

# Alexandria Gazette Packet



25 CENTS

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JULY 14, 2011

## A Planning Dilemma

West End neighbors oppose widening major thoroughfare.

BY MICHAEL LEE POPE  
GAZETTE PACKET

If you build it, they will drive. That's the concern of West End residents who are opposing a plan to widen Beauregard Street.

"If you keep building lanes, they're all going to be full," said Lynn Bostain, a Seminary Valley resident. "If they're really trying to reduce SOVs — single-occupancy vehicles — there's only one way to do it: You have to take lanes away and make people go to another alternative form of transportation."

**"If you keep building lanes, they're all going to be full."**

— Lynn Bostain

The debate about Beauregard comes as city officials are planning the future of the West End corridor, a major thoroughfare in the city that connects Fairfax County to Arlington through Alexandria. Plans call for the street to be transformed into a high-capacity transit corridor by carving out dedicated lanes for bus-rapid transit that would eventually upgrade to streetcars. Alexandria Vice Mayor Kerry Donley says removing ex-

SEE NEIGHBORS, PAGE 5



Escaping the Heat

Counselor-in-training Alex Brown supervises Fritz Eastman and Hugh Mullane on a Sunfish at the Washington Sailing Marina at Daingerfield Island during the summer sailing camp.

PHOTO BY LOUISE KRAFT/GAZETTE PACKET

## New Day

Jefferson-Houston to get new leadership.

BY MICHAEL LEE POPE  
GAZETTE PACKET

When Jefferson-Houston Elementary School first opened in 1970, the facility was a progressive experiment in "open classrooms." The building had few walls, allowing students and teachers to move freely throughout the facility. The library was situated at the center of the building, with exposed hallways radiating into exposed classrooms.



Rosalyn Rice-Harris  
ALEXANDRIA CITY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

"What I remember most is the people," said Keisha Bogan, who attended Kindergarten at Jefferson-Houston shortly after it opened in 1975 and is now a principal at Hammond Middle School. "When I look back on it now, I realize that they were doing the best they could do to make me feel welcome and build a community."

**"As goes Jefferson-Houston, so goes ACPS."**

— School Superintendent Morton Sherman

SEE A NEW DAY, PAGE 29

## Alexandria's Black Widow Devours Her Competition

Sonya Thomas sets eating records.

BY MAYA HOROWITZ  
GAZETTE PACKET

Sonya "The Black Widow" Thomas ate 40 hot dogs in 10 minutes to win the first women's July Fourth Nathan's Hot Dog Eating Contest at Coney Island.

She said it's "like the competitive eating Superbowl. I always had a dream of getting first place."

Thomas, who is 43 years old, 5 feet 5 inches and weighs 100 lbs., was born in South Korea. She moved to the United States in 1997 and settled in Alexandria.

She takes pride in being from Alexandria; she enjoys the fact that they announce it before every contest. "It's my first home since I'm an immigrant from Korea," she said.

Thomas said she was always a

good eater. "I could always eat more than normal people. People could not believe me when I was eating."

She also was always very competitive. "Not only in eating, in everything in my life. I really believe in myself."

In 2002, she saw the Nathan's Hot Dog Eating Contest on television. At that time, the top eater in the world was Takeru Kobayashi. He ate 50 hot dogs in 12 minutes. His career drew attention to the competitive eating world.

Thomas went to 7-Eleven and bought a few hot dogs, but she had trouble getting them down. She thought, "I'm not going to enter the contest because I don't want

to look dumb."

In 2003, she entered the Nathan's Molly Pitcher qualifier in

SEE COMPETITION, PAGE 30

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OLD TOWN ALEXANDRIA \$895,000



### Exquisite Garden & Patio

This beautifully appointed townhouse is just a short walk to fine restaurants and interesting shops in Old Town. An inviting marble foyer ushers you into this two-bedroom, three-and-one-half-bath home with a library/third bedroom on the first floor. A dramatic living room with detailed moldings and built-in bookcases features a center fireplace, high ceilings and French doors opening to a spectacular brick patio with mature plantings, flowers and shade trees. A full attic provides exceptional storage and a garage allows for convenient parking.

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OLD TOWN ALEXANDRIA \$1,425,000



### In the Heart of Old Town

is this handsome four bedroom, three and a half bath brick home that has been carefully renovated to reflect a twenty-first century lifestyle while preserving its nineteenth century beginnings. Tall ceilings, wood floors, large windows and glass doors bring glorious illumination to all rooms; two fireplaces and surround sound throughout add ambiance; and a state-of-the-art kitchen with adjacent family/breakfast room opens to the large serene garden.

**Carol Cleary**  
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## Summertime Popularity

This week, Mayor **Bill Euille** released a list of names for a group that's sure to be the most popular people in Alexandria this summer — the Waterfront Plan Work Group.

Members include: **Christopher Ballard**, principal at McWilliamsBallard, a residential real-estate and marketing firm; **Bert Ely**, head of the Ely Company, a financial institutions and monetary policy consulting firm; **Mindy Lyle**, president of Connections Marketing Associates; **Elliot Rhodeside**, principal of Rhodeside & Hartwell, a firm offering urban planning and landscape design; **Nate Macek**, a transportation consultant representing the Waterfront Committee; **David Olinger**, a Realtor representing the Old Town Civic Association; and Lt. Gen. **Bob Wood** (ret.), who served as the United States Army's strategic planner in developing and implementing the Army's strategic response plan for combating terrorism after 9/11. The meetings will be convened by Councilman **Paul Smedberg**, who will have a non-voting role in the work group.

"I received a strong list of candidates from throughout the city, and I am confident that the appointees that were chosen are dedicated to narrowing our differences, building towards a consensus and offering solutions," Euille said in a written statement announcing the members.

Meetings are open to the public and expected to begin later this month.

## Chairman Hokey Pokey

Leadership in both of the city's political parties is shifting, although one will wait until after the election to hand over the reins of power.

On Monday, Alexandria Republican Committee Chairwoman **Brenda Hankins** announced she would be stepping down immediately to take a new job. She's been replaced by former vice chairman **Tom Fulton**, who has now assumed the role at the top of Alexandria's Grand Old Party. Hankins has been chairwoman since replacing **Chris Marston** in 2010.

"I wish the Alexandria GOP continued success," Hankins wrote in an e-mail to Republicans announcing her departure. "And thank you all again for allowing me the opportunity to lead this wonderful organization over the last year."

Alexandria Democratic Committees Chairman **Clark Mercer** will also be leaving the party, although not until he finishes his term at the end of the year. His wife has accepted a new position working for U.S. Sen. **Mark Warner**, moving from his Capitol Hill office to his Richmond office. As chairman, Mercer said he's proud of creating a candidates' school, expanding the party's membership, making the committee meetings more active and having the organization receiving the honor of "Committee of the Year" from the Democratic Party of Virginia. Mercer has been chairman since replacing **Susan Kellom** in 2010.

"It's bittersweet," said Mercer, a lifelong Alexandria resident. "But it's the right move for our family."

## Assistance Needed

Alexandria City Public Schools is one of 22 school divisions across Virginia that has significant discrepancies in the long-term suspension and expulsion rates of disabled and non-disabled students according to a recent report from the United States Department of Education. Yet officials at the Virginia Department of Education failed to adequately review the policies in Alexandria and other jurisdictions, an oversight that federal officials consider a violation of the Individuals with Disabilities Act.

As a result, the federal Office of Special Education Programs declared Virginia "needs assistance" last month.

"This is not an indication that these school divisions are in the wrong," said **Julie Grimes**, spokeswoman for the Virginia Department of Education, in an e-mail. "This comes as a result of the Virginia Department of Education misunderstanding what actions the U.S. Department of Education was expecting."

— MICHAEL LEE POPE

# NEWS



PHOTOS BY LASHAWN AVERY-SIMONS/GAZETTE PACKET

Fireworks light up the sky over the Potomac River July 9 as Alexandria celebrates its 262nd birthday.

## Birthday Bash with a Boom

Alexandria celebrates its 262nd birthday.

BY JEANNE THEISMANN  
GAZETTE PACKET

It was a party 262 years in the making as Alexandria celebrated its birthday July 9 with a day of fun and entertainment that culminated with a fireworks display over the Potomac River accompanied by the Alexandria Symphony Orchestra's playing of Tchaikovsky's 1812 Overture.

Held at Oronoco Bay Park, Maestro Kim Allen Kluge led the ASO in a concert that was highlighted by the United States Marine Corp Basic Training School, whose members provided the traditional cannon salute during the 1812 overture finale.



The Victorian Society of Falls Church enjoys fried chicken, fruit salad and pastries as they celebrate Alexandria's birthday in Oronoco Bay Park.

As part of the birthday festivities, the Parks and Recreation Commission presented its annual awards to individuals, groups and businesses that have made extraordinary contributions to the

City of Alexandria. Those honored included Kevin Beekman, Travis Hester, Melissa Russell and Nick Partee for their creation of the Four Mile Run Farmers and

SEE BIRTHDAY, PAGE 9

Residents enjoy the birthday celebration in Oronoco Bay Park.





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**Dir.: S on G. W. Pkwy from Old Town. R on Morningside, cross Fort Hunt Rd, R on Kirkside, R on Traies to 2202 on left.**

**Offered at.....\$975,000**



**OPEN SUNDAY 1-4**

### 7301 Park Terrace

• Potomac Views year round • Total remake of Villamay beauty • No Expense Spared • Whole House wired for sound, security, and lighting • Master Bedroom with Full Bath includes 2 walk-in closets, jetted tub, and 3-Head Shower • 3 Fireplaces • Smashing Remodeled Kitchen • 17-foot Balcony • StoreWall Garage System.

**Dir.: S on G.W. Pkwy from Old Town. R Tulane, L Park Terrace to 7301 on Left.**

**Offered at.....\$1,150,000**



**OPEN SUNDAY 1-4**

### 1200 Gatewood Drive

• Custom, Modified Split-Level on Large Corner Lot • Conveniently Located Main Level Two-Car Garage • Roofline Transoms Lend Contemporary Flair • Use of Rare Pecky Cypress Accent Hardwoods • Updated Corian Kitchen with Generous Breakfast Space • New Master Suite w/Sitting Area & Walk-in Closet • Luxury Master Bath w/Jetted Tub & Separate Shower • Fabulous Entertainment/Recreation Area on Lower Level  
**Dir.: S on G.W. Pkwy from Old Town. R on Tulane, L on Park Terrace, R on Villamay Blvd., L on Admiral to corner of Admiral and Gatewood.**

**Offered at.....\$925,000**



**OPEN SUNDAY 1-4**

### 1211 Tatum Drive

• California Contemporary Home • Sits on 1.63 Acres and tucked into the side of a hill • Transoms, Skylights, & Timbers • Wonderful Soaring Ceilings • Designer Granite Kitchen • 3 Remodeled Baths • Custom Hot Tub Room off Smashing MBR Suite—MUCH MORE!  
**Dir.: S on G.W. Pkwy from Old Town. R Tulane, L Park Terrace, R Tatum to 1211 at end of cul-de-sac.**

**Offered at.....\$1,199,000**



**OPEN SUNDAY 1-4**

### 2201 Shiver Drive

• Renovated 4 Bedroom, 3 Baths • Full walk-out basement with in-law suite • Hardwood floors & 2 fireplaces • All that plus a hot tub and carport • Beautiful property backs to parkland and creek

**Dir: Fort Hunt Rd – R on Rollins, L on Colgate, R on Shiver to 2201 on left.**

**Offered at.....\$625,000**



### 1222 Woodcliff Court

• Unique Hilltop Cul-De-Sac Setting on Almost 3/4 Acre of Privacy • First Time on Active Market Since Built in 1950 • Total Renovation in 2009-2010 • Kitchen Includes New Granite & Stainless • New Master Suite on Lower Level with Sitting Room • 13' Walk-In-Closet • Large exercise/hobby room • New Windows & Freshly Painted • Garage, Fish ponds & More!

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### 1703 Maple Hill

• Janney's Lane Area • Over \$200,000 in renovations • Island Kitchen • Main Level Master Suite w/New Master Bath • Hobby/ Bonus Room & Exercise Room • Covered deck w/patio below • Two-Car Garage • Full walkout basement • Two-story Entry Foyer • All Inside Beltway

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### 7413 Burtonwood Drive

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### 8413 Fort Hunt Road

• Located in popular Waynwood Subdivision • Unique "HADDON" Split Level • Two FULL BATHS on First Upper Level • Fully Finished Second Upper Level – 4th Bedroom • Formal Living Room with Full Masonry Fireplace • Generous Separate Formal Dining Room • Family Room on Walk-out Lower Level • Fenced Rear Yard with Large Storage Shed • Estate Sale – Awaits your Remodeling Ideas

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### 2509 Stone Hedge Drive

• Charming Stone Cape Cod • 3 Bedrooms and 2 Full Baths • Lovely Deck overlooking an incredible yard • New Kitchen • New Baths • A must-see main-level master bedroom with doors leading to deck

**Offered at.....\$435,000**



### 7238 Stover Court

• Great Woodstone Town House • Backing to Huntley Meadows Park • Unbelievable Privacy • Lovely Elevated Deck • Island Kitchen with Den/Breakfast Area • Bright Living Room • Two Bedrooms with Vaulted Ceilings • Walkout Unfinished Basement

**Offered at.....\$275,000**



### 115 E. Glendale Avenue

• Terrific Location – Near Braddock Metro • Walk to Del Ray and Mt. Vernon Ave. • Three Fully Finished Levels • Huge Yard – Fenced w/Deck and Built-In BBQ • New Granite & Stainless Kitchen • Two Generous Bedrooms, one w/Alcove & Built-In • Off-Street Parking – Sidewalks

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# Neighbors Oppose Widening

FROM PAGE 1

isting lanes in the process would be a recipe for disaster.

“If you don’t widen the road and reduce it to one lane north and one lane south, you’ll create absolute gridlock,” said Donley. “I mean, that’s not going to be sufficient to handle the density that’s there today.”

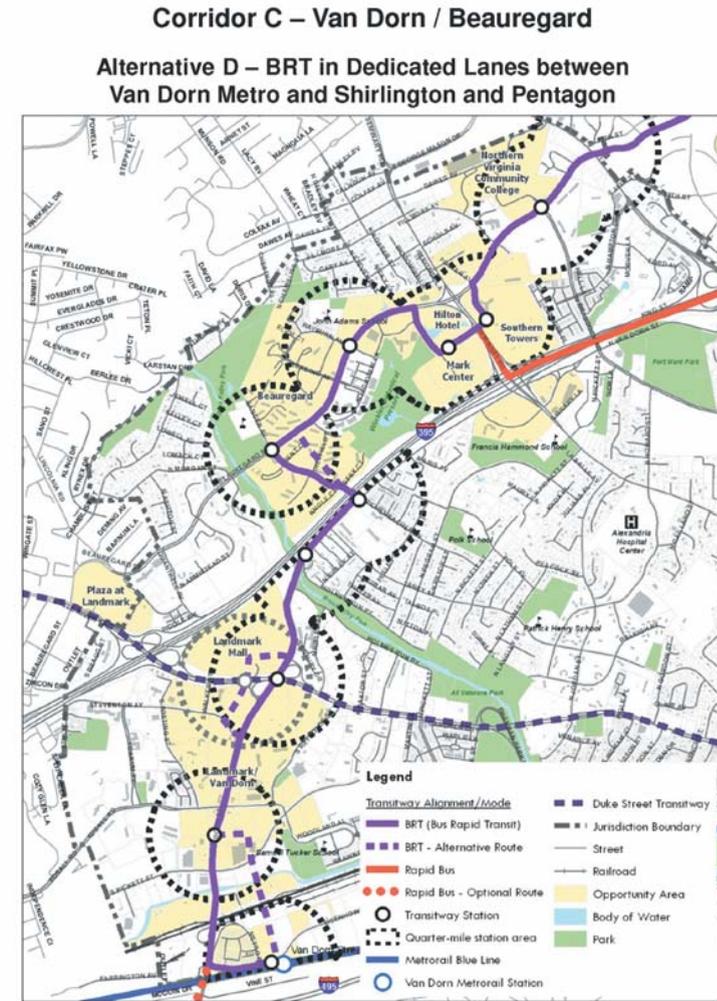
Neighbors disagree. They say widening the road would diminish their quality of life, eliminating a bucolic tree-lined median and adding space to sidewalks in a way that would push the corridor deep into the existing right-of-way. As for Donley’s argument that reducing the number of lanes for single-occupancy vehicles would create gridlock, Bostain isn’t buying it.

“There’s going to be gridlock anyway because there was no transportation plan before BRAC was developed,” she said. “None.”

**BRAC IS** the Base Realignment and Closure Commission, a group that issued recommendation 133 in 2005 moving thousands of Department of Defense employees out of rented space in Crystal City. In an August 2008 letter to BRAC officials, Deputy City Manager Mark Jinks said the road capacity could be achieved by widening Seminary Road and expanding the turning capacity from Seminary into the Mark Center site.

“Since Duke Realty is funding these road improvements, this site does not require any Defense Access Roads funding,” Jinks wrote in a letter dated Aug. 13, 2008. “With these improvements, which are to be made at the developer’s expense, city staff is comfortable that sufficient capacity will be created by the proposed and developer-agreed to improvements and that no additional transportation studies are warranted.”

Jinks, who is a candidate to be-



**This fall, City Council members will hold a public testimony on a plan transportation officials call Alternative D, which would widen Beauregard Street to accommodate dedicated lanes for transit.**

come the next city manager, now admits the endorsement was shortsighted. But the damage has been done. In 2008, the Department of Defense announced that more than 6,000 of its employees would be moving to the Mark Center site. That set off a doomsday scenario for transportation officials charged with finding a way for commuters to get from the Shirley Memorial Highway to the Washington Headquarters Service without bringing neighborhood streets to a standstill. Now U.S.

Rep. Jim Moran (D-8) is trying a last ditch effort to limit the number of cars that can park at the facility when it opens in September. “This parking cap is critical to prevent a traffic nightmare that will be caused by full occupation of the Mark Center this fall,” Moran said last month. “The alternative is unendurable delays on already overcrowded roads.”

**CAUGHT IN THE MIDDLE** of the problem is the Beauregard streets to a standstill. Now U.S. SEE WIDENING, PAGE 29

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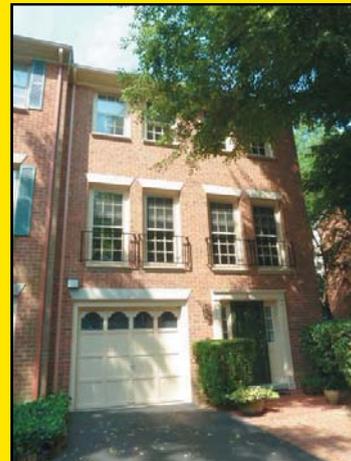
**OPEN SUNDAY**

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4 BR/2 BA. Fantastic 2,180 sq. ft. home in popular Del Ray. Features spacious open floor plan w/newly refin. hardwood floors, large deck & outdoor area. Private driveway & garage for off-street parking. Steps to shops and restaurants on Mt. Vernon Ave. & convenient to Braddock Road Metro.

410 Nelson Avenue E.  
*Bobi Bomar* 703-927-2213



**Alexandria  
\$550,000**

Pristine and Perfect! END unit townhome. New kitchen includes new appl, flooring & the most beautiful granite ever seen! New carpet, paint, lighting. ALL baths updated. New box bay window, new atrium door. Delightful large patio. AND New roof. 3 BR, 2 full, 2 half baths. Backs to COMMON area. Easy access to 395, Mark Center, D.C., Old Town.

5144  
Woodmire Lane  
*Julie Hall*  
703-786-3634



**OLD TOWN**

**Alexandria  
\$699,900**

Blocks to King St.! Charming brick patio doubles as possible off-st. parking (curb cut). Updated kitchen & baths, wood floors throughout, 2 fireplaces. Located near Historic Civil War-Era Railroad Tunnel, now Mt. Vernon Bike Trail. Freshly painted in/out. Shows well. Wonderful light, plantation shutters, recessed lighting and built-ins.

501 S. Royal Street  
*Diann Hicks*  
703-628-2440



**OLD TOWN**

**Alexandria  
\$1,375,000**

Recently custom-built home on a quiet Old Town block close to the riverfront parks, cafes and shops. 4 BR/3.5 BA on 3 fully finished levels. Sensational Kit./FR with FP and built-ins. Delightful private bricked patio garden.

723 South Fairfax Street  
*Diann Hicks*  
703-628-2440



**Rosemont**

**\$1,095,000**

Beautifully expanded 4 BR, 4.5 BA colonial with an attached garage just a few blocks from the King St. METRO, shops & restaurants in Old Town! Spacious room sizes, 2 staircases, FP, and a lovely yard with a private brick courtyard for outdoor entertaining!

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**OPEN SUNDAY**

**Alexandria**  
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## A Story to Tell

Restaurateur. Radio host. Raconteur. Living Legend. And now, **Pat Troy** can add another title: author.

Yes, that's right. Troy is only weeks away from releasing a tell-all autobiography that will chronicle his many fights with City Hall, his unsuccessful campaigns for public office and his decades of experience as one of the city's most colorful characters. Published by the Maryland-based Word Wizards, the book is titled "Pat Troy: I Have a Story To Tell."

"I didn't hold anything back," said the outspoken Irishman during his raucous 70th birthday at Ireland's Own Restaurant. "You can't write a book if you don't tell the truth — the whole truth."

Working with co-author **Kim O'Connor**, Troy conducted more than 12 hours of interviews that were edited into a narrative for the book. It begins with his childhood and chronicles his entire life, including photos from his birthday party this week. Topics include the contentious public hearing for the special-use permit to open his Pitt Street location, the time President **Ronald Reagan** visited the pub, Troy's longstanding quest to have Waterfront Park named in honor of **John Fitzgerald** and his unsuccessful campaigns for City Council.

"There will be some surprises too," said Troy, adding that he's expecting the book to be released in about two months.

## Oils of Old Town

Olive oil has been around since the Neolithic Period, yet Old Town has never had an olive oil tasting room. Until now.

Earlier this month, Olio opened its doors on King Street in the former location of retailer Banana Tree, which closed its doors after 25 years in business earlier this year to move its business online. Hoping to replicate a popular European concept, Olio bills itself as an olive oil and vinegar tasting room.

"We are excited to share with our clients in Alexandria a unique, healthful, totally delicious approach to cooking and eating," said owner **Penny Willimann**. "We think that once customers experience Olio, they will be hooked."

The concept of a tasting room for olive oil originated in the Mediterranean region of Europe, where olive farms are plentiful. Willimann says that the idea has been growing rapidly in the United States, with a new tasting room opening every month or so. That's why she and her husband **Mike Willimann** think that the time is right to open one in Old Town, capitalizing on Alexandria's reputation for being a city of foodies. Aside from the health benefits, Penny Willimann says olive oil can be used on a variety of dishes.

"Grilled salmon marinated with spicy chipotle olive oil and mango balsamic vinegar, fresh spinach salad tossed with limon-infused olive oil and raspberry walnut vinegar, and dark chocolate balsamic vinegar reduced and drizzled on vanilla bean ice cream are only the tip of the iceberg of mouthwatering possibilities," said Willimann.

Merchandise includes a variety of flavor-infused oils and aged balsamic vinegars, each housed in its own Italian-made stainless steel container known as "fusti." Selections are bottled on site.

## Scratch and Win

Feeling lucky? Love earrings? Then head over to the Silver Parrot on lower King Street.

Last week, the longtime Old Town retailer announced it will be giving away free earrings for life to one lucky customer as part of an unusual scratch-off contest. Yes, that's right free earrings each year for the rest of the winner's life. The scratch-off cards will be sent to VIPs — that's Very Important Parrots — who will scrape the tickets to find out if they've won. Customers must bring their scratch-off cards in the store before revealing their prize. The contest runs from July 14-30.

Other prizes include discounts and Parrot Cash, which can be redeemed for merchandise

— MICHAEL LEE POPE



PHOTOS BY JEANNE THEISMANN/GAZETTE PACKET

Alexandria Rotary Club board members for 2011-2012 are: Peter Knetemann, Mary Ann Karau, Victor Dymowski, Daniel Fannon, Ted Stark, Gordon Peyton, Darcy Goetze, Leon Duncan and Raymond Petniunas.

# Rotary Club Installs New Officers

## John Woods takes reins as 84th club president.

BY JEANNE THEISMANN  
GAZETTE PACKET

The Rotary Club of Alexandria formally installed John Woods Jr. as the 84th club president at the July 12 meeting that also recognized the 2011-2012 slate of officers and board members.

"I have a favorite country song called 'What Was I Thinking?'" laughed Woods, a 42-year resident of Alexandria and past chairman of the board of the Chamber of Commerce. "But I am confident of the

wonderful and dedicated board members that surround me so I shouldn't be able to do too much damage in one year."

Woods is a principal at Woods-Peacock Engineering, a service-disabled veteran-owned structural engineering consulting firm headquartered in Alexandria. He received a bachelor of science from The Citadel and master's degree from Duke University and currently serves as the treasurer of the Vietnam Memorial Fund.

"We are in the midst of trying to raise \$100 million to build an education center on the Mall," said Woods, who has been a member of the Rotary Club since March of 1980. "A few years ago I thought I might start stepping back a bit from my community involvement. But Rotary is such a vital part of the city and with the help of so many dedicated members of the organization, I am looking forward to serving my year as president."



Outgoing Rotary president Gayle Spurr, left, and John Woods exchange gavels at the club installation ceremony July 12.



Old Town resident John Woods Jr., right, is sworn in as president of the Alexandria Rotary Club July 12 by Sergeant-at-Arms Sir Stuart Matthews.

## Police Investigate Bank Robbery

Alexandria Police are investigating a bank robbery that occurred July 5 at the Virginia Commerce Bank, located at 1414 Prince St. Around 12:28 p.m., a man entered the bank, displayed a handgun and demanded money. The teller relinquished an undisclosed amount of cash and the suspect fled the area on a silver mountain bicycle. No one was injured.

The suspect is described as a black male, 30 to 40 years-old, approximately 6'1" with a thin build. The suspect was wearing a yellow construction helmet, a black sleeveless shirt overtop of a white long sleeve shirt and blue jeans.

Anyone with any additional information about this robbery is asked to call the Criminal Investigations Section of the Alexandria Police Department at 703-838-4444 or the Crime Solvers tip line at 703-838-4858. Witnesses can remain anonymous.



Bank robbery suspect

## Grant Provides Free Smoke Alarms

Through the Institution of Fire Engineers-USA Branch — and funded by a \$949,000 grant by the Department of Homeland Security Fire Prevention and Safety Grant Program — the Alexandria Fire Department is receiving \$124,118 to provide smoke and carbon monoxide alarms to the community.

In addition, funds from this grant will go towards the purchase and distribution of outreach materials which are designed to increase the community's awareness of the advantages of early detection of smoke, fire and carbon monoxide. The department plans to purchase smoke / carbon monoxide alarms as well as smoke alarms for the hard of hearing. Such alarms will be made available to city residents at no charge.

## Police Officer Recruits Graduate

Eight Alexandria Police Department recruits graduated on June 22 from the 124th session of the Northern Virginia Criminal Justice Training Academy's Basic Law Enforcement School.

The recruits will be state certified in basic law enforcement after completing a four-month field training program. The new officers are Mark A. Aiesi, Marielsi Alvarez Campos, Nuno M. Cunha, John Paul Jones, Kirsten Knapp, Micah Pasquarell, Alex A. Siles and Jeremiah Weiss.

The 24-week program for deputy sheriffs and police officers from the Northern Virginia area covered law enforcement principles and procedures, including criminal codes, accident investigation, physical training and defensive tactics.

## Summer in The City

Artist Penny Hauffe puts the finishing touches on one of her paintings during the 31st Annual Arts and Crafts Festival and Volunteer Fair held June 18-19 at Market Square. Featuring local artisans and musicians, the fair also showcased opportunities for volunteering in Alexandria and kicked off a new weekly arts and crafts fair sponsored by Volunteer Alexandria that began Sunday, July 10 at 105 N. Alfred St. For more information, visit [www.volunteerallexandria.org](http://www.volunteerallexandria.org).



JEANNE THEISMANN/GAZETTE PACKET

## NEWS

# 'All Hands on Deck'

Volunteers gather to make over Community Shelter.

More than 100 volunteers gathered July 12 for "All Hands on Deck," a one-day initiative to improve the facilities of the Alexandria Community Shelter.

"The homeless deserve a chance," said Pam Michell, executive director of New Hope Housing, the nonprofit organization that operates the city-owned emergency shelter. "When given an opportunity, you can change your life."

U.S. Rep. Jim Moran (D-8) was on hand to kick off the day of service, a project of the Alexandria Economic Opportunities Commission.

"This is what community is all about," said Moran as he praised the efforts of Home Depot and the more than two dozen businesses and individuals that contributed to the project. "We need to rely on volunteerism now more than ever since funds may not always be there."

Home Depot was initially asked to donate a few cans of paint by EOC chair Allison Silberberg. They responded by providing more than \$5,000 worth of materials and 40 skilled volunteers to assist with the painting, repairs and installation of new flooring, blinds and landscaping at the 65-bed facility.

"We are happy to be here," said Home Depot store manager Joseph Hand. "We know there is a real value in giving back to the communities we serve."

Other business donors included Hooray for Books!, NextDay Blinds, Barston's Child's Play, Dunkin' Donuts, Honest Tea, Trader Joe's, Atlantis Pizza, La Casa Restaurant, MOM's Organic Market, Hungry For Music, Monterey's Pizza, Whole Foods, The Hoffman Company, AMC Theatres, Focus Data Solutions, the Ladies Group at Bethlehem Baptist Church and the Calvary Chapel. Los Tios in Del Ray provided dinner for volunteers at the end of the day.

Del. Charniele Herring (D-46) and City Councilman Rob Krupicka joined Moran in thanking the

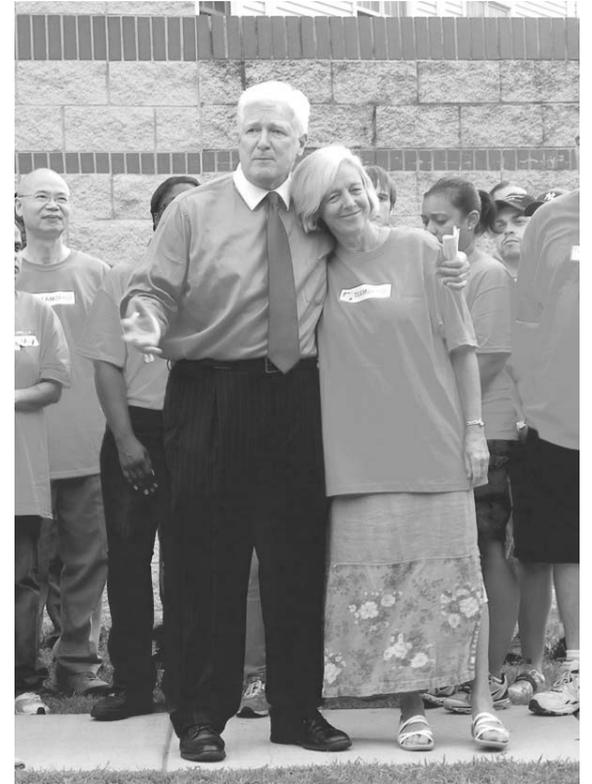


PHOTO BY JEANNE THEISMANN/GAZETTE PACKET

**U.S. Rep. Jim Moran praises the work of New Hope Housing executive director Pamela Michell and volunteers that gathered July 12 to make over the Alexandria Community Shelter.**

volunteers and organizers for their efforts.

"New Hope Housing is keeping our homeless safe and giving them a chance," said Moran, who served as vice president of the EOC in 1976. "They know that but for the grace of God, the homeless are us."

## 600 Turn Out for Housing Expo

Nonprofits say demand is overwhelming.

BY NICK HORROCK  
GAZETTE PACKET

The Northern Virginia Housing Opportunities Expo on June 25 drew some 600 individuals and families seeking sales and rental housing and attending seminars on everything from mortgages to the responsibilities of being a tenant, according to Michelle Krocker one of the organizers.

Krocker, executive director of the Northern Virginia Affordable Housing Alliance, said this is the first time many of the banks, real estate and social service groups had come together on a Northern Virginia regional basis. "I think this allowed people to look at all the opportunities in the region not just their own town or county." She said people operate their lives region wide, often working in one area and living in another.

The expo, held at T.C. Williams High School, was aimed at helping low and moderate income families and people of different ethnic backgrounds find housing. In addition to commercial exhibitors like Chase and PNC banks and a range of mortgage and real estate firms, there were government housing office booths from Fairfax and Arlington counties, the Town

of Herndon and the City of Alexandria.

Fairfax, for instance, had a booth that included the details of the county's first time buyers program.

Karen Serfis, executive director of Ahome, a nonprofit group that helps low and moderate income households find housing, said her booth was literally overwhelmed on Saturday morning giving out all of its brochures and signing up 15 people for a seminar it holds in Arlington.

In addition to some 30 booths where visitors could get information on credit, mortgage and financing, the expo conducted four seminars in English, Vietnamese, Spanish and Chinese on improving credit scores, creating a spending plan, and "looking to rent, what you should know."

Krocker said they had lots of young single workers who came in looking for information on renting as well as others who had lost homes to foreclosure.

Edith, who asked that her last name not be published, is a single mother who said she is hoping to move up from renting in the Springfield area to owning a home. She was loaded with brochures and had attended two seminars. She said the home buying process seminar was extremely valuable.

There were booths on fair housing laws, Asian American Home Ownership Counseling and legal services.



SUBMITTED PHOTO

**Kim Allen Kluge conducts the Alexandria Symphony Orchestra which played a selection of tunes from "Harry Potter," "South Pacific" and a Duke Ellington Suite, along with the traditional 1812 Overture and Sousa marches to accompany the fireworks display.**



SUBMITTED PHOTO

**ABC-TV 7 anchor Alison Starling gave the opening remarks at last weekend's Alexandria Birthday Celebration**

## Birthday Bash With a Boom

FROM PAGE 3

Artisans Market. The Corporate Neighborhood Award was presented to Whiting Turner Contracting Company and Century Contracting Corporation in recognition of their efforts assisting city and Arlandria community members in converting the former Duron Retail Store into a community building.

Three individuals were recognized for their commitment to improving the city: Jim Clark for his volunteer cleanup activities in Monticello and Chinquapin Parks; David Dexter for his volunteer service as a Planning District III Park & Recreation Commission member and Bill Rivers for his service to youth and adults with physical and mental disabilities in the creation of the Miracle League of Alexandria.



LASHAWN AVERY-SIMONS/GAZETTE PACKET

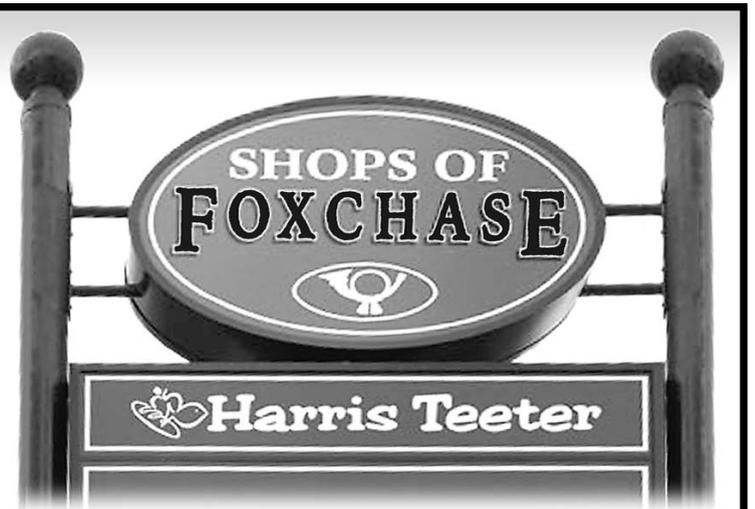
**Marie Weidman waits in line to get her face painted.**

### Do you or your loved one suffer from PARKINSON'S DISEASE?

Have you or your loved one developed unusual behaviors like, seeing, feeling or hearing things that are not really there? If so, those eligible may qualify for a clinical research study with an investigational medication for this condition. Investigational drug and study related procedures and assessments are provided at no cost to you.

For further information, please call

**Alexandria Fairfax Neurology, PC  
703 453 8017**



## Summer IS A BREEZE At The Shops of Fox Chase



**With Everything You Need in One Convenient Place**



**Duke Street, just west of Jordan Street in Alexandria**



### Honoring Waterston

Actor Sam Waterston (center left) and documentary filmmaker Ken Burns share a moment with Alexandria resident Donna DeCorleto, (second from right), vice chairman of the Old Sturbridge Village board of trustees, at a recent dinner in Waterston's honor hosted by the Massachusetts living history museum. With them are OSV historians Kim Adams (left) and Kathy Kime (right). Waterston received the 2011 "Ken Burns Lifetime Achievement Award" in recognition of his many historical roles. More than 200 people attended the benefit, which raised approximately \$28,000 for the Massachusetts living history museum.

# PEOPLE



PHOTO BY JEANNE THEISMANN/GAZETTE PACKET  
**Louise Harrison and Harold Suggs were named King and Queen of the Alfred Street Baptist Church Senior Prom July 8.**



PHOTO BY JEANNE THEISMANN/GAZETTE PACKET  
**Al and Gloria Stokes, married 52 years, at the Senior Prom.**



PHOTO BY JEANNE THEISMANN/GAZETTE PACKET  
**Roxie Sanders, 73, poses for her prom photo.**



PHOTO BY JEANNE THEISMANN/GAZETTE PACKET  
**Jackie Louis on the dance floor.**

## ‘Senior Prom’

Alfred Street Baptist Church celebrates seniors.

Alfred Street Baptist Church held its first “Senior Prom” July 8 as more than 90 members of ASBC, Annie B. Rose and Ladrey retirement homes gathered for an evening of dining, dancing and entertainment.

“When the pastor is out of town, this is what we do,” laughed director of missions and executive assistant to the pastor Rosette Graham as she

led attendees in the Electric Slide on the dance floor. “If I’m going down, y’all are going down with me.”

Louise Harrison and Harold Suggs had their names drawn as King and Queen of the prom, which Graham hopes will become a tradition.

“This has been a wonderful evening,” Graham said. “I hope others will see we can love the Lord and still have fun.”

— JEANNE THEISMANN



PHOTO BY JEANNE THEISMANN/GAZETTE PACKET  
**Margaret Pemberton, Morning Vines and Lorraine Horner. Vines, 91, was celebrated as the oldest attendee at the ASBC Senior Prom.**



PHOTO BY JEANNE THEISMANN/GAZETTE PACKET  
**Photographer Andres Alsop prepares Khandi Barksdale and Calvin Harris Sr. for their prom photo.**

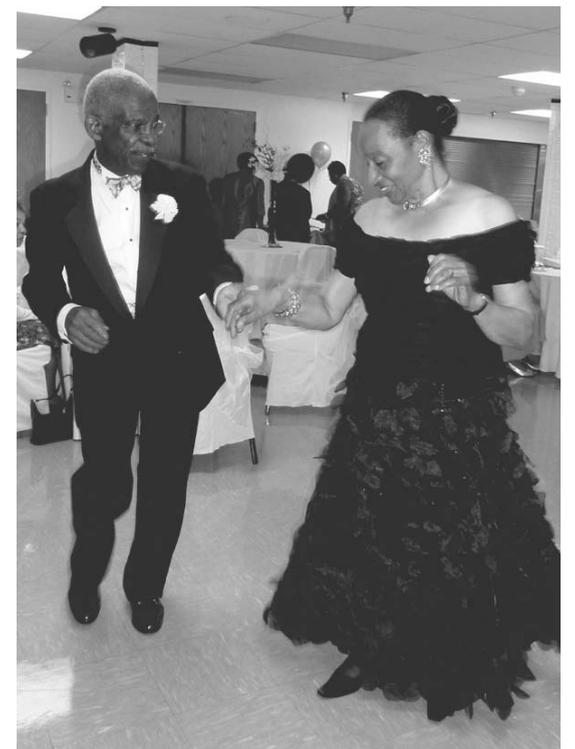


PHOTO BY JEANNE THEISMANN/GAZETTE PACKET  
**Shirley and Leslie Roberts, married 34 years, take to the dance floor.**

### BULLETIN BOARD

#### New Online Guide to Dog Friendly Alexandria

Search “Dog Friendly” on VisitAlexandriaVA.com for a new online guide to events, shops, attractions and dog parks. Direct link:

<http://visitalexandriava.com/about-alexandria/dog-days-of-summer/>

#### EVERY SUNDAY

**West End Farmers Market.** 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., rain or shine, in Ben Brenman Park. Primarily producer-only, every week offers fresh, locally grown fruits, vegetables and herbs; freshly baked breads, pastries and desserts; artisanal

cheeses and yogurt; free range chicken, pork, beef and buffalo; handmade, fresh pasta and oven-ready meals; sweet, savory and smoky nuts; jams, jellies, salsas and sauces; beautiful fresh cut flowers and potted plants. Visit [www.westendfarmersmarket.org](http://www.westendfarmersmarket.org).

#### SATURDAY/JULY 16

**Speak Up for a Child.** 11 a.m. Fairfax Court Appointed Special Advocates is hosting an information session for volunteers. If you would like to learn more about advocating for abused or neglected children, call 703-273-3526, x22 or email [ekosarin@casafairfax.org](mailto:ekosarin@casafairfax.org). At Sherwood Regional Library, 2501 Sherwood Hall Lane, Alexandria.

#### JULY 16 AND 17

**Cat Adoption Summer Launch.** 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. both days. Kick-off of King Street Cats’ (KSC) “What About Me?” campaign for the adoption of special needs and senior cats with refreshments and face painting. At KSC headquarters, 25 Dove Street, Alexandria, VA 22314. Free. If interested in adopting, contact Allie Phillips at (703) 231-7199 or [alliekattgirl@cox.net](mailto:alliekattgirl@cox.net)

#### THURSDAY/JULY 21

**Webinar Travel Workshop.** Noon to 1 p.m. Topic is “Using Data to Measure the Success of Your Travel Management Program.” Hosted by McNair

Travel Management. RSVP by July 20, to Shannon at [sjaenicke@macnairtravel.com](mailto:sjaenicke@macnairtravel.com).

#### SATURDAY/JULY 23

#### Back-to-School Health Fair.

9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Open to uninsured school-aged children residing in the city of Alexandria. The health centers request that families bring immunization records, a health history and any allergy information to their child’s appointment. A parent or guardian must be present. At the Arlandria Health Center, 2 East Glebe Road, Alexandria. Call 703-535-5418.

Campers get acquainted with a guinea pig. The campers are, from left going clockwise, Sydney Payne, Kate Castle, Anna-Jane Guynn and Abby Adams.



# Taking Care of Animals

## Animal Welfare League of Alexandria offers Shelter Buddies Summer Camp.

BY MARILYN LEWIS CAMPBELL  
GAZETTE PACKET

Megan Knight is looking for a summer activity for her 9-year-old daughter, Samantha. The Alexandria mom says she wants her daughter to have fun this summer, but also to learn the importance of public service.

"I want her to know that she needs to do something for someone other than herself," Knight said, a 38-year-old Alexandria resident. "I'm all for swimming and playing games, but I want her to have a tender heart and to realize how fortunate she is."

Knight is considering the Animal Welfare League of Alexandria's summer camp, Shelter Buddies. The next session begins July 18. The goal of the camp is to introduce children to animal sheltering, animal care and local wildlife. Students participate in traditional camp activities, but the crafts and games are designed to educate campers and support the animal shelter.

"A lot of what we do is break myths and stereotypes about animals," Education and Training Manager for the Animal Welfare League of Alexandria Suzanne D'Alonzo

said. "When the economy tanked, we thought about how we could reach out to the community to let them know what we need."

**EACH OF THE WEEK-LONG** camps includes an overview of the shelter, a meet-and-greet with a variety of animals, specialized lessons about dogs and cats, and activities that focus on small animals, such as rabbits, birds, turtles, guinea pigs, and general animal education, such as the importance of spaying and neutering. The campers even get a visit from a representative from Alexandria animal control.

"A lot of what we do is educating kids about being good pet owners," camp assistant summer intern and student at Longwood University Katie Ogden said. "Sometimes an animal will come in without a collar. [Children] will see the difficulty in locating the owner without any identification. Hopefully this is something that they take home to their parent and then carry on with them through their lives."

**CAMPERS MAKE** crafts such as kitty wands — feline toys made with duct tape and strips of fabric. "The wands remain in the cages with the cats," Ogden said, "and when they are adopted, it gives the cat something with a familiar scent to take home. That cat will be going into a new environment, so the wand is one thing the cat has that is familiar and is comforting."

Another camp project is designed to help dogs develop socialization skills. Every child is assigned a dog, and they reward the dog's good behavior with chopped hot dogs. "The dogs become better behaved and more adoptable," D'Alonzo said. "A lot of our dogs need to be around more people."

All camp sessions start at 9:30 a.m. and end at 3:30 p.m. They are filled on a first-come, first-served basis. For more information, contact Suzanne D'Alonzo: [sdalonzo@alexandrianimals.org](mailto:sdalonzo@alexandrianimals.org) or 703-746-5656.

### Summer Camp

Shelter Buddies Camp for children entering 3rd or 4th grade:

July 18-22

Aug. 8-12

Aug. 22-26

Shelter Buddies Camp for children entering 5th or 6th grade:

July 25-29

Another option offered by the Animal Welfare League of Alexandria is Dog Days of Summer Camp, where children learn about dog behavior, training and sports. This camp is offered only to those entering 5th through 8th grades.

Dog Days of Summer Camp for children entering 5th or 6th grades:

Aug. 15-19

Aug. 29-Sept. 2

Dog Days of Summer Camp for children entering 7th or 8th grades:

Aug. 1-5.

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# OPINION

## Hot Races? Primaries? Uncontested?

Northern Virginia awash in uncontested races; but there are several hot primaries on Aug. 23.

First of all, there are some very important races taking place on Aug. 23, and absentee voting is already underway. If there is any chance you might either be away on vacation on Aug. 23 or you might have a combined work day and commute of 10 hours (that is to say, if you work), or you might be away for any other reason, you can vote in person absentee or by paper ballot absentee.

### EDITORIAL

#### PRIMARIES AUG. 23

❖ Fairfax County Board of Supervisors, Braddock district Democrats, Janet Oleszek and Christopher Wade compete to face incumbent John Cook (R) in November.

❖ Senate District 30, Democrats Adam Ebbin, Libby Garvey and Rob Krupicka are in a three-way race for the nomination to replace retiring state Sen. Patsy Ticer. The winner will face Tim McGee (R) in November. This district, including parts of Arlington, Alexandria and Mount Vernon, trends to Democrats, so the primary could determine the winner.

❖ Senate District 31, Democrats Jaime Areizaga-Soto (D) and Barbara A. Favola (D) face off; winner will face Caren Merrick (R), to replace retiring Sen. Mary Margaret Whipple. If you live in McLean, Great Falls, parts of Herndon or Sterling, listen up, you are likely in this newly configured district that used to be almost entirely in Arlington.

❖ Senate District 36, Republicans Jeffrey M. Frederick (R) and Tito Muñoz (R) compete to face state Sen. Toddy Puller (D) in this district that includes Mount Vernon, parts of Lorton and much more of Prince William County than before redistricting.

❖ Senate District 39, Republicans Miller Baker and Scott Martin compete to challenge incumbent state Sen. George Barker (D) in November. This district encompasses parts of Centreville, Clifton, Lorton, Fairfax Station, Springfield and the City of Alexandria.

❖ House of Delegates 49, Democratic primary, Stephanie Clifford (D) v. Alfonso H. Lopez (D). So far there is no Republican or other candidate so the winner of the primary could be uncontested in November in this Arlington district.

#### UNCONTESTED:

Parties could still add a candidate up until Primary Election Day, Aug. 23, but at this point it's unlikely that many of these seats will be contested. This is not an exhaustive list.

Fairfax County, Hunters Mill Board of Supervisors, incumbent Cathy Hudgins (D) is so far uncontested. Also on the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors, Pat Herrity (R-Springfield), Jeff McKay (D-Lee), Gerry Hyland (D-Mount Vernon), Michael Frey (R-Sully) are uncontested.

House of Delegates District 35 in Vienna, Del. Mark Keam (D) is so far uncontested

House of Delegates, District 86, Del. Tom Rust (R) is so far uncontested in this district in parts of Oak Hill, Herndon, Chantilly and Loudoun.

House of Delegates, District 41, Del. Eileen Filler-Corn (D) is so far uncontested in this district that covers parts of Fairfax, Burke and Springfield.

House of Delegates, District 53, Del. Jim Scott (D) is so far uncontested.

House of Delegates, District 43, Del. Mark Sickles (D) is so far uncontested.

House of Delegates, District 44, Del. Scott Surovell (D) is so far uncontested in this Mount Vernon district.

House of Delegates, District 45, Del. David Englin (D) is so far uncontested in this district that includes parts of Mount Vernon, Alexandria and Arlington.

House of Delegates, District 46, Del. Charniele Herring (D) is so far uncontested in this City of Alexandria district.

There are some hotly contested races for November, but more on those races later.

To register to vote, to vote absentee, contact:

Alexandria Board of Elections, 703-746-4050, <http://alexandriava.gov/Elections>

## Be Part of the Pet Gazette

The summer edition of the Pet Gazette will publish on July 27, with contributions and submissions due July 21.

Send in photos of you or other members of your family with your pet or pets along with a caption that includes the full names of everyone pictured, the ages of the pet(s) and any children, information about the pet(s) and a description of what is happening in the photo. Include your town name as well. Good to include: who, what, where, when and why.

We welcome photos, drawings or other artwork; stories and anecdotes about what makes your pet special, how you came to adopt your pet or any other story you'd like to share about your pet; advice for others on adopting or caring for pets.

Send photos and other submissions by July 21 to [smauren@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:smauren@connectionnewspapers.com).

### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

## Clarifying Transitways

To the Editor:

This letter is written in response to the recently published concern that the City has not given the community enough time and input into the transportation planning process, and provides clarification and facts regarding the planned High Capacity Transitways.

The High Capacity Transitways, part of the City's Strategic Plan and Transportation Master Plan, address needs of an urban, historic, and multi-modal transportation oriented city. The City is focused on creating a system that encourages the use of alternative modes of transportation, and reduces dependence on single occupancy vehicles.

The Transportation Master Plan identifies a network of High Capacity Transitways in three of Alexandria's most important travel corridors. These transitways will allow frequent and reliable transit service to existing and future development areas and to local and regional transit hubs. These transitways include:

SEE LETTERS, PAGE 14



PHOTO BY ROSS SYLVESTRI/GAZETTE PACKET

### Snapshot

Pedestrians walking down King Street pass by a Life Is Good cutout.

## Alexandria Gazette Packet

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

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# OPINION

## Neighbors Helping Neighbors

BY KATHARINE MEDINA  
REBUILDING TOGETHER ALEXANDRIA



### COMMENTARY

In 1940, when she was 15 years old, Helen's\* parents bought a charming bungalow in Alexandria, and the teenager lived there until she married. The newlyweds moved to Arlington, but when her parents died nearly 20 years ago, Helen and her husband moved back into her childhood home and raised their family. Her husband, a World War II veteran, died years ago, so Helen now maintains the 1918-built home on her own.

Though living alone now, Helen, at 86 years of age, doesn't want to move out of the neighborhood in which she grew up. "Everyone has always been so friendly and social," she recalls. In fact, former neighbors became her son's godparents. Her current neighbors are a "very nice couple" who help Helen out with chores — shoveling her sidewalk in the winter, helping her with her trash, even doing minor yard work. The neighbors joke that they are going to install a door from Helen's home directly into theirs, so she can come over any time she wants to visit.

Years ago, Helen had a sewer pipe replaced, and after the repair work was completed, her neighbors, children and grandchildren filled her backyard with dirt and

sod, and planted flowers and bushes. Even with family and neighbors helping Helen with some maintenance issues, there are a lot of repairs she cannot physically nor financially do on her own. Late last year,

Helen received an application from Rebuilding Together to provide free home repairs, and she recalled her mother getting assistance from the organization (then known as Christmas in April) years earlier. Helen's son completed the application and helped his mother determine needed repairs.

An incredible team of volunteers from GenOn met with Helen and her son earlier this year to review her task list. Then, armed with supplies and tools, tens of volunteers, skilled and not-so-skilled, landed upon Helen's home to make much-needed improvements, including new light fixtures, venting a dryer, plumbing, installing handrails, painting the front yard fence, installing a new backyard fence, and removing an overgrown, invasive tree. Helen now lives much more safely (and happily) in her home because of the work the volunteers completed. Often Helen asks, "Why was I

SEE NEIGHBORS, PAGE 14

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# LETTERS

FROM PAGE 12

1. Corridor A: Route 1/Washington Street

2. Corridor B: Duke Street/Eisenhower Avenue

3. Corridor C: Van Dorn/Beauregard

Transitway features under consideration include dedicated transit lanes; special branded vehicles with frequent service, quick boarding and limited stops, and signal priority for transit at intersections.

Last year, the City began the Transitway Corridor Feasibility Study for the planning and implementation of Corridors A, B, and C. This study examines each corridor, considering route alignments, cross-sections, methods of operation, and types of vehicles, land use considerations, ridership, and financial implications. A High Capacity Transit Corridor Work Group (CWG) was formed at the direction of the Alexandria City Council to gather resident feedback to City staff. The Alexandria City Council will ultimately make a decision on each of these transitway corridors based on public feedback, and input from the CWG, the Planning and Transportation Commissions, and technical experts.

In May, the CWG recommended a proposed configuration for the Corridor C (Van Dorn/Beauregard) transitway. The configuration includes Bus Rapid Transit that would operate in dedicated lanes between the Van Dorn Metrorail station and Pentagon. On Sept. 17, City Council will review this proposal, which includes the identification of rights-of-way to be dedicated as part of future development planning or approval processes. The proposal was developed based in part on comments received during the public outreach process. The common theme throughout the public comment was that while a dedicated transitway was important, the existing capacity of the surrounding roadways should be maintained to

minimize additional congestion related to the BRAC-133 facility. Additionally, these transitways are necessary to support not only existing, but future planned development, such as the Landmark/Van Dorn Small Area Plan.

Since transportation planning began nearly a decade ago, over 30 public meetings, hearings, and comment periods were held, as part of this process, to solicit public input and feedback on the City's various transitways. We look forward to our continued engagement with the community as we work together on the development of the City's High Capacity Transit corridors.

For more information about High Capacity Transit, visit [www.alexandriava.gov/HighCapacityTransit](http://www.alexandriava.gov/HighCapacityTransit) or e-mail: [HighCapacityTransit@alexandriava.gov](mailto:HighCapacityTransit@alexandriava.gov)

**Richard J. Baier PE., LEED, AP**

Director, Department of Transportation & Environmental Services

## Neighborhood's Crime Declining

To the Editor:

The July 7 issue of the Alexandria Gazette Packet included an article, "Neighborhood Under Siege," by Michael Lee Pope. This article concerns me as the data on the neighborhood sharply contrasts the negative picture that was painted in the article. This crime data and our own observations reveal a community that has shown significant reductions in crime and quality of life issues over the past three years. The fact is that reported offenses have gone down in the Hopkins Tancil, Chatham Square and surrounding areas every year since 2008. This downward trend continues again this year as reported offenses are down 35 percent for the first six months of 2011 compared to the first six months of 2010 for the

Chatham Square				
Calls For Service				
Call Type	2008	2009	2010	2011*
911 Hang Up	14	7	1	0
Alarm	13	2	5	4
All Others	49	32	23	12
Disorderly	77	32	20	11
Domestic	7	13	7	4
Fight	11	4	2	1
Noise Violations and/or Loud Party	22	28	18	4
Parking Complaint	4	7	8	3
Suspicious Event	4	8	2	2
<b>Totals</b>	<b>201</b>	<b>133</b>	<b>86</b>	<b>41</b>

Criminal Incidents				
Crime Type	2008	2009	2010	2011*
All Other Offenses	6	1	3	0
Assault	8	1	2	0
Burglary	0	0	1	0
Destruction	3	3	2	3
Drug/Narcotic Offenses	0	1	0	0
Drunkenness	1	0	0	0
Fraud	1	0	0	0
Larceny	4	5	1	2
Liquor Law Violations	2	1	0	0
Motor Vehicle Theft	0	1	1	0
Runaway	2	0	0	2
Trespass	1	2	2	0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>7</b>

Hopkins Tancil neighborhood. The police department calls for service in Hopkins Tancil are down 20 percent compared to the first six months of last year and calls for service in Chatham Square are down almost 16 percent for the same period.

As Chief of Police, I take great pride in the fact that crime continues to reach historic lows in the City of Alexandria. Since being appointed Chief of Police, the Alexandria Police Department has continued to be responsive to the concerns of the North Alexandria Residents Council and our efforts to address crime and quality of life issues in these neighborhoods have not diminished. Representatives from the Police Department, Alexandria Redevelopment and Housing Authority (ARHA) staff and other City officials hold regular meetings with citizens from the North Alexandria Residents Council

to discuss their concerns. We continue to dedicate a great deal of resources to this area, including a Community Officer whose sole responsibility is addressing crime and quality of life issues within the Hopkins Tancil and immediate surrounding neighborhoods. We also engage in targeted enforcement efforts like "Operation Spring Break" to help with the issues that affect these neighborhoods. These enforcement efforts address issues such as drug activity, nuisance crimes and other quality of life issues.

The graphs and charts [at right] show that reported crime incidents and nuisance activity have significantly declined over the last few years and this reflects the work being done in partnership with the community, other City agencies and ARHA. This community partnership has contributed greatly to the very low incidence of crime

that actually exists there and we are committed to continuing our efforts as long as necessary to assist in further improvement.

The Alexandria Police Department will continue to address the concerns of the North Alexandria Residents Council as well as all Alexandria residents as we strive to maintain the high quality of life our residents have grown accustomed to.

**Earl L. Cook**  
Chief of Police

## Please Add A Map

To the Editor:

Your current issue has an article that is an example of a problem I often have with your news stories.

It talks about the housing areas at Chatham Square and Hopkins Tancil, but it gives no clue as to where those areas are other than "North Old Town."

I've lived in Old Town for the last 11 years, but when I read this, I had no clue where either of those developments is located. Nor do I know the location of Gadsby's Court, which is also mentioned in this article. I'm guessing that a lot of readers are like me. I just did a Google search and finally figured out the specific locations you are describing, but it took a while.

In the future, when you publish information about housing developments or neighborhoods, could you please identify the location?

**Laurie Stearns**

## Financing Waterfront

To the Editor:

The key to resolving the current impasse over the waterfront plan is to further reduce the proposed amount of commercial development and use public financing to make up for the lost revenue and

MORE LETTERS. PAGE 16

## Rebuilding Together Alexandria Receives \$100,000 for Weatherization

Rebuilding Together Alexandria, a volunteer-based, non-profit organization that preserves affordable housing by providing free home repair services to in-need residents, is the recipient of a \$100,000 federal Energy Efficiency Conservation Block Grant from the City of Alexandria. The funds will be used to make weatherization and energy efficient upgrades to 284 units of the Arlandria Chirilagua Housing Cooperative.

Volunteers will install compact fluorescent light bulbs, weather strip doors and windows, install programmable thermostats and

low-flow aerators, insulate outlet gaps, install new filters and insulation wraps, and caulk to seal air leaks.

By replacing an incandescent bulb with a CFL bulb, a resident can save \$50 over the life of the bulb. A programmable thermostat can reduce bills by \$180 yearly, and caulking/weather-stripping can save as much as \$200 a year. Replacing an old refrigerator with an energy efficient one can save a resident up to \$150 each year.

Rebuilding Together is supported by teams of community volunteers and local organizations

including Booz Allen Hamilton, First Baptist Church, Freddie Mac, GenOn Corporation, and Wells Fargo, and national sponsor Sears Holding Corporation.

To learn more, visit [www.rebuildingtogetheralex.org](http://www.rebuildingtogetheralex.org) or call 703-836-1021.

**A Rebuilding Together volunteer installs an outlet sealer — fire retardant plastic foam which seals air gaps around outlets. She first prepped the outlet with fire barrier sealant caulk.**



## Neighbors

FROM PAGE 13

so lucky to be helped by such nice volunteers?"

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](http://www.rebuildingtogetheralex.org) or call 703-836-1021.

(\* It is RTA's policy to not disclose full names.)



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**Park Fairfax** \$249,000  
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Sherry York 703-625-337



**Cameron Station** \$527,000  
400 Cameron Station Blvd, #326, Alexandria, VA 22304

Sophisticated pied-a-terre offering 1,545 square feet of luxury living with loads of upgrades. Lovely LR with bay window, a fabulous gourmet kitchen with granite counters & SS appliances. 2/3 bedrooms & 3 large baths. Two garage parking spaces!



Donnan C. Wintermute 703-518-6156



**Old Town** \$3,175,000  
712 Prince Street, Alexandria, VA 22314

Circa 1802, this exceptionally grand 5BR, 5BA home features a 38 ft entrance hall with keystone archway, 12.5 foot ceilings, elaborate moldings, original pine floors & 5 fireplaces! Loads of storage, wine cellar plus off-street parking!



Donnan C. Wintermute 703-518-6156



**Old Town** \$2,250,000  
608 Oronoco Street, Alexandria, VA 22314

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Chris Upham 202-359-1308



**Tauxemont** \$675,000  
1401 Namassin Road, Alexandria, VA 22308

Completely renovated and almost new. One level living! 3 bedrooms & 2.5 baths on half acre. Large top of the line eat-in kitchen with vaulted ceiling & gas fireplace. Spacious great room and master bedroom suite.



Phyllis Patterson 703-518-6158



**Plymouth Haven** \$675,000  
1200 Alden Road, Alexandria, VA 22308

Stunning cape code with southern Charm on over a half acre! Wrap around porch, lovely gardens, 3 levels, 4 bedrooms, 3 full baths with updated master suite and kitchen. Recently finished lower level rec room.



Phyllis Patterson 703-518-6158



**New Alexandria** \$575,000  
6407 15th Street, Alexandria, VA 22307

3BR, 1.5BA home shows like a model with updated kitchen & baths. Classic details including HW floors, crown molding & arched doorways. Large treed lot with slate patio - no flood insurance needed. Excellent location close to GW Pkwy, shops & restaurants.



Terry Ann Stevens 757-647-4705



**Collingwood Estates** \$579,900  
1121 Anesbury Lane, Alexandria, VA 22308

Very large four bedroom, three bath two level rambler located in Waynewood School District. New roof, some newer windows and HVAC. Upgraded insulation, hardwoods, den, deck and gazebo.



Ed Pagett 703-518-6161



**Popkins Heights** \$595,000  
2424 Ross Street, Alexandria, VA 22306

Nearly new (15 yrs), 6 bedroom, 3.5 bath colonial with deck & 2 car garage. Located on a beautifully landscaped 2/3 acre lot with vegetable garden. Country kitchen adjoining FR, gas fireplaces and more.



Ed Pagett 703-518-6161



**The Plaza** \$315,000  
803 N. Howard St, Unit 135, Alexandria, VA 22304

Large interior corner unit with 2 bedrooms, 2 baths, large private patio, garden with access from living room and master bedroom. Custom millwork and marble floors. Includes 1 garage space and a home warranty!



Mary Gray Edwards 703-907-9800



**Mason's Passage** \$514,000  
9780 Lorraine Carol Way, Lorton, VA 22079

New Listing! This immaculate 4 bedroom, 3.5 bath colonial boasts 3 finished levels with hardwood floors and eat-in kitchen with granite. Located just minutes to Fort Belvoir, Pohick Park and the golf course.



Cindie Fish 703-201-4451



**Riverside Estates** \$559,000  
3111 Little Creek Lane, Alexandria, VA 22309

4 bedroom, 2.5 bath & 2 car garage colonial. Features neutral paint, hardwoods and a gourmet kitchen/breakfast room addition with cathedral ceiling, stainless steel appliances and granite!



Cindie Fish 703-201-4451

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## LETTERS

FROM PAGE 14

pay for some of the public amenities.

The top priorities of the plan should be the art walk and history proposals and new public parks and open space. These are the elements that would make our waterfront a distinctive place.

But the current plan does not guarantee funding for the art and history proposals, and the planning staff has not calculated even a rough estimate of what these proposals would cost. This must now be done.

If the waterfront is to become a distinctive place, the art and history elements, as well as the parks, will need to be imaginatively conceived and designed and the designs exquisitely executed. This surely will cost a lot of money.

The current plan would pay for public amenities with new commercial development on the three private development sites. Hotels remain the best option because they provide a large amount of revenue.

However, a considerable number of people in Old Town have a genuine and understandable concern that significantly more commercial uses will tip the balance

in the area into a ruinous over-commercialization. We need to deal with this concern by reducing or mitigating the impact of the proposed commercial development.

How to do this? Perhaps some or all of the commercial development proposed for Robinson Terminal South could be relocated to Robinson Terminal North, and thus away from busy King and Union Streets. Or perhaps the city could purchase the Robinson Terminal South property east of Union Street, and eliminate commercial development there. These are just examples of the possible options.

Some people want the city to buy the three development sites and build all of the new public parks and amenities. But this would cost tens of millions of dollars and appears to have no support on the City Council.

But a case can be made for some level of public financing. The requirement that the plan pay for itself with new revenue has helped create the controversy we have now. The stipulation that various infrastructure improvements be included in the plan — for ex

SEE LETTERS, PAGE 17

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# LETTERS

FROM PAGE 16

ample, flood mitigation and repairs at Windmill Hill Park — has compelled the planning staff to propose more commercial development than would otherwise be needed.

The city should remove these infrastructure repairs from the plan and put them in the regular capital budget. They are, after all, not fundamentally different from public works projects in other parts of the city. For example, Old Town is not the only section of the city that has or has had flooding issues.

In addition, because the waterfront is considered a special place to be used and enjoyed by all the residents of Alexandria, all taxpayers should be expected to pay for at least some of the cost of the new public amenities.

In sum, the waterfront plan should be paid for with a mix of modest commercial development and public financing. This money should pay for the cost of fully implementing the art walk and history proposals and building public parks.

**Bill Hendrickson**  
Alexandria

## Light Up Ford Park

To the Editor:

This past weekend, we had a lovely visit from a recent university graduate. When we asked her if there was anything special she would like to do, she said quickly, "I would love to see Washington by night."

Now our response to such a request in recent years has been to hand the visitor a map of the city, a Metro guide and an offer to haul the visitor to and from Metro. But last Sunday evening the weather was so perfect — clear and relatively cool — that we decided to take her into the District ourselves.

I must admit that standing in the Lincoln Memorial at night and looking out toward the Washington Monument and the Capitol Building bathed in light has always thrilled me.

On the way home, I said to our guest that I wanted to show her the home where Gerald Ford and his family lived when he was a congressman, vice-president and for a few days as president. Turning the corner at Quaker Lane onto Janney's Lane, I pointed out the President Gerald R. Ford Memorial Park. I said that in its midst, in the dark, there was a lovely stone memorial. In the dark! We can do better than that, can't we?

**George A. Pera**  
Alexandria

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**JUST LISTED** **OPEN SUN**

1916 Shiver Dr  
\$585,000  
*Total Renovation-Mins from Old Town!*  
Better than new! Top to bottom renovation of this fabulous 5BR, 3BA home on quiet street just 4 miles to Old Town. Top quality updates include: gourmet kitchen, all baths, thermal windows, roof & more! Property also features: large sunroom, 2FP, gorgeous hdwd flrs, expansive deck and fenced lot. OPEN SUN 7/17, 1-4. Dirs: Fort Hunt Rd, R-Rollins, L-Colgate, L-Shiver.

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\$ 499,900  
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\$599,000  
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\$625,000  
*Stunning Addition!*  
MOTIVATED SELLER! One of the most truly spectacular properties in Ft. Hunt area! Exceptionally bright, open floor plan. Back of home was expanded resulting in breathtaking, glass walled, open kitchen/family room and main level master suite. Fabulous features include: updated gourmet kitchen with granite and custom cabinets. Expansive deck! Great location!

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\$799,000

Construction opportunity to combine advantages of premier Old Town setting with all the

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**NEW PRICE & OPEN SUNDAY 1-4!**  
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**NEW & OPEN SUNDAY 1-4!**  
\$ 519,500  
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**NEW PRICE**

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\$1,250,000  
*Pre-Construction Value!*  
Rare new home opportunity just off GW Parkway! Fabulous price on spacious Fairfax model by Wakefield Homes, the area's leading custom builder. Craftman architecture with full front porch to enhance natural beauty of gorgeous 1/2A lot. Home is loaded with upgrades and custom features and located in Waywood School Dist. Priced thousands below other new homes in area! (Pic is similar home)

**NEW PRICE!**

4003 Belle Rive Ter  
\$1,895,000  
*River Front Opportunity!*  
Owner wants immediate sale and has priced home accordingly. Previously listed at \$4.8 mil! Spacious custom home designed to capitalize on breathtaking river views from every corner of the home. Open floor plan with app. 11,000 sq ft of luxury. Extensive balconies, patio & roof deck embrace the majestic setting of this elevated lot overlooking the Potomac River! OFFERS INVITED!

2005 Westfield St  
\$625,000  
*Fabulous Home-Great Location!*  
A few blocks from River and GW Parkway, this fabulous home has been updated and expanded! Over \$104,000 in top quality updates have been recently completed! Features include: family room with cath. ceiling, updated kitchen, top of the line cabinetry, appliances and Virginia soapstone countertops, 4BR, 2.5BA, spacious lower level. Private landscaped grounds on quiet cul-de-sac.

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**NEW PRICE & OPEN SUNDAY 1-4!**  
\$ 455,000  
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\$949,000  
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**JUST LISTED!**

1203 Falster Rd  
\$519,950

Spacious 5 bedroom home on truly magnificent, private 19,000 sq ft

**SOLD!**

**SOLD!**

9005 Cherrytree Dr  
\$595,000

8705 Yardley Dr  
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**SOLD!**

**CONTRACT!**

\$ 573,000  
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- Lovely yard
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Martine Imer 703.346.7283

\$ 544,900  
Alexandria  
"2 GARAGE SPOTS"

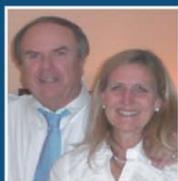
Located across the street from the Braddock Metro, this Penthouse features 2 master bedroom suites, open floor plan, large kitchen overlooking DR/LR, cozy FP bordered by custom built-ins, 2 spacious storage closets. Huge covered balcony offers gorgeous views & sunsets.

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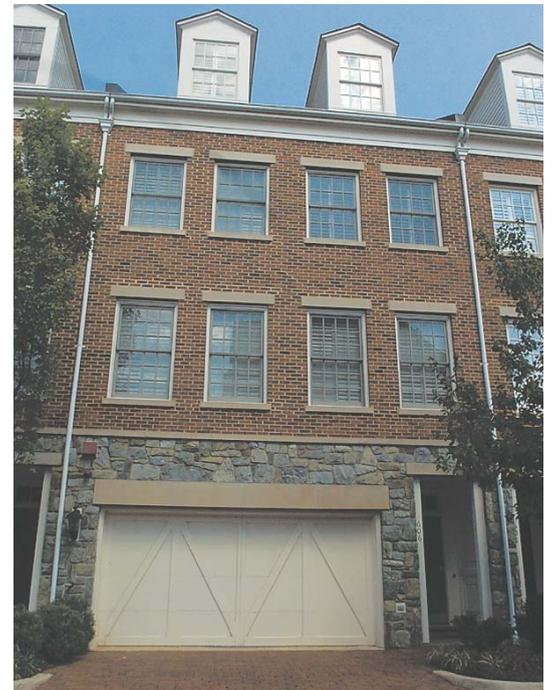
# Local REAL ESTATE

## Sales over \$1.5 million in May

PHOTOS BY CRAIG STERBUTZEL/THE CONNECTION



1 320 South Fairfax Street, Alexandria — \$1,950,000



4 606 Fords Landing Way, Alexandria — \$1,625,000



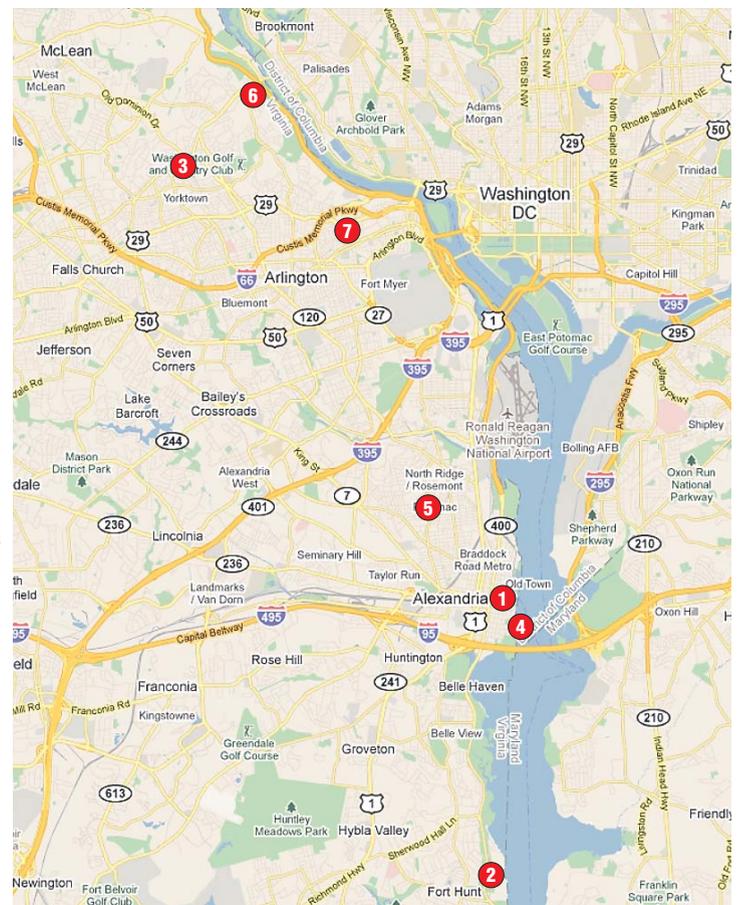
3 3446 Edison Street, Arlington — \$1,675,000



2 8023 East Boulevard Drive, Alexandria — \$1,896,000



5 220 Virginia Avenue, Alexandria — \$1,896,000



Address	BR	FB	HB	Postal City	Sold Price	Type	Lot AC	Subdivision	Date Sold
1 320 FAIRFAX ST S	4	3	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$1,950,000	Detached	0.08	OLD TOWN	05/16/11
2 8023 BOULEVARD DR E	6	5	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$1,896,000	Detached	0.58	ARCTURUS ON THE POTOMAC	05/09/11
3 3446 EDISON ST	5	5	0	ARLINGTON	\$1,675,000	Detached	0.23	WILLIAMSBURG VILLAGE	05/20/11
4 606 FORDS LANDING WAY	4	3	2	ALEXANDRIA	\$1,625,000	Townhouse	0.03	FORDS LANDING	05/11/11
5 220 VIRGINIA AVE	5	3	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$1,896,000	Detached	0.28	JEFFERSON PARK	05/31/11
6 4119 40TH ST N	4	5	0	ARLINGTON	\$1,569,000	Detached	0.54	ARLINGWOOD	05/27/11
7 1630 ADAMS ST N	4	3	1	ARLINGTON	\$1,500,000	Detached	0.14	AURORA HEIGHTS	05/05/11

SOURCE: MRIS, INC. FOR MORE INFORMATION ON MRIS, VISIT WWW.MRIS.COM

# Home Life Style

## Design for How We Live Now

Interior design for real life: Pet-friendly, kid-friendly, family-friendly.

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL  
GAZETTE

**D**eborah Wiener isn't turned-off by a messy house or pets of any size or shape. In fact, it is the kind of challenge that she wants to tackle. The interior designer considers herself a specialist "in real life, pet-friendly, family-friendly design."

So when Carlene Stephens approached her to get help decorating her Alexandria home, Wiener was in her element. Stephens and her husband Gary Sturm live with two Great Danes who have free rein of the house. She was searching for stylish but durable pieces that would accommodate both her active household and desire for fashionable furniture.

"I was so tired of having messed-up furniture or no furniture at all," said Stephens.

Sturm and Stephens had completed a home renovation project and added an open kitchen, dining and family room space. Wiener came up with a design for the room that took the couple's desire for style and durability into consideration.

"She began with a rug," said Stephens. "And the other furniture was chosen around it."

Wiener designed the room by choosing substantial furnishings that were chic but sensible and able to stand up to everything from sharp claws to muddy paws. She included pieces from Slobproof!, Wiener's own line of furniture that is made from a

fabric called Crypton. The designer says it is virtually indestructible and can be easily cleaned.

Wiener started with a grey area rug with large circular patterns in shades of blue and yellow, and added a blue sofa and matching arm chair. She completed the look with two gray dining chairs and a gray ottoman that also serves as a coffee table.

SEE DESIGN, PAGE 18



**For one couple, furniture that can stand up to life with two Great Danes.**

PHOTOS BY  
MARILYN CAMPBELL



**The living room of the Mansfield home in Chantilly. On the sofa are 6-year-old twins Will and Josie Mansfield.**

### Wiener's Tips for Active Households

❖ Laminate your most heavily used dining chairs. Almost any fabric can be laminated. Just ask your fabric store or decorator where to send it. New flat finish laminations provide an invisible, moisture- and stain-proof barrier on fabric, making it virtually indestructible and inconspicuous, too.

❖ Protect wood finishes from wet glasses, hot cups and scratching with clear glass tops made to fit your table tops. Sure, you'll have to wipe them, but you'll protect what's underneath from everything your slob may put on top.

❖ Nothing lasts longer or looks better than a well-finished hardwood floor. Wiener recommends durable wool rugs as well.

❖ For family-friendly furniture, you can't beat protected leather.

For more see  
[www.mydesigningsolutions.com](http://www.mydesigningsolutions.com)

## Solid Marble Bathrooms? Seamless stone showers, walls and floors point to new direction in high-end bathroom design.

BY JOHN BYRD  
GAZETTE

**S**usan Cassell, of Great Falls Design Build, recalls the chain of events that convinced her some of the fundamentals of bathroom design were about to change.

"We were remodeling a bathroom that had been seriously damaged from leakage caused by cracked grout," Cassell said. "This is a common homeowner concern, so I contacted Shawn Daghig at EuroStoneCraft who had developed some ideas for dealing with this longstanding problem."

Cassell had worked with EuroStoneCraft — a local marble and granite importer and fabricator based in Herndon — for many years. But she'd heard that the firm had a new brainchild — a custom-made solid marble shower floor which they were introducing under a new division, Verona Showers.

"The shower floor pan is a solid stone slab custom-made to your shower width ... so there's no water-exposed grouting, no cracking or leakage," Daghig said. "This



**A Herndon company can create massive slabs of marble or other stone to precise specifications for seamless, groutless bathrooms.**

means there's no mold build up, and no need for time-intensive maintenance."

"It struck me as a breakthrough," Cassell said. "I've found this a really effective solution for bathrooms, and the color options are impressive. I've been regularly introducing it to my clients."

EuroStoneCraft's already well-honed milling capabilities mean "everything they offer is one of a kind," Cassell said.

The firm's skill at shaping natural stone,

granite or marble to precisely fit surface specifications eliminates any need to sectionalize or use exposed seams requiring grout.

Homeowner Lisa Schultz is pleased with the EuroStone/Verona design advantages, which allowed her to distinguish the interior of her spacious Great Falls colonial while greatly reducing maintenance needs. Schultz selected an array of custom-fitted surfaces for strategic parts of the house throughout an extensive five-month remodeling process, including finishing the master bath in contrasting shades of Verona marble hand-picked from the EuroStoneCraft showroom.

"The vanity, shower floor and tub surround are stunning — a very original shade of dark brown," Schultz said. "The floor, tub facing and shower walls are a kind of mocha. The whole is nicely balanced — there's a restful symmetry."

The bathroom's "invisible shower" consists of a custom-made MarbaFloor pan, two solid marble walls converging in one corner and dual sheets of unframed glass form-

ing the other.

Schultz said the master bathroom's new interior seems substantially larger than its previous incarnation, even though the footprint is mostly unchanged.

Schultz added a prized oriental rug, just for effect.

After 15 years at the same address, Schultz said the changes have reinvigorated her appreciation of her surroundings: "It feels like a whole new custom house, which is exciting."

Describing personal benefits accruing from her own recent master bathroom makeover, Stacy Smith was especially pleased at the relief from perennial grout-replacement duties.

"After years of contending with the predictable problems of mosaic tile — cracking grout, mold build-up, and grit — there's just no substitute for a solid maintenance-free stone surface."

David Prakken of Fairfax was impressed with both the functional and aesthetic outcome resulting from Verona Shower upgrades to his 25-year-old bathroom.

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## Home Life Style

# Design for How We Live Now

FROM PAGE 17

Color was one of her secret weapons. "Color is camouflage, but beige is like having another child in the house. It needs protecting and watching," said Wiener. "Get out of the beige rut and use color to camouflage spills and stains."

Stephens said her furniture has already passed one important test.

"When the furniture arrived my dog had just taken a drink from his water bowl and was dropping water on the new sofa. It was like watching Niagara Falls coming from this Great Dane's mouth. I wiped it up quickly with no evidence that [the water] had been there."

Wiener said the goal is to design spaces that match the realities of life.

"I am not your typical designer," she said. "I am not there to judge a client's budget or taste. I am there to give them advice to make their lives better."

Wiener's advice also comes in the form of unconventional design tools such as "Wite-Out" and permanent ink markers. "Keep 'Wite-Out' on hand at all times," said Wiener. "It may be obsolete for correcting typos, but it's a miracle when it comes to camouflaging dings and scuff marks wherever you have white trim around your house — like door frames, baseboard molding or chair rails. Permanent ink markers can cover a lot of dings and scratches."

Melinda Mansfield says that she has one of the most active households in her Chantilly neighborhood. She and her husband Rob have 6-year-old twins, two dogs and three cats.



PHOTO BY MARILYN CAMPBELL

**Winkle Nemeth with her dogs Sid (black) and Annie in her McLean living room.**

"I have a face painting and glitter tattoo business for children," said Mansfield. "I am the troop leader for my daughter's Girl Scout troop and my husband is the leader of our son's Boy Scout troop. All the kids in the neighborhood come to my house to play."

Mansfield says that she likes a lively household, but not the mess that often comes with the territory. She wanted to decorate her home to accommodate the chaos without sacrificing style. "I like really nice things," said Mansfield. "I always have. I wanted a fresh, clean look with good fabrics that will stand the test of time."

When Mansfield found interior designer Wiener, she knew that she'd found a good match. Wiener came up with a design for the home's living room and lower level that took Mansfield's desire for style and durability into consideration.

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Gloria Adams

# Alien Encounters: 'Visit to a Small Planet'

TACT cast shines in Gore Vidal's satire.

BY JEANNE THEISMANN  
THE GAZETTE

Unexpected houseguests are a ritual of summer but none are likely to be so colorful as Kreton, a visitor from another galaxy who lands in Manasses, Va., in the mid-1950s to observe his "hobby," the human race, in the Gore Vidal play "Visit to a Small Planet," presented by The American Century Theater at Gunston Theatre Two in Arlington.

Originally debuting as a television play in 1955, Vidal's highly regarded satire is about a time-traveling alien whose hopes of amusing himself by observing the Battle of Bull Run are dashed when he arrives on Earth almost 100 years too late. Not to be denied his fun, he decides to simply start a war of his own.

The stage play, set entirely in the 1958 home of Roger and Reba Spelling and their 19-year-old daughter Ellen, playfully pokes fun at America's middle class culture and post-World War II fear of communism and is hilariously brought to life by TACT's perfectly cast ensemble of actors.

"I picked this show with Bruce in mind,"



PHOTO BY DENNIS DELORIA

**Bruce Alan Rauscher plays Kreton in "Visit to a Small Planet," which runs now through Aug. 6 at Gunston Theatre Two in Arlington.**

said director Rip Claassen of Bruce Alan Rauscher, who plays Kreton. "I have wanted to direct this show since I was 14 and spent

two-and-a-half months holding auditions to get just the right cast to bring it to life."

The play opens as Roger Spelling, one of America's early television network newscasters, gets a visit from his friend Gen. Tom Powers, who has just been assigned to investigate an Unidentified Flying Object spotted hovering over the Spelling home. Originally skeptical of the existence of UFOs, Spelling and his family play host to their alien visitor while unwittingly serving as their guest's entertainment.

From the moment he steps onstage in full Civil War regalia, Rauscher captivates the audience with his exuberance and a comedic timing reminiscent of a young Robin Williams in his early "Mork and Mindy" days.

Helen Hayes award-winner John Tweel plays the commanding General Powers, who is in over his head as he tries to stop Kreton's antics from escalating into a war between the Soviet Union and the United States. Tweel delivers a superb performance with his understated showmanship serving as

the perfect balance to Rauscher's high-energy role.

Rounding out the cast as the Spelling

## To Go

"Visit to a Small Planet" runs through Aug. 6 at Gunston Theatre Two, 2700 South Lang St., Arlington. Call 703-998-4555 or visit [www.americancentury.org](http://www.americancentury.org).

family are Steve Lebens as Roger Spelling, Kelly Cronenberg as his Mamie Eisenhower/Lucy Ricardo-inspired wife Reba, and Megan Graves as their daughter Ellen.

"With so much attention on Kreton, it's easy to overlook the other actors," Claassen said. "The straight man roles are vital to the success of this show and Megan in particular is the rock holding it all together."

Noah Bird is Conrad Mayberry, the delightfully simple-minded and testosterone-fueled boyfriend of Ellen, and Tamra Lynn Testerman completes the troupe as Delton 4.

A large contribution to the success of "Visit" is the flawless stage recreation of the era with sets designed by Noel Greer and costumes by Rosalie Ferris.

"Visit" is one of Vidal's best-known works from the 1950s and TACT does a superb job of bringing the satirical and witty observations of middle-America to life. The brilliant acting by Rauscher and the rest of the cast in this final play of TACT's season is not to be missed.

# And All That Jazz!

MetroStage concert 'rocks the house.'

MetroStage kicked off its inaugural jazz concert series July 11 with a performance by vocalists Roz White, Shang and Sylver Logan Sharp.

"They rocked the house," said financial advisor Adron Krekeler. "Nowhere in Old Town can you get what we did here tonight. I'm surprised the roof is still on."

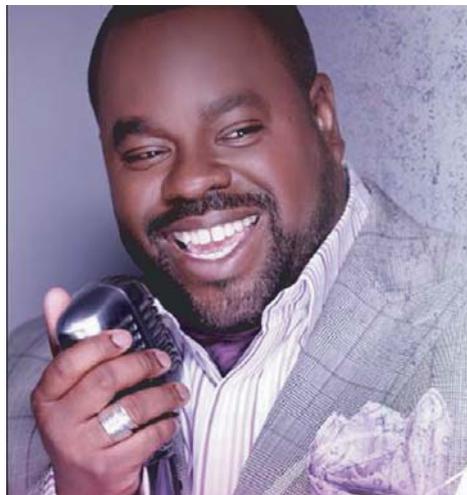
Susan Kellom also attended the show that repeatedly had the audience on its feet.

"It was overwhelmingly powerful and kept building to a spectacular crescendo," Kellom said. "Carolyn has created a masterpiece."

MetroStage artistic director Carolyn Griffin conceived the jazz concert series and worked with recording artist Lori Williams to make it a reality.

"It was spectacular," said real estate agent Donnan Wintermute. "I felt like we were in Blues Alley or New York. It was magnificent and I can't wait to come back."

The second concert in the series, Soulful Gospel, will be Monday, July 18 starring Victoria Purcell, Vanessa Williams and Robert E. Person. Inspirational Jazz, with Lori Williams, Nova Tate and William Knowles and the Saltman Knowles Group, wraps up the series on July 25. All tickets are \$30. For more information, call 703-548-9044.



**Robert E. Person**



**Nova Tate**



**Victoria Purcell**



**Vanessa Williams**

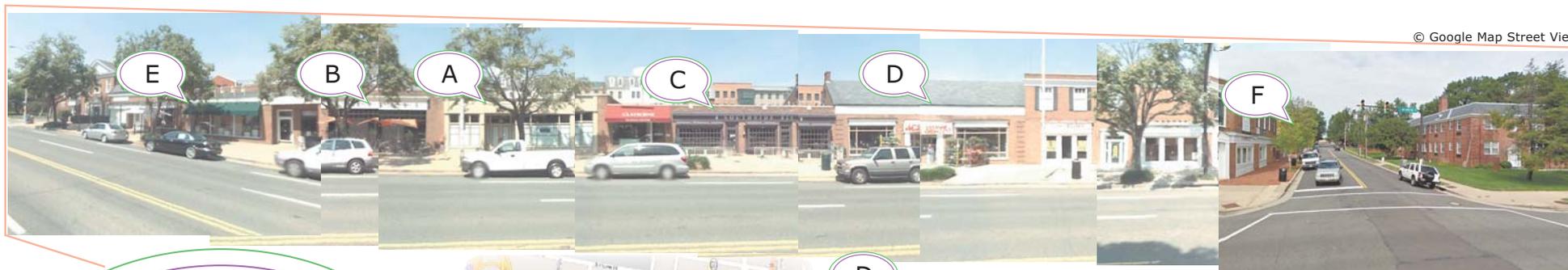


**Lori Williams**



PHOTO BY  
JEANNE THEISMANN  
GAZETTE PACKET

**Shang, Sylver Logan Sharp and Roz White perform during a jazz concert July 11 at MetroStage.**



# Talk of the Town



© Google Map data

## Take a Walk on the South Side

The Wanderer knows of several visible and hidden shopping enclaves in town that he wants to share with his followers. Who doesn't love a charming block where, with one stop parking, much interesting browsing can be done and many bases covered? Here, all on one little block of South Washington Street, are two restaurants, a coffee bar, a nationally known gourmet kitchen shop and all that lies below. Just don't forget your wallet—you will want it.

Photos by Louise Krafft



### A CANDEY'S OF ALEXANDRIA

Newly located from DC with a following of loyal customers and hopes of becoming a popular new kid on the block, this is a vacuum and appliance shop for browsing. Miele is one of their most popular brands. Look at humidifiers, air purifiers, coffee makers, too. Ask about repairs. 817 S. Washington Street, 703-299-0092. [candeysappliance.com](http://candeysappliance.com).



### F FARSH CARPETS

Around the corner on Jefferson Street, but on the same block. Since 1985 Mansour has stocked and supplied fabulous carpets and rugs to designers and residents. Special projects and designing are his forte. 710 Jefferson Street, 703-548-8884.



### B FACCIA LUNA

Family restaurant with fabulous pizza, pasta (try the pumpkin ravioli if it's available), sliders and salads. Full, fun bar. Great service. 823 S. Washington Street, 703-838-5998. [faccialuna.com](http://faccialuna.com).



### E PERK UP

A good alternative to you-know-who. Great music, comfortable seating, tasty snacks and java in all the familiar forms. 829 S. Washington Street, 703-838-2812.



### C SOUTHSIDE 815

One of *Washingtonian Magazine's* Very Best Bargain Restaurants for 10 consecutive years. Southern food and lots of it. Good service. 815 S. Washington Street, 703-836-6222. [southside815.com](http://southside815.com)

# ENTERTAINMENT



PHOTO BY JEANNE THEISSMAN/GAZETTE PACKET

**The Alexandria Seaport Foundation hosted miniature boat building as part of the Old Town Waterfront Fun days.**



CHRISTINE SENNOTT

**Adam, Lila and Miranda Baltaxe enjoy some ice during Waterfront Fun Days July 10.**

## Down by the Riverside

The Alexandria City Marina was the site of the Old Town Waterfront Fun Days July 10. Family activities and entertainment were provided by several local organizations including the Torpedo Factory Artists, the Alexandria Archaeology Museum, the

Alexandria Seaport Foundation and the Alexandria Art League. Pamela Cressey, the City's Director of Archaeology, hosted a Waterfront Walk. The next Waterfront Fun Days will be held Aug. 14 from 2 to 5 p.m. Contact 703-684-0580.

### FINE ARTS

#### NOW THROUGH SEPT. 30

**River Farm Exhibition.** River Farm, the historic property near Old Town Alexandria which houses the American Horticultural Society, has opened its newest botanically-themed exhibition. Admission is free, though donations are welcome, and gallery hours are 9 a.m.-5 p.m., weekdays, and 9 a.m.-1 p.m., Saturday. The property is closed Sundays. This show features paintings by Juleen Stacy, who also curated the show, as well as photography by Deb Booth, Brian J. McGahren and Dave Costa. The Opening Reception will be held Thursday, July 14, from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. For directions go to River Farm's website, [http://www.ahs.org/river\\_farm/directions.htm](http://www.ahs.org/river_farm/directions.htm).

#### AUG. 5 TO 28

**States of Mind Exhibit.** 7 to 10 p.m. Join Kimberley Bush, Ellyn Ferguson, Lesley Hall, Fransi Kaye, Katherine Rand, Gloria Vestal, and Tracy Wilkerson as they showcase encaustics, abstract art, figurative works, stained glass, and mixed media artwork. Opening Aug. 5 from 7 to 10 p.m. At Del Ray Artisans, 2704 Mount Vernon Ave., Alexandria. Visit [www.TheDelRayArtisans.org](http://www.TheDelRayArtisans.org).

#### AUG. 3 TO SEPT. 4

**The Power of Color III.** Artist's reception is Saturday, Aug. 13 from 5 to 8 p.m. At Gallery West, 1213 King Street, Old Town Alexandria. Visit [www.gallery-west.com](http://www.gallery-west.com) or call 703-549-6006.

#### AUG. 2 TO SEPT. 11

**"Satellite Images."** Free. Jewelry, sculpture, clothing and wall pieces will be exhibited. At Studio 18 in the Torpedo Factory Art Center, 105 North Union Street, Old Town Alexandria.



#### NOW THROUGH AUG. 14

**Tory Cowles: Living Large.** Artist's reception is July 14 from 6-8 p.m. Reception: July 14, 6-8 p.m.; awards ceremony at 7 p.m. with juror, Harry Cooper, Curator and Head of Modern and Contemporary Art at the National Gallery of Art. Special Programming: July 28, 6-8 p.m.; Art Panel: Why does art move you? At the Target Gallery, Torpedo Factory Art Center, 105 N. Union Street, Alexandria.

#### JULY 14 TO AUG. 28

**Drawing Analogies.** Features seven artists who are united in that they are trying to explore and understand aspects of their worlds through the creation of drawings. Artist's reception is Sunday, July 17 from 4 to 6 p.m. At the Athenaeum Gallery, 201 Prince Street, Alexandria. Visit [www.nvfaa.org](http://www.nvfaa.org).

#### NOW THROUGH JULY 31

**JAT: Paper, Brass and Process.** Art work by Jonathan Thompson. In Paper, Brass and Process, JAT explores Victorian-themed issues of beauty and violence with emphasis on process and technique. At the Schlesinger Center Margaret W. & Joseph L. Fisher Gallery.

#### NOW THROUGH JULY 24

**"Up in Smoke." Kiln Club Show.** At 105 North Union Street, Ground Floor Studio 19, Alexandria. Call Scope Gallery at 703-548-6288 or visit [www.torpedofactory.org/galleries/scope](http://www.torpedofactory.org/galleries/scope).

#### NOW THROUGH JULY 22

**Made in the U.S.A.** Del Ray Artisans will be celebrating Independence Day and the month of July with artwork inspired by U.S. people, places and/or things. Show At the Del Ray Artisans gallery at the Nicholas A. Colasanto Center, 2704 Mount Vernon Avenue, Alexandria. Visit [www.TheDelRayArtisans.org](http://www.TheDelRayArtisans.org).

#### NOW THROUGH JULY 31

**Poetry of Light.** Pastels by artist Rachel Estrada. Closing Reception: Saturday, July 30, from 5 - 7 p.m. At Gallery West, 1213 King Street, Old Town Alexandria. Visit [www.gallery-west.com](http://www.gallery-west.com) or 703-549-6006.

#### MONTH OF JULY

**"Artistic Visions."** Twenty artists in multiple media will showcase their recent artistic expressions. A summer show and sale at the Gallery at Convergence. Meet the artists reception is July 22 from 5 to 8 p.m. At the Gallery at Convergence, 1801 N. Quaker Lane, Alexandria. Visit [www.arlingtonartistsalliance.org](http://www.arlingtonartistsalliance.org).

Come celebrate with us at Old Town's most authentic Country French restaurant since 1983  
Thursday, July 14th is  
**Bastille Day!**

**Le Refuge**  
127 N. Washington St.  
703-548-4661

## The Best in Family Dining



An Alexandria community fixture for more than 100 years, the Royal Restaurant offers the best in Greek, Italian and American cuisine. Enjoy burgers, steaks, prime rib, chicken, seafood, pasta and full salad bar complete with special children's menu items.



734 North Saint Asaph Street, Alexandria, Virginia 22314  
703-548-1616 • [www.theroyalrestaurant.com](http://www.theroyalrestaurant.com)  
Award-winning wine menu • Major credit cards accepted

# ENTERTAINMENT

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

## JULY 10 TO OCT. 31

**Alexandria Arts and Crafts Fair.** 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. every Sunday. Features some of the areas' best artists and artisans and includes jewelry, glass works, ceramics and pottery, hand woven products, and other crafts. At St. George Gallery, 105 North Alfred Street, in the heart of Old Town Alexandria.

## SUNDAYS IN JULY

**Civil War Sundays.** 1 to 5 p.m. Free. At the Alexandria Archaeology Museum, located on the third floor of the Torpedo Factory art Center.

## EVERY THURSDAY

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

## NOW THROUGH OCT. 30

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

## THURSDAY/JULY 14

**Michael DeLalla in Concert.** 7 p.m. Tickets are \$10. Part of the Second Thursday Music. At The Athenaeum, 201 Prince Street, Alexandria. Call 703-548-0035 or visit [nvfaa.org](http://nvfaa.org).

**Bastille Day Wine Dinner.** 7 p.m. Tickets are \$100. This night of celebration with a historically inspired five-course dinner paired with fine French wines is one both history and wine lovers will savor! At Gadsby's Tavern Museum, 134 North Royal St., Alexandria. Visit [www.gadsbystavern.org](http://www.gadsbystavern.org) or call 703-746-4242.

**Music at Twilight Concerts.** 7:30 to 8:30 p.m. The Bobcats (Rock & Roll). At Fort Ward Park Amphitheater, 4301 W. Braddock Rd., Alexandria. Contact: Special Events, [maureen.sturgill@alexandriava.gov](mailto:maureen.sturgill@alexandriava.gov), 703-746-5592.

**Alive With History.** 6 to 9 p.m. Free. Explore the Torpedo Factory Art Center's history with a DIY button project and historical photobooth, and learn about the Alexandria Black History Museum. Target Gallery hosts the Artist of the Year reception for Tory Cowles, and The Art League Gallery hosts the reception for the All-Media Membership Show and Francis Borchardt's solo show, with live music by The Higher Ground String Band. At the Torpedo Factory Art Center, 105 N. Union St., Alexandria. Visit [www.torpedofactory.org](http://www.torpedofactory.org); 703-838-4565.

## FRIDAY/JULY 15

**Mount Vernon Swing Band.** 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. Admission is \$4 at door. Dance to a live band led by conductor Owen Hammett. Open to All. At Hollin Hall Senior Center, 1500 Shenandoah Road, Alexandria. Call 703-765-4573.

**Alexandria Citizens Band Concert.** 7:30 to 8:30 p.m. The City's Oldest Performing Arts Organization. At Market Square, 301 King St., Alexandria. Contact Special Events, [maureen.sturgill@alexandriava.gov](mailto:maureen.sturgill@alexandriava.gov), 703-746-5592.

**John Pizzarelli.** 8 p.m. At The Carlyle Club, 411 John Carlyle St., Alexandria. Call 703-548-8899. Visit [www.thecarlyleclub.com](http://www.thecarlyleclub.com).

## JULY 15 AND 16

**Comcast Outdoor Film Festival.** 7:45 p.m. Free. "Avatar" will be shown on Friday and "Mama Mia" will be shown on Saturday. At Waterfront Park, 1A Prince Street, Alexandria. Call 703-746-5418.

## JULY 15-17

**Christmas in July.** Presented by The Christmas Attic and the businesses of Union Street. Some 15 retailers and community organizations will host a variety of activities either inside stores or on Union Street ranging from pictures with "Summer" Santa & Mrs. Claus, historical tours, holiday trunk shows,



## JULY 20

**Saxophonist Dave Koz.** Six-time Grammy-nominated saxophonist Dave Koz at The Birchmere. Dave's current CD, "Hello Tomorrow," debuted at No. 1 on both the Billboard Top Contemporary Jazz Albums chart.

food and wine tastings, cookie decorating, storytime for tots, ornament making, arts and crafts, ice cream, paint your own nutcracker, green holiday home tips, fashion styling, pooch pictures, musical entertainment and much more. Located on Union Street between Cameron and Duke Street in Old Town. Visit [www.christmasattic.com](http://www.christmasattic.com) or 703-548-2829.

## SATURDAY/JULY 16

**Jeff Bush Jazz.** 8 p.m. At The Carlyle Club, 411 John Carlyle St., Alexandria. Call 703-548-8899. Visit [www.thecarlyleclub.com](http://www.thecarlyleclub.com).

**"How to Train Your Dragon."** 7 to 10 p.m. At Cinema Del Ray. Free open air showings of recent films. At Mount Vernon Recreation Center, 2701 Commonwealth Ave., Alexandria. Contact: Jen Walker, 703-675-1566.

**Hidden History of Union Street Walking Tour.** 10 a.m. Free. Join City Archaeologist Dr. Pamela Cressey as she explores "The Hidden History of Union Street - Are We Walking on Water?" Walk along Union Street and learn what she and her colleagues have discovered above and below the ground about Alexandria's history. Meet at the Torpedo Factory Arcade (corner of King and Union Streets). Visit [www.alexandriaarchaeology.org](http://www.alexandriaarchaeology.org) or call 703-766-4399.

**Speak Up for a Child.** 11 a.m. Fairfax Court Appointed Special Advocates is hosting an information session for volunteers. If you would like to learn more about advocating for abused or neglected children, call 703-273-3526, x22 or email [ekosarin@casafairfax.org](mailto:ekosarin@casafairfax.org). At Sherwood Regional Library, 2501 Sherwood Hall Lane, Alexandria.

**Civil War Spotlight Talks.** Free. Explore Civil War Artillery Projectiles. 30-minute talks from 10 a.m. to noon; and 2 to 4 p.m. Learn about a variety of Civil War-period ammunition, from a 100-pounder Parrott shell to a Ketcham hand grenade. At Fort Ward Museum, 4301 West Braddock Road, Alexandria. Visit [www.forward.org](http://www.forward.org) or call 703-746-4848.

## JULY 16 TO AUG. 6

**Signature's Sizzlin' Summer Cabaret.** Cabarets will include "Let Me Sing" and "I'm Happy" ("The Music of Irving Berlin"), a collection of Berlin favorites featuring Sherri L. Edelen, James Gardiner, Matt Pearson and Bayla Whitten. Solo cabarets include Erin Driscoll ("[title of show]," "Sweeney Todd"), and last year's Sizzlin' Summer artists Bob McDonald and Sandy Bainum ("Sunset Boulevard"). Tickets for all cabarets are \$25 each. Signature offers a special All-Access Pass for \$125. At Signature Theater, 4200 Campbell Ave., Arlington. Call 703-820-9771.

## JULY 16-17

**Free Music Lessons.** Kingstowne Acoustic Music joins in the fight against heart disease by offering free music lessons in the following: guitar, bass, banjo, mandolin, violin, piano, ukulele and voice lessons. At 110 Kingstowne Center in Alexandria. Call Kingstowne Acoustic Music at 703-822-9090.

## SUNDAY/JULY 17

**Civil War Sundays.** 1 to 5 p.m. Check out the free showcase of Civil War history. At the Alexandria Archaeology Museum, 105 North Union Street, #327. Visit [www.alexandriaarchaeology.org](http://www.alexandriaarchaeology.org) or



## JULY 18 AND 19

**Jonny Lang with Natalie York.** 7:30 p.m. Vienna singer/songwriter Natalie York opens for Grammy-winning blues artist Lang. At The Birchmere, 3701 Mt. Vernon Ave., Alexandria. [www.birchmere.com](http://www.birchmere.com); 703-549-7500.

call 703-746-4399.

**Jazz at Meade.** 4 p.m. Featuring The Jolley Brothers, twins Nathan and Noble Jolley. Admission is \$15 donation. At Meade Memorial Episcopal Church, 322 N. Alfred St., Alexandria. Call 703-549-1334.

## JULY 18 TO 21

**Pint-Sized Playacting.** 10 to 11:15 a.m. Join Miss Megan on an exploration of creative play! Exercises in focus, ensemble, movement, and more are combined with interactive activities and storytimes to form a solid foundation for your budding thespian. Ages 5-7. \$20. Registration required. At Hooray for Books, 1555 King St., Alexandria. Call 703-548-4092 or visit [megan@hooray4books.com](mailto:megan@hooray4books.com)

## TUESDAY/JULY 19

**Life Line Screening.** Packages start at \$139. All five screenings take 60-90 minutes to complete. Get screened to reduce your risk of having a stroke or a bone fracture. At Lincolnia United Methodist Church, 6335 Little River Turnpike, Alexandria. To schedule an appointment, call 1-877-237-1287 or visit [www.lifelinescreening.com](http://www.lifelinescreening.com). Pre-registration is required.

**Mount Vernon Genealogical Society.** 1 p.m. Free. The meeting will feature the presentation "Leaping to Erroneous Conclusions" by Christine Rose. Meets in Room 112 of Hollin Hall Senior Center, 1500 Shenandoah Road, Alexandria. Call Phyllis Kelley at 703-660-6969 or [publicity@mvgenealogy.org](mailto:publicity@mvgenealogy.org).

## WEDNESDAY/JULY 20

**Ben Brenman Park Concerts.** 7 to 8 p.m. Dave Chappell Duo (Blues). At Ben Brenman Park, 4800 Brenman Park Dr., Alexandria. Contact Special Events, [maureen.sturgill@alexandriava.gov](mailto:maureen.sturgill@alexandriava.gov), 703-746-5592.

**Summer Concert Series.** 8 p.m. American Jazz Heroes with the U.S. Air Force Band — The Airmen of Note. At T.C. Williams High School, 3330 King Street, Alexandria. Call 202-767-5658 or visit [www.usafband.af.mil](http://www.usafband.af.mil).

**Swing Dancing.** 9 to 11 p.m. Admission is \$10. With the band, Atomic Swing Club. At Nick's Nightclub, 642 South Pickett St., Alexandria.

## THURSDAY/JULY 21

**Swing Machine.** 8 p.m. At The Carlyle Club, 411 John Carlyle St., Alexandria. Call 703-548-8899. Visit [www.thecarlyleclub.com](http://www.thecarlyleclub.com).

## FRIDAY, JULY 22

**Wee Ones Storytime.** 10:30-11 a.m. Explore the exciting world around us with some favorite stories and songs! Ages 2 and under. Free. At Hooray for Books, 1555 King St., Alexandria. Call 703-548-4092 or visit [megan@hooray4books.com](mailto:megan@hooray4books.com)

**Suite Drive and Golf Tournament.** Mount Vernon Chapter, American Society of Military Comptrollers, 2-5 p.m. Fort Belvoir Golf Course, 8450 Beulah St # 2920, Alexandria. Join in a suite drive to support FACETS and a golf tournament. Cost is \$75 for golf, lunch, and prizes. Opportunity to win a car with a hole-in-one contest. Contact [gary@gdbrooks.com](mailto:gary@gdbrooks.com) or register at: <https://www.123signup.com/register?id=cgtxr>.

## SATURDAY/JULY 23

**Wee Ones Storytime.** 10:30-11 a.m. Explore the exciting world around us with some favorite stories and songs! Ages 2 and under. Free. At Hooray for Books, 1555 King St., Alexandria. Call 703-548-4092 or visit [megan@hooray4books.com](mailto:megan@hooray4books.com)

**Installation Appreciation Day.** 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Sponsored by the Belvoir Federal Credit Union as a way to celebrate Fort Belvoir's military and civilian communities. Activities available for children include a rock climbing wall, moon bounce and clown, as well as face painting and balloon animals. Visitors will have the chance to win more than 20 prizes, including a free cruise. Visit [www.BelvoirCreditUnion.org/iad2011](http://www.BelvoirCreditUnion.org/iad2011)

**Pianist Victoria Bragin.** 8 p.m. Admission is \$15. Will perform a special "Blue Ribbon" salon recital at the Lyceum in Old Town Alexandria. Her program features works by Scarlatti, Beethoven, Debussy, and Schumann. At The Lyceum, 201 South Washington St., Old Town Alexandria.

## JULY 23 TO AUG. 13

**"Hairspray."** Wednesdays through Saturdays at 8 p.m.; Sundays at 3 p.m. Directed by Sue Pinkman; Music Direction by Chris Tomasino; and Choreography by Ivan Davila. CAST: Shannon Kingett as Tracy Turnblad, Sam Jones as Link Larkin, Christopher Harris as Edna, Larry Grey as Wilbur, Brenda Parker as Motormouth Maybelle, Adrian Cabbage as Seaweed, Jaclyn Young as Penny, Christina Kidd as Amber, Janette Moman as Velma, Gardner Reed as Corny, Gina Tomkus as Prudy, Marissa Moody as L'il Inez, Scott Strasbaugh as Mr. Pinky, Mark Williams as Mr. Spritzer. Members of the ensemble include Andrea Berting, Amanda Corbett, Maureen Eul, Jonathan Faircloth, Meg Glassco, Blake Hopkins, Caitlin Jackson, Derek Marsh, Jody Parker, Chris Rios, Maria Simpkins, Zaria Stott, Ryan Walker, Samantha Williams, Jacob Wittenauer and Roger Yawson. At the Little Theatre of Alexandria, 600 Wolfe Street, Alexandria. Visit [www.thelittletheatre.com](http://www.thelittletheatre.com) or call 703-683-0496.

## SUNDAY/JULY 24

**Women's Day.** 11 a.m. With guest preacher Rev. Dr. Mae E. Harrison, senior pastor, United Methodist Church of the Redeemer, Temple Hills, Md. Held at Roberts Memorial United Methodist Church, 606 South Washington St., Alexandria. Contact Number: 703-836-7332

**Famous Magician Fund-raiser.** Noon to 4 p.m. At Fort Hunt Park. A fund-raiser for a child's cancer treatment. Come out to support Brennen, son of Executive Director of Spring Hill Mount Vernon Assisted Living, Robinette Todd. Brennen was diagnosed with a rare form of brain cancer and the fundraiser will help pay for his future treatments. Alain Nu, a Las Vegas headlining magician as seen on TLC, will perform. Food, games, a moon bounce, and face painting will also be present. Tickets are \$18/advance, \$20/door; and \$10 for age 5 to 12. Call Krista Wells at 757-749-6225 or Robinette Todd at 240-274-7731.

**Family Tour Day.** 1 to 4 p.m. Special tours hosted by Junior Docents who will be stationed at each stop on the tour, including the taproom, bedchambers, ballroom, assembly room and dining room. At Gadsby's Tavern Museum, 134 North Royal Street, Alexandria. Call 703-746-4242 or visit [www.gadsbystavern.org](http://www.gadsbystavern.org).

## WEDNESDAY/JULY 27

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

**Lunch Bunch Concert.** 12 to 1 p.m. Joe Rathbone (Indie Pop). At Canal Center Plaza, 44 Canal Center Plaza, Alexandria. Contact: Special Events, [maureen.sturgill@alexandriava.gov](mailto:maureen.sturgill@alexandriava.gov), 703-746-5592.

**Music in the Parks.** 7:30 p.m. With the U.S. Army Blues Band. At Lee District Park in Alexandria.

**Summer Concert Series.** 8 p.m. Free. "A Tribute to Stan Kenton." The U.S. Air Force Band — The Airmen of Note. At T.C. Williams High School, 3330 King St., Alexandria. Call 202-767-5658 or [www.usafband.af.mil](http://www.usafband.af.mil)

## THURSDAY/JULY 28

**Music at Twilight Concerts.** 7:30 to 8:30 p.m. Alexandria Harmonizers (Men's Barbershop). At Fort Ward Park Amphitheater, 4301 W. Braddock Rd., Alexandria. Contact: Special Events, [maureen.sturgill@alexandriava.gov](mailto:maureen.sturgill@alexandriava.gov), 703-746-5592.

## FRIDAY/JULY 29

**Alexandria Citizens Band Concert.** 7:30 to 8:30 p.m. The City's Oldest Performing Arts Organization. At Market Square, 301 King St., Alexandria. Contact Special Events, [maureen.sturgill@alexandriava.gov](mailto:maureen.sturgill@alexandriava.gov), 703-746-5592.

# NEIGHBORHOODS

## Seminary Valley

First off, a mea culpa ... I left out one of Seminary Valley's best and brightest grads in the last column's list ... so congratulations to Kyle Stephenson, a Polk, Hammond, Minnie Howard and T.C. Williams star who is on his way to Morehouse University in the fall. If you have ever met Kyle, you know that he is going to take the world by storm. He recently received a "Beat The Odds" Grand Prize scholarship from the Alexandria Bar Association and Kyle received a standing ovation at T.C. Williams' graduation ceremony. Well done.

The next BSVCA quarterly meeting will be held on Tuesday, July 19, from 7 p.m. to 8:50 p.m., at Beatley Central Library. The quarterly meeting will cover several topics: water and sewer line insurance issues, several BRAC-related developments, including the Daytime Parking District that the City Council recently established, the latest developments pertaining to the Beaugard Corridor SAP and Transit Corridor C (i.e., the Beaugard-Van Dorn Corridor), and a crime and safety update. For more information about this meet-

ing, please contact Geoff Goodale at geoff.goodale@bsvca.net. The next BRAC Advisory Committee meeting is set for 7 p.m. at the Beatley Library on July 20.

Update on the lights at Hammond: According to Priscilla Goodwin, the T.C. Williams outgoing PTSA president, this matter is on hold. Although the Alexandria Planning Commission approved ACPS's application for a Special Use Permit for putting lights on a new Hammond field, the Seminary Hill Neighborhood Association has filed an appeal. ACPS was planning to install a turf field and the lights this summer; the system needs to decide whether or not to go ahead with the field installation while waiting for the lights.

Sandy Yamamoto reminds us that it is easy to honor your pet and help out the Animal Welfare League at the same time, by entering the League's 2012 Calendar Photo Contest. The pet that raises the most money (through votes at \$1 each) will win a professional photo shoot for the coveted cover spot. All pets entered get a free calendar and each vote is tax deductible. Voting ends at noon on July 31. The website link can be found at [www.alexandriaanimals.org](http://www.alexandriaanimals.org). Telephone inquiries

can be made to Diana Cole at the AWLA at 703/746-5651.

Yours truly attended her first-ever Daughters of the American Revolution Continental Congress in early July. I'm not the only neighbor descended from a Revolutionary War patriot. The next time you see Susan Daly, Elizabeth Mercer Darwin, Donna Trogler or Ginger Lutz, ask her to tell you the story of her patriot. Happy summer, everyone!

— MIA JONES

## Taylor Run

**ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION**  
Kim Kluge and the Alexandria

Symphony once again brought Alexandria a gloriously happy birthday. The largest crowd ever to attend showed up to celebrate our splendid city.

If you wondered who the people in 19th century white raiment were, they were the Victorian Society of Falls Church, bringing white tablecloths, proper Victorian food (cucumber sandwiches) and a proper Victorian attitude to honor Alexandria.

**ARE WE SPOILED?**

Every year when those cannons from Fort Belvoir boom out, I feel that I have been spoiled for ordinary concerts. I shall always expect the 1812 Overture to include cannons, fireworks, and innumerable childish voices.

— LOIS KELSO HUNT

**SAMARITANS APPEAR**

Our neighbor Moina Ratliff knows that our area is full of good-hearted people. When she tripped over a curb on her way to see that excellent film "Midnight in Paris," scraping and bruising herself rather badly and bloodily, she was amazed at the number of people who were suddenly there, offering bandages, ambulances, calls to 911 and other help. One kind soul said, "Won't you come sit on my porch?" Undaunted, she got up and went in to see the film and liked it. Next day she was pleased to find that no stitches were needed. "I don't know where all those people came from," she said.

## SCHOOL NOTES

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

**Maria Aleksandrova**, the daughter of Michael and Yana Babson of Alexandria, performed for a crowd of approximately 9,000 people at the CONSOL Energy Center in Pittsburgh on April 30. Maria is a member of the Randolph-Macon Academy (R-MA) Chorus, which, in conjunction with the R-MA Band, performed an hour-long concert, "A Salute to Patriots," as part of the National Rifle Association's "Celebration of American Values Freedom Experience." Maria is a junior at the Academy.

Lycoming College junior German and economics major **Linda McCargo of Alexandria** has been awarded an undergraduate scholarship by the German Academic Exchange Service in support of her planned semester at Otto-Friedrich-Universitaet Bamberg, one of Lycoming's affiliate institutions, in Bamberg, Germany. McCargo is the fourth Lycoming student to receive the competitive award since 2008. The scholarship assists with travel and living expenses and provides a monthly stipend.

**Taylor Sinclair of Alexandria** has been named to the dean's list at George Mason University in the fall 2010 semester. Taylor has also accepted membership in The National Society of Collegiate Scholars and will be honored during an induction convocation this fall.

**Bryce W. Johnson of Alexandria** made the scholastic honor roll for the

winter term at Oregon State University. He is studying botany with a straight-A average.

**Matthew Ethan Johnson of Alexandria** received a Master of Health Science degree from Lock Haven University during 2011 spring commencement ceremonies.

**Madeline Ogden of Alexandria** received the freshman soccer and tennis scholar athlete awards at Mary Baldwin College's spring honors convocation.

**Patrick J. Dougan of Alexandria** received a Master of Science in organizational leadership during the 2011 graduate commencement at Quinnipiac University on May 15.

**Timmy Phillips of Alexandria** made the third-term honor roll at The Fessenden School.

Local students attending Hampden-Sydney College were named to the dean's list for the spring semester of the 2010-2011 academic year.

❖ **Zachary Tyler Hellmuth**, a junior — Zach is a graduate of Bishop Ireton High School and is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Everett A. Hellmuth III, H-SC Class of '75, of Alexandria.

The following Washington and Lee students have earned honor roll status for the recently ended winter term.

❖ **Karie Mickel of Alexandria**, a member of the class of 2011;

❖ **Caroline Schmidt of Alexandria**, a member of the class of 2013.

**Hanjun Bae of Alexandria** participated in the Chinese Bridge U.S. High School Student Chinese Speech

SEE SCHOOLS, PAGE 33

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Blum LLC trading as Buccinos Pizzeria, 6410 Landsdowne Center Drive, Alexandria, VA 22315. The above establishment is applying to the VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL for a Wine & Beer on premise license to sell or manufacture alcoholic beverages. Michelle Orhan, owner

**ABC LICENSE**

F&B, LLC trading as Telegraph Station, 5735-A Telegraph Rd, Alexandria, VA 22303. The above establishment is applying to the VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL for a Wine & Beer on & off Premises license to sell or manufacture alcoholic beverages. Mark Semans, Managing Member

**LEGAL NOTICE**

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

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

Please take notice that the City will accept proposals for a piece of surplus real estate from the time of this advertisement through August 15, 2011, 3:00 p.m. local time. The parcel is commonly known as 200 North Royal Street and is approximately 10,666 (2 floors plus basement), on a 1,677 square foot lot. Details regarding the proposal process and more information about the parcel can be found at the following link:

<http://alexandriava.gov/generalservices/>

Please contact Timothy E. Wanamaker, Deputy Director, Department of General Services, 110 North Royal Street, Suite 300, Alexandria, VA, 22314, phone (703) 746-3208, e-mail [Tim.Wanamaker@alexandriava.gov](mailto:Tim.Wanamaker@alexandriava.gov), with any questions.

PEOPLE

The 'Other' James Dean

Founding director of the NASA Art Program painting at the Torpedo Factory.

BY SVETLANA AVELLAN  
GAZETTE PACKET

For 50 years, NASA's Art Program featured numerous artists who have been capturing moments others witnessed via television or a newspaper. Among the artists were James Dean, founder of the program; Norman Rockwell; Andrew Wyeth and others.

From his youth, Dean knew he had the ability to be an artist. Beginning as a cartoonist, it wasn't until his teen years that he became serious about painting. After graduating high school, Dean continued to excel in his work at the Swain School of Design in New Bedford, Mass. With his education complete, after moving to Washington D.C., Dean applied to work for NASA with the intention of doing film and recording work.

IN 1960, NASA hired Dean, two years after the space program's start. At the time the American public had extraordinary interest in space, and, in return, NASA kept the public informed on everything.

"One of NASA's advantages," Dean said, "is the fact that they could predict history being made."

With new inventions and projects, NASA hired photographers to capture the work in progress.

"Even though the photos consisted of everything that was taking place, the administrator of NASA, James Webb, wanted to see images that captured the feelings and emotion in the way only an artist can," Dean said.

Webb hired Dean to take control of the art program and to find and hire artists.

After much research and advice, Dean gath-



James Dean with one of his watercolors at his studio at the Torpedo Factory.



From James Dean's Facebook: "Shuttle Flowers", a watercolor by James Dean.

ered artists to cover numerous launches from the Mercury flights to Apollo 11. "I gave them freedom to capture what they felt they saw, and, in the end, the art was a perfect complement to the photography. It added excitement," Dean said.

According to Dean, after the first project was completed by all of the artists, NASA didn't know how to react. But the art was eventually appreciated by the workers because they felt that their workplace was now a work of art.

With more than 3,000 paintings, drawings, and lithographs created by the artists, Dean said the best moment he covered was "definitely the Apollo 11 [moon landing]."

AFTER LEAVING NASA in 1974, Dean heard

Officers Graduate from K-9 School

The Police Department held a graduation ceremony for the graduates of the Basic K-9 School, hosted by the Alexandria Police Department's K-9 Unit on June 8. The ceremony was held at the Police Department's K-9 Facility, located at 1108 Jefferson St.

Three Alexandria Police officers and one Arlington County Police officer participated in the Basic K-9 School. The officers who graduated are:

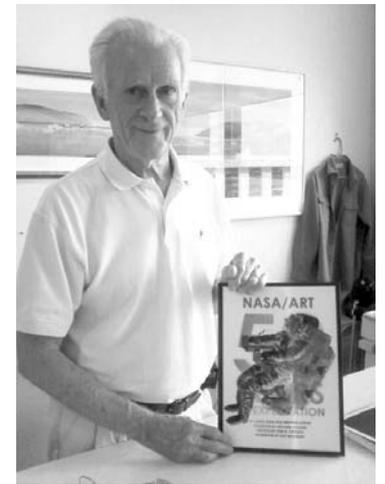
❖ **Sergeant Steven Carr and K-9 "G'Kar."** Carr has been with Alexandria Police Department since 1994 and was transferred to K-9 supervisor in 2010.

❖ **Officer Mark Wuckovich and K-9 "Rocco."** Wuckovich has been with Alexandria Police Department since 1983 and was selected for the K9 Unit in 1989.

❖ **Officer Kyle Russel and K-9 "Chance."** Russel has been with the Alexandria Police Department since 2005 and was selected for the K-9 unit in 2011. Russel was shot in the line of duty in September 2008 while serving in the Patrol Operations Bureau.

❖ **Corporal Thorpe Lichtenberg and K-9 "Roxy."** Lichtenberg has been with Arlington Police Department since 1987 and was selected for the K-9 unit in 1992.

The four officers completed a 15-week training course in all areas of police K-9 work, including instruction on obedience, evidence recovery, suspect search, tracking, agility, criminal apprehension, building search and tactical deployments with canine. The class was taught by lead trainer K-9 Officer Carlos Rolon, who has been with the Department since 1998 and in the K-9 Unit since 2004.



This book by James Dean, "NASA/ART 50 Years of Exploration," may be found on Amazon.com.

about the Torpedo Factory, where he began working in 1980. "I needed space to work, and that's what the factory represented and gave me," Dean said.

Even with no air or heat in the factory, people still came to see the artwork, according to Dean. He noted that when the factory was renovated in 1983, Alexandria looked nothing like it does now.

Recently, Dean was called to help out at the Smithsonian Institute to organize the NASA/ART: 50 Years of Exploration exhibit, where 73 pieces are on display, including his "Shuttle Flowers."

After painting more than 500 watercolors, Dean decided to settle in Alexandria and continue his work. "A lot of my work comes from this area and Maine on an island," Dean said. "I'll do a lot of sketches and photographs and finish my paint job at my studio."

Located in Studio 306 at the Torpedo Factory, Dean said, "There are three types of people that come into my studio. The first type always says what a great view I have of the waterfront. The second type asks if I am the real James Dean, and finally the third type comes for the art."

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Flower Arranging

The Mother's Group of The Child & Family Network Centers (CFNC) learned flower arranging on June 9 from Margaret Bush, owner of Artful Arrangements. Bush brought all of the items needed, including fresh flowers and containers and worked with each participant to create her own arrangement. The Mother's Group, consisting of 14 mothers from a variety of countries, meets weekly at CFNC with Social Worker Ansley Shackelford to develop friendships, learn parenting skills, and discuss life issues in confidence.

# A New Day at Jefferson-Houston

FROM PAGE 1

Much has changed since then. The next year, Alexandria embarked on a social experiment known as “busing,” sending the Parker Gray girl to a white neighborhood so she could attend George Mason Elementary School.

For the next two decades, integration sent the city’s public-school students crisscrossing the city to achieve a racial balance. That all came to an end in 1999, when the Alexandria School Board adopted a controversial redistricting plan that once again created a racial imbalance at the school.

Today, the student population at Jefferson-Houston is 63 percent African-American and 17 percent white. Test scores show that the school has consistently failed to meet federal standards, forcing administrators to implement a corrective-action plan for improving the school. And the recent announcement that Principal Kimberley Graves would be stepping down to spend more time with her family has created a turning point at the Cameron Street school.

“I wish that Kim Graves could stay another 10 years,” Superintendent Morton Sherman told parents this week. “But it was her decision to leave.”

**JEFFERSON-HOUSTON** is at a turning

point, one that could reshape the future of the long-suffering school. And the changes include more than in leadership. Back in May, the Alexandria City Council approved a budget that cleared the way for the building to be demolished and replaced with a new facility. In an effort to allow a new principal to focus on education, Sherman has hired what he calls a “chief executive officer” at the school to concentrate on construction and logistical issues and the \$40 million construction project.

“It’s a luxury situation,” said newly hired Jefferson-Houston CEO Stephen Wilkins, a retired Army colonel. “It breaks the mold for how schools are organized.”

Last week, Sherman announced that he has selected a finalist for the position of principal at Jefferson-Houston — Rosalyn Rice-Harris, who is currently associate principal at George Washington Middle School. On Tuesday night, Harris met with parents and teachers in the school’s library for a meet-and-greet session that was billed as a sort of public job interview although no other candidates were presented to the community.

“I am these kids,” said Rice-Harris, noting her personal background was similar to the school’s population. “School saved my life.”

A native of Bridgeport, Conn., Rice-Harris has a bachelor’s degree in history and

policy from Carnegie Mellon University and a master’s degree in educational administration from Trinity University. Before coming to work in Alexandria, she served as an elementary school principal and assistant principal in Washington, D.C. Sherman said the feedback he receives from the community will help him make a decision about new leadership at Jefferson-Houston.

“As goes Jefferson-Houston, so goes ACPS,” Sherman told parents. “You are our point of light for Alexandria.”

**JEFFERSON-HOUSTON** is currently the only elementary school in Alexandria that also offers middle school classes, a feature that administrators plan on replicating at Patrick Henry Elementary School and Cora Kelly Elementary School in the coming years.

Sherman hopes to use the school as a laboratory of sorts, attempting a number of innovations. Aside from hiring a new CEO, administrators also hope to create a community council of advisors and bring in a new consultant to mentor teachers on best practices.

“When you start talking about a new consultant and a council, I think we are adding too many layers of bureaucracy,” said parent Matt Wombacher, whose daughter attends the school. “We’ve seen a lot of turnover at the school, and that alarms me.”

# Widening

FROM PAGE 1

high-capacity transit corridor. Back in May, the city’s High Capacity Transit Corridor Working Group recommended a plan known as “Alternative D” that would keep all four existing lanes of traffic on Beaugard while adding high-capacity transit for a thoroughfare city officials call “Corridor C.” The recommendation would also widen the sidewalks and clear the way for bus-rapid transit — infrastructure that could eventually be used for streetcars when the money is available to upgrade. For now, though, members of the working group say drivers will use their vehicles whether Beaugard has two lanes or four.

“The key there is that if you add an additional lane for a transit vehicle, what you give them is an option not to take that single-occupancy vehicle,” said Dak Hardwick, a member of the work group.

West End resident Carol James she thinks it would be “counterintuitive” to talk about reducing reliance on single occupancy vehicles while widening the road to maintain the number of single-occupancy lanes. Rosemont resident Katy Cannady agrees, adding that it would “destroy trees and ruin the look of Beaugard.”

“If you invite people to drive,” she said, “they will.”

This fall, City Council members will consider the work group’s proposal to widen the street at a public hearing. A vote is expected on the proposal before the end of the year.

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# Alexandria's Black Widow Devours Her Competition

FROM PAGE 1

New Jersey. With 18 hot dogs, it was her first win. One week later, she competed for the first time in the Nathan's Hot Dog Eating Contest on July 4 on Coney Island. She set the women's record with 25 hot dogs in 12 minutes.

She said this is when she first started getting attention as a rising star. She was asked what her favorite kind of food was and she said she really liked hard-boiled eggs. So a couple of months later, in Indianapolis, she prepared to break the hard-boiled egg record.

The record was 38 eggs in 10 minutes. She felt ambitious so she had them prepare 65. She shattered the old record by running out of eggs in 6 minutes 40 seconds.

She continued to work her way up in the competitive eating world. She beat out Cookie Jarvis in 2004 to be ranked No. 1 nationwide.

Thomas was featured in a MasterCard PayPass commercial with the man who sparked her interest in competitive eating, Kobayashi.

In 2005, Joey Chestnut arrived on the scene. He beat Thomas in a Waffle House waffle-eating competition by a half of a waffle. "I was so sad. I was so disappointed in myself. I totally lost my mind."

Fortunately, the next day she had a chance to redeem herself in a Krystal hamburger-eating contest. She beat Chestnut.

Chestnut, however, continued to improve and rise in the rankings. "Even though my eating ability is not going down, the other eaters are getting better," Thomas said. "Even Tiger Woods sometimes loses. Everybody cannot be a winner."

She has great respect for Chestnut. "Who can eat 68 hot dogs in 10 minutes? That's really, really respectable. That's a skill. That's special. That's talent. If I gave you a million dollars, could you do it?"

This year, at the Nathan's Hot Dog Eating Contest, Thomas stood alongside Chestnut in the winner's circle. This was the first year



**Sonya Thomas holds up the first ever Pepto Bismol Belt.**

**"I could always eat more than normal people. People could not believe me when I was eating."**

**— Sonya "The Black Widow" Thomas**

that Nathan's had a separate contest for men and women.

"It was a shock to me that there was a men's and a women's contest. ... A lot of sports have different divisions for men and women. This is a really good opportunity for women."

Thomas' total this year of 40 hot dogs did not beat her record of 41 from 2009. Other notable wins include 250.5 jalapenos in 9 minutes and 552 oysters in 10 minutes.

Thomas said she is best at eating seafood



**Sonya Thomas and Joey Chestnut after winning the 2011 Nathan's Hot Dog Eating Contest**

and dislikes eating meat products. She couldn't eat meat until she was 21 because she thought it was gross.

Her goal is to eat 45 hot dogs in 10 minutes at the next Nathan's Hot Dog Eating Contest.

Thomas is known for her feminist attitude. Her nickname, the Black Widow, comes from the idea of being a maneater. She explained that black widow spiders poison and eat the male spiders.

"When I started up in 2003, everyone had a nickname. I saw 'Seabiscuit.' I thought, 'I am like him. Should I make my nickname Seabiscuit?' Then I found black widow. ... It's very strong and evil. It's better than Seabiscuit."

She said, "a lot of times people think competitive eating is 'oh gross' but me, I don't care what other people are thinking. I don't care about negative thinking or opinions. I want to show people that I am the best. I stick to my goal. I want to be the best."

Thomas sees competitive eating as a sport because "you're competing with another person." She thinks it is 70 percent mental, 30 percent physical.

She said she burps often but rarely vom-

its. During a competition, vomiting gets you disqualified. However, it is legal afterward. She says her stomach can handle the food without getting sick. She said she can eat about 18-19 pounds of food in one sitting.

One time she threw up after eating 11 pounds of cheesecake in 9 minutes.

Thomas said she is able to stay slim because she only competes once or twice a month. She works as a restaurant manager at Burger King on Andrews Air Force Base. She exercises regularly.

She usually eats one large meal per day. A normal amount of food for her is coffee in the morning, diet soda for lunch, then a dinner of two large French fries, chicken tenders, a chicken sandwich and another diet soda.

To prepare for competitions, she eats lightly the night before. "I just eat a little bit of fruit or salad."

As advice to those who may want to try competitive eating, Thomas said, "If you believe you're a good eater and you're very competitive and you have a strong mind, then try. Think positive. Everybody eats — just naturally. You can make a little bit of extra money for fun."

## Organ Historical Society Visits Old Presbyterian Meeting House

Four busloads of participants from the Organ Historical Society's 56th National Convention in Washington, D.C. traveled to the Old Presbyterian Meeting House in Alexandria, among other locations, to hear an organ recital June 28 by music director and organist at the Meeting House Samuel Baker. The Meeting House has an 1849 Erben organ as well as a 1997 Lively-Fulcher organ, and Baker used both in his recital.

Beginning with the Erben organ, Baker played two voluntaries and a hymn with variations. For the second half of the program, he began with "Air," by Gerre Hancock, and ended with another hymn, both performed on the Lively-Fulcher organ. This instrument is used for congregational music during Sunday services and other musical events.

Because the Erben organ is one of a small

number of such older instruments that are still in playable condition, during an intermission an officer of the Organ Historical Society presented the Meeting House with a citation recognizing it as "an instrument of exceptional historic merit, worthy of preservation." Meeting House historian Dr. Donald C. Dahmann accepted the citation on behalf of the congregation.

Outside the sanctuary, Mary Belle Stephens, Peggy Jeens and Midge Shawley sold notecards to help raise funds to refurbish the Erben organ. Each card had an image of one of six different scenes from around the church, taken by fine-art photographer Larry Rood, a member of the congregation.

Those interested supporting the project are asked to contact Stephens at 703-765-3177 or gunston71@cox.net.



**Members of the Organ Historical Society assemble in the sanctuary of the Old Presbyterian Meeting House at the beginning of the June 28 program. The 1849 Erben organ is behind the pulpit. Meeting House Music Director and Organist Samuel Baker is standing in jacket and tie under the balcony to the right prior to performing on this organ.**

# TC Grad Kenimer Excelling in College

BY ORRIN KONHEIM  
GAZETTE PACKET

In 2008, Brad Kenimer capped off an extraordinary senior year as T.C. Williams' top distance runner with a fourth-place victory at the National Scholastic Indoor Championships, followed by an outdoor track season in which he was the Northern Region champion in both the mile and two mile. Three years later, he hasn't shown any signs of slowing down as he prepares for his senior year at Dartmouth College where he'll serve as co-captain of the cross country team.

"We have roughly the same goals every year — to win the Ivy League Championships and to make it to the NAAs," said Kenimer. "I'm the captain this year, so I have a more defined role in setting those goals."

As the co-captain and one of its top runners, rising senior Kenimer hopes to lead the Dartmouth cross country team to its first Ivy League title since the fall of 2005.

"Last year we were very close to both of

those goals," said Dartmouth cross-country coach Barry Harwick, who estimates that they were one or two spots away at most from making the 30-school field at the NCAA cross country championships.

Spending the summer at his home in Alexandria, he is waking up daily at 7 a.m. to run and hopes to be able to get up to 90 miles a week of running by the start of the season.

Kenimer comes off a junior year highlighted by a fourth-place finish at the Ivy League Conference Championships and a first-place finish in the second heat at the Penn Relays in which he set a personal record of 14:24. Kenimer's time is roughly a minute faster than his high school times.

"I was always used to being good in high school but when you get to college, the bar moves up. If you just stay the same [after high school], you'll get stagnant," said Kenimer when asked to account for his improvement. "I do like running but I don't think running would be a good experience if I wasn't improving."

Kenimer also credits his coaches at T.C. Williams — Mike Hughes for cross-country and Jim Garner was the distance specialist for track — with helping him develop in a "way that's sustainable."

"I think the coaches were very good at educating me about the sport and training in a way to set yourself up for a good college career," Kenimer said.

Indeed, Kenimer has achieved a rare feat of going uninjured for his first three years and has competed in cross country, indoor track and outdoor track for a combined nine seasons so far.

"Brad does a great job of being injury-free," added Harwick. "He does get a cold every once in a while"

Kenimer is on track to graduate and preparing for his next step by studying to take the MKATs in August. An economics major and a chemistry minor, he hopes to go to medical school.

Kenimer will begin his senior year at Dartmouth, which begins its term on Sept. 21 and will open his cross-country season at the Dartmouth Invitational on Sept. 10.



SUBMITTED PHOTO

**Brad Kenimer, a 2008 T.C. Williams graduate, will begin his senior season on the Dartmouth cross country team in the fall.**

## SPORTS BRIEFS

### ASA Introduces New Executive Director

The Alexandria Soccer Association has hired Thomas "Tommy" Park as executive director of ASA. In his role as executive director, Park will oversee all soccer-related issues for both travel and recreational programs. He will be supervising the club's coaching staff and is ultimately responsible for meeting ASA's overall objectives in player and team development. Park will also look to create a more efficient and effective communication stream with club members, coaches, and administrators.

Park comes to ASA with a variety of teaching, playing, and coaching experience. He was a regional All-American and captain at University of Mary Washington, where he obtained his B.S. in business administration. While in college, he played for the D.C. United U19 Academy team and with the Fredericksburg Generals, a professional indoor team. He spent the last four years teaching finance, economics, accounting at DeMatha High School, where he is a varsity soccer coach of the recently undefeated and No. 3-ranked team in the country. In addition, Park has been a camp site director and Super 20's coach for D.C. United. His club team, SAC U19's, is top 10 nationally and through Park's development of players and network of college coaches, 19 of the 20 rostered players are playing NCAA soccer. Park will finish his masters in sports industry management from Georgetown University this summer and is a USSF certified coach.

As his first initiative with ASA, Park will



SUBMITTED PHOTO

**Three Alexandria Aces participated in the Cal Ripken League 6-3 win over the Valley League at Eagle Field at Veterans Memorial Stadium in Harrisonburg on July 11. Aces head coach Corey Haines was an assistant coach/first base coach for the contest. From left are: Kyle Mullen (RHP, St. Joseph's), Haines and Brandon Englehardt (second base, Penn).**

be hosting age-specific open sessions at no cost every Wednesday night in July at Ben Brenman field. U9 and U10 will run from 6-7 p.m., U11-U12 will go from 7-8 p.m. and U13 and older will be from 8-9 p.m.

### Alexandria Titans Youth Tackle Football

The Alexandria Department of Recreation, Parks and Cultural Activities; Centers,

Playgrounds and Youth Sports Division is now accepting registrations for the Alexandria Titans youth tackle football program. Teams are formed in the following weight divisions and participate in the Fairfax County Youth Football League: Anklebiters, 75 lbs, 85 lbs, 95 lbs, 110 lbs, 125 lbs, and 150 lbs. Participants will be weighed and assigned to teams according to their weight and age. This program is for participants ages 7-16. Registration fee is \$30. All participants must have a Division of Motor Ve-

hicles (DMV) Identification Card upon registration. The Sportsmanship and Equipment Days will be held from 9 a.m.-1 p.m. on July 23 (Anklebiters and 75 lbs.), July 30 (85 lbs. and 95 lbs.) and Aug. 6 (110 lbs., 125 lbs and 150 lbs.). The Alexandria Titans Football Camp (free for Titan players only) will be held Aug. 1-4 from 6-8 p.m. at George Washington Middle School. The Alexandria Titans Youth Football Booster Club is looking for sponsorships for the 2011 season. For more information, call the Youth Sports Office at 703-746-5402 or go on the Recreation Department's Web site at [www.alexandriava.gov/recreation](http://www.alexandriava.gov/recreation).

### American Legion Baseball 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.

### Sports Updates On Twitter

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

SEE SPORTS BRIEFS, PAGE 32



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## SCHOOLS



**Music students show off their trophies from the weekend festival. From left (first row): Lauren Fitzpatrick, Elizabeth Rivlin, Kaitlynn Mosier and Emma Price; (Second Row) Tony Hawkins, Ashley Jean, Nick Hentschel, Eily Walsh and Laura Reynolds.**

### O'Connell Earn Honors at Music Festival

The Bishop O'Connell High School music department recently competed in the New York City International Festival of Music. Members of the school's Orchestra, Symphonic Band, Percussion Ensemble, Jazz Ensemble, along with the Concert Choir and the O'Connell Singers, participated in the event, coming home with four first place trophies, one second place trophy and one third place trophy.

Additionally, freshman Ashley Jean won special

recognition as the top student accompanist for her piano accompaniment of the Concert Choir. Sophomore Emma Price was awarded "best jazz solo" for her alto saxophone solo during the Jazz Ensemble's performance of "Spain" by Chick Corea.

While in New York the music students attended a Broadway show, enjoyed the Manhattan skyline on a dinner cruise, and participated in an awards breakfast at the Hard Rock Cafe in Time Square.

### SPORTS BRIEFS

### Registration Open For Senior Olympics

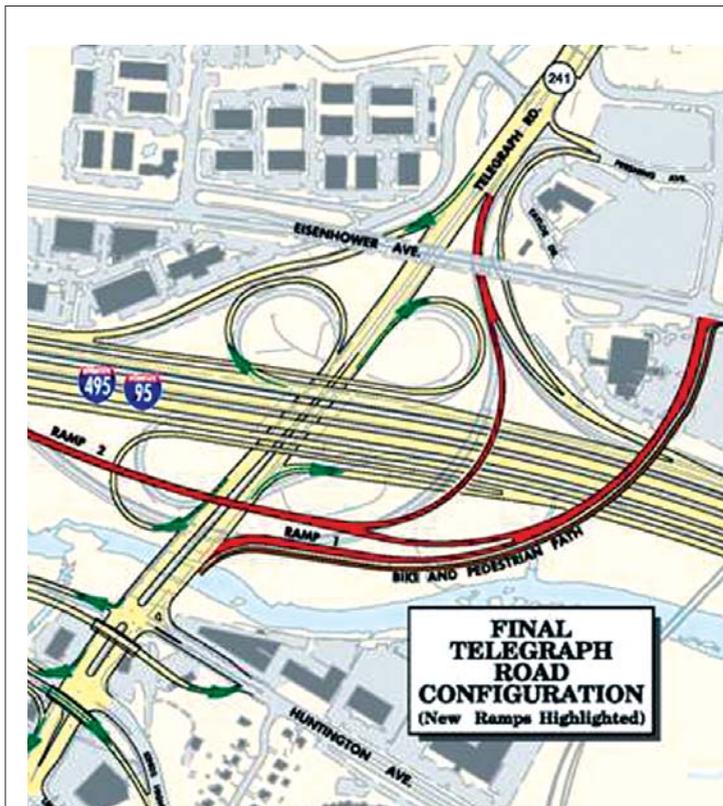
Registration is open for the 2011 Northern Virginia Senior Olympics, which will take place Sept. 17-28. Participants can register online by going to [nvso.us](http://nvso.us).

More than 25 indoor and outdoor events from track and field to scrabble and chess are offered. Senior adults 50 years of age and older, who live in a sponsoring jurisdiction, are eligible to participate. Registration information is available at local senior centers, community centers, senior residences or by calling 703-228-4721. Details and registration forms are also available online at [www.nvso.us](http://www.nvso.us). Deadline to register is Sept. 1. The fee is \$10 plus \$1 per event. There are additional charges for golf, miniature golf,

bowling and fencing.

Seniors may compete in more than one event. Each event is divided into age categories and some by gender. Winners will be awarded gold, silver and bronze medals after each event. The events will take place at various locations throughout Northern Virginia.

New events in 2011 are badminton, volleyball, cycling and a 1,600-meter run has been added to the track events. Events are track and field, swimming, diving, tennis, table tennis, golf, miniature golf, 10-pin bowling, Wii bowling, pickleball, racquetball, scrabble, bocce, cribbage, fencing, chess, duplicate bridge, backgammon, bunco, horseshoes, men's 3-on-3 basketball, men's and women's basketball free throw, team line dancing, yo-yo tricks, eight-ball pool, Frisbee throw and softball hit and throw.



### New Bicycle and Pedestrian Path

The Woodrow Wilson Bridge Project opened the new bicycle and pedestrian path on the ramp that connects northbound Telegraph Road with Eisenhower Avenue in the Telegraph Road interchange work area on June 25. This dedicated pathway will provide the first direct connection for pedestrians and bicyclists between Huntington and Eisenhower Avenues in the Telegraph Road area since the Capitol Beltway was built. The new sidewalk crosses Cameron Run on the east side of the newly completed Telegraph Road bridge, then connects to the flyover ramp crossing the Capitol Beltway

# PEOPLE



## LemonAide for Alexandria Tutoring Consortium

**Kids Helping Kids, a teen nonprofit organization that raises money for children's charities in Alexandria and provides community service opportunities for youth to "give back" to their community, recently presented a check for \$5,000 to the Alexandria Tutoring Consortium. These funds were raised during a LemonAide project, part of the community-wide Spring2Action event. From left are Gwen Mullen, executive director of ATC; Ben Luce, Lauren Zapko, and Tommy May, members of Kids Helping Kids, and Doris Ablard, Board Member of ATC.**

## SCHOOL NOTES

FROM PAGE 27

Contest at the University of Massachusetts Boston, Saturday, May 21. Bae attends Episcopal High School. The contest is organized by the UMass Confucius Institute at UMass Boston. More than 20 high school students from across the country participated in the contest.

The following Washington and Lee students have earned dean's list status for the recently ended winter term.

- ❖ **Joseph Morgan of Alexandria**, class of 2014
- ❖ **Alexander Uhlir of Alexandria**, class of 2011
- ❖ **Karie Micklem of Alexandria**, class of 2011
- ❖ **Caroline Schmidt of Alexandria**, class of 2013
- ❖ **John James Carbonell of Alexandria**, class of 2011
- ❖ **Vanessa Ndege of Alexandria**, class of 2012

The following local residents graduated from Hampton University.

- ❖ **Shelitta Sheffield** of Alexandria.
- ❖ **Rachel Queen** of Alexandria.

**Eileen Palmer of Alexandria**, a member of the Bowdoin College class of 2011, has been awarded the Richard P. Martel Jr. Memorial Prize at Bowdoin College. Palmer, majoring in math and minoring in music, is a graduate of Thomas Jefferson High School.

**Soraya Schwartz of Alexandria** received a Bachelor of Arts degree from Loyola University's College of Social Sciences May 14.

**Victoria K. Wong of Alexandria** graduated summa cum laude with a Bachelor of Arts in environmental communication from the University of Mary Washington. Wong received the UMW Alumni Award and departmental honors in English.

**Randall Leonard Cyr of Alexandria** was awarded a Master of Science degree in environ-

mental engineering at commencement exercises at Worcester Polytechnic Institute on May 14.

**Evan C. Seward of Alexandria** received a Bachelor of Science in accounting from King's College on May 22.

**Maxwell H. Brindle**, son of Eugene and Connie Brindle of Alexandria, received a bachelor's degree in government from Hamilton College on May 22

**Tara Geil, a resident of Alexandria**, received a Master of Science in Engineering degree in Literacy Education from Nazareth College on May 8.

The following Alexandria residents have been named to the spring semester dean's list at Radford University.

- ❖ **Priscilla Boaheng**, sophomore biology major
- ❖ **Emily Sohyoung Besse**, junior media studies and pre-business major
- ❖ **Brittany Leigh Booterbaugh**, senior food and nutrition major
- ❖ **Kasey Lea Cerny**, senior interdisciplinary studies major
- ❖ **Kimberly Jolynn Crawford**, junior psychology major
- ❖ **Susan Elizabeth DenBleyker**, sophomore marketing major
- ❖ **Deanna Marie Kelson Doyle**, senior art major.
- ❖ **Albert C. Gross**, junior recreation, park and tourism major
- ❖ **Shanita Renee Manyfield**, sophomore criminal justice major
- ❖ **Megan Maria Maple**, sophomore interdisciplinary studies major
- ❖ **Joshua Bradley Mazon**, junior psychology major
- ❖ **Kelley Jensen McVay**, senior psychology major
- ❖ **Chad Bradley Rogers**, senior geospatial science major
- ❖ **Habtamu Bainesagn Sahilu**, senior computer science and technology major.

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(1)BASED ON BLACK BOOK FAIR TRADE VALUE MINUS CONDITION, MILEAGE AND RECONDITIONING. TOWARD THE PURCHASE OF A NEW TOYOTA VEHICLE. (2)WITH PURCHASE OF A NEW VEHICLE. COVERS NORMAL FACTORY SCHEDULED SERVICE. PLAN IS FOR 2 YEARS OR 25K MILES, WHICHEVER COMES FIRST. THE NEW TOYOTA VEHICLE CANNOT BE PART OF A RENTAL OR COMMERCIAL FLEET, OR A DELIVERY OR TAXI VEHICLE. SEE PARTICIPATING TOYOTA DEALER FOR DETAILS. (3)WITH APPROVED CREDIT ON SELECT MODELS THRU TFS. SEE DEALER FOR COMPLETE FINANCING DETAILS. CANNOT BE COMBINED WITH ANY OTHER ADVERTISED OFFER. OFFERS SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT PRIOR NOTIFICATION DUE TO MANUFACTURER CHANGE IN INCENTIVES. SEE DEALER FOR COMPLETE CAMPAIGN DETAILS. 0% APR FOR A LIMITED TERM ON APPROVED TIER1 + CREDIT THRU TFS. DEALER RETAINS ALL FACTORY REBATES AND INCENTIVES. (4)PRICE EXCLUDES \$379 DEALER DOC FEES. EXPIRES 7/31/11.

*Jack Taylor's*  
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“I got a completely no non-sense transaction from these professionals - that's how a dealership should be. I am a senior govt official and I didnt have time to waste - we agreed a deal and they delivered - no hidden extras, no games, and a good price. Highly recommend.  
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# McENEARNEY ASSOCIATES, INC. REALTORS®



ALEXANDRIA/ROSEMONT PARK \$614,900



### Charming Farmhouse

In the heart of Rosemont offering welcoming front porch, living room with gas fireplace, formal dining room, hardwood flooring, and convenient main level powder room. Totally updated kitchen featuring granite counters, maple cabinetry, three bedrooms, extra storage, relaxing deck and beautiful gardens, a short stroll to fun on "The Avenue."

**Jen Walker**  
703.675.1566  
www.jenwalker.com  
MLS ID# AX7623847



ALEXANDRIA \$149,900



### Walk to Metro!

This sunny, garden style condo features new carpet & neutral freshly painted walls. A large living room, dining space & kitchen w/new tile provide lots of space in an open layout. Plenty of storage & W/D in unit. 2 pkg spots. Near 495 & Old Town. Steps to Metro & walk/bike path to Hoffman Center w/movie theatre & restaurants!

**Sue Goodhart**  
703.362.3221  
www.suegoodhart.com  
MLS ID# FX7637955



ALEXANDRIA \$835,000



OPEN HOUSE  
SUNDAY 1-4 PM  
2709 Mobay Street - 22305

### Enchanting Farmhouse

Gracious and welcoming in every way, this expanded 1920's farmhouse beckons you to enjoy the charm of a bygone era. Options to relax abound, from the front porch swing perfect for a lazy afternoon to the well landscaped backyard ideal for a summer cookout. Plenty of windows allow for natural sunlight throughout.

**Elizabeth Lucchesi**  
703.362.3221  
www.suegoodhart.com  
MLS ID# FX7637955



OLD TOWN ALEXANDRIA \$335,000



### Short Walk To Metro

Come take a look at this updated one-bedroom condo in a great Old Town location. Beautiful new hardwood floors! Fabulously updated kitchen with new cabinets and granite counters. Extremely low monthly condo fee in well-maintained property keeps the living easy. Leave your car in your reserved parking space and walk to all that Old Town has to offer.

**Chris Hayes**  
703.675.1566  
www.jenwalker.com  
MLS ID# AX7578707



ALEXANDRIA \$649,000



### Sunny End Unit and Cameron Station

Price reduced on a sunny end unit in Cameron Station offering four-bedrooms, three and a half-baths and an oversized two-car garage. A gourmet kitchen with stainless steel appliances and granite counters opening on to a lovely family room with fireplace awaits you.

**Pat Day & Mason Montague Bavin**  
703.850.7934 / 703.338.6007  
www.masonbavin.com  
MLS ID# AX7633837



ALEXANDRIA \$525,000



OPEN HOUSE  
SUNDAY 1-4 PM  
4305 Neptune Drive - 22309

### Yacht Haven Estates

Cathedral ceilings and sparkling hardwood floors enhance this great floor plan. 4 bedroom, 3 bath, in a very desirable neighborhood. Fantastic 1/2 acre lot with beautiful landscaping just perfect for play space and large entertaining. A true gem.

**Dee Durr**  
703.628.1135  
www.mceneaney.com  
MLS ID# FX7605395



ALEXANDRIA \$290,000



### Major Reduction

The owner of this fabulous two bedroom and two bath penthouse has reduced the price by 19K in anticipation of a ratified contract by this weekend. The spacious unit is 1322 square feet and offers lovely hardwood floors throughout as well as a separate dining room. Astonishingly, there is a one car garage which conveys with the unit.

**Betty Potter**  
703.286.1276  
www.bettypotter.com  
MLS ID# AX7638832



ALEXANDRIA CITY \$749,500



OPEN HOUSE  
SUNDAY 1-4 PM  
625 E. Timber Branch Pkwy - 22022

### Silvery Moonlight, Shimmering Water

In this heat, could anything be better? Come and see this beguiling tree surrounded pool. It's refreshing just to look at. It comes with newly painted four-bedroom-three-bath-all brick house with soon to be refinished floors on the most beautiful street in the city of Alexandria.

**Susan Carter**  
703.307.9955  
www.susancartersells.com



ALEXANDRIA \$795,000



### Rare Opportunity

Built in 1964 - one owner! Frank Lloyd Wright influenced Mid-Century Modern (MCM) 7,000+ square foot brick home on a 23,363 square foot lot (.6+ acres) backing to 18+ acres of park land. Circular driveway with two-car garage. Solidly built, ready for renovation. Six bedrooms, five full and three half baths.

**Gordon Wood**  
703.329.9663  
www.glwbroker.com  
MLS ID# FX7634643



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