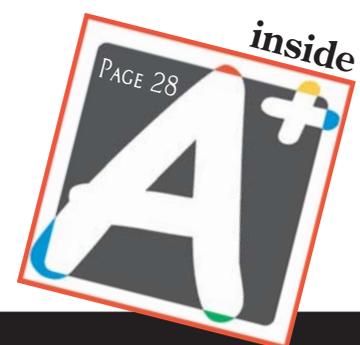


Alexandria Gazette Packet



25 CENTS

SERVING ALEXANDRIA FOR OVER 200 YEARS • A CONNECTION NEWSPAPER FEBRUARY 24, 2011



PHOTO BY LOUISE KRAFFT/GAZETTE PACKET

Salute for George The First Virginia Regiment of the Continental Line fires welcoming volleys down South Royal Street on the approach of the first commander-in-chief General George Washington at the annual birthday parade on Monday. More photos, page 15.

Changing Face of Parker Gray

Two new developments in the works, and more on the way.

BY MICHAEL LEE POPE
GAZETTE PACKET

Demolition and construction have become the order of the day in Parker Gray, the city's historically African-American neighborhood that is undergoing massive changes. Two large construction projects are currently in progress, and another significant one will start soon. It's a massive amount of change for the neighborhood.

“Residents on the whole are happy to see these projects finally get underway.”
— Leslie Zupan, president, West Old Town Civic Association

“Residents on the whole are happy to see these projects finally get underway,” said Leslie Zupan, president of West Old Town Civic Association. “But where is the retail we were promised?” Zupan pointed out that half of the retail space in the recently constructed Monarch building remain empty, and she pointed out that the developer for a new building known as the Madison recently reduced the amount of retail space on the ground floor. Many neighborhood residents are still upset they were unable to land a Harris Teeter in their neighborhood, SEE NEW DEVELOPMENTS, PAGE 4

Uncommon Valor

BY JEANNE THEISMANN
GAZETTE PACKET

Veterans reunite to mark Iwo Jima anniversary.

The morning of Feb. 19, 1945, was eerily quiet. Too quiet, thought Marine Staff Sergeant Norm Hatch as he made his way through the volcanic ash on the shores of the remote Japanese island of Iwo Jima. “I said right away ‘Something

doesn't smell right,” recalled Hatch, a seasoned combat photographer who had faced the same

SEE UNCOMMON, PAGE 7

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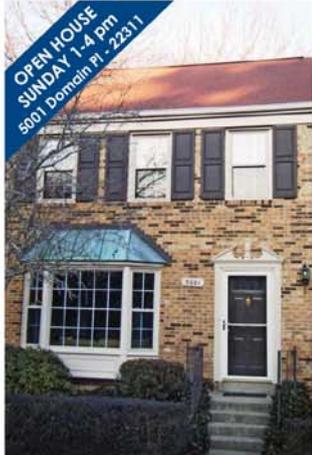
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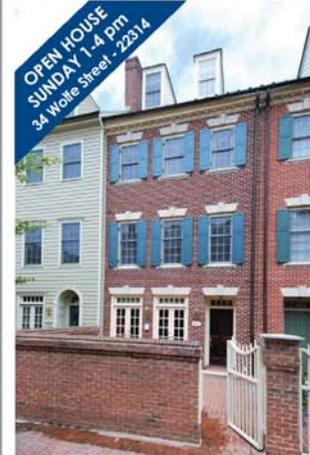


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Rosemont	2 BR/1 BA	\$1,595	MLS# AX7528339
Watergate at Landmark	2 BR/2 BA	\$1,650	MLS# AX7504028
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Rosemont/Braddock Hts	3 BR/1.55 BA	\$2,900	MLS# AX7534892
Old Town	2 BR/1.5 BA	\$2,950	MLS# AX7492501
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COUNCIL NOTEBOOK

Uncollective Bargaining

Don't expect any dramatic scenes in Alexandria on the order of what's happening in Wisconsin. Unlike workers there, Virginia public sector unions don't have collective bargaining rights and they never have. So there's unlikely to be any kind of showdown to keep rights they never had to begin with.

But that doesn't mean they are happy with City Manager **Jim Hartmann's** proposal for police officers and firefighters to contribute more to their retirement plans. Earlier this month, the city manager presented a proposed budget that would increase the contribution from 8 percent to 9 percent, which would raise about \$400,000 in additional revenue for the city.

"They are trying to balance the budget on the backs of police officers and firefighters," said **Michael Kochis**, president of the police union. "Unless the pension is in trouble, there's no reason to change it."

Kochis said he didn't believe the city was following the right process to make changes to the pension, which does not cover employees of the Sheriff's Office. He said the city manager should have sent the measure through a council subcommittee and called for a 60-day comment period. Failing that, he said, he would have a hard time explaining the change to his members in the police union. "This is not about money," he said. "It's about politics."

'Frivolous' Spending

Despite their partisan differences, members of the Alexandria City Council agree more than they disagree. The divide is most prevalent when money is involved.

Take a recent party-line vote on a grant application for \$20 million. Republican Councilman **Frank Fannon** and independent Councilwoman **Alicia Hughes** voted against the application even though it was supported by the Democratic majority. During a discussion of the docket item Tuesday night, Hughes questioned whether the projects were worthy enough to justify the expense.

"You don't want to put your highest priorities in the grant bucket," replied Vice Mayor **Kerry Donley**. "You want to fund the superfluous stuff through grant funding."

Projects the grant would fund include a handful of new DASH buses, participation in the bicycle-sharing program, bicycle parking at Metro stations, expanding operations of the city's transit store and conducting a transit analysis to determine the performance and needs of the community. Fannon agreed with Donley that the items were superfluous, but he disagreed about spending taxpayer money on them. "If people want to use mass transit, they don't need the government to spend millions to help them do it," Fannon said after voting against the grant application. "They can figure it out on their own."

A New Profile

Alexandria is getting more Hispanic and whiter, according to recent Census data released earlier this month. The fastest-growing areas of the city over the last decade were the Carlyle neighborhood and Cameron Station, which have seen massive amount of growth as the result of new construction. Overall, the city's population has increased by about 10,000 over the last decade.

"When we look at what changed between 2000 and 2010," said **Pat Mann**, an urban planner with the Department of Planning and Zoning, "we see, I think, a substantial shift reducing the share of the black and African-American population around Old Town and along Route One and in Del Ray and an increase in the West End." Alexandria was part of the first Census in 1790, which documented 2,748 people living in the city. Since that time, the population has taken dramatic spikes when sections of Arlington County and Fairfax County were annexed into the city limits. Most of the growth took place in the 1940s and 1950s. Today, the city has a population of 140,000, according to the initial reports. The city is expected to receive a citywide data profile and May and a complete profile in December.

"I don't need to think that we need to be overreacting in terms of some initial numbers," said Mayor **Bill Euille**, adding that he's been inundated with media requests to comment on the initial Census reports. "My only reaction is let's wait until we get everything and see the whole picture."

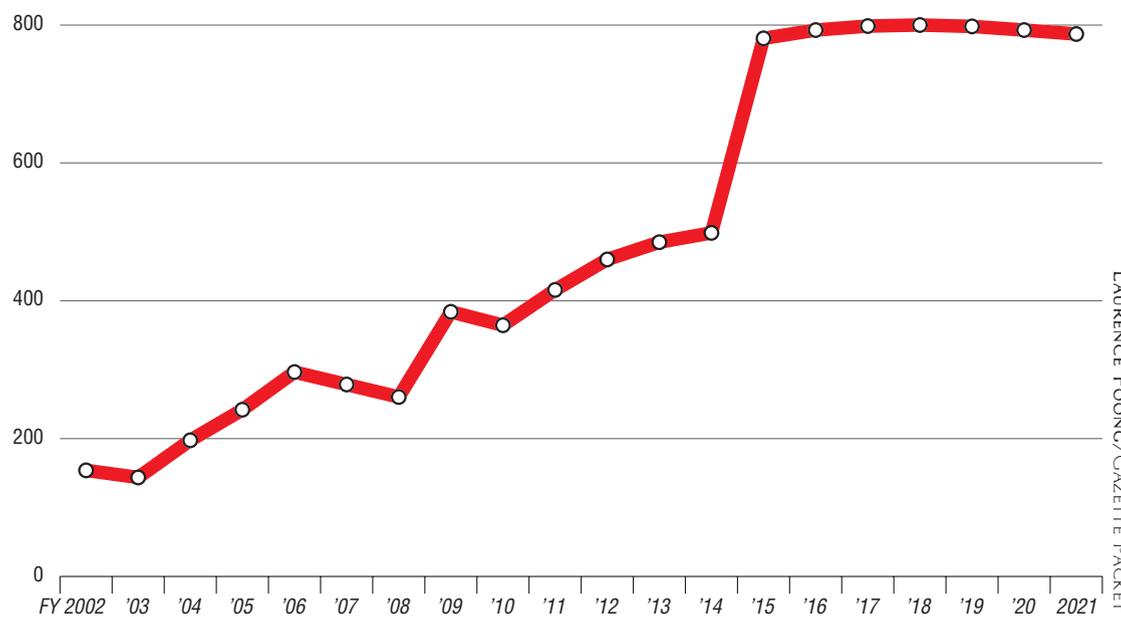
— MICHAEL LEE POPE

NEWS

\$ million
1,000

SOURCE: City of Alexandria

Outstanding Debt



LAURENCE FOONG/GAZETTE PACKET

This chart shows the portion of money dedicated to the school system capital projects versus the city capital projects. The spike in fiscal year 2015 for restricted use funding, which cannot be used for schools, is driven by the Potomac Yard Metro station.

Taking on More Debt

Over the next six years, cost of servicing city's debt will more than double.

BY MICHAEL LEE POPE
GAZETTE PACKET

Service the city's growing burden of debt is the largest single increase in City Manager Jim Hartmann's budget for fiscal year 2012.

The proposal he presented to City Council members earlier this month included a 14-percent increase for servicing the city's debt, rising from \$38 million to \$43 million. And more borrowing is on the horizon at City Hall. In the next decade, the city's debt will nearly double. That means the taxpayers will be on the hook for a drastically increased debt burden, which will more than double in the next six years.

"This is a good year to get ahead of projects that have been deferred," said Stephen Fuller, director of the Center for Regional Analysis at George Mason University. "The thing to look for in the future is to

make sure assessments rates are growing faster than the debt burden."

Most of the spike in this year's debt service is driven by the city's new \$90 million police station on Wheeler Avenue, a 118,000-square-foot facility expected to open this fall. Over the last two years, the city issued bonds to pay for the new facility. Now the first payments are due, and the loan has already started accruing interest. During the 2009 City Council campaign, independent candidate Rich Williamson repeatedly criticized the facility as a waste of money — a position most of the other candidates dismissed.

"I don't know if Mr. Williamson is willing to host the Police Department out of his home," quipped Councilman Justin Wilson during one of the debates.

"We don't need more buildings," responded Williamson. "We need to pay our police officers more, and we need more equipment."

CITY LEADERS have taken a guns-and-butter approach — increasing the amount of equipment that will be used in new facilities across the city. And it's been taking on an unprecedented amount of debt to

SEE COST OF SERVICING, PAGE 26

Proposed Capital Expenditures

- ❖ \$9.2 million for construction of a new fire station on Eisenhower Avenue
- ❖ \$7.5 million the city's Information Technology Plan
- ❖ \$7 million for sanitary sewer projects
- ❖ \$7 million for the city's contribution to WMATA
- ❖ \$2.4 million for stormwater management projects
- ❖ \$2.1 million for traffic flow improvements at King and Beauregard
- ❖ \$2 million to improve bus traffic efficiency at the King Street Metro station
- ❖ \$2 million for DASH replacement buses
- ❖ \$2 million for a new police headquarters
- ❖ \$1.9 million for improvements to shared-use paths
- ❖ \$1.9 million for park maintenance throughout the city
- ❖ \$1.2 million to start the Potomac Yard Metro Station design

- ❖ \$1.2 million for roof replacements at the Lee Center
- ❖ \$1.1 million for the city's capital facility maintenance program
- ❖ \$900,000 for traffic signals and signs equipment
- ❖ \$800,000 to replace Fleet Service vehicles
- ❖ \$600,000 to maintain the city's bridges
- ❖ \$500,000 for Four Mile Run stream restoration work
- ❖ \$500,000 for park improvements in Eisenhower Valley
- ❖ \$400,000 for the city's contribution to the Northern Virginia Park Authority
- ❖ \$200,000 for design of Chinguapin Aquatics Center
- ❖ \$200,000 for the city's capital contribution to Northern Virginia Community College
- ❖ \$100,000 for the city's annual contribution to the Peumansend Creek Regional Jail
- ❖ \$75,000 for the Gadsby's light replacement program
- Total: \$74.2 million**



PHOTOS BY MICHAEL LEE POPE/GAZETTE PACKET



The second phase of the James Bland redevelopment is currently under construction at the intersection of Madison Street and North Alfred Street. Developer Erkiliton is constructing a building west of the Post Office that will have 206 rental units and 3,225 square feet of retail space.

New Developments Reshaping Parker Gray

FROM PAGE 1

and the news that the grocer is now moving forward with a new store on North St. Asaph Street has rekindled fears among some that the city is not doing enough to attract retail to Parker Gray.

“The promises the city made during the Braddock Road small area plan are now ringing hollow,” said Zupan. “There was a lot of talk about retail and vibrancy, but there hasn’t been any follow through.”

THE LARGEST PROJECT now underway in the neighborhood is the the James Bland redevelopment, which will demolish five blocks of public housing in favor of townhouses that mix market-rate units with public-housing units. Redevelopment plans call for construction to take place over the course of a decade. New townhouses are already occupied on one block, and a second block is currently under construction. The development is a joint project of the Alexandria Redevelopment and Housing Authority and Eakin Youngentob for a “mixed-income community” on an 8.49-acre site. The plan calls for removal of 194 old units, replacing them with 379 new units. That includes 134 public-housing units and 159 market-rate townhouses and 86 market-rate multi-family units.

“The economic viability of this project depends principally on two sources of financing: the land value of the market-rate units which in turn is dependent upon their marketability and tax credit financing,” wrote EYA Terry Eakin and ARHA chief executive officer Roy Priest in a letter in support of the development special-use permit.

Alexandria has a rule known as Resolution 830 that requires the city to replace all public-housing units that are demolished. That means 60 units must be replaced somewhere else in the city. Although the original plan was to move all 60 units to Glebe Park, that number was later reduced to 44 units to provide workforce and market-rate units on the Old Dominion portion of Glebe Park. This week, City Council authorized \$3



Now that City Council members have approved changes to a project known as the Madison at the intersection of Montgomery Street and Henry Street, construction is expected to begin this summer.

million to purchase condominium units for the remaining 16 units.

“We can get the condos at the bottom of the market,” said Councilman Frank Fannon, who persuaded ARHA board members to start looking at condominiums instead of townhouses several months ago.

City officials say the redevelopment of James Bland presents a rare opportunity to reclaim five blocks within the urban fabric that were lost with the introduction of public housing in the 1940s. Though the new structures will be larger than the old garden-apartment style buildings, planning officials say the approved site plan follows the principles of traditional Parker Gray townhouses. Residences face the streets with small front yards and doors that open directly onto the streets to create an active streetscape, although almost all of the existing trees will be eliminated.

“Unfortunately, the proposed redevelopment requires significant underground work for the infrastructure and will necessitate the removal of all the trees,” according to a report on the redevelopment by planning

officials. “One large 36-inch oak tree located at the rear of St. John Baptist Church will be protected and saved.”

ANOTHER MAJOR CONSTRUCTION project currently reshaping the neighborhood is happening west of the Post Office in the block bounded by Payne, Wythe, Fayette and Pendleton. Located about two blocks from the Braddock Road Metro Station, the apartment building is currently being constructed on a site formerly occupied by Security Storage, a warehouse facility leased by the federal government.

“The project is clearly a benefit to the neighborhood,” wrote developer William Cromley in a letter supporting the project, “removing an obsolete warehouse and replacing it with a quality mixed-use project.”

The project originally approved by City Council in 2007 called for a 142-unit condominium building. In 2007, developer Erkiliton changed course and applied for an amended development special use permit allowing 206 rental units, a modification accomplished by decreasing the average unit

size from 1,330 square feet to 900 square feet. The building will have 3,225 square feet of retail space and a 1,100-square-foot restaurant. An underground garage will accommodate 256 parking spaces, and the building will range in height from 38 to 73 feet.

“The unit mix is forward looking and accurately reflects the urban nature of the neighborhood,” wrote Braddock Place Townhomes resident Vallerey Vandergrift in a 2008 letter supporting the amended development proposal. “I believe the design and proposed unit mix will attract young people with good jobs who want to commute by Metro.”

A THIRD MAJOR development will soon begin at the intersection Montgomery and Henry. Known as the Madison, the project will have about 10,000 square feet of retail. That’s a dramatic departure from the original plan, which was to have included 23,000 square feet of retail space. Earlier this month, Alexandria City Council members approved an amendment that reduced the expectation for retail in the Madison.

“What we are seeing is more small pods of more neighborhood retail as opposed to destination retail,” said development division chief Gwen Wright. “I think that’s more realistic.”

After the original plan was approved in 2008, the developer didn’t pursue the project and never filed for a building permit. Since that time, the site sat vacant until it was acquired by Equity Residential Development, which applied for a number of changes to the plan. Earlier this month, members of the Alexandria City Council approved a reduction in retail. Construction is expected to begin this summer.

“Now that the developers are moving forward, we sincerely hope they will not be met with further delays imposed by the city,” wrote Michelle Saylor, president of the Braddock Lofts Homeowner’s Association. “We are very excited to see the area finally changing for the better after all of these years of volunteers work and we do not want the process to delay this project any longer.”

Contest To Benefit Ice Well

To raise money to preserve its historic ice well, Gadsby's Tavern Museum kicked off its Ice Melt Contest on Sunday, Feb. 20. The underground ice well has been stocked with 6300 pounds of ice. Participants are invited to guess how long it will take to completely melt. Beginning at 2 p.m., three 100 pound blocks of ice were hauled from the City Dock at the end of Cameron Street to the ice well at the corner of North Royal and Cameron streets.

Contest tickets may be purchased for \$10 apiece or six for \$50, and with each chance, contestants will select the latest date this year when ice will still be present in the 11-foot-deep well. A webcam will allow contestants and others to peek in on the progress, and as ice gives way to water, replica artifacts once frozen in the ice will be revealed. First, second and third place prizes will be awarded to those who guess closest to the correct date.

In 1793, the Alexandria Common Council granted permission for tavern owner John Wise to build an ice well under Cameron



George Washington, a frequent visitor at Gadsby's Tavern, greets friends and visitors at the ice well.

Street, partially in the public right-of-way. Harvested from the frozen Potomac River in the winter, ice was hauled by cart to the tavern and stored in the ice well. Ice was formed into a solid mound and covered with straw to help it last into the summer hot months. While often taken for granted today, the availability of ice helped to distinguish Gadsby's Tavern as one of the finest of its kind in the late 18th century.

Tickets will first be available to the public on Sunday and can be purchased at Gadsby's Tavern Museum or online.

First prize is a white and black diamond bracelet valued at \$1,600, second prize is a Waterford "Lismore" crystal ice bucket and glasses, and third prize is a \$200 gift certificate to the PX Lounge in Old Town Alexandria. Full contest rules are posted at www.gadsbystavern.org.

PHOTO BY LOUISE KRAFT/GAZETTE PACKET



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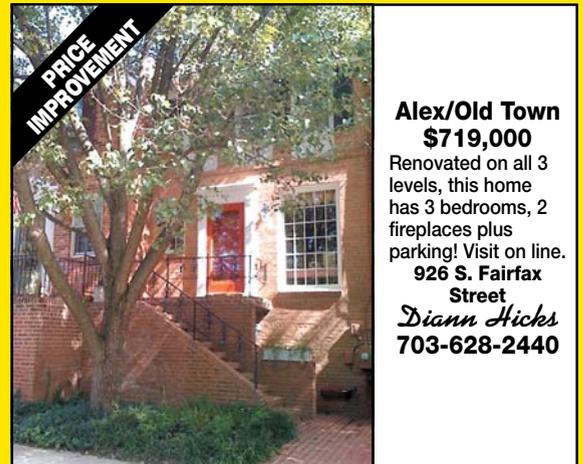
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 Cindy Baggett 703-593-1418
 Leslie Rodriguez 703-400-3010



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 Erika Carroll 703-568-7376



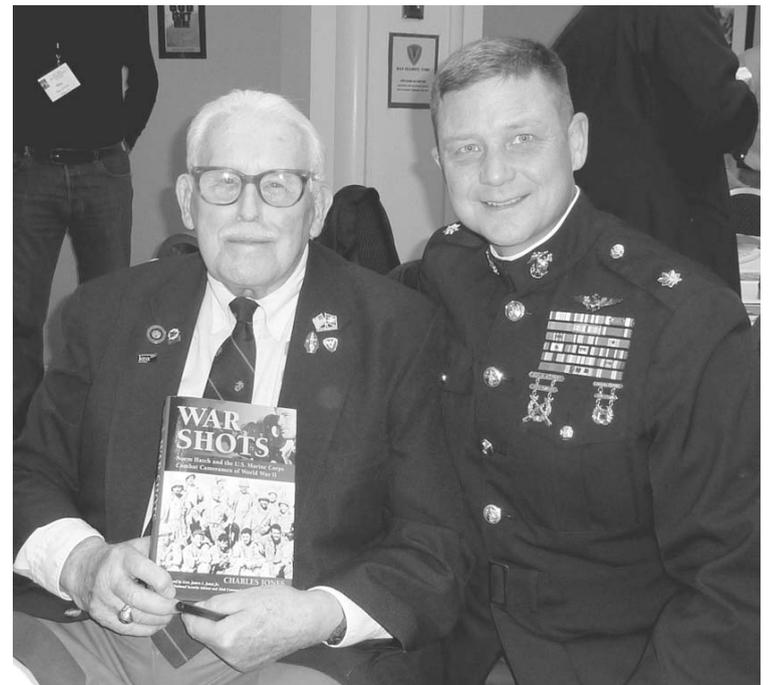
Alexandria \$715,000
 Lovely 4 level, 5 bedrm, 4.5 bath townhome w/ 2 car garage. Brazilian cherry hardwood floors, gourmet kitchen w/granite & SS appliances. Floor to ceiling windows w/Plantation shutters, glass French doors & many upgrades!
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PHOTOS BY JEANNE THEISMANN/GAZETTE PACKET



Veterans of the Battle of Iwo Jima visit the Iwo Jima Memorial in Arlington Feb. 18 to mark the 66th anniversary of the U.S. invasion of the remote Japanese island during World War II.



Combat photographer and Alexandria resident Norm Hatch, left, and Lt. Col. Mitch Bell at a gathering of Iwo Jima veterans Feb. 18 in Arlington.

Uncommon Valor Still a Virtue

FROM PAGE 1

enemy at Tarawa in 1943. "I knew the Japanese were there waiting for the right moment to strike."

It didn't take long for the 20-millimeter dual purpose guns buried in the side of Mount Suribachi to explode, erupting into what would be one of the bloodiest battles in U.S. history.

"I learned in Tarawa how to anticipate where the action would be," said Hatch, a longtime Alexandria resident who joined 21 other Iwo Jima survivors in Arlington over the weekend to mark the 66th anniversary of the battle. "Iwo Jima presented some difficult terrain — there were 22 miles of hidden tunnels. But even though we expected the war to continue on the Japanese mainland in the fall, we all realized the significance of what was happening on the island."

HATCH'S WORK won an Academy Award in 1944 for Best Documentary Short Subject and is now the subject of the just released "War Shots" by Charles Jones.

"He's the only combat photographer to make it alive onto the beach during the first day of fighting on Tarawa," said Jones, a former reporter for the Richmond Times-Dispatch. "And he was in the first



Author Charles Jones, left, talks with Alexandria resident and Marine combat photographer Norm Hatch at a gathering of Iwo Jima survivors. Hatch's work is the subject of Jones's new book 'War Shots.'

wave of troops to hit the shores of Iwo Jima. His story is truly amazing."

Other survivors attending the reunion included George Alden, who was just 17 years old when he enlisted in the Marines.

"I was wounded during that first day of battle," recalled Alden, who was awarded a Purple Heart for his heroics that day. "I had no sense of time after that. But I do remember seeing the flag being raised atop Mount Suribachi. The smoke and gunfire was still going on but seeing that flag symbolized everything to those of us still alive."

The raising of the American flag by five Marines and one Navy Corpsman took place on Feb. 23, 1945, and was immortalized in a Pulitzer Prize-winning photograph by Associated Press photographer Joe Rosenthal.

"I ran into Joe coming down the mountain just after he finished taking his photo," recalled Hatch, who turns 90 on March 2. "My job was to shoot film but I always carried a 35-millimeter camera with me in case everything broke down. Once Joe said he got his shots, I went back out to do more filming. The battle was still raging around us and I had a job to do."

Approximately one-third of all Marines killed in



Alexandria resident and Marine combat photographer Norm Hatch, left and 1st Lt. Herbert Schlosberg on Iwo Jima in February of 1945.

action during World War II were killed on Iwo Jima. More than 100,000 Americans fought there and 6,821 died as a result — 5,931 of them Marines. An additional 19,000 troops were wounded in the 35-day battle that claimed more than 21,000 Japanese lives.

"No one knows exactly how many Iwo veterans are still alive," said Fairfax High School history teacher Shayne Jarosz, the executive director of the Iwo Jima Association of America and organizer of the reunion. "There are fewer able to attend each year but the families of those recently deceased and those who did not survive the battle return to share their memories and honor those who were lost."

More than 170 people joined the veterans for the weekend's events, which included a visit to the Na-

tional Museum of the Marine Corps at Quantico and the dedication of the new 5th Marine Division's BAR [Browning Automatic Rifleman] on the Beach memorial.

"We expected it to be a four or five day campaign," said 85-year-old Dale Quillen of Greenville, Tenn. "But in those first four days, there was a casualty every 45 seconds. My boat capsized as we were heading ashore and I landed on the beach just as the flag was going up."

Quillen said he attends the reunions to honor the many lives that were lost in the battle.

"All those war movies don't begin to show how scared and frightened we were," Quillen said. "The real heroes are the ones that didn't make it. And I remember them every day."



Navy veteran and Purple Heart recipient Jack Lazere, right, shows Marine Corporal Jordan Connors where he landed on the shores of Iwo Jima island in 1945.

Trying It Local

Eager to be part of the online coupon craze, the Alexandria Chamber of Commerce launched its own way to attract increased business for its members this week. Known as "Try it Local," the effort is inspired by the success of outfits such as Groupon and Living Social. Unlike those organizations, however, the chamber's effort is aimed at spending Alexandria dollars inside the city limits. Essentially the idea is to entice consumers to explore new businesses by offering them deals, hopefully bringing new customers that will become returning clientele. Only chamber members will be able to feature their businesses, but everyone in the community will be able to purchase the weekly deals. Several businesses have already signed up to be part of the initial offering, including Union Street Public House as well as Artfully Gifts and Chocolate. "There is a cost involved, and sometimes the cost can be quite high," said **Eric Nelson**, owner of Artfully Gifts and Chocolate in the Carlyle neighborhood. "But we're a new business, and we need the exposure. So I look at it as a marketing cost or an advertisement cost."

Buying Low

It's a buyers market for condominiums, and potential buyers can get great deals throughout the city. That's even true for City Hall, which is now in the market for 16 condominiums. This week, the Alexandria City Council authorized the allocation of \$3 million to purchase condominiums that will be used as public-housing units. "Condominiums prices are now likely at their low point," explained City Manager **Jim Hartmann**. "So this is an opportunity time to be acquiring condo units."

City leaders have an obligation to create 16 new public-housing units that were lost during redevelopment of the James Bland properties. Now that council members have opened up \$3 million, city officials can start making offers on condominiums under \$300,000. In a memorandum outlining the proposal, the housing authority explained it will be looking for two or three bedroom units with at least a 1.5 bath in a low-rise building.

"I really think you could get 16 units at \$140,000, which would only be about \$2.2 million," said Councilman **Frank Fannon**, who encouraged the authority to start looking at condominiums. "I would hope that within the \$3 million, you would be able to find the 16 condos and not have to come back for the bonding down the road."

Swiss Banksters

Hoping to hide your assets in a Swiss bank account? Think again. This week, an Alexandria grand jury indicted four Swiss bankers. Federal prosecutors have charged them with conspiring with other Swiss bankers to defraud the United States by engaging in an illegal scheme to help American customers evade their income taxes by opening and maintaining secret Swiss bank accounts. As of 2008, the international Swiss bank that employed the four indicted bankers maintained \$3 billion in secret accounts from United States citizens.

"The conspiracy dates back to 1953," according to a press release issued by United States Attorney **Neil MacBride**, "and involved two generations of U.S. tax evaders including U.S. customers who inherited secret accounts at the international bank."

Rainmaker Joins Team

Leaders of the John Marshall Bank hope that **Pam DeCandio** will be able to make it rain for the community bank, which first opened its doors to the public at a Falls Church location in 2006. DeCandio got her start in Alexandria banking back in 1995, when she joined George Washington National Bank. She moved to Virginia Commerce Bank in 1997, then moved again to Burke and Herbert Bank in 2007. She's is currently the treasurer for the Alexandria Police Foundation.

"There is no one who knows banking in Alexandria better," said **John Maxwell**, chief executive officer at Jon Marshall Bank. "Her expertise and relationships will ensure continued growth in our Alexandria branch."

— MICHAEL LEE POPE

BUSINESS



Lindsay Lian, 7, Juliana Chiaramonte, 7, and Saraclaire Chiaramonte, 5, show off their bargains at the Boutique District Warehouse at the Masonic Memorial Feb. 5.

Shop 'Til You Drop

More than 1,600 bargain shoppers turned out for the Old Town Boutique District Warehouse Sale Feb. 5 at the Masonic Memorial.

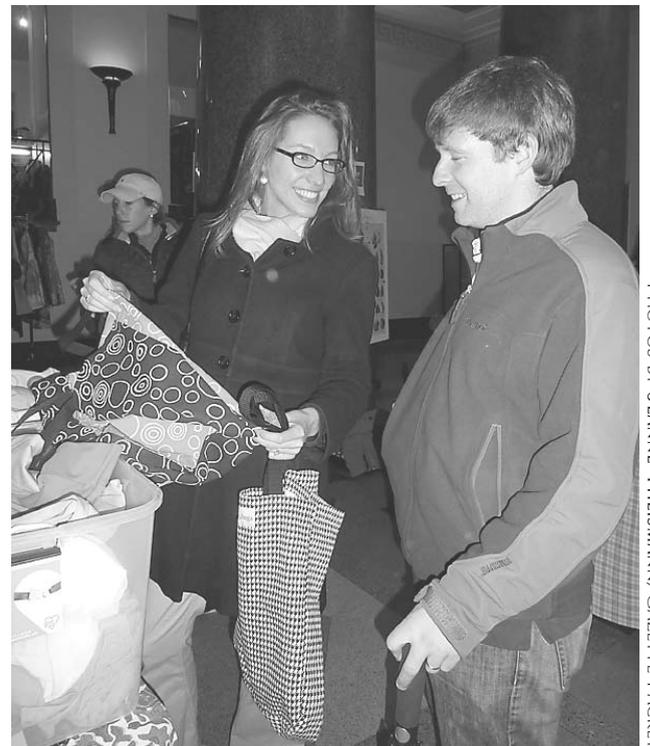
"We had a record number of shoppers this year," said Elizabeth Todd, owner of The Shoe Hive. "Last year we had to re-schedule because of the blizzards so it's great to see a turnout like this again."

Vendors included The Shoe Hive, Diva Consignment, Hysteria, Treat, La Cuisine, Red Barn Mercantile, Apple Seed Maternity and Baby and Periwinkle.

"I loved seeing all the American Girl things," said 7-year-old Lindsay Lian. Juliana Chiaramonte, 7, enjoyed "seeing all the pretty dresses."

Saraclaire Chiaramonte, 5, said simply, "The best part was buying all our stuff."

— JEANNE THEISMANN



PHOTOS BY JEANNE THEISMANN/GAZETTE PACKET

Katie Ballard shops the Boutique District Warehouse sale with her husband Kelly.



PHOTOS BY LA SHAWN AVERY-SIMONS/GAZETTE PACKET



Paola Zambrana of Bittersweet Catering, Cafe and Bakery serves guests champagne and appetizers at the Wedding Expo.

Fashionable

Models arrive at the St. George Gallery wearing bridal gowns to display at the 2011 Wedding Expo on Feb. 20.

OBITUARIES

Betty Stuart Burke

Betty Stuart Burke, 91, of Alexandria, died Jan. 26, 2011 of pneumonia. She was predeceased by a sister, Dorothy Dent, and a son, Charly, who died as a child. She is survived by her beloved husband of 68 years, Real Admiral Julian Thompson Burke; son Jud Burke of Alexandria; daughters Tina Millner of Richmond and Sally Briere of Alexandria; their husbands Wallace B. Millner and Bill Briere; sister Patty Fritzche of Mystic, Conn.; grandson Gordon Lewis, his wife Jamie and their children Madeline, Emma and Charlie; grandson Burke Lewis, his wife Leigh and their children Ryan and Reade, all of Richmond; grandson Will Briere of Los Angeles, Calif., and granddaughter Stuart Briere of Washington, D.C.



Betty Stuart Burke

Betty was born in Providence, R.I. and spent important parts of her youth in Douglaston, N.Y. and New Orleans, La., where she still has family and friends who were dear to her. She graduated from the National Cathedral School in Washington, D.C., and attended Sophie Newcomb College in New Orleans.

In April, 1942, in Falmouth, Maine, she married the love of her life, Julian Burke, then a young Navy ensign. He bestowed upon his "Bets" the vocation of a Navy wife, a role in which she excelled — raising their four children, orchestrating the relocation of their family 33 times, assisting other families whose husbands or fathers were at sea, and becoming involved in local civic projects. Upon Julian's retirement in 1976, Betty and Julian moved to Alexandria, where they continued to welcome and support their family and friends. She was a long-time member of the Monday Morning Music Group and the Hunting Creek Garden Club. An avid gardener, she loved flowers and sharing them with others and made many lovely natural arrangements for Christ Church, the Burke family church for several generations. She organized the church's Meals on Wheels service and volunteered in the program for 15 years.

Betty will be remembered for her sweet, generous and joyful spirit, and for her unwavering love for her husband

Julian, and for her family and friends. A service in celebration of her life will be held at 11:30 a.m. Saturday, Feb. 26, at Christ Church in Alexandria. A reception will follow at the church.

In lieu of flowers, memorial gifts may be made to Christ Church Foundation, Christ Church, 118 N. Washington Street, Alexandria, VA 22314 or The Goodwin House Foundation, 4800 Fillmore Avenue, Alexandria, VA 22311.

Margaret Cockrell Rutherford

Margaret Cockrell Rutherford, formerly of Alexandria and Charlottesville, died peacefully on Feb. 17, 2011, at Rowan Regional Hospital. She was 93 years of age. Mrs. Rutherford has lived for the past year and one-half at the Carillon in Salisbury. She was born on July 27, 1917 in Alexandria, where her family had resided for generations. She graduated from James Madison University with a BS in Education and taught in the Alexandria School System for two years. She was then a legal secretary in Alexandria until she married.



Margaret Cockrell Rutherford

She lived in Alexandria until 1989, when she and her husband of 44 years, Arthur J. Rutherford, retired and moved to Charlottesville, Va. Her husband preceded her in death in 1991.

She is survived by three children: David W. Rutherford and wife, Therese, of Louisville, Ky., Mary Rutherford Blanton and husband, Ted, of Salisbury, N.C., and Anne Rutherford Fenn, of Westport, Conn.; 10 grandchildren: Christopher and Molly Rutherford of Louisville, Ky., Stephen and Angie Rutherford of Waynesboro, Va., Meghan (Fenn) Vogt and husband Tom, of Houston, Texas, Emily Fenn of Bridgeport, Conn., Molly (Fenn) Watson and husband Hank of Nashville, Tenn., Patrick Rutherford Fenn of Westport, Conn., Lt. William F. Blanton of Atsugi, Japan, John A. Blanton, T. Pennington Blanton, and Mary (Eliza) Blanton all of Salisbury, N.C. She is also survived by six great-grandchildren. She is being interred at Ivy Hill Cemetery.

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OPINION

Lessons from Richmond as State Senator

BY PATRICIA S. TIGER
STATE SENATOR (D-30)



When I left office as Mayor of Alexandria in 1996, I thought no job could be as challenging. I was wrong.

Making a difference among 40 talented people from all over the Commonwealth has been a difficult task given the varied backgrounds in public service. Because of regional differences of opinion on most issues, it is quite often challenging to achieve a basis for need or understanding for many of those issues.

My primary challenge in Alexandria had been working to set up an early childhood program. A director for early programs was hired, and many volunteers and semi-professionals made sure correct regulations (i.e., space, number of teachers, etc.) were available for all centers and home day care providers. When I arrived in Richmond, however, there were many regional differences of opinion blocking what was viewed as intrusion into private family rights. Through my years in Richmond, it has been wonderful to watch the evolution of public opinion relative to the real need for regulation, protection and special care given to children not in family care.

And things do change in the Senate and General Assembly, albeit slowly. As an example it has been heartening to see a true caring for

the health and protection of the Chesapeake Bay across the partisan divide of the Senate.

As a senator of Virginia, my views have expanded markedly since 1996. When we talk about the Commonwealth of Virginia and its oneness, I feel a true spirit of caring about every nook and cranny of the state. It has proven true time and again that if one portion of the state is not doing well, for example, with education or the economy, the whole state suffers.

It is amazing to serve on different boards and commission, and to share expertise with others in the body. I learned much more from the Science & Technology Commission than I could have ever imparted, and it has been that way with the Joint Commission on Health Care as well. It also has been enlightening to witness the shift in viewpoint about the need for compassion and assistance to those who have made mistakes and need to be reabsorbed into the community. The ability and willingness of public officials and other human beings to not only be open to this change in perspective but to forgive has been inspiring. If given a boost when leaving incarceration, they are equipped with tools to be real contributing members of the community.

There have been many extraordinarily talented and resourceful people in the Senate during my tenure. In particular, and with a smile, I think of Madison Marye for his enter-

tainingly enlightening "Uncle Billy" stories. And to this day, I continue to dearly miss Emily Couric, who was moving so passionately towards a strong and influential political career when she lost her battle with cancer. Each member of the Senate makes a unique contribution to the strength and character of the whole body.

I also think of people with whom I have not necessarily shared regional opinions, such as the far southwest. What a privileged opportunity it has been to get to know them and their regions better by visiting and meeting with their local people. There is always more give than take at these meetings, and I am grateful for all the insights I have gained and the graciousness of their hospitality.

As well, I am grateful for having been part of the National Conference of State Legislators which offered me so many interesting and productive opportunities to meet officials in all capacities from other states.

I will truly miss my home away from home in Richmond and, in particular, the family members that I have come to rely on and deeply appreciate. The support of everyone in the Clerk's office and all the lobbyists who are so committed to their missions has been tremendous.

It has been the privilege of a lifetime for me to know you, and an honor for me to have been of service with you in support of my beloved state, my home, as a member of the Senate of the State of Virginia. I will truly miss you.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Oil Spill, Yet Again

To the Editor:

Recently, the Potomac River was a victim, yet again, of toxic pollution from GenOn's Alexandria site, formerly known as the Mirant Potomac River Generating Station (PRGS). This time around the source was the PEPCO substation on the site, which routes power

produced by the PRGS. A form of oil used as a coolant overflowed an on-site containment basin, later making its way into the Potomac River. Observations of oil and dead wildlife seen in the river days after the spill was reported and supposedly cleaned by PEPCO suggest that clean up operations have been very slow and insufficient.

Over the past few years, Gen On's PRGS site has been the loca-

tion of multiple environmental spills polluting the Potomac River. In 2008, a tanker headed towards the PRGS spilled approximately 5,700 gallons of diesel fuel. The oil, intended to fuel the PRGS, could be seen covering driftwood and its sheen on the water was visible from quite a distance. Just a few months ago, in October 2010 toxic pollution flowed yet again into the Potomac River from a piece of equipment in the basement of GenOn's site.

Both last week and in 2008 an on-site containment area proved insufficient to keep oil spillage from the plant site from making its way into the Potomac River. Clearly, these instances indicate that environmental stewardship is at the very bottom of the agenda at the Alexandria GenOn site.

Whether or not its PEPCO or GenOn at fault, it's time for operations at this site to clean up their act.

Dr. Ana I. Prados
Springfield

Prados is an environmental scientist and a research assistant professor at the University of Maryland, Baltimore County, and lives in Springfield.

Anyone Listening?

To the Editor:

Alexandria's city planning director, Farroll Hamer, continues to leave me amazed and dumbfounded. In an article in the Feb. 10 Gazette, devoted to the water front plan, she is described as saying, "she would like to see City Council members approve it [the water front plan] in April, leaving about three months for members of the public to comment on the specifics and suggest changes."

Whatever is she talking about? Members of the public have been attending meetings and making comments on the specifics and suggesting changes to her plan for almost two years. During all this time the plan has changed in only the most minor ways.

For example at the first meeting where the plan was sketched out in some detail a year ago January at the Torpedo Factory, attendees made plain their great displeasure with the proposal for a large hotel on the site of Robinson Terminal South. Attendees at that meeting were each given four or five sticky

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Welcome Richard A. Azzaro welcomes guests to the wreath-laying ceremony at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier of the Revolution behind the Old Presbyterian Meeting House on Feb. 21.

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LETTERS

FROM PAGE 19

green dots to place on parts of the plan they approved of and only one red dot for anything they disapproved of. So everyone had to think carefully before bestowing their red dots.

Despite that, the large hotel in south Old Town was festooned with red dots. That mattered not at all to the planning director. That hotel is still in the plan along with numerous other elements that have elicited a hostile reaction at meeting after meeting.

Under Ms. Hamer, the opportunity for public participation in city planning efforts, something held dear in this city, has degenerated into merely an opportunity to hear her and her staff members repeat over and over what they intend to do whether citizens like it or not.

In every day language a "plan" sounds like a good thing to have. In the language of zoning, an approved plan is something quite different. Once the City Council has voted to accept a plan, it has the force of law and cannot be changed in any meaningful way without another City Council vote. All the important decisions about uses of different parcels of land and size of buildings would im-

mediately have the force of law once Council approved Ms. Hamer's plan.

For example building a hotel on Robinson Terminal South is forbidden under the current zoning law, the small area plan for Old Town. Under Ms. Hamer's plan, it would be a permitted use. To have more public meetings after her plan has been approved would be futile. I am sure Ms. Hamer knows this. To suggest these futile meetings is nothing less than an attempt to hoodwink the public.

Katy Cannady
Alexandria

Get Involved In Civic Life

To the Editor:

According to the New York Times and the American Democracy Project, civic engagement means working to make a difference in the civic life of our communities and developing the combination of knowledge, skills, values and motivation to make that difference. As the Baby Boomer Generation begins to retire, now is the time for young people to accept the leadership bestowed

upon us. Civic associations and community groups are often at the heart of vital services provided to localities and are a great way to make a difference.

On Feb. 15, I was at the Young Democrats of Alexandria General Membership meeting. The meeting was held at Los Toltecos Restaurant on Duke Street. It was a great way to engage in the community on so many levels. The restaurant is a thriving business on the West Side of Alexandria and had a packed house for "Trivia Night." Amidst our discussion of politics and policy, there was a very competitive game of Trivia throughout the restaurant.

Whatever your political persuasion, I urge the young residents of Alexandria to get involved with civic association and community groups, especially those that support and strengthen our business community. All members of the young community are welcome at any of the Alexandria Young Democrats meetings and we invite you to join us whenever you can.

Christopher B. Collins
Vice President
Alexandria Young Democrats

MORE LETTERS, PAGE 12

IF YOU DO YOUR HOMEWORK, WE'LL DO YOUR HOUSEWORK

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Human Trafficking Is Far from a Foreign Problem

BY ADAM EBBIN
STATE DELEGATE (D-49)



COMMENTARY

Two weeks ago, police arrested a man for running a child sex trafficking ring based here in Alexandria. He is accused of transporting underage girls who had run away from home — one of whom was just 14 years old — and using them as prostitutes in Virginia, Maryland, and the District of Columbia.

The business would reportedly serve about 100 customers on a typical Friday or Saturday night, charging \$50 each for sex.

While human trafficking is often thought of as a crime that only occurs far outside the borders of the United States, cases like this serve as a painful reminder that trafficking takes place in our own backyard.

For those who are unfamiliar with the topic, human trafficking is the recruitment,

harboring, and transportation of human beings for forced labor or sexual exploitation. Victims are kidnapped, coerced, or tricked into performing these services, and in the process often endure horrific forms of abuse including rape and beatings.

Trafficking is the fastest-growing criminal industry in the world and an extremely profitable one, generating an estimated \$32 billion in revenue annually. The U.S. government approximates that up to 17,500 foreign nationals are trafficked into the country every year, while an additional 100,000 to 300,000 Americans are trafficked within our borders, as was the case with the prostitution ring here in Alexandria.

Virginia is considered a prime location for human trafficking activity. This is in part due to our proximity to two international

airports and the I-95 corridor. The larger problem, however, is that while neighboring Maryland and D.C. have both passed tougher laws cracking down on trafficking, Virginia legislators have so far been slow to take on human trafficking directly.

In past sessions I have passed legislation to give law enforcement additional tools to prosecute and punish trafficking, including laws expanding the definition of abduction to include trafficking-related offenses, making it a crime to extort someone by withholding immigration documents, and enabling law enforcement officials to seize vehicles used to traffic minors. While these are positive steps forward, it isn't enough. We still need a clear and comprehensive law against human trafficking with stiff penalties if we want to put an end to this crime in the Commonwealth of Virginia.

However, strengthening penalties and making it easier for law enforcement to investigate and prosecute human trafficking crimes is not enough. We also need to pro-

vide aid to its victims, most of whom are women and children. They are poor, vulnerable, and desperate, and many don't even speak English. Many victims are afraid to even come forward, and not without reason, since all too often some social service and law enforcement agencies don't know whether to treat them as victims or criminals. They have nowhere to turn, and they need our help.

That's why I introduced a bill to create a coordinated state plan to help human trafficking victims. It includes provisions for identifying victims, assisting them in applying for state and federal benefits, and coordinating the efforts of state agencies and non-profit organizations in delivering health, housing, education, job training, and legal services.

While I'm happy to report that this bill was passed by both the House and Senate and now heads to the Governor for his signature, we must continue to do more to combat this horrific crime here in Virginia.

Some Advice for the New Congress

... for the sake of better business and a bettered citizenry.

BY BASIM MANSOUR

COMMENTARY

With the advent of another U.S. Congress, the people's business awaits. As a local businessman with skin in the game, I thought I'd weigh in on a handful of measures that I'd like to see the new-look 112th seriously consider.

Our current income tax system is a mess. It is too complex and ultimately inhibits saving, investment and job creation. Simplify our tax code!

We need a balanced-budget amendment to the U.S. Constitution. We cannot spend what we don't have; we're drowning in debt! We must not spend more than government takes in.

Our country has an abundance of energy sources that should be employed to keep us strong ... all of them! Coal, nuclear, hydroelectric, gas, wind, solar, refuse-based, and biomass ... all must be actively engaged for the betterment of our economy and its citizens.

And we're going to have to do something with skyrocketing health care costs. I for one offer one common sense solution: we would be well-served allowing insurance

policies to be bought and sold across state lines. We live in an Internet age; from my home or cell phone, I am able to buy an automobile, a plasma TV or a sofa from anywhere I can get the best deal, so why not a healthcare policy from whatever jurisdiction offers me the best bang for my dollar? As long as it is done in strict adherence with the laws of that state, this would lower healthcare costs instantly on the day it was made law.

Which leads me to my final point, an area I've committed my life and my company to and I would encourage our legislators to both embrace and unencumber by process: as a society, we must do better by our elderly. We've always been a great country because we care for our own ... but we can do better.

My company has begun initiatives like "Michael and Son Cares" that will be a cornerstone for our business moving forward. With little surprise, this "pay it forward" concept reveals that the individuals we end up helping most are the elderly. So I chal-

lenge other businesses to likewise get involved in appropriate ways. And I challenge lawmakers to allow for this enterprise sans overreach; let the marketplace of free ideas flourish!

Compassionate leadership with reasonable legislation has all but eliminated any form of age discrimination. But our society can also help eliminate loneliness, helplessness, and boredom. If one, single act of kindness by Michael and Son Services can bring some tenderness toward one in need, then I believe we've done a great day's work!

Michael and Son is fortunate to be in a position to help and I'm one of those people that believes the blessings you receive serving others is greater than can be imagined. We will continue as volunteers in our business community, sharing our time and talents.

And I will continue to keep my company on this humbling but joyful path for 2011 and beyond.

Basim Mansour is president of Michael and Son Services, founded in 1976 and headquartered in Alexandria.

Potomac River enough to make either plan unfeasible, then who among elected city officials wants to stand fore square behind a plan to inflict upon Alexandria more congestion, cost and cars?

James Roberts
Alexandria

MORE LETTERS, PAGE 24

Ensuring Funds for Transportation

BY CHARNIELE HERRING
STATE DELEGATE (D-46)

As we approach the end of session, all eyes are on two important bills that will be up for a vote this week — the budget and a Transportation Plan. Before Saturday we should have final bills. Both the Senate and House have different versions of the Transportation Plan and bud-

get. As a result, they will go through a process that we call a "conference." Members of each conference committee will work together to come up with a compromise that will then be a final version for the House of Delegates and the Senate on which to vote. This is an important function of democracy, a place where we can find a middle ground.

In both cases, I am an advocate for the Senate versions of these pieces of legislation. The Senate version of the Transportation Plan includes money through an accelerated and restructured GARVEE bond program in which projects, like our ramp for BRAC-133 at Mark Center, will have the funding to be built and alleviate the congestion that will exponentially increase once the facility opens in September. The Senate budget returns much

SEE TRANSPORTATION, PAGE 24

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Waterfront Cost And Congestion

To the Editor:

As an interested observer, I see two diametrically opposed ambitions for refining Alexandria's waterfront.

❖ Those intent on making the waterfront appealing primarily to non-residents (e. g., erecting more hotels in the historic district;

moving the Boat Club; planning for more cars, etc). This plan will be disruptive, expensive and congesting. It is also predicated on a moving the Boat Club, an entity that's made clear it's staying put.

❖ Those seeking on making the waterfront appealing to taxpaying residents (e. g., more parks, bike paths, piers, etc). This plan will be less costly, greener and non-congesting.

Unless global warming will raise the



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\$925,000
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 Home or Office. 2800 sq ft,
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 commercially, or a combination
 thereof. Two off-street parking
 spaces and located only three
 blocks to King Street Metro!



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Old Town **\$3,900,000**
 414 Franklin Street, Alexandria, VA 22314

Exceptional Charm. This landmark Old Town property,
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 Sited on almost one-half acre, this charming
 5 bedroom, 4.5 bath residence boasts pine
 floors, 5 fireplaces, 2 car garage plus pool!



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Old Town **\$3,175,000**
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 Swann-Daingerfield House, circa 1802.
 12 1/2 ft ceilings, elaborate moldings, 5
 fireplaces, beautiful keystone archways,
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Wilton Woods **\$699,000**
 6066 Old Telegraph Road, Alexandria VA 22310

Spacious Rambler with 5600 sq ft of living space! Freshly
 painted with architectural designer colors,
 lower level with 3rd family room & complete
 in-law suite or guest quarters. 3 fireplaces, 5
 bedrooms, 3.5 baths and garage.



Sherry York 703-409-3377



Collingwood **\$1,995,000**
 1500 Collingwood Road, Alexandria, VA 22308

Glamorous gated estate renovated in 2010, with exquisitely
 appointed guest house. Main house with 6
 bedrooms & 5.5 baths. Guest house with 2
 bedrooms & 2 baths. 4 fireplaces, pool, and
 professional style kitchen.



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Mason Neck **Upon Request**
 11521 Potomac Road, Mason Neck, VA 22079

Escape to Eagles Landing on the Potomac. Where dreams
 begin! Waterfront country setting, yet just 18
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 waterfront, expansive views & true privacy.



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Carlyle Towers **\$685,000-\$925,000**
 Multiple Open Houses at Carlyle Towers this Sunday!
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 Eileen Casamo &
 Ann Lockwood**
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Mount Vernon **\$675,000**
 9216 Patton Boulevard, Alexandria, VA 22309

Open Sunday 1-4pm. Shows like a model! 4 bedrooms,
 3 baths, 2 car garage, renovated kitchen &
 baths. HW floors, large LR with fireplace,
 rec room, deck, and community waterfront
 lot. Less than 1/2 mile to Ft. Belvoir!



Phyllis Patterson 703-518-6158



Plymouth Haven **\$1,550,000**
 8839 Fort Hunt Road, Alexandria, VA 22308

3 years young! Beautiful home with open floor plan, as
 well as front and back porches. Over 6500 sq
 ft, located on 1/2 acres. 5 plus bedrooms, 4.5
 baths, and 3 car garage.



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Belle Haven **\$725,000**
 6031 Woodmont Road, Alexandria, VA 22307

New Listing! Charming 4 bedroom, 3 bath colonial with
 lovely moldings, HW flrs, elegant LR with
 fireplace, gracious separate DR, updated
 kitchen, bonus room leading to flagstone
 patio & professionally landscaped lot.



Jeanne Warner 703-980-9106



Old Town **\$662,000**
 1250 S. Washington St #824, Alexandria, VA 22314

Waterfront at a New Price! This Porto Vecchio 2 bedroom
 and 2.5 bath condo has river views from
 every window. Features balcony, fireplace, in
 unit washer/dryer, reserved garage space and
 more. Call to arrange a private tour.



Denise Davis 571-332-8531



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

Absolutely charming home with 4 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms,
 2 fireplace & 2 car garage. 2 levels 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

703-518-8300 • 310 King Street Alexandria, VA 22314



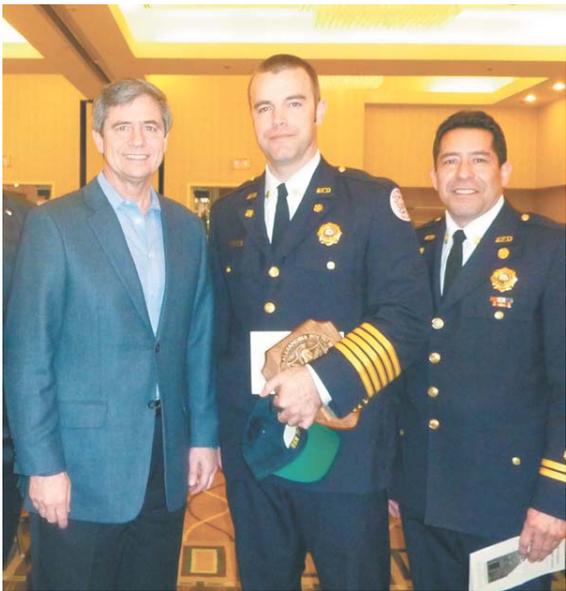
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PEOPLE



Keynote speaker and former Pennsylvania congressman Joe Sestak with Fire Chief Adam Thiel and Capt. Luis Santano.



American Legion Post 24 Commander Michael Connor presents longtime radio personality Bill Mayhew with the Rev. Ben Lynt Distinguished Service award.

PHOTOS BY JEANNE THEISMANN/GAZETTE PACKET



PHOTO BY SANDRA KEIL/ALEXANDRIA CONVENTION & VISITORS ASSOCIATION

Sestak Addresses Friendship Veterans

Bill Mayhew receives distinguished service award.

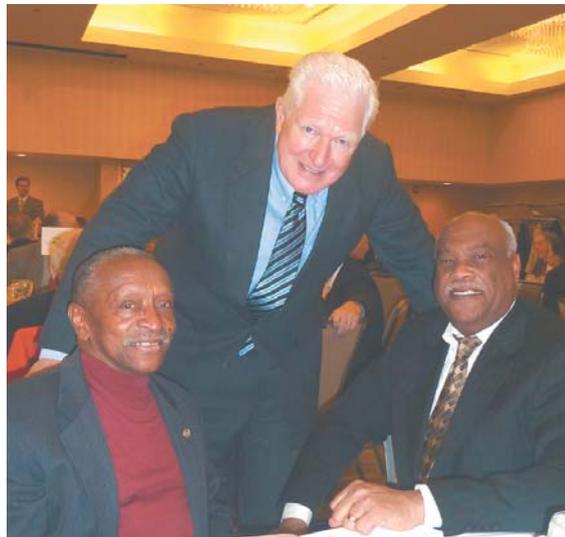
The Friendship Veterans Fire Engine Association held its annual breakfast Feb. 21 at the Holiday Inn and Suites in Old Town in the traditional kick-off to the city's George Washington Birthday Parade celebrations.

Highlighted by a keynote address by Alexandria resident and former Pennsylvania congressman Joe Sestak, the breakfast featured the presentation of the Rev. Ben Lynt Distinguished Service award to longtime radio personality Bill Mayhew.

"I never expected this," said a surprised Mayhew. "This is quite an honor for a guy who was fired nine times." In addition to Sestak, Cmdr. Todd Weeks of the USS Alexandria, Fire Chief Adam Thiel and Don De Haven as Gen. George Washington addressed the crowd, which included the latest class of Living Legends of Alexandria.

"As George Washington knew, Alexandria is a special place," Sestak said. "And it's communities like this that make America a beacon for the world."

— JEANNE THEISMANN



U.S. Rep. Jim Moran (D-8), standing, with Alexandria Living Legends Melvin Miller and Lynwood Campbell.

Vote for Alexandria

Claire Mouldoux, left, and Anna Jones of the Alexandria Convention and Visitors Association donned period attire for the parade to help get out the vote in The National Trust for Historic Preservation's "Dozen Distinctive Destinations" Fan Favorite contest online. Fans of Alexandria can vote once a day for the city through March 15.

Parade Awards

2011 George Washington Birthday Parade Awards include:

Parade Grand Marshal: Cmdr. Todd S. Weeks, Commander of the USS Alexandria

Chairman's Award: Dan Storck
Senior Groups
 1st Place: National American Miss, Sorayah Moise
 2nd Place: Living Legends of Alexandria

Youth Groups
 1st Place: Daisy Troop 4969
 2nd Place: Brownie Troop 2602, John Adams
 3rd Place: Cub Scout Pack 614
 Special Mention: St. Stephen's & St. Agnes Girl Scout Troops

Youth Bands
 1st Place: T. C. Williams High School "Titans"
 2nd Place: George Washington Middle School "Presidents Band"
 3rd Place: Hammond Middle School "Marching Admirals"

Community or Adult Bands & Corps
 1st Place: Washington Showstoppers Community Marching Band
 2nd Place: KENA Shrine Band
 3rd Place: KENA Highlanders

Military Units & Drill Teams
 1st Place: Fishburne Military School
Honor Guards & Color Guards
 1st Place: Alexandria Fire Department Honor Guard
 2nd Place: KENA Drum & Bugle Corps
 3rd Place: Alexandria Sheriff's Office Honor Guard

Carriages & Wagons
 1st Place: Harmon Carriages (escorting George & Martha Washington)
 2nd Place: George Washington's Mount Vernon Estate & Gardens

Floats
 1st Place: Hard Times Café "Chili

Truck"
 2nd Place: Old Dominion Boat Club
 3rd Place: KENA Shrine Camel Herders

Antique Vehicles
 1st Place: 1932 Packard Convertible - Robert L. Montague
 2nd Place: Washington Area Collectors/Blue & Gray Military Vehicle Trust
 3rd Place: 1968 Camero (Camero Association)

Decorated Bikes and Motorcycles
 1st Place: Jim Moyers Circus Club
 2nd Place: BikeWalk Alexandria
Community & Fraternal Organizations

1st Place: Fraternidad Cultural Pachamama
 2nd Place: KENA Klowns
 3rd Place: Friends of Alexandria Archaeology

Historical Units
 1st Place: First Virginia Regiment of the Continental Line
 2nd Place: Gadsby's Tavern Museum Society
 3rd Place: "Abraham Lincoln" Dan Storck

Equestrian Units
 1st Place: United Horseman's Association
 2nd Place: Mounted Unit of Maryland "Buffalo Soldiers"

"The Spirit of George Washington"
 1st Place: The Krewe of John Alexander (John Alexander Chapter, DAR)

2nd Place: Washington Area Collectors/Blue & Gray Military Vehicle Trust
 3rd Place: Mounted Unit of Maryland "Buffalo Soldiers"

(The judges said they wish they could give an award to Cheryl Lawrence, Department of Recreation.)



There They Go

Runners take off in the George Washington 10K race on Eisenhower Avenue Saturday, Feb. 19.



Runners exercise before the 10K race starts at 8:30 a.m.

PHOTOS BY LA SHAWN AVERY-SIMONS/GAZETTE PACKET

ON PARADE



The George Washington Birthday Parade Grand Marshal Cmdr. Todd S. Weeks walks the parade route with some of his crew. Weeks is commanding officer on the USS Alexandria, a Los Angeles-class nuclear-powered attack submarine. It is the third ship of the United States Navy to be named for both Alexandria, Va., and Alexandria, La.



Bikers circle as the Cub Scouts cheer to the elected officials on the grandstand.



The First Virginia Regiment proceeds east on Cameron Street.



The girls in the Daisy Troop at Lyles Crouch Traditional Academy dressed in colonial attire for the parade on Monday.



Fairfax County School Board Dan Storck greets residents as he tours the parade route as President Abraham Lincoln on Presidents Day.

PHOTOS BY LOUISE KRAFT/CAZETTE PACKET



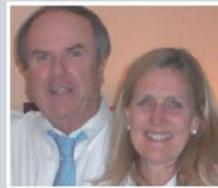
The Scouts from St. Mary's School Pack 301 parade around the corner at Cameron and Royal Streets.



T.C. Williams student Covenant Babatunde plays the tuba as the high school band passes the reviewing stand.



Laughter, smiles, photos and all the while a hand on an ear or two, as the First Virginia Artillery Regiment lights the cannon and sends off a salute.



CHRIS WHITE

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\$729,000
Total Renovation!
Prime Location!
Unique Opportunity-Fab 3VL Colonial. Totally renovated and updated from top to bottom. Custom features include: brick exterior, bright, open floor plan, h/dwd flrs, 3.5 updated baths, 4 large bedrooms with luxurious master suite, 2 FPs and finished LL with direct outside entrance. Prime cul-de-sac location. Fenced level lot. Move In Ready! OPEN SUN 2/27, 1-4. GW Pky S, R-Stratford Ln; L-Basset.



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!



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 SUNDAY 1-4!
3104 OLD DOMINION BLVD
Beverly Hills/ \$939,000
Fantastic 4BR/4BA charmer w/h/dwd floors, gourmet kitchen open to family rm, beautiful landscaped bkyd & completely renovated MBR w/spa inspired BA. Walk to George Mason ES. DIR: frn King St Metro. Russel Rd N. L on Monticello Blvd. R on Old Dominion Blvd.
Bette Gorman, CRS 703.585.2235
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1109 N ROYAL ST Alexandria
\$775,000
Delightful, bright 2-car garage TH w/many extras! Perfectly updated kit w/SS, granite + bay window, sunny breakfast area & access to deck. Gorgeous remodeled Master BA w/granite, 2 sinks, sep shower & tub. Recent, high-end neutral carpeting. Refinished hardwoods. 4th floor retreat w/full BA & study/ofc. EZ st prkg.



Judy Pisciotta 703.405.4485



OPEN SUNDAY 1-4!
3171 WOODLAND LN / Mt Vernon
\$865,000
Secluded & Spacious Waterfront Contemporary on large wooded lot sited on Little Hunting Creek. Walls of glass w/ water & wildlife views from almost every room. Multiple decks lead to a private dock, be on the Potomac River in just minutes.



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Mary Lou Sage 703.851.5441



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!



8919 Union Farm Rd
\$560,000
Updated Home -Tranquil Location!
Made for entertaining! Shows like a model home! Remodeled inside and out! New kitchen w/ stainless and granite, baths w/new fixtures and ceramic tile, designer paint and new carpet. Pool and deck were redone in 2009. Upper deck and lower patio create a wonderful outdoor space for all seasons. Quiet street overlooking golf course and backs to woodland.



4408 Tarpon Ln
\$598,000
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.



101 SKYHILL RD #102 / Alexandria
\$318,000
Light, spacious well-maintained 3BR/2BA condo w/huge kit & sep dining rm. New h/dwds, fresh paint & hvac. Lots of closet space. Sliding glass doors off living room to large patio w/park just outside patio door. Close to everything Metro, OT, airport, DC and more.



Sheryl.lambson@inf.com
Sheryl Lambson 703.217.7012



OPEN SUNDAY 1-4!
513 HENRY ST Alexandria
\$775,000
Not your average Old Town TH. Impressive space, innovative open floor plan, Contemporary Urban Sophistication. 3BR/3.5BA on 3 lvs. Hdwds. 1 Gas Frpl. 2 Master suites. Roof top Deck. Fenced rear Patio. Located in the rapidly developing NW end of OT. Home business: zoned CSL Residential Use Permit



Richard Webber 703.518.8484



OPEN SUNDAY 1-4!
400 CAMERSON STATION BLVD Alex / \$345,000
Excellent 2BR/2BA condo features a gourmet kit w/SSA, granite & lg brkfst bar. Upgraded, luxurious & large baths. W/D in unit. Carpet thru-out plus tile. Balcony views. 2 garage spaces. Shuttle to Van Dorn Metro, EZ drive to OT /DC.



www.brianandjerry.com
Daniel, Brian & Jerry 703.929.5764



4117 Robertson Blvd
\$719,000
Upgraded Throughout!
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 dining room with built-ins, family room off kitchen leading to deck. Table space kitchen 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.



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!



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!



OPEN SUNDAY 1-4!
1115 CAMERON ST #308 / Alexandria
\$480,000
Great 2BR/2BA unit w/ garage parking. Large open floor plan, chef's kitchen & balcony. Sep laundry room. Many upgrades. Beautiful courtyard & roof patio w/great views. Min's to King St Metro, stores, eateries & all OT Alex. has to offer.



www.brianandjerry.com
Daniel, Brian & Jerry 703.929.5764



5930 SHADOW WALK Alexandria
\$769,000
All brick "forever" home in the heart of the Original Wilton Woods. This all brick home has a slate roof, 3 fireplaces, hardwood floors, huge rooms, and a very large lot (over 2/3rds of an acre). 4BR/2.5BA



Bonnie Clark 703.725.9449



200 N PICKETT ST #1501 & #912
\$198,000 & \$259,900
#1501 - well-maintained 1BR/1.5BA/W&D/fresh paint/tiled foyer & kitchen, & large balcony #912 - 1,300sqft of fab space, 2BR/2BA w/ private balc, high ceilings, large windows w/storm windows, 1-gar prkg. Amenities: secure bldg, outdoor pool, tennis, party/exercise rm, metro bus +



Sheryl.lambson@inf.com
Sheryl Lambson 703.217.7012



7106 Colgate Dr
\$499,500
Hollin Glen - Super Value!



8714 Bluedale St
\$629,000
Stratford Landing!



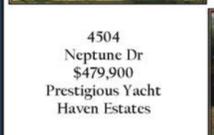
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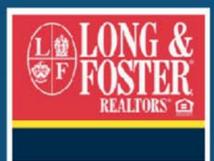
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Louisiana Dance Party Coming to Torpedo Factory

Hungry for Music donates instruments to children.

BY GALE CURCIO
GAZETTE PACKET

The Torpedo Factory Art Center in Alexandria will be rocking on March 4 as Hungry for Music sponsors an old-fashioned Louisiana Dance Party that is “sure to make you happy as a clam in mud.”

“The festivities will begin with two amazing toe-tappin’ bands, Junkyard Saints and Squeeze Bayou,” said Kay Coyte, publicity volunteer. “Popular dance instructors Ben Pagac and Debbie Shaw will be on hand to provide free lessons in the art of swing, cajun and zydeco stepping. There will be King Cake and Mardi Gras beads for all and drinks will be plentiful at the cash bar, along with light snacks.”

Proceeds will benefit Hungry for Music, a Washington-based charity that do-

nates instruments to young musicians in need. Children who demonstrate a desire to learn music, or teachers who have willing pupils but no instruments, are the beneficiaries.

“Most anyone will attest to the healing power of music — its ability to soothe in times of tension and its ability to transform sadness and aggression into hope and creativity,” said founder Jeff Campbell. “Hungry for Music’s goal is to embrace and promote the positive qualities of music: its ability to enhance communication, create community, inspire a talent, unite all people, and most importantly to heal.”

In 2010, Hungry for Music donated 512 musical instruments throughout the United States and abroad. In February, the charity delivered six alto saxophones to the Nannie J. Lee Recreation Center in Alexandria to help the staff begin an after-school program.

Musical instrument donations will be accepted at the door during the Louisiana Dance Party. Visit www.hungryformusic.org for more information and to purchase tickets.

Junkyard Saints is a Baltimore-based seven-piece band with full horn section performing its own brand of New Orleans-style party music, blending funk, swing, Latin and R&B, with a splash of zydeco.

Washington-based Squeeze Bayou also is a WAMMIE winner (2008, Folk/Traditional Group), plays traditional Cajun and zydeco dance music from Southwestern Louisiana. It specializes in two steps and waltzes, but the music reflects a blend of many styles including country music, blues and Creole. Most of its material comes from traditional



COURTESY PHOTO

Jeff Campbell, founder of Hungry for Music, feels that every instrument he puts into a child’s hands is a tool for peace in the world.



sources and the vocals are sung in Cajun French.

The Louisiana Dance Party is on Friday, March 4, at 8 p.m. Tickets are \$15 in advance at www.hungryformusic.org; \$20 at the door.

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

Domestic Violence Shelter Turns 30

The Friends of the Commission for Women marked the 30th anniversary of the Alexandria Battered Women’s Shelter with a fundraiser and special performance Feb. 10 of “His Eye Is On the Sparrow” at MetroStage Theatre.

“It was 30 years ago that the doors of the Alexandria Battered Women’s Shelter first opened,” said program coordinator Claire Dunn. “We celebrate that and continue our commitment to providing shelter and safety to all women.”

More than 100 people turned out for the event, which raised over \$3500 to benefit the Alexandria Domestic Violence Program.

— JEANNE THEISMANN

PHOTOS BY JEANNE THEISMANN/
GAZETTE PACKET



Claire Dunn, Lisa Baker, Vice Mayor Kerry Donley, Donna Kloch, Councilwoman Del Pepper, U.S. Rep. Jim Moran (D-8) and Jim Butler at the reception commemorating the 30th anniversary of the Alexandria Domestic Violence Shelter.



Commission for Women members Susan Kellom and Norma Gattsek.



Ron and Hazel Rigby



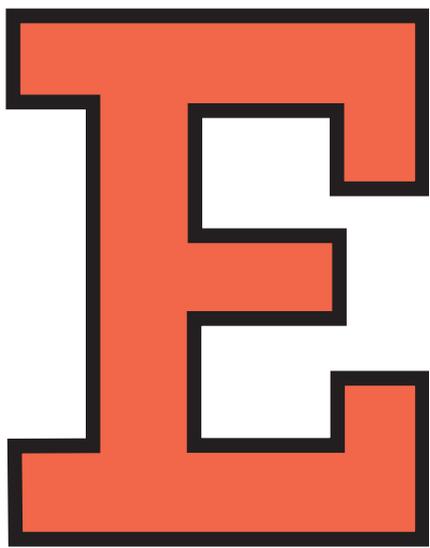
Inderjeet Jumani, Sande Reinhardt, Tillie Cassidy and Laura Mendala at the Domestic Violence Shelter 30th anniversary fundraiser at MetroStage Feb. 10.



Vola Lawson and Councilman Rob Krupicka.



Lisa Baker, Liz Johnson and P.J. Palmer Johnson



ARTS ♦ ENTERTAINMENT ♦ LEISURE

Port City Presents Prejudice Play

Frank Pasqualino
directs a solid cast.

BY BRAD HATHAWAY
THE GAZETTE

With a very satisfying production of a challenging morality play, the Port City Playhouse is hitting its stride in its new, intimate home off Quaker Lane. Running through March 6 at The Lab at Convergence, a multi-purpose room seating nearly a hundred, John Henry Redwood's play "No Niggers, No Jews, No Dogs" puts the pain produced by prejudice on display.

The primary story of the play is of a loving black family living in a rural area of North Carolina in the late 1940s. The family had been terribly injured years before as a result of a crime that went unpunished due to the discriminatory attitudes of the time and place. Now, a similar atrocity has happened again but the victim, a happily married mother of two, tries a different approach to handling the tragedy in the hope of achieving a different result.

Actress Lolita-Marie gives heart, charm, warmth and intelligence to her portrayal of the mother, letting the audience understand the pain not only of having undergone such hateful violence but of the frustration and determination required by her effort to handle the tragedy in a new way. That this actress would give a performance of this quality is hardly surprising as she has quite a track record in local community theater. This year she is a nominee for the Washington Area Theatre Community Honor for outstanding lead actress in a play for her performance in Tantallon Community Players' "A Raisin in the Sun," and she won the honor two years ago for outstanding cameo in a play for "Doubt: A Parable" at the Elden Street Players.

This is Lolita-Marie's first performance with Port City Playhouse, as it is for DeJeanette Horne who plays her husband, and high school senior Marissa Moody and fifth-grader Aeshia Brown who play their children. Each is impressive and together they form a family portrait that engages the audience's heart. Add a striking performance in the strange role of a family aunt whose secrets emerge over time by Kecia A. Campbell, and the entire cast playing the extended family is commendable.

Hidden within the otherwise straightforward, if disturbing drama illustrating the injustice of racial subjugation, is an intriguing



PHOTO BY ARI MCSHERRY

Marissa Moody, DeJeanette Horne and Aeshia Brown (foreground); Lolita-Marie (background, right), in "No Niggers, No Jews, No Dogs."

subplot exploring an aspect not often considered.

The one non-black character in the play is a Jewish man who has struck up a friendship with the family during a visit to northeast North Carolina while researching a fascinating topic. He's studying the psychological impact of discriminatory signs on subjugated people. In the wake of the Holocaust and its impact on the Jewish people, he's fascinated by the impact on blacks of being constantly exposed throughout the south to signs setting some facilities aside for whites only and others, usually visibly inferior, for blacks. He tells the story of a sign he saw once in Mississippi that gives the play its title: "No Niggers, No Jews, No Dogs."

This intriguing subplot comes across as something of a digression, despite the impact of director Frank Pasqualino's opening the performance with a montage of photographs of such signs projected on a sheet drying on the laundry line of the family's house in the marvelously realistic set designed by Erin Cumbo. Perhaps the subplot fails to achieve the heft it should because the actor who performs it, David Berkenbilt, stumbles over some of the dialogue at times and is distractingly hesitant at others.

Still, the message gets across. Pasqualino has done a fine job of drawing solid performances in all the family roles. This is most notable with the two children who never seem to be rushing through lines or awkwardly awaiting a cue. They interact together with the solid sense of comfort and familiarity that is the mark of a family.

This is the second production of the company since it left the cavernous and often nearly empty Nannie J. Lee Center's auditorium for its new home. Under president Ron Field, Port City Playhouse is re-staking its claim to a reputation it once enjoyed as Alexandria's purveyor of serious, challenging community theater.

♦♦♦
Brad Hathaway reviews theater in Virginia, Washington and Maryland as well as Broadway and writes about theater for a number of national magazines. He welcomes feedback from those he writes about and those he writes for. He can be reached at brad.hathaway@verizon.net.

Where & When

Port City Playhouse's production of "No Niggers, No Jews, No Dogs" runs through March 6 at The Lab at Convergence, 1819 North Quaker Lane. Performances are Friday and Saturday evenings at 8 p.m., Sunday matinees at 3 p.m. and a special Tuesday evening performance at 8 p.m. on March 1. Tickets are \$16 - \$18. Call 703-838-2880 or log on to www.telgo.com/pcp/on_line_tickets.html.



Duck a la Cherry from Murphy's Irish Pub.

Cherry Challenge Winners Announced

The George Washington Birthday Celebration Committee announces the winners of its third-annual "Cherry Challenge," held Feb. 6-12 in 14 Alexandria restaurants. It featured cherry-inspired dishes, drinks, and desserts created by the restaurant chefs.

Participating in this year's contest were Food Matters, Hank's Oyster Bar, Seagar's, Shooter McGee's, Dishes of India, Tempo, Murphy's Irish Pub, St. Elmo's Coffee Pub, The Light Horse, and Rampart's, Pizzaiola Café on Fern, Fontaine Caffé and Creperie, King Street Blues Old Town.

For the third year in a row, Tempo Restaurant and Murphy's Irish Pub placed in the finals — Tempo with a winning salad, and Murphy's with its three-time winning duck entrée.

THE WINNERS:

Starters Category: Insalata di Ceresa e Mela di Fuji from Tempo Restaurant;

Entree Category: Duck a la Cherry from Murphy's Irish Pub;

Drinks Category: Sweet Cherry Rye from Food Matters;

Dessert Category: Cherry Kulfi (ice cream) from Dishes of India.

"With 93 ballots, the Sweet Cherry Rye from Food Matters was in a class of its own," says Ann Yaktine, of the new contender's cherry cocktail concoction. Food Matters did so well with its cocktail that it ran out of ballots on the sixth day of the challenge, and mixologist John Snopes ended up making up some blanks while he waited for more to be delivered.

New Route for Alexandria St. Patrick's Day Parade

The 30th Annual Alexandria St. Patrick's Day Parade will take place on Saturday, March 5 at 12:30 p.m. in the heart of Old Town Alexandria.

A new parade route has been established for 2011. The parade will start at the corner of King Street and Alfred Street, and proceed East down King Street to the corner of King Street and Lee Street. "We expect the new parade route to eliminate gaps between parade divisions and provide a first class experience for the tens of thousands

of people who come to Old Town to enjoy this great day," said Pat Troy, Ballyshaners chairman and parade master of ceremonies.

This year's parade will be lead by co-Grand Marshals Tom and Nancy VanCoverden, who are long-time supporters of the Alexandria St. Patrick's Day Parade.

In addition to the parade, festivities will include a Classic Car Show, held on Pitt Street between King and Cameron Streets beginning at 10 a.m., and a Fun Dog Show held in Mar-

ket Square, beginning at 10:30 a.m.

All events are free to the public. Parade organizers suggest using Metrorail to the King Street Metro stop, and walking 10 minutes East on King Street to the Parade Route.

All events are sponsored by the Ballyshaners — Gaelic for "Old Towners". A not-for-profit group, the Ballyshaners' goal is to promote and preserve Irish heritage through sponsorship of the Alexandria St. Patrick's Day Parade and the Alexandria Irish Festival, held every summer.

Photos by Louise Krafft



E ELEGANCE BY ROYA FASHION BOUTIQUE

Have your own design in mind? Want to wear the same dress a celebrity wore in her wedding? Or simply want to alter an existing dress to your unique shape? Their expert designers have created and recreated some of the most exquisitely beautiful wedding dresses ever. There isn't any design they can not make into a real dress. Bring your photos, sketches, and ideas. Their designers will work with you from concept to completion of a unique dress that fits and looks like a dream.

1311 King Street, 703.838.9282, elegancefashionboutique.com



G JOY HOUSTON BRIDAL

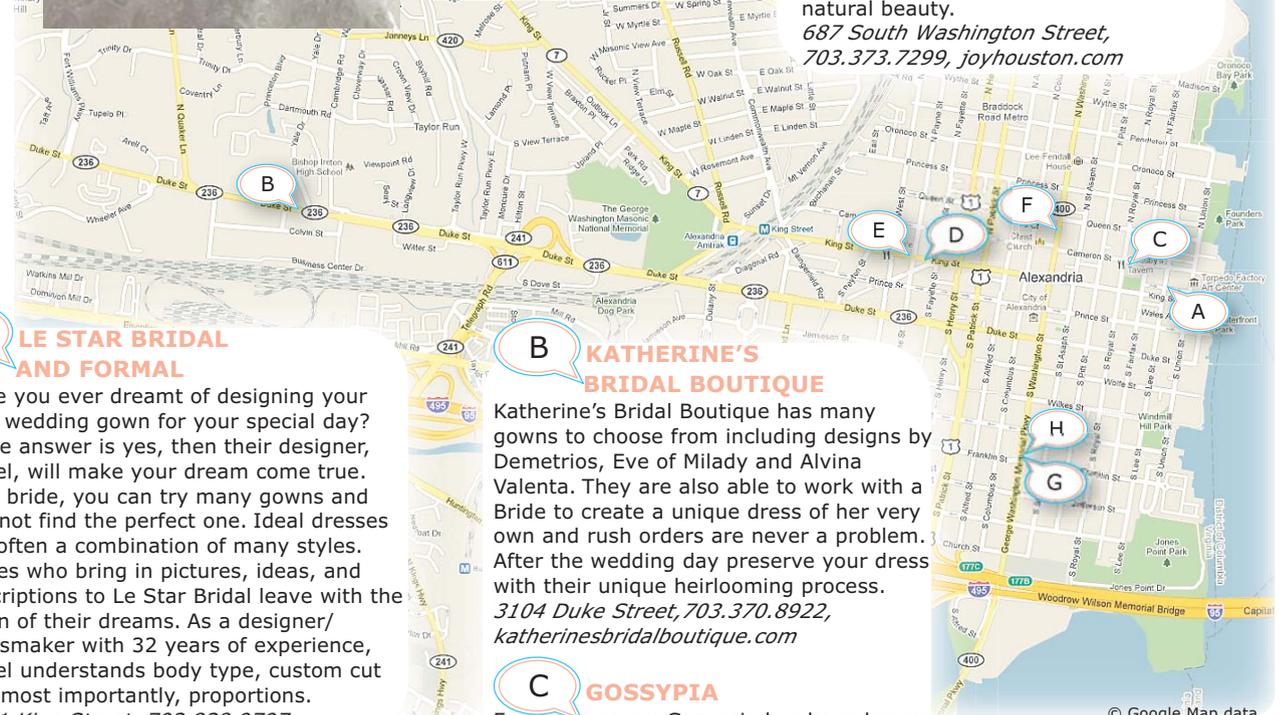
This talented designer has over 24 years of experience creating custom dresses for over 10,000 brides and their bridal parties. Her graceful and elegant dresses are designed from the heart to complement each bride's unique and natural beauty.

687 South Washington Street, 703.373.7299, joyhouston.com

Talk of the Town

Dress Stress Alleviated

"Something borrowed, something blue" that is the easy part. The Wanderer has known a few brides (and their mothers!) and he understands that the all important wedding dress sets the tone for the day. He sympathizes with the quest for the perfect ensemble and hopes to offer these local solutions to help with the "something new" part. Now all he has to do is press his handkerchief.



© Google Map data



D LE STAR BRIDAL AND FORMAL

Have you ever dreamt of designing your own wedding gown for your special day? If the answer is yes, then their designer, Angel, will make your dream come true. As a bride, you can try many gowns and still not find the perfect one. Ideal dresses are often a combination of many styles. Brides who bring in pictures, ideas, and descriptions to Le Star Bridal leave with the gown of their dreams. As a designer/dressmaker with 32 years of experience, Angel understands body type, custom cut and most importantly, proportions.

1201 King Street, 703.838.9797, lestarbridal.net

B KATHERINE'S BRIDAL BOUTIQUE

Katherine's Bridal Boutique has many gowns to choose from including designs by Demetrios, Eve of Milady and Alvina Valenta. They are also able to work with a Bride to create a unique dress of her very own and rush orders are never a problem. After the wedding day preserve your dress with their unique heirloom process.

3104 Duke Street, 703.370.8922, katherinesbridalboutique.com

C GOSSYPPIA

For many years, Gossypia has been known for a large selection of lovely informal, encore, and destination wedding dresses. Special occasion dresses and informal dresses are here, designers include Jessica McClintock, Sue Wong and Mon Cheri. Appointments are required for weekend wedding dress shopping.

325 Cameron Street, 703.836.6969, gossypia.com

A HANNELORE'S BRIDAL BOUTIQUE OF OLD TOWNE

For nearly 30 years Hannelore's of Old Town has been making wedding dreams come true for Alexandria brides. Their professional staff will guide you through over twenty designer's collections many of them being exclusive to Hannelore's in the Washington area. Inez Disanto of Italy, Ian Stuart of London and Elizabeth Fillmore of New York just to name a few! Enjoy the privacy of large fitting rooms while choosing from exquisite gowns and finish your look with shoes from their shoe salon.

106 North Lee Street, 703.549.0387, hannelores.com

F ELLIE'S BRIDAL BOUTIQUE

Established by Ellie herself in 1996, Ellie's Bridal Boutique is a full-service bridal salon located in Alexandria, Virginia, right in the heart of Old Town. Their goal is not only to help you find your dream dress, but to offer a casual, comfortable atmosphere that is warm and down-to-earth. They believe that being free to touch and browse their lines allows for the optimum bridal shopping experience. They also offer cleaning and preservation of your gown.

225 North Washington Street, 703.683.8697, elliesbridal.com

H GLOBAL BRIDAL GALLERY, LLC.

Schedule some time with Seki and let her help you select the perfect gown for your special day. Her goal is to offer a warm and welcoming experience while providing expert gown consultations. Don't miss the monthly bridal fashion shows with dresses from Moonlight, Symphony Bride and a collection of stunning custom bridal gowns.

623 S. Washington Street, 703.739.2743, globalbridalgallery.com



ENTERTAINMENT

Living Legends Reception To Be Held March 17

The Board of Directors of Living Legends of Alexandria will host the fourth annual Meet the Legends Reception on March 17 from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. at the Patent & Trademark Office, 600 Dulaney Street in Alexandria.

The 2011 Legends will be introduced in person. They include Mollie Abraham, Lynnwood Campbell, William Clayton, H. Stewart Dunn, Timothy S. Elliott, Jon Liss, Peter Lunt, Don Mela, Fran and Gant Redmon, Carlyle C. Connie Ring, Jack Taylor and Joseph F. Viar, Jr. All of 2011 nominees will also be introduced.

Special guests will be The Honorable William D. Euille, mayor of Alexandria and General George Washington as portrayed by Don DeHaven.

There will be complimentary beverages and light fare provided by Barrett's of Alexandria, Hard Times Cafe, Nickell's & Scheffler, Pork Barrel BBQ and Joe Theismann's Restaurant.

Tickets are \$35 in advance by March 11, \$45 at the door. Please RSVP by March 11. Complimentary Parking will be provided by Colonial Parking. Please send your payment to Living Legends, P.O. Box 10485, Alexandria, VA 22310.

For more information or to receive an invitation to cover the event, contact Mary Anne Weber at maweber@comcast.net or 703-629-3747.

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FINE ARTS

NOW THROUGH FEB. 27

John M. Adams — Finding Zero. John M. Adams' work activates the perceptual connection between artist, object (or environment), and viewer. At the Athenaeum, 201 Prince Street, Alexandria. 703-548-0035. Visit nvfaa.org.

NOW THROUGH FEB. 27

Love Letters Exhibit. A collection of love-inspired artworks paired with artist's love letter. At the Del Ray Artisans Gallery, 2704 Mount Vernon Ave., Alexandria. Visit www.TheDelRayArtisans.org

FEB. 28 TO APRIL 25

Exotics Et Cetera. Some 25 works by Ruth Ensley, watercolorist. At Green Springs Garden Historic House. Contact Ruth at rensleyart@yahoo.com.

MARCH 1 TO APRIL 24

Artistic Duo II. Noon to 4:30 p.m. daily. Featuring a joint display of landscape and floral watercolors by Carolyn Grosse Gawarecki and photographic subjects by Stephen J. Gawarecki. Meet the artist's reception is Sunday, March 27 from 1 to 3:30 p.m. At Green Springs Gardens Horticultural Center, 4601 Green Spring Road, Alexandria.

MARCH 7 TO APRIL 3

The Kiln Club Show. Porcelain potter Malcom Davis will judge the show. Reception with awards presentation on March 9 from 6 to 9 p.m. At the Scope Gallery, 101 North Union Street, Ground Floor Studio 19, Alexandria. Call 703-548-6288 or visit www.kilnclubwdc.com.

NOW THROUGH MARCH 6

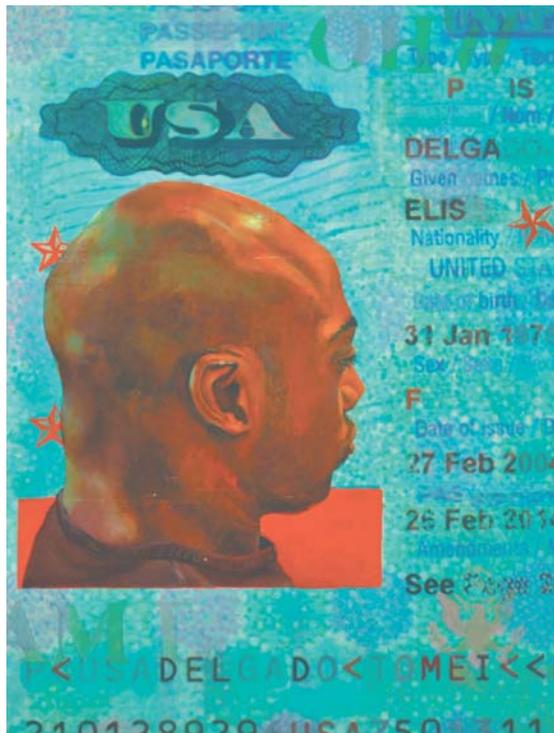
"Malaysia Journeys." A Photo Exhibition by Blake Stenning. At Multiple Exposures Gallery, 105 N. Union St., #312, Alexandria. Call 703-683-2205.

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 MARCH 6

Gallery West Presents: The 14th National Show. 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.



Nathan Bond (NY), Documentation, Oil on paper mounted on Board.

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. At The Target Gallery in the Torpedo Factory. Visit www.torpedofactory.org.

Barry D. Lindley creates striking paintings portraying the effect water has on natural and man-made objects. Opening reception and Meet the Artist is Thursday, March 10 from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Artist's Talk is Saturday, March 26 at 1 p.m. On Display in the Art League Gallery.

SATURDAY/MARCH 12

Abstract Art Workshop: Revealing What Is Hidden. 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Artists/Teachers/Historians discuss Abstract Art history/genre, critique participant artworks. \$10, DRA members; \$15, non-members. Maximum participants, 25. Register at www.TheDelRayArtisan.org by March 8.

NOW THROUGH MAY 1

Exhibition of Commemorative Wares. Features ceramic wares that reflect the Alexandria community's keen interest in current and historic events. At the Lyceum, 201 South Washington Street, Old Town Alexandria. Open Monday through Saturday, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sunday, from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. \$2 admission. Call 703-746-4994 or visit www.alexandriahistory.org.

NOW THROUGH MAY 7

Artist Horace Day. "Style and Identity: Black Alexandria in the 1970s, Portraits by Horace Day." The exhibition of more than 30 paintings by Horace Day (1909-1984) features Alexandria street scenes and portraits of African American Alexandrians from the early 1970s. At The Alexandria Black History Museum, 902 Wythe Street in the heart of Alexandria's historic Parker-Gray District. Visit www.alexblackhistory.org or call 703-746-4356.



Opera Night

Come join us for Opera Night at Trattoria da Franco. Dine on a traditional Italian meal while enjoying live opera performances featuring selections from Verdi, Beethoven, Leoncavello, Puccini, Bizet & Strauss. Your evening will include dinner, wine and an opportunity to meet the artists. Mark your calendar for the last Sunday of every month. Call for reservations.



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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.

THURSDAY/FEB. 24

Pre-Festival Concert. 7 p.m. The Mount Vernon High School orchestras perform in preparation for the district-wide orchestra assessment in March. At Mount Vernon High School's Little Theater. Contact the MVHS Orchestra Conductor, Timothy Gaffga, at TFGaffga@fcps.edu.

Short Story Discussion Group. 7 p.m. Will meet to talk about the introduction and first three short stories in *Short Shorts: An Anthology of the Shortest Stories*, edited by Howe and Howe. At Burke Branch Library, 4701 Seminary Rd. Call Mark Schwartz at 703-746-1770.

"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 Center for Alexandria's Children (CAC), a public-private partnership dedicated to the elimination of child abuse. Tickets start at \$125 each. Tickets are available at www.oscarnight@eventbrite.com or 703-746-6008. 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.leafendallhouse.org.

SATURDAY/FEB. 26

Life Line Screening. Get screened to reduce your risk of having a stroke or a bone fracture. Packages start at \$139. At Emmanuel Episcopal Church, 1608 Russell Road, Alexandria. To schedule an appointment, call 1-877-237-1287 or visit www.lifelinescreening.com.

Step Competition. 6 to 9 p.m. The event celebrates African American heritage and the art of stepping, a percussive style of dance originated by African American college students. Step teams from McLean High School and Poe and Sandburg Middle Schools, along with teams from Maryland and Virginia, will participate. At West Potomac High School.

Community Appreciation Day. 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Free. Class demonstrations and family activities. At the Charles Houston Rec Center, 901 Wythe Street, Alexandria. Contact Shelia Whiting at sheila.whiting@alexandriava.gov or 703-746-5552.

Ensemble Gaudior. 7:30 p.m. Ensemble Gaudior presents "Barroca Nova" (Music in the Key of Light) – chamber music by Scarlatti, Leclair, Buxtehude, and Handel among others. Tickets are \$20/adults; \$15/seniors. At St. Luke's Episcopal Church, 8009 Fort Hunt Road, Alexandria. Call 703-395-2899 or visit www.ensemblegaudior.com.

Prohibition Night Fundraiser. 8 p.m. to 10 p.m. Tickets are \$45/advance; \$55/door. At Lee-Fendall House Museum & Garden, 614 Oronco St.,

Alexandria. Call 703-548-1789.

U.S. Army Concert Band. 7:30 p.m. Free. With guest artist Steve Houghton, percussion. At the Rachel M. Schlesinger Concert Hall and Arts Center, NOVA Campus, Alexandria. Visit www.usarmyband.com.

Learn About Bees. 4 to 5:30 p.m. Cost is \$6. Find out how bees contribute to the human world and what you can do to attract them to your garden. At Huntley Meadows Park, 3701 Lockheed Blvd., Alexandria. Call 703-222-4664.

History Lecture. 1 p.m. Cost is \$10. Historian Carroll R. Gibbs presents, "Whirlwind Coming: African Americans in the District and Alexandria during the Civil War." At Fort Ward Museum, 4301 West Braddock Road. Call the Museum at 703-746-4848 to make reservations. Visit www.fortward.org.

FEB. 26-27

Mattress Sale Fundraiser. Saturday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Sunday noon to 5 p.m. All sizes of mattresses available. A West Potomac High School All-Night Graduation fundraiser. At the WPHS Main Lobby, 6500 Quander Road, Alexandria. All profits go directly to the senior class fund.

SUNDAY/FEB. 27

Learn About Bones. 2 to 3:30 p.m. Cost is \$6. Every skeleton has a secret. Search the clues left behind in animal skulls, teeth and bones. At Huntley Meadows Park, 3701 Lockheed Blvd., Alexandria. Call 703-222-4664.

MONDAY/FEB. 28

"Alexandria and the Civil War: Pride and Shame in Black and White." Reception at 6:15 p.m., Dinner (\$25 members/\$30 nonmembers) at 6:45 p.m.; Program 7:15 p.m. Dinner reservations required. With Ronald Beavers, Civil War Historian; Andy Evans, Community Activist and Comedy Counselor; Lillian Patterson, Retired Curator, Alexandria Black History Museum; and Laura Trieschmann, Director, Survey and Documentation at EHT Traceries. Special Guest, Barb Winters, author "Letters to Virginians." Holiday Inn Eisenhower Metro Center, 2460 Eisenhower Avenue. Contact Sherry Brown, 703-548-7089 or agendaalexandria@aol.com.

TUESDAY/MARCH 1

"Who Owns the Past?" 6 to 8 p.m. Morrison House Presents Michael Lee Pope, Journalist, who will discuss how recorded histories become convoluted by conflicting interpretations of the past. Part of a Salon-Style Series Celebrating Culture through Arts, Literature, and History Discussions. At Morrison House, 116 South Alfred Street, Alexandria. Visit www.morrisonhouse.com or 703-838-8000.

MARCH 2-31

Woodlawn Needlework Exhibition. America's oldest and largest display of historic and contemporary needlework will be showcased at the 48th Annual Woodlawn Needlework Exhibition. Hundreds of needle workers from

around the world, both professional and amateur, enter their creations each year.

Demonstrations throughout the month will highlight a variety of techniques for the visitor. Hours are 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Wednesday - Monday during March. Admission prices are \$10 for adults and \$5 for students through 12th grade. At Woodlawn Plantation, 9000 Richmond Highway, three miles west of Mount Vernon. Call 703-780-4000 or visit www.woodlawn1805.org.

WEDNESDAY/

MARCH 2

Owls: Birds of Mystery and Majesty. 7:30 p.m. Free. Retired



Greg Roland as Conrad Birdie (center) sings one of his hit songs while the MacAfee family looks on. (From left): Heather Hartzell, Dru Hortum, Sibet Partee and Virginia Coffield.

MARCH 4-12

"Bye Bye Birdie." March 4, 11 and 12 at 7:30 p.m.; Matinee on March 5 at 2 p.m. At St. Stephen's & St. Agnes Upper School, Chapel/Performing Arts Center, 1000 St. Stephen's Road, Alexandria. Visit www.sssas.org/arts

pathologist John Spahr will share his knowledge and images of these nocturnal birds. A presentation by the Friends of Dyke Marsh, co-sponsored by the Raptor Conservancy of Virginia and the Northern Virginia Bird Club. At Huntley Meadows Park Visitors' Center, 3701 Lockheed Blvd., Alexandria. Call 703-768-2525. Visit www.fodm.org.

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.

Summer Camp Fair. 5:30 to 8 p.m. Free. Some 50 exhibitors will represent a wide range of camp programs, including day and overnight camps. Sponsored by the PTA Council of Alexandria. At the cafeteria of TC Williams, Minnie Howard Campus, 3801 W. Braddock Road, Alexandria. Contact Marianne Hetzer at alexptaccamp@comcast.net or 703-823-3367.

SATURDAY/MARCH 5

Ninja Warrior Night. 7 p.m. 100 contestants must run through four increasingly difficult obstacle courses that test endurance, strength, and agility. Cost is \$20. At Urban Evolution, 5402 Eisenhower Avenue, Alexandria. For more information or to participate, visit www.urbanevo.com, or call 571-215-8218.

Digging for Buried Treasure. 1 to 3 p.m. How a Treasure Trove of Civil War and Alexandria History was Uncovered and Became The Book, "Letters to Virginia" At the Alexandria Library, 717 Queen Street, Alexandria.

Fun Dog Show. 11 a.m. to noon. Sponsored by Barkley Square and the Ballyshanners, held in conjunction with the St. Patrick's Day Parade. At Market Square (on the corner of N. Fairfax and King Street).

La Bella Sinfonia. 6 p.m. An Evening in Italy. The Symphony Orchestra League of Alexandria is hosting its 24th annual ball to benefit the Alexandria Symphony Orchestra. The gala begins with a reception and silent auction; followed by dinner, live auction, dancing, and music. At the Westin Hotel, 400 Courthouse Square, Alexandria. Price \$200; \$150 first timers. Part is tax deductible. Contact 703-960-7994 or mtpwoods@aol.com

Greg Greenway and Reggie Harris. 7 p.m. Tickets are \$18/general; \$15/advance at FocusMusic.org. At St. Aidan's Episcopal Church, 8531 Riverside Road, Alexandria.

St. Patrick's Day Celebration and Parade. Free. Old Town is Irish for a day with the Fun Dog Show at 10:30 a.m. in Market Square, classic car competition at 10:30 a.m. along King Street and the parade at 12:30 p.m. The parade will start at the corner of King Street and Alfred Street, and proceed East down King Street to the corner of King Street and Lee Street. Co-Grand Marshals are Tom and Nancy VanCoverden. Throughout Old Town, Alexandria. Call 703-237-2199 or visit www.Ballyshanners.org.

Mardi Gras Celebration. 7:30 to 10:30 p.m. Cost is \$40/person. Hosted by the Mount Vernon District Democratic Committee. Del. Scott Surovell is a confirmed speaker. Congressmen Gerry Connolly (D-11) and Jim Moran (D-8), Supervisor Gerry Hyland, and other local Democratic leaders from Mount Vernon District are invited to speak. At Don Beyer Volvo, 7416 Richmond Highway, Alexandria. Visit www.mvdemocrats.com.

MARCH 5 AND 6

Jazz and Tap Festival. Saturday at 8 p.m.; Sunday at 4 p.m. Presented by the Dancin' Unlimited Jazz Dance Company. Tickets are \$18/advance; \$20/door. At Northern Virginia Community College, Annandale Campus Theatre. The NVCC Annandale Campus is at 8333 Little River Turnpike, Annandale. For tickets and information, visit www.dance-festival.org.

SUNDAY/MARCH 6

Eclipse Chamber Orchestra. 3 p.m. Conducted by music director Sylvia Alimena, the concert will feature Bruch's Violin Concerto No.1 in G Minor, to be performed by violinist Elisabeth Adkins. Tickets are \$25/\$20. Call 703-635-2770. Performs at George Washington Masonic National Memorial, 101 Callahan Drive, Alexandria. Visit www.eclipseco.org.

WEDNESDAY/MARCH 9

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

THURSDAY/MARCH 10

"Race to Nowhere" Screening. 7 to 9 p.m. Documentary film examines the culture of education and achievement in America. Tickets are \$15/door; \$10 online at <http://www.racetonowhere.com/epostcard/4135>. At Mt. Vernon High School Little Theatre, 8515 Old Mount Vernon Road, Alexandria.

Pat Victor. 7 p.m. Part of the Second Thursday Music at The Athenaeum, 201 Prince Street, Alexandria. Tickets are \$10. Call 703-548-0035 or nvfaa.org.

FRIDAY/MARCH 11

"Celtic Aire." 8 p.m. Free. An evening of Celtic music performed by the U.S. Air Force Band Chamber Players. At George Washington Masonic National Memorial, 101 Callahan Drive, Alexandria. Call 202-767-5658 or visit www.usafb.af.mil.

MARCH 11, 12, 18, 19

A Night of Broadway. 8 p.m. Featuring Lisa Anne Bailey and Andy Izquierdo, accompanied by Charlie Manship. Presented by Zemfira Stage. Tickets are \$15/general; \$10/students/seniors. At The Lyceum, 201 South Washington Street, Alexandria. Call 703-615-6626.



Junkyard Saints

FRIDAY/MARCH 4

Louisiana Dance Party. 8 p.m. Popular dance instructors Ben Pagac and Debbie Shaw will be on hand to provide free lessons in the art of swing, cajun and zydeco stepping. There will be King Cake and Mardi Gras beads for all, and drinks will be plentiful at the cash bar, along with light snacks. Tickets are \$15/advance; \$20/door. With the bands Junkyard Saints and Squeeze Bayou. Tickets at www.hungryformusic.org. At the Torpedo Factory Art Center, 105 N. Union St. on the Potomac River in Old Town Alexandria.

OPINION

Working Together for Virginia's Veterans

BY DAVID ENGLIN
STATE DELEGATE (D-45)



When Northern Virginia's own General George Washington took command of the Continental Army in 1775, the Commonwealth began a proud American military tradition that continues to this very day. Aside from being home to both the Pentagon and the largest naval base in the world, Virginia has more military veterans per capita than nearly any other state, including more than 822,000 veterans and more than 622,000 wartime veterans. As an Air Force veteran who deployed overseas, leaving my wife and son at home concerned for my safety, I am acutely aware of the sacrifices military families make, and one of my goals as a legislators continues to be supporting our veterans and their families however we can.

While it would be natural for some to assume that issues related to veterans and military service are the exclusive purview of federal policymakers, many important medical, rehabilitative, and educational benefits for veterans are actually administered by the state's Department of Veterans Services. Therefore, I continue to work with a bipartisan group of legislators to make Virginia's Department of Veterans Services more effective. For example, this year I helped sponsor successful legislation to improve the staff-to-veterans ratio for processing benefit claims, so we can shorten the sometimes excruciating long periods of time that men and women returning from service in Iraq, Afghanistan, and elsewhere have to wait to receive benefits they and their families have earned. I also helped sponsor a creative effort based on a successful Texas policy to create a new sustained funding source for services to Virginia's veterans, although that legislation unfortunately did

not pass.

When a military man or woman returns from wartime service, the transition to civilian life can be a real challenge, even when they are highly trained and educated. Therefore, a group of legislators this session have been working on ways to remove employment barriers and to enable veterans to leverage their military training and experience in civilian occupations. For example, we passed legislation requiring the Department of Veterans Services to review existing state laws requiring licensing and certification, compare these requirements with similar military specialties, and make recommendations to the General Assembly as to which provisions in the Code of Virginia might be amended to allow for military training to fulfill certain licensing and certification training requirements. The level of medical training and experience military doctors, nurses, and medical technicians receive often exceeds anything anywhere else in the world. Therefore, we passed legislation this session requiring the Board of Medicine and the

Board of Nursing to consider relevant military medical training and experience in their licensing procedures, so veterans can more easily transition to these jobs and other Virginians can more easily benefit from access to these health care professionals.

Military spouses often sacrifice educational opportunities because they have to move from place to place with a wife or husband who is in the service. To ease that burden this session we passed legislation waiving the one-year residency requirement so military spouses can receive in-state tuition at Virginia's colleges and universities. This not only lends a hand to these families, but it helps Virginia develop an educated workforce for the future.

While legislators and the media collectively tend to focus on Richmond's more divisive battles, I am pleased to report that, when it comes to standing with Virginia's military men and women and their families, Democrats and Republicans have been able to work together for the good of the Commonwealth.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Bigger Than A Lightbulb

To the Editor:

So, by some miraculous stroke, some sanity prevailed at city hall. ("Oooooo, look at the pretty lights on King Street Why don't we keep them on all year!?) Instead, they extended them through March. What makes the lights look so pretty during the dark, dreary winter is the oak trees' bare branches. But city hall's preferences notwithstanding, in the summer the trees have leaves on them. Each oak leaf is the size of an adult's hand and each tree has thousands of them, versus mere hundreds of lights the size of a fingernail. If the lights stayed on in spring, summer and fall, no one would see them because the leaves would obscure them.

That something so obvious to a commoner like me, but not to our esteemed solons — soon bent on "planning" a waterfront that isn't even always above water, part of which belongs to the District of Columbia, and much of the rest of which is under covenant — suggests either that someone sensible is unelectable to public office here or that city hall has taken leave of its senses.

Dino Drudi
Alexandria

Federal Jobs Don't Matter?

To the Editor:

This year, painful choices will need to be made regarding the federal budget. I think most folks agree that cutting wasteful spending is a great start to the process.

However, certain conservative leaders in Congress believe it is OK if federal jobs are lost in the aftermath. What happened to the urgency of creating jobs? Why do federal jobs matter less than ones in the private sector? Don't federal workers need to pay their bills and take care of their families, too? Are federal workers somehow less valuable? Many government jobs get paid less than equivalent positions in the private sector. While I understand there can be wasted dollars spent (think F35 Strike Fighter second engine — \$3 billion in costs over 10 years — fortunately cut), I know many federal jobs are crucial to the security of our country as well as the economy. I have several family members and many friends that fill important roles in the federal government. Keep in mind that the Bush tax cuts over the past decade cost the government \$4 trillion. Why not end the tax cuts instead? Because it's a "job killer" in the private sector but doesn't affect those "unnecessary" federal jobs? As stated in a recent Washington Post column, a budget expert at the Center for American Progress calculates cuts of \$59 billion in last half of fiscal year 2011 would lead to the loss of 650,000 government jobs and an indirect loss of 325,000 more jobs as fewer government workers travel and buy things. The 1 million jobs lost could potentially tip the economic scale back into recession. So be it doesn't make the cut.

Carolyn Boyd
Alexandria Democratic Committee

Protect Progress In War on Cancer

To the Editor:

The impact of the spending bill recently

passed by the U.S. House of Representatives would be devastating to the fight against cancer.

Drastic cuts to lifesaving prevention and early detection programs at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention would mean lives lost instead of lives saved. It would mean more suffering instead of less.

And slashing the budget of the National Institutes of Health by 5.2 percent would have a chilling effect on medical research, jeopardizing past investments and stalling further progress.

This legislation could endanger our continued ability to make strides in our national mission to end death and suffering from cancer. Without a commitment to sustained funding for proven prevention programs and research to find new screening tools and treatments for cancers where we lack answers, we will waste timely opportunities to capitalize on past advances.

We are on the verge of making unprecedented progress that could change the way we prevent and treat cancer in this country, thanks in no small part to previous federal investments in cancer research. Without a commitment to sustained federal funding, the promise of recent discoveries may never reach the families who are waiting for them.

Senator Webb, do not allow these devastating cuts to become reality. Make it clear that a drastic cut to programs that save lives and reduce suffering from cancer is unacceptable.

Cindy L. Hausch-Booth
Volunteer,
American Cancer Society
Cancer Action Network
Alexandria

Transportation

FROM PAGE 12

needed funding to education; while the House version diverts this money to a Transportation Infrastructure Bank, which will fund public-private partnerships for transportation projects like HOT lanes.

While I am a staunch advocate for education and for programs that combat homelessness, I also realize that we have critical transportation issues to address. Coming from a community with incredible stress on our infrastructure, and urgent needs road and transit needs, I appreciate the need to accelerate bonds to fund projects we need today.

In a meeting with the Governor on Monday, I asked him to refrain from diverting money from our most vulnerable — homeless families. There is room in budget and transportation negotiations to ensure that our transportation needs are met, and there is room to ensure that our children and most vulnerable are protected. We just have to work together and accept that we have multiple priorities which cannot be ignored.

Del. Charniele Herring represents the 46th District that includes the West End of Alexandria and parts of Falls Church. For more information visit www.charnieleherring.com or attend her town hall from 1-3 p.m. on March 12 at Beatley Library.

NEIGHBORHOODS

Taylor Run

GARVEY RUNS

"Listening to other people talk is one of her favorite things, so this party was perfect for her," remarked Lois Walker about Libby Garvey, Arlington School Board chairman, at the party that a group of Libby's friends gave for other voters to discuss her candidacy for the Virginia Senate seat which Patsy Ticer has just given up. Among those present were Judy Lowe, Marian Van Landingham, Amy Slack, Fran Zorn, the St.

Clairs, Linda Dolkos, Ginny Hines and Bev Beidler. Diana Simonson, Susan Kilpatrick, Loti Dunn, Nancy Macklin and Mary Matthews were also present.

"I have always tried to approach government in a problem-solving way," said Libby.

WINTERGREEN HOLIDAY

Two Douglas MacArthur School families had an exciting midwinter vacation skiing at Wintergreen Resort as the result of an auction purchase at last year's auction. The Swindell family, Richard and Amy with chil-

dren Emma, Nathaniel and Holden, and the Houck family, with children Cilla, Juliet and Summerson, were the lucky people who bought the trip. The auction this year will be held at 7 p.m. March 26 at the Carlyle Club. "I hope whoever gets it this year has as good a time as we did," said Amy.

LOCAL BUSINESS CHANGES HANDS

About half a century ago Dick and Aleca Pekatos started a small fabric and upholstery business. When they decided to retire this year, one of their customers, Diana

Campagna, also from our neighborhood, decided to buy the business to continue it for the benefit of other needlewomen. Diana comes from a family of needlewomen who have enjoyed the art for years and she wanted to make sure that the business would continue. The business, Devaris Needlepoint Finishing Center, is at 3104 Duke St.

The seamstresses who do the actual work, Teresa and Celia, will stay on, so the service will remain the same.

— LOIS KELSO HUNT



City of Alexandria FISCAL YEAR 2012 PROPOSED BUDGET



A summary of the City of Alexandria's proposed Fiscal Year 2012 budget is set out below. Notice is hereby given of a public hearing on the proposed Fiscal Year 2012 budget for the City of Alexandria. The hearing will be held in the City Council Chambers, City Hall, 301 King Street, Alexandria, Virginia, on Monday, March 7, 2011 at 4:00 p.m.

Persons wishing to speak on the proposed budget may sign up prior to the public hearing by calling the Office of the City Clerk and Clerk of Council at (703) 746-4550. Presenters are requested to provide a copy of their text to the City Clerk and Clerk of Council.

Persons with disabilities who wish to request an accommodation for this public hearing should contract the Office of the City Clerk and Clerk of Council at (703) 746-4550 (TTY/TDD (703) 838-5056) prior to March 7, 2011, if possible.

SUMMARY OF PROPOSED BUDGET FY 2012

	General Fund PROPOSED FY 2012 (1)	All Funds PROPOSED FY 2012 (2)	FY 2012 Capital Improvements (3)
City Council	524,884	524,884	
City Manager	1,789,715	1,789,715	
City Attorney	2,651,302	2,651,302	
City Clerk and Clerk of Council	429,809	429,809	
18th Circuit Court	1,458,761	1,458,761	
18th General District Court	62,452	62,452	
Clerk of Courts	1,570,554	1,570,554	
Commonwealth's Attorney	2,584,842	2,835,316	
Court Service Unit	1,570,310	1,743,144	
Juvenile and Domestic Relations Court	36,129	36,129	
Law Library	115,935	170,096	
Other Public Safety and Judicial Activities	5,300,980	5,485,157	129,214
Registrar of Voters	1,135,598	1,135,598	
Sheriff	27,486,882	28,262,061	
Finance	10,705,550	10,989,551	
General Services	12,558,933	13,000,718	16,475,000
Human Rights	635,253	672,835	
Information Technology Services	7,391,718	7,391,718	7,524,600
Internal Audit	249,562	249,562	
Management and Budget	1,235,529	1,235,529	
Non-Departmental - Debt Service	43,329,938	43,329,938	
Non-Departmental - Contingent Reserve	961,249	961,249	
Non-Departmental - Insurance, Memberships, Other	9,427,933	10,427,933	10,119,631
Human Resources	2,945,609	2,951,609	
Real Estate Assessments	1,673,347	1,673,347	
Office of Communications & Public Information	1,784,195	1,784,195	
Fire	35,837,254	38,596,841	
Code Administration	920,334	5,813,339	
Emergency Communications	5,684,239	5,684,239	
Police	50,879,766	52,347,265	
Alexandria Health Department	6,919,908	6,940,545	
Community and Human Services	49,375,372	90,780,744	
Other Health Activities	1,038,600	1,038,600	
Housing	1,648,388	3,816,998	
Economic Development Activities	4,680,219	4,680,219	
Planning and Zoning	5,623,579	5,623,579	
Historic Alexandria	2,539,510	3,050,411	
Library	6,580,453	7,054,545	
Other Recreation Activities	288,814	288,814	359,862
Recreation, Parks and Cultural Activities	19,494,528	20,444,374	2,550,000
Transit Subsidies	15,889,422	20,428,422	8,970,000
Transportation and Environmental Services	27,583,310	38,312,190	14,198,000
Other Educational Activities	\$12,288	\$12,288	\$212,607
Schools	174,759,428	232,635,961	13,694,616
Cash Capital	4,000,000	4,000,000	
GRAND TOTAL	553,374,401	684,372,576	74,233,530

1 Beginning in FY 2012, the Office of Citizen Assistance and the Office of Communications are combined into one agency: the Office of Communications and Public Information.

2 Beginning in FY 2012 the Office on Women, Departments of Mental Health, Mental Retardation and Substance Abuse, the Department of Human Services, and Human Services Contribution have all been combined into one agency: the Department of Community and Human Services.

Any person desiring to review the proposed budget may visit the City's website (alexandriava.gov/budget) or visit City Hall, Office of Management and Budget, Room 3630, Monday through Friday (excluding holidays), 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Additionally, copies of the proposed budget may be examined at Barrett Library, 717 Queen Street, the Duncan Library, 2501 Commonwealth Avenue, Burke Library, 4701 Seminary Road, and the Beatley Central Library, 5005 Duke Street.

PROPERTY TAXES

The proposed budget includes no increase in the real property tax rate of \$0.978 cents per \$100 of assessed valuation based upon an assessment ratio of 100% fair market value. It should be noted that City Council will set the maximum tax rate to be advertised at its March 12, 2011, regular public hearing at 9:30 am in the City Council Chambers and that Council may not adopt a rate that exceeds this tax rate, but may adopt an equal or lesser tax rate. The proposed budget represents no change in the present personal property tax rate of \$4.75 per \$100 of assessed value on all taxable personal property except vehicles specially equipped to transport persons with disabilities, which are proposed to be taxed at the present rate of \$3.55 per \$100 of assessed value; machinery and tools, which are proposed to be taxed at the present rate of \$4.50 per \$100 of assessed value and, privately owned boats and water craft that are used for recreational purposes only which are proposed to be taxed at the present rate of \$0.01 per \$100 of assessed value. Under the proposed budget, the amount of the real estate tax rate required to support existing debt service related to open space acquisition will be 0.3 percent of the total real estate tax revenues. The amount of real estate tax rate dedicated for affordable housing to support existing debt service related to affordable housing is 0.7 cents.

USER FEES

It is proposed that the City's single family residential trash collection fee remain unchanged at \$336 per household in FY 2012. The proposed budget does not include any other user fee increases.

Cost of Servicing City's Debt Will More Than Double

FROM PAGE 3
make it happen. In the summer of 2009, the city issued \$80 million in debt. Then, last summer, the city issued another \$72 million in debt. Although payments on previously issued debt are declining, the increase from these large new bonds are significantly greater.

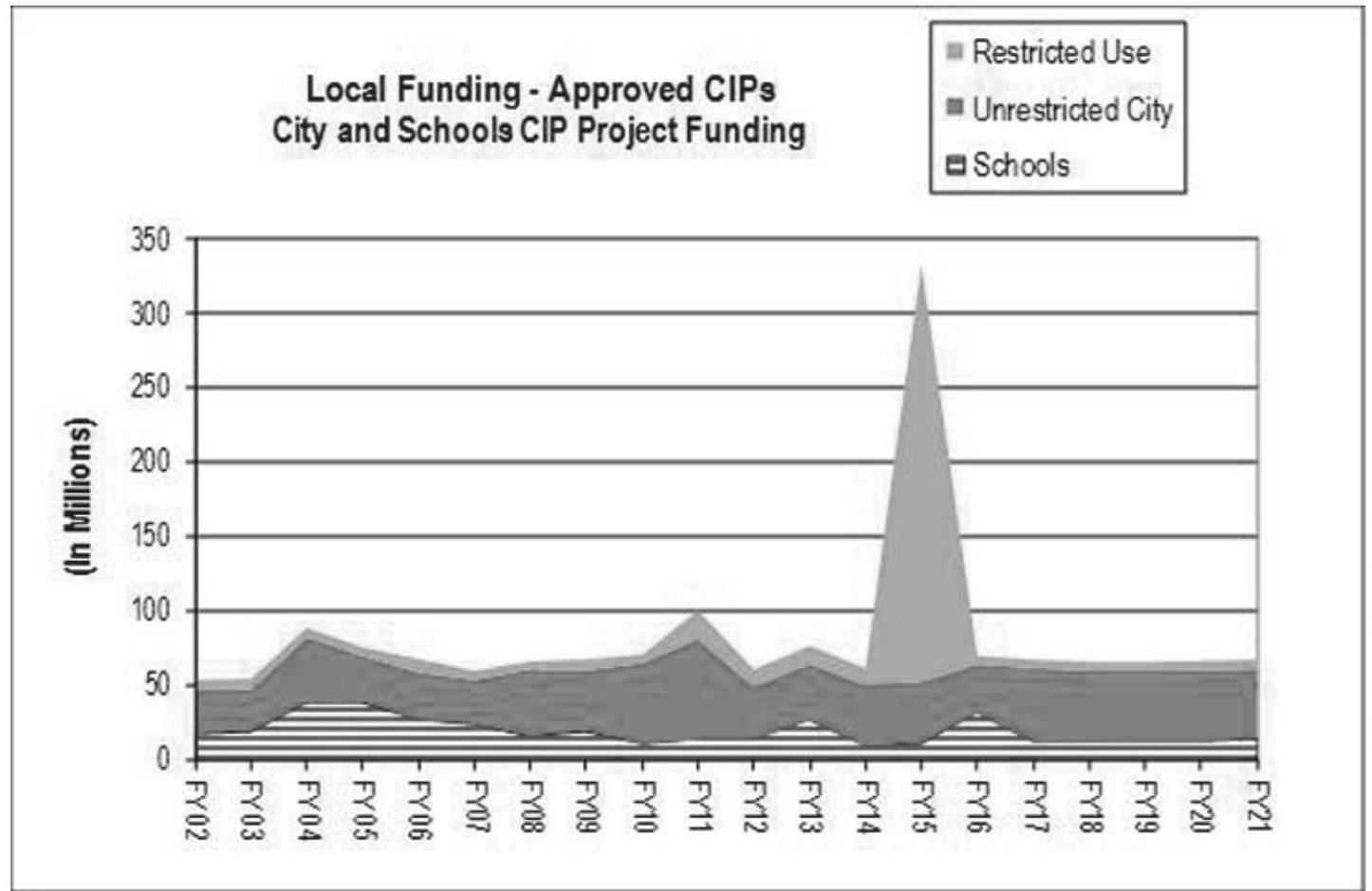
"The way most governments operate is that in good economic times you increase the amount of cash capital and reduce borrowing," said Michael Stewart, a budget analyst for the city. "In bad economic times the ratio reverses and you use less cash and more borrowing."

That's why the projected level of debt levels off in 2014, when the city plans on reducing the reliance on debt and moving toward using cash to fund major projects. City budget officials say this is an approach designed to maintain the city's double AAA credit rating — meaning that two of the three credit rating agencies on Wall Street have given the city a AAA rating. Although other local jurisdictions such as Arlington have received AAA credit ratings from all three rating agencies, Alexandria officials have opted not to seek the triple AAA designation.

"It probably wouldn't get the city better interest rates if city had a triple AAA rating," said Fuller. "But I think it's shortsighted of them not to try because Alexandria is in competition with Arlington for economic development."

OVER THE NEXT decade, the city plans to allocate about \$957 million for its capital improvement plan. That includes about \$275 million for a new Metro station at Potomac Yard, which is projected to open at the end of 2016. Because the city has yet to take out the massive new loans to finance construction of this project, Alexandria taxpayers won't start making payments on servicing this debt until 2016. The cost of servicing that debt will start at \$16.5 million and steadily rise until the annual payment is about \$20 million in fiscal year 2027. Budget officials were able to finance the deal using taxpayer money in addition to developer contributions and a special tax district.

"It would be very difficult to expand the



ALEXANDRIA OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET

level of borrowing or cash capital in the [Capital Improvement Program] if the city had to rely exclusively on the General Fund Operating Budget for support," wrote Hartmann in an introduction to the plan. "However, by utilizing targeted special revenue sources, the city has been able to strategically grow the capital program in a responsible manner."

Not everyone agrees with that assessment. Some have criticized the new Metro station as a waste of resources that will burden Alexandria property owners with higher taxes for years to come. They say the finances are a gamble that relies on tax revenue from buildings that have yet to be built. If the assumptions don't pan out, critics point out, taxpayers will be on the hook to make up the difference.

"The city is taking on way too much debt," said A.J. Kearney, co-organizer of the Alex-

andria Tea Party. "The problem with debt is that it pushes responsibility down the road and encourages irresponsible spending."

WHEN CITY COUNCIL members tried to create a special tax district that would have included Potomac Greens last year, neighbors balked and council members backed down. Instead, they adopted what they called "tier one" of the district, which only includes buildings that don't yet exist. Later this year, council members will revisit the issue of whether or not Potomac Greens residents should pay a higher tax bill because they live closer to the proposed Metro station. But opposition remains strong, potentially jeopardizing plans to finance the project and shifting that burden to taxpayers across the city.

"This is an unfair way to conduct business or fund projects," said Mark Anderson,

spokesman for a group calling itself Alexandria's Citizens for Common Cents. "If the public is going to use the Metro station, then the public should pay for it."

In the coming weeks, council members will be faced with whether or not they want to move forward with Hartmann's proposal to increase the amount of debt in the near future, then move to using cash after 2014. If assumptions about rising property values pan out, the gamble will pay off in a steadily rising tax base. But if assessments fall, the debt could become unsustainable and threaten the city's credit rating.

"We are fortunate that we have the financial ability to take on this debt," said Mayor Bill Euille. "I understand the concern this raises among some people, but this is money that will fund essential projects that are needed now and will be used by future residents of the city for years to come."

Libresco Reappointed ARHA Commissioner

The City Council voted to reappoint Brett Libresco as commissioner of the Alexandria Redevelopment and Housing Authority, a public agency that provides affordable housing, social services and economic development programs throughout the city.

In addition to Libresco, who has served as commissioner since February of 2010, City Council also appointed new board members Stanley Richard Vosper and Chynell Bucksell to the ARHA board of commissioners.

Vosper brings more than 15 years of public housing experience to the position. He recently retired from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development in the

Department of Housing and Community Development, where he managed large public housing and HOPE IV redevelopment projects. He also has experience with HUD's Section 8 program as well as HUD's public housing program. Bucksell is an ARHA resident and is a recent graduate of the Parent Leadership Training Institute. She works as a medical administrator for a private physician. The members of the 2011 ARHA Board of Commissioners are: A. Melvin Miller, chairman; Carlyle C. Ring, vice-chairman; Carter D. Fleming; Brett Libresco; Merrick Malone; Derek Hyra; Christopher Ballard; Stanley Richard Vosper, and Chynell Bucksell.

Forums Seek 'Livable Community' Input

The Department of Community and Human Services' Office of Aging and Adult Services will hold a town hall meeting March 3 to discuss strategies for creating a Livable Community for All Ages with a focus on the growing population of older residents.

"The population of older adults in Alexandria will double by the year 2030," said Jane King, chairman of the Alexandria Commission on Aging. "We need to start planning now to address that."

The meeting is scheduled for Thursday, March 3, at 12:30 p.m. at First Baptist Church of Alexandria, 2932 King St.

"Our goal is to hear from as many residents as possible in six areas: housing, transportation, economic development, health and wellness and quality of life," King said. "Ultimately, whatever decisions are made for our aging population are done for everyone."

For more information, contact Debbie Ludington at 703-746-5694.

— JEANNE THEISMANN

TC Boys Back on Top with District Title

The T.C. Williams boys basketball team has bigger plans, but head coach Julian King acknowledged re-claiming the Titans' spot atop the Patriot District carried meaning.

The top-seeded Titans defeated No. 3 Annandale 69-56 in the district tournament championship game on Friday at Lake Braddock Secondary School. After a 2009-10 season filled with eligibility issues, forfeits and controversy, TC returned to its successful ways. The Titans won three consecutive Northern Region titles and one state championship from 2007-2009.

SPORTS BRIEFS

"It was exciting, a great feeling for us to win the district title this year, especially with our district being deep," King said on Tuesday. "... It was a big accomplishment as far as proving to people we still have a good program and our players still play hard.

"Even though we lost a lot of talent, there's a program here. It's not based on a couple players."

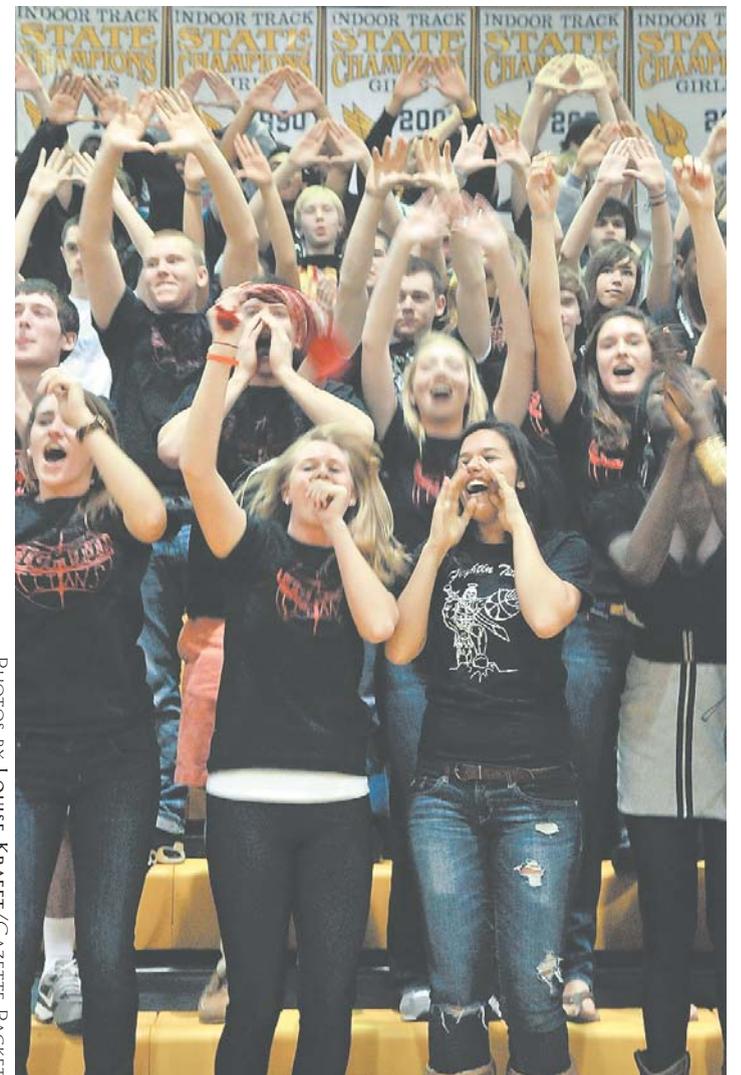
Three days later, TC defeated Oakton 52-32 in the first round of the Northern Region tournament, setting up a meeting with Yorktown in the quarterfinals. If the Titans advance, they will play in the region semifinals at 6 p.m. on Saturday at Robinson Secondary School. The region title game is at 8 p.m. on Monday.

TC Girls Win Region Game

Three days after losing to West Springfield in the Patriot District Tournament championship game, the T.C. Williams girls basketball team bounced back with a 50-43 victory over Centreville on Monday during the opening round of the Northern Region Tournament. The Titans advance to face Mount Vernon in the quarterfinals. If



T.C. Williams senior Rick Mathews goes up for a shot against Annandale during the Patriot District Tournament championship game on Friday at Lake Braddock Secondary School.



T.C. Williams fans cheer the Titans during Friday's district championship game against Annandale at Lake Braddock Secondary School.

TC wins, it will play Annandale on Friday at Mount Vernon High School. The girls region championship game is at 6 p.m. on Monday.

Sleepy Thompson Tournament Feb. 24-26

The 55th Annual Sleepy Thompson Basketball Tournament will be held Feb. 24-26 at St. Stephen's & St. Agnes School. Participating in this year's tournament are: SSSAS, Christchurch School, Episcopal High School, Glenelg Country School, Middleburg Academy, St. Albans School, The Heights School and Woodberry Forest.

Action starts at 3 p.m. on Feb. 24 with St. Albans taking on Christchurch. Episcopal faces Woodberry Forest at 5 p.m., SSSAS faces The Heights at 7 p.m. and Glenelg takes on Middleburg at 9 p.m. Game times on Friday and Saturday will be determined.

SSSAS Swimming Excels At Virginia Tech State Meet

The meet got off to a great start on Friday with both medley relay teams qualifying for finals. The girls team of sophomore Marian



T.C. Williams guard Rainie Summa shoots during Friday's Patriot District championship game against West Springfield at Lake Braddock Secondary School.



T.C. Williams head boys basketball coach Julian King instructs the Titans during Friday's Patriot District championship game.

SEE SPORTS BRIEFS, PAGE 30

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Joined by Miles, the Marine Corps Marathon mascot, and U.S. Marines from Quantico, students from James K. Polk Elementary School celebrate their MCM Healthy School Award. A check for \$1,000 was also presented to the school.

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Polk Wins Healthy School Award

A contingent of Marines visited James K. Polk Elementary School Feb. 17 to present the student body with the Marine Corps Marathon Healthy School Award for their record participation in the 2010 Healthy Kids Fun Run.

As part of the award, MCM partner Sodexo presented a check for \$1,000 to Principal PreeAnn Johnson.

"This will go toward new playground equipment," Johnson said. "We desperately need it."

James K. Polk registered 133 students for the race, making it one of the top five selected for the award. Nearly 3,000 students from 747 schools from across the country participated in the event.

"I am so excited, I'm speechless," Johnson said. "My heart is just so full right now."

— JEANNE THEISMANN

PHOTOS BY JEANNE THEISMANN/GAZETTE PACKET



MCM race director Rick Nealis, left, joins James K. Polk Elementary School vice principal Carla Carter, principal PreeAnn Johnson, and physical education teachers Nicholas McDonald and Kathie Chmura at the awards presentation Feb. 17.

Saint Rita To Open New Preschool

Saint Rita School is opening its new preschool in September 2011. Offering programs for children aged three, four and five, the Saint Rita Catholic Preschool will also include the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd.

Classes for three year olds (the Little Lambs class) will be held on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday mornings from 8:30 - 11:30 a.m. Parents may choose either a two or three day program for their children.

Classes for four and five year olds (the Little Shepherd class) will be held Monday through Friday from 12- 3 p.m. Parents may choose a three-, four- or five-day program for their children.

One classroom will be designed as an Atrium for the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd. All children in the Saint Rita Catholic Preschool will have this Catholic experience as part of their program.

Parents interested in the Saint

Rita Catholic Preschool should contact the program through Josephine Cunningham at 703-548-1888 ext 32 or via email at jcunningham@strita-school.org.

SCHOOL NOTES

Victoria Peabody is a 2010 graduate of Union College, with a bachelor of arts in environmental policy. She is a resident of Alexandria and a 2006 graduate of T.C. Williams High School.

Katherine Hussey of Alexandria has been named to the spring semester dean's list at Hofstra University.

Bryce W. Johnson of Alexandria made the Scholastic Honor Roll Spring term at Oregon State University.

Jennifer Rice of Alexandria received a doctor of veterinary medicine degree from the Virginia-Maryland Regional College of Veterinary Medicine during the spring 2010 commencement ceremonies.

Katherine Britton of Alexandria received a doctor of veterinary medicine degree from the Virginia-Maryland Regional College of Veterinary Medicine during the spring 2010 commencement ceremonies.

Emily Rabbitt of Alexandria was named to the dean's list at Wake Forest University for the spring semester 2010. She attended Georgetown Visitation Preparatory School and is the daughter of Edward and Eileen Rabbitt.



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Part Time After-Care and Lunch Assistant at Alexandria Country Day School
Alexandria Country Day School (ACDS) currently seeks a part time assistant for our PM Care program. The assistant will be responsible for monitoring children after school; additional responsibilities include assisting with the school lunch program and receptionist duties. Hours: 11:00AM- 6:00PM Tuesday & Thursday. Compensation: \$15/hr. Candidates must have excellent communication skills, a professional demeanor and an aptitude for working with children. References and criminal background check required. ACDS is an K-8 Independent School; for additional information please visit acdsnet.org.

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OBITUARY
Peter J. Hagan died on February 19 in Alexandria of natural causes. He was 86, and lived in Fairfax at the time of his death. Peter James Hagan, Jr. was born in Washington on September 6, 1924, the son of Peter J. Hagan and Mary Gerhardt Hagan. The eldest of six brothers and sisters, he was educated in Catholic schools in the Washington area. During World War II, he entered basic training for service in the U.S. Army Air Force at the age of 18. He served as a radio operator on a B-17 bomber crew, flying on 34 combat missions. He received the Battle Star (Ardennes Bulge) Air Medal with four oak leaf clusters.
After the war, he attended St. Francis College in Loretto, Pennsylvania, where he received a B.A. in Economics, and later did graduate work at Catholic University. During the Korean War, he entered Officer Candidate School, and after graduation was assigned to the Office of Special Investigation in Fairbanks, Alaska. He left the active Air Force Reserve with the rank of Captain in 1958. He embarked upon a long career in government service, working for the Department of Defense, NASA, the Department of State, and the Agency for International Development. After retirement from the Federal government, he continued to work in the private sector.
He lived most of his adult life in Alexandria, where he was an active parishioner of St. Mary's Church. He served in lay leadership positions there, as well as at St. Mary's School, Bishop Ireton High School and St. Mary's Academy. He was married twice; first to Mary Shuman of Alexandria in 1953, with which he had five children: Peter, of New York City, Matt, Patrick and Christopher, all of Alexandria, and Mary Bet Dobson, of Arlington; and married Aurora Macatuno in 2010. In addition to his wife and children, he is survived by his brother Thomas, of Silver Spring; his sisters Theresa and Mary Ellen, both of Annapolis; his stepchildren Alexander, of McLean, Gretel, Geraldine, and Genevieve, all of Fairfax, and Alfred, of Falls Church; his grandchildren Trevor, Kirsten, Casey, Caitlin, Ciara, Jamie, Fiona and Eileen; and numerous sons- and daughters-in-law, step-grandchildren, nieces, nephews and cousins. Friends may gather on Thursday, February 24, 2011 from 2-4 & 6-8 p.m. at Everly-Wheatley Funeral Home, 1500 W. Braddock Rd., Alexandria, VA 22302. A Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at St. Mary's Church, 310 S. Royal Street, Alexandria, on Friday, February 25 at 10:30 am. Interment will follow immediately thereafter at St. Mary's Cemetery.

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SPORTS



PHOTO BY LOUISE KRAFT/GAZETTE PACKET

Donnie Simpson, Steve Colantuoni, Suzanne Maxey, Mary Myers, Rachel Chieza and Jim Gibson were on hand at halftime Feb. 15 when representatives of T.C. Williams presented a check to the Inova Hospital Foundation to support free mammograms for city residents.

In the 'Pink Zone'

T.C. girls' basketball team raises funds for breast cancer screenings.

The T.C. Williams girls' basketball team hosted "The Pink Zone" fundraiser during Senior Night Feb. 8 as part of the team's outreach on behalf of breast cancer awareness.

During halftime, the team presented roses to breast cancer survivors Lana Stearns, an accreditation manager at the Alexandria Police Department, Lieutenant Monique Rea of the Alexandria Sheriff's Department and Detective Adrienne Miller, also with APD.

"We're delighted to be here tonight," said Inova Hospital Foundation Executive Director Mary Myers during the check presentation ceremony held Feb. 15. "It's important for there to be an awareness of breast cancer and the importance of screenings at a young age."

The funds raised will help provide free mammograms to city residents.

— JEANNE THEISMANN



PHOTO BY JIM GIBSON

Breast cancer survivors Lana Stearns, Lieutenant Monique Rea and Detective Adrienne Miller were presented with pink roses at the Feb. 8 T.C. Williams girls' basketball game as part of the team's outreach on behalf of breast cancer awareness.

SPORTS BRIEFS

FROM PAGE 27

Shaw, senior captain Rachel Movius, sophomore Lizzie Beane, and freshman Natalie Hellmann (prelim) / senior Gabby Richichi (final) finished in 15th place. The boys team of junior Ferrel Atkins, senior captain Conor MacNair, freshman Kyle Drait, and senior Cabell Perrot finished in fourth place. In the 200 IM, Movius won the consolation heat to finish ninth overall. For the boys, freshman Ian Shackley finished 34th in the morning session, Atkins finished 12th in the consolation heat, and MacNair finished second with a time of 1:56.00, a school record. Another school record was broken in the 50 free. Perrot placed second and his time of 21.04 is also an All-American B time. Senior captain Sam Teague swam the last event of the Friday prelim session. His time in the 100 butterfly was a personal best (58.64) and placed him in 17th, just outside the consolation final.

The team returned on Saturday for another great day of competition. Sophomore Kelsey Stowers, the sole diver on the team, placed 10th overall. Perrot placed fourth in

the 100 freestyle with a time of 47.68. Shackley swam a personal best in the 500 freestyle, dropping 8 seconds to finish 19th with a time of 5:14.16. The girls 200 free relay of freshman Alison Lindsay, Shaw, Richichi and senior captain Caroline Blair placed 21st. The boys relay finished 6th with a time of 1:31.44. That relay included MacNair, Drait, Perrot (prelim)/sophomore Joe Lindsay (final), and Teague. Atkins placed 12th in the 100 back with a lifetime best of 56.24. The 100 breast was a great event for the team. MacNair won the event for the boys, breaking his own school record with a time of 58.73. Movius won the consolation heat, finishing 9th overall in a time of 1:11.26. Hellmann placed 30th in the preliminary session. The 400 freestyle relay was the final event of the meet. The girls team of Lindsay, Hellmann (prelim) / Shaw (final), Blair, and Movius had a great swim but were unfortunately disqualified due to a false start. The boys team of Atkins, Lindsay, Drait and Teague finished the meet with a great race and a 7th place finish in a time of 3:26.43.

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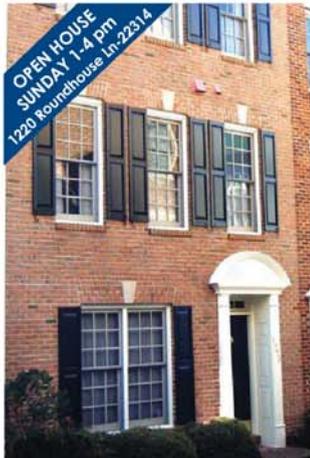
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This beautiful four-level townhome with its elegant, open floor plan is tucked away in a quiet area of this award-winning EYA community in historic Alexandria. Amenities, including a clubhouse, recreation center, swimming pool, bike path, picnic area, tot lot, and community events, help create a welcome environment. A wonderful home, a wonderful lifestyle!

The Miller Team
Debbie Miller & Lydia Kennedy
703.241.0223 www.debmiller.com
MLS ID# AX7536326



PHASE 2 NOW OPEN!

OLD TOWN ALEXANDRIA ENERGY TAX CREDIT



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Phase 2 Model
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900 NORTH WASHINGTON STREET
built by Lawrence N. Brandt, Inc.

900NW.com Jennifer Halm 703.851.2255

OLD TOWN ALEXANDRIA \$729,000



Historic Charm

Location, location...This elegant three-bedroom, one-and-a-half-bath home could not be more cozy/charming. Southern light. Meticulously upgraded and enhanced throughout, yet maintains historic appeal. Look for new kitchen, bath, floors, roof, paint. Note the fine cabinets and molding and attention to detail. The patio conveys a BBQ, refrigerator, arbor, fountains, and lighting. Off-street parking.

Jud Burke
703.966.8343
judburke.com

Barbara Cousens
703.966.4180
barbaracousens.com



MLS ID# AX7527947

ALEXANDRIA/PARKFAIRFAX \$349,900



Sophisticated Charm

Beautifully renovated end unit with private patio garden. Cleverly renovated kitchen with new appliances, granite, new floor. Newly refinished hardwood floors, crown molding, windows galore in living room. Master bedroom with walk-in closet plus custom built-in cabinets providing additional storage and window box. Full-size stacked washer and dryer upstairs in utility closet. Partially floored attic with pull down stairs. Easy commuting and walk to Shirlington for dining and shopping.

Margaret Benghauser
703.989.6961
www.mrbenghauser.com
MLS ID# AX7528550



ARLINGTON \$515,000



Windgate of Arlington

This sought-after, brick end-unit truly sparkles with shiny hardwoods throughout the main level, an updated cook's kitchen with granite countertops and updated appliances, and main-level family room. Upstairs features three bedrooms with fresh carpet, a completely remodeled full bath, and a master bedroom with ample closet space and separate bath.

Jessica Richardson
703.864.3438
www.jessicarichardson.com
MLS ID# AR7533672



CITY OF ALEXANDRIA \$244,900



Do the Math

A lot cheaper than renting! Own your very own spacious condo in convenient Parkside with more than 1,000 square feet of living space. Totally upgraded with country kitchen and spacious patio. Large walk-in closet in master bedroom and separate laundry room. Convenient to shopping and restaurants. Community pool and clubhouse is being built. Seller will pay closing costs.

Pam Cornelio
571.236.4398
www.pamcornelio.com
MLS ID# AX7432657



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