

# Alexandria Gazette Packet



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APRIL 21, 2011



PHOTO BY LOUISE KRAFT/GAZETTE PACKET

**Kelley Cares** Hundreds of runners competed in this year's Kelley Cares 5K Run/Walk. The race began on Mount Vernon Avenue and the runners proceeded east into Rosemont. SEE STORY AND MORE PHOTOS ON PAGE 26

## Business Community Roasts Piggyback Tax

BY MICHAEL LEE POPE  
GAZETTE PACKET

**City Council weighs add-on tax for transportation projects.**

**B**usiness leaders are squaring off with transportation advocates in a budget showdown that could have drastic consequences for the city's transportation infrastructure. At issue is a

proposal to add 12.5 cents to the commercial tax rate — the maximum amount allowed under Virginia law — that would raise about \$12.5 million for transit corridors, improvements to Metro stations and expanded bus service. City

Council members will make a final decision when they approve tax rates on May 2.

"Why is the business community being singled out?" asked Tina Leone, executive director of the Alexandria Chamber of Com-

merce. "We haven't found anyone who thinks this tax is fair."

Fairness may not be at the top of the agenda for City Council members, who are considering the unequal tax rates as way to raise money for transportation projects. The add-on tax was proposed last year, although it was abandoned when council members decided the projects on the list of spending items weren't "robust" enough. This year, the list includes money for a "transit corridor" to promote "major redevelopment" along Beauregard Street even though the project has yet to achieve a broad consensus.

"No city body has yet approved such major redevelopment," said

Seminary Hill Civic Association Treasurer Jack Sullivan. "My civic association has explicitly opposed any such major redevelopment."

**THE LIST OF PROJECTS** that would be funded by the tax hike on businesses includes transit corridors along Beauregard and Duke Street, as well as extended trolley service and improvements to the King Street Metro station. Other items that commercial property owners would be responsible for funding include a Bradlees Transit Center, improvements to the Old Cameron Run Trail and redesigning the three-way intersection

SEE PIGGYBACK, PAGE 4

**High Tide**  
The storms brought the river — and assorted flotsam and jetsam — to King and Union streets in the morning of April 16.



PHOTO BY  
LAURA MAE SUDDER

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## Wartime Correspondence

It's not every day that the Alexandria Library receives a new letter from Alexandria native and famous Confederate Gen. **Robert E. Lee**. And it's even more out of the ordinary that the correspondence was written during the Civil War. But that's exactly what happened last Friday, when **William Francis Smith** and his son **Leith Smith** donated a long-lost letter to the Local History Special Collections.

"It's reassuring in a way that there's still stuff out there," said **George Combs**, director of Local History Special Collections. "It really makes you wonder what else is waiting to be discovered."

The handwritten letter, dated Feb. 14, 1862 is from Lee to his cousin, **William Cazenove**. Lee is writing the letter from Savannah, where he is stationed to secure the defense of the coast. Lee is clearly responding to a previous letter from Cazenove asking for some kind of employment with the Confederate Army. Unfortunately for Cazenove, it seems that Lee is passing the buck to Col. **Abraham Meyers**, quartermaster general of the Confederacy.

"He has constant need of aspirants in the War Department where your duties would not only be more to your tastes but also more nearly allied to your former pursuits," Lee writes.

Now that the Alexandria Library is in possession of the letter, Combs says, more research needs to be conducted. Was Lee successful in helping Cazenove find a gig in the Confederate Army? What happened to him after the war?

"More to come," promised Combs.

## Combing the Beach

Creating continuous pedestrian access along the waterfront has been a goal of city planners for a generation. So far, that hasn't happened. Now that the small-area plan for the waterfront is moving toward the finish line, however, city officials have been engaged in negotiations with the Old Dominion Boat Club to make that happen.

But there's no easy way to get from here to there.

The club's parking lot, which also serves as a boat launch, currently blocks public access to the waterfront at the foot of King Street. One scenario currently under discussion at City Hall would allow the Boat Club to move to the site of the old Beachcomber restaurant, which is currently owned by the city. The trick would be persuading reluctant members of the Boat Club to accept the deal, a feat that may prove to be beyond the art of the possible.

"What happens to the site if they do move, and what are the collateral damages? These are all things clearly in private discussion," said **Poul Hertel**, former president of the Old Town Civic Association. "But at some point they need to be in the public domain, and until they are ready for public domain the whole plan just needs to be deferred."

City officials show no signs of slowing down this train. A final document could be approved as early as next month.

## Divisive Politics

The School Board and City Council are headed for a collision, with hundreds of millions of dollars on the line. Superintendent **Morton Sherman** wants \$373 million for a capital improvement plan that includes several new schools. But City Manager **Jim Hartmann** funded less than half of that request, leaving City Council members to find a middle ground. During last weekend's public hearing, PTA Council president **Melynda Wilcox** suggested the city can no longer wait to see what happens next year, and that she's willing to pay a higher tax bill to meet the needs of the school system.

"Having to choose to build one school over the other would divide the community at a time when we are all working together to improve student achievement throughout the city," said Wilcox. "Both schools are needed to solve overcrowding on both sides of the city."

"I want to do both now," responded Councilwoman **Alicia Hughes**, adding that she would like to see a new school on the east side and another new school on the west side.

"I don't think it's a question of whether they have to be at the same time," responded Wilcox. "I think it's a question of us deciding whether we are going to do both or not."



Bird's eye view of prayer garden with portions of chapel demolished.

# Praying for Demolition

Episcopal Seminary  
wants to scrap 70 percent  
of historic chapel.

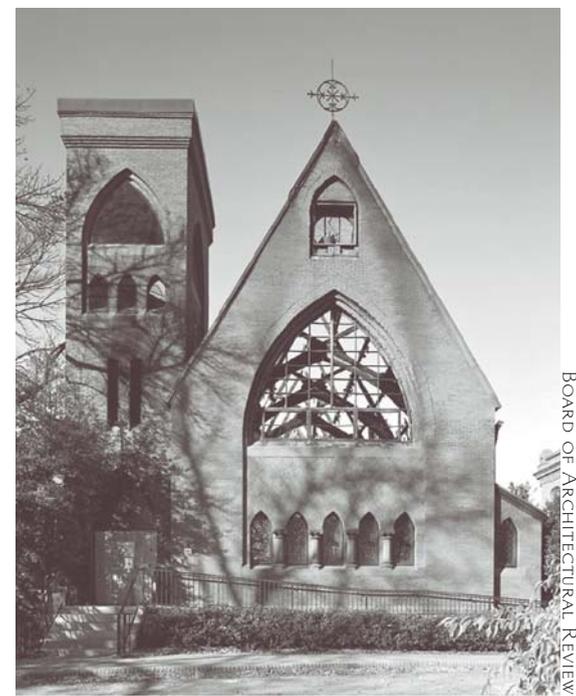
BY MICHAEL LEE POPE  
GAZETTE PACKET

**I**n the Book of Exodus, God appeared to Moses in a burning bush and appointed him to lead the Israelites out of Egypt. According to the ancient text, the bush was on fire yet not consumed by the flames. If only the same could be said about the Immanuel Chapel at the Virginia Episcopal Seminary.

Back in October, a fire destroyed the entire wooden roof of the historic chapel, which was consecrated in 1881. Although the fire left a majority of the solid masonry walls and tower intact, leaders at the seminary want to demolish 70 percent of the remaining structure to create what they call a "Prayer Garden." According to an application for a demolition permit, the Prayer Garden would be a place for meditation and outdoor services.

"There's a sense of regret in having to make this presentation," said land-use attorney Duncan Blair, who also serves as chancellor of the seminary. "But, at the same time, there's a sense of celebration because of what is being proposed."

The prayer-garden concept would employ the same technique of adaptive reuse that was used at Old Sheldon Church in South Carolina, Church Ruins in Port Arthur, Texas, and St. Catherine's Church in Nuremberg, Ger-



After a fire in October, Alexandria Code Enforcement engineers examined the chapel and concluded that the existing brick walls are sound.

"This is a way that we can move ahead, salvage much that we have there and enable us to honor what's gone on in that place."

— Ian Markham,  
dean, Virginia Episcopal Seminary

many. A more local example of the outdoor chapel and garden ruin is the St. Thomas Parish Episcopal Church near Dupont Circle. Much of the opposition to the seminary's plan is based on the extent of the demolition proposed, which would scrap the iconic tower of the chapel.

"One awful thing happened to this building in the fire, and

SEE SEMINARY, PAGE 7

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while there is a drunkard left, while there is a poor lost girl  
upon the streets, while there remains one dark soul  
without the light of God, I'll fight!  
I'll fight to the very end!"*

--General William Booth

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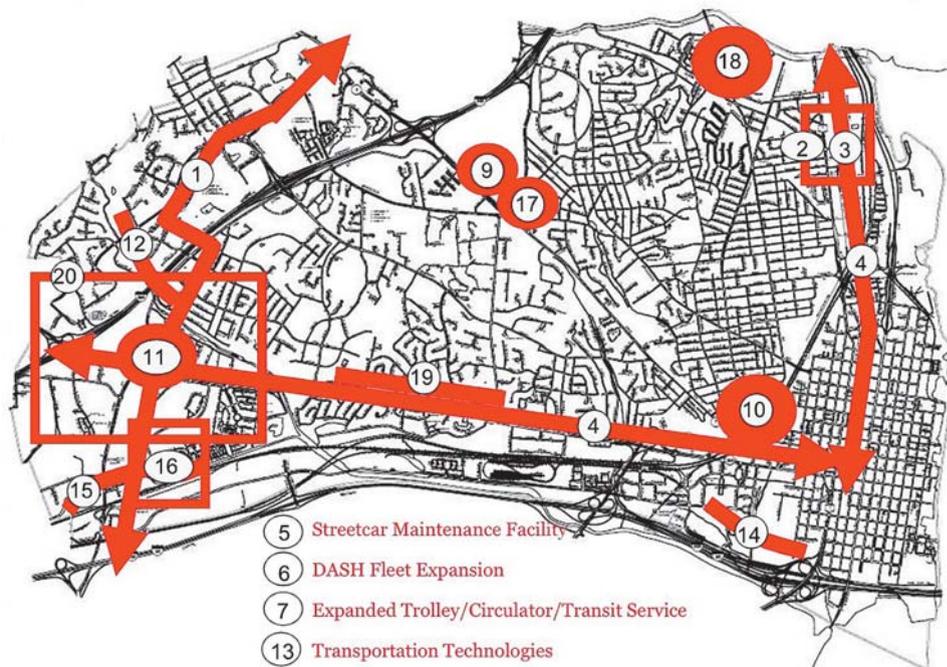
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## NEWS



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ALEXANDRIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION AND ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

**Proposed projects that would be funded by commercial property owners, who would pay a higher tax rate than residential property owners under a proposal under consideration by the Alexandria City Council.**

## Piggyback Opposition

FROM PAGE 1

at King, Quaker and Braddock.

"Each project has a constituency," said Transportation Director Rich Baier. "So we tried to spread the projects out, large and small."

During Saturday's public hearing, there wasn't much of a spread. Dozens of speakers opposed the idea — many in very strong language — while only four spoke in favor of the idea. Those in favor of hitting up commercial property owners for more money said the needs of the city should outweigh the desire of businesses to pay the same tax rate as residential property owners.

"If we don't do this now, what will traffic look like in 10 years?" asked Kim Caplin. "What will our air quality be?"

**PART OF THE EFFORT** to sweet-talk businesses into paying higher property taxes includes a corresponding reduction in the Business and Professional License tax, but the current configuration excludes a majority of the city's businesses. Danielle

Romanetti, for example, owns a small business named fibre space. Last year, she made \$15,000 in net profit. Yet even with that modest earning, her business is ineligible for a reduction in the business and professional license tax designed to offset the increase in commercial property taxes. That's because the city's not taxing her profits. It's taxing her gross income, which includes the cost she pays for her inventory and employees.

"It's an incredibly unfair system to begin with," said Romanetti. "And what's under consideration will create more disparity."

Vice Mayor Kerry Donley began laying the groundwork for the piggyback tax back in September, speaking at a Chamber of Commerce forum to explain the need to having commercial property owners pay for transportation improvements. Since then, the city manager not only agreed with Donley but he also suggested the highest add-on tax allowable under Virginia law.

"This is really the only tool in the toolbox," said Donley at the September forum.

## First Five Projects to Be Funded

- ❖ **Van Dorn/Beauregard Transit Corridor:** This project would spend \$39 million to construct a four-mile segment of high-capacity transitway in dedicated lanes along Van Dorn Street and Beauregard Street between the Van Dorn Metro and the Arlington border.
- ❖ **Route 1 Widening:** This project would spend \$600,000 to widen a section of Route 1 north of Potomac Yard. The widening would accommodate the dedicated busway from Crystal City to Potomac Yard that will be built in the median of Route 1.
- ❖ **Streetcar Conversion:** This project would spend \$74 million to convert the Crystal City-Potomac Yard dedicated busway along Route

1 to a streetcar system. Arlington County and Alexandria are planning to conduct a joint environmental analysis for this project.

- ❖ **Duke/Eisenhower Transit Corridor:** This project would spend \$30 million to construct a four-mile segment of high-capacity transitway in dedicated lanes along Duke Street and Eisenhower Avenue between the western city limit and Old Town.

- ❖ **Streetcar Maintenance Facility:** This project would spend \$4 million to construct a new maintenance facility to facilitate transitway streetcar operations. The funding assumes a 50/50 split of the total \$40 million cost between Alexandria and Arlington as well as an 80 percent match of federal money.

NEWS

# The Search Is On

New reality show seeks top military talent.

The CW network, home to shows such as the Vampire Diaries, Gossip Girl, 90210 and One Tree Hill, is set to launch The Making of a Star, a new performance reality competition series from 5 Streams Global Entertainment that will kick off its nationwide eight-city audition tour April 28 in Washington.

In remembrance of the 10-year anniversary of the 9/11 attacks, the first season will be a salute to America's military. Auditions will be open exclusively to U.S. veterans and military personnel and held at American Legion Posts across the country. Historic American Legion Post 24 in Alexandria is the site of the Washington area contestant auditions.

Hosted by Grammy-winning singer and producer Donnie McClurkin, the series will film in New York City and premiere in July for 10 consecutive weeks. The winner will be chosen from among the finalists during a live-telecast finale in September aboard the USS Intrepid.

In addition to Washington, auditions will be held in Charlotte, N.C., Atlanta, New



COURTESY PHOTO

**Grammy-award winning Donnie McClurkin is set to host The Making of a Star, which will kick off nationwide auditions April 28 in Alexandria.**

York, Chicago, Detroit, Los Angeles and Dallas. The competition is not limited to singers. Musicians, dancers, actors, jugglers, acrobats and comedians as well as other talents are invited to participate.

For additional requirements and audition registration information, visit [www.makingofastartv.com](http://www.makingofastartv.com) and [www.legion.org](http://www.legion.org). (Note: The Washington area audition date has changed from April 27 to 28 and is not yet reflected on the website).

— JEANNE THEISMANN

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## ON THE CAMPAIGN TRAIL

### Comeback Dave

He's back. Since he resigned from his position as chief of police in 2009, **David Baker** has been appearing at Chamber of Commerce events and hitting the philanthropy circuit. Now he's started aligning himself with the Alexandria Democratic Committee, a sign he's moving closer to a campaign for City Council.

"I would bring strength, courage, commitment and knowledge of how city government works from the inside out — a perspective that no current council member has yet one I think is very important in any debate," said Baker, who worked for the Alexandria Police Department 20 years before resigning. "I know what questions to ask and when to ask them."

### Maybe Mimi

Freshman School Board member **Mimi Carter** is considering a run for City Council, especially if Councilman **Rob Krupicka** wins the election for the state Senate and a special election is called to fill his unexpired term. Carter said serving the unexpired term would allow her to focus attention on the school's capital needs during a critical time when the school system will have to cope with growing student enrollment.

"I'm not convinced that the City Council members really see the needs we have in the school system," said Carter. "We need to have council members who are willing to make a long-term investments in pre-K, school programming and the capital-improvement plan."

### Special Justin

Former City Councilman **Justin Wilson** knows how to win a special election. Back in 2007, he beat former Vice Mayor **Bill Cleveland** by a margin of 347 votes to fill the unexpired term of former Vice Mayor **Andrew Macdonald**. But when the general election rolled around, Wilson found himself in eighth place for a race with only six seats — 313 votes short of what was needed to win.

"Apparently, a special election is the only kind of election I can win," joked Wilson, who is considering another run for City Council. "It's the general I'm not so good at."

### Streetcar Tim

Former Councilman **Tim Lovain** fought against plastic bag and advocated for more playing fields. But he was probably best known for his longtime advocacy of streetcars. During the last campaign for City Council, he mentioned streetcars at every event, sometimes working streetcars into answers that had nothing to do with transportation. In 2009, Lovain narrowly lost reelection to the City Council — missing the mark by a razor-thin margin of 175 votes.

"I always envisioned myself as having more than one term," said Lovain. "At this point, I would say I'm strongly inclined to run."

### Republican Phil

Democrats aren't the only ones eyeing potential spots on the ballot for a special election or the 2012 race. Republican **Phil Cefaratti** has been thinking about another run since Election Day 2009, a race in which he had the lowest cost-per-vote — spending only 50 cents for each of his 5,580 votes. Cefaratti said adding another Republican would create a better mix of ideas and strengthen the public debate.

"I still think I can add some value," said Cefaratti. "The council still needs diversity."

### Coy Dak

Democratic insiders say **Dak Hardwick** is also considering a run for the City Council, although he's been coy about making any public statements.

"We've got to get through 2011 first," said Hardwick, a member of the Budget and Fiscal Affairs Advisory Committee.

— MICHAEL LEE POPE

## The Money Race

### Rob Krupicka



**CONTRIBUTIONS \$93,810**

**IN-KIND \$7,333**

**LOANS \$0**

#### TOP CONTRIBUTORS

\$12,861 from Eureka PAC  
\$6,908 from Robert Dugger  
\$4,000 from Just a Honky Tonk  
\$2,500 from Kenneth Krupicka  
\$2,000 from Walter Lukens

### Adam Ebbin



**CONTRIBUTIONS \$63,015**

**IN-KIND \$17,050**

**LOANS \$0**

#### TOP CONTRIBUTORS

\$14,100 from Lori Friedman  
\$5,000 from Mid-Atlantic Community Fund  
\$2,500 from Mark Colley  
\$2,500 from Augustine Dimillo  
\$2,500 from William Hall

### Libby Garvey



**CONTRIBUTIONS \$46,685**

**IN-KIND \$1,635**

**LOANS \$1,000**

#### TOP CONTRIBUTORS

\$10,000 from Ticer for Senate  
\$1,104 from Rita Bourland  
\$1,100 from Kenneth Hill  
\$1,052 from Frances Zorn  
\$1,000 from Jean Quay

SOURCE: Virginia Public Access Project

## Krupicka Leads in Contributions

BY MICHAEL LEE POPE  
GAZETTE PACKET

**A**lexandria Councilman Rob Krupicka raised more than his two Democratic rivals in the first quarter of 2011, emerging as the frontrunner in a three-way primary to fill the seat vacated by retiring state Sen. Patsy Ticer (D-30). Campaign finance numbers released last week show that Krupicka took in \$94,000 in contributions and \$7,000 of in-kind donations, creating a grand total in excess of \$101,000. The numbers reveal broad support and strong organization.

"Just because you raise the most money doesn't necessarily mean you are going to win," said Isaac Wood, communications director for the University of Virginia Center for Politics. "But it does show you have a strong organization, which is what it takes to win."

Being the frontrunner also puts a target on Krupicka. Last month, Arlington School Board Chairwoman Libby Garvey issued a written statement blaming Krupicka for the expected gridlock at the Washington Headquarters Service, a site that the city government endorsed in an infamous 2009 letter. After the fundraising totals were released on Friday, former Alexandria Taxpayers United president Bud Miller referred to the numbers to argue against an add-on tax that would charge more for commercial properties than residential properties to pay for transportation projects.

"If you vote against this new tax, you may lose face with the professional politicians and special-interest groups in the surrounding jurisdictions," said Miller. "After all, \$98,000 generally doesn't fall into the campaign coffers of local Alexandria politicians."

**DURING A CANDIDATES** forum this week at the Del Ray Business Association, Del. Adam Ebbin (D-49) said he would be the best choice because of his progressive voting record and his years of experi-

ence in the House of Delegates. Campaign finance records show Ebbin has support from the financial and insurance industries, lawyers and the business community. On the campaign trail, he has touted his success passing language legalizing Sangria and outlawing human trafficking.

"If you send me down the hall to the Senate — literally — from Day One I'm ready to hit the ground running," said Ebbin, who has been a member of the House since 2004. "I've built the relationships needed on both sides of the aisle and also across the commonwealth."

Garvey's campaign for the state Senate might be complicated by the redistricting process. The final version of the maps have yet to be approved, but the new 30th Senate District is expected to have fewer Arlington precincts than the current boundaries. But campaign finance documents show she has built a strong base of support in Alexandria, including \$10,000 from Ticer's political action committee.

"Once that BRAC building opens up, getting out of your driveway might even be an issue here," Garvey told members of the Del Ray Business Association. "We've got to work with everybody because we're all in the same traffic jam."

Krupicka's campaign finance documents show strong support from investment bankers, venture capitalists, stockbrokers and financial advisors. He raised almost twice as much as Garvey, creating a wide gap of cash-on-hand as the August primary draws closer. On the campaign trail, Krupicka says his eight years of experience on the Alexandria City Council would inform how he would represent constituents in the 30th Senate district.

"I know firsthand, having worked on the council that so many of the things Richmond does trickle down to the local government," Krupicka said during the Del Ray event this week. "And I think we need more people in Richmond, quite frankly, who understand that local government and our communities really is where the rubber meets the road."

# In Founder's Park, Rally Protests Waterfront Plan

Supporters seek alternative waterfront development.

BY JEANNE THEISMANN  
GAZETTE PACKET

Undaunted by torrential rains, a crowd of nearly 40 people gathered at the edge of Founder's Park April 16 for a rally that unveiled the Greater Alexandria Preservation Alliance's alternative to the city's controversial waterfront plan.

Held at historic West's Point at the foot of Oronoco Street, speakers included former vice mayor Andrew Macdonald, Boyd Walker, president of the Preservation Alliance, and Bob Montague, who along with the late Ellen Pickering spearheaded efforts 40 years ago to prevent developers from building a high-rise Watergate complex on the site of Founder's Park.

"No one disputes the fact that the Alexandria waterfront could be more accessible," Macdonald told the crowd that included Arlington County School Board member and 30th District state senate candidate Libby Garvey. "But in two years of public meetings, the city has produced a

single plan that ignores the historic significance and real potential of the Alexandria waterfront."

Macdonald outlined an alternative plan for the waterfront, which includes converting the Robinson Terminal North into a maritime museum with a pier for visiting ships and a new park at the site of the Robinson Terminal South. Both terminals are currently owned by the Washington Post.

"We want changes to the waterfront," Walker said. "We just think a different sort of change is in the best long-term interest of the city and its residents and preserves our seaport heritage."

In the alternative plan, a new arts district would be created along the Strand that incorporates the existing historic buildings and a small boat recreation center east of



PHOTOS BY JEANNE THEISMANN/GAZETTE PACKET

**Libby Garvey listens to remarks during the April 16 rally for an alternative waterfront plan at Founder's Park.**



**Former vice mayor Andrew Macdonald, left, addresses a crowd of supporters at Founder's Park April 16 during a rally to support an alternative waterfront plan. Boyd Walker, of the Greater Alexandria Preservation Alliance, records the proceedings.**

the Strand would allow the rental and storage of kayaks and canoes.

City Council may vote on the existing plan, which includes the construction of anywhere from 600-900 hotel rooms along the waterfront, as early as next month.

"We need to look at all options," Garvey

said. "The process hasn't been transparent or included all the stakeholders like it needs to, so like they say, 'First, do no harm' because this is an incredible asset and we need to know how we are going to manage this growth before going forward. It's not just Alexandrians that love this waterfront."

## Seminary Wants To Scrap 70 Percent of Historic Chapel

FROM PAGE 3

another one is about to happen if we remove 70 percent of what remains and it becomes a collection of random walls that are a prayer garden," said Linda Serabian, a member of Immanuel Church on the Hill. "Take some of those pieces and incorporate them into a new building with new architecture to a building that will tell the story of what's happened on this spot."

**CONSTRUCTION BEGAN** on the Immanuel Chapel in 1879, although it was not consecrated until 1881. Along with a core group of key buildings, the chapel represented a mid-19th century building campaign that formed the heart of campus. It stood alongside other imposing Episcopal structures, including Aspinwall Hall, Bohlen Hall, Meade Hall and Francis Scott Key Hall. The chapel was even listed with the National Register of Historic Places in 1980.

"The seminary's core of early buildings stands as a tribute to the talents of their architects and as a document of the taste of the Episcopal Church at the time of their erection in the 19th century," according to the National Register nomination.

Designed by Baltimore architect Charles Cassell, the historic chapel included a rosewood chancel rail that was given to the seminary by an African bishop. The Board of Architectural Review staff report describes the style of the building as "Ruskinian Gothic architecture as built on the collegiate scale." Its steeply pitched roof, large lancet windows and two-story

**"One awful thing happened to this building in the fire, and another one is about to happen if we remove 70 percent of what remains and it becomes a collection of random walls that are a prayer garden."**

**— Linda Serabian, member, Immanuel Church on the Hill**

entry tower are considered to be a reaction against the Neoclassical style and the effects of industrialization.

"The use of the Gothic Revival style at the Seminary represented not just the application of a popular architectural style but the intentional selection of a style imbued with a deep sense of religiosity, most appropriate for a recently founded theological seminary," according to the staff report.

**ALTHOUGH THE CHAPEL** is not in a historically protected area, it is one of eight buildings at the Seminary listed on the city's 100-year-old building list. As a result, the demolition permit application submitted by the Seminary is subject to a review by the Old Town Board of Architectural Review. After examining the application and con-

sidering the historic significance of the chapel, the staff report concluded that demolishing 70 percent of the remaining structure would be a mistake.

"While the chapel was undoubtedly damaged by the fire of October 2010, enough of the building seems to remain in form and structure to preclude the need for such extensive demolition," the staff report concluded. "From a preservationist's perspective, staff preference is that the building be restored as closely as possible to what had existed previously, including the installation of a new roof."

But there's a catch. The Board of Architectural Review does not have authority to require restoration of the chapel. Instead, leaders at the seminary want to dedicate proceeds from the insurance settlement to a significantly larger chapel that would meet modern liturgical training needs for training priests. As a result, the staff ended up approving of the Prayer Garden concept although the report recommended that the seminary reduce the amount of demolition. At a minimum, the report suggests, the iconic tower should be salvaged — if, for no other reason, than the cost of demolishing it may exceed the cost of stabilizing it.

"The walls seem to be in good condition," said John Hynan of the Historic Alexandria Foundation in favor of restoring the historic chapel. "What is needed is essentially a new roof."

A report from Wiss, Janney, Elstner Associates, the seminary's insurance adjuster, noted that the chapel "sustained extensive damage" and suggested that "all of the

roofs, gutters, windows and interior finishes should be removed and replaced." Ultimately, the adjuster's report fears an imminent collapse and suggested razing the structure. But the Alexandria Code Enforcement engineers inspected the structure and found "no fire damage at the exterior brick wall" and that the "existing brick walls are sound."

"The tower wall is neither cracked nor bowed," city engineers concluded, "except there are some loose bricks hanging on the infill wall."

**MANY BUILDINGS** in Alexandria have been burned and rebuilt using exterior walls, including much of the 100 block of Prince Street. But leaders of the Virginia Episcopal Seminary would rather demolish the vast majority of the historic chapel so they can use the insurance money for a modern building. Leaders of the seminary say a consensus has emerged among the alumna and alumnae that demolishing 70 percent of the remaining chapel to create the prayer garden is the best way to respond to the tragic fire while simultaneously meeting the needs of a 21st seminary.

"The prayer garden is, for us, a way of going forward," said Ian Markham, dean of the seminary. "This is a way that we can move ahead, salvage much that we have there and enable us to honor what's gone on in that place."

After deferring a decision in its April 6 meeting, the Board of Architectural Review will consider the application for demolition again next month.



PHOTO BY LOUISE KRAFFT/GAZETTE PACKET

Some of those gathering for Presto Valet's 60th anniversary included Katie Williams, Crystal Farrington, Dianne and Michael Chatelain, Sabrina McCutchen, Frank Pannell, Buddy Gritz, Delano Morison and Stacy Dawkins.

## Presto Valet Celebrates Its 60<sup>th</sup>

BY JEANNE THEISMANN  
GAZETTE PACKET

Presto Valet dry cleaners officially opens at 7 a.m., but if you see the TV on inside as early as 5 a.m., don't be shy about going in.

"If I'm here, we're open," said owner Buddy Gritz, who together with customers and employees celebrated the 60th anniversary of Presto Valet on April 7. "I want to give the best service possible to all of my customers and try to accommodate their schedules whenever I can."

Founded by Harold Weisblut in 1951, Gritz joined the company in 1966 when he finished his military service and was offered a job by Weisblut, who was his father-in-law.

"I was out of work and needed to do something to support his daughter," Gritz said. "Whatever business he was in is where I would have ended up."

Gritz takes great pride in Presto Valet, especially when it comes to his employees.

"We are a living wage dry cleaner," Gritz said. "Our prices may be a bit higher but that's because we pay people wages they can live on and give them benefits for their families." Presto Valet is environmentally safe and inspects each article brought in a minimum of five times.

"Everything is hand finished," said Gritz. "And we are the only dry cleaners in Alexandria to receive a certificate from the Women's Rights Commission for



PHOTO BY JEANNE THEISMANN/GAZETTE PACKET

Presto Valet owner Buddy Gritz, left, presents customer Michelle Salsby with a new Gateway computer, which Salsby won in a drawing as part of the 60th anniversary celebration for the business April 7.

complying with gender fair pricing."

As part of the day-long 60th anniversary celebration, Presto Valet had drawings for everything from gift certificates to a new computer, which was won by Michelle Salsby.

"I never win anything," said a surprised Salsby. "I've been coming here for five years and wouldn't go anywhere else. They are the best dry cleaner ever."

Gritz has seen a lot over the years on North Quaker Lane.

"I was the one who cleaned Jerry Ford's clothes at midnight when he

was appointed to the presidency," Gritz said. "And we cleaned all of the flags that were not damaged after the Pentagon was attacked on 9/11."

Since his father-in-law died, Gritz has taken on a new partner — 35-year-employee Dianne Chatelain, who shares Gritz's dedication to customer service.

"I am so proud of this place," said Gritz as the 60th anniversary celebrations were winding down. "We are here not only for our customers but for our employees. We are like a family."

## CycleStudio Starts Up

New spin and yoga studio to open in Potomac Greens.

BY JEANNE THEISMANN  
GAZETTE PACKET

It's been nearly 12 years since Simi Tammaddon, an avid runner and athlete, was told she would never walk again without assistance after a car accident shattered her right leg. But the Alexandria resident slowly regained her mobility and credits yoga for much of her current health.

"It was tough hearing I would never run again," said Tammaddon as she checked equipment at CycleStudio, her new boutique spinning and yoga studio set to open in Potomac Greens. "I started with wheelchair yoga and have been in love with it ever since."

For Tammaddon, the opening of CycleStudio is a dream come true.

"Spinning and yoga are my two passions," Tammaddon said. "I'm excited to be able to put them together in one space."

CycleStudio, with dedicated yoga and cycle facilities, specializes in full body training through the use of cardio, strength and



PHOTO BY JEANNE THEISMANN/GAZETTE PACKET

Owner Simi Tammaddon demonstrates one of her yoga positions outside the new CycleStudio.

flexibility.

"We have everything you need right here for a full body workout," said Tammaddon, who offers intense combination classes or specialized spinning or yoga tailored to each individual client.

A finance and marketing graduate from the University of Virginia,

SEE SPIN AND YOGA, PAGE 9



COURTESY PHOTO

Pork Barrel BBQ founders Brett Thompson and Heath Hall, shown here at last year's Carpenter's Cook-Off, will be participating again in the 2011 charity event scheduled for May 1.

## Restaurants Unite for Carpenter's Shelter

More than 25 of Alexandria's most popular restaurants will come together at the Birchmere on May 1 for the 9th annual Carpenter's Cook-Off, a charity event to raise awareness and support for Carpenter's Shelter and its programs to end homelessness.

Featuring live entertainment from the Melonheads, the cook-off will be held from noon to 3 p.m. and will include a live auction and designated children's entertainment corner. Participating restaurants include: Asian Bistro, BRABO, The Birchmere, Big Riggs, Bittersweet, Bread & Chocolate,

Del Ray Pizzeria, Dishes of India, Fireflies, Fish Market, Geranio, Jackson 20, a La Lucia, the Light Horse, misha's, The Majestic, Neighborhood Restaurant Group, Overwood, Pork Barrel BBQ, Southside 815, Tempo, The Wharf, Union Street Public House and The Warehouse Bar & Grill. The Birchmere is located at 3701 Mount Vernon Ave. in Alexandria. Ticket cost is \$40 per adult; \$5 per child and young adult (ages 6-17) and free to children 5 and younger. To purchase tickets, visit <http://www.carpentersshelter.org/> and click on the Buy Cook-off Tickets link or call 703-548-7500, ext. 226.

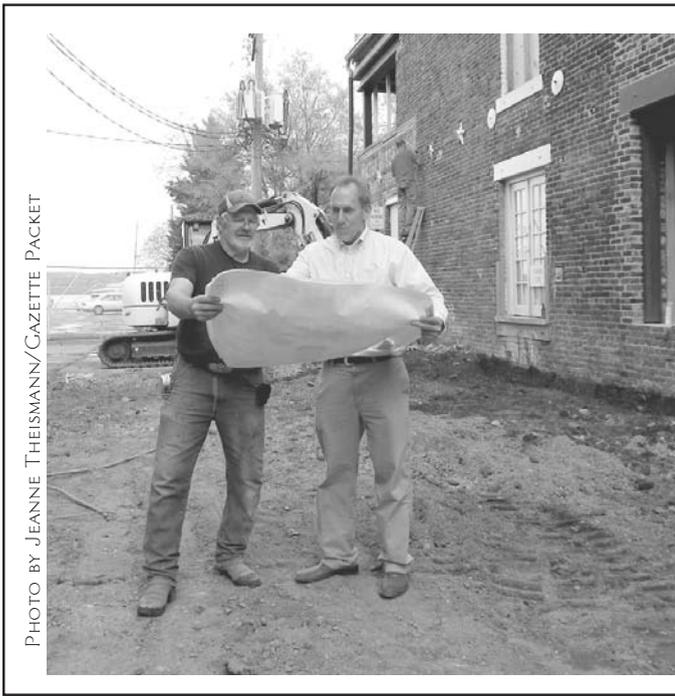


PHOTO BY JEANNE THEISMANN/GAZETTE PACKET

### Wales Alley Makeover

Jimmy Timmerman, left, job supervisor for the Virtue Feed and Grain restaurant set to open in the old Olssen's building on Union Street, reviews plans with contractor Murray Bonitt Monday in preparation for a concrete foundation being poured for a new brick road on Wales Alley. "People keep stopping and asking what we are doing," Timmerman said. "We are hoping to pour the concrete Friday and start laying the bricks next week." The new brick thoroughfare will connect Union Street to The Strand and Waterfront Park. "I hope people will see this as a change for good along the waterfront," added Bonitt.

## Spin and Yoga Studio To Open

FROM PAGE 8

Tammaddon's certifications include NASM, Official Registered Yoga Teacher, pre and postnatal yoga and Laughing Lotus.

Located next to Periwinkle and across from Buzz Bakery in the Potomac Greens shopping area, CycleStudio will open April 25 with special "Friends and Family" pricing of \$5 per class through April 28. A grand opening is planned for April 29, when all

classes will be 20 percent off through May 6.

"I am so thankful for this spot and can't wait to open," Tammaddon said. "And I'm especially thankful to my great network of local investors and mentors who are helping make this dream a reality for me."

CycleStudio is located at 1561 Potomac Greens Drive. Phone: 703-298-1929. Website: www.cyclestudio.com.

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# OPINION

## Please Share

Call for Mother's Day Photos, and Father's Day; prom photos also.

Every year at this time, the Gazette puts out the call for photographs of moms and their children, grandmothers and their children and grandchildren. Most years, we're lucky enough to receive a photo or two that includes four generations, great-grandma and all the rest.

Mother's Day is Sunday, May 8, and once again the Gazette will publish a selection of Mother's Day photos, celebrating the mothers who make so many things possible in families, businesses, communities, schools and other institutions in local neighborhoods.

### EDITORIAL

Send in photos in jpeg format as soon as possible, including the full names of the people in the picture, hometowns, the approximate date and location the picture was taken, the ages of the children and sentence or two about the people and/or event.

Father's Day is June 19, so a few weeks from now it will be time to send photos of Dads and children, grandfathers and children and grandchildren.

**PROMS AND ...** While Gazette photographers and writers will likely attend some proms as schedules permit, we also urge parents and students to document their proms (or alterna-

tive activities) and send in photos in jpeg format, and also including who, what, where, when and why.

Send photos and text to [gazette@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:gazette@connectionnewspapers.com).

### Share Your Poetry

April is National Poetry Month, and we're extending an invitation a little late in the month this year, but we invite poets to send in submissions for inclusion in our papers and/or online. Are you a poet? The Gazette will print poetry submitted by readers this spring, and occasionally throughout the year.

## The Ultimate Public-Private Partnership

BY MORTON SHERMAN  
SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

Raising our children and providing them with a safe, healthy and appropriate free public education is the ultimate public-private partnership. Educators are trained to teach children reading, math, science, technology, and other skills that will shape their



### COMMENTARY

minds and teach them to think critically. What they learn in the classroom prepares them for future discovery, exploration, and application that will allow them to make positive contributions to society.

What children are taught at home helps to ensure that they are prepared for school, prepared for life,

and prepared for work. The public-private partnership among parents, schools, and the community helps to educate our children. Even as we recognize that not all children have the gift of a supportive family, our educational aspirations and responsibilities remain high for all students as we seek to create other supportive partnerships.

All parents want the best for their children. Parents send their children to school each day with the sacred trust that the bus drivers, principals, teachers, cafeteria workers, support staff, and custodians will care for and nurture the students as they do their best to provide the quality public education to which all students are entitled.

The partnership flourishes when parents are involved in the education process, help with homework, attend parent-teacher conferences, make classroom visits, volunteer at schools, and communicate freely with school staff.

The partnership flourishes when the community and business leaders volunteer, donate, advocate, and provide resources. Each year we recognize a remarkable group of Partners in Education who add so much to our schools.

The partnership flourishes when our elected officials, our police, churches, city agencies, and other organizations are involved and make funding and safety a priority for schools. As our valued partner Deputy City Manager Debra Collins often says, "They're not the school's children during the day and the city agencies' children in the afternoon, and the parents' at night. The children are the responsibility of all of us all of the time. They are our children."

For some children, school is the safest and most nurturing environment that they have ever known. Above all, our sacred trust as educators is the safety and wellbeing of our children. Recently a teacher violated that trust and hurt the relationship between some parents and our schools. Unfortunately, a threat can come from anywhere. We must all be ever vigilant and accountable, and we must work together in this sacred trust.

As an educator, parent, and grandparent, I am shaken by this teacher's actions and the actions of anyone in our community that violates the trust of child. Even as we already use



### Collecting for Haitian Children

The students of Grace Episcopal School are helping the impoverished children of Haiti through their participation in the Haiti-Micah project — to assist the street children of Mirebalais. Throughout the school year, the students collected hundreds of pounds of school supplies; vitamins; hand sanitizer and disinfectant wipes; vitamins; over-the-counter medicines; toiletries, and new underwear. Recognizing that all children need to play, the students also collected more than 50 soccer balls and hand pumps for the Mirebalais children. Above are, front row, from left: Tripp Greenwood, Elise McDonald, Tad Wolcott, Conrad Hutchins, Sarah Semko, Julia Cooper; back row: Deborah DelColliano, Sofia Landivar, Jacqueline Hutchins, Sam Burton, Jake Melvin, Rebecca Funes, Taylor Ballenger, and Chris Stegmaier Byrnes.

SEE IMPORTANCE, PAGE 11

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A Connection Newspaper

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



**Snapshot**

4:45 p.m., April 15,  
200 block of  
N. Royal Street.

PHOTO BY  
LOUISE KRAFFT/  
GAZETTE PACKET

# Importance of Working Together

FROM PAGE 10

national fingerprint background checks, we will double and redouble our efforts to let near our students only those employees and volunteers who meet the highest levels of review. We will provide ongoing support, and will work diligently to ensure the health and safety of all children.

At the same time, I want to recognize the ongoing professionalism of our teachers and staff through-

out Alexandria City Public Schools. I am proud our community and our local government agencies that support families and schools. They are consistently at the table for the courageous conversations we must have in order to sustain our children.

ACPS is committed to partnering with parents/guardians and the community to ensure that our children are consistently safe, cared for, noticed, and successful. This partnership is the most important public-private partnership of all.

## Easter Sunrise Service

Aldersgate Church Front Lawn at 7 a.m.

Music provided by

*Big Hillbilly Bluegrass Band*

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**Additional Easter Services at Aldersgate:**

Sunday, April 24 at 8:30, 9:45, & 11:15 a.m.

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On April 9, 2011, Randolph-Macon College dedicated a new baseball stadium which features permanent grandstand seating, a new scoreboard and a 16-foot wall in left field—accompanied by architectural elements which were designed to complement the college's historic campus. The development of this stadium is another example of R-MC's commitment to its students and belief that their dedication to excellence deserves the same in return.



### ANDREWS HALL

Opening in Fall, 2011

Andrews Hall, a 104-bed, suite-style freshmen facility, will feature a 1,500 square-foot common room for academic and student organization use, study areas, a TV/gaming room and an on-site laundry facility.



### JOHN B. WERNER PAVILION

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The John B. Werner Pavilion at the McGraw-Page Library will be a 3,300 square-foot study environment with 24/7 access to a quiet-zone reading area and WiFi.



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## LETTERS

### Biased Coverage Of Waterfront Plan

To the Editor:

I was dismayed to pick up my Gazette Packet to see the inflammatory, if not outright deceptive, headline: "Hotels or Parks?" Surely this newspaper's editorial staff is well-enough acquainted with the basics of the waterfront plan to recognize the false dichotomy set up by such a headline. What a shame that Alexandrians cannot rely on their local newspaper to simply report the facts without distortion or editorialization.

As anyone with but a passing knowledge of the waterfront plan is aware, the city's planning department recommends conversion of the existing commercial buildings (the Robinson Terminals and Cummings/Turner property) to boutique-style hotels and to connect these densely-developed anchors to the currently disjointed waterfront with a series of parks and public spaces. The small area plan proposes a net gain of both open space and historic/cultural elements. The debate is over whether to scrap this mixed-use, public-private redevelopment plan in favor of an all-public redevelopment. This newspaper's portrayal of the plan as presenting Alexandrians with a false choice was disingenuous at best.

In addition to the needlessly misleadingly portrayal of the city plan, I am dismayed by the prevalence of a very select group of voices voicing a singular position on these pages time and time again. While Boyd Walker and Andrew MacDonald, for example, are both active participants in Alexandria civic life and should be commended for their efforts, I find it in-

creasingly odd that these two individuals are quoted every week and have been the authors of letters and/or columns printed in every single 2011 edition. Surely there are other people in this city of more than 150,000 to interview. Of course these gentlemen, and others both opposed to and in favor of the city's plan, are entitled to voice their opinions, but I find it increasingly hard to trust the impartiality of this newspaper when such a mouthpiece is offered time and time again to only one point of view.

That point of view, this former Texan might add, seems to be all hat and no cattle, yet this newspaper never seems interested in testing the viability of such alternative proposals. For example, I have yet to find mention of the resources to purchase the land (in excess of \$30 million) and build the parks, museums and cultural institutions advocated by the likes of Msrs. Walker and MacDonald. Do they propose raising the revenue from tax increases? Special assessments? I am also curious about where the visitors to such museums and parks are supposed to park their cars and buses — a museum, of course, has no purpose and cannot support itself without visitors. If the proponents of this plan would only have folks walk or ride the trolley, these new public resources will, by design, be underutilized, defeating the whole point and leaving the city holding the (very expensive) bag.

The properties at issue in the small area plan are already zoned for redevelopment that can include restaurants, retail, offices, and housing. The Washington Post, owner of the Robinson Terminals, could today decide to build high-rise hotels or office towers. It is also worth mentioning again that the wa-

SEE LETTERS, PAGE 13

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**Help Stop Invasives**

A tale of two mustards: Money Plant (*Lunaria annua*) (left) and Garlic Mustard (*Alliaria petiolata*) (right and bottom center). Both are invasive exotic, spring-blooming biennials of the Brassicaceae (*Lunaria* rarely an annual), though Garlic Mustard is much more widespread and populous. However, Money Plant is turning up more and more as an escape from ornamental plantings throughout the area. The city seeks volunteers to help with invasive plant removal on May 7, Statewide Invasives Day. For those interested, contact the Ford Nature Center at 703-746-5559 to sign up.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

FROM PAGE 12

terfront is in dire need of flood mitigation and improvements to public access and maintenance. Both those in favor or against the current plan would be against the former, and both want the latter without tax increases to pay for it. The current plan for the waterfront does not force Alexandrians to choose between commerce and culture, density and open space, flood mitigation and the status quo (and it even has a way to pay for it all without charging the

residents or business a cent). I am willing and ready to hear viable alternate proposals to achieve these shared goals. I just hope the Gazette Packet coverage and analysis of such plans is as thorough and critical as it has been in vetting the City's plan.

**Davina Sashkin**  
Old Town

MORE LETTERS, PAGE 24

**Easter Sunday**  
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## VALOR AWARDS

# Heroes Among Us Chamber to present public safety Valor Awards.

BY JEANNE THEISMANN  
GAZETTE PACKET

The Alexandria Chamber of Commerce will pay tribute to the city's public safety workers at the 25th Annual Valor Awards, honoring 23 individuals from the Alexandria police department,

sheriff's office and fire department for extraordinary acts of bravery and heroism.

Deputy Teneka King of the Alexandria Sheriff's Department and

Officer Carlos Rolan will be presented with the Silver Medal, the highest honor awarded this year, at the April 26 luncheon at the Hilton Mark Center.

Other awards to be presented include the Bronze Medal, Lifesaving Award and Certificate of Valor for various acts of courage and service to the community.

The awards presentation, hosted by ABC7's Doug Hill, is open to the public. For tickets or more information, visit [www.alexchamber.com](http://www.alexchamber.com) or call 703-549-1000.

### 2011 Valor Awards Winners

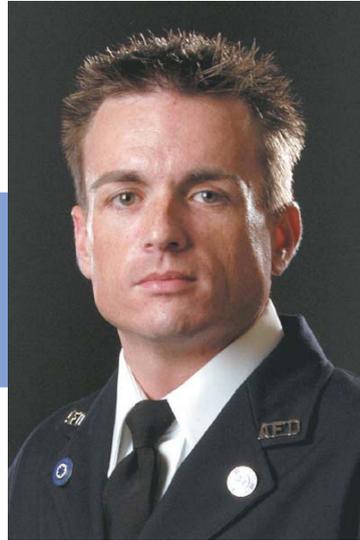
COURTESY PHOTOS PROVIDED BY  
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**Thomas Allen**  
Lifesaving Award



**Aloysius Asonlefac**  
Lifesaving Award



**Jason Cage**  
Lifesaving Award



**Matt Craig**  
Lifesaving Award



**Michael Faber**  
Lifesaving Award



**Chris Flood**  
Bronze Medal



**Kim Hendrick**  
Bronze Medal



**Liz King**  
Lifesaving Award



**Richard Magnum**  
Bronze Medal



**Bret McCabe**  
Bronze Medal



**Thurston McClain**  
Lifesaving Award



**Gerald McHugh**  
Lifesaving Award



**Michael Nugent**  
Bronze Medal



**Ronda Parker**  
Lifesaving Award

## VALOR AWARDS

# Uncommon Valor

## Deputy Sheriff Teneka King to receive Silver Award.

BY HARRY COVERT  
FOR THE GAZETTE PACKET

**H**ow do you pronounce “hero”? It really doesn’t matter, at least around Virginia in general and in Alexandria and Virginia Beach in particular. It’s easy, because Alexandria Deputy Sheriff Teneka Carol King became a hero of the highest order on Oct. 10, 2010, to two young women whom she saved from a fiery car shortly before midnight that exploded into flames seconds after rescuing the women on Interstate 64 in Virginia Beach.

Disregarding her personal safety, and after seeing the women’s borrowed car flip over, King immediately pulled to the side of the roadway and pulled them both out of the car.

King was no ordinary motorist that night. She was an off duty Alexandria deputy sheriff on her way from Northern Virginia to visit family in Virginia Beach.

“I stopped on instinct due to my training in the Alexandria Sheriff’s Office,” King said.

When she receives a Silver Valor Award on Tuesday, April 26, it will be the highest

award presented this year by the Alexandria Chamber of Commerce at its 25th annual Public Safety Valor Awards and one of only two awards in that category. Bronze, Lifesaving and Certificate of Valor awards will also be presented to Alexandria Police and Fire Department personnel. The luncheon ceremonies will be emceed by Doug Hill, Channel 7’s vice president for weather and chief meteorologist. The event is being held at the Hilton Mark Center.

King was born, raised and educated in Virginia. Law enforcement has been the prominent career for her family, whose members have served in the Federal Bureau of Investigation, Washington Metropolitan Police, Prince Georges County (Md.) and military police.



COURTESY PHOTO

**Taneka King will receive the Silver award at the Chamber of Commerce Valor Awards ceremony April 26.**

since made this a tradition.”

She graduated from Norfolk State University with a bachelor’s degree in sociology and a master’s degree in criminal jus-

**BUT KING** didn’t always want a law enforcement career. At Bayside High School where she graduated in 2002, she first considered careers as a fashion designer and in creative writing. As she reached her sophomore year, all that changed and the career path became sociology and law enforcement.

“I write on the side,” she said. “My hobby is writing poetry and road trips up and down the east coast. I’ve been on three cruises. My husband proposed to me on a trip to the Bahamas aboard the SS Elation of Carnival Lines. We’ve

Her goal is to enter Norfolk State’s doctoral program. “I want to progress in law enforcement and look forward to my career in the Alexandria Sheriff’s Office,” King said.

Before graduate school, she was a victim witness advocate for two years in the Norfolk Commonwealth’s Attorney’s Office.

**AFTER SAVING** the lives of the young women “who were just out for a good time and didn’t know what they were doing,” King didn’t mention the off-duty heroism to anyone for several weeks when she returned to Alexandria.

“I didn’t know I was required to report the incident to my superiors,” she said. “A colleague told me I had to,” she said. The Virginia State Trooper who investigated also reported her life-saving work.

Currently, she is assigned to Team 1-A of the Alexandria Sheriff’s Office in the Alexandria Detention Center’s first-floor housing unit. She graduated recently from the Crisis Intervention Team program, a joint program between the City’s Department of Community and Human Services, Sheriff’s Office and Police Department.

“I’ve never had a fight in my units in the jail,” she said. “I have a good partner and we have responded when trouble has occurred. I’ve always been able to talk them down.”

Her mother, Clemmentine Stephens, and brother, Sean, will be attending the Silver Award presentation.

Sheriff Dana Lawhorne acknowledged her courageous act, as did many of her colleagues.

“Lots of them said they were proud of me that I stopped,” King said.

### 2011 Valor Awards Winners



**Angel Roa**  
Certificate of Valor



**Carlos Rolan**  
Silver Medal



**John Shaffer**  
Lifesaving Award



**Ryan Staab**  
Bronze Medal



**James Taylor**  
Bronze Medal



**Doug Townshend**  
Lifesaving Award



**Humberto Trapero**  
Bronze Medal



**Charles Young**  
Bronze

COURTESY PHOTOS PROVIDED BY  
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4503 Ferry Landing Rd  
\$625,000

**One Level Luxury - No Stairs!**  
Rare opportunity! Spacious 1 level home on gorgeous lot in premier Yacht Haven location! This special home has been updated and offers many fabulous features: large room sizes, open floor plan, updated kitchen and baths, stunning master suite w/cathedral ceiling and luxury bath, sunroom and 2 car garage. If you are looking to eliminate stairs without sacrificing size and luxurious amenities- this is it!

**JUST LISTED** **NEW HOME**

1205 Cedar Dale Ln  
\$1,250,000

**Pre-Construction Value!**  
Rare new home opportunity just off GW Parkway! Fabulous price on spacious Fairfax model by Wakefield Homes, the area's leading custom builder. Craftman architecture with full front porch to enhance natural beauty of gorgeous 1/2A lot. Home is loaded with upgrades and custom features and located in Wayneswood School Dist. Super value, priced thousands below other new homes in area! Call for details! (Pic is of similar home)

3932 Ft Worth Ave  
\$959,000

**Updated Colonial!**  
Exciting new listing! Spacious 3 level colonial in prime Seminary Ridge location. Home is in pristine condition with many fabulous features including: four large bedrooms, updated white kitchen, newly finished hardwood floors, luxurious master suite and oversized 2 car garage. Deck overlooks private grounds. Convenient to everything. Walk to St. Stephens/St. Agnes School.

7759  
**WHITE HERON TRAIL**  
Alexandria  
\$395,000

3 finished levels w/2 walkouts, fireplace, garage, hardwood floors, cherry cabinets, ceramic backsplash, Corian counters, Jacuzzi tub, bath/powder room on each level. Close in to Metro, schools and shops.

**Elife Biankini 703.593.2634**

17 W SPRING ST  
Rosemont  
\$639,000

**Picture Perfect!**  
Rosemont home on idyllic street is in move-in condition! Inviting front screened porch, LR w/wood burning frpl, formal DR, hdwd, fantastic kit w/granite & SSA, 3BR/2FBA updated, LL fam rm & fully fen. yd w/slate patio. Great storage on LI & attic. Walk to Metro & Del Ray.

**Ann Z. Logsdon 703.568.8433**  
**Emily Capelli 703.472.1282**

916 PENDLETON ST  
Parker Gray Historic District  
\$599,999

**DO NOT WAIT - INCREDIBLE VALUE!**

- 3 BR / 2.5 BA
- 3 levels up
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- New fence

**Martine Irmr 703.346.7283**

**JUST LISTED**

1858 Carpenter Rd  
\$995,000

**Luxurious Townhome-Overlooking Parkland!**  
One of Potomac Green's largest and most luxuriously appointed homes! Exceptional 3800 sq ft. Property offers 4 levels of total luxury! Features include: high ceilings elegant living and dining rooms, upgraded trim detail, gourmet kitchen, lower level family room and 4th floor party room with dramatic roof top deck. Two master suites! Owners spent \$100K in upgrades. Offering the best of everything in remarkable location!

**JUST LISTED**

4502 Phylliss St  
\$565,000

**Huge Home - Little Price!**  
Most home for the money in Mt. Vernon area today! Incredibly spacious property with major additions including family room, master bedroom and oversize 2 car garage. Other fabulous features: 5BRs, 3.5BAs, hdwd flrs, updated insulation and 2 decks. Library can easily be converted to main level bedroom. Prime location on large lot fronting quiet cul-de-sac. Over 3,000 sq ft of beautifully maintained living area at a price that appears to be too good to be true! Don't be left out!

**JUST LISTED**

8705 Yardley Dr  
\$555,950

**Redecorated Inside and Out!**  
One of Stratford Area's Best Values! The wallpaper is gone-the interior is freshly painted. No distractions to fully appreciating this fabulous home! Numerous special features include: great room with exceptionally large window wall, eat-in kitchen with gas cooking, large master suite with private deck, finished lower level family room with fireplace, covered parking, magnificent grounds with private backyard.

DC WATERFRONT  
Harbour Square  
\$147,900

Rarely available waterside efficiency w/ spacious 300 sqft, private terrace patio. Just blocks to Metro, Arena Stage, Fish Market, & more.

**The Cary Team**  
**Kendra Carey 703.887.2117**  
**Sean Satkus 703.731.8086**

2106  
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Park your car and walk to METRO. Completely renovated 2BR/2FBA loaded with charm. 3 finished levels. Hardwood floors on main & upper levels. French doors lead to deck and a deep, fenced back yard backs to park. No HOA fee. So close to Old Town, Ft Belvoir, DC, 495 and more!

**Marcy Covarrubias 703.772.6569**

202 BIRCH ST  
Alexandria  
\$824,900

**Absolutely beautiful 3 lvl Dutch Colonial in Mt. Ida. Totally renovated - Open, bright, great floorplan, sunroom addition, 4BR on 1 lvl. Huge formal dining room, living room w/frpl. Basement rec room w/BA. Main lvl guest/ofc. Very private, fenced lot, patio, long driveway. Near King St metro, Old Town & more**

**Anita 202.460.1809 & Elke 703.967.7633**

**NEW PRICE**

2205 Basset St  
\$698,500

**Total Renovation! Prime Location!**  
SELLER MOVING-REDUCED PRICE MAKES THIS FAB 3LVL COLONIAL BEST VALUE IN AREA! Totally renovated and updated from top to bottom. Custom features include: brick exterior, bright, open floor plan, hardwood floors, 3.5 updated baths, 4 bedrooms w/luxurious master suite, 2FPs and fin LL. Prime cul-de-sac location. Fenced level lot. Move In Ready!

**JUST LISTED**

9005 Cherrytree Dr  
\$625,000

**Classic Colonial-Major Updates!**  
Classic center hall colonial with great floor plan and large room sizes. Most major components have been recently updated. Renovations include: plumbing, electrical, brand new custom kitchen, refinished hdwd flrs and upgraded ceramic tile. Work performed by professional interior designer with fabulous results! Spacious, updated colonial is priced to make it one of the area's best values!

**JUST LISTED**

9412 Ferry Landing Ct  
\$798,500

**Expanded and Updated!**  
Custom colonial on gorgeous large lot in fabulous setting on one of area's nicest streets. Numerous special features include: recently updated kitchen with light maple cabinets, granite and stainless. Family room off kitchen, home office, refinished hdwd flrs, 4BR including master suite with private bath and sitting room. Spectacular second floor family room addition and oversize 2 car garage. Expansive outside decking overlooks custom pool and spacious grounds.

1627 HUNTING CREEK DR  
#B / Alexandria  
\$539,000

Immaculate - w/lots of custom touches - wainscoting, brick accent wall, custom bookcases & gas log fireplace in family room, crown molding. Open floor plan, eat-in kit that opens to sunny deck. Brand new Carrier HVAC. 1-car gar. Close to everything!

**Laura Blederman 202.309.1350**

237 WESMOND DR  
Alexandria  
\$349,900

Beautifully updated 2 bedroom, 2 bath unit. Hardwood, granite, new carpet in the basement family room. Off street parking.

**Mindy Brubaker 571.242.9913**

301 S REYNOLDS ST  
#212 / Alex.  
\$245,000

2-level 1,034 sq ft condo w/2BR/2BA on lower level. New replacement windows thru-out enhance high ceiling of this sun-drenched condo. Separate dining room w/sliding glass door to balcony. Convenient to Van Dorn METRO, shopping & entertainment.

**Guinevere Jones-Wood 240.417.8055**

9316 Allwood Dr  
\$489,500

**Super Value!**  
Only home currently on market in general Yacht Haven area for under \$500,000! Fabulous property with dramatic cathedral ceiling, hardwood floors, FP, replacement windows, finished Lower level & garage. Gorgeous setting on magnificent level 1/2 acre lot. Sub \$500k price provides unique entry level opportunity to this community.

8919 Union Farm Rd  
\$549,900

**Updated Home -Tranquil Location!**  
New Price! Made for entertaining! Shows like a model home! Remodeled inside and out! New kitchen with stainless appliances and granite counters, baths with 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.

1907 Rampart Dr  
\$675,000

**Stunning Addition!**  
One of the most truly spectacular properties in Ft. Hunt area! Exceptionally bright, open floor plan. Back of home was expanded resulting in breathtaking, glass walled, open kitchen/family room and main level master suite. Fabulous features include: updated gourmet kitchen with granite and custom cabinets. Expansive deck! Great location!

**NEW PRICE!**

2030 PIERIS COURT  
Vienna  
\$635,000

**TYSON'S TERRIFIC!** Turnkey! Every upgrade imaginable including separate wine cellar! Backs to Trees! Hdwd floors, deck, landscaped patio, eat-in kitchen, sep DR, 3BR/2.55 BA, cherry cabinetry, FP, curved staircase, lots of storage & much more.

**Rose Mary Cousins 703.627.0404**

616 N PITT ST  
Alexandria  
\$799,000

Architecturally detailed brick TH in central Old Town featuring 4 fin lvls including 2 Master suites w/ attached full BAs, large loft w/full BA & cathedral ceilings, eat-in kit w/granite & balcony, living room w/gas frpl, dining room, study & 2 car garage. Warm wood flrs, bay windows - A must see.

**Michael Manuel 703.615.6317**

**NEW PRICE!**

200 N PICKETT ST  
#1501 / Alex.  
\$179,000

Spacious, well-maintained 1BR/1.5BA/ W&D/freshly painted/ tiled foyer & kit +storage unit, & large balcony w/SGD. Amenities: secure building, outdoor pool, tennis, party/exercise room, metro bus service. Near Old Town, airport, DC & more!

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# Spring for Alexandria Continues To Blossom

**Weekend offers opportunity for everyone to help.**

BY GALE CURCIO  
GAZETTE PACKET

Service runs in the family. While there are many illustrations of this in Alexandria, the passing of the baton from Katie May to Tommy May is yet another example. Tommy May spent a couple of years helping his sister with Kids Helping Kids, Inc. This year, he takes the helm of this year's Lemonade Day, along with Ben Luce and Lauren Zapko.

"I kind of grew up knowing about it and said that I wanted to get involved," said May. "It became my passion — I love it. We really try to help people out in the area and make our community a better place."

May said that their goals for 2011 are to have 40 stands throughout the city of Alexandria to raise \$10,000 for the Alexandria Tutoring Consortium and Fund for Alexandria Children. They already have \$6,075 in sponsorships and have more than 20 stands committed.

To date, sponsors for 2011 include: Lindsay Automotive Group, The May Family, Jack Taylor's Alexandria Toyota-Scion, Give Back Alexandria, Sarah King & Lyles Carr, The Bentsen Family, Old Town Alexandria Patch, The Newhouse Family, The Chiaramonte Family, The Fleuchas-Langworth Family, The James Family, The Becker Family and The Bradley Family.

Kids Helping Kids is one of the many activities planned for Spring to Alexandria, a three-day celebration of giving and service taking place throughout the City on Thursday, May 5, Friday, May 6 and Saturday, May 7.

Lyles Carr continues to be involved in the event and said, "Spring for Alexandria reflects the values of this caring city where neighbors help neighbors. I believe Spring for Alexandria will continue to grow each



**Mayor Bill Euille painting with a team of volunteers during last year's Spring for Alexandria.**

year as more and more people join us to serve and give. I am pleased to have played a small part in getting it started.

"I want this to be something that is part of Alexandria culture — a sense of civic pride. There are opportunities for everybody to participate.

"It's exciting that we have this opportunity to create streams of funding that will help to sustain key parts of our civic capacity. I was thrilled when the City raised their hand and said they wanted to be a partner. How many cities do you know that would give a paid day to their employees to volunteer? The partnership with City is a key component."

**ACT FOR ALEXANDRIA** will hold its Generations of Giving Gala on Thursday, May 5 from 6:30 to 10 p.m. This year's event, the ACTlympics, has a sports theme and will honor Alexandria car dealer Jack Taylor for his service to the community.

The event will be held on the campus of Episcopal High School in the Flippin Field House where dress will be sports casual. Sponsorships are still available.

The Generations of Giving Gala is the

kick-off event for Spring for Alexandria. "In celebration of his many years of community philanthropy with the City of Alexandria we are delighted to announce the Legacy of Service Award to Jack Taylor and his family. Jack has made a tremendous impact on our community by giving back generously to numerous charities and scholarships, including the Scholarship Fund of Alexandria, and we are pleased to honor him with this very special award," said Executive Director of ACT for Alexandria John Porter.

"I am honored to receive the Legacy of Service Award from ACT at the Generations of Giving Gala. I look forward to seeing you all on May 5 at Episcopal High School," said Taylor.

**FRIDAY, MAY 6**, brings Volunteer Alexandria's Business Philanthropy Summit, which will be followed by the Day of Service, where teams from throughout the city work at more than 80 pre-identified service projects at various nonprofit sites in the community.

On Saturday, May 7, the Alexandria Jaycees will host Contributions Day at the First Baptist Church at 2932 King St. where donations of clothes, food, furniture and other items will be accepted by nonprofit organizations in the community. Kids Helping Kids Lemonade stands will also be set up at the site and around the city with proceeds going to two predetermined charities in town.

David Speck, managing director of Speck Caudron, said, "Spring for Alexandria is rapidly becoming the lodestar for what makes Alexandria such an extraordinarily unique community. Hundreds of Alexandrians from the business, civic and political sectors come together for three days of sharing our blessings, having fun, working hard, enjoying good food and recognizing the contributions of some of our most giving citizens. The end result is a city that never stops meeting needs, solving problems and filling voids. Nothing makes me prouder than to be part of Spring for Alexandria."

## Events

### GENERATIONS OF GIVING GALA

The May 5 Gala will be held at Episcopal High School's Flippin Field House from 6:30 to 10 p.m. Tickets for the event are \$175. For sponsorship or ticket information, contact Ms. Henrietta LaMotte at [henrietta.lamotte@actforalexandria.org](mailto:henrietta.lamotte@actforalexandria.org) or 703-739-7778 or visit [actforalexandria.org](http://actforalexandria.org).

### ALEXANDRIA GIVES

Clean out closets and cupboards and help those neighbors in need. Alexandrians are invited to participate in "Alexandria Gives: A Community Contributions Day" sponsored by PNC Bank, and the Alexandria Jaycees.

Participating organizations include: Goodwill Industries, Habitat for Humanity ReStore, Alexandria Lincolnia Lions Club, Alexandria Animal Welfare League, INOVA Blood Donor Services and ALIVE! (ALEXANDRIANS INVOLVED ECUMENICALLY).

These organizations will be on site at the First Baptist Church of Alexandria, 2932 King St., from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on May 7, collecting food, clothing, housewares, and other supplies. Alexandrians can also give blood through INOVA Blood Donor Services or bring documents to be shredded.

For more information about the participating organizations and activities or to sign up for the blood drive, visit [http://www.alexjaycees.org/sfa\\_2011.php](http://www.alexjaycees.org/sfa_2011.php) or contact Amy Tenhouse at 703-216-0230.

### KIDS HELPING KIDS

Youths throughout Alexandria will put up lemonade stands on Saturday, May 7 as part of a daylong effort to raise money to benefit charities supporting at-risk children in Alexandria. Lemonade Day is sponsored by the teen non-profit organization, Kids Helping Kids, Inc.

Proceeds will benefit the Alexandria Tutoring Consortium, an interfaith organization, and The Fund for Alexandria's Child, a program for foster and at-risk children in Alexandria.

For more information on Lemonade Day or Kids Helping Kids, Inc., visit [www.kidshelpingkidsalexandria.org](http://www.kidshelpingkidsalexandria.org) or contact Tommy May at [may21@cox.net](mailto:may21@cox.net).

### BUSINESS PHILANTHROPY SUMMIT

On May 6, Billy Shore will address a breakfast meeting of more than 300 businesses and nonprofit leaders at Volunteer Alexandria's 13th annual Business Philanthropy Summit.

The summit will begin at 7:30 a.m. at the First Baptist Church located at 2932 King St.

Shore is founder and executive director of Share Our Strength, a national nonprofit addressing childhood hunger in America.

For more information on Spring for Alexandria, go to [springforalexandria.org](http://springforalexandria.org) or email [info@springforalexandria.org](mailto:info@springforalexandria.org).

## Enjoying Family Fun Day

**Weather prompts event to be moved indoors.**

Torrential rains failed to dampen the spirits of nearly 450 children and families who turned out for the 3rd Annual Family Fun Day April 16 at the William Ramsay Recreation Center.

Sponsored by the Center for Alexandria's Children in partnership with Capital One Bank, this year's event took place as scheduled as volunteers and exhibitors improvised in moving displays and activities inside the recreation center.

Face and hair painting took place in the

art room, while Child Welfare Services used the computer lab to provide Safe Assured ID kits to 50 children.

Color Me Healthy (an initiative of the Partnership for Healthier Alexandria) engaged children in activities and exercises in the dance studio and health and safety exhibitors took over the multi-purpose room. In the gym, children played games and enjoyed two bounce houses and an obstacle course moon bounce provided by DC United.

As in year's past, the petting zoo was a hit, and families were able to enjoy it and stay dry courtesy of tents donated by Capital One, who presented the CAC with a check for \$15,000.

— JEANNE THEISMANN



**Eric Lawrence, Alexandria Market President for Capital One Bank (far left), presents a check for \$15,000 to Giselle Pelaez, executive director of the Center for Alexandria's Children, (second from right), at the Center's Family Fun Day April 16. Joining them are U.S. Rep. Jim Moran (D-8, second from left) and Alexandria Police Captain William Johnson (far right).**



ARTS ♦ ENTERTAINMENT ♦ LEISURE

# Alexandria's Gastro Pub Opens

Located one block from the Potomac River, the RailStop Gastropub (901 N. Fairfax; Alexandria, VA, 22314; 703-683-8793; www.railstopgastropub.com) is the place to meet your Alexandria neighbors. With views of the historic river and monuments of the Capital city, this gastro pub was created with the local neighborhood in mind as a place to gather for a relaxing pint or a bite to eat.

Located on the second floor of the Crowne Plaza Old Town, the 76-seat restaurant channels the British philosophy of gastronomy in pub fare. A step above bar or pub grub, this gastro pub specializes in high-quality food including house-made sausages of both pork and seafood.

Alexandria has a long history with the railroad, dating back prior to the civil war with the Orange and Alexandria (O&A) Railroad. The RailStop Gastropub derived its name from the close proximity to the current active railroad and a recognized need for local crafted beer and cuisine.

The atmosphere is relaxed with comfortable extended, leather pin-cushion banquettes separated by etched glass partitions to cabaret table and bar seating set atop dark stained hardwood floors. The style is artful with walls decorated by vintage posters highlighting train destinations around the United States and oversized mirrors that reflect the amber light given by filament bulbs in pendant lighting. The bar top gleams as the copper inlay reflects the lighting.



**The RailStop Burger**

Chalkboard menus surround the bar displaying the pub's menu created by Executive Chef Mark Henry. Divided into palatable sections, bar snacks include Tots and Fried Pickles; main courses range from Steak Frites to Vegetarian Strudel; and the menu offers a tribute to classics such as the RailStop Burger with a Touch of "Smoke" to Old Dominion Lager Battered Fish and Chips offered as nightly specials.

The menu compliments the beer and wine list that stays true to pairing with the cuisine in refreshing style. The beer menu is expansive, typical of a gastro pub, specializing in micro and local brews.

The RailStop Gastropub is open 7 days a week 11:30 a.m.-11:30 p.m.; and offers a daily happy hour from 5-7 p.m.

**The style is artful with walls decorated by vintage posters highlighting train destinations around the United States.**

## MVUC Enjoys History, Produce

The Mount Vernon Unitarian Church (MVUC) occupies historic ground – its home on Mason Hill was once part of Founding Father George Mason's home site. The Green House is managed today by volunteers who provide horticultural information, plants, vegetables, herbs, and flowers to visitors and gardening enthusiasts. The MVUC Green House is especially well known for the variety and quality of their tomato plants. The operation of the Green House is in keeping with MVUC's commitment to the environment and to local food sources. Sale of these items sustains the preservation and operation of the Green House. Visitors are always welcome. Plant sales are under way now and will continue through the end of May, Saturdays and Sundays from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. At Mount Vernon Unitarian Church, 1909 Windmill Lane, Alexandria. Email: info@mvuc.org

## Inocencio Headlines NYC Improv Show

Iliana Inocencio, a native of Mount Vernon, opened her own comedic improv headliner show, Day Camp Kids Present Tug of War, at the People's Improv Theater (The PIT) in New York City last Saturday. The PIT boasts such performing luminaries as Ellie Kemper ("The Office"), Kristen Schaal ("Flight of the Conchords"), and Ali Farahnakian ("Saturday Night Live").

Ms. Inocencio studied improv at The Second City: Chicago in its Summer Intensive Program on scholarship. She is finishing up her improv studies at The People's Improv Theater. While living in Virginia, she did a variety of productions spanning from Reston to Fredericksburg to Baltimore, including Disney's "Beauty and the Beast" as Belle, "The King and I" as Tuptim, "West Side Story" as Maria, and "A Christmas Carol" as Fred's Sister at The Ford's Theatre. She attended Bishop Ireton High School in Alexandria, and moved to New York City to complete her collegiate studies in Theater.



**Mount Vernon native Iliana Inocencio**

## Volunteers Sought for 'Spring for Alexandria'

The fourth-annual Spring for Alexandria three-day event is scheduled for May 5, 6 and 7, 2011. ACT for Alexandria, Volunteer Alexandria, the Alexandria Jaycees, the City of Alexandria, and Kids Helping Kids Lemonade all partner to put on this event, which recognizes and honors giving and service in our community.

The WEBA board voted at its most recent meeting to match up to \$500 in support of "Spring for Alexandria 2011." If your business is interested in joining with WEBA to support this event, contact WEBA President, Mike Barber by email or by phone at 703-370-9600.

ACT for Alexandria kicks off the festivities with its annual 'Generations of Giving Gala' the evening of May 5. This year's event, the ACTlympics, has a sports theme and will honor Alexandria car dealer Jack Taylor for his legacy of service to the community. The event will be held on the campus of Episcopal High School in the Flippin Field House where dress will be sports casual.

Sponsorships are still available.

Friday, May 6, brings Volunteer Alexandria's Business Philanthropy Summit, which will be followed by the Day of Service, where teams from throughout the city complete in over 80 pre-identified service projects at various nonprofit sites in our community. Everyone reconvenes at Market Square in the afternoon to celebrate service and giving. Round up some of your colleagues and business associates to help paint up, clean up, fix up, and boost up sites in Alexandria. Create your own team and go for it! (You can volunteer under the WEBA umbrella or through your own business).

On Saturday, May 7, the Alexandria Jaycees will host Contributions Day at the First Baptist Church at 2932 King Street where donations of clothes, food, furniture and other items will be accepted by nonprofit organizations in the community. Kids Helping Kids Lemonade stands will also be set up at the site and around the city with proceeds going to two predetermined charities in town.

## Restaurants with History

The Wanderer was just meandering this week, enjoying the warmer weather with some gastro-history touring. While there are too many to include at one time, he'll be back with more as soon as he's worked off the calories from this foray.

Photos by Jeanne Theismann



### F VASO'S KITCHEN

Occupying the site of the landmark Dixie Pig Restaurant, owner Vaso Volioti wisely kept the iconic neon sign that has attracted such luminaries as Willard Scott and The West Wing cast and crew. A neighborhood favorite, Vaso's serves breakfast, lunch and dinner and features outdoor dining. Signature dishes include fresh oysters, moussaka and lamb kapama (shank with pasta). Easy to find. Just look for the sign.

1225 Powhatan Street, (703) 548-2747



### C MAJESTIC CAFÉ

Originally opened in 1932 on lower King Street, The Majestic Café has been in its present location since 1949 and boasts the only neon sign to still hang in the historic district of Old Town. Reopened in 2001 after extensive renovations, it became one of celebrity chef Cathal Armstrong's growing empire of Alexandria restaurants in 2007. Chef Shannon Overmiller's popular dishes include home-style meatloaf and 'Nana's Sunday Dinner.' Don't forget to check out the phone booth from the original Majestic.

911 King St., 703-837-9117, [www.majesticcafe.com](http://www.majesticcafe.com)



### A BASTILLE RESTAURANT

Celebrating five years this summer, Bastille Restaurant occupies the building that was formerly the warehouse for Smoot Lumber, a company founded by merchant William Smoot, also a mayor of Alexandria in the 1880s. Now a bistro and wine bar, Bastille owners Christophe and Michelle Poteaux, pictured here with manager Matthew Emborski, create menus based on traditional, yet modern interpretations of classic bistro fare. Next door to MetroStage, it's the perfect spot for a pre-theatre dinner.

1201 N. Royal St. #A, 703-519-3776, [www.bastillerestaurant.com](http://www.bastillerestaurant.com)



### G ST. ELMO'S

When the history of the new, revitalized Del Ray is written, Nora Partlow and St. Elmo's Coffee Pub will be at the center of the story. Opened in 1996 on the original site of Guiffre Distributing, St. Elmo's has become the anchor of the ever-growing trendy neighborhood. For years a bartender at The Snuggery (now The Evening Star restaurant), Nora does more than serve incredible coffee and tasty baked goods. She has turned St. Elmo's into a catalyst for local artists, musicians and various neighborhood groups. Thank you Nora!

2300 Mount Vernon Ave., 703-739-9268  
[www.stelmoscoffeepub.com](http://www.stelmoscoffeepub.com)



### E UNION STREET PUBLIC HOUSE

Occupying a renovated historic Colonial warehouse along the waterfront, Union Street Public House opened in 1986 and quickly established itself as one of the most popular restaurants among local Alexandrians. With an oyster bar, 15 beers on tap and a varied wine list, Union Street is one of the few restaurants with an off-premise liquor license. So take advantage of the Monday night "buy one, get one for \$1" bottle of wine special and take one home. And be sure to tell Bruce Witucki, one of the best bartenders in town, that the Wanderer sent you. Pictured, Chef Rich Gunter and manager Jennifer Russell.

121 South Union Street, (703) 548-1785  
[www.unionstreetpublichouse.com](http://www.unionstreetpublichouse.com)

Talk of the Town is an award-winning Alexandria Gazette Packet feature. Questions, comments, or suggestions can be emailed to [thewanderer@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:thewanderer@connectionnewspapers.com).



### B DAIRY GODMOTHER

The lines outside the Dairy Godmother aren't limited to the warmer months, they just get longer as the temperatures rise. Owner Liz Davis's Wisconsin-style frozen custard and specialty treats have been satisfying the cravings of the Del Ray neighborhood since 2001 and the confections earned a visit from Sasha, Malia and President Obama during their first summer in the White House. Check online for the daily Flavor Forecast. Here, Anna Jones of ACVA treats her guests from Mesa, Ariz., Bob and Nancy Backus and son Scott.

2310 Mount Vernon Ave., (703) 683-7767  
[www.thedairygodmother.com](http://www.thedairygodmother.com)



### D TAVERNA CRETETOU

Originally opened in 1973, Taverna Cretetou represents the American Dream for owner Christos Papaloizou, who for 25 years worked his way up from bus boy to maitre' d to buying the restaurant in 2005. With its garden patio dining and live Greek music and dancing on Thursday nights, Christos and his wife Denise have created an enchanting place for lunch, dinner or Sunday brunch.

818 King Street, (703) 548-8688  
[www.tavernacretetou.com](http://www.tavernacretetou.com)



## Barb Winters to Receive 2011 History Award

The Alexandria Historical Society has selected author Barb Winters as the winner of its 2011 T. Michael Miller Alexandria History Award. The annual Alexandria History Award, named in honor of Alexandria's long-time City historian, is given to a person or persons who have made noteworthy contributions to the preservation of the historic, cultural, and artistic heritage of Alexandria.



**Barb Winters**

Fendall and Tackett families, spanned three generations, two major wars, and more than one hundred years. Winters recognized the collection provided detailed insight into Alexandria's history and compiled the letters into the compelling narrative Letters to Virginia (Acclaim Press, 2010) that revealed Alexandria's past through the words of people as they lived it.

Winters, who retired from the Alexandria Library in 2010, will be honored at a special awards ceremony on Wednesday, April 27, at 7:30 p.m., at The Lyceum, 201 South Washington Street. State Senator Patricia S. "Patsy" Ticer, who announced her retirement earlier this year, will present the award.

Winters processed, read and organized a collection of hundreds of family letters in the Alexandria Library Local History/Special Collections. These letters, written by members of the Eaches,

The awards for outstanding high school history students will be presented to Lee Anderson of T.C. Williams High School, Sarah Olsen of Bishop Ireton High School, Sadiq Abubakar of Episcopal High School, and Shannon Lin of St. Stephen's & St. Agnes Upper School.

Following the awards presentation, guest speaker Vola Lawson will give a short talk. Lawson served as Alexandria's City Manager from 1985 until her retirement in 2000.

## Day of Service on Saturday, April 30

"Day of Service" event, sponsored by the Northern Virginia Alumnae Chapter (NoVAC), Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.

### Event: Kick-off Event

Time: 8 - 9 a.m.  
Location: Mason District Governmental Center, 6507 Columbia Pike, Annandale  
Details: Start your Day of Service with fellowship of all volunteers  
Contact: Terria Lee - tplee.dst@gmail.com

### Event: Adopt-A-Block

Time: 9:30 - 10:30 a.m.  
Location: Corner of Wythe and Route 1 South, Alexandria  
Details: Volunteer to clean designated blocks in Old Town Alexandria; Ages 8 years and older with adult supervision  
Contact: Wendi Cherry - wendi30@hotmail.com

### Event: Food for Others

Time: 9 a.m. - noon  
Location: 2938 Prosperity Avenue, Fairfax  
Details: Volunteer to help warehouse staff pack food, USDA boxes, and shelf products. Activities require lifting and bending, ages 12-15 with adult supervision, 16 or older no supervision required. (Accepting canned goods at the Food for Others location on April 30)  
Contact: Cherisse Aquil at cherisse\_aquil@hotmail.com

### Event: Letter Writing Campaign and Book Drive for library in Ghana, West Africa

Location: Mason District Governmental Center, 6507 Columbia Pike, Annandale

Time: 8 a.m. to noon  
Details: Write letters/send birthday wishes to DST-NoVAC adopted Ghanaian daughter, Fuseini and donate books to the Akuapem Community Foundation's library in Ghana, West Africa.

Science, math, geography, English/reading, and books about careers are desired for middle/junior high and high school boys and girls  
Contacts: Regina Jones - reginajones59@hotmail.com Joan White - joan.white@earthlink.net

### Event: Rebuilding Together Alexandria

Time: 9 a.m. to noon  
Location: ALIVE House, 925 S. Payne St. Alexandria  
Details: Volunteer to help repair and improve homes in the Alexandria area, home may need scraping, painting, and light repair work, no skills necessary ages 12 years and older with adult supervision  
Contact: Angela Fairwell - kfairwell@aol.com

### Event: It Feels Like Love ... But Is It? - A Social Action

Forum in collaboration with Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc.  
Time: 3 to 5 p.m.  
Location: Kappa Multipurpose Room, 6343 South Kings Highway, Alexandria  
Details: A forum discussing the effects of domestic violence in our community  
Contact: Gloria Roseboro - gjroseboro@aol.com

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703.548.8688  
tavernacretekou.com

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Saturday: 12:00-10:30  
Sunday: Brunch 11:30-3:00, Dinner 5:00-9:30  
Monday: Closed

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## KING STREET CATS ADOPTIONS!

We have the pitter patter of tiny paws...  
and big paws at our cat orphanage.

Come see if the new love of your life is at 25 S. Dove Street in Alexandria (off Duke Street by Pet Sage) every Saturday and Sunday from 1:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. We also need temporary foster homes for kittens!

Directions and additional information is available on our website at [www.kingstreetcats.org](http://www.kingstreetcats.org) or call (703) 231-7199.

# ENTERTAINMENT

## EVERY THURSDAY

**Environmental Activists Needed.** 6 to 9 p.m. Clean up your community, your country, your planet — meet with the Sierra Club at its new NOVA Hub in Del Ray, 2312 Mount Vernon Ave., Suite 206, Alexandria. RSVP to Phillip Ellis, Sierra Club Field Organizer at 571-970-0275 or phillip.ellis@sierraclub.org.

## FIRST AND THIRD SATURDAYS

**Line and Hand Dance Party.** 6 to 7 p.m. Cost is \$5/class. At the Weyone Sports Lounge, Landmark Mall E-100, 5801 Duke Street, Ground Level, Alexandria.

## NOW THROUGH OCT. 30

**Civil War Walking Tour.** Saturdays and Sundays 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Covers the changing role of African Americans on the estate, views on George Washington from the perspective of Union and Confederate supporters, and the Washington-Robert E. Lee connection. At Historic Mount Vernon. These tours are limited in capacity and cost \$5 in addition to Estate admission: \$15 adults; \$7 children (6-11); free for children 5 & under. Visit [www.MountVernon.org](http://www.MountVernon.org) or call 703-780-2000.

## APRIL 22 THROUGH MAY 4

**Bridal Gown Boutique Sale.** The Twig Thrift Shop's first bridal gown boutique sale. Beautifully priced, nearly 4 dozen new, vintage or gently worn gowns in styles from traditional ballerina with long beaded trains to slinky Jean Harlow sheaths to Princess Leia sheer—from petite size 2 to XXL—accessories including slips, crinolines, and veils. All proceeds benefit Inova Alexandria Hospital. Call 703-683-5544 or [thetwig.org](http://thetwig.org). At 106 N. Columbus Street (near King Street), Old Town Alexandria.

## SATURDAY/APRIL 23

**Easter Celebration.** 9:30 a.m. Easter Egg and Scavenger Hunts: 11 a.m. for children under age 5; 11:30 a.m. for children over age 5. Other activities will include face painting, games and crafts. Hosted by DC Metro Church at the Mount Vernon Recreation Center, 2701 Commonwealth Ave., Alexandria. Contact Gary Ritterstein, [dcmetroeasteregg hunt@gmail.com](mailto:dcmetroeasteregg hunt@gmail.com)

**Cleve Francis & Friends.** 7:30 p.m. At The Birchmere, 3701 Mount Vernon Ave., Alexandria. Call 703-573-7328.

**Earth Day Celebration.** 9 to 11 a.m. Join representatives from the Raptor Conservancy of Virginia at Dyke Marsh Wildlife Preserve for a presentation and up-close look at hawks, falcons and owls. 10 a.m. is a Wetlands Walk. Sponsored by Friends of Dyke Marsh. At Dyke Marsh, Belle Haven picnic area parking lot, Dyke Marsh Wildlife Preserve, Alexandria.

**Celebrate Trees.** 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Tree Commissioner Eleanor Quigley tells you how to nominate your favorite tree. 11:15 to noon, Champion Swamp Chestnut Oaks. Tree Commissioner Bob Vickers leads guided walk to these towering giants. At Huntley Meadows Park, 3701 Lockheed Blvd., Alexandria. Visit [www.mvcca.org](http://www.mvcca.org).

**Eco-Tour.** 2-2:45 p.m. At 6303 Richmond Hwy. Meet Martin Tillet on the north side of Walmart parking lot at Kings Crossing for a tour of the unique ecological features of Quander Brook. Visit [www.mvcca.org](http://www.mvcca.org).

**Eco-Friendly Landscaping.** 3-3:45 p.m. At 7713 Tauxemont Road. Learn about "Landscaping for Birds" from Cliff Fairweather, Audubon-at-Home.



## SATURDAY/APRIL 30

**Springtime on the Rhein.** 7 p.m. Tickets are \$25/person. Spring Concert of the Washington Saengerbund "Kinderchor." Following the concert, dancing to the tunes of the "Heidi and Heimat Echo Band." At the Durant Recreation Center, 1605 Cameron St., Alexandria. Call Rudy Becker, 540-308-5965 or online at [www.saengerbund.org](http://www.saengerbund.org).

Visit [www.mvcca.org](http://www.mvcca.org).

## SUNDAY/APRIL 24

**Petting Farm.** 10:30 to 12:30 a.m. 15-plus pettable animals: llamas, donkeys, goats, sheep, ducks, pigs, calves, chicks and bunnies. Free pony rides for the kids. Sponsored by Washington Community Church, meeting the house at the entrance to Carl Sandburg Middle School, 8428 Fort Hunt Road, Alexandria. Email Steve Bradcovich at [washingtoncommunity@msn.com](mailto:washingtoncommunity@msn.com).

**Potomac Jazz Project.** 6:30 to 10 p.m. Potomac Jazz Bassist and Bandleader Stan Hamrick brings in two great DC Musicians to round out a trio. At Laporta's, Duke Street, Old Town Alexandria.

**Easter Cruise.** Aboard the Odyssey or Spirit of Washington. Extensive buffet, champagne or mimosa, live entertainment and an appearance from the Easter Bunny. Earlybird at 9:15 a.m. for boarding; 10 a.m. to noon cruise. Cost is \$65.95 for adults; \$32.95 for children age 3-11. Late brunch boards at 1:15 p.m.; and cruise from 2-4 p.m. Tickets are \$69.90/adults; \$34.95/children age 3-11. Call 866-306-2469 or [www.EntertainmentCruises.com](http://www.EntertainmentCruises.com).

**Cat and a Bird Concert.** 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. Admission is \$5. Hip kid's music phenom, Cat and a Bird, an innovative, international musical collaboration will perform their original, jazzy, silly, world-beat songs about animals for kids. At The Athenaeum, 201 Prince Street, Alexandria. Call 703-548-0035 or [nvfaa.org](http://nvfaa.org).

## TUESDAY/APRIL 26

**Charity Golf Outing.** 9:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. shotgun starts. Cost is \$50/person. Benefit fundraiser for UCM and Good Shepherd Housing. At Hilltop Golf Club, 7900 Telegraph Road, Alexandria. To sign up, visit [www.hilltopgolfoutings.com](http://www.hilltopgolfoutings.com) or call 703-719-6504.

**Quilting Lecture.** 12:30 p.m. Free. North Carolina quilt artist Annette Ornelas will present a lecture on "Dimensional Curved Piecing." At Mount

Vernon Quilters Unlimited, which meets at Hollin Hall Senior Center, 1500 Shenandoah Road, Alexandria. Contact [MVQUPresident@gmail.com](mailto:MVQUPresident@gmail.com)

## WEDNESDAY/APRIL 27

**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.

**Become a Foster Parent.** 6 to 7:30 p.m. Information session for prospective foster parents. Agency reps will be on hand to answer questions. At UMFS, 6335 Little River Turnpike, Alexandria. RSVP at 703-941-9008 or visit [www.umfs.org](http://www.umfs.org).

**Take a Deep Breath.** 7 p.m. Free. By Jane Franklin Dance. At the Torpedo Factory Arts Center, 105 N. Union St., Alexandria.

## THURSDAY/APRIL 28

**"HAZE" Film Screening.** 6:30 to 9 p.m. Free. Documentary on underage drinking. The movie will be followed by a panel discussion. Sponsored by the Substance Abuse Prevention Coalition. At Minnie Howard, 3801 W. Braddock Road.

**Princess Party.** 6 to 8 p.m. Mystique Jewelers of Old Town Alexandria is throwing a Princess Party to celebrate the nuptials of Kate Middleton and Prince William. Guests will don tiaras, adorn jewelry and toast the royal couple with champagne and cupcakes. To RSVP to the April 28 event, visit: [mystiqueprincess.eventbrite.com](http://mystiqueprincess.eventbrite.com) or visit [www.mystiquejewelers.com](http://www.mystiquejewelers.com).

## FRIDAY/APRIL 29

**An Evening of Music for Solo Tuba.** 8 p.m. Free. Sponsored 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.usafband.af.mil](http://www.usafband.af.mil)

## SATURDAY/APRIL 30

**Rebuilding Together Alexandria.** 8:15 a.m. Nearly 1,000 volunteers will help repair and



## FRIDAY/APRIL 22

**"I Dream of Bettie."** 7:30 p.m. A Burlesque Tribute to the Queen of Pinups. Tickets are \$25. At the Birchmere, 3701 Mt. Vernon Ave., Alexandria. Call 703-549-7500, [www.birchmere.com](http://www.birchmere.com).

maintain 60 homes for low-income homeowners and veterans during National Rebuilding Day. Teams of volunteers will make home improvements, such as repairing windows and doors, replacing cabinets, installing grab bars and safety rails, painting, doing yard work, installing smoke detectors, and weatherizing. Event kicks off at First Baptist Church, 2932 King Street, Alexandria. Contact Shawn Flaherty at 703-554-3609.

**Mainstreet Brass Concert.** 7:30 p.m. This Pennsylvania-based brass quintet will present a varied and fun program of music ranging from compositions of Bach and Rimsky-Korsakov to Gershwin and Jelly Roll Morton. Admission is \$20 for adults, \$15 for seniors, \$10 for students, and \$5 for those under 13. At St. Luke's Episcopal Church, 8009 Fort Hunt Road, Alexandria. Call 703-765-4342.

**Spring Book Fest.** 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Thousands of used books, DVDs, CDs. Sponsored by the Friends of Duncan Library. In the parking lot between Duncan Library and the Mount Vernon Community School. At Duncan Library, 2501 Commonwealth Ave., in Alexandria.

**Earth Day Celebration, Plant and Rummage Sale.** 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. (Rain date: Sunday, May 1). Eat and drink, spread a mountain of mulch, build a recycled CD sculpture, paint a globe, huge rummage sale and more. At Hollin Meadows Elementary School, 2310 Nordok Place, Alexandria.

**Native Plant Sale.** 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Largest native plant sale in DC Metro Area hosts 14 vendors from 5 states selling native perennials, shrubs, and trees for sun or shade in historic Parkfairfax. At 3601 Valley Drive, Alexandria. Call 571-232-0375 or [www.ParkfairfaxNativePlantSale.org](http://www.ParkfairfaxNativePlantSale.org).

**Chamber Recital.** 4 p.m. Free. Recital celebrates the retirement of Senior Master Sergeant Andrew Wilson, Principal and Solo Cornet of the United

SEE ENTERTAINMENT. PAGE 23

**The Washington Balalaika Society**  
presents

**THE ART OF THE BALALAIKA**  
Svetlana Nikonova, conductor

Featuring America's premier balalaika soloist, **Andrei Saveliev**  
with sensational soprano, **Olga Orlovskaya**

**Saturday, April 30 at 7:30 pm**  
T. C. Williams High School  
3330 King Street, Alexandria, Va.  
Tickets: [www.balalaika.org](http://www.balalaika.org)  
703-644-9151

**Sunday, May 1 at 3:00 pm**  
F. Scott Fitzgerald Theatre  
603 Edmonston Drive, Rockville, Md.  
Tickets: [www.rockvillemd.gov/theatre](http://www.rockvillemd.gov/theatre)  
240-314-8690

Regular admission \$25; advance purchase \$20; seniors \$18; students \$15; children 12 and under free with adult  
[www.balalaika.org](http://www.balalaika.org) Information and group sales: 703-644-9151

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# ENTERTAINMENT

FROM PAGE 22

States Air Force Band, after 20 years of service. At The Lyceum, 201 South Washington Street, Alexandria. Call 202-258-0822.

**Concert.** 8 p.m. Winchester Orchestra presents "Beethoven and Blue Jeans Side By Side Concert." Benefiting Lyme Disease research. At the George Washington Masonic Memorial, Alexandria. Tickets at [www.winroch.org](http://www.winroch.org) or [www.winorch.tix.com](http://www.winorch.tix.com).

**Appraisal Day.** 1 to 5 p.m. Ben Hastings of the International Society of Appraisers, will be doing free verbal appraisals of your artwork. Limit 3 items per person. At Broadway gallery, 5641-B General Washington Drive, Alexandria. Call 703-354-2905.

**Huge Rummage Sale.** 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Books, toys, housewares, clothes and more. Proceeds from the sale help to provide school supplies, shoes, warm clothing, and books for students in-need. At Hollin Meadows Elementary School, 2310 Nordok Place, Alexandria.

**Carl Sandburg Pantherlon 5K.** 8 a.m. The 22<sup>nd</sup> annual Carl Sandburg Pantherlon 5K Run and 1-mile Fun Run/Walk. At Carl Sandburg Middle School, 8428 Fort Hunt Road, Alexandria. Contact: Rebecca Bostick at 703-768-2250 or [rbarch@mindspring.com](mailto:rbarch@mindspring.com).

**Stephanie Mills with Kenny Wesley.** 7:30 p.m. At The Birchmere, 3701 Mt. Vernon Ave., Alexandria. To purchase tickets log onto: [www.Birchmere.com](http://www.Birchmere.com) or go to [www.ticketmaster.com](http://www.ticketmaster.com) or call 1-800-745-3000.

**Civil War Spotlight Talks.** 30-minute talks from 10 a.m. to noon; and 2 to 4 p.m. Free. The uniform, accoutrements and equipment of Fort Ward's artillery exhibit figure will be discussed. At Fort Ward Museum, 4301 West Braddock Road, Alexandria. Visit [www.fortward.org](http://www.fortward.org) or call 703-746-4848.

## SUNDAY/MAY 1

**Basket Bingo.** 2 p.m. Cost is \$15/advance; \$20/door. Fund-raiser for the senior class all-night grad party. At Mount Vernon High School, 8515 Old Mount Vernon Road, Alexandria. Call 703-618-5104.

**Grand Finale Concert.** 4 p.m. Featuring Elisabeth Adkins, Beethoven Violin Concerto. Tickets are \$18/adults; \$12/seniors and groups. At the Ernst Community Cultural Center, Northern Virginia Community College, 8333 Little River Turnpike, Annandale. Call 703-758-0179 or visit [www.virginiachamberorchestra.org](http://www.virginiachamberorchestra.org).

**Sundays@Heritage Concert.** 4 to 5:30 p.m. Featuring trumpet prodigy Geoffrey Gallante and piano extraordinaire Jean Baptiste performing choice standards from the Great American Songbook. Heritage Presbyterian Church, 8503 Ft. Hunt Rd., Mount Vernon. Call 703-360-9546.



## SATURDAY/APRIL 30

**The Art of the Balalaika.** 7:30 p.m. The program will feature Olga Orlovskaya, the orchestra's balalaika concertmaster, Andrei Saveliev, formerly with the legendary Andreyev Balalaika Orchestra of St. Petersburg, Russia. Tickets are \$25/door; \$20/advance. For tickets, call 240-314-8690. At T.C. Williams High School, 3330 King Street, Alexandria.

**Carpenter's Shelter Cook-Off.** Noon to 3 p.m. Cook-Off showcases 20-25 of Alexandria's best restaurants. Tickets are \$40/adults; \$35/early-bird before April 15; \$5/child. Guests will also enjoy music by the Melonheads, a live auction, children's entertainment and more. To purchase tickets online, go to <http://www.carpentersshelter.org/> and click on the Buy Cook-off Tickets link. Or call the Carpenter's Shelter, 703-548-7500, ext. 226. At The Birchmere, 3701 Mount Vernon Ave., Alexandria.

## TUESDAY/MAY 3

**NOVA Community Chorus.** 7:30 p.m. Free. Spring concert in conjunction with NVCC Alexandria Campus Music Department. NOVA Community Chorus will perform Beethoven Ninth Symphony, 4th movement ("Ode to Joy") and selections from Brahms Liebeslieder Waltzes, under Dr. Mark Whitmire's direction with 4-hands piano accompanists Christine Hagan and Ja-Hye Koo. At the Schlesinger Center for the Arts, 3001 N. Beauregard St., Alexandria. Contact Dr. Whitmire, 703-845-6097 or [mwhitmire@nvcc.edu](mailto:mwhitmire@nvcc.edu).

## WEDNESDAY/MAY 4

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

## THURSDAY/MAY 5

**Schlesinger Concerts.** 7:30 p.m. Free. Presented by the U.S. Army Concert Band. At the Rachel M. Schlesinger Concert Hall and Arts Center, NVCC, Alexandria campus. Call 703-696-3399 or visit [www.usarmyband.com](http://www.usarmyband.com).

**Generations of Giving Gala.** 6:30 to 10 p.m. Theme of ACTlympics with fun

and games to support ACT for Alexandria. This is the kick-off event for Spring for Alexandria, a three-day celebration (May 5, 6, 7) of giving and service. At Flippin Field House, Episcopal High School. Contact Henrietta LaMotte at 703-739-7778 or visit [www.actforalexandria.org](http://www.actforalexandria.org).

## MAY 5 TO 7

**Spring for Alexandria.** Celebration of giving and service. ACT for Alexandria, Volunteer Alexandria, the Alexandria Jaycees, the City of Alexandria, and Kids Helping Kids Lemonade partner to put on this three-day event, which recognizes and honors giving and service in our community. Volunteers are needed to clean parks and schools, to attend fun events and donate to charities. There is something for every skill set and schedule. Visit [www.springforalexandria.org](http://www.springforalexandria.org) or call Volunteer Alexandria at 703-836-2176.

## FRIDAY/MAY 6

**U.S. Army Strings in Concert.** 7:30 p.m. Free. Chamber Music for Strings: Duos and Trios. At the Lyceum in Alexandria. Call 703-696-3399 or visit [www.usarmyband.com](http://www.usarmyband.com).

## SATURDAY/MAY 7

**Saint Luke's Episcopal Church BBQ.** 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. North Carolina-style pork and chicken BBQ with hot dogs, beans, cole slaw and soft drinks. Dinner is \$8. All are welcome. Proceeds support church activities and community outreach. At St. Luke's Episcopal Church, 8009 Fort Hunt Road, Hollin Hall/Wellington section. Call 703-765-4342 or visit [www.saintlukeschurch.net](http://www.saintlukeschurch.net).

## American Balalaika Symphony.

Tickets are \$20/advance; \$25/door. Peter Trofimenko and The American Balalaika Symphony present "Spring Mood - Musical Fare for the Fair Season" - with romantic works by Andreyev, Dimitriyev, Doga, Gavirin, Kalinnikov, Rubinstein, Strauss, Trostiansky and more, including two original compositions by ABS musicians Vladimir Rozenblat and Michael Kholodov. At the Rachel M. Schlesinger Concert Hall and Arts Center, 3001 Beauregard St., Alexandria. Visit [www.ABSorchestra.org](http://www.ABSorchestra.org) or [www.InstantSeats.com](http://www.InstantSeats.com).

## Opening of Alexandria Art Market.

10 a.m. to 4 p.m. The market boasts amazing artwork from local artists, music from multicultural musicians and great food from local restaurants. At Colasanto Park in the heart of Del Ray. Free and open to public. [www.TheDelRayArtisans.com](http://www.TheDelRayArtisans.com) or [DRA.AlexandriaArtMarket@gmail.com](mailto:DRA.AlexandriaArtMarket@gmail.com) to apply.

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# LETTERS

## Successes at T.C. Williams

To the Editor:

I want to let you in on something of a secret: T.C. Williams High School students have been wildly successful this spring. First, our seniors have been accepted at some of the nation's top colleges and universities, including Duke, Columbia, the University of Pennsylvania, Wesleyan, Cornell, the University of Virginia, Johns Hopkins, the University of North Carolina, Haverford, Virginia Tech, Bucknell, and William & Mary, among others. You probably haven't heard that news, though. Many of the good things that happen at T.C. go without notice.

You may have heard that our basketball team played in the state championship game. But did anyone tell you that T.C. also won the AAA Sportsmanship Award for our enthusiastic, well-mannered cheering section, the Fightin' Titans?

You might also be unaware that the Grand Prize winner at Virginia's Science Fair, Christopher Gerlach, is a T.C. Williams student. He overcame stiff competition from students at the elite Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology (ranked as the top public high school in the nation by U.S. News and World Report). Christopher Gerlach and Yosyp Shvab, a fellow classmate from T.C.'s Independent Science Research class, will both present projects at the International Science Fair in Los Angeles later this spring.

I hope you've read about the triumphs of the phenomenal T.C. Williams crew team. The Women's Second Varsity Eight won gold at the 2010 Scholastic Rowing National Championship Regatta, and they hope to continue their winning streak this year (T.C. also happens to be one of just a few schools in Virginia with a crew team that is open to, and free for, all its students). I'm betting, though, that you didn't see much about our Odyssey of the Mind team, comprised of all ninth-grade students, who recently beat out a Thomas Jefferson team (do I detect a trend here?) to win at regionals. Odyssey of the Mind is an international educational program that provides creative problem-solving opportunities for its participants.

T.C. also does not lack for students who are "giving back" to both Alexandria and the world at large. Senior Emma Kemler started Titan Aid to raise funds for Haiti relief last year, and sophomore Winston Duncan founded Wheels to Africa, which has sent thousands of bicycles to rural African communities. Other students serve on the Alexandria Youth Policy Commission, the Substance Abuse Prevention Coalition and the Alexandria Youth Council.

Our community doesn't celebrate the outstanding students at T.C. Williams nearly as much as we should. Alexandria's sole public high school has students who are forces to be reckoned with — not only on the athletic field, but in the classroom and in the community as well.

**Catherine Clinger**

President, T.C. Williams Parent-Teacher-Student Association

## OTCA's Position On Waterfront Plan

To the Editor:

The draft Waterfront Plan has been the subject of numerous Old Town Civic Association meetings, surveys and workshops since the membership's adoption of a statement of "Waterfront Planning Principle" in 2007. While we recognize the hard work City staff have put into the evolution of the Waterfront Plan, there is still significant frustration within our membership with a planning process that, although years in duration, has not adequately presented a range of coherent alternative options for review, or taken into account numerous concerns persistently raised by the Old Town community. As a result, we believe we have been presented with a single, seemingly inflexible, plan option.

At the March 12 City Council public hearing, I made this point and asked for more time to work with the City to resolve our issues. The City Council challenged OTCA to come back with a list of specific modifications that we would like to see. I submitted them in the form of an OTCA position statement to City Council on April 16 addressing 10 key points (they can be found on our web site at oldtowncivic.org), highlighted here are three points of particular concern:

1. Slow down — The waterfront plan is likely to undergo significant changes within the next month or two, specifically as a result of ongoing negotiations with the Old Dominion Boat Club and a more realistic assessment of the plan's revenues and costs. There will be substantial harm if further comment is foreclosed on a plan that is not yet complete — yet the Planning Commission is about to vote on a plan that is quite likely to change in the near future.

2. Make a stronger commitment to historic/cultural amenities — The celebration of Alexandria's history and public art should not be limited to a waterfront plan. These civic and cultural amenities should be a central element of any such plan, however—not relegated to mere appendices in the plan with no visible means of support. This is, after all, a plan for all of Alexandria and should be funded not just from tax revenues generated by waterfront commercial development, but from the City's General Fund just like any major City initiative.

3. Set limits on the type of allowable commercial uses in the waterfront area; unlimited, these uses, specifically restaurant uses, could cannibalize the business and parking supply of existing shops and restaurants in Old Town, especially along King Street, undermining what is presumably must be a principal economic objective of the plan. Adding density to generate tax revenues to underwrite public improvements will add traffic and parking pressure to an already congested area of Old Town, and overwhelm the historic character of its core area. Our members, while not adverse to some degree of commercial development, would be quite happy with a more modest public improvement program if it generates less impact on the immediate neighborhoods.



## 10th Annual Purim Celebration

Children from Chabad Hebrew School performing at the annual Purim Celebration of Chabad Lubavitch of Alexandria-Arlington in the grand ballroom of the Courtyard Marriott Pentagon South on March 20.



**Audrey Feld and Samantha Brower of Chabad Hebrew School sing at the annual Purim Celebration of Chabad Lubavitch of Alexandria-Arlington last month.**



**Rabbi Mordechai Newman, director, Chabad Lubavitch of Alexandria-Arlington reading the Megillah (the Biblical Book of the story of Purim) at Purim in INDIA, the 10th annual Purim Celebration of Chabad Lubavitch of Alexandria-Arlington.**

The City has now asked for public comment on the plan, we see no compelling reason to hurry this process, and once again, have requested a delay in the plan adoption timetable to allow more time to work with the City to finish addressing our issues. There will be no substantive harm to the waterfront or to Alexandria if final Council action on the plan is postponed until a more concrete plan has been formulated and debated publicly.

**John Gosling**

President, Old Town Civic Association

## If Not 7-Eleven, Then What?

To the Editor:

In response to Michael Lee Pope's "Goodbye 7-Eleven" April 7-13 report on Southland's withdrawal of their SUP (Special Use Permit), he gives no reason for their withdrawal but seems to stress the reason for it was pressure from the Upper King Street Neighborhood Association. As he acknowledges there were many employees of neighboring businesses, renters, and homeowners in surrounding streets who

had no problems with an opening of a 7-Eleven Store at the location. It is my view that Southland Corporation decided the location was not worth the effort and time to process their application through the city channels since they are owners of the 7-Eleven store and building at Braddock Street metro station, of which they have now submitted Special Use Permits to tear down their building with assistance from Yates Station and build a larger building and a new 7-Eleven store.

"We Won" as reported to have been said by the president of the neighborhood association is irrelevant because the association has a long history of supporting coffee and sandwich shops within the immediate area of where the 7-Eleven store would have been. At last count there were seven or eight coffee-sandwich shops within a few blocks with two hotels. Furthermore the association has never assisted the executives of the building, where the store was to be located, into what kind of business or tenant it wants. Opposition to Southland Corporation proposal for a 7-Eleven store, in my opinion, only shows association members with concerns of their properties within a

SEE LETTERS, PAGE 25

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# LETTERS

FROM PAGE 24

high commercial area, and not how to improve the area to make it more of a community instead of a strip mall for bagels, coffee, and donut businesses.

In dealing with large corporations and businesses it is always a fact that whoever has the most money, is always the winner. The majority of monies held by the association come from 10 vendor fees of the Upper King Street park farmer's market, of which the president of the association has told me on three different occasions, "I want nothing to do with the farmer's market," an endeavor to bring some kind of community support to the area but struggling due to lack of support and concern by neighbors and proper management. I rest my case.

**Jim Melton**  
Alexandria

## Bric a BRAC

To the Editor:

I agree with Congressman Moran's assessment that the \$600,000 earmarked for public art at Mark Center "could be much more appropriately used to improve the infrastructure around the site ..." But what if a combined aesthetic and functional use of that money could be found? How about somehow imbedding art in the engineering for the highway improvements that are needed just off the interstate going into the complex? Or placing the pieces along side those roads as an inviting and distinct "welcome" to BRAC 33? That way, more of the taxpayers financing the creative project would have more of an opportunity to enjoy it, and those commuters who are inevitably going to be stuck in traffic would have something pleasant and soothing to look at while sitting almost motionless in their cars.

Just a practical thought ... hopefully much better than a "fairy tale."

**Karen Ann DeLuca**  
Alexandria

## Recall Them All

To the Editor:

For anyone who missed the Planning Commission's monthly meeting on April 5 regarding the City's Waterfront Plan, it was truly a "cultural experience." The Council Chamber was packed with Old Town residents with the overflow filling the workroom and hallways leading to the chambers. Essen-

tially everyone was there to protest the adoption of the newly developed waterfront plan. The only two highly visible exceptions were the Chamber of Commerce and the Alexandria Convention and Visitors Association both of whom didn't disappoint by living up to their long standing reputations as "anti citizen" by touting the merits of constructing three new hotels on Union Street.

The Planning Commission apparently has already made up their minds that they will approve the totally worthless product given to them by the planning director. The real key to this was when one of the citizen witnesses said he lived at 420 Union Street and then asked the members of the Commission if any of them would want to live next to a hotel? To the surprise of everyone in the chamber three members raised their hands, the Chairman John Komoroske, Eric Wagner and Mary Lynam. Guess what? Not one of them lives in Old Town. At least the two Old Town members didn't raise their hands. However, all the commissioners, except for Donna Fossum, expressed their support for the building of three hotels on the waterfront as revenue generators to support the rest of the plan. In the worst case scenario, only one boutique hotel the size of the Morrison House should be built at Robinson Terminal North.

Stew Dunn did make some cogent comments about the plan and stated he could not support the restaurant in Waterfront Park. Jesse Jennings asked how businesses would be affected by the plan. However the only commissioner who had studied the plan and then asked a number of penetrating questions was Donna Fossum. She was concerned about the hotels and the marina and the costs for permitting, environmental studies and the overall operation and maintenance costs. She also brought up the subject of condemnation costs if eminent domain is to be invoked in order to take properties owned by the Old Dominion Boat Club.

It just does not make any sense at all that the Planning Commission would vote to approve this plan. The legal issues with the Corps of Engineers, National Park Service and the District of Columbia have not been vetted. The marina and two large piers running 200 feet into the river block a portion of the navigational channel and will cause problems for commercial and personally owned boats attempting to navigate in the river. Taking away some of the public's access to Waterfront Park to construct a restaurant is akin to eminent domain. Taking away the

privately owned (2/3) parking lot opposite Chadwicks restaurant leaves the restaurant, the Dandy and Union Street Public House short of parking spaces. Are they to go out of business? Building the equivalent of 11 new restaurants when we have almost 100 already on King Street is total insanity. The overall density of this plan is absolutely "out of kilter" with what currently exists on Union Street and the Strand. What we are talk-

ing about is a "skinny" two-lane street inundated with a lot of traffic and multiple delivery trucks. Needless to say this is a real program for disaster akin to what is going to take place at the Mark Center in September when Seminary and 395 are totally gridlocked.

Apparently neither Planning Director Faroll Hamer nor the Planning Commission understands that the most successfully developed

waterfronts in this country have been done by the residents. To just blow them off as she and the commission have done should send a strong message to the Council to reconstitute this appointed commission. They just don't represent the best interests of our community.

**Townsend A. "Van" Van Fleet**  
Alexandria

## PHOTO GALLERY! "Me and My Mom"

To honor Mom on Mother's Day, send us your favorite snapshots of you with your Mom and The Alexandria Gazette Packet will publish them in our Mother's Day issue. Be sure to include some information about what's going on in the photo, plus your name and phone number and town of residence. To e-mail digital photos, send to: photoAX@connectionnewspapers.com

Or to mail photo prints, send to: The Alexandria Gazette Packet, "Me and My Mom Photo Gallery," 1606 King St., Alexandria, VA 22314. Photo prints will be returned to you if you include a stamped, self-addressed envelope, but please don't send us anything irreplaceable.

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| <b>Saturday Evening</b><br>5:00 pm; 6:30 pm (en Español)                  | <b>Weekdays</b><br>(Mass or Communion Service) 9:00 am (followed by Rosary)                 |
| <b>Sunday</b><br>7:30; 9:00; 10:30 am; 12:00 Noon<br>2:00 pm (en Español) | <b>Children's Liturgy of the Word</b><br>Sundays (Sept.-July) during 9:00 am Mass (English) |
| 6:30 pm Mass (starts Sept. 12)  | <b>Sign Language Interpreter</b><br>Sunday at 9:00 am Mass                                  |

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10:15 am - Holy Eucharist - music

Wednesdays 12:00 noon: Bible Study

**Holy Week Services:**  
April 17 - Palm Sunday  
8:00 am: Holy Eucharist, distribution of blessed palms  
10:15 am: The Liturgy of the Palms & Holy Eucharist

April 21 - Maundy Thursday  
7:30pm: Holy Eucharist and Stripping of the Altar

April 22 - Good Friday  
12:00 noon: Station of the Cross (outdoors)  
12:00pm, 1:00pm, 2:00pm "Seven Last Words of Christ", 15 min. each hour on the hour.  
2:30pm: The Stations of the Cross (inside)

April 24 - Easter Sunday (one service)  
10:15am: Holy Eucharist followed by Children's Easter Egg Hunt

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**Good Friday, April 22**  
11a.m., Family Worship, Jesus' walk to Calvary  
7:30 p.m., TENEBRAE, The Darkness before the Light

**EASTER SUNDAY, April 24**  
7:00 a.m., Sunrise Worship at Mt. Comfort  
8:15 and 10:45 a.m., Music of the Resurrection  
8:30 & 11:00 a.m., Festival Worship  
With Holy Communion

**Easter Pancake Breakfast**  
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More info (703) 765-8255 or [www.bethany-lcms.org](http://www.bethany-lcms.org)



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## PEOPLE



**Brenda Holloway assists T.C. Williams therapeutic recreation student Carelle Macon, 16, at the start of the Kelley Cares race. Macon finished the race in 61:57.5 and Holloway in 61.58.1.**



**Jo-Ann van Aswegen is the first female finisher in the Kelley Cares 5K race with a time of 19:53.4.**



PHOTOS BY JEANNE THEISMANN/GAZETTE PACKET

**Virginia Tech alumni Tom Goidich and Meaghan Casey raced in memory of classmates on the fourth anniversary of the school's tragedy.**

# Kelley Cares 5K

Race proceeds benefit therapeutic rec programs.

BY JEANNE THEISMANN  
GAZETTE PACKET

**M**ore than 700 runners and walkers took to the streets of Del Ray in the 2011 Kelley Cares 5K road race April 16, benefiting the therapeutic recreation program of Alexandria in memory of T.C. Williams student and therapeutic rec volunteer Kelley Swanson.



**Alexandria Police Sergeant Joe Seskey explains the new race route to former city councilmember Justin Wilson, Hafiz Aimaq, Scott Waller and Benjamin Klein.**



PHOTOS BY LOUISE KRAFT/GAZETTE PACKET

**John Porter talks with race organizer Lindsay Swanson before the start.**

Bryan Kirby, 24, won the race with a time of 16:57.3, followed by Phil Wharton, 43, (17:00.8) and Chris Hill, 30 (17:51.8). Jo-Ann van Aswegen, 27, was the first female finisher in 19:53.4. Fay Slattery, 47, finished second in the women's race (20:39.8) and Laura Regensburg, 23, was third with a time of 20:42.7.

"I haven't run that fast since high school," said Del. David Englin (D-45), who finished

25th overall with a time of 22:05.0. Finishing in 10th place was Justin Wilson (20:18.8), followed closely by City Councilman Rob Krupicka (20:31.6). Other participants included ACT executive director John Porter (33:57.3) and U.S. Rep. Jim Moran (D-8), who finished with a time of 42:59.0.

"We are very happy with the turnout," said Mac Slover, director of youth sports for

the city's parks and recreation department. "Proceeds from this year's race will help fund a Miracle Field that will give special needs kids the ability to participate in sports like baseball or softball. We are excited about that and very thankful to the Swanson family for helping make this a reality."

For complete race results and to learn more about the Kelley Cares Foundation, visit [www.kelleycares.org](http://www.kelleycares.org).

## NEIGHBORHOOD

### Taylor Run

#### FORT WARD FRIENDS

The Friends of Fort Ward are adding an interesting touch to their bus tour this spring. First they are going to stop at the site of the first battle of Kernstown, and then on to Front Royal. Next, they are going to Philip Carter vineyard in Hume, Va., for a wine tasting. Cost is \$130 prior to April 22 and \$140 after that date.

#### CIVIL WAR SESQUICENTENNIAL

On May 21, the Office of Historic Alexandria will present a kickoff of the city's recognition of the Civil

War sesquicentennial. In Market Square, from 2 to 5 p.m., there will be all kinds of excitement, including a brass band.

#### MORAN SINGS

Keira Elise Moran has performed recently at the National Children's Museum Benefit, at the Del Ray Music Festival, at the celebratory party for her grandfather, U.S. Rep. James Moran, and at the Lyceum. Keira, 16 years old, is the daughter of Angie and Jim Moran. She also is an accomplished cellist and holds the first chair in the T.C. Williams Symphony and in the school's chamber group. Three of

her featured pieces are "It's Only Getting Better," "Don't Change a Thing," and "When I'm With You".

— LOIS KELSO HUNT

#### NEXT MEETING

The 2011 Taylor Run Citizens Association Spring Neighborhood Meeting is scheduled for 7 p.m. on April 27 at the George Washington Masonic Memorial (located at 101 Callahan Drive). Mayor Bill Euille will be the main speaker. The annual TRCA election will also be held. For more information, visit the TRCA website at: <http://www.taylorrunalexandria.com/>

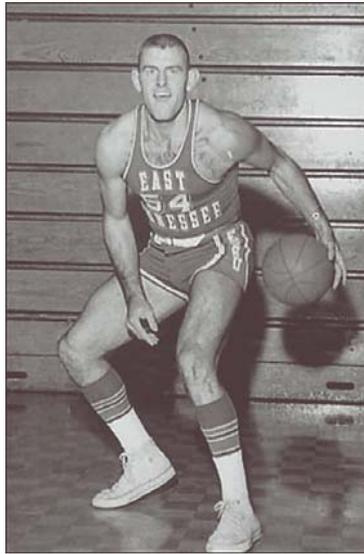


**Keira Elise Moran**



PHOTO BY JEANNE THEISMANN/GAZETTE PACKET

**Harley "Skeeter" Swift autographs his new book at an athletic reunion at George Washington Middle School April 16 as Pete Toews looks on.**



COURTESY PHOTO

**Skeeter Swift during his college playing days at East Tennessee. Swift led the team to the Sweet 16 in 1968.**



PHOTO BY JEANNE THEISMANN/GAZETTE PACKET

**Former basketball players Arthur Martin (Parker-Gray '65), Charlie Williams (Parker-Gray '65), Tim Johnson (Parker-Gray, Luther Jackson '60) and Gerald Byrd (Luther Jackson '66) reminisce at an athletic reunion organized by Skeeter Swift at George Washington Middle School April 16.**

## Glory Days Skeeter Swift reunites area athletes.

BY JEANNE THEISMANN  
GAZETTE PACKET

**H**e was larger than life — a 6-foot-3, 230-pound athlete known as one of the greatest legends of high school sports in Alexandria in the 1960s. On April 16, Harley "Skeeter" Swift returned to his hometown and alma mater for a day-long event that was part book signing and part class reunion.

"I remember playing with all these guys,"

said Swift as he was signing his new book "Skeeter: Harley Swift's Buzzer-Beating, Trash-Talking March through Madness" at what is now George Washington Middle School. "And if I didn't play with them, I remember playing against them since this was before integration."

Swift, now 64 and a resident of Kingsport, Tenn., organized the multi-school athletic reunion that drew close to 500 attendees, including past players and coaches, to celebrate the heyday of high school sports in Northern Virginia.

"Some of these schools don't even exist anymore," said former Groveton High School basketball player John Kreutzer of schools like Parker-Gray High School. "And Groveton is now West Potomac and Luther Jackson and GW are middle schools."

The lone Virginian and non-African American to be named All-Met in both his junior and senior year, Swift graduated from GW in 1965 and went on to lead his unheralded college team at East Tennessee State to the NCAA Sweet 16 in 1968. He was drafted by the NBA's Milwaukee Bucks but opted to play for the ABA expansion New

Orleans Buccaneers, eventually retiring with the original San Antonio Spurs.

"I needed to do this," said Swift, who was diagnosed with lymphoma in the summer of 2009 and is undergoing his last round of chemo. "This is where it all started for me and there were so many guys I wanted to see."

Swift's wife Demetria, who helped organize the reunion, said it was an emotional day for everyone.

"It's been incredible to be here," Demetria Swift said. "Even with all these grown men, I've never seen so much hugging."

## Athletes of the Month

Lacrosse athletes, city team honored.

**L**acrosse took center stage at the Alexandria Sportsman's Club April 19 as the organization honored individual players from T.C. Williams and Bishop Ireton high schools along with the Lucky Leprechauns girls team of the Alexandria Recreation Department as the April Athletes of the Month.

Individuals honored were Madelyn Zeigler from BI, TC's Ben Goodwin, and Bryan DiRosario, a baseball player at Hayfield High School.

The Lucky Leprechauns, coached by Ed Walsh and assistant coach Mark Sloan, include Morgan Murphy, Katherine Troxell, Bridget Hanley, Keeley Schulman, Margot Labrecque, Bridget Newell, Emory Hayes, Taraneh Samadani, Colleen Walsh,

Caroline Sloan, Katie Duffett, Virginia Wainstein, Annaliese Ponzi, Janae Schnu, Camille Schultz, Claire Cavanaugh, Athena Salomons, Alexandra McEneny, Anna Knuble, Ashley Van Horne, Emma Irvin and Kennon Moon.

— JEANNE THEISMANN

**Lacrosse players and coaches honored as the April Athletes of the Month by the Alexandria Sportsman's Club include Madelyn Zeigler from Bishop Ireton, T.C. Williams' Ben Goodwin and the Lucky Leprechauns of the Alexandria Recreation department.**



PHOTO BY JEANNE THEISMANN/GAZETTE PACKET

# SPORTS

## TC Boys Lax Surpasses '10 Win Total

The T.C. Williams boys lacrosse team surpassed last season's win total with a 12-6 victory at Bishop Ireton on April 16.

The Titans improved their record to 5-6 with at least three games remaining on their schedule. TC will close the regular season with games against Annandale (April 26) and West Potomac (April 28) before entering the Patriot District Tournament on May 6.

In 2010, the Titans finished 4-8 under first-year head coach Mike Mulherin, who was named district and region Coach of the Year. The program finished with two wins in 2009 and three in 2008.

"It says a lot for the seniors," Mulherin said of program's improvement. "I've had a group of leaders on the team that every year they've gotten better. Every day they come to practice ready to work harder and improve the team."

Against BI, senior Ben Bilodeau led TC with three goals. Seniors Robin Bomberger, Ben Goodwin, Jimmy Carragher and junior Kodie Richards each scored two goals, and senior Tim Dwyer added one.

Ireton fell to 1-11, but tied its second-highest goal output of the season. Senior goalkeeper Edward Busch was the fifth Cardinal to play the position this season.

Junior midfielder Brandon Attiliis scored three goals for Ireton. Senior defender Theodore Daubresse, junior attackman Jeffrey Becker and sophomore midfielder Peter Kaye each scored one for the Cardinals.

— JON ROETMAN

## Awards Banquet

The Sportsman's Club will hold its 56th Annual Awards Banquet on May 16 at The Westin Alexandria, located at 400 Courthouse Square. Reception hour begins at 6 p.m. and dinner is served at 7 p.m. The guest speaker will be Navy head football coach Ken Niumatalolo.

Individual tickets are \$75. For more information, contact Frank Flaherty at 703-346-6525.

## Lady Titans Basketball Camp

The T.C. Williams Lady Titans Rising Stars Basketball Camp for girls ages 8-14 will be held from 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. June 27-July 1 at T.C. Williams High School. Registration fee is \$135 for the five-day event and a \$50 non-refundable deposit is due when registering. Balance is due on the first day of camp.

Each participant will receive a T-shirt and certificate, and there will be awards for the winners of 1-on-1, 3-on-3, free-throw shooting, hot-shot shooting, knock out, team

competition and for the camper of the week.

Contact T.C. Williams head girls basketball coach Keshawalton at keshawalton@hotmail.com or 703-296-8717 for more information.

## Little League Opening Day

Alexandria Little League has moved its official Opening Day Ceremony to Saturday, April 30, at 11 a.m. at Little Simpson Field.

## Swim Coaches Wanted

The Parklawn Piranhas has approximately 90 swimmers (ages 5-18) and will compete in NVSL Division 16 this summer. The team is looking for one or two assistant coaches that will improve athletes' swimming technique, endurance and speed, promote great sportsmanship, and encourage team unity. The assistant coach must be available for nine practice times a week (Monday-Friday 8-11:30 a.m., Tuesday-Thursday 5:45-7:45 p.m.), Monday-evening meets, Friday-evening pep rallies, and Saturday-morning meets. There will be additional time commitments for Relay Carnival, coaching staff meetings, and team social events.

The ideal candidate will have experience coaching with NVSL, high school, or club teams. Knowledge of all NVSL and US Swimming rules and procedures is essen-

tial. Lifeguard, CPR, AED, and First Aid certification must be completed by May 23rd, 2011. All interested candidates should apply immediately. Send resumes and any questions to jacquelyn.marinucci@gmail.com. Individuals who cannot make the evening practice times are still encouraged to apply. Exceptions can be made for the right candidate. Candidates must be available for morning practices.

## Sports Updates On Twitter

Follow sports editor Jon Roetman on Twitter at @jonroetman for sports updates around Northern Virginia and Montgomery County, Md.

## Youth Coaches Needed

The Alexandria Department of Recreation, Parks and Cultural Activities is currently seeking volunteers to coach youth baseball, softball, field hockey, swimming, track and field, Rugby, summer basketball and football. Criminal history background checks are required. Interested persons should call the sports office at 703-746-5402 or e-mail mac.slover

SEE SPORTS, PAGE 29

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# SPORTS

FROM PAGE 28

@alexandriava.gov or Tamika.coleman@alexandriava.gov

## Wahoos Swim Team Registration

The Wahoos swim program offers youth ages 6-18 of all abilities the opportunity to develop their own unique potential. The program will promote individual achievement and team camaraderie in an atmosphere of friendly competition. Developing and experienced swimmers alike can refine their freestyle, breaststroke, backstroke, butterfly, turns and starts with an experienced coaching staff. Swim meets are scheduled every Saturday morning from mid-June through early August. There will be a parents meeting and the first team practice on May 31 at the Chinquapin Park Recreation Center. Swimmers must be able to swim 25 meters continuously. Registration will take place through May 27. For more information, call the Sports Office at 703-746-5402 or go on the Recreation Department's Web site at [www.alexandriava.gov/recreation](http://www.alexandriava.gov/recreation).

## Hershey's Track and Field Youth Program

The Hershey's Track and Field Program is a city-wide track meet where winners can advance through district, regional, state and national competitions. Participants can register at any City Recreation Center. The local meet will be held at 9:30 a.m. on May 21 at T.C. Williams High School. Youth can compete in the 50-, 100-, 200-, and 400-meter dash; 800- and 1600-meter run, 4x100 relay, softball throw and standing long jump. Note: 7-8-year-olds will not advance beyond the city-wide event. Registration period is from March 15-May 1. The Hershey's Track and Field Program is open for City of Alexandria residents only. Participants can participate in the following events depending on their age group (age as of Dec. 31, 2011).

Boys and girls ages 7-8 can participate in the 50-meter dash, standing long jump and the softball throw only. This age group will not advance to the district or state meet.

Boys and girls ages 9-12 can participate in one field event and two running events and the relay; or two field events and one running event and the relay for a total of four events. Since ages 9-12 (4x100 relay) will not advance to the North American Final, those age groups will be allowed to participate in a relay as an extra event at the local, district and or state meet. First and second place winners in this age group will advance to the district track meet to be held in June in Fauquier County.

Boys and girls ages 13-14 can participate in one field event and two running events; or two field events and one running event. Relays are considered running events for this age group.

For more information, call the Sports Office at 703-746-5402 or visit [www.alexandriava.gov/recreation](http://www.alexandriava.gov/recreation).

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## Private School Receptionist/Administrative Assistant

Alexandria Country Day School has an opening for a School Receptionist available May 2. Hours are 7:45 AM to 4:00 PM. This is a year-round position.

**Responsibilities include:** Greeting visitors, answering calls, providing assistance to the Executive Assistant and others. Serving as a Parent Teacher League liaison and fulfilling other school and parent requests.

The ideal candidate should have prior administrative experience as well as a professional demeanor. Effective time management skills, ability to juggle multiple concurrent projects, and demonstrated dependability are also required. The candidate should also have a positive attitude, excellent verbal and written communication skills, outstanding organizational skills and a working knowledge of MS Office. Bachelors or Associates Degree preferred.

**Please email cover letter, résumé, and references to: [aaddison@acdsnet.org](mailto:aaddison@acdsnet.org).**

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### Legal Notices

### Legal Notices

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
Please take notice that the City will accept offers for a piece of surplus real estate from the time of this advertisement through the close of business on May 13, 2011. The parcel is commonly known as 401 East Braddock Road and is approximately 5,069 square feet in size. Details regarding the offer process and more information about the parcel can be found at the following link:  
<http://alexandriava.gov/uploadedFiles/generalservices/401%20East%20Braddock%20Road.pdf> Please contact Timothy E. Wanamaker, Deputy Director, Department of General Services, 110 North Royal Street, Suite 300, Alexandria, VA, 22314, phone (703) 746-3208, e-mail [Tim.Wanamaker@alex-andriava.gov](mailto:Tim.Wanamaker@alex-andriava.gov), with any questions.

### Legal Notices

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BRAND NEW 2011 TOYOTA  
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**\$3 PER DAY**  
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(1)BASED ON BLACK BOOK FAIR TRADE VALUE MINUS CONDITION, MILEAGE AND RECONDITIONING. TOWARD THE PURCHASE OF A NEW TOYOTA VEHICLE. (2)WITH PURCHASE OF A NEW VEHICLE. COVERS NORMAL FACTORY SCHEDULED SERVICE. PLAN IS FOR 2 YEARS OR 25K MILES, WHICHEVER COMES FIRST. THE NEW TOYOTA VEHICLE CANNOT BE PART OF A RENTAL OR COMMERCIAL FLEET, OR A DELIVERY OR TAXI VEHICLE. SEE PARTICIPATING TOYOTA DEALER FOR DETAILS. (3)WITH APPROVED CREDIT ON SELECT MODELS THRU TFS. SEE DEALER FOR COMPLETE FINANCING DETAILS. CANNOT BE COMBINED WITH ANY OTHER ADVERTISED OFFER. OFFERS SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT PRIOR NOTIFICATION DUE TO MANUFACTURER CHANGE IN INCENTIVES. SEE DEALER FOR COMPLETE CAMPAIGN DETAILS. 0% APR FOR A LIMITED TERM ON APPROVED TIER1 + CREDIT THRU TFS. DEALER RETAINS ALL FACTORY REBATES AND INCENTIVES. (4)PRICE EXCLUDES \$379 DEALER DOC FEES. EXPIRES 4/30/11.

*Jack Taylor's*  
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### Old Town Stone Charmer

This stone townhome is located in the popular Old Town neighborhood of Dempsey, just steps to the shops and restaurants of Slaters Lane and one stoplight to DC and National Airport. The main level features a lovely living room with fireplace, separate dining room and kitchen opening to a private patio. Two bedrooms upstairs and finished lower level with fireplace.

**Sue Goodhart**  
703.362.3221  
www.suegoodhart.com  
MLS ID# AX7581416



ALEXANDRIA/DEL RAY \$649,900



### Newer Custom Farmhouse

Delightful home offering welcoming front porch, spacious open floor plan, living room with gas fireplace, three upper level bedrooms including master suite with full bath, hardwood flooring and decorator touches. Lower level boasts a rec room and laundry with extra storage. Breezy back porch and gardens just steps to fun on "The Avenue."

**Jen Walker**  
703.675.1566  
www.jenwalker.com  
MLS ID# AX7576127



OLD TOWN ALEXANDRIA \$849,000



### Urban Chic

Nineteenth-century exterior hides a contemporary interior with two-story family room with glass ceiling, exposed brick walls, steel beams, one-piece staircase and mezzanine, glass block walls, chef's kitchen. Double living room with two fireplaces. Two bedrooms and den. From the kitchen, French doors lead you to the brick walled garden with alley access.

**Paul Anderson**  
703.408.0676  
www.paulvanderon.com  
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ALEXANDRIA \$535,000



### Kingstowne's Finest

Kingstowne convenience and amenities in this three-bedroom, two-and-a-half-bath townhome with custom touches throughout. Two-story foyer, formal dining room with gas fireplace, built-ins and mirrored wall, chair rails, crown molding, and hardwoods throughout main level. Large breakfast room and huge kitchen with tons of cabinet and counter space. Fully finished lower level, two-car garage, and deck facing the trees.

**Elizabeth Lucchesi**  
703.868.5676  
www.lizluke.com  
MLS ID# FX7579779



### McEneaney Associates, Inc. welcomes



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OLD TOWN ALEXANDRIA



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