$15; youth ages 6-11, \$7; and children under 5 are admitted free.

EVERY FRIDAY

Grown & Sexy Happy Hour and Comedy Show.

7 p.m. to 2 a.m. Hosted by comedian Ed Blaze. Ladies free until 9 p.m. Men \$10/\$15. At Weyone Lounge, 5801 Duke St. # E100, Alexandria, located in the back of Landmark Mall. Call 202-321-0867.

NOW THROUGH MARCH 16

Shakespeare Shenanigans! Wednesdays 11:30-1 p.m. At the Little Theatre of Alexandria in Old Town. Geared for the older adult, participants will discuss, read, and perform scenes from Shakespeare. Non actors welcome. Email Heather Sanderson at bardsplay@aol.com or call the Little Theatre at 703-683-5778, ext. 2.

THURSDAY/FEB. 10

Naked Blue. 7 p.m. Part of Second Thursday Music



SATURDAY/FEB. 12

Meet John Carlyle and George Washington.

Noon to 4 p.m. This program provides visitors with an opportunity to take an interactive house tour combining modern museum interpretation with 18th-century living history vignettes. At Carlyle House Historic Park, 121 N. Fairfax Street, Old Town Alexandria.

Night at The Athenaeum, 201 Prince Street, Alexandria. Naked Blue, the performing songwriter team, Jen and Scott Smith, and their band, will perform. Contact 703-548-0035 or www.nvfaa.org.

18th-Century Dance Classes. 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. Cost is \$30/series or \$12/class. Learn the dances of Jane Austen, George Washington, and Abigail Adams in Gadsby's Tavern Museum's historic ballroom. At Gadsby's Tavern Museum, 134 North Royal Street. Reservations are requested and can be made by calling 703-746-4242 or www.gadsbystavern.org.

FEB. 12-20

"A Midsummer Night's Dream." Feb. 12, 18, 19 at 7:30 p.m.; Feb. 13 and 20 at 3 p.m. Performed by MVCCT and directed by Tiffany Ford. Tickets are \$10/adult; \$8/seniors and students. For tickets, call 703-360-0686. At Heritage

Presbyterian Church, 8503 Fort Hunt Road, Alexandria. Visit www.MVCCT.org.

SATURDAY/FEB. 12

Countertenor Thomas Fallon. 8 p.m. Mozart/Rossini arias and Dvorak. Alexandria Symphony Orchestra welcomes Thomas Fallon for evening of vocal selections. At the Rachel M. Schlesinger Concert Hall and Arts Center, 3001 N. Beauregard St., Alexandria. For tickets, visit www.alexsym.org. Call 703-548-0885.

Movies with a Mission. 4:30 p.m. Free. "The Lion Mountains: A Journey through Sierra Leone's History." Screening will be followed by a discussion and gallery walk.

Reservations are requested, as seating is limited. At the Alexandria Black History Museum, 902 Wythe Street, Alexandria. Contact 703-746-4356.

Swordsmen's Rendezvous.

11 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Swordsmen tours last one hour and include re-enactment of 18th-century swordplay and a display and discussion of 18th-century weapons. Admission is \$5, ages 5 and up. At Gadsby's Tavern Museum, 134 North Royal Street, Old Town Alexandria. Call 703-746-4242.

FEB. 12-14

Valentine's Cruises. Cruise along the Potomac River on the Odyssey for \$129/person dinner; \$64.90/person brunch. Includes champagne, photos, souvenir glasses. Cruise along the Potomac on the Spirit of Washington is \$109.90/person dinner; \$40.90/person lunch. For reservations, call 866-302-2469.

SUNDAY/FEB. 13

Paul Robeson at the Carlyle Club. 5 p.m. Experience the spirit of Black History Month with

actor, scholar and activist Paul Robeson, in "Paul Robeson, A Play by Philip Dean Hayes." Following the 90-minute performance, guests will enjoy a two- or three-course meal. Tickets are \$40. At the Carlyle Club, 411 John Carlyle Street, in Alexandria. Call 703-746-4356 or visit www.alexblackhistory.org.

Seeds of Independence Program. 2 p.m. Oral History Film Premiere: Segregation & Civil Rights: Mason Neck, Black & White, 1950-1970. Talk by Juan Williams, Civil Rights scholar and author, journalist and commentator for FOX News. Suggested donation: \$9/adults; \$8/seniors. At Gunston Hall Visitors' Center, 10709 Gunston Road, Mason Neck. Call 703-550-9220.

Valentine Tea. 1 p.m. Cost is \$30/person. Tea and tour of Woodlawn. Tea, finger sandwiches, breads, and desserts with harp music played by Chris Van Dyke. Call 703-780-4000, ext. 26333. Visit www.woodlawn1805.org.

Make-your-own Victorian Valentine. 1 to 4 p.m. Cost is \$5/crafter. At Lee-Fendall House and Garden, Alexandria. Visit www.leefendallhouse.org.

MONDAY/FEB. 14

Valentine's Day Mixer. 7 to 11 p.m. Cost is \$10/person. Love-inspired artwork, mood music, food and more. Call Matthew Cuenca (matthewcuenca@gmail.com) or Tracy Wilkerson (tlwideas@comcast.net or visit www.TheDelRayArtisans.org). Del Ray Artisans' gallery is located at the Nicholas A. Colasanto Center, 2704 Mount Vernon Avenue, Alexandria.

Burlesque-a-Pades, February Frolic. 7:30 p.m. For 18 and over. Valentine's Day-inspired production from purveyors of sexy stockings and classy lingerie Secrets in Lace as well as The World Famous Pontani Sisters. Tickets are \$29.50 plus standard booking fees. At The Birchmere, 3701 Mt. Vernon Ave, Alexandria. Visit www.ticketmaster.com and www.birchmere.com or call 703-549-7500.

TUESDAY/FEB. 15

SEE ENTERTAINMENT, PAGE 22

ALEXANDRIA SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA
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SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 12 • 8PM

J. Strauss, Jr.	<i>Die Fledermaus Overture</i>
Arias with Tommy Fallon, countertenor:	
Mozart	<i>The Marriage of Figaro</i>
Mozart	<i>La Clemenza di Tito</i>
Rossini	<i>Semiramide</i>
J. Strauss, Jr.	<i>Die Fledermaus</i>
Dvorak	<i>Symphony No. 8</i>

Tommy Fallon, countertenor



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- Two Day, Three's Class (Thurs/Fri) (3 by Dec. 31st)
- Three Day, Three's Class (Mon/Tues/Wed) (3 by Sept. 30th)
- Five Day, Three's Class (Mon-Fri) (3 by Sept. 30th)
- Four/Fives Classes (Mon-Fri) Optional Extended Day Program offered to 10 oldest children in Four/Fives (4 by Sept. 30th)

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DINNER SPECIALS:

- Filet Mignon with a Red Wine Sauce
- Prime Rib with Au Jus
- Grilled Salmon Steak with Lemon Butter Sauce
- Jumbo Lump Crab Cakes with Tartar Sauce
- Broiled Red Snapper with a Mediterranean Sauce

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ENTERTAINMENT

FROM PAGE 21

Better Feet, Better You. 1 p.m.

The newest diabetic/therapeutic footwear from Dr. Comfort. Hermitage in Northern Virginia, 5000 Fairbanks Ave., Alexandria. Call 703-797-3800.

Mount Vernon Genealogical Society. 1 p.m. Free. Presentation

entitled "Records of the Civilian Conservation Corps – Record Group 35" by Charles S. Mason. At Hollin Hall Senior Center, 1500 Shenandoah Road, Alexandria. Call Harold McClendon at 703-360-0920 or haroldm@erols.com.

WEDNESDAY/FEB. 16

George Washington Lecture.

7:30 p.m. Tickets are \$12/person; \$10/members. Join Dr. Peter Henriques, Professor Emeritus of History from George Mason University, as he presents "Those Who Labor For Me" – A Closer Look at Some of George Washington's Enslaved Workers. At Gadsby's Tavern Museum Society. Call 703-746-4242 or visit www.gadsbystavern.org.

Duncan Book Discussion Group Meeting. 7 p.m. The group will

be discussing "Reading Lolita in Tehran" by Azar Nafisi. At the Duncan Library, 2591 Commonwealth Avenue. Call Ruth Hailu, 703-746-1705 ext. 3.

Swing Dancing. 9 to 11 p.m. Cost

is \$10. With Jim Stephanson and the Blue Dogs. At Nick's Nightclub, 642 South Pickett St., Alexandria.

THURSDAY/FEB. 17

Great Books Discussion Group Meeting. 7 p.m. At the Beatley Central Library, 5005 Duke Street, Alexandria. There will be a discussion of the three "ode" poems by John Keats. Call Bill Scouton at 703-931-3559.

Eighteenth-Century Dance Classes. 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. Cost is \$30/series or \$12/class. Learn the dances of Jane Austen, George Washington, and Abigail Adams in Gadsby's Tavern Museum's historic ballroom. At Gadsby's Tavern Museum, 134 North Royal Street. Reservations are requested and can be made by calling 703-746-4242 or www.gadsbystavern.org.

SATURDAY/FEB. 19

Broadway Night. 8 p.m. The Hayfield Choir Boosters present Broadway Night 2011. Complimentary Dessert Reception at 7 p.m. and entertainment by the Hayfield High School Jazz Band. Tickets are \$10/adults; \$7/students and seniors. At the Rebecca S. Wilburn Auditorium, Hayfield Secondary School.

Steven Gellman in Concert. 8 to 10 p.m. At St Elmo's Coffee Pub, 2300 Mt. Vernon Ave., Alexandria. Call 703-739-9268.

Genealogist Char Bah. 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Cost is \$5. During Black History Month, discover your own family history with expert techniques for tracing African-American ancestors. At the Alexandria Black History Museum, 902 Wythe Street, Alexandria. Call 703-746-4356 or visit www.alexblackhistory.org.

George Washington's Birthnight Supper and Ball.

Cocktails, a unique silent auction, raffle, seated dinner and live music. Hosted by the Neighborhood Friends of Mount Vernon. Tickets are \$175. To attend, call 703-799-8647 for reservations. At Historic Mount Vernon.

Black History Month Cruise. The Spirit of Washington is offering an educational lunch cruise, aimed to remember those who have influenced African-American culture. A DJ will provide live entertainment in tribute to notable African-American artists such as Duke Ellington, Marvin Gaye, Michael Jackson, Miles Davis and Diana Ross to name a few. The lunch cruise will feature the Grande Buffet with assorted salads and sides, entrees like the Wild Alaskan Salmon, Herb-Roasted Chicken, Three-Cheese Pasta Al Forno and desserts like the New York-style Cheesecake and Sweet Chocolate Mousse Truffle. The cruise boards at 11 a.m. and cruises from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. The cost is \$40.90 per person and guests can make reservations at 866-302-2469.

FEB. 19-21

George Washington Birthday Celebration Weekend. A city-wide celebration including the country's largest parade celebrating George Washington, a 10k race, the Birthnight Banquet and Ball, historic sites offering free admission, and more. Throughout Old Town, Alexandria. Call 703-991-4474 or visit www.Washingtonbirthday.Net/events.

SUNDAY/FEB. 20

Dream Wedding Event. 3 p.m. Bridal fashion show, wedding



John Doyle

TUESDAY/FEB. 15

Irish Musicians. 8 p.m. John Doyle, Niall Valley and Cillian Valley. Tickets are \$25/advance; \$29/door. At The Lyceum, 201 S. Washington St., in Alexandria. Reservations can be made at www.sunspotpro.com or by calling 800-404-9049.

Marine Chamber Orchestra. 2 p.m. The Compleat Percy Grainger. At the Rachel M. Schlesinger Concert Hall and Arts Center, NVCC, 3001 N. Beauregard St., Alexandria. Call 703-845-6156 or www.schlesingercenter.com.

Folk Singer Pierce Pettis. 7 p.m. With special guest Rj Cowdery. At Church of the Resurrection, 2280 N. Beauregard St., Alexandria. Tickets are \$18 general, \$15 in advance at FocusMusic.org.

MONDAY/FEB. 21

Surprise Birthday. Free admission. Celebrate the 279th birthday for George Washington. Daily from Feb. 19 through Feb. 21, the party features "General Washington" receiving birthday cheers, 18th-century music and birthday gifts presented from his 18th-century friends. On Saturday, Feb. 19, and Sunday, Feb. 20, have a taste of Washington's favorite breakfast — hoecakes swimming in butter and honey with "the General" himself! The weekend leads up to a grand holiday party for the first president on Monday, Feb. 21, with free admission, military demonstrations, the new "Surprise Birthday Party" celebration, and a wreathlaying ceremony at Washington's tomb. Visit www.MountVernon.org. At Mount Vernon.

Meet Woodrow Wilson. 11 a.m. Free. President Wilson will be brought to life by actor Brian Hilton, who will discuss his views on events of the time of his presidency, 1913 to 1921. At The Lyceum, Alexandria's History museum, 201 South Washington Street, Old Town, Alexandria. Visit www.alexandriahistory.org or call 703-746-4994.

TUESDAY/FEB. 22

Quilting Lecture. 12:30 p.m. Free. Pictorial Art Quilter Laura Wasiowski presents "I Quilt, Therefore I Am" to Mount Vernon Quilters Unlimited. MVQU meets at Hollin Hall Senior Center, 1500 Shenandoah Road, Alexandria. Contact: MVQUPresident@gmail.com.

WEDNESDAY/FEB. 23

Swing Dancing. 9 to 11 p.m. Admission is \$6. DJ Dance Party with DJ Dabe Murphy. At Nick's Nightclub, 642, South Pickett Street, Alexandria.

AbraKadoodle Innovative Art Class. 1:30 p.m. At the Hermitage in Northern Virginia, 5000 Fairbanks Ave., Alexandria. Call 703-797-3800.

THURSDAY/FEB. 24

"Oscar Night" Gala Benefit. 7 to 10 p.m. An evening of Hollywood glitz and glamour, featuring an Oscar Raffle, Silent Auction and Cocktail Buffet, the event promises to be a sellout! The event will raise funds for the CAC, a public-private partnership dedicated to the elimination of child abuse. Tickets are available at www.oscarnight.eventbrite.com or 703-746-6008. Ticket start at \$125 each. At Belle Haven Country Club, 6023 Fort Hunt Road, Alexandria.

Story Time. 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Designed for young children and caregivers, features story time and a craft. Fee is \$3/family. At the Lee-Fendall House Museum and Garden. Call 703-548-1789. Visit www.leefendallhouse.org.

vendors, complimentary appetizers, photo booth, auction of bridal services. At the St. George Gallery, 115 N. Alfred St., Alexandria. Proceeds benefit

VITAL VOICES Global Partnership, an international, non-profit organization that works with women and human rights. Visit www.VitalVoices.org.

Abigail Adams Historical Re-Enactment. 4 p.m. Free. The Colonial past meets the present when Abigail Adams and Benjamin Stoddert, the first U.S. Secretary of the Navy, discuss matters of their lives and concerns through an hour-long historical re-enactment at the Lyceum on the eve of President's Day. At the Lyceum, 201 South Washington Street, Old Town Alexandria.

President's Day Concert. 3 p.m. Free. The 40-member Harmony Heritage Singers will present a barbershop concert at Mount Vernon Unitarian Church, 1909 Windmill Lane, Alexandria. A free-will offering will be taken to support the work of United Community Ministries. Contact Ron Brandt, 703-765-4779, brandtron@verizon.net.

"Ready for Spring" Event. 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. Find products like Airbonne, doTerra, lia sophia, Miche Bags, Thirty One and Willow House. Purchases will benefit the Lee Fendall House Museum and Garden. Contact Jeri Hesson at 703-350-2385 or jeri.hesson@cox.net.

Washington Metropolitan Philharmonic. 3 p.m. Free. At Bishop Ireton High School, 201 Cambridge Road, Alexandria. Pre-concert lecture at 2:15 p.m.

FINE ARTS

NOW THROUGH FEB. 27

Mixing Bowl. Examines Immigration and Diversity in America. 16 artists were invited to submit work for consideration addressing their personal views on immigration and diversity in America today. Special programming includes a free film night on Friday, Feb. 4, 7-9 p.m. Screening of the film "Beyond Borders" with guest Simon Burrow, Executive Producer. At The Target Gallery in the Torpedo Factory. Visit www.torpedofactory.org.

NOW THROUGH MARCH 6

Centerpieces for Valentine's Day. The Ceramic Guild Show at the Scope Gallery at The Torpedo Factory. Monday through Sunday from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., with Thursdays open until 9 p.m. At 105 North Union Street, Ground Floor Studio 19, Alexandria. Call 703-548-6288 or visit www.torpedofactory.org/galleries/scope.

NOW THROUGH FEB. 27

Love Letters Exhibit. A collection of love-inspired artworks paired with artist's love letter. Reception is Friday, Feb. 4 from 7 to 10 p.m. At the Del Ray Artisans Gallery, 2704 Mount Vernon Ave., Alexandria. Visit www.TheDelRayArtisans.org

NOW THROUGH MARCH 6

"Malaysia Journeys." A Photo Exhibition by Blake Stenning. A reception will be held Saturday, Feb. 12 from 2 to 4 p.m.; Artist's Talk is Thursday, Feb. 10 at 7:30 p.m. At Multiple Exposures Gallery, 105 N. Union St., #312, Alexandria. Call 703-683-2205.

FEB. 9 TO MARCH 6

Gallery West Presents: The 14th National Show. Reception is Saturday, Feb. 12 from 5 to 8 p.m. Juried by F. Lennox Campello. Gallery hours are Wednesday

through Sunday from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Call 703-549-6006. Visit www.gallery-west.com.

THURSDAY/FEB. 10

Made With Love. 6 to 9 p.m. Free. At 7 p.m., SPARK presents a spoken word event inspired by Target Gallery's Mixing Bowl exhibit, exploring immigration and diversity in America. Part of Second Thursday Art Night at the Torpedo Factory Art Center, 105 N. Union St., Alexandria. Visit www.torpedofactory.org; 703-838-4565.

FEB. 11 TO MARCH 27

Objects & Apparitions by Renee Lachman. Opening reception is Sunday, Feb. 13 from 3 to 5 p.m. The Objects and Apparitions exhibition is an eloquent tribute to its namesake; a poem written by Octavio Paz for Joseph Cornell. At the Schlesinger Center Margaret W. & Joseph L. Fisher Gallery, NVCC Alexandria Campus, 3001 N. Beauregard St., Alexandria.

NOW THROUGH FEB. 13

"Hot Tropics." Free. Artists are inspired by warmth in winter's freeze. Jewelry, sculpture, clothing and wall pieces are some items that will be exhibited. At the Potomac Fiber Arts Gallery, Studio 18, Torpedo Factory Art Center, 105 North Union Street, Old Town Alexandria.

WEDNESDAY/FEB. 16

Life Drawing Workshop: Gesture Drawing. 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. Still looking for ways to get the most out of those short poses? During this workshop instructor Robin Croft will offer exercises and commentary intended to encourage a loose gestural approach to drawing the figure. At Del Ray Artisans Gallery, 2704 Mount Vernon Ave., Alexandria. Contact Katherine Rand at 703-836-1468 or DRA.LifeDrawing@gmail.com.

Cherry Challenge Is Feb. 6-12

The George Washington Birthday Celebration Committee is sponsoring the Cherry Challenge as part of their 2011 celebration of George Washington's birthday.

The Cherry Challenge features cherry-centric creations by Alexandria chefs to be featured on menus for Feb. 6-12. As patrons order these items, they are given ballots that allow them to become the judges. Items will be judged on taste, presentation, and creativity. The restaurant whose dish gets the highest scores will receive a plaque and be featured in the committee's signature event, the George Washington Birthday Parade.

Restaurants will have the choice to enter any of the three categories: Starters, Mains, or Desserts/Drinks. They can enter more than one category, but only offer one featured item per category. Participating in this year's contest are Dishes of India, Fontaine Caffe and

Creperie, Food Matters, Hank's Oyster Bar, King Street Blues Old Town, Murphy's Irish Pub, Pizzaiolo Café on Fern, Rampart's, Seagars Restaurant (Hilton Old Town), Shooter McGee's, St. Elmo's Coffee Pub, Tempo and The Light Horse.

Tempo Restaurant has been a category winner the past two years. They are hoping for a three-peat. Trying to win another plaque is also Murphy's Irish Restaurant, whose Cherry Duck will be returning to keep its place as best entrée, and Ramparts, which won last year with its Cherry-Glazed Chicken Wings in the appetizer category. Fontaine Café and Creperie took best dessert last year, with its chocolate-cherry crepes, and Tempo's cherry cocktail was so close a winner in the Drinks/Desserts category with Fontaine, that the committee decided to award them the "best drink" award in 2010. Visit www.washingtonbirthday.net.

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OPINION

Plan Provides Funds But No Long Term Solution

BY ADAM EBBIN
STATE DELEGATE (D-49)

Recent studies have confirmed what you and I have long known: Northern Virginians suffer the worst commute in the United States.



Clearly, we cannot afford to let another session of the General Assembly go by without taking action to address the traffic congestion that is crippling our region. That is why I feel I owe it to you, my constituents and supporters, to

explain why I voted against the preliminary House version of Governor McDonnell's transportation plan.

If making a \$4 billion investment in transportation over three years, without raising taxes, seems too good to be true ... well, in some ways it is.

The bill relies almost entirely on debt and borrowing to finance a one-time infusion of cash that, not coincidentally, will decline rapidly after Governor McDonnell's term expires. This will ensure that the Governor gets credit for new construction, but leaves future administrations and legislatures with a limited ability to deal with the long-term infrastructure problems that this plan fails to address.

RICHMOND
REPORT

The plan also diverts \$150 million from the state's "General Fund," taking away much-needed funding for education, public safety, and paying back the cash-strapped Virginia Retirement System. Thankfully, the version of the bill passed by the Senate does not touch the general fund surplus, and it is my sincere hope that this provision doesn't make it into the final version of the bill. I'm also concerned that the bill focuses too heavily on expanding roadways, setting aside too little for transit and rail. If we truly want to reduce congestion and shorten commute times, we need to find ways to get cars off the road instead of encouraging more sprawl.

We will not solve Virginia's transportation problems in just three years. It will require a long-term funding mechanism to generate sustained revenues.

However, given the urgency of the problem, we cannot afford to make the perfect the enemy of the good. Many of the construction projects that would be financed by the plan are long overdue, and could use a jump-start in funding.

That is why I'm optimistic that we can still work with the Senate to come back with a compromise on a fiscally responsible bill that will create jobs and inject much-needed funds into construction, while avoiding putting the state in a financial bind for decades to come.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

FROM PAGE 10

Torpedo This Plan

To the Editor:

I attended the Waterfront Work Session with city council on Tuesday night, and I could not agree with the Mayor's first comment more, "There is a lot of work still to be done." Unfortunately, the work that needs to be done is to scrap this current plan, which is fundamentally flawed, and create a new one where history and art are not just one thread woven into the plan but are the whole fabric of the plan. Faroll Hamer put it bluntly two weeks ago at Agenda Alexandria, the city may not be able to afford the 30 million of public amenities promised in this plan but we can move forward on the development of three parcels, the two Robinson terminals and the building on Waterfront Park.

But as council heard on Tuesday night, the waterfront will have to be rezoned for hotels, and the 1983 settlement agreement will have to be amended to allow a building on waterfront park, which currently has a covenant designating it as park land. And with the dismissal of the Old Dominion Boat Club title dispute, and the continuation of their parking, there might not be enough additional park land to replace the park along the waterfront, and John Fitzgerald Square cannot become a reality.

The settlement agreement took 10 years of hard work and we would not have Founders Park or Oronocco Bay park or an agreement for a continuous waterfront access without it.

It should not be amended. It was pressure of opening up the waterfront for development, namely new buildings along the waterfront, then, as it is now. The waterfront should not be considered another piece of commercial real estate that we can develop to fill the city coffers, it should be considered the crown jewel of Alexandria, and should be given much more careful consideration. This plan lacks vision and focus. We have entrusted this planning process to the wrong purpose: the pressure to

develop quickly to increase our commercial tax base at the expense of rushing a plan forward that is not ready. We are stewards to a city whose streets were surveyed by George Washington, and the focus of our waterfront should be history and art and culture, a place that George Washington would feel comfortable walking, with cobblestone alleyways, tall ships on the water, and lush gardens of native plants along the water. George needs something more than extra hotel rooms.

The last slide of the presentation suggested that we are trying to "complete the final chapter of the waterfront transformation." Instead of rushing the ending, and trying to force a conclusion, we need to think if this is the conclusion we want. This plan has the potential to squeeze out the Art League, the Alexandria Seaport Foundation, and build a new building on every developable parcel before we have achieved the highest and best possible use of some of our existing buildings.

This plan does not protect all the buildings our city archeologist has identified as historic, and includes no suggestions of their reuse, except to say we will wait for the developers to come forward with their proposals. Well, folks, the developers are already waiting at the door.

Proposals are on the table. We have the potential to lose some of the best assets that are already here: low impact, high return non-profits that have been on our waterfront for decades.

Instead of opening up the waterfront for redevelopment with no guarantee that these institutions will remain, we should be spending taxpayer money to secure the Robinson Terminal parcels and give a permanent home to the Art League, The Seaport Foundation, The Archeology Museum, and create a possible site for a Maritime Heritage Museum. By creating an arts and cultural district along our waterfront, we will have attractions that National Harbor's waterfront cannot compete with, and an opportunity to create a world class waterfront that will be a destination for citizens and visitors.

Boyd Walker

School Proposal Lacked Notification

To the Editor:

In response to Mark Williams' letter ["Sherman's Proposal," Feb. 3], not since the crafty tinkering scientist in the H.G. Wells classic have readers come across a character so obsessed with time. Alexandria Superintendent Mort Sherman continues to be infatuated with stapling on additional time to both the school year and school day. Whereas Sherman's original additional time proposal focused on additional classroom time for students, Mr. Sherman has now inexplicably shifted focus to a pricey and baseless \$2 million proposal for extending the teacher workday. Without access to the facts, some in the city are seeking to promote this new costly extended time proposal which is lacking analysis, detail, reason, or rhyme, through the defense of the earlier Sherman extended time proposal which too was lacking analysis, detail, reason, or rhyme. Not very wise.

In a letter to the editor, Mr. Williams states that "some of the most vocal and intractable opposition to Dr. Sherman's last proposal came from an extraordinarily limited number of parents." Was Mr. Williams in attendance at January's school board meeting when this topic exploded in the face of its mastermind? Parent after parent, teacher after teacher, representing elementary schools, middle schools, and T.C. Williams, all spoke out against the short-sighted, ill-advised, void of detail proposal. There was one, just one speaker, who spoke in favor of an extended school year and the extended school day. If the number of those opposing the proposal were so limited, why then did the school board split the items, quickly table the early-start proposal, and finally nix the additional student time proposal all together? In a written statement, the school board chairman stated that those decisions were made "after listening to input from the community."

Alexandria citizens have the right to know all of the facts and details of proposals which will impact them and thousands of their neighbors well in advance of a deci-

sion. Contrary to Mr. Williams' claims, the initial proposal was not brought to the attention of all community stakeholders in a timely manner. Members of Alexandria's business community were unaware of the proposal, school PTAs were unaware of the proposal, parents were unaware of the proposal, the Educational Association of Alexandria was unaware of the proposal, as were students and teachers who make up Alexandria's public school system. Public notice was given 10 days before the scheduled vote. A check of the Superintendent's public messages, Gazette columns, and blog (which was dormant for nearly seven months until this proposal was slapped down) show no mention whatsoever of this proposal or any proposal to extend the school year and school day. In fact, the only specific mention of the initial proposal is found buried in a school board agenda attachment on page six of an eight page document entitled "Continuing our Transformation as a 21st Century School Division." This document was presented at a Nov. 9, 2010 school board work session which was advertised to the public as a "Compensation and Benefits" work session. Between that school board work session of Nov. 9 and the Jan. 13 public hearing, not a single letter about the proposal (in English or Spanish) was sent out to parents and students, nothing regarding the proposal was posted on the ACPS website, no notices were sent out to local media or businesses, and, as outlined in the Superintendent's November document, a "task force of teachers" was not established to review and advise on the proposal. All of this is patently true and accurate.

Tim Leary
Alexandria

Moran's Latest Divisiveness

To the Editor:

After the Jan. 25 State of the Union address, U.S. Rep. Jim Moran (D-8) told an international audience on the Arab televi-

SEE LETTERS, PAGE 25

OPINION



SSSAS

Happy New Year

St. Stephen's & St. Agnes Lower School celebrated the Chinese New Year on Monday, Feb. 7 with an interactive presentation from Wong People of Washington, D.C. Students and faculty were encouraged to wear red, symbolizing good luck.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

FROM PAGE 24

sion network Alhurra that the results of last November's election were because most Americans are racists who "don't want to be governed by an African-American ...". This latest outburst, coming as we know all too well on a long history of Moran embarrassments, is not only wildly inaccurate, it is un-American.

I do not support many of President Obama's policies because I do not think they are good for our country. Priorities like nationalized healthcare, energy policies that force us to depend upon foreign oil, an \$850 billion "stimulus" package that put more Americans out of work, or slashing military troop levels by almost 10 percent while we are fighting our nation's wars abroad are examples of why I disagree with the Obama administration. The vast majority of Americans who voted for change in November 2010 did so for these and other fact-based, policy-related reasons.

But political views aside, as an American I am very proud that in 2008 we elected an African-American to be our President; it reinforces our creed that all Americans, regardless of race, gender or orientation are entitled to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. It is also a tangible reminder of how far we have progressed as a nation in which slavery was once an institution. We aren't perfect, but we have come a long way. Moran's rant, delivered to an international audience, dismisses this progress and casts us all back to our regrettable pre-14th Amendment past.

Over the years, Northern Virginia and most of America sadly has become accustomed to Mr. Moran's mean-spirited ver-

biage and aggressive behavior, including a pattern of arguably anti-Semitic comments. However, Moran outdid himself this time, going well beyond insulting just one ethnic group or political party. His offensive comments as a sitting U.S. congressman delivered to an international audience demean all Americans regardless of religion, political affiliation or ethnicity. It was a staggering lapse of judgment, divisive and un-American.

Jim Moran should correct the record with Alhurra, and he owes an apology to his fellow countrymen.

Patrick Murray

Murray resides in Alexandria, is a retired U. S. Army Colonel and was the 2010 Republican nominee for Congress in the 8th District of Virginia.

Political Attack

To the Editor:

Del. Adam Ebbin's new bill to curtail the authority of the Commonwealth's attorney general is a short-sighted political attack on current officeholder Ken Cuccinelli that portends more pitfalls than positives for Virginians.

It's clear from Ebbin's statements that HB 2468, which would prohibit current attorney general prerogatives such as filing briefs with the U.S. Supreme Court unless specifically authorized by the governor or General Assembly, is meant to punish Cuccinelli for work on national cases involving illegal immigration and health care reform. But this effort to clip Cuccinelli's wings now is likely to have terrible long-term consequences for the Commonwealth.

Ebbin seems to forget that the legislature

Safety: #1 Priority in Department

By MCKENYA DILWORTH-ABDALLA
ACTING CENTER DIRECTOR
NANNIE J. LEE MEMORIAL
RECREATION CENTER

The Department of Recreation, Parks and Cultural Activities has a firm commitment to safety. Under the leadership of James Spengler, the department now has a newly formed Safety Council. The Safety Council consists of members of different areas within the department: maintenance, administration and recreation services.



RECREATION

Our safety manager, Shuron Putnam, provides meaningful insight on the world of safety and impresses upon all members that safety must be our number one priority, not a part-time practice. She has served in the safety manager capacity for some years now and is pleased to have spearheaded the first annual safety conference scheduled for Valentine's Day. After all, safety should be close to the heart!

The conference is from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., registration begins as early as 8 a.m. at the Lee Center. There are a number of vendors

and interesting facilitators for the conferences including but not limited to: Healthy Living Alexandria, State Farm Insurance, Employment Assistance Services (City of Alexandria), Fastenal, Flippo Safety Vending Trucks, 4-H Extension and Commonwealth One Federal Credit Union.

You too can play a part in making sure that we continue to provide safe environments for leisure and enrichment programs and activities for the community by letting staff know when you perceive a potential safety issue. Surveys are readily available at all neighborhood centers, and if you need assistance one of our friendly customer care representatives at the center can assist you.

MUSE (Music Unites Students Everywhere) has received its musical instrument donation from Hungry for Music where Jeff Campbell is CEO. Five saxophones and one French horn were donated last week and now we are set to begin our music program. Our music teacher, Dr. Eddie Johnson, is a professional musician with experience playing nationally and internationally while serving our country in the Armed Forces. To date we have one piano and four bongos in addition to what was donated.

If you want to donate musical instruments and/or know someone who wants to volunteer their time to teach music please contact the center at 703.746.5533.

is not a full-time body and the governor and attorney general are not necessarily of the same political party as they are now. It's not easy to bring the General Assembly back to Richmond for a special session just to give an attorney general the go-ahead on a legal brief.

This means a partisan governor could block an attorney general's legitimate and productive work for Virginians' interests nationally.

Would Ebbin want a Governor Cuccinelli to hold such sway over a potentially liberal attorney general? Unlikely. Yet that's exactly what HB 2468 has the potential to create.

David W. Almasi
Alexandria

Worth City Council's Time?

To the Editor:

While Vice Mayor Donley isn't lobbying to raise your taxes, he is wasting your

money and City Council's valuable time to address nonexistent issues so he can engage in political pandering.

Yes, dear readers, Donley has taken the first courageous steps to legalize public breastfeeding! So here's a simple question before more time and money is wasted on this issue: How many women have been arrested in the City of Alexandria over the past year for this "crime"? How many over the past five years?

According to one media report, neither city police nor the commonwealth's attorney in Alexandria could recall a single case in which a woman was cited for breast-feeding in public. Mr. Vice Mayor, have you considered using your elected position to address real the issues of our failing school system, high taxes or real crimes?

I urge Alexandrians to keep this idiotic and wasteful effort by the Vice Mayor in mind the next time he tells you about the urgent need for him to raise your taxes.

Bud Miller
Alexandria

Betty Harrington Macdonald

FROM PAGE 7

Macdonald of Singapore and Julia Collins of West Hartford, Conn.; niece Sarah Naradzay of Aberdeen, N.C.; a grandniece, Catherine Naradzay; several nephews, John Herrick of Sydney, Australia, and Michael Herrick of Poplar Island, Md.

A memorial service will be held at St. Paul's Episcopal Church on Feb. 11 at 11 a.m., and some of her paintings will be

displayed at a reception at the Athenaeum on Prince Street following the service. She will be buried at Arlington National Cemetery, where her late husband is also buried, and her name will be inscribed on her parents' tombstone at Christ Church in Dover. Donations in her memory can be made to the Milford Historical Society, and the Lewes Historical Society of Delaware.

Legal Notices

ABC LICENSE

Glam A Unisex Mini Day Spa, LLC trading as Glam Day Spa, 6929 Telegraph Rd, Alexandria, VA 22310. The above establishment is applying to the VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL for a Day Spa, Wine & Beer on premise license to sell or manufacture alcoholic beverages. Trong D Le, Owner

OBITUARY

Robert L. Jacobs

Robert L. Jacobs, of Erie, Colorado, formerly of Alexandria, Virginia, passed away January 27, 2011.

He is survived by his wife of forty-seven years, Ilse Hartmann Jacobs, his brother David Edward Jacobs, his daughters Karin E. McLean of Lafayette, Colorado and Heidi Mazel of Broomfield, Colorado, and two grandchildren, Annika and Andrew McLean.

Born on April 20, 1923, he enlisted in the Air Force in World War II, during which time he was a Technical Sergeant in the 398th Bomb Group. For service above and beyond the call of duty, he received three medals, including the Distinguished Flying Cross. He was a member of the Distinguished Flying Cross Society, the Old Dominion Boat Club of Alexandria, Virginia, and was retired from the Small Business Administration.

Mr. Jacobs and his family are in the care of Darrell Howe Mortuary, 1701 W. South Boulder Road, Lafayette, Colorado.

LEGAL NOTICE

Pursuant to the provision of section 4-1-16 of the code of the City of Alexandria, the Alexandria Police Department located at 2003 Mill Road, Alexandria, VA 22314 is now in possession of unclaimed bicycles, mopeds, lawn equipment, money, scooters, and other items. All persons having valid claim to the property should file a claim to the property with reasonable proof of ownership or the items will be sold, destroyed, converted or donated. For a complete listing go to <http://alexandriava.gov/police/> and contact the Police Property Unit at (703) 838-4709.

Legal Notices

NORTH CAROLINA IN THE GENERAL COURT OF JUSTICE

ROWAN COUNTY DISTRICT COURT DIVISION

FILE NO 09 JT 192, 09 JT 169-172

IN RE:

NOTICE OF SERVICE OF PROCESS

Isabella Moro Leonard, BY PUBLICATION

Alexandra Moro,

Christian Moro,

Puelai Moro,

Aniya Moro.

Minor Children.

TO RESPONDENT: Adabra Ruth Marie Moro, mother,

Miguel Angel Gutierrez Vaca,

Jose Catalina Guerra, aka: Jose Portillo,

Vidal Antonio Martinez Medrano,

Angel Arthur Ceferino, aka: Victor Hugo Apolo,

Unknown Fathers.

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that a Petition has been filed by the Rowan County Department of Social Services (petitioner) for the purpose of terminating your parental rights with respect to Isabella Leigh Diane Mie Moro Leonard, born on or about July 8, 2009 in Davidson County, North Carolina; Alexandra Leigh Tina Mary Moro, born on or about February 14, 2007 in Rowan County, North Carolina; Christian Duane Richard Lee Moro, born on or about February 14, 2007 in Rowan County, North Carolina; Puelai Leigh Christina Marie Moro, born on or about April 6, 2006 in Rowan County, North Carolina, and Aniya Leigh Ruth Marie Moro, born on or about March 15, 2005 in Cabarrus County, North Carolina so that they can be placed for adoption. The biological mother of the juveniles named above is Adabra Ruth Marie Moro. You are notified to appear and answer the petition by serving the original of your written answer upon the Clerk of Superior Court, Juvenile Court Division, Rowan County Courthouse, 210 N. Main Street, Salisbury, NC 28144, within forty (40) days from the date of the first publication of this notice. You also must serve a copy of the answer on the petitioner's attorney (address below). You will be notified of the time, date and place to appear for a hearing upon the filing of your answer. The purpose of the hearing is to seek termination of your parental rights as they pertain to Isabella Leigh Diane Mie Moro Leonard, Alexandra Leigh Tina Mary Moro, Christian Duane Richard Lee Moro, Puelai Leigh Christina Marie Moro, and Aniya Leigh Ruth Marie Moro. You are entitled to appear at the hearing. If you cannot afford an attorney, you are entitled to an appointed attorney to assist you provided you request one before the time set for the hearing. If you fail to request counsel, you may waive your right to appointed counsel. You may request an attorney by contacting the Clerk of Superior Court, Juvenile Court Division, 210 N. Main St, Salisbury, NC 28144 (704) 797-3054. This is a new case and any attorney appointed previously to represent may not represent you in this termination of parental rights proceeding unless otherwise ordered by the court. If you fail to file an answer within the time specified the Petitioner will apply to the court for termination of your parental rights. Your parental rights may be terminated if you do not respond within the time required.

This the 19th day of January 2011.

Cynthia Dry, Attorney for Petitioner

Rowan County Dept. of Social Services
1813 East Innes Street
Salisbury NC 28146

(704) 216-8442

Please publish on the following dates: January 27, February 3, & February 10, 2011.

Legal Notices

OBITUARY



Mark J. Hulkower, 53, who served as a federal prosecutor and for the last 16 years as a renowned criminal defense attorney, died February 5, 2011, at Capital Hospice in Arlington, Virginia. He had colon cancer.

Mr. Hulkower was an Assistant United States Attorney for the Eastern District of Virginia from 1989 to 1995, where he handled a number of prominent cases, culminating in the prosecution and conviction of former CIA intelligence agent Aldrich H. Ames and his wife Rosario for espionage. Ames is currently serving life in prison for funneling classified information to the Soviet Union.

After leaving government service, Mr. Hulkower became a partner at the DC law firm Steptoe & Johnson, where he was head of the firm's white-collar criminal defense practice group. He won acquittals in a number of high profile cases, including the prosecutions of former Teamsters Union president Ron Carey and former Tyco General Counsel Mark Belnick. Most recently, he obtained the acquittal of John Tuli, a former AOL executive charged with securities fraud, and the dismissal of all charges against a Blackwater contractor accused of shooting Iraqi citizens in Nisoor Square on Sept. 16, 2007. He was consistently listed in prestigious peer-reviewed publications for his expertise in criminal defense of white-collar crimes, including Chambers USA and Best Lawyers in America.

Reid Weingarten, also a partner at Steptoe & Johnson and one of the top white collar defense

Legal Notices

attorneys in the country, said "Mark was the best trial lawyer I've ever seen. He was a brilliant examiner and persuasive advocate. He was the consummate professional, and an even better person."

Mark Hulkower was born in The Bronx and raised in Westchester County, New York. He graduated from Cornell University in 1980 and obtained his law degree, magna cum laude, in 1984 from the Georgetown University Law Center, where he was an Editor of the Georgetown Law Journal. An avid runner who completed several marathons, he frequently stated that his proudest accomplishment was coaching his children's soccer and basketball teams for 14 years despite maintaining a busy trial practice that required regular domestic and international travel.

He is survived by his wife of 22 years, Nancy Hulkower, and his three children, Annie, Griffin, and Maggie. Survivors also include his parents, Gustave Hulkower of Tucson, Arizona, and Rita Hulkower of Westchester County, New York, and his brother, Steve Hulkower, MD, of Asheville, North Carolina.

Additional cases/info for review:

He was also represented: Riggs Bank in the P-inochet money laundering case; a defendant in the ADM trial made famous by the movie The Informant, the Enron Chief Accounting Officer, HealthSouth CFO, as well as others. Carey was vs the SDNY, though tried in New Jersey, and Belnick was against the Manhattan DA. Blackwater was in DC, AOL/Tuli in Alexandria.

Reference Visuals from Blackwater Trial:

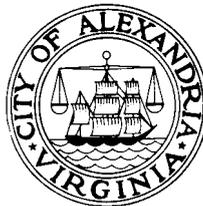
<http://www.nytimes.com/2008/12/09/washington/09blackwater.html>

http://voices.washingtonpost.com/washington-post-investigations/2008/12/blackwater-guards_surrender_ch.html

Additional details for services & charitable contributions:

The visitation will be held Tuesday, February 8th, from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. at St. Paul's Episcopal Church, 228 South Pitt Street, Alexandria, Virginia. The funeral is scheduled for Wednesday February 9 at St. Paul's Episcopal Church, 228 South Pitt Street, Alexandria, VA, 22314. A reception will immediately follow at Belle Haven Country Club, 6023 Fort Hunt Road, Alexandria.

Memorials contributions may be sent to the Lombardi Comprehensive Cancer Center, Georgetown University Hospital, Attn: Office of Development, Harris Building, Suite 4000, 3300 Whitehaven Street, N.W., Washington, D.C., 20007



Alexandria Board of Architectural Review
Parker-Gray District

LEGAL NOTICE OF A PUBLIC HEARING

A public hearing will be held by the Alexandria Board of Architectural Review on WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 2011 beginning at 7:30 PM in Council Chambers, second floor of City Hall, 301 King Street, Alexandria, Virginia on the following applications:

CASE BAR2011-00003
Alterations to previously approved plans at 219 N West St, zoned RB Residential.
APPLICANT: Wanda Carter

CASE BAR2011-0027
Permit to Demolish at 411 North West Street, zoned RB Residential.
APPLICANT: Brendan Owens, Contract Purchaser

CASE BAR2011-0028
Addition and alterations at 411 North West Street, zoned RB Residential.
APPLICANT: Brendan Owens, Contract Purchaser

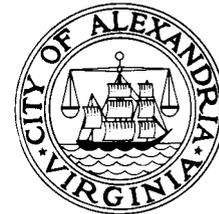
CASE BAR2011-0004
Request for trash enclosure screening at 1400 Princess St, zoned RB Residential.
APPLICANT: Alexandria Redevelopment and Housing Authority

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

Legal Notices

ORDER OF PUBLICATION

Case No JJ011737-01-05
Commonwealth of Virginia
VA. CODE § 8.01-316
Alexandria J & DR Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court
Commonwealth of Virginia, in re
DOMINIQUE ROBINSON
The object of this suit is to:
Determine custody/visitation of subject child
It is ordered that the defendant Jeffrey Lassiter, appear at the above named Court and protect his or her interests on or before 3/3/3011 at 9:00am



Public Hearing will be held by the City Council of the City of Alexandria, Virginia, in the Council Chambers, City Hall, City of Alexandria, Virginia, on Saturday, February 12, 2011, at 9:30 a.m., or as soon thereafter as may be heard on the hereinafter described items.

AN ORDINANCE to amend and reordain Section 13-1-17(INDECENT EXPOSURE) of Chapter 1 (GENERAL OFFENSES), Title 13 (MISCELLANEOUS OFFENSES) of the Code of the City of Alexandria, Virginia, 1981, as amended.

An amendment to specifically exempt breastfeeding from the ordinance regarding indecent exposure.

Public Hearing on a Report of the City Council Naming Committee on the Proposal to Name the City Park at 3500 Jefferson Davis Highway in Honor of Ruby Tucker.

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

TRUSTEE'S SALE

OF VALUABLE

IMPROVED REAL ESTATE

Improved by the premises known as
1010 Emerald Drive, Alexandria, Virginia

In execution of a Deed of Trust from Logan D. Leathers, Ursula F. Leathers, Enrique L. Kotoriy and Dely A. Kotoriy, dated June 8, 2007, and recorded June 13, 2007, in Deed Book 19391 at page 623 among the Land Records of Fairfax County, Virginia, the undersigned substitute trustee will offer for sale at public auction at the front entrance of the Judicial Center for Fairfax County, at 4110 Chain Bridge Road, Fairfax, Virginia, on
Friday, February 18, 2011 at 9:30 a.m.

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

Lot 22, Block 22, Subdivision of Waynewood, Section Eight, as the same appears duly dedicated, platted and recorded in Deed Book 1788 at page 168, among the Land Records of Fair-

Legal Notices

fax County, Virginia; together with an easement for turn around purposes as set forth in Deed Book 2433 at page 142 among the aforesaid land records.

Commonly known as 1010 Emerald Drive, Alexandria, Virginia 22308.

TERMS OF SALE: A deposit of \$35,000.00 or ten percent (10%) of the sale price, whichever amount is less, in the form of cash or its equivalent will be required of the purchaser at the time and place of sale; the balance of the purchase money being due and payable within fifteen (15) days after sale, time expressly being of the essence, with interest at the rate of 11.375 percent per annum from date of sale to date of settlement. Provided, however, that if the holder of the secured promissory note is the successful bidder at the sale, no cash deposit shall be required, and part of or the entire indebtedness, including interest and costs, secured by the Deed of Trust, may be set off against the purchase price.

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

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

This sale is being made subject to a surety trust.

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

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

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

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

DAVID N. PRENSKY
Substitute Trustee

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

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THE CONNECTION
to your community

TC Honors Seniors, Blows Out Lee

Titans have won four of five with district tourney approaching.

BY JON ROETMAN
GAZETTE PACKET

Jasmine Norman experienced several emotions prior to Tuesday's game against Lee. It was Senior Night at The Garden and the last time Norman would play a regular season home game as a member of the Titans.

"I was excited but at the same time I was nervous because of all the family, all the fans and all the support I have and just knowing that it was my last home game on the Titans floor after all these years," she said. "But other than that, once the game started, all that went out the door."

Along with Lee's chances of winning.

TC led 16-3 after one quarter and 33-7 at halftime before cruising to a 74-28 win against the Lancers, who dropped to 1-17. The Titans improved to 13-8 overall, 8-5 in the Patriot District and appear ticketed for the No. 3 seed in the district tournament. TC has won 4 of its last 5 games and 6 of its last 8.

"We're playing well, but I want to see us kick it up," head coach Keshia Walton said. "We need to kick it up a notch if we're talking about doing some things and making some real noise in the district."

Four seniors played their final home games for TC on Tuesday: Norman, Sade' Barber, Rainie Summa and Demi Williams.

Norman is a 5-foot-10 forward and TC's leading scorer. On Tuesday, she finished with 13 points. "She means a lot," Walton said. "A lot of times our defense and our team feeds off her energy. If she's down, we struggle a little bit."

Barber is a 5-foot-6 point guard who is often a catalyst at both ends of the floor. Against Lee, Barber scored 13 points.

"She's our floor general," Walton said. "We look to her a lot to lead us on offense. She's usually on top on defense trying to



T.C. Williams senior Jasmine Norman is the Titans leading scorer.

rattle the guards. She's the star of our backcourt."

Barber said the Titans can't take anything for granted heading into the postseason.

"I think at this time we're starting to peak and building more team camaraderie," she said. "From here on out it's win or go home, so we need to play every game like it's our last." Summa is one of the team's top perimeter threats, but had an off-shooting night against Lee, finishing with two points.

Summa is "very heady," Walton said. "She's a shooter. Obviously she was in a little

slump tonight, but shooters go through that. All we tell her is keep shooting."

Summa said Senior Night led to mixed emotions. "It's sad because it's our last game in The Garden," she said, "but it felt good to end that big of a win."

Williams is a 5-foot-11 forward who scored five points against the Lancers.

"We focus on her a lot to bang and get some rebounds," Walton said. "She had a couple strong moves to the basket and that's something we worked on with her."

Williams said the fact she played her last



Demi Williams was one of four TC seniors honored on Senior Night.

home game started to sink in near the end of the fourth quarter.

"At the end it [sunk in] when it was the final seconds," she said. "I was like, 'Dang, this is my last home game.'"

Kristen Roberts also scored 13 points for TC and Johnee Lewis added 10.

TC also honored breast cancer survivors and raised awareness by wearing pink.

TC will travel to face West Potomac at 7:45 p.m. on Feb. 11 to close the regular season. The district tournament will start the following week.

SPORTS BRIEFS

TC Boys Third, Girls Fourth At Indoor Track Districts

The T.C. Williams boys indoor track team finished third at the Patriot District meet, finishing with 104 points, 15 behind meet-winner Annandale.

The TC girls finished fourth with 57.33 points. South County won the girls competition with 189.33 points.

The TC girls 800-meter relay team of Kathryn Hendley, Sarah Conroy, Allegra Benites and Morgan Latillaide won a district title with a time of 1:52.66.

The boys 800 relay team (Willie Curry, Terrance Curry, Will Rossi, Zaquan Summers) also won the championship, recording a time of 1:34.44. TC's Darren Foreman won the 500-meter dash title with a time of 1:09.44.

TC Boys To Host Home Finale

The T.C. Williams boys basketball team will host West Potomac at 7:45 p.m. on Feb. 11. It will be the Titans' final regular season contest.

WMPSSDL Championships

The St. Stephen's & St. Agnes boys swim and dive team finished sixth and the girls finished 15th at the WMPSSDL Championship with several best times, some states qualifying and a couple broken school records.

For the girls, Kelsey Stowers started off with diving on Wednesday. She placed 14th and posted a lifetime best score of 209.5. The girls swam prelims on Friday and, despite a long meet and a late

SEE SPORTS BRIEFS, PAGE 30

Fishman To Highlight ASC Hockey Night

Don Fishman, assistant general manager and director of legal affairs for the Washington Capitals, will be the featured speaker at the Feb. 15 meeting of the Alexandria Sportsman's Club. The meeting will be held at the Old Dominion Boat Club, 1 King St., at 6:30 p.m. The meeting is free and open to all and refreshments will be served.



Fishman

COURTESY PHOTO

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gcassidy@mountvernon.org

Christ Church Docents

Christ Church seeks paid and volunteer docents to welcome and inform visitors. Training provided. 4 hr shifts are available and schedule flexibility is required. Respond in writing to Michelle Cox, Christ Church, 118 N Washington St, Alexandria, VA 22314 or mcox@ccalex.org. We are unable to take phone calls.

Garden Center Laborer and Merchandiser

Bell Nursery, a nationally recognized grower/vendor is looking for hardworking people to stock our products at a garden center near you. Must be flexible for weekend work. For job descriptions and locations go to www.bellimpact.com

Part-time Nursery Worker

Plymouth Haven Baptist Church is seeking a caring, reliable part-time caretaker for nursery-aged children (newborn through kindergarten) from 8:00 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. each Sunday and two hours each Sunday evening Sept.-May. Possibility of some weekday evening nursery care hours. Competitive hourly pay. The successful candidate should have membership in another church of Christian faith, have experience and enjoy working with newborn and young children, direct and work well with volunteer nursery staff, and have general knowledge of first aid. Must be at least 18-years old and speak English; non-smoking candidate preferred.

Email resume and 3 references to
jobs@plymouthhaven.org or call
703-360-4370.

Preschool Teacher

Seeking mature energetic creative person for full-time Lead Teacher position at Alexandria Location Preschool. Prior experience working in childcare. Bachelor's Degree. Competitive Salary & Med Benefits. Earned leave & all Federal Holidays Off, Paid Annual Training, 401(K). Position avail immediately. Fax resume 703-765-6356 or Email resume: ACPhollinH@aol.com. EOE

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Fax: **703-250-7631** or
Phone: **703-250-6550**

Executive Director

At Home in Alexandria (AHA!), a start up non-profit organization is looking for an Executive Director. AHA! will enable Alexandrians to live independently in their own homes. See www.athomeinalexandria.org for details. Preference will be given to Alexandria residents.

Send an email to ExecDir.AHA@gmail.com using **ED Application** in the subject line. Completed applications must be received by close of business (COB) Friday, 4 March 2011.

JOB FAIR

Wednesday, February 16th, 2011

5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

St. Coletta Adult Day Program

207 S. Peyton Street • Alexandria, VA 22314



St. Coletta of Greater Washington

St. Coletta of Greater Washington, Inc. is a non-sectarian, nonprofit organization that serves individuals with intellectual disabilities, autism, and secondary disabilities. Our adult day program offers adults with intellectual disabilities opportunities to participate in vocational and life skills training, community integration, recreational activities, and consultative services in order to achieve greater independence.

We are actively recruiting for:

Program Assistants to provide positive instruction and support to adults in our day program. The ideal candidate has a High School Diploma or its equivalent and prior experience working with children or adults with intellectual disabilities.

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Zones 2, 3, 4.....Tues @ noon

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EMPLOYMENT

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Zones 1, 3.....Tues @ 4:00

Zone 2.....Wed @ 11:00

Zone 4.....Wed @ 1:00

E-mail ad with zone choices to: classified@connectionnewspapers.com or call Barbara @ 703-778-9413

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The Oak Hill/Herndon Connection

Zone 2: The Springfield Connection
The Burke Connection
The Fairfax Connection
The Fairfax Station/Clifton/Lorton Connection

Zone 3: The Alexandria Gazette Packet
The Mount Vernon Gazette

Zone 4: Centre View North
Centre View South

Zone 5: The Potomac Almanac

Zone 6: The Arlington Connection
The Vienna/Oakton Connection
The McLean Connection
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T.C. Williams senior Charlie Digby, center, signs a Letter of Intent Feb. 2 to play Division I field hockey for Ball State University. With her, from left, are her mother Karen Digby, and aunt and uncle Lorriane Aprile and Miles Holtzman.



PHOTO BY JEANNE THEISMANN/GAZETTE PACKET

TC's Digby To Play D-I Field Hockey

T.C. Williams High School senior Charlie Digby officially signed a Letter of Intent Feb. 2 to play Division I field Hockey for Ball State University in Indiana.

"This is very exciting," said T.C. coach William Heresniak. "I've been coaching varsity for five years and 16 years of JV before that and this is my first player to sign D-I."

Heresniak praised Digby's athleticism and work ethic.

"She's got great feet, is fast and very athletic," Heresniak said. "But she made a huge

jump between her junior and senior year when she worked hard on her own during the off season. That's a huge testament to her commitment to the sport."

Raised by a single mother from the time she was born, Digby is looking forward to playing for Ball State.

"I loved the team and the coaches from the minute I met them," said Digby, who made her official visit to the school three weeks ago. "It just felt right so it was easy to commit to play for the team."

— JEANNE THEISMANN

SPORTS BRIEFS

FROM PAGE 27

night, they had some strong swims with seven girls qualifying individually and on relays to compete in the finals.

Senior captain Rachel Movius was the points leader for the girls at the meet and had huge time drops and best times in all four of her events. Individually she won the consolation heat in the 200 IM (ninth overall), dropping 4 seconds from her previous best time. In the 100 breast, she finished 4th overall and crushed her previous best time and school record by 3 seconds, finishing in 1:09.27.

The 200 medley relay of sophomore Marian Shaw, Movius, sophomore Lizzie Beane, and senior Gabby Richichi finished 13th. The 200 free relay of Shaw, freshmen Alison Lindsay and Natalie Hellmann, and senior captain Caroline Blair finished 15th. The 400 free relay of Blair, Hellmann, Lind-

say and Movius finished 14th. The team scored 15th overall.

The boys team finished sixth overall. Senior captain Conor MacNair placed second in the 200 IM and he won the 100 breaststroke, breaking his own school record, in a time of 59.22. He received WMPSSDL All-League honors. Junior Ferrel Atkins placed 13th in the 200 IM and 10th in the 100 backstroke. Senior Cabell Perrot placed third in the 100 freestyle. The boys relays also had very strong swims. The 200 medley relay of Atkins, MacNair, freshman Kyle Draim and Perrot placed third. The 200 free relay of Perrot, Draim, senior Ryan Gillooly and MacNair placed fourth. The 400 freestyle relay dropped 5 seconds from their preliminary time to finish 10th in a time of 3:33.07. That relay included Atkins, Gillooly, junior Joe Lindsay and senior Sam Teague.

MILITARY NOTES

Steve Kirby, a highly decorated Navy pilot, and Maj. Gen. John M. Bednarek. Kirby was most recently chief of staff of the Eisenhower (carrier) task group. Bednarek was nominated for appointment to the grade of lieutenant general and assignment as the commanding general, First U.S. Army, Fort Gillem, Ga. They were both Bishop Ireton graduates, class of '71 and both varsity wrestlers. Their 40th reunion takes place this year.



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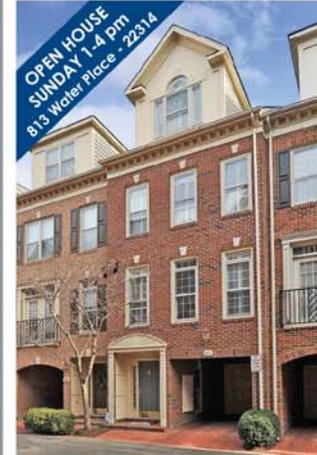
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