Center Renamed for Slain Deputy

‘Guardians by choice, heroes by chance.’

By Jeanne Theismann
Gazette Packet

It was a clear and unusually warm winter morning 30 years ago when Zita Truesdale kissed her husband goodbye as he headed off to work as a deputy with the Alexandria sheriff’s department. But that afternoon she picked up the phone and heard the three words that would change her life: “Bill got shot.”

“I remember it like it was yesterday,” recalled Zita Truesdale Noyes of Jan. 27, 1981, when William G. Truesdale became the only deputy sheriff to be killed in the line of duty. “Even though I was told to rush to the hospital, it took some time for me to realize what had happened. I kept thinking maybe he was only shot in the foot or something like that.”

At the age of 26, Truesdale Noyes became a widow raising four children. The youngest, Kevin, was only 6 months old when he lost his father but on May 5, he followed in those footsteps when he was sworn in as a deputy with the Alexandria sheriff’s department during a ceremony that renamed the city’s jail in honor of the father he never knew.

“The kind of everything come full circle,” said Sheriff Dana Lawhorne. “I hope that my career will honor his memory.”

In addition to the renaming of the Alexandria Adult Detention Center to the William G. Truesdale Adult Detention Center, a 4,500-pound monument carved out of black granite honoring Deputy Truesdale was unveiled by Lawhorne as family members and dignitaries looked on.

“Today is truly bittersweet,” said Lawhorne in his

Waterfront Gamble

Council poised to consider allowing hotels and increasing density.

By Michael Lee Pope
Gazette Packet

This weekend, members of the Alexandria City Council will consider a plan that would re-shape the waterfront for generations to come. The plan under consideration would designate the Old Dominion Boat Club parking lot as a new public park known as Fitzgerald Square, although it’s unclear how that would happen considering the club’s resistance to the idea. It would also overturn a longstanding ban on hotels along the waterfront and increase density at three sites where hotels are envisioned. Finally, it would increase the height limit at one of the sites where one of the hotels would be located.

BikeShare Program

Wheeling into City?

Critics question variety of costs.

By Michael Lee Pope
Gazette Packet

Those ubiquitous red bicycles that have flooded Arlington and the District of Columbia may be coming to Alexandria. The only real question is where the stations would be located and how the program would work.

Last month, Transportation Director Rich Baier sent a proposal to the city manager’s office outlining a program that would put 54 bicycles at six stations in Old Town and the Carlyle neighborhood. The cost of the first year would be $400,000, which could be financed with money from the Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Funding Program.

“We’re excited about the possibility of bringing BikeShare to Alexandria,” said Carrie Sanders, pedestrian and bicycle coordinator for the city government. “At this
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Located on Oakland Terrace, one of Alexandria’s finest and most exclusive streets, this classic Colonial is simply spectacular. The interior is adorned with fine moldings and doorways, beautifully scaled rooms and random-width hardwood floors which add grace and charm. Upstairs, a nice master suite, overlooking the grounds and Maastic Temple, features a dressing area and an updated bath with tumbled marble, soaking tub, and walk-in shower. Absolutely magnificent, the private garden features elegant plantings, a pool, putting green, driving range (into a net), sport court, two ponds, and an outdoor fireplace and kitchen.

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This enclave of twenty-eight recently built homes is located on the site of a former local boatyard building business. With hardwood floors throughout, this three-bedroom home has four and one half baths offers delightful living spaces with detailed moldings, two fireplaces, a lovely master suite with jaccuzzi and adjoining library. The living room overlooks the brick, patio and a gourmet kitchen features granite counters and a six-burner gas stove. Two-car attached garage for convenient parking.

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Entering the Red Zone

Thinking about parking on the West End? Better make sure you’ve got a city decal or a daytime pass.

Anticipating a glut of Department of Defense employees trying to take advantage of street parking when the Washington Headquarters Service opens this September, City Council members are hoping to make a preemptive strike against an anticipated problem. This weekend, council members will consider creating a new parking district for the West End. Under a proposal outlined Tuesday night, the plan would hit automobiles that don’t have a city decal or display a non-resident parking permit within one mile of the Mark Center with a $40 ticket between 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

“We are trying to anticipate the problem and be proactive,” said Vice Mayor Kenny Donley, “instead of waiting for the problem and reacting to it.”

Once the parking district is established, a majority of residents in a given block would have to petition the city to activate the restrictions. The Department of Transportation and Environmental Services would be responsible for reviewing the petition and installing signs indicating the parking restrictions. If all blocks within the daytime parking district activated the restrictions, the cost of implementing the plan would be $216,000. But because only 25 percent of the blocks eligible are likely to participate, the cost is expected to be closer to $55,000 — some of which would be offset by fines collected by violators.

“Let the word go out,” proclaimed Donley. “If you want to park in the west end, make sure you have the right permit or you’ll get a love note from [Deputy Police Chief] Blaine Coral and his minions.”

Conditionally Aware

During a ceremony honoring outgoing state Sen. Patsy Ticer (D-30), Councilman Rob Krupicka recalled a scandalous moment from her first campaign for the state Senate — one that could have turned X-rated. But it didn’t.

Ticer was mayor at the time, and Krupicka was an up-and-coming pol working on her first campaign for the Senate. The two were pounding the pavement on a hot summer day, going door to door meeting voters. Ticer approached one house noticing that the screen door was open and the ceiling fan was going full speed. Nothing shocking about that.

But what happened next made the moment memorable all these years later. The man was lying on the floor buck naked, enjoying what Benjamin Franklin would have called an “air bath.” Ticer bolted, and they are now able to see the humor in the situation.

“Let’s get going,” Ticer said, according to Krupicka, who hopes to succeed her in the Virginia state Senate.

“I never saw the guy,” Ticer explained sheepishly after the ceremony. “I just became aware of his condition.”

Copenhagen or Bust

As climate change continues to warm the globe, folks in the city’s environmental division are trying to prepare a response. That includes installing a green room on City Hall and preparing for the Potomac River to rise between two to five feet, although one recent engineering study concluded that the river could rise as much as 6.5 feet. But environmental division chief Bill Skraback acknowledged Tuesday night that the city will not meet its goal of reducing greenhouse gas emissions to 2005 levels by 2050.

“Let’s talk about the 10 percent reduction,” said Skraback. “We, as a government, think we’re close. But it brings some challenges when we bring on new buildings like the police station.”

Skraback was more upbeat that the city could meet the goal for reusing long-standing bas on hotels along the waterfront. When the current zoning ordinance was written, hotels were not considered as a possible land use. The plan overturns that longstanding ban, a move that Skraback said would be a mistake. For example, of the plan would have allowed 650 rooms, although the Planning Commission scaled that back to 450 hotel rooms by defining a boutique hotel as 150 rooms.

“I’m not for hotels on the waterfront, whether they are small or large,” said Vice Mayor Andrew Macdonald, who has been critical of the plan as it has developed. “We need to go back to the drawing board and consider other options for these three sites such as parks or museums or art centers.”

Perhaps the most controversial aspect of the plan would be to increase the allowable density at the three sites where hotels would be allowed. The biggest density increase would be at a site known as the Cummings-Turner block, which is owned in large part by the Cummings family and the Turner family.

Current zoning would allow 124,760 square feet of development here. But the plan under consideration by the City Council would add 62,380 square feet to the development envelope, increasing the floor-area ratio from 2.0 to 3.0.

“I don’t see the goal maximizing commercial development,” Councilman Rob Krupicka said during

Increasing Density

❖ Robinson Terminal South: Owned by the Washington Post, this site is expected to be redeveloped in the near future. The small-area plan currently under consideration calls for half of this site to be redeveloped as a hotel and the other half to be developed as residential. The expected implementation would be between five to 15 years. The plan under consideration would increase allowable density by 43,520 square feet, from 195,296 square feet to 238,816 square feet. That would increase the floor-area ratio from 1.38 to 1.69.

❖ Robinson Terminal North: Owned by the Washington Post, this site is expected to be redeveloped in the near future. The small-area plan currently under consideration calls for half of the site to be redeveloped as a hotel and the other half to be developed as multifamily residential site. The expected implementation would be between three to five years. The plan under consideration would increase allowable density by 53,136 square feet, from 327,393 square feet to 380,529 square feet. That would the floor-area ratio from 2.0 to 2.32. The plan would also increase the height limit on the parcel west of Union Street from 55 feet to 66 feet.

❖ Cavalier/Turner Block: Owned by the Cummings family and the Turner family, these sites are part of a block that has a total of 100,992 square feet of existing buildings. The small-area plan under consideration would allow a hotel to be constructed here within the next three to five years. The plan under consideration would increase allowable density by 62,380 square feet, from 124,760 square feet to 187,140 square feet. That would increase the floor-area ratio from 2.0 to 3.0.
For the fourth consecutive year, Kim Farina, Alexandria/Old Town has been named Manager of the Year. The award recognizes and honors individuals who have demonstrated exceptional management skills and led their office to achieve outstanding results for the Year.
**BUSINESS**

‘Yappy Hour’ Returns

The bricks and mortar store of Barkley Square in Del Ray may be gone but its Yappy Hour returns Friday, May 13, in a new partnership with Artfully Gifts and Chocolate in the Carlyle area of Alexandria.

Held at the new Artfully Gifts and Chocolate on John Carlyle Street, AGAC owners Eric Nelson and Edward Hart will be grilling up traditional hamburgers for humans while Barkley Square will debut their new canine sliders in an evening to benefit the Washington Humane Society.

Barkley Square’s Bark Bar will make its return and WHS will be on site with their mobile coach bringing dogs and cats that need to find a forever home. The Yappy Hour runs from 6 to 8 p.m. and will continue every other Friday evening through October.

Eclectic Nature Explores Fairy Gardens and Container Gardening

They are whimsical, they are fun, they are clever and they are great for young and old alike.

Fairy Gardens are becoming a new hobby. These miniature gardens complete with miniature garden furniture, accessories and plants are available for sale at Eclectic Nature Gift and Gardens.

According to owner, Christy Beal, they are, “ideal for rookie gardeners, those with limited space and/or time, or those just looking for a fun and rewarding project. It’s a great creative outlet. It’s another level of gardening on a small scale.”

Beal, who started purchasing these kits last year, said that they are coming out with more and more accessories. “I love the miniature furniture,” she said.

Last weekend, Beal showed people how to assemble these gardens during a free workshop that was held at the gardening center.

This weekend, Beal will hold another workshop on container gardening on May 14 at 10 a.m. at Eclectic Nature, 1503 Mount Vernon Ave. Call 703-837-0500 or visit www.engiftandgarden.com.

“Container gardening has always been huge,” said Beal. “It can be done in a smaller space and is much easier to manage. You can control the environment by moving the containers around.”

Beal said that the possibilities are unlimited and that the pottery is now as fun as the flowers, “The pots are as colorful as the flowers,” she said.

— Gale Curcio

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**Safe Violations?**

Since the coal-fired power plant once owned by Mirant has been the property of GenOn, the facility hasn’t had a very good record. According to a recent consent order issued by the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality, the plant has been cited for five violations in 2010 and 2011. This week, state regulators hit them with a $275,562 fine.

“At no time was the safety of Alexandria at risk,” said Misty Allen, spokeswoman for GenOn. “The completed consent order and fine payment mark Potomac River’s full compliance.”

The violations spanned a number of potential safety hazards. One was for exceeding opacity. Another was for the use of coal with an ash content higher than the permit limit. A third violation was for using a radialc of sodium bicarbonate instead of Trona, which is supposed to control emissions of sulfur dioxide. The fourth violation was for the use of used oil rather than the permitted new oil for boiler combustion. The last violation was for failing to include continuous emissions data to the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality. “I don’t believe we were at risk,” said Elizabeth Chimento, a member of a monitoring group that keeps an eye on the plant. “Violations aren’t issued unless it’s important, and that’s just the way it is.”

**Outsourcing Leadership**

Leadership Alexandria is breaking up with the Chamber of Commerce. They’ll still be friends, of course. But they won’t be living together anymore. On Friday, the chamber’s board of directors voted unanimously to transfer the program to a nonprofit organization. Although Leadership Alexandria will no longer be an official program of the Chamber of Commerce, the city’s captains of industry will still provide guidance as the new organization is formed. The move will allow the chamber of focus on its core mission, a goal that some say has been obscured in recent months.

“We recognize the important role this organization has had in creating a network of leaders for Alexandria,” said Chamber President Tina Leone in a statement. “As an independent 501(C)(3), Leadership Alexandria will enter an exciting new era and the Alexandria Chamber will continue to be a key supporter of the program, its vision and members.”

Since it was created in 2003, Leadership Alexandria has been a Sorensen Institute for the city. The program focused on teaching members about the local community while educating them about leadership skills. To date, seven classes have completed the program with 180 graduates. But the class of 2010 will be the last one under the current model. Steering Committee chairman Mark Feldheim says the future of the program will probably focus less on the community and more on leadership skills.

“We are going to take a year to reorganize,” said Feldheim. “We don’t want to have a class of 2011 while we are trying to figure these things out.”

**Parting Gifts**

When board members of the Campbell Hoffman Foundation decided it was time to dissolve, they were faced with an existential question — what to do with the endowment?

Fortunately for patients at an Arlandria clinic operated by the Alexandria Neighborhood Health Services, a good chunk of that endowment will go toward helping people here. On Tuesday, the foundation’s president announced a gift of $677,500 will go to Alexandria Neighborhood Health Services — part of a series of gifts that were also given to the Arlington Free Clinic and the Loudoun Community Health Center. “Today is a celebration of the compassion and commitment of Dr. Olive Hoffman and Jane Campbell who dedicated their lives to making health care more accessible and made it the mission of the Campbell Hoffman Foundation,” said Kathie Westpheling, president of the foundation. “I can’t think of a better way to honor their legacy than by making these generous gifts to organizations that give so much to their communities thought the quality care they provide.”

“This generous gift will enhance our capacity to continue providing accessible, coordinated, community-based primary health care, including behavioral and oral health care, for people in Alexandria and surrounding communities,” said Keith Hearle, treasurer of Alexandria Neighborhood Health Services. — Michael Lee Pope

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**Business Matters**

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**NEWS**

Center Named after Slain Deputy

FROM PAGE 1

remarks during the ceremony. “On the walls of the National Law Enforcement Memorial in Washington, D. C. are inscribed these words: ‘Guardians by choice, heroes by chance.’ Like other law enforcement officers, Deputy Truesdale represented the thin blue line that exists between order and chaos. Knowing the risks, Bill still chose to serve and we are thankful for his decision to live his life for the call to duty.”

William Truesdale was 47 years old and an eight-year veteran of the sheriff’s department when he was escorting Wilbert Lee Evans back to the old jail at 519 Princess St. As Evans exited the transport van, he overpowered Truesdale and removed the deputy’s service revolver from its holster. Evans fatally shot Truesdale and fled the scene but was apprehended a short time later in the 300 block of North Columbus Street. Convicted of capital murder and sentenced to death in June of 1981, Evans was executed on Oct. 19, 1990.

“It took a long time to work through the legal process and get to the point of execution,” said Truesdale Noyes as she wiped away tears. “As long as that was out there, it was hard. The hurt and anger were gone by then but life didn’t really start to move forward until it was over.”

Kevin Truesdale’s older brother Thomas, who was 8 years old when their father was killed, was overwhelmed by the ceremony and outpouring of emotion from the sheriff’s department and the private individuals who funded the cost of the memorial.

“I don’t have any words for how I am feeling right now,” said Thomas Truesdale. “I remember my father as very dedicated and disciplined in his work and I’m very proud of Kevin for following in his footsteps.”

Zita Truesdale-Noyes, widow of slain deputy William Truesdale, shows grandson Kevin Jr. the memorial to ‘granddaddy’ as newly sworn in sheriff’s deputy Kevin Truesdale looks on.

FROM PAGE 3

revived Waterfront Park, which would include a pier that would serve as a dock for water taxis. Other additions to the park include food carts, outdoor cafes, informational kiosks, and open-air pergola that could serve as a farmers market. On the transportation front, the plan calls for increasing the frequency and hours of the King Street Trolley, increasing the capacity for commercial boat operations, adding bicycle parking and implementing a valet program for Old Town.

“We don’t want to become the garage of Old Town,” said Roger Waud, president of the North Old Town Citizens’ Association. “A lot of our residents are concerned that the valet program would park people on our streets and that people who live here won’t be able to find a parking space.”

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Master Deputy Bob Deer of the Fairfax County Sheriff’s Office plays the bagpipes as the invited guests arrive at the renaming and dedication of the Adult Detention Center in Alexandria last Thursday morning.
Historical Society Presents Awards

“Letters to Virginia: Correspondence from three generations of Alexandrians before, during and after the Civil War,” by Barb Winters was honored with the T. Michael Miller Alexandria History Award last month. For over three years, Winters processed, read and organized more than 800 family letters that had been donated to the Special Collections at the Alexandria Library.

Winters said that the boxes were first given to the Lyceum. They later were sent over to the Barrett Branch. She kept walking by them and finally asked if she could go through them. The letters follow a narrative of family correspondence from 1817 to 1940 written by members of the Eaches, Fendall and Tackett families.

Special awards were also given to Benjamin F. Cooling III and Walton H. Owen II, co-authors of “Mr. Lincoln’s Forts, A Guide to the Civil War Defenses of Washington.” Also Donald C. Hakenson was honored for his book, “This Forgotten Land, Volume II: Biographical Sketches of the Confederate Veterans Buried in Alexandria, Virginia.”

Students from local high schools were also honored: Sarah Olsen of Bishop Ireton, Sadiq Abubakar of Episcopal, Shannon Lin of St. Stephens St. Agnes and Robert Lee Anderson of T.C. Williams.

— Louise Krafft

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City Considers Joining BikeShare Program

City officials are still trying to determine where to put the station and answer questions about how the pilot would work.

The concept of sharing bicycles has been popular for years in Europe, although it’s only recently become popular in the United States. Arlington County was the first local government to enter into a contract for BikeShare with a company known as Alta BikeShare, a contract that Washington, D.C. latter piggybacked onto through its affiliation with the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments. Each jurisdiction in the program owns the stations within their boundaries, but Alta BikeShare operates the regional system. If Alexandria were to agree to enter the contract, Alta BikeShare would have to sign off on the agreement as would Arlington and Washington.

“The city can’t afford to put the bus schedule at stops throughout the city but they want to spend $400,000 on this?” asked Old Town resident Poul Hertel, who criticized a previous grant application for BikeShare earlier this year. “I think there are better uses for this grant money.”

CAPITAL BIKESHARE launched in September 2010 with 1,100 bicycles at 110 stations in Arlington and Washington. The idea is simple — public bicycles are made available for shared use of people who have purchased subscriptions. Users can pick up or drop off bicycles at any of the designated stations throughout the region. Currently, the program has more than 10,000 daily memberships and 5,300 annual memberships. Although the program is extremely popular with bicycle enthusiasts, it has struggled to make a profit.

“At this point, the operation is not at the break-even point yet,” acknowledged Michael Farrell, transportation planner for the Council of Governments. “But there’s an economy of scale that will take place as the program gets bigger.”

Memberships range in price depending on how long the customers want to have 24-hour access to the bicycles. A one-day pass costs $5. A five-day membership is $15, and a 30-day subscription costs $30. Yearlong participation in the program can be purchased for $75. The first 30 minutes of every trip is free, prompting many users to use the bicycles almost exclusively for short-distance trips. Revenues are distributed to jurisdictions based on the origin of each revenue-generating trip.

“We are trying to get this up and running in Alexandria as quick as we can,” said Sanders. “But we also want to make sure we take all the necessary steps to have a successful program.”

Studies of the program indicate that BikeShare works more efficiently when stations are clustered in a dense urban grid because the average trip on Capital BikeShare is 1.2 miles, and the average trip duration is 24 minutes. As a result, city officials are planning to select the first six stations a quarter mile apart in Old Town and Carlyle. The first stations will probably be at the Metro stations, followed by areas that have population clusters such as the Carlyle neighborhood and along the King Street corridor.

“BikeShare helps solve the last-mile problem of commuters getting to their destination by co-locating BikeShare stations with transit,” wrote Rich Baier, director of the Department of Transportation and Environmental Services, in an April 6 memorandum. “If successful, expansion should be considered outside of Old Town, heading north to Del Ray and Arlandria, connecting to the existing Arlington BikeShare network.”

FINDING THE RIGHT LOCATION for the stations isn’t just about making sure they’re convenient. The stations also have to be in a spot with lots of sun because they are solar powered, a feature that makes them much easier to install than hooking them into the grid. But it also limits where they can be situated. The solar-powered stations range in size from six to 16 bicycles.

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SOURCE: Department of Transportation and Environmental Services

The pilot program currently under consideration would spend $124,500 to construct three small stations and $147,900 to build three large stations. Installation labor would cost $27,000, and the annual operation costs would be $100,000.

“The $100,000 figure doesn’t include the cost of replacing the bikes or the stations,” said Sanders. “It’s just to give an indication of what the pilot project would cost each year.”

BikeShare suggests replacing the bicycles every six years at a cost of $1,000 each, and the system says the stations need to be replaced every 10 years at a cost of $10,200 for each station. Since the program was launched eight months ago, revenue has covered less than half of the expenses. Until the system’s revenues can cover operating costs, local jurisdictions will be expected to cover the gap in operating costs. Critics say the city is setting itself up for failure.

“It’s not going to pay for itself, and we’re going to be stuck with the tab,” said Seminary Hill resident Jack Sullivan, who has been critical of the program. “Unless you have a number of bikes and a number of stations, it doesn’t work.”

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Cost of BikeShare

Arlington and Washington.

The city can’t afford to put the bus schedule at stops throughout the city but they want to spend $400,000 on this?” asked Old Town resident Poul Hertel, who criticized a previous grant application for BikeShare earlier this year. “I think there are better uses for this grant money.”

CAPITAL BIKESHARE launched in September 2010 with 1,100 bicycles at 110 stations in Arlington and Washington. The idea is simple — public bicycles are made available for shared use of people who have purchased subscriptions. Users can pick up or drop off bicycles at any of the designated stations throughout the region. Currently, the program has more than 10,000 daily memberships and 5,300 annual memberships. Although the program is extremely popular with bicycle enthusiasts, it has struggled to make a profit.

“At this point, the operation is not at the break-even point yet,” acknowledged Michael Farrell, transportation planner for the Council of Governments. “But there’s an economy of scale that will take place as the program gets bigger.”

Memberships range in price depending on how long the customers want to have 24-hour access to the bicycles. A one-day pass costs $5. A five-day membership is $15, and a 30-day subscription costs $30. Yearlong participation in the program can be purchased for $75. The first 30 minutes of every trip is free, prompting many users to use the bicycles almost exclusively for short-distance trips. Revenues are distributed to jurisdictions based on the origin of each revenue-generating trip.

“We are trying to get this up and running in Alexandria as quick as we can,” said Sanders. “But we also want to make sure we take all the necessary steps to have a successful program.”

Studies of the program indicate that BikeShare works more efficiently when stations are clustered in a dense urban grid because the average trip on Capital BikeShare is 1.2 miles, and the average trip duration is 24 minutes. As a result, city officials are planning to select the first six stations a quarter mile apart in Old Town and Carlyle. The first stations will probably be at the Metro stations, followed by areas that have population clusters such as the Carlyle neighborhood and along the King Street corridor.

“BikeShare helps solve the last-mile problem of commuters getting to their destination by co-locating BikeShare stations with transit,” wrote Rich Baier, director of the Department of Transportation and Environmental Services, in an April 6 memorandum. “If successful, expansion should be considered outside of Old Town, heading north to Del Ray and Arlandria, connecting to the existing Arlington BikeShare network.”

FINDING THE RIGHT LOCATION for the stations isn’t just about making sure they’re convenient. The stations also have to be in a spot with lots of sun because they are solar powered, a feature that makes them much easier to install than hooking them into the grid. But it also limits where they can be situated. The solar-powered stations range in size from six to 16 bicycles.

<table>
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<td>Fiscal year 2012 total costs</td>
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SOURCE: Department of Transportation and Environmental Services

The pilot program currently under consideration would spend $124,500 to construct three small stations and $147,900 to build three large stations. Installation labor would cost $27,000, and the annual operation costs would be $100,000.

“The $100,000 figure doesn’t include the cost of replacing the bikes or the stations,” said Sanders. “It’s just to give an indication of what the pilot project would cost each year.”

BikeShare suggests replacing the bicycles every six years at a cost of $1,000 each, and the system says the stations need to be replaced every 10 years at a cost of $10,200 for each station. Since the program was launched eight months ago, revenue has covered less than half of the expenses. Until the system’s revenues can cover operating costs, local jurisdictions will be expected to cover the gap in operating costs. Critics say the city is setting itself up for failure.

“It’s not going to pay for itself, and we’re going to be stuck with the tab,” said Seminary Hill resident Jack Sullivan, who has been critical of the program. “Unless you have a number of bikes and a number of stations, it doesn’t work.”

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By Senitra McCombs
The Gazette

Every evening, Catherine Carson and her younger brother and sister would sit around the kitchen table looking at “Jeopardy!” as her mother prepared dinner.

“Growing up, “Jeopardy!” was a staple in my house ... and my mother and I would compete to see who could answer more questions,” she said.

Recently, the St. Stephen’s & St. Agnes School (SSSAS) fourth-grade teacher just finished competing in the show’s first-ever Teachers Tournament. The episode aired on May 6 on WJLA ABC 7 in the Washington, D.C. area.

Last year, Carson’s fiancé — who also competed on “Jeopardy!” in December 2010 — encouraged her to take the online test and audition just to give it a shot.

She did.

Sometime in February, she received a phone call inviting her to participate in the Teachers Tournament.

“I couldn’t believe it was actually happening. It’s an once-in-a-lifetime chance that so few people get,” Carson said.

Fifteen of the brightest K-12 grade teachers nationwide were chosen to participate in the “Jeopardy!” two-week Teacher’s Tournament in an effort to spotlight the importance and impact of educators.

All of the contestants will receive complimentary travel to Los Angeles and prize money for participating (plus any winnings). In addition, the winner will receive $100,000 and a guaranteed spot in the “Jeopardy!” Tournament of Champions airing later this year.

“Educators play such an important role in guiding and inspiring our young people to reach their full potential,” said Harry Friedman, “Jeopardy!” executive producer. “We thought it was time to honor teachers with their own tournament.”

She hopes to use her winnings to pay for her wedding this fall. She joked that compared to competing on “Jeopardy!” her wedding day will be a piece of cake.

To prepare for the quiz show, she continued the family tradition of watching “Jeopardy!” including many of the older episodes and practiced answering in the form of a question.

Moreover, her fiancé found a website that catalogues every question from every show, and he quizzed her.

“I also love trivia, whether in casual conversation or in games like ‘Trivial Pursuit.’ I love to learn new tidbits and to share them with others,” she added.

According to Carson, the most difficult challenge of competing in “Jeopardy!” was “trying to anticipate the unknown. The game is much faster than it looks on TV; there are the cameras, the makeup, the lights.”

See “Jeopardy!”, Page 11

Teacher Appears On ‘Jeopardy!’

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2407 Ridge Road Drive Alexandria, VA 22302

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1.5 story, 3 bedrooms, 3 baths, boasts a NEWLY REMODELED kitchen w/ granite countertops, stainless steel appliances, glass backsplash, & gas range. This home includes High efficiency furnace & windows, 2 new baths, master bath, & a backyard. Walkables to Hurley Metro - $479,000.

1401 Narmassin Road Alexandria, VA 22308

New Price in Mount Vernon

Just Reduced!!! 3BR, 2BA brick ranch home featuring large eat-in kitchen w/ slab granite countertops & stainless steel appliances. Master bath w/ separate shower & jetted tub. Large workshop, new HVAC. Large screened porch off dining area & deck. New roof & siding - $470,000.

8355 Justin Road Alexandria, VA 22309

The “Light Horse Harry” Lee House

Stately brick townhome built in 1780 was once the residence of Henry Lee and his family which included son Robert E. Lee. Tall ceilings, original features including plaster moldings, heart pine floors, bethelite ceiling medallion, and front staircase. Currently used as an office and residence, it could be used for either or both and offers seven off-street parking spaces. ~ $1,550,000.

611 Cameron St Alexandria, VA 22314

Just Listed in Tuxedo

Completely renovated and almost new. One level living! 3 bedrooms, 2.5 baths on half acre. Large eat-in kitchen w/ vaulted ceiling, stainless steel appliances, granite countertops, cherry cabinets, glass backsplash & gas range. Spacious great room w/ stone fireplace, master bedroom suite w/ spa bath & 2 additional closets. Backs to neighborhood tennis courts. ~ $479,000.

1401 Narmassin Road Alexandria, VA 22308

Elegant Belle Haven Home

Stately 7 bedroom, 5.5 bath 1940's brick colonial. Renovated in 2006, this home offers lovely moldings & architectural detail, hardwood floors, slate roof, copper gutters & downspouts, light-filled living room, spacious formal dining room w/ fireplace and French doors leading to a private patio, gourmet chef's kitchen, cozy family room, basement master bedroom & walk-in closet, master spa bath, fabulous rec room w/ stone fireplace, wet bar and 600 bottle wine cellar, and a large brick patio overlooking a rolling lawn. ~ $1,670,000.

1906 Belle Haven Road Alexandria, VA 22307

Like New In Plymouth Haven

Luxurious and exuding southern style with front porch, brick porches custom built and only 3 years young! 2,670 finished sq ft on half acre. Dual staircases, modern open plan, easy entertaining, 5BRs, 4.5 baths, 3 car garage, multiple living spaces, & over 5,000 sq ft. Steps from Ft. Hunt Park! ~ $1,550,000.

8839 Fort Hunt Road Alexandria, VA 22308

Charming in Old Town

Delightful 2BR, 2BA brick townhouse featuring crown molding and chair rail, hardwood floors, updated kitchen with granite countertops, rear room with full bath on lower level with outside entrance to lovely private deck, stone patio and garden ~ $339,000.

912 South Alfred Street Alexandria, VA 22314

Stunning Colonial in Belle Haven

Beautiful, light filled colonial perfect for elegant entertaining as well as comfortable family living. Offering a two story foyer, tall ceilings, gracious formal rooms, gourmet kitchen, three fireplaces, beautiful master suite with a walk-in closet, six bedrooms, five and one-half baths, exceptional built-in bookshelves and cabinets, wonderful family room and recreation room with fireplaces, two private decks, and two car garage. ~ $1,399,000.

1912 Glen Drive Alexandria, VA 22307

Under Contract in Wellington

Charm and character abound in this Williamsburg home built in 1989 just steps to brick trail and stone bridge. 3 bedrooms, 2.5 baths on 2 levels with main level master suite. Stone walls, English gardens, hardwood floors, family room opens to quiet patio, living room w/ French doors in garden, private and sunny office. Large eat-in kitchen w/ granite countertops and stainless steel appliances. Impeccably maintained by owner builder. ~ $895,000

7911 Washington Avenue Alexandria, VA 22308

Just Listed in Wellington!

One level living! Owners have spared no expense in updating home. Hardwood floors, ceramic tile, plantation shutters, custom built-ins, remodeled eat-in kitchen w/ stainless steel appliances, granite countertops & family room and study off kit. New hallbath, 3 large bedrooms w/office/den, 3 full baths, tons of closet space, large patio and deck perfect for entertaining ~ $775,000.

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St. Stephen’s & St. Agnes Teacher Appears on ‘Jeopardy!’

and you can see yourself on the monitors. Suddenly the reality hits you: You’re holding the buzzer and hope for good categories.”

Overall, it was an unforgettable experience for Carson.

“It was a great honor to be a part of this,” she said. “The Teachers Tournament was a great way to recognize the profession.”

As a teacher, she is always looking for new teaching opportunities and being a part of “Jeopardy!” provided her with plenty. “It was also a way to show my students the rewards of trying something new and challenging, even if you’re nervous about it at times,” she said.

Another important lesson Catherine hopes to impart to her students is that even though you may be competing against others, your competitors are going through similar emotions. “I can use this experience to remind my students to think about what others are going through in any given situation,” she said.

Many of Carson’s co-workers at St. Stephen’s & St. Agnes School were initially surprised when they first heard that she was chosen. They gave her their full support.

“Ms. Carson is a bright and creative teacher who models what it means to be a lifelong learner,” said Bob Weiman, director of the Lower School at St. Stephen’s & St. Agnes. “So many adults have watched ‘Jeopardy!’ for years, but very few know someone who was actually on the show. We are very proud that one of our teachers was chosen to participate in the first-ever teachers tournament.”

Outside of watching “Jeopardy!”, Carson also keeps busy by knitting, cooking, being active and reading — probably her biggest hobby. One of her favorite books is “To Kill a Mockingbird.”
In Recognition of Small Business Week

Show support for local businesses May 15-21, small business week.

Small businesses, especially locally owned retail stores and restaurants, are part of what defines any community. Their livelihood depends on the livability and quality of the neighborhoods around them.

Frequently, it is the small retail person who is active as a volunteer in fundraising and advocating for local charities, for fire and rescue service, for local schools and in organizing community events.

Local retail stores, mom-and-pop stores and restaurants, have weathered some very tough times in the last few years. Many of the costs of doing business have increased, (price of gas, for example) while many businesses defined a successful year in 2010 if revenues did not decline — again — from the previous year.

And small businesses are critical to economic recovery. In Virginia, small businesses make up more than 97 percent of employers and nearly 50 percent of non-government employment.

And while Northern Virginia’s economy has fared far better than almost any other region in the country, small, locally owned, community-oriented businesses have not universally shared in bounty. The small business owner must be master of the budget and doing more with less. He or she must stay up to date on changing regulations while they market their business, manage benefits and employee schedules and maintain the company’s edge in serving its customers.

From May 15-20, show support to your locally owned small businesses. Shop locally. Eat locally. Greet the business owner and tell her that you’re there this week to support small, local business.

Then be sure to come back on a regular basis.

Your hometown quality of life depends on it.

Price for Improvements

To the Editor:

While my general approach is to stay out of other folks’ neighborhoods when it comes to having an opinion about what a small area plan should contain, I think the Waterfront Small Area Plan is different. More than a Central Business District when it comes to having an opinion, we need to think about preserving the spirit of the Alexandria Waterfront. The Alexandria Waterfront was not parkland; it was the commercial heart of the City. Its factories produced Fords. Its ships brought Africans to slavery, a heinous part of our past. It contained such historic facilities as a rendering plant during the time I’ve lived in Alexandria.

Some commercial activity along the Waterfront in the form of hotels and restaurants is not too large a price to pay to generate the revenue that will pay for the continued transformation and public improvements we all seek.

The Alexandria City Council should follow the lead of the Planning Commission and adopt the proposed Waterfront Small Area Plan.

Herb Cooper-Ley
Alexandria

No Invasion

To The Editor

I am baffled that your May 5 Article “Alexandria is Ours” refers to the arrival of Federal forces as an “invasion.” Can it be an invasion if Federal forces restore order in an area taken over by criminal elements? And any effort to overthrow the Constitution is a crime.

Earlier articles noted the existence of slave pens at the corner of Duke and Columbus. Despite the fine rhetoric that secession was an effort to preserve the “liberties of Virginians,” there is no dispute that the motive for secession was a fear that individuals would no longer be able to hold slaves. We also know that the slaves, far from fighting for the secessionists (a recent error by our State government) or enjoying their status as property, fled from their masters as quickly as they could. An article in an 1861 magazine referred to a “Stampede Among the Negroes in Virginia,” to get to areas under Federal control and away from the secessionists and slavery. The plaque on the site of the Marshall House, placed there decades ago, notes that Jackson shot in defense of his property, but neglects to mention that for him, that property included human beings. If you read the book “Seaport Saga,” written decades ago by an aficionado of the Old South, you would be displeased, but not surprised, to find this invasion nonsense. To read it in 2011 in your otherwise fascinating series retains too much of the rosy pink haze that surrounds the defense of slavery and invasion.

See Letters, Page 15

Snapshot

Double rainbows appear over Eisenhower valley after the thunderstorm on Wednesday afternoon, May 3.
Opinion

Neighbor Helping Neighbor

By Katharine Medina
Rebuilding Together Alexandria

The quiet Alexandria neighborhood that Michael* knew as a young boy in the 1960s has changed, replaced by bustling hotels and businesses. But one thing hasn’t changed: Michael still lives in the house he has called home for all of his 51 years. And thanks to some help from volunteers with Rebuilding Together Alexandria, a nonprofit that provides free home repairs to those in need, his two-story row home now has repairs that will help him continue to live independently in warmth and safety.

Built in 1860 as a house twice its current size, Michael’s grandparents bought the home in 1940, after it had been renovated and divided into two separate residences. Mostly raised by his grandparents, Michael recounts the generosity of neighbors helping neighbors. “Grandmother used to let our neighbors use her convertible for errands, like going to the grocery store,” remembers Michael.

That helping hand commitment remains the same today. Years ago, after Michael was diagnosed with kidney failure and declared legally blind, his neighbors reached out to help him by calling Rebuilding Together. First, volunteers cleared out his yard, which had reached “jungle proportions,” and then he let us into his home, which was less than safe for him. After new roofing, drywall, and a working kitchen and bathroom, Michael now welcomes people in. He stopped having friends over because of the condition of his home, but “it’s fun opening up the door again,” he says with a smile.

Not only did Michael get his home back, but last year he received a kidney transplant as well. His neighbors stepped in again to help, bringing him home-cooked meals after his transplant, and even donating furniture and a television so he could recuperate comfortably. “I’ve got my life back,” he boasts. Michael now advocates for kidney research on Capitol Hill and supports regional events that promote awareness of chronic kidney disease.

“I used to take health and home for granted as I was growing up,” Michael says. “These days, I’m eating right and exercising, and I’m thankful for everything neighbors and strangers have given me.” And thanks to some elbow grease from hard-working volunteers, Michael can look forward to living many more years in the home in which he grew up.

Contact Rebuilding Together Alexandria if you know of homeowners in need, including elderly, disabled, military veterans and families. If you’d like to volunteer or donate, visit www.rebuildingtogetheralex.org or call 703-836-1021. (* It is organizational policy to not disclose full names.)

(* It is organizational policy to not disclose full names.)

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Letters

FROM PAGE 12

the attack on the Constitution by armed force. There is only one flag and one constitution, and restoring them to their rightful place is not an invasion. I hope you will note this in future articles.

James A. Lewis
Alexandria

Different Start Dates?

To the Editor:
I really think that ACPS Superintendent should just withdraw the request to modify the calendars all together. The state school board has shot down the proposal and will likely reject it all. Withdrawing the elementary only is ridiculous and frustrating for parents. What is he digging in his heels for this vote, so that elementary, middle, and high schools could possibly have different start dates?

Angela Ostrom
Alexandria

Council Listened

To the Editor:
I would like to thank the Alexandria Chamber of Commerce, Councilman Frank Fannon, the Old Town Boutique District, Alexandria Taxpayers United, the civic associations, the many small businesses in our community who posted signs, the 500 plus minus Alexandria voters who signed the Chamber’s petition, and all those who wrote to the local newspapers and other media for educating our City Council about the many serious problems associated with the recently defeated the commercial add-on tax.

It is seldom easy to stand up for what is right, especially when the professional politicians from surrounding jurisdictions, city bureaucrats and special interest groups are against you, but I am pleased so many people and organizations spoke out and helped educate our City Council. I also congratulate the entire City Council for listening to the people and discovering that, yes, they could make their own “tool” for the City’s “toolbox.”

 Hopefully, all participants in this Democratic process can now take a deep breath and concentrate on reasonable, fiscally responsible, solutions to the many challenges we all face as a community. I suggest the next path to progress would include eliminating any

See LETTERS, PAGE 21
Six Myths about the Waterfront Plan

By John Komoroske
Chair, Alexandria Planning Commission

I voted for Alexandria’s Waterfront Plan because it was obvious to me — and the five Planning Commissioners I joined — that it was an excellent plan for a world-class waterfront, and clearly in the best interests of all of the residents of the City of Alexandria. We voted for it, however, in spite of vigorous, loud, and especially impolite opposition in city meetings and the local press that was based on at least six myths:

Myth 1. The Waterfront Plan calls for “mega-development,” akin to National Har- bor and Baltimore’s Inner Harbor.

The plan is actually blushingly modest in goals and size. Its goals are mainly to connect our chopped up, beautify our beat up, and shore up our sinking waterfront with walkways, parks, art, and flood protection.

If size matters, this plan shouldn’t matter that much. The waterfront now has over 8 million square feet of permitted and built development. The plan adds 160,000 square feet, just 2 percent. But that 2 percent increase multiplies to provide a more than 10 percent increase in waterfront parkland — and attendant amenities — for all of our residents to enjoy.

Myth 2. There wasn’t sufficient input from the citizens.

Two years ago we kicked off the more than 100 eventful meetings of the process with an open mike session for citizens to tell us what they wanted in the plan. Not one of the many speakers was shy, and the City followed up with an exhaustingly wide and deep outreach to citizens. Not just the traditional visioning, charrettes, public forums and plan review sessions, but also an educational cruise, walking tour, and a day trip (paid by participants themselves) to New York City to see world class waterfront development — anything we could think of to spark, capture and employ citizen ideas.

The resulting myriad of citizen ideas, from “more waterfront dining” to “recognize Alexandria’s history” became the foundation of the plan, and more were added as citizens offered them throughout the process, up to the night we passed the plan. One observation: a lot of Alexandrians gave a lot of their time to build the plan, but I can’t remember seeing a lot of the loudest opponents to the plan in the process until recently.

Myth 3. Hotels on the waterfront will add congestion and traffic.

The three development sites currently allow 640,000 square feet of, among other things, residential, office, parks, restaurants, rooming houses, tourist homes, outdoor food markets, homes for the elderly, commercial outdoor recreation facilities, performing arts centers, and nursery schools — just about everything except hotels. But more office deadens an area at night when workers go home. More residential inhibits public use of the waterfront; residents understandably don’t want people strolling down the waterfront or playing dog Frisbee right next to their homes.

A resident on Alexandria’s Harvard Street lives near three hotels. He confirmed for us they were excellent neighbors: no parking problems, very quiet, clean, with placid guests who support businesses nearby. The three development sites in the plan are limited to boutique hotels, which are small and don’t have banquet or big meeting facilities. And hotels bring in six times the revenue of residential, so can get the new parks in place sooner, and without drawing down precious tax dollars.

Myth 4. The plan will add 14 new restaurants, a massive impact on the neighborhood.

All of the sites that permit restaurants are already allowed by current zoning, except the iconic and historical Beachcomber restaurant at the foot of Prince Street. Unlike current zoning, the plan actually adds new limits on currently allowed restaurant sites to protect our neighborhoods.

Myth 5. The plan should instead purchase the development sites for a museum.

The plan incorporates a wide array of public art and cultural amenities that focus on Alexandria’s history, including appropriately scaled museum space, all provided by the 2 percent of additional boutique hotel development. Purchasing the sites for a large museum is well over $30 million for just the land. It would generate multiples of hotel traffic with buses to bring patrons during the day and frequent fundraisers to keep them solvent at night. When museums offering uniquely Alexandria historic experiences, like the Carlyle House, Gadsby’s Tavern, and the Stabler-Leadbeater Apothecary are pressed for funding, why would we want the City to write checks on its tax revenues for something risky that, if it succeeds, will be a much heavier burden to Old Town residents?

Myth 6. The plan is just a revenue source for the City. / The plan just doesn’t bring in enough revenue.

We don’t usually try to show how a Small Area Plan can be funded, but we wanted to assure participants that this plan will not be just a document sitting on a shelf. It is, instead, a means to get us the flood control, parks and amenities planned without competing for current, scarce tax revenue. Bottom line: three new boutique hotels will not just activate the waterfront and fill it with live “boutique talent” they pay for a shoreline’s worth of art, history, parks and flood prevention.

Alexandrians recognized that heritage when they began the Waterfront Plan two years ago. It’s time now to finish the planning and start on the waterfront we all deserve.
Many local interior designers participated in this Spring’s design house to benefit Children’s National Medical Center. Several reflected on recent trends and offered insight on why good design matters.

“Most of us are looking at our home now as more than an investment,” said Barbara Franceski of Alexandria, who designed the family room in the design house. “We plan to stay in place for a longer period of time, and with that comes a desire to enjoy life right where we are.”

For that reason, “personal expression is more center stage than ever,” Franceski said. Homeowners want to use original, unique art to animate spaces, and can even turn to digitally printed wallpaper to create something that’s just for themselves. People are mixing materials like contemporary Luccite pieces with wood and alabaster and metals.

“We’re embracing originality rather than a stale, decorated look.” Designer Michael Roberson of Arlington also referred to “a new eclecticism.” This style consists of an “interesting mix of things we’ve never mixed before.”

It used to be that eclectic design combined different historic and modern styles that in one way or another related to each other, she said. But now this is not always a requirement.

“Literally everything in the room is unique from everything else,” Roberson said. “People seem to be simply putting what they like in a room.”

This design technique can “sometimes be wonderful,” but Roberson also implies that it also has the potential for disaster.

That’s one reason Nancy Colbert of McLean, who designed the library in DC Design House, recommends consulting a designer, as well as checking other resources.

“Whether you’re planning on going it alone, or choose to seek help [from a designer], spend time investigating current design magazines or websites to get a sense of what feels good for you.”

In gathering ideas from these different sources, Colbert says new decorators may find “a place to build their vision.”

One trend Colbert observes: “We’re seeing less and less brown wood.” Until recently, most furniture finishes consisted of some variation of brown wood. Now, however, decorators are noticing more painted and combination finishes on furniture pieces.

Lauren Liess of Herndon was the designer of a “hideaway” bedroom in the design house that was designed as a relaxing place to enjoy the window seat, take a nap, write at the Parson’s desk or share a cup of tea.

Her wing chair in the hideaway bedroom included its back upholstered in a Michael Smith floral while the seat and front of the chair are dark velvet.

For home decorators looking for a casual way to design a room.

Grasscloth wallpaper, in bedrooms or living areas, is one way to add texture. Many designers have welcomed more business lately as clients look to redecorating as an alternative to relocating. “People seem to be re-doing what they already have rather than moving,” says Juliana Cunningham, head of Juliana’s Home Interiors in Clifton.

Cunningham commented on the recent trend for clients to simplify the redecorating process. She said that window treatments, including panes, blinds, shutters and more “used to be a more labor-intensive process.” But people now seem to be turning to simple shades to complement their windows.

The designer also echoed many of her fellow designers in commenting on the lack of bold colors seen in homes recently.

“Were seeing much more middle-of-the-color-wheel combinations in all rooms,” Cunningham said.

Allie Mann of Case Design agreed, saying, “Grey is the new beige.”

The designer assures anyone looking for a color change in their home that grey is a safe and smart option. “It can work in many all rooms,” Cunningham said.

The designer also echoed many of her fellow designers in commenting on the lack of bold colors seen in homes recently.

Allie Mann saw in the early 90s, rather than the big additions Mann saw in the early 90s, rather than the big additions.

The designer also echoed many of her fellow designers in commenting on the lack of bold colors seen in homes recently.

Allie Mann offered several tips for getting the most from a modest change: “I’m a big fan of stripes, they can often play up the size of a room.”

When looking to change the look of a room, often the easiest thing to do is switch out accessories, including pillows, shades, furniture covers and chairs.

But the real reason to design spaces in a house is to please the homeowner.

“Simply put, I believe your home should make you happy,” said designer Franceski of Alexandria. “Allow yourself the freedom to create an environment that makes you smile. Doing so brings immeasurable joy.”

And when your home gives you pleasure, you’re more likely to invite others in, Franceski said, spreading the joy and enhancing quality of life.
Alexandria & Mount Vernon
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2. 712 Prince Street #1, Alexandria — $3,175,000

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Address MLS# BR FB HB Postal City Price Type Lot AC Subdivision Listed by Agent
1. 4610 NEPTUNE DR FX757267 4 5 1 ALEXANDRIA $4,100,000 Detached 2.292 FERRY LANDING Long & Foster Mary Lou Sage
2. 414 FRANKLIN ST AX7038179 4 4 1 ALEXANDRIA $3,900,000 Detached 0.457 OLD TOWN Coldwell Banker Donna C. Wintermute
3. 4727 32ND ST N AR7558542 7 7 2 ARLINGTON $3,250,000 Detached 0.368 COUNTRY CLUB HILLS NBI RealtyLLC Kent Finemore
4. 712 PRINCE ST #1 AX7531266 5 5 - ALEXANDRIA $3,175,000 Townhouse - SWANN DANGERFIELD Coldwell Banker Donna C. Wintermute
5. 2119 ELLIOTT AVE FX7565172 7 6 1 MCLEAN $2,285,000 Detached 0.488 FRANKLIN PARK TTR Sotheby’s Sharon Wilson
6. 2000 GRACE MANOR CT FX7476309 6 6 2 MCLEAN $2,275,000 Detached 0.492 GRACE MANOR AT MINOR HIL TTR Sotheby’s Penny Yerks
7. 9320 OLD MANSON RD FX7477187 3 4 1 ALEXANDRIA $2,239,500 Detached 0.361 RIVERWOOD RE/MAX Residential Ben Zurun
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9. 2104 ELLIOTT AVE FX7592110 5 4 1 MCLEAN $2,099,999 Detached 0.555 FRANKLIN PARK Long & Foster Kelly Sweitzer

Source: www.homesdatabase.com
Home LifeStyle

Universal Appeal?

By Bill Millholland
Case Design/Remodeling

Whether you realize it or not, a look at today’s newest appliances or a visit to a home design showroom is likely filled with elements of universal design. Some can be subtle, such a drawer in the middle of your refrigerator door. Others are a bit more obvious, such as grab bars in showers and bathtubs.

Today, universal design concepts are taking root in modern home design, making homes more accessible to users of all backgrounds, ages and physical abilities. But don’t worry – this doesn’t have to take away from the beauty of a home remodeling project. Even the smallest home modification can add to the look of a home while enabling owners to enjoy their investment even longer.

Incorporating universal design elements into a home remodel or building project benefits homeowners of all ages and abilities – from families with young children to older, retired couples. As a family grows and evolves, so too does the way in which it uses a home. Once children have grown up and moved out, many couples face the prospect of relocating to a home or community that is more accommodating of older residents – single-story dwellings, for instance. Universal design can offer a reprieve to homeowners wishing to remain in their homes and maintain an independent lifestyle, as they “age in place.” This is especially important given the current economy, as more people choose to remain in the same home rather than sell it.

It’s never too early to incorporate small changes – such as replacing door knobs with handles – that can help with ease of use. Even families with young children reap the benefits from appliance drawers in the kitchen and seating in showers. Other helpful modifications include increased task lighting, hand rails on stairs, and a refrigerator with side-by-side doors.

Some of the most popular, yet larger, universal design upgrades include altering home’s structure and layout. For example, widening halls and doorways has the benefit of better accommodating wheelchairs and walking aids for older or physically challenged inhabitants. These changes can also aid in circulation patterns and make a home feel more spacious, regardless of square footage.

Many homeowners request a first-floor master bedroom and bathroom, eliminating the need for a flight of stairs. Even installing elevators in residential homes is becoming a trend.

The bathroom is the location of many universal design projects. Some homeowners are now opting for low or no-threshold showers and sinks and vanities of custom heights.

Increasing in popularity is the “comfort-height” toilet that is easier to sit down on than older, shorter models.

As is true with any design element, universal design additions should coordinate with the overall flow and aesthetics of the home. Many manufacturers keep this in mind when developing new products for both home construction and upgrades.

More renovations include accessible details.

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Celebrate Old Town
Every Sunday in May,
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Enjoy Art and Musical entertainment in the Alexandria City Marina,
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Taylor Shares His Success with Community

He makes Alexandria “the special place that it really is.”

By Sarah Becker

Neither tsunamis nor earthquakes; shortages or recalls discourage Jack Taylor of Jack Taylor’s Alexandria Toyota.

Taylor leads by example. “Jack is a huge giving person,” says T.C. Williams High School President Steve McLaughlin, former chairman of the Alexandria Chamber of Commerce. “He is about love, unselfish love.” Taylor is known for his philanthropy.

The Scholarship Fund. “He understands its intangibles. He is the type of person that makes Alexandria the special place that it really is.”

May 12-18, 2011 www.ConnectionNewspapers.com

1. My father spent a lifetime helping people,” Taylor recalled. “It seemed he went to a funeral very day.”

2. “We had our father-son issues,” Taylor said. “I was not a particularly good student. I was not well understood as a student and attended high school at Park Union Military Academy. The Academy voted me most likely not to succeed.”

3. “I have Attention Deficit Disorder,” Taylor continued, “and was on academic and social probation in college. I finally graduated from Campbell University. The draft was actually a good thing,” Taylor served in Viet Nam, a decorated member of the Army’s military police.

4. “Right out of Viet Nam Jack started selling used cars, then built his Toyota Empire here in Del Ray,” said Mike Anderson, chairman of the Alexandria Chamber of Commerce. “The best part is, along the way, he never forgot the community that supported him. He continues his generous support still today.” Taylor went into the car business in 1973, partnering with Bill Page Toyota.

5. “The only way I could ever become school valedictorian was to become a valedictorian sponsor,” Taylor insisted. “I have a strong interest in children. The very old: the very young.”

6. “Lots of kids have issues when they go to school,” Taylor said. “T.C. Williams High School represents 100 different countries. The school gets a bad rap so I help with scholarships like the Rudy Tucker and Bill Nichols scholarships. The Scholarship Fund of Alexandria is a core charity.” Taylor also contributes to Capital Hospice, Salvation Army and the Alexandria Police Foundation.

7. “Jack leads by example,” said Susan Yowell, executive director, The Scholarship Fund. “He understands that education is the key to the economic viability of the community. We have recognized his many, generous contributions with what we call the Jack Taylor Corporate Partner Scholarship.”

8. “I don’t like the term give away but I’m a lucky guy who really cares.” Writer Sarah Becker was nominated by Susan Yowell, executive director, The Scholarship Fund.
crease as well as increase. I understand that budgets can de-
hanced while decreasing overall costs. It can be done! Now that the
ciencies so city services can be en-
functions and seeking other effi-
litical goals, and modernizing City
sultants, ceasing the City’s use of
sidering the massive use of con-
restate back into the market, recon-
City’s budget, reforming the BPOL
rater than being frightened to
sure — didn’t reflect the views of
niversary of Alexandria’s “invasion
vasion or
To the Editor:
 Perspective is everything. Your
article about the 150th an-
vasion and occupation” certainly — I’m
stance, rather than being frightened
d to death, I would imagine that the
posibility of freedom was met with
great hope and promise. In-
 for some was deliverance for
ners. This ongoing tribute to
federate soldiers, who fought
to maintain a system of white su-
premacy and brutality, is unfath-
omorable. Rather than a headline
aying “Union Invades City,” my
headline would read “Union
Brings Hope and New Beginning
to Thousands.” For a more bal-
anced view, I encourage you to
publish first-person testimonials
from individuals who survived this
brutal system called slavery. I have
several books in my collection that
I’d be happy to share with you. It’s
a perspective that’s rarely heard.

Wendy K. Campbell
Alexandria

Invasion or Deliverance?

The Shops at Bradlee

Friendly Faces, Great Value—
It’s Where Alexandria Shops

The Shops at Bradlee

Bud Miller
Alexandria

Failure To Listen

Failure To Listen

To the Editor:

There are just not enough de-
scriptive words in the dictionary
to describe the debacle that took
place at the Planning Commission
on the night of May 3. They just
don’t listen to the citizens and their
attitudes could be best summed up
as being “anti citizen” and disdain-
ful. This was really highlighted
when Mary Lynan described how
one individual who lives on
Harvard Street loves living next to
the three hotels on the west end
of Old Town. That was after about
35 citizens testified that they were
not in favor of building three to
tour hotels on Union Street. Who
wins this contest? The citizens 35-
1 or Mary Lynan with her one citi-
zen? Obviously Mary picked the
one citizen, who by the way didn’t
even show up to testify in person.
The chairman of this august
body, John Komoroske, stated that
the witnesses were a bunch of
“Johnnie Come Lately” to the
party. I and a large number of the
witnesses all attended the very
first Waterfront Workshop at T.C.
Williams High School and since
that time we have sat through the
Planning Departments presenta-
tions at least 15 times. I don’t re-
call ever seeing one member of the
Planning Commission at any of
those presentations. Many of us
could give the presentation as the
basic hotel theme has been in the
plan from the very start. It started
as one boutique hotel in Robinson
Terminal North and now has
grown over the last couple of years.

See LETTERS, Page 25

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to three or four hotels, all of them on Union Street — five hotels if you include the steel building on the corner of Pendleton and Fairfax as they want their zoning also changed to allow a hotel. Since the Planning Commission’s first work session when the plan was unveiled, John Komoroske said he loved the plan and he has not asked one single constructive question or inquisitive comment since.

One citizen remarked that the decorum of Commissioners Eric Wagner and Mary Lynan was totally lacking as they were talking, laughing and joking during Andrew Macdonald’s and my presentations. This total disdain for the citizens has just got to stop.

Additionally, the egregious way the committee treated the Old Dominion Boat Club (ODBC) left much to be desired. Most of the commissioners just blew off ODBC’s proposals, thereby returning the east end of King Street back into Fitzgerald Square. Now they have a plan they can’t execute at the foot of King Street, because the ODBC owns the parking lot. All the last minute back room deals between the Planning Director and the Boat Club and Old Town Civic Association were attacked by former Vice Mayor Andrew Macdonald. He asserted that all these last minute deals were not transparent and that the meeting should have been declared invalid by a representative of the City Attorney’s office who sat in the hearing. The Attorney did not do that, however this may be a case that should be forwarded to the Attorney General.

The sad commentary on all this is that the citizens get shafted again by their own peers who are unelected appointees. You would think that anyone with any brain power at all could take the current 2,860 available hotel rooms in the Old Town area and determine that with a 70 percent occupancy rate there are still about 860 rooms unoccupied. So why do we have to build 625 new hotel rooms? The standard answer one gets when asking that question is，“You just don’t understand Van Fleet, the industry standard says that when one reaches a 70 percent occupancy rate its time to build more hotel rooms.” Yeah right! I didn’t make that up! So why would the Commissioners want upwards of five more hotels on the waterfront? Who is really driving this train?

This plan should be deferred until a viable hotel. The Alexandria Archeology Commission, who asked all the right questions and correctly pointed out the need for a history plan in the overall plan. We specifically took no position on any land use decisions embodied in the plan. Fitzgerald Square and its design is clearly a land use decision. There is nothing in the design of the square to advertise it as a historic place or invoke the memory of Col. John Fitzgerald. Fitzgerald immigrated to Alexandria from Ireland shortly before the American Revolution, an aide to Gen. Washington, and close friend of George Washington, and after the war became a successful Alexandria merchant. His warehouses still stand at the corner of King and Union.

For years, another successor, emigrant from Ireland, Pat Troy, has advocated to change the name of Waterfront Park to Fitzgerald Park. We could certainly do that, probably should have done it years ago, without purchasing land, pavers, anything else or even constructing an ice skating rink.

Katy Cannady
Alexandria

Ease FSA Restrictions

To the Editor:

As election season gets under way, it is important for the candidates to take a position on an important issue — removing unnecessary and burdensome restrictions on flexible spending accounts (FSAs).

Flexible spending accounts help my family and millions of others like mine budget for and save on our health care expenses every year. Unfortunately, due to a provision of the health care law, I now have to pay for my FSA, which pays for over-the-counter medications. This new requirement has already forced me to schedule otherwise unnecessary doctor visits, which also has to be paid for under my flex spending account which lessens the money available for me to actually purchase the needed medications. It is difficult enough to predict how much money may be needed for health care in the future and how much can be paid for over-the-counter medications. This new requirement has already forced me to schedule otherwise unnecessary doctor visits, which also has to be paid for under my flex spending account which lessens the money available for me to actually purchase the needed medications. It is difficult enough to predict how much money may be needed for health care in the future and how much can be paid for over-the-counter medications.

Instead of making FSAs more difficult to use, legislators should be promoting this great benefit by eliminating unnecessary restrictions, including the over-the-counter prescription requirement and the “use it or lose it” provision.

I can’t stress how important FSAs are in reducing our constantly rising out-of-pocket health care costs. That’s why Congress should move quickly to end the unnecessary restrictions on these accounts.

Katy Cannady
Alexandria

A Flamendous Success

To the Editor:

I am writing to thank the more than 2,000 people who donated their treasures, volunteered, sponsored, attended or purchased items at the 2011 MV Big Flea. We’re North- ern Virginia’s biggest flea market fundraiser and this year we raised a record $30,619 for the Mount Vernon Community School PTA in Del Ray. These funds pay for education and enrichment programs at our public school, things like class trips, teacher stipends, and enrichment programs.

“We raised $93,481 since 2007, not bad for an event that started as a gag.”

In particular, I’d like to thank and recognize my fellow volunteers (and MVCS parents) Kim Winters, Art Witebsky, Cynthia Webster, Maria Getoff and Darcy Arnold. I tend to be the Flea’s public face, but they make the event succeed.

Realtors Jen Shirras and Bobi Boram once again provided generous support, as did the Gentle Shirt Printers, Whole Foods, Rubin Jewelers, and a local real estate developer who prefers to remain nameless (how mysterious).

To me, this community involvement is the main reason why the Big Flea’s is such a success. We’ll be back next year and look forward to another fantastic event. Thank you, again.

Joseph LaMountain
Alexandria

Rotary Honors T.C. Senior for Service

He’s not old enough to be a member, yet 17-year-old Paul Kentes has volunteered more hours of service to the Alexandria community through various Ro- tary Club projects than most longtime members of the club.

“Since he was little, Paul has been an ‘unofficial’ Rotarian, working with us on Christmas in April, ringing the bell for the Salvation Army and working many long shifts for Taste for Giving,” said Rotary Club president Gayle Spurr, who presented Kentes with a special Service Above Self award April 26. “He’s a Paul Harris Fellow and he’s not even a member.”

Kentes, a senior at T.C. Williams High School and the son and stepson of Joan and John Renner, has been accepted to the University of Virginia’s College at Wise, where he will study economics.

“I have learned so much from every- one in the Rotary organization,” said Kentes as he thanked the members for his award. “You have all taught me about making a difference in the community.”

— JEANNE THEISSMANN

Best Use Of Office?

To the Editor:

This week the Supreme Court rejected Virginia Attorney General Ken Cuccinelli’s attempt to bring his challenge to the recent health care bill directly before the high court. They did the right thing. Ken Cuccinelli has already used his office as a platform for his own political aggrandize- ment; he didn’t need any help from the jus- tices of the Supreme Court.

Cuccinelli often discusses his lawsuit as an effort to defend liberty. However, should he be successful, the real result would be that thousands of Virginians would lose their access to affordable health insurance. Cuccinelli’s suit is an attempt to effectively deprive people of health care that they would otherwise have once the law is imple- mented.

Whether he is successful or not, a second effect of this lawsuit is that we have an at- torney general who is diverting his atten- tion and the resources of his office toward a crusade against Washington and away from the business of fighting for struggling Virginia families. He may claim that the cost to taxpayers is negligible because he is us- ing existing staff, but that means that those staffs are not protecting consumers from mortgage fraud, prosecuting sexual preda- tors or defending state government from frivolous lawsuits.

The Court’s decision means that Cuccinelli will continue to pursue his chal- lenge through the appeals process. That is the right procedure, but it is regretful that Virginia taxpayers will continue to fund an effort that has more to do with Mr. Cuccinelli’s personal vanity than their best interest.

Joseph LaMountain
Alexandria

The Alexandria Archeology Commission, with James McCall as the principal author, wrote a very fine detailed history plan for the waterfront. Commission members, including me, voted to endorse the inclusion of the history plan in the overall plan. We specifically took no position on any land use decisions embodied in the plan. Fitzgerald Square and its design is clearly a land use decision. There is nothing in the design of the square to advertise it as a historic place or invoke the memory of Col. John Fitzgerald. Fitzgerald immigrated to Alexandria from Ireland shortly before the American Revolution, an aide to Gen. Washington, and close friend of George Washington, and after the war became a successful Alexandria merchant. His warehouses still stand at the corner of King and Union.

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Joseph LaMountain
Alexandria
Thank You

to all who contributed to the success of our 25th Anniversary Gala

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First Half of the Story
Signature revives early Sondheim review.

By Brad Hathaway
The Gazette

Would you put on a Shakespeare Festival and only cover the plays he wrote in the first half of his career? Would you prepare a lecture on Abraham Lincoln that went up through the first two years of his presidency? If not, why would you mount a musical revue on the career of Stephen Sondheim that stops before he wrote “Sweeney Todd,” “Into the Woods,” “Passion,” “Sunday in the Park with George” and “Assassins”?

This is what Signature Theatre has done in resurrecting a 25-year-old show that has three vocalists — assisted by two pianists — singing nearly 30 of Sondheim’s songs from his first 10 shows, a movie and a television show. While Signature has incorporated a few lines of dialogue that are more up to date, the view of Sondheim’s career is incomplete without any of the songs he has contributed to the American musical cannon since 1977.

That was when the revue “Side by Side by Sondheim” was put together by a theatre in England as a fund-raiser. Mega-producer Cameron Mackintosh saw that performance and arranged a transfer, first to a London stage and later to Broadway. It was the first, but not the last, revue built on the songs of the composer/lyricist who has been all but canonized by much of the musical theatre community with a Broadway theatre named after him, a prize in his honor and, just last year, the topic of a new and comprehensive revue on Broadway titled “Sondheim on Sondheim.”

The show now on stage at Signature’s larger of its two black-box theatres, the 280-seat theatre that is The Max, will certainly interest solid Sondheim fans. Others, who have yet to be either exposed to, or captured by the genius of his output, can get an introductory course in one pleasant two-hour dose with three talented performers working through the highlights. Interspersed with the songs are some simple explanations of the themes the songs illustrate, such as Sondheim’s reported concentration on the topic of marriage and commitment, or his frustration over being known initially as a lyricist rather than a composer. Early in his career he contributed the lyrics for other composers’ music on shows including “West Side Story,” which had music by Leonard Bernstein, “Do I Hear A Waltz,” which he wrote with Richard Rodgers, and “Gypsy,” for which it is explained in this show, the star, Ethel Merman would let him write the words but wanted a more famous composer to do the music. What the explanation in the show lacks is the name of that more famous composer. It was Jule Styne.

Sherri L. Edelen, long-time Signature veteran, is joined for this show by two Broadway performers, Nancy Anderson making her Signature debut and Matthew Scott returning after performing here in both the fabulous revue of the music of Kander and Ebb, “First You Dream” and the world premiere of the musical “Ace.” Each is talented and hard working, but the blend of their voices seems weak because it lacks a grounding bass or full-blown baritone. Strategically, the arrangements the pianos are playing, which are uncredited in the program, rely on the higher half of the keyboard most of the time, which also robs the sound of a solid bass line.

There certainly are highlights to be enjoyed, especially as the evening comes to a close when, having saved the best for the last, each of the three vocalists take center stage in turn to deliver a crowd-pleasing big number. Anderson starts this triptych off with “Loosening My Mind,” the soaring torch song from “Follies.” Scott then steps in to deliver “Being Alive,” one of the closing numbers written for the landmark musical “Company,” which underwent multiple re-writes of its finale. (Scott had sung one of the other songs written for that slot, “Marry Me A Little,” earlier in the show.) Finally, Edelen takes the spotlight for the most thrilling single performance in the show, “I’m Still Here” from “Follies.”

Highlights before the final trio included Anderson’s impressive mix of tongue-twisting patter and physical comedy on “Getting Married Today,” Scott’s lovely rendition of the softly sentimental “I Remember” from the 1966 television musical “Evening Primrose” and Anderson and Edelen pairing up for the “I Have a Love” duet from “West Side Story.”

Matthew Scott and Nancy Anderson perform “Getting Married Today” in “Side by Side by Sondheim” at Virginia’s Signature Theatre through June 12.

See First Half, Page 32

From left: Matthew Randall, Shannon Benton and Mark Adams star in “Mindgame” at Port City Playhouse.

Adams Shines Evil Light on ‘Mindgame’

By Brad Hathaway
The Gazette

There are some shows that simply seem to belong to a specific actor. Mark Lee Adams takes such command of Port City Playhouse’s production of Anthony Horowitz’s bait-and-switch thriller “Mindgame” that he can pick it up, put it in his pocket and take it home with him. It’s his.

The role is one of those leading parts in a thriller that keeps the audience wondering just who or what the character is supposed to be. Just when you think you have it figured out, the script takes an abrupt about face or at least a 90-degree shift and Adams has to adopt a different persona. Each of the apparent identities is different, and the shifts so abrupt that Adams gets to flit from laid back to hyper and back again, creating first one and then another different personality and then yet one more. You will enjoy each, perhaps as much as it appears that Adams himself is enjoying creating them.

Adams isn’t alone on the stage and his colleagues, both of whom have roles that also have switches designed to surprise the audience as the mystery plays out, are certainly not doing less than fine work themselves.

Shannon Benton spends much of the first act shaking with fear. This could become quite tedious if not handled with skill, and Benton, under the direction of Bruce Pollmer, finds that balance between controlled panic and deep-seated dread that keeps the audience from rejecting her out of hand.

Matthew Randall likewise has his character shifting and evolving over the course of the evening. He has to cope with one of the hardest plot points any actor can have in a horror thriller — he has to have his character make a foreboding mistake in judgment that the entire audience can tell is a disastrous decision without either becoming unsympathetic or the object of ridicule. He pulls it off.

See Mindgame, Page 32

Where & When

“Side by Side by Sondheim” plays at Signature Theatre in Shirlington through June 12. Performances are Tuesday - Wednesday at 7:30 p.m., Thursday - Friday at 8 p.m., Saturday at 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. and Sunday at 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. Tickets are $55 - $81. Call 703-573-7328 or log on to www.signature-theatre.org.
Yoga and Pilates  The Wanderer is in a bit of a funk. Over the winter, he seems to have shrunk in stature and expanded in girth. This could make his usually joyful job of wandering a chore this summer. He understands that yoga can improve his state of mind and Pilates can add inches to his height. So, he's off to find places in town to shed his winter self. After a big breakfast, of course.

**Radiance**
Finding new confidence and inner peace is never embarrassing here. A relaxed, warm environment for all levels offers instruction that mixes challenge, support, and humor in an airy, light-filled studio with bamboo floors.
110 King Street, 703.535.8282, radiance-yoga.net

**Pure Prana**
Owner Natasha Hennessy is a native Alexandrian who strives to create balance between body and life in and out of class. This is a learning center with a strong community focus offering a huge variety of classes and teacher training.
100 South Patrick Street, 703.836.7873, pureprana.com

**Studio Body Logic**
Karen Garcia is celebrating 15 years as the area's first authentic Pilates studio. Through the power of movement and the art of control you can realign and strengthen your body using a combination of Eastern and Western exercises. She offers group mat, private and semi-private apparatus instruction along with yoga, fitness and stretch classes. Join her for the yearly Pilates retreat in Italy!
2417 Mount Vernon Ave, 703.739.7601, studiobodylogic.com

**Bikram's Yoga College of India**
Birkham Chodbury's goal of achieving general healthiness uses “hot” yoga techniques designed to burn calories and improve circulation. A “hot” room (kept over 100 degrees) is intended by Birkham to prevent injury and facilitate deeper stretching. This is a workout!
5416 Eisenhower Ave, 703.212.9642, bikramyoga.com

**Dahn Yoga**
Open for 5 years on upper King Street. “Dahn” yoga is based on the east Asian understanding of life energy and is designed to develop self-awareness and the circulation of energy through the body. Call for class information.
1630 King Street, 703.684.7717, dahnyoga.com

**Georgie’s Pilates Loft**
A great variety of classes including: Jumpboard Challenge, Pilates for Golfers, Six pack Challenge, Pre & Post Natal Pilates. Workshops and master classes also available.
1619 King Street, 571.312.2802, georgiespilatesloft.com

**Yoga in Daily Life**
A place to remove yourself from daily stress. Classes consist of hour of guided, deep relaxation, followed by hour of stretching and strengthening.
2402 Mount Vernon Ave, 703.299.8946, yogaindailylifeus.org
MAY 21 TO JUNE 26
In the Flesh 3
In the Flesh 3 examines contemporary figurative art, showcasing the work of 21 artists while exploring the deep-seeded relationship between humanity and art. Reception is June 9 from 6 to 8 p.m. At the Torpedo Factory Art Center, 105 N. Union Street, Alexandria. Visit www.torpedofactory.org/target.

FRIDAY/JUNE 3
Drawing Inspiration from the Figure, 7 p.m.
This show, featuring artwork inspired by the human form, runs through June 26 at the Del Ray Artisans gallery. Opening reception is Friday, June 3 from 7 to 10 p.m. Details and directions: www.TheDelRayArtisans.org.

MAY 20 TO JUNE 20
Artist Pam Rogers, “The Germination Project: Emerge.” Mixed media including handmade natural pigments. Opening reception is Saturday, June 4 from 7 to 9 p.m. At the Schlesinger Center Margaret W. & Joseph L. Fisher Gallery, NVCC, Alexandria campus.

NOW THROUGH MAY 29
Laura A. Clerici and Dennis Crayon, New Members Show. Laura Clerici is a Byzantine iconographer. Dennis Crayon uses color and position to convey Modernist composition with a classical painting technique. Meet the Artist’s reception is Saturday, May 21 from 5 to 8 p.m. Visit www.gallery-west.com or call 703-549-6006.

NOW THROUGH MAY 15
Fifteen T.C. Williams High School students selected as this year’s National Art Honor Society inductees will exhibit their work at Del Ray Artisans. Many of these students will continue their art studies at the college level, and much of the work on exhibit was featured in their winning college admission portfolios. Visit www.thedelrayartisans.org.

NOW THROUGH MAY 15
Artist Linda L. Anderson, Dimensional Landscapes: New Perspectives of our Natural World. At the Schlesinger Center’s Margaret W. & Joseph L. Fisher Gallery, NVCC Campus, Alexandria.

NOW THROUGH MAY 30
Kiln Club Show, Scope Gallery potters at the Torpedo Factory Art Center have created one-of-a-kind pieces to offer this Spring season. At the Scope Gallery, 105 North Union Street, Ground Floor Studio 19, Alexandria. Call the Scope Gallery at 703-548-6288, visit www.torpedofactory.org/galleries/scope.htm and www.kilnclubwdc.com

NOW THROUGH MAY 15
seen and Unseen/Joanna Knox. Since 2003, Knox has explored the connections between people and spaces through her large format color photographs of abandoned spaces. At the Athenaeum Gallery, 201 Prince Street, Alexandria. Call 703-548-0035 or nvfaa.org

NOW THROUGH JUNE 5

NOW THROUGH JUNE 6
Baa-merica! Icons Revisited. Leslie Blackman’s Solo Exhibit of Fiber Sculpture. She has created intricate crocheted sculptures of sheep posing as American popular culture icons. A Meet-the-Artist’s reception is Thursday, May 12 from 6:30 to 8 p.m. At The Art League, 105 North Union Street, Alexandria. Call 703-683-1780 or visit www.theartleague.org

NOW THROUGH JUNE 26
Paintings of the Potomac Valley Watercolorists
At Green Spring Gardens, 4683 Green Spring Road, Alexandria. Call 703-642-5173.

NOW THROUGH JUNE 5
Two Visitors Exhibit, Photography by Laurie Sand and Colleen Spencer Henderson. At Multiple Exposures Gallery at the Torpedo Factory, 105 N. Union Street, Studio 312, Alexandria. Call 703-683-2205.

NOW THROUGH JUNE 14
Household Hazardous Waste Disposal
from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Mason District Governmental Center (6507 Columbia Pike, Annandale).

Household Hazardous Waste from residents will be accepted at no charge. We will not accept business or commercial waste, lead acid batteries, automobile batteries or propane tanks.

For complete details, go online to www.fairfaxcounty.gov/recycling, or call 703-324-5052, TTY 711.
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 at In Del Ray, 2152 Mount Vernon Ave., Suite 206, Alexandria. RSVP to Phillip Ellis, Sierra Club Field Organizer at 757-970-0273 or philip.ellis@sierraclub.org.

FIRST AND THIRD SATURDAYS
Line and Hand Dance Party. 6 to 7 p.m. Cast is $5/Class. At the Weynew Sports Lounge, Landmark Mall E-100, 8501 South Street, Ground Level, Alexandria.

NOW THROUGH OCT. 30
Civil War Walking Tour. Saturdays and Sundays 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Changes the covering rule 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. There are limited in capacity and cost $5 in addition to entrance admission. $15 adults; $7 children (6-11); free for children 5 & under. Visit www.mountvernon.org or call 703-780-2000.

THURSDAY/MAY 12
Fiesta Cineco de Mayo. 6:30 to 9 p.m. Admission of $65 includes food, drinks and music. Sponsored by Alexandria Neighborhood Health Services Inc. At Jack Taylor’s Alexandria Theatre, 3759 Jefferson Davis Highway, Alexandria. Call 703-360-4337, email nhanhs@aol.com or visit ANHSI’s website www.anhsi.org.

Raising Cats and Dogs. 6 to 9 p.m. Free. Spend time with your four legged pal at this pet-friendly event, featuring a doggie night out of The Next Project’s outdoor installations, an adoption event by the Animal Welfare League of Alexandria, and a pet photo booth. At the Torpedo Factory Art Center, 105 N. Union St., Alexandria. www.torpedofactory.org; 703-836-4565.

10-Year anniversary. Inova HealthPlex will be offering Stroke Awareness, Free Blood Pressure Checks; Freedom from Nicotine on site, Ask for the Nutrionist, Body Mass Index Screening, Sun Safety Booth, Car Seat safety and more. At 6355 Walker Lane, Alexandria. Call 703-797-6800.


Rising Hope Fund-raiser. Shane’s Rib Shack will donate 20 percent of the sales of all meals purchased between 5 p.m. and 8 p.m. on Thursday, May 12, to Rising Hope Methodist Mission Church. Shane’s Rib Shack is at 7909-B Richmond Highway, Mount Vernon Plaza, Alexandria.

FRIDAY/MAY 13
Kinky Friedelman With the Texas Jewels. 7:30 p.m. A very rare East Coast tour. Tickets are $35. At the Birchmere, 7301 Mt. Vernon Ave., Alexandria.

National Chamber Players. 7:30 p.m. St. Paul’s: Saint-Saëns, 164th birthday. The program will be Camille Saint-Saëns’ The Carnival of the Animals and Brahms’ Sextet in B major, with guests Benny Green and Eric Kim, and pianist Rohan de Silva. A reception hosted by Autumn Speaks will follow the concert. At Episcopal High School in Alexandria. Visit www.episcopalhighschool.org or call 703-933-4133, 7:30pm.

SATURDAY/MAY 14
Chamber Singers Concert. 7:30 p.m. Free. Chamber Singers of Marywood University in Scranton, PA, will perform. At St. Luke’s Episcopal Church, 8009 Fort Hunt Road, Alexandria. The Chamber Singers are under the direction of Dr. Rick Hoffenberg, the accompanist is Mark Laubach. The music will include selections by Thomas Tomay, Franz Schubert, Fanny Mendelssohn, Ralph Vaughan Williams, John Rutter and others, and selections by Saint-Saëns and Brahms. The program will include a tribute to William Shakespeare. Stamp Out Hunger Food Drive. Branch 567 of the National Association of Letter Carriers will be collecting food from your mailboxes to deliver to local food banks such as ALIVE, Konowma Foundation, Rising Hope, United Community Ministries, and Capital Area Food Banks.

National Harley & Wine and Food Fest. 12:30 to 5:30 p.m. Festival brings together area chefs, artisan craftmen, culinary pioneers as well as wine and spirits. Tickets for two-day all-access pass is $100/person; two-day general ticket is $75/person; VIP ticket is $75, general admission is $35/ advance; $45/day. Visit www.winelandfoodshq.com or call (800) 850-3976.

Family Health & Wellness Day. 9:30 a.m. to noon. At Mount Vernon Community School. TrailfinderYouth.org will be hosting a bike safety rodeo showcasing skills along with free helmets to give away. Other activities include the YMCA’s mobile activity vehicle, Green Team plant sale, yoga demonstrations, nutritional information and free bike safety gear. Contact Megan Brooks at meganj@ definitions.com.

Polish Cookbook Signing. 1 to 3 p.m. Alexandra locals Peter and Laura Zenzinski will be signing copies of their new cookbook, Polish Classic Recipes. At Barnes & Noble, 3651 Jefferson Davis Hwy., Alexandria.

World Fair Trade Day. At Mindful Hands in Alexandria. There will be refreshments of fairly-traded iced tea and chocolate, craft activities for kids, and chances to win prizes of fair-trade handmade gifts. The event will also feature the fairly-traded candles and kittens of Tails High, an Alexandria-based cat rescue group. Visit www.mindfulhands.com.

Talk on Cambodia, Laos. 10 a.m. Free. Ten Thousand Villagers will host a presentation by store manager Kate McMahon on her tour of Southeast Asia. The first attendee will receive a gift from Cambodia, and will also be allowed to shop the 50 percent off sale of items from Cambodia and Laos before the doors open at 11 a.m.

Convinuum Concert. 7:30pm. Convinuum is a Washington-area chamber choir specializing in Renaissance, Tudor and 20th century music since 1985. Grace Episcopal Church, 3616 Russell Rd, Alexandria 22305. Contact www.gracealex.org or 703-549-1980.


Boutique Charity Day. On this day, 30 retailers will create an activity or promotion in their stores that will benefit a charity of choice. Profits from the day will be donated to the charity. At participating Old Town Boutique District stores.

Spring Virginia Native Wildflower Sale. 9 to 3 p.m. Native trees, shrubs, ground covers, ferns, and wildflowers will be offered for sale by the Potomac Chapter of the Virginia Native Plant Society at Green Spring Gardens. At Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road, Alexandria. Call 703-642-5713.

Spring Plant Sale. 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Large selection of perennials, annuals, native plants, vegetables, herbs. At Green Spring gardens Park, Booth #13, 4603 Green Spring Road, Alexandria.

UD FEST. Noon to 6 p.m. Free. Unique Definition Clothing & Entertainment is having “UD FEST” (Fashion, Entertainment & The Arts Collides). Come and see various performances from dance teams, cheer teams, singers and bands. Chef presentations, fashion shows, face painting and vendors. At the Durant Arts Center, 1605 Cameron St., Alexandria. If you would like to participate, call 703-296-1911 or email events@undefineddefinition.com.

Free Concert. 7:30 p.m. Convinuum chamber choir specializing in Renaissance, Tudor and 20th century music. At Grace Episcopal Church, 3616 Russell Road, Alexandria. Contact www.gracealex.org or 703-549-1980.


Cook and Bake-Off for a Cause. 5 to 7 p.m. Youth members will each bring their creation to compete for best dish, come enjoy a gourmet dinner and vote for your favorite dish. Proceeds will benefit ECMI and the Mount Vernon Presbyterian Church’s Youth Applications Fund. At the Fellowship Hall at Mount Vernon Presbyterian Church.

MAY 14 AND 15
Alexandria Greek Choros. 8 p.m. Tickets $10-$65. Pianist Garrick See Entertainment, Page 3 1
**ENTERTAINMENT**

**Middle School Drama Festival.** SUNDAY/MAY 15
Middle School Drama Festival. SUNDAYS, MAY 15, 22, 29

**Titan Expo.** SATURDAY/MAY 1
1 to 5 p.m. An outdoor fun festival. Food, music, games, moon bounce, bake sale, face painting, car bash, used book sale, dog obstacle course, and more. All proceeds support the Scholarship Fund of Alexandria. Free Admission, but tickets required for games and other purchases. Rain or Shine. At T.C. Williams High School, 3330 King Street, Alexandria. Call 703-824-6668.

**Matt Meyer, Drumming Workshop.** SATURDAY/MAY 1
2 p.m. Bring your own instrument or use one provided. Donation of $10/adult, $5/child. At Mount Vernon Unitarian Church, 1909 Windmill Lane, Alexandria. Call 703-765-0950.

**Choral Evensong.** SATURDAY/MAY 1
1:15 p.m. Grant Hellmers, Interim Organist-Choir Director of the Episcopal Church, will direct the Adult Choir in a choral evensong. At St. Paul’s Episcopal Church, 1909 Windmill Lane, Alexandria. Call Harold McClendon at 703-360-0920 or harolmc@emc.com.

**Martinez and Guthrie.** SATURDAY/MAY 1
7 p.m. Tickets are $18/general, $15/advance. At Church of the Resurrection, 2280 N. Shenandoah Road, Alexandria. Contact Christine Fiske at christine.fiske@ucmagency.org. Call 703-978-1056 or visit www.TheDelRayArtisans.org or view_entry.php?id=911&date=20110514.

**Mount Vernon Evening Lions Dinner.** SATURDAY/MAY 1
6:30 p.m. Speaker is Erika Hernandez from Point Foundation, a national LGBTQ youth scholarship organization. At The Lion’s Den, 7666 Richmond Hwy., Alexandria. Call 703-718-0860.

**Mount Vernon Genealogical Society.** SATURDAY/MAY 1
1 p.m. Features a presentation on “Genealogy from the Inside Out: Tracing a Family Secret from a Single Clue.” With Steve Luxenberg, senior editor with the Washington Post. At Room 112 of the Hollin Hall Senior Center, 1500 Shenandoah Road, Alexandria. Call Harold McClendon at 703-360-0920 or harolmc@emc.com.

**SUNDAY/MAY 15**
Martinez and Guthrie. 7 p.m. Tickets are $18/general, $15/advance. At Church of the Resurrection, 2280 N. Shenandoah Road, Alexandria. Visit www.FocusMusic.org. Call 703-501-6061.

**Mount Vernon Crop Walk.** SATURDAY/MAY 1
1:30 p.m. Part of the proceeds from this walk will benefit United Community Ministries and New Hope Housing. At St. Aidan’s Episcopal Church, 4831 Riverbend Road, Alexandria. Contact Christine Fiske at christine.fiske@ucmagency.org or 703-765-1016.

**Entertainment**

**Cici’s Pizza Fundraiser.** SATURDAY/MAY 1
When you eat at Cici’s Pizza anytime on Tuesday, May 17, 10 percent of your meal will be donated to United Community Ministries (UCM). At Cici’s Pizza, 7666 Richmond Hwy., Alexandria. Call 703-718-0860.

**SUNDAY/MAY 15**
**Middle School Drama Festival.** 2 p.m. and 5 p.m. St. Nearly 100 Stephen’s & St. Agnes School students in grades sixth, seventh and eighth will perform in full-scale drama and musical theater productions. At St. Stephen’s & St. Agnes School, 1000 St. Stephen’s Road, Alexandria.

**Titan Expo.** 1 to 5 p.m. An outdoor fun festival. Food, music, games, moon bounce, bake sale, face painting, car bash, used book sale, dog obstacle course, and more. All proceeds support the Scholarship Fund of Alexandria. Free Admission, but tickets required for games and other purchases. Rain or Shine. At T.C. Williams High School, 3330 King Street, Alexandria. Call 703-824-6668.

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**Wednesday/May 18**
Swing Dancing. 9 to 11 p.m. Admission is $10. With the band, JP McDermott and Western Bag. At Nick’s Nightclub, 542 South Pickett Street, Alexandria.

**Thursday, May 19**

**Friday, May 20**
Mount Vernon Swing Band. Cost is $4. Hilton Hall Senior Center will be hosting the Mount Vernon Swing Band. Call 703-765-4773.

Poetry Reading. 10 a.m. Mary McEwen, First Poet Laureate of the City of Alexandria, will return to Hilton Hall Senior Center to share her new poetry. At 1500 Shenandoah Road, Alexandria. Call 703-765-4773.

Symphony Orchestra of Arlington. 7:30 p.m. Inaugural concert at the George Washington Masonic Memorial. With musical director Jeff Dokinen, the concert will feature the works of Mozart and Tchaikovsky. Visit www.symphonyorchestraofarlington.com.

**May 20 to 22**

**Saturday, May 21**

**SUNDAY/MAY 15**
Martinez and Guthrie. 7 p.m. Tickets are $18/general, $15/advance. At Church of the Resurrection, 2280 N. Shenandoah Road, Alexandria. Visit www.FocusMusic.org. Call 703-501-6061.
Boutique District Charity Day
29 Retailers. 29 Charities. 1 Feel Good Shopping Day.

R ead y to do a little shopping in Old Town and help 29 local charities at the same time? The Old Town Boutique District (OTBD) announces a community-focused Spring event called Boutique Charity Day taking place on Saturday, May 14. This small business-driven event is staged to be the largest charity collaboration in the metro area.

Each retail member of the OTBD has hand-picked local and national charities to support on this day. Retailers will provide specialty or promotion in their stores that would benefit that charity of choice. For example, beauty boutique Bellacara will be hosting Stacy Boylan Day. Stacy Boylan, the store’s first-ever employee, lost her life nine years ago to Cystic Fibrosis. Profits from that day will be donated to the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation.

“The unfortunate and sudden loss of Stacy presented an opportunity for Bellacara to turn it into something good,” said Kim Petens, co-owner of Bellacara and Bloomers. “So, we thought why not multiply that goodness and host an OTBD Charity Day.”

Examples of participation include European bra-fitting salon The Full Cup hosting a “Foundations for Success” new panties drive for Dress for Success, La Cuisine donating 15 percent of in-store and on-line sales to FreshFarm Market’s food stamp program, Hysteria donating 20 percent of sales to Alexandria's Giving Circle, to Periwinkle collecting gently used Spring/Summer suits, bags, shoes, accessories and jewelry for Suited for Success.

A complete list of each shop’s activity and charity is located at www.oldtownboutiquedistrict.com.

The pianists take a few moments from time to time to narrate. Of the two, John Kaibliefisch has the bulk of the spoken material and he delivers it with a nice, humorous touch. Indeed, he gets the first (or perhaps second) big laugh of the evening when reading Sondheim’s lyric for “Invocation,” which includes the prayer “You who look down on actors... and who don’t.”

All this takes place on a very big set for what is essentially a very intimate show. Micha Kachman designed a wall-filling expanse of shimmering plastic strips adorned with pages, presumably from the scripts of Sondheim’s shows. In the center he places a fairly wide, light encircled prosenium. When the company is spread across the large playing space they seem far apart from each other. Edelen even gets a chuckle by pointing out the paucity of performers when, in the finale, she looks over the stage and says “We need more people!”

At $55 to $81 a seat, this is an expensive but enjoyable collection of highlights from the first half of Sondheim’s brilliant career delivered with just a touch of explanation. It lacks any effort to use the songs in a story-telling context, however. That is a failing that later revues based on Sondheim’s songs, such as “Putting It Together” which Signature’s Artistic Director Eric Schaeffer directed on Broadway and then brought here, tried to correct.

The script for “Mindgame” is marked by the facile touch for twists and turns that one would expect from such an author. The dialogue isn’t exactly what one would call subtle, but this cast manages to keep a straight face in the presence of a clunker or two while they keep the tension level high.

Director Follmer’s design team puts the intimate space called The Lab Studio Theatre at Convergence on North Quaker Lane to good use even though the limits of their financial resources for set construction are clear. Horowitz has built into his script a number of visuals that set designer Michael deBlois and set dresser Kim Gowland accommodate efficiently. But there are times when you may not notice a change in the set or a clever property because you are just having too much fun watching Adams.

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Preschool Teacher Turns Scrapbook Instructor

Claudia Lopez-Viñas teaches scrapbooking workshop.

Preschool teacher turned scrapbook instructor Claudia Lopez-Viñas describes the craft she is so passionate about: “What makes scrapbooking different than writing in a journal is that there are photographs that go with the words. It is a moment in time that is captured with the snap of a picture.”

Recently, she taught the first scrapbooking workshop at Alexandria’s Lee-Fendall House Museum and Garden.

“In our efforts to expand our programming, this was a good fit, given how popular scrapbooking was in the Victorian period,” said Lee-Fendall House Museum and Garden’s Executive Director Tracy L. Sullivan.

After a short introduction on scrapbooking, Lopez-Viñas demonstrated the various methods used in scrapbooking such as layering, tearing, overlapping, collage and photo contour cutting.

“Being able to see people try it out on their own … that aha! moment is probably the very best part of the workshop,” she said. Being able to scrapbook something is “like the birth of a preemie that spent his first three months in the ICU or the life of someone that has passed away, huge. It is an outlet for emotions.

“I think the most wonderful thing about scrapbooking is that much like exercising there are good feelings associated with doing it and completing pages and albums. While you are creating you slip away to that special place and then can appreciate what you have done,” Lopez-Viñas said.

So how did a preschool teacher become an expert scrapbooker?

Lopez-Viñas got involved in scrapbooking in 2003 when she wanted to document a year of activities and lessons for 10 preschoolers.

During the process, she fell in love with the craft, especially “the hands-on paper aspect of scrapbooking.”

“I like designing layouts and matching background paper with photo mats, stickers and borders. I like to experiment with color as well and combine two colors that wouldn’t normally go together,” she said.

Lopez-Viñas has been teaching scrapbooking workshops across Virginia for about 5 years. She started teaching at scrapbooking parties.

She has taught workshops with up to 32-35 people. However, she prefers smaller classes like the workshop she taught at Lee-Fendall House, which makes it easier for her to monitor everyone’s progress and help them as needed.

“Just like a writer will find their voice, scrapbookers will find their own style of sharing their life’s special moments,” she adds.

Although many may believe that scrapbooking is just for those mature in age, Lopez-Viñas stated that she’s taught individuals ranging from 6 to 63.

In addition, she believes that scrapbooking has a “healing effect” that can be particularly beneficial to children. She said that children “can appreciate this as they look back at pictures of themselves when they were young.

“It has been researched and documented, that children that grow up in a home where albums are made have a greater sense of self-worth and belonging than those that grow up in a family where pictures are stored away in boxes or on computers.”

Therefore, she advises everyone to “Make albums for your family.”

It’s no wonder that her favorite scrapbook

See Scrapbooking. Page 42
Lines in the Sand

Back to basics in the House and a divided new future for the Senate.

In recent decades, Alexandria has been represented by two members in the House of Delegates and one member of the state Senate. That changed a decade ago, when the city picked up an extra member of the House and another member of the Senate. Now that the once-in-a-decade redistricting process has drawn to a close, Alexandria finds itself with a mixed picture. It’s back to basics in the House. But the city will now have three Senate districts — a first for the city.

That means that none of the three senators who represent Alexandria in the Virginia state Senate will have a majority of his or her district in the city. Former Del. Marian Van Landingham (D-45) said that even though it’s good to have three voices speaking out in favor of the city’s interests, there’s value in having a member who is perceived as the senator from Alexandria.

“Frankly, it’s harder to represent more than one jurisdiction,” said Van Landingham. “You have to go to more meetings, and you have to deal with more local officials.”

The 45th House District, which is currently represented by Democrat David Englin, will lose precincts of Mount Vernon and central Alexandria. In exchange the district will pick up parts of Del Ray, Arlandria and Arlington Ridge.

The 46th House District, which is currently represented by Democrat Charniele Herring, will lose its one Fairfax County precinct. In exchange, it will pick up MacArthur precinct and Chinquapin precinct.

The 30th Senate District, which is currently represented by Democrat Patsy Ticer, will lose parts of Arlington Views, Penrose, Seminary Hill and Hybla Valley. In exchange, the district will pick up Fort Hunt, Mount Vernon and Fort Belvoir.

The 35th Senate District, which is currently represented by Democrat Majority Leader Dick Saslaw, will lose parts of Annandale and Cameron Station. In exchange, the district will pick up parts of Springfield, Bailey’s Crossroads and Falls Church.

The 39th Senate District, which is currently represented by Democrat George Barker, will lose parts of Fairfax Station and Franconia. In exchange, the district will pick up six precincts in Alexandria as well as parts of Newington and Lorton.
TC Beats Lake Braddock, Advances to Regionals

Titans continue improving under second-year head coach Mulherin.

By Jon Roetman
Gazette Packet

Members of the T.C. Williams boys lacrosse team hung around on the field long after Monday’s matchup with Annandale had concluded. Senior midfielder Jimmy Carragher and head coach Mike Mulherin were in pleasant moods during post-game interviews and the Titans generally seemed upbeat.

TC, the No. 6 seed, lost to No. 2 Annandale 12-6 during the semifinal round of the Patriot District Tournament at Lee High School. While the Titans fell short against the Atoms, TC accomplished its goal for the evening: prove to itself that progress had been made and recent success was no fluke.

Annandale is considered one of the top teams in the Northern Region and the Atoms handed TC a lopsided 18-4 loss on April 26. On Monday, the Titans led briefly in the first quarter and lost to Annandale 8-7 on March 29, posted two shutouts in a span of five days and surpassed their win total from the previous season by mid-April. Braddock had put in a new defense the first time we played and to go in and to show that that was a fluke. … When we came out [against the Bruins in the district tournament], we controlled the game the whole time. They did not stand a chance.”

— T.C. Williams senior attackman Jimmy Carragher

When we came out [against the Bruin in the district tournament], we controlled the game the whole time. They did not stand a chance.”

— T.C. Williams senior attackman Jimmy Carragher

The Titans took care of that three days earlier, beating Lake Braddock 8-5 for the program’s first playoff victory in the last five years while earning a berth in the Northern Region Tournament.

TC has had several memorable moments this season. The Titans beat Lake Braddock 8-7 on March 29, posted two shutouts in a span of five days and surpassed their win total from the previous season by mid-April. But beating the Bruins in the postseason and following it with a strong effort against Annandale has taken the Titans to new heights.

“We stepped up and showed that what we were on Friday against Lake Braddock is what we’ll be every night that we play,” Mulherin said of the team’s performance against Annandale, “and going into the regional tournament I think that’s great for us to have that confidence. … Lake Braddock had put in a new defense the first time we played and to go in and to show that we had only become a better team, sharper on offense, our defense is solidified, and to walk away with another convincing win was huge to our team, as well as hopefully a statement for the region to know that we’re a legitimate program.”

Carragher scored a team-high two goals against Annandale.

“For my senior night, my favorite TC moment was beating [Lake Braddock] earlier this season,” he said. “People thought that that was a fluke. … When we came out [against the Bruins in the district tournament], we controlled the game the whole time. They did not stand a chance.”

Along with team accomplishments, several Titans garnered individual accolades. Senior attackman Ben Bilodeau and senior defenseman Qwante Cherry were named first-team all-district. Senior midfielder Ben Goodwin received second-team honors, and Bomberger, junior attacker Kordie Richards, senior midfielders Carragher, Tim Dwyer and Jay Whitmire and junior defenseman Dominic Ballou garnered honorable mention.

Regionals will begin May 17.

“I couldn’t be more proud of these guys,” Mulherin said. “Win or loss, we’re better every day. We’re today than we were last week and I couldn’t be more proud of our team.”

Sports Briefs

Reed Commits to UNC, Breaks Record

St. Stephen’s & St. Agnes sophomore attack Carly Reed broke the school’s single-season goalscoring record on May 5 and committed to the University of North Carolina on May 7.

On Saturday, while attending her sister’s graduation at the University of North Carolina, Reed committed to the Tar Heels, a source close to Reed wrote in an email.

Reed is among the top goal-scorers in the nation, according to ESPNRISE.com. Her three goals on May 5 gave her 207 in her career. Depending on how far the Saints advance in the postseason, Reed has a chance to break the program’s all-time record of 233 in just her second year.

— Jon Roetman

TC Girls Lacrosse Ends Season

The No. 6 T.C. Williams girls lacrosse team lost to No. 3 West Springfield, 13-10, on May 6 during the opening round of the Patriot District Tournament, ending the Titans’ season.

The Lady Titans let West Springfield jump out early in the first half to a 4-0 lead and it
Sports

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was 7-3 at halftime. In the second half, T. C. Williams started to patiently whistle away its opponent’s lead due to harder offensive pressure, much better defense, and improved ball control off the draw. After the score became tied 10-10 in the second half, West Springfield managed to get three late goals that were fired from point-blank range almost right on the crease. Ultimately, those early first-half goals and being behind 7-1 fairly early were critical factors that the Lady Titans were not able to overcome. The Lady Titans (5-7) previously lost 18-5 to West Springfield on April 6 during the regular season.

Grant Cole

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 Nasy 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 Kesha Walton at keshawalton@hotmail.com or 703-296-8717 for more information.

Aces Looking For Host Families

The Alexandria Aces Collegiate Summer Baseball Club of the Cal Ripken Collegiate Baseball League is looking for host families for its upcoming 2011 season. Aces players arrive in Alexandria on Memorial Day Weekend. All players need is a place to sleep and access to a washer and dryer, the Aces take care of everything else. To volunteer as a host family, contact Aces Host Family Coordinators, David Cheney (Aces Club Boosters - Baseball Chairman) or Lisa Marie Cheney (Aces Club Boosters - Board Vice Pres.) by email at cheneydave@gmail.com or by phone at 703-370-2882.

Sports Updates on Twitter

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

American Legion Players Wanted

The Montgomery College Rockville baseball team is looking for American Legion or showcase-quality players for the fall 2011 and spring 2012 seasons. The Rockville Express of the Cal Ripken League plays their home games at MC Rockville. Contact Coach Rick Price at 240-447-6948 for more information.

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 essential. Lifeguards, CPR, AED, and First Aid certification must be completed by May 23. 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.

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@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 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.

Youth Rugby Program Registration

The Alexandria Department of Recreation, Parks and Cultural; Recreation Services Division is now accepting registration for non-contact and tackle rugby through May 31. Boys and girls ages 6-14 are eligible to participate and the registration fee is $30. For more information, call the Youth Sports Office at 703-746-5402 or see www.alexandriava.gov/rec/recreation.

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Marilyn Wharton

Longtime Alexandria resident Marilyn M. Wharton, born Oct. 16, 1922 in Trenton, N.J., died on May 7, 2011 at the Goodwin House, Alexandria of respiratory failure. She is survived by her sons, Henry R. Wharton, IV (Jody) and Stephen B. Wharton (Mary) of Alexandria, and three grandsons, Edward, Will and Hank Wharton. Her brother Pat Marshall lives in Ocean City, Md.

Wharton was preceded in death by her husband, Henry R. Wharton, III and son, Thomas M. Wharton. Marilyn was a real estate broker in Alexandria for over 40 years, starting in her mother's firm and founding Henry R. Wharton, Inc. with her husband in 1951. Wharton Real Estate operated in Old Town Alexandria until 1986. Marilyn earned the recognition of the Pioneer Club from Northern Virginia Board of Realtors. She was past president of the Alexandra Rotary Club Inner Wheel and also past president of the TWIG, Junior Auxiliary Alexandria Hospital. She graduated from St. Mary’s Academy in Alexandria, Class of 1940 and attended Gulf Park Junior College in Mississippi. She was a longtime member of the Belle Haven Country Club. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made for local charities to the Alexandria Rotary Foundation. A memorial visitation was held May 10 family at Belle Haven County Club following a private burial service.

Joseph John Langenfeld II

Joseph John Langenfeld II (Joe), the oldest of 14 children, was born in Denver, Colo., on Aug. 21, 1943 and died at home from cancer on April 18, 2011. He grew up in Mitchell, S.D., graduating from Notre Dame High School in 1961. Joe received a degree in mechanical engineering from the School of Mines and Technology in Rapid City, S.D. in 1966. Serving in the U.S. Army from May of 1967 to May of 1970, he was a captain and platoon leader/pilot for helicopter missions in Viet Nam and served three years as a pilot for the South Dakota National Guard. He also worked as a deckhand on a cargo ship, 5th grade teacher, boat builder, owner and operator of a fiberglass repair business, pilot for off shore drilling in Louisiana, mechanical engineer, and audio book producer and publisher. Other pursuits included writing, sailing, photography, architectural design, and science. He married Holly Maxson from Lemmon, S.D. in 1979. They have three sons, Jeremy of Alexandria, Va., Samuel and Benjamin of Falls Church, Va.

Joe was adventurous and had a unique view in the way he approached life. He had an analytical mind. Those he engaged with in problem solving or in an evening of conversation couldn’t help but notice the depth of his intelligence. Joe was kind and cherished his relationships with his family, friends, co-workers and neighbors. He had a special love for children. Joe loved to joke and his favorite movie genre was comedy. His voice, laughter and presence in our lives will be forever missed.


Joseph John Langenfeld II (Joe), of Alexandria, Va., Samuel and Benjamin of Falls Church, Va., and his parents, Eloise and Joseph Langenfeld and brother, Clifford. A memorial will follow inurnment at Arlington National Cemetery at a later date.

Obituaries

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By McKenya Dilworth-Abdalla
Nannie J. Lee Memorial Recreation Center

The Department of Recreation, Parks and Cultural Activities hosted yet another heavily anticipated and successful Cheerleading Competition on April 9 at T.C. Williams’ spacious gymnasium to hundreds of doting, eager and supportive parents, fans and community supporters.

The Cheerleading Competition has over 30 years of history here in the department — started after the popularity of the activity with the youth was evident and hard to ignore. The program brought in hundreds of spectators, coaches, participants, special guests and City staff, which makes it the largest youth sporting event each year in the City. The Sports Division of the Recreation Department should really be proud of their planning and execution of stellar products.

Staff of the event was pleased with the reaction from the crowd and more importantly, the satisfaction on the faces of all participants who have worked tirelessly to prepare to shine, as they all did, at the competition.

The competition is indeed a sport and is supported and nurtured under the auspices of the Sport Division within the Department where Mac Slover is the director. Tamika Coleman, youth sports supervisor, goes through months of painstakingly detailed planning with the Cheerleading Committee, a group that has representation from all neighborhood recreation centers.

The official results of the competition are listed below and on behalf of the Department of Recreation, Parks and Cultural Activities; I would like to say that each participant was a winner, as long as they gave it their all.

**PEE WEE DIVISION**
1st Place – William Ramsay Rex
2nd Place – Patrick Henry Raiders
3rd Place – Charles Houston Bulldogs

**YOUTH DIVISION**
1st Place – Charles Houston Bulldogs
2nd Place – Patrick Henry Raiders
3rd Place – Bowie Boys and Girls Club
Honorable Mention – Calvary Christian Academy
Honorable Mention – Forestville Boys and Girls Club
Honorable Mention – Mt. Vernon Tigers
Honorable Mention – William Ramsay Rex
Honorable Mention – Cora Kelly Cougars

**JUNIOR DIVISION**
1st Place – Patrick Henry Raiders
2nd Place – Charles Houston Bulldogs
3rd Place – South County Middle School
Honorable Mention – George Washington Power Up
Honorable Mention – William Ramsay Rex
To have a notice listed, e-mail gazetteconnectionnewspapers.com. Call Steve Hibbard at 703-778-9412 with questions.

**EVERY THURSDAY**

Environmental Activists Needed. 6 p.m. Close up the community, the country, the planet — meet with the Sierra Club at its new NOVA Hub at Del Ray, 2612 Mount Vernon Ave., Suite 206, Alexandria, RVA. RSVP to Philip Ellis, Sierra Club Field Organizer at 703-970-0257 or philip.ellis@sierraclub.org.

**ONGOING**

Job opportunities for the summer 2011 are available at the City of Alexandria Department of Recreation, Parks and Cultural Activities. Positions offer flexible schedules, competitive wages, and ranges from camp leaders to lifeguards, and cashiers to pool managers. To see what the Department offers, visit www.alexandriacva.gov/Recreation. Positions are open until filled. Call Wendy Irving, Human Resources Technician, at 703-746-5313.

**THURSDAY/MAY 12**

Start, Manage, Grow Your Business. 7 to 9:30 a.m. Learn basic human resource management practices and issues. At the Lynoom, 201 S. Washington Street, Alexandria. Contact the Alexandria Chamber of Commerce for more information.

Art Uniting People. 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Guest speaker will be a former U.S. Rep. Patrick J. Kennedy. “A Celebration of Creativity and Mental Health.” It is provided for people whose lives have been affected by mental illness the opportunity to use art as a form of expression in order to engage the public.

**See Bulletin, Page 42**
EDUCATION TRAINING

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ALEXANDRIA, Va. — Since she was a child, Gloria Flanagan’s dream was to be a writer. She started telling stories at age 4, and even as a teenager, she wrote a book about her family’s trip to Disney World.

Flanagan’s passion for writing has not diminished over the years. She is now a full-time writer and has published several novels and children’s books. She also runs a successful online store that sells her own books as well as those of other authors.

Flanagan attributes her success to her strong work ethic and dedication. She makes sure to write every day, even when her schedule is hectic. She also makes time for family and friends, which she says is important for maintaining a healthy work-life balance.

Flanagan’s journey to become a writer was not easy. She faced many challenges along the way, including rejection from publishers and self-doubt. But she persevered and continued to write, eventually earning her a place in the publishing world.

Flanagan’s advice to aspiring writers is to never give up. She encourages them to write, read, and seek feedback from others. She also recommends joining a writing group or taking a writing course to help develop their skills.

Flanagan hopes to continue writing for many years to come. She is currently working on a new novel and plans to release it in the near future. She also plans to expand her online store to include even more books.

Flanagan’s success as a writer is a testament to the power of determination and hard work. She is a shining example of what can be achieved with a passion for writing and a willingness to persevere through challenges.

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**People**

**Scrapbooking**

From Page 53

is the one she made for her daughter, Carolina. She explains that although they were taking photos of their daughter in the early years of her life, they were too consumed with taking care of their expanding family — now six in number — to put together a photo album or frame them. So after Carolina’s 5th birthday, she created a scrapbook titled “The Many Faces of Carolina.” It was also her first digital album. Once she finished the scrapbook, she went through it with her daughter telling her the story behind each photo.

“From that moment on, every person that came in to visit, she would grab by the hand and ask, ‘Have you seen my book? It is all about me,’” she added.

The Northern Virginia native has been a teacher for over 15 years, first teaching preschool in the Northern Virginia area before going overseas to teach ESL students and then coming back to the area in 1999. She currently resides in Alexandria.

**Bulletin Board**

From Page 40

Alexandria community in a conversation about mental health issues. At the Lee Center, 1108 Jefferson Street, Alexandria.

**FRIDAY/MAY 13**

Open House, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. National Counseling Group offers a collaborative program specializing in mental health, substance abuse, and life skills services for youth, adults, and families. At 4201 Martin Ave., Annandale. RSVP to Jacquelyn Pinkham at 703-813-5982 or Jacqueline.pinkham@nationalcounselinggroup.com.

**SATURDAY/MAY 14**

SBAMAR Education Day. 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Day’s activities will feature a keynote speaker providing tips on how to help children transition to independent teens and adults. At Lee Recreation Center, 1108 Jefferson St., Alexandria. Visit www.sbamar.org.

**TUESDAY/MAY 17**

Lupus Support Group. 7 p.m. Meets the third Tuesday of the month at Beatley Library, Small Conference Meeting Room, 5005 Duke St., Alexandria. Call 202-349-1176 or 1-888-349-1176 or e-mail info@lupusdmv.org.

**Business Development Roundtable. Noon to 1 p.m. Topic: “Saving Green by Going Green.” At the Durant Community Arts Center, 1605 Cameron St., Alexandria. Contact Gloria Flanagan at 703-778-2961, gf11aman@alexandriacable.com.

**MAY 17-18**

Social Networking Counseling. Businesses who are ready to improve their social networking and use of social media (Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn) are encouraged to schedule 45 minute one-on-one counseling sessions with media expert Ray Sidney-Smith of W3 Consulting. Contact Gloria Flanagan at gf11aman@alexandriacable.com to receive the required questionnaire/sign up form.

**WEDNESDAY/MAY 18**

Restoring Shad to the Potomac River. 7:30 p.m. A presentation by the Friends of Dyke Marsh with speaker Jim Cummins of the Interstate Commission on the Potomac River Basin. At Hurley Meadow Park Visitor Center, 3701 Lockheed Blvd., Alexandria. Call 703-766-2525 or visit www.fodmr.org.
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www.Babsbeckwith.com
MLS ID# AX759129

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ALEXANDRIA

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In Belle Haven, this lovely home has been completely updated with a large family room addition adjacent to stunning kitchen. Four bedrooms, three-and-a-half beautiful baths, and a one-car garage complete the terrific living spaces on four levels.

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ALEXANDRIA

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Betty Mallon
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www.bettemallon.com
MLS ID# AX759400

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www.robinarnoldwell.com
MLS ID# FX7590747

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ALEXANDRIA

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OLD TOWN ALEXANDRIA

**Contemporary Living in the Heart of Old Town**

Rarely available loft-style condo in heart of Old Town. Wide open and Cynthia blocks to King Street Metro, shops, and Whole Foods. Vaulted ceilings, exposed ductwork, spotless and updated kitchen, hardwood floors throughout, and oversized patio!

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