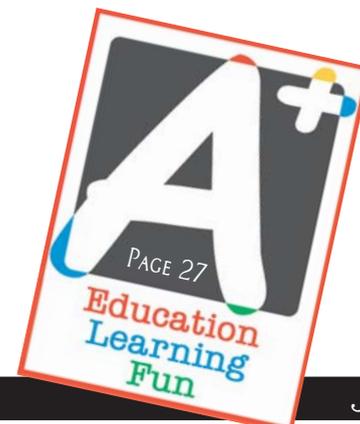


Alexandria Gazette Packet



25 CENTS

JULY 21, 2011

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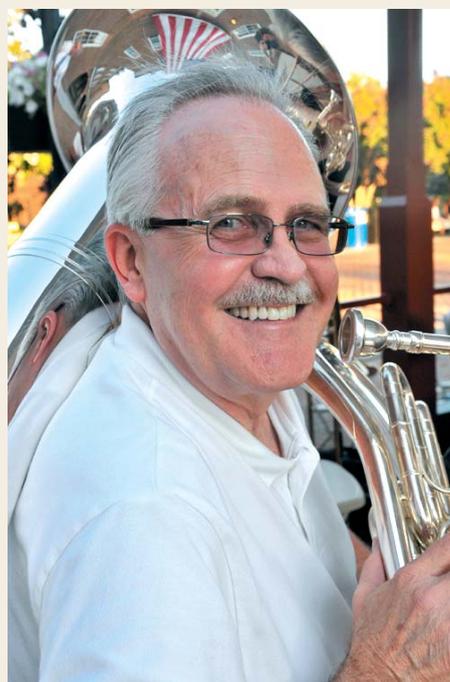


PHOTOS BY LOUISE KRAFFT/GAZETTE PACKET

The Alexandria Citizens Band will perform one more Friday evening concert in Market Square on July 29 at 7:30 p.m.

In Market Square

The 99-year old Alexandria Citizens Band performed a concert in Market Square on Friday, July 15. The band is the oldest performing arts organization in the City of Alexandria. Founded in 1912, the group made its first public appearance in the 1914 George Washington Birthday Parade. For more information on the band and the upcoming concert schedule visit www.alexandriacitizensband.org.



Dean Eveland on the tuba.



John Pickeral secures the sheet music to his stand as a breeze blows through the square. Pickeral is the oldest member of the band at age 78.



Zoe Greszler dances around the flagpole as the concert prepares to start.

City Considers Eminent Domain

After years of rejecting the idea, city considers new strategy.

BY MICHAEL LEE POPE
GAZETTE PACKET

For more than three decades, the City of Alexandria and the Old Dominion Boat Club have been locked in a struggle over a series of properties near the foot of King Street. Last week, that struggle took a dramatic turn when City Attorney James Banks acknowledged that the city government is now considering using eminent domain to take some of that property — marking a change in direction.

“Eminent domain is only going to be something of a last resort,” said Banks. “If all settlement discussions with the Boat Club break down, only then would we consider eminent domain.”

Banks said that the City Council members had taken up the issue in executive session, and that the sense of council was that the city should change its policy on eminent domain. Mayor Bill Euille declined to comment on the change in policy, directing all questions to the city attorney. As a result of the new policy, the city made an offer of \$150,000 for several properties — a move that was interpreted by Boat Club members as the first step in a potential taking action.

“I think it’s reasonable to assume that they would eventually file a taking action against the club,” said Bert Ely, a member of the club who stressed that he was not speaking on behalf of the organi-

SEE DOMAIN, PAGE 16

‘Increasing Polarization’

Neighbors disagree about quality of life in North Old Town.

BY MICHAEL LEE POPE
GAZETTE PACKET

Residents of subsidized housing and public housing in North Old Town are furious at accusations that their neighborhood has spiraled out of control, a claim that a growing number of homeowners asso-

ciations are making in an increasingly tense environment of claim and counter-claim. Responding to a series of allegations made by residents of Chatham Square and Gadsby’s Court last month, community organizer Lenny Harris arranged a meeting at Charles Hous-

SEE POLARIZATION, PAGE 17

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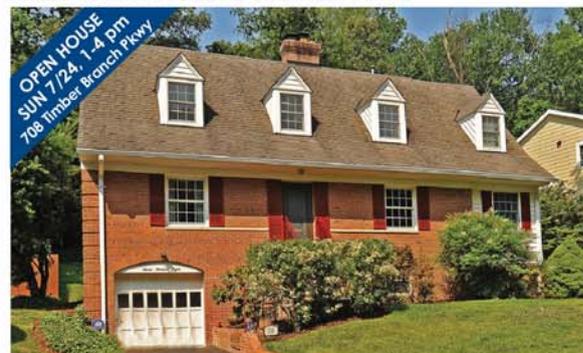
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ALEXANDRIA/BRADDOCK HEIGHTS

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Robin Arnold
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WEEK IN ALEXANDRIA

The Other Ceiling

As Congress was grappling with “cut, cap and balance” this week, Alexandria’s congressional delegation was focused on a different negotiation. Call it cut, cap and dalliance.

It’s been months since the House of Representatives passed legislation introduced by U.S. Rep. **Jim Moran** (D-8) that would limit parking spaces at the Washington Headquarters Service, a massive new Department of Defense installation on the West End that’s expected to create massive gridlock. But the Senate isn’t expected to take action until after the August recess.

“We’re hopeful,” said **Anne Hughes**, spokeswoman for Moran. “That’s why we’re still pushing.”

Time is running out. The Pentagon recently released a timeline for moving the 6,400 employees into the building at Mark Center that has 4,900 people working in the building by the end of the year. The remaining 1,400 employees will start moving in January. Last week, Moran joined U.S. Rep. **Gerry Connolly** (D-11), Sen. **Jim Webb** (D) and Sen. **Mark Warner** (D) in a letter to Secretary of Defense **Leon Panetta** urging him to reconsider.

“We are particularly distressed that the DOD intends to use up to 3,800 parking spaces at the Mark Center,” the lawmakers wrote in the letter to the secretary. “There is no rule, regulation or statute preventing the department from self-imposing a parking limitation to 1,000 until there is sufficient transportation infrastructure.”

Feds Charge Alexandrians

Two Alexandria residents are at the center of a case that federal prosecutors say is a sign that West Africa is becoming a major hub for international drug trafficking.

Last week, federal prosecutors arrested several people they say were responsible for a scheme using couriers to smuggle heroin from Ghana to the United States. Among the individuals detained are 29-year-old **Matilda Antwi** of Alexandria and 26-year-old **Yvonne Ansah Owusu**. Prosecutors say Antwi attempted to smuggle 1.2 kilograms of heroin last year through Dulles International Airport, and they arrested Owusu after Customs and Border Protection Officers allegedly discovered 3.3 kilograms of heroin hidden in the lining of her luggage.

“International drug-trafficking organizations pose a sustained, serious threat to the safety and security as our communities and West Africa has grown as a major transshipment point for these organizations,” said United States Attorney **Neil MacBride** in a written statement.

DUI Crackdown

Two drivers were arrested for drunk driving and 13 traffic tickets were issued last weekend as part of a crackdown instigated by the Alexandria Police Department. Police conducted what they call a “sobriety checkpoint” on Duke Street near the Landmark Mall. Vehicles were stopped and drivers were checked for drugs and alcohol.

In a written statement, Police Chief **Earl Cook** reminded drivers that the maximum penalty in Virginia for the first conviction of driving under the influence is 12 months in jail, a \$2,500 fine and a 12-month suspension of driving privileges.

Mark Your Calendar

Next week is the inaugural meeting of the Waterfront Plan Work Group, the advisory panel created earlier this month after City Council members failed to come to a resolution on a controversial plan to reshape the waterfront. The first meeting, which is open to the public, will be held on July 27 in the council workroom at City Hall from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Don’t expect fireworks. The first meeting will be limited to establishing a work schedule, setting a regular meeting place and time as well as setting the ground rules for proceedings.

— MICHAEL LEE POPE



Fouad Qreitem and Basim Mansour pose with trainer Roger Mack.

A Heavyweight Challenge

Local CEOs compete to raise money for charity.

BY MAYA HOROWITZ
GAZETTE PACKET

Paisano’s Pizza CEO Fouad Qreitem and Michael & Son CEO Basim Mansour made a \$10,000 wager for charity on who could lose the most weight. Qreitem’s charity was the Police Unity Tour; Mansour’s charity was the Susan G. Komen Foundation.

The winner was determined not by pounds lost, but by most body fat percentage dropped.

Mansour lost almost 22 pounds, which was 8.3 percent of his body weight. Qreitem won the competition, also losing 22 pounds, which was 11 percent of his body weight.

Both men worked with celebrity trainer Roger Mack, a 2004 Olympic Trials Qualifier, known for his work with 2008 local “Biggest Loser” contestants Adam and Stacy Capers.

The competition itself was Mack’s idea. “It came to me in my sleep. I woke up in the middle of the night. It just popped in my mind,” said Mack.

The competition began on April 22 and was set to last 60 days. However, it was extended due to discrepancies in their starting weights and ended up being completed on July 13.

Weekly weigh-ins were documented in playful videos in which the men took jabs at each other and made shout-outs to their respective charities.

Both men are known to be very competitive. “It’s like putting gasoline and fire together. There’s going to be an explosion,” said Mansour about his relationship with Qreitem.

In the end, both men’s charities were able to make

money. Qreitem won, so the Police Unity Tour received \$10,000. Mansour lost, but he started a pledge for pounds program in which donors gave money to the Susan G. Komen Foundation for every pound he lost. He raised between \$5,000-\$6,000.

“I really enjoyed being a part of it even though I did not win. I feel great because I did lose weight. I’m happy with that ... Fouad won it so God bless him,” said Mansour.

“At the end of the day, everybody is a winner. We are working for great causes ... I’m just really grateful,” said Qreitem.

BOTH COMPANIES are known for their charity work. Paisano’s Pizza was just awarded the “Fairfax Community Champions Award.” It has consistently supported the Police Unity Tour, raised 4,500 pounds of donated food for the needy and donated money to a local girl with neuroblastoma.

Michael & Son, headquartered in Alexandria, has been nominated for a Washington Business Journal Philanthropy Award for its “Michael & Son Cares” charity program and various charitable donations, including Dreams for Kids and the Susan G. Komen foundation.

Mansour recently received the Jefferson Award for Public Service. “We are a company that believes in giving back and caring,” he said. “We don’t just focus on the profit we focus on the giving and the heart of life.”

Paisano’s Pizza has been in business almost 15 years with locations in Reston, Chantilly, Fair Lakes, Fairfax City, Herndon, Tyson’s Corner and Falls Church. It serves pizza, subs and Italian entrees. “If we wouldn’t serve it to our kids, we wouldn’t serve it to yours,” said Qreitem.

Michael and Son Services has more than 30 years experience doing electrical, plumbing, heating, A/C, construction and handyman services. It serves Maryland, Virginia and Washington D.C. Their motto is “If you can’t, we can!”

“At the end of the day, everybody is a winner. We are working for great causes.”

— Fouad Qreitem,
Paisano’s Pizza CEO

BRAC Boom

For months, the acronym BRAC has been thrown around with scorn and derision. Yet recommendation 133 of the Base Realignment and Closure Commission could benefit the city's bottom line. According to a recently released cost-benefit analysis conducted by city officials, relocating 6,400 Department of Defense employees to Alexandria's West End will boost retail spending, increase demand for hotel and office space as well as set the stage for potential redevelopment. That could mean millions in new tax revenue for the city.

"The conclusion reached is that the overall impact of BRAC-133 will be positive over the long-term, provided that the needed Commonwealth of Virginia and DoD paid road and transit improvements as proposed are made," city officials wrote in the economic analysis. "This conclusion is contingent upon the planned transportation improvements being implemented, and assumes that any future development approvals (if any) in the Beauregard corridor are accompanied by sufficient transportation improvements."

Adding 6,400 jobs to the city will represent a 6-percent increase in the overall city employment, and officials expect a "contractor tail" to follow the Washington Headquarters Service into the West End. The analysis also predicts indirect impacts of increased spending on local goods and services as well as housing. And now that the Department of Defense will have a major installation in the city, maybe the Pentagon would be willing to kick in to help pay for a new fire station in the Beauregard corridor.

"There will be increased spending on restaurants and retail by these employees," city officials wrote. "But that amount of increased spending is not likely to be substantial as government employees tend to spend less disposable income at lunch time near their place of employment than do non-governmental employees."

Clearing the Air

Environmental activists and concerned residents have wanted to shut down the coal-fired Potomac River Generating Station for years, although efforts have been met with resistance and ultimately a legal settlement requiring the plant to reduce emissions. Now, some are hoping a new report from Boston-based Analysis Group could lead to the plant shutting its doors for good.

According to the report, the GenOn-owned plant could be shuttered without harming the power supply in the Washington, D.C., region after transmission and substation upgrades are completed next year. The Analysis Group report concludes that the retirement of the plant would also result in an immediate benefit to the local environment because electricity from cleaner generating plants would replace output from the Alexandria plant.

"As stricter pollution regulations prompt older coal-fired power plants like the Potomac plant to consider retirement, we want to make sure that electricity continues to be reliable for D.C. residents and the federal government," said **Gregory Staple**, chief executive officer of American Skies Foundation in a written statement. "We also wanted to assess the net public health and environmental benefits from closing the PRGS because we'd like to ensure that any plant retirements benefit the local community."

Bull Run Bump

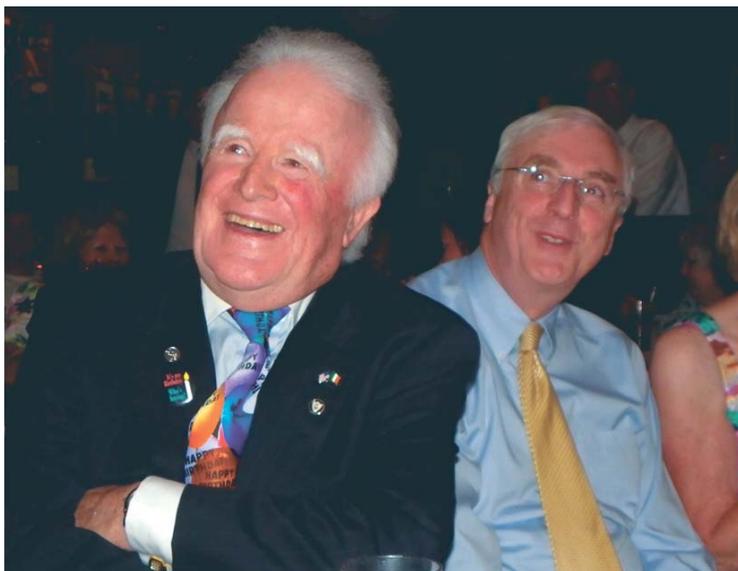
This weekend, thousands of history tourists will descend upon Northern Virginia to commemorate the sesquicentennial of the Battle of Manassas, also known as the Battle of Bull Run. Nobody is celebrating the Civil War, exactly, but the Alexandria Convention and Visitors Association is looking forward to a busy weekend.

"We are not able to predict a specific impact," said **Claire Mouldoux**, communications manager with the ACVA. "But we are expecting people visiting the metropolitan area to be drawn to Alexandria's unique charm and perhaps even stay for the evening."

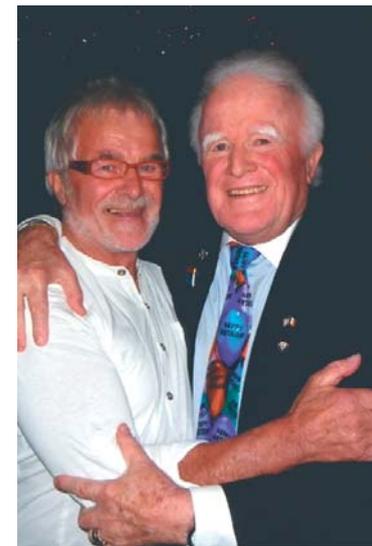
Visitors can take advantage of free cell-phone walking tours as well as a \$14 "Key to the City" that allows access to Civil War sites and attractions.

— MICHAEL LEE POPE

NEWS



PHOTOS BY JEANNE THEISMANN/GAZETTE PACKET
Pat Troy and Michael Collins, Irish Ambassador to the U.S., enjoy a laugh during the good-natured roast of Troy.



Michael Troy, left, arrived from England to surprise his older brother Pat for the birthday celebration.

'Alexandria's Leprechaun'

Pat Troy roasted on 70th birthday.

What started out as a toast by Vice Mayor Kerry Donley quickly turned into a good-natured roast of Pat Troy as the local restaurateur and civic leader celebrated his 70th birthday July 12 at Ireland's Own Restaurant in Old Town.

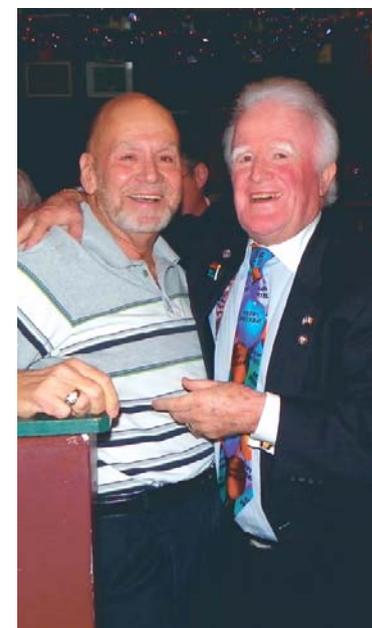
"Pat Troy is Alexandria's own leprechaun," said Councilwoman Del Pepper as hundreds of well-wishers gathered to congratulate the guest of honor. "He truly loves

this city and I wish him many more healthy years to come."

Dozens of local dignitaries and friends were on hand to recount their own encounters with Troy over the years, including Irish Ambassador Michael Collins. Former secret service agents to President Ronald Reagan, Rick Ahearn and Jim Hooley, added their own now-humorous tales of Reagan's visit to Ireland's Own Restaurant on Saint Patrick's Day 1988.

"I can't believe my brother Michael is even here," said Troy of his younger sibling who arrived unannounced from England. "This has really been an unforgettable evening."

— JEANNE THEISMANN



Former assistant fire chief Michael Conner added his own good-natured roast of Pat Troy.



Pat Troy, center, is flanked by Rick Ahearn and Jim Hooley, former secret service agents, as they recount St. Patrick's Day 1988, when President Ronald Reagan visited Troy's restaurant in Old Town.



Pat Troy with his wife Bernadette.

NEWS

Summer Downpour



PHOTOS BY LOUISE KRAFT/GAZETTE PACKET



Water builds up quickly in the roadway across from King Street Gardens during last Wednesday's rainstorm.

Looking through a windshield in the midst of the summer storm July 13 while parked at Daingerfield and Diagonal streets.



PHOTOS BY TRACY BARBER/GAZETTE PACKET

After the Storm

After the July 13 storm, a duck and her ducklings wade in a puddle at First Street and Braddock Road.







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Tory Cowles stands in front of one of her paintings.



Mark Pretzat, Mary Cook, Tory Cowles and Harry Cooper stand in front of one of Tory Cowles' paintings.

PHOTOS BY TORY COWLES

'Living Large'

Tory Cowles named Torpedo Factory Artist of the Year.

BY MAYA HOROWITZ
GAZETTE PACKET

Tory Cowles was named Torpedo Factory Artist of the Year. She received her award on Thursday, July 14 at the opening of her solo show, "Living LARGE!" at the Target Gallery in Alexandria.

"I am just thrilled and honored," said Cowles.

The award is sponsored by the Friends of the Torpedo Factory. Mark Pretzat, president of the Friends, said, "We got a number of excellent entries. [Cowles] has been a delight to work with. Every year we seem to have a smashing exhibit."

A sole juror decides the artist of the year. This year's juror was Harry Cooper, curator and head of modern and contemporary art at the National Gallery of Art.

"I love painting. It's rare to find a painter who is very sophisticated — who knows about the history of modern art — but is not too self-conscious. These are beautiful paintings with a lot of expression, a lot of lyricism. ... There's a lot to see in every one of these paintings."

Wine and cheese was served at the reception. Speeches were given by Pretzat, Cooper, Mayor Bill Euille and Cowles.

Cowles' work for this show consisted of large, colorful acrylic paintings.

Gallery director Mary Cook said, "I love the energy and the brightness of the colors. I love the way she uses line."

Carol Jason, friend of Tory Cowles, said, "It's very expansive and exciting. The colors really dance. She is a very open, expansive, generous person and it shows in her art."

COWLES WAS BORN in Shelburne, Vt.

She has done art all of her life. She studied under Helen Corning at Glen Echo Park,

Juror Harry Cooper in front of the show title.



PHOTO BY JANE CARLSTROM

"It's rare to find a painter who is very sophisticated — who knows about the history of modern art — but is not too self-conscious. These are beautiful paintings with a lot of expression, a lot of lyricism ... There's a lot to see in every one of these paintings."

— Harry Cooper, National Gallery of Art, juror for the Torpedo Factory Artist of the Year

Tory Cowles: In Her Own Words

"About my work ... Three artists have been a big influence: Jean Michel Basquiat, Robert Rauschenberg, and a Japanese artist named Kimura. Shared characteristics are strong colors and loose, spontaneous paintings. Strong colors move me — they make me happy and they give me energy. The looseness and spontaneity is, I think, even more important. When one is spontaneous, one works without thought, with stream of consciousness, from the heart. What's inside just comes out. Spontaneity can be dangerous in some situations — you can say something you regret, hurt or offend people, lose your job ... But spontaneity also feels good. You may lose your job, but at least you got to say what you thought, grab a beer and slide down

the chute. I think it's important to be spontaneous for our mental health. In some cultures singing and dancing is part of their daily work and spiritual lives. When it's done without harming someone, it not only feels good, it allows us to fully express ourselves, show what's inside without holding back, and still be accepted, even appreciated.

That has got to be good for us. When I look at the work of these three artists they inspire me to be more spontaneous. They give me permission, encourage me to be more wholly myself not only in my art work but in my life. They make me want to paint and dance and sing. It's such an ambitious goal, but I hope that my work may also do that for other people."

Md. In her 20s and 30s she worked on portraits and landscapes. She also worked in 3D, doing interior decorating, carpentry and architecture among other things. In her 40s, she took an abstract class and fell in love.

She found that she could do the things that interested her in 3D in 2D.

Cowles considers herself an abstract expressionist. "I don't have any preconceived ideas about how a painting will turn out. I

Juror's Remarks

Harry Cooper, head of modern and contemporary art at the National Gallery of Art, spoke about Tory Cowles' paintings:

"It's an honor to be the only juror for this year's competition. And it's always great to see the works in a powerpoint and then come see them in person and realize that, no, I didn't make a mistake. They look even better in person. ...

So I was just asked, you know, what attracted me to this work. ...

"I love painting and I've looked at a lot of paintings and I did my dissertation on Mondrian, who, you might think is just the total opposite of this kind of work. But, in fact, in the history of modern painting, there are so many things that are constant among great paintings and that is a sense of how to handle the paint, a deep sense of structure that you have in this work.

"I think it's pretty rare to find a painter who is very sophisticated and knows about the history of modern art, has that in her brush and yet is not self-conscious, and is not too stylish, and is not second-guessing, thinking about what would look good at every minute, and still able to take risks and be spontaneous. I know that's important to [Tory Cowles]. And that really comes out in the work, so there's a lot to see in every one of these paintings.

"Yes, they're beautiful. They're attractive. There's a sort of eye candy element.

"But you have to get past that because there is really exciting handling of paint, use of different materials and techniques and just a lot of joy in the act of painting."

just put paint on the canvas and start responding to it." She works on five or six paintings at a time.

"Strong colors move me," she said. "The kind of artwork I like is spontaneous and strong and from the heart. Like Janis Joplin music. It's emotionally powerful and honest."

She cites Jean Michel Basquiat, Robert Rauschenberg and Kimura as her three biggest artistic influences. "They give me permission, encourage me to be more wholly myself not only in my art work but in my life. They make me want to paint and dance and and sing. It's such an ambitious goal, but I hope that my work may also do that for other people."

Cowles' work is on display in the Target Gallery and Studio 7 in the Torpedo Factory. Her website is www.ToryCowles.com.

Cowles, a resident of Potomac, Md., has worked in a studio in the Torpedo Factory for years.

PEOPLE



PHOTOS BY LOUISE KRAFT/GAZETTE PACKET

April Hicks, program manager at Alfred Street Baptist Church; Gloria Locke, camp director of Kool Akademy's youth division of the Allen Etiquette Institute, and Fannie Allen director of the Allen Etiquette Institute.



Chess master Kirk Johnson delivers the keynote address on chess and the positive benefits of critical thinking, writing skills and organization.

Kool Akademy Graduates Inaugural Class

The first class attending Kool Akademy, a summer leadership camp sponsored and partnered by the Allen Etiquette Institute and Central Michigan University, received certificates of completion on Friday, July 15. The Allen Etiquette Institute, based in Alexandria, created a technology-driven youth leadership program focusing on social development, communication and cultural experiences.

The launch of Kool Akademy took place July 11-15 at Central Michigan University in Alexandria with 13 youth as the first local participants. During the week, the students worked in teams on various projects brainstorming to come up



At the conclusion of the graduation ceremony, the graduates presented red roses to their families for providing support. Kamille and Karmen Pullara present roses to their mom.



Community activist Geri Baldwin and Gwen Lewis.



Kool Akademy camp director Fannie Allen gives Diamond Bostick a hug after presenting her with a certificate of completion.

with new products for the future such as instant food in a spray can,

eyeglasses that transmit television signals, techno-books, and a pen

that doubles as a radio receiver. The class also received an intro-

duction to the game of chess by Kirk Johnson.

At Children's Arts Festival

The Alexandria Symphony's annual Children's Arts Festival on June 12 attracted families to take part in a range of activities such as face painting, yoga, arts and crafts, and the instrument petting zoo. Saxophonist Vaughn Ambrose led two jazz-inspired concerts to go along with the festival's theme, "Razz-Ma-Jazz: Music, Art, and Literature of the Harlem Renaissance." The ASO received support for the partnership of several organizations for this event, including SCAN (Stop Child Abuse Now of Northern Virginia), Del Ray Artisans, Music Together, Potters Violins, and Hooray for Books. Sponsors include Dominion Foundation, Wells Fargo, SOLA (Symphony Orchestra League of Al-



Yoga for Kids instructor Amanda Hungerford leads participants in a yoga animal activity.

Ginny Rawls of Alexandria Public Library entertains at one of the reading centers as part of the festival.



exandria), Alexandria Commission for the Arts and the Virginia Commission for the Arts.



The instrument petting zoo allows children of all ages to try instruments of the orchestra and band.

PHOTOS COURTESY OF ASO

POLITICS

Campaign for Cash

BY MICHAEL LEE POPE
GAZETTE PACKET

With the race to replace retiring state Sen. Patsy Ticer (D-30) headed into the final few weeks before the August Democratic primary, second-quarter campaign finance documents show the three candidates have posted strong numbers. That's an indication that the race is tightening up as the crucial primary approaches. Political analysts say the stakes are especially high with the primary because the winner is likely to prevail over the Republican candidate in a district that leans heavily Democratic.

"This is a district that the Democrat can easily win, so the real action in this race is

Republican Trails In Fundraising

Each of the three Democrats running to replace retiring state Sen. Patsy Ticer (D-30) have raised more than \$100,000 in their pursuit for the open seat in the Virginia state Senate. Yet the lone Republican in the race, Tim McGhee, has been able to raise only a fraction of that.

Campaign-finance documents show McGhee has raised \$3,000. His largest contributor is the Arlington Republican Women's Club, with \$150. McGhee said he's not concerned about the disparity.

"I am very optimistic about this campaign, both its current status and its outlook," said McGhee in an email. "This campaign has already been able to get its message out even before funding reached its current levels, and the outlook is only improving."

— MICHAEL LEE POPE



Tim McGhee

EBBIN'S TOP DONORS

Lori Friedman	\$19,889
Alexandria	
Gay & Lesbian Victory Fund	\$8,500
Washington, D.C.	
Mid-Atlantic Community Fund	\$5,000
Washington, D.C.	
Gus Dimillo	\$3,500
Alexandria	
Firefighters, Local 2068	\$3,000
Alexandria	

with the primary," said Kyle Kondik, political analyst with the University of Virginia's Center for Politics. "And it's clear from the fundraising totals that this race is drawing a lot of action."

Arlington School Board Chairwoman Libby Garvey posted the strongest showing for the second quarter, raising \$114,000. City Councilman Rob Krupicka raised \$110,000, and Del. Adam Ebbin (D-49) raised \$103,000. Garvey's campaign team was quick to declare victory, issuing a press release Saturday afternoon announcing that the Arlington School Board chairwoman had out-raised her competitors.

"The fact that Libby Garvey has been able to out-raise her opponents without having to accept the kind of lobbyist money that normally fuels our elections is a great thing for Virginia," said Garvey campaign manager Kirk McPike in a written statement. "Libby offers a fresh perspective on how to get things done in Richmond, and this report shows that people are responding to that."

THE DEMOCRATIC primary to replace Ticer is one of the hottest races in Virginia this election cycle, and all three Democratic candidates have posted some of the strongest numbers statewide. An analysis conducted by the Virginia Public Access Project

Democrats post strong fundraising numbers as August primary approaches.

KRUPICKA'S TOP DONORS

Robert Henry Duggar III	\$7,408
Alexandria	
Stones Phones	\$5,300
Cathedral City, Calif.	
Hubert Hoffman III	\$5,000
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Rob Krupicka	\$5,000
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Just a Honky Tonk, LLC	\$4,000
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GARVEY'S TOP DONORS

Ticer for Senate	\$20,000
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Louis Brown Jr.	\$7,144
Alexandria	
Robert Hemphill Jr.	\$6,324
Arlington	
Jean Quay	\$3,000
Madison, Wisc.	
Jenny Becherer	\$2,810
Arlington	



Del. Adam Ebbin (D-49)



Alexandria City Councilman Rob Krupicka



Arlington School Board Chairwoman Libby Garvey

shows that the three Democratic candidates for the primary to replace Ticer are among the top-tier candidates in fundraising overall this cycle. Krupicka has raised the most money overall, posting \$201,000. Ebbin is second place overall with \$186,000, and Garvey trails with \$164,000.

"There's more money in Northern Virginia, so you would expect the candidates there to be raising more money," said Kondik. "In my opinion money can be over-rated in politics because the person who raises the most amount of money doesn't necessarily win."

One thing is clear — candidates are eager to get their message out in what's expected to be a low-turnout primary. Because the once-in-a-decade redistricting process, the normal June primary has been pushed back to August. That means that candidates

are scrambling to get their message out at a time when many people are vacationing or are otherwise disengaged.

That means investing tens of thousands of dollars in direct mail to grab attention.

"If this race is about who raises the most money, we'd be ahead. But it's not about raising money," said Carter Batey, Krupicka's campaign manager. "The goal is to raise enough money to accomplish what you want to do with your budget, and we're comfortable we've done that."

ALTHOUGH the fundraising totals for the second quarter were similar, the candidates are headed into the final stretch with vastly different amounts of cash on hand. Garvey has \$88,000 and Ebbin has \$70,000. Krupicka trails behind with \$45,000 cash on hand for the final few weeks of the campaign.

"I find it a little surprising that Rob would spend himself down so dramatically," said Kirk McPike, Ebbin's campaign manager. "He's headed into the final stretch with few resources."

The final few weeks of a campaign are traditionally a time when the big checks are written.

"Now's the time to be spending," explained Kondik.

Citizens Learn, Recommend Fixes to Federal Deficit

Amid negotiations over the national debt, residents join in discussion.

BY ROSS SYLVESTRY
GAZETTE PACKET

As President Barack Obama and members of Congress struggle to come to an agreement to raise the debt ceiling, which is the amount of money that the federal government can borrow, the constituents of U.S. Rep. Jim Moran's (D-8) district met July 11 at the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association building in Arlington to learn more about the issue.

The meeting began with a presentation by Jeff Thiebert, the national grassroots director of the Concord Coalition, a non-partisan

organization that advocates for sustainable government spending and reducing the federal deficit. Thiebert explained the process of how the budget is planned and appropriated. He said that mandatory spending — spending that is automatically appropriated every year and that, "doesn't have to go through the annual appropriations process" — currently makes up 63 percent of the federal budget. This includes interest payments on the federal debt and entitlement programs such as Medicare, Medicaid, and Social Security. Overtime, these programs, along with interest on the debt, will continue to



U.S. Rep. Jim Moran speaks at the July 11 event hosted by the Concord Coalition.

consume more and more of the federal budget. "In 10 years, it will grow to about 72 percent of the



PHOTOS BY ROSS SYLVESTRY/ GAZETTE PACKET

Constituents of U.S. Rep. Jim Moran listen to him speak at the meeting.

budget."

After Thiebert's presentation, attendees gathered in small groups to discuss reducing the deficit. All groups were given a list of spend-

ing and tax proposals put together by the Concord Coalition and had to vote on each proposal. Some of

SEE CITIZENS REACT, PAGE 13



PHOTOS BY JEANNE THEISMANN/GAZETTE PACKET

Attorneys from throughout Northern Virginia join Alexandria General District Court Chief Judge Becky Moore (front, third from right) at the Institute for Substitute Judges training seminar July 18 in Alexandria.

Hitting the Mark

Firearms seminar prepares attorneys to serve as judges.

BY JEANNE THEISMANN
GAZETTE PACKET

Attorneys from across Northern Virginia gathered July 18 at the Alexandria Police Firearms Training facility for the fourth Institute for Substitute Judges, a seminar designed by General District Court Chief Judge Becky Moore to provide intensive training in firearms law to better prepare attorneys to serve on the bench.

"As I expected, all of Northern Virginia's substitute judges were straight shooters today," laughed Moore, who is known for her wry sense of humor. "Seriously, my intent with the fourth institute was to provide the substitute judges with firearms law information to help them serve well when they sit as judges."

Stefan Tahmassebi, deputy general counsel of the National Rifle Association, led a session on Virginia's concealed carry and firearms laws, which was followed by weapons training by range master Mark Morgan. Attendees then took to the firing range for some hands-on experience with a variety of weapons ranging from handguns to a 9mm MP5, a high-powered weapon used by SWAT teams.

"I am happy with today's seminar," Moore said. "I hit the bullseye if I made learning fun for the substitute judges."



Andrea Mosley, a participant in the Institute for Substitute Judges seminar, fires a 9mm MP5 July 18 at the Alexandria Police and Sheriff Firing Range as a range master looks on.

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From the CEO

Statement of Peter C. Labovitz,
President and Chief Executive Officer,
Connection Newspapers, LLC

JULY 19, 2011

For more than 20 years I have been honored to be President and Chief Executive Officer of the Connection Newspapers, which serve the people of Northern Virginia and suburban Maryland. Since The Alexandria Gazette was founded in 1784, our organization's journalism has played an essential role in our communities.

But like all American newspapers, in recent years the Connection Newspapers have faced daunting technological and economic challenges. We have weathered repeated crises that killed or crippled many others in the news media. I am proud that we have kept these vital community voices alive.

After the 9/11 terrorist attacks, when the country came to a virtual standstill, our revenues temporarily plummeted. And when the severe recession began in 2007, our revenues plunged again, often failing to cover our operating costs.

During these two periods of great financial duress, our organization filed all of our required tax returns but did not pay all of its federal payroll taxes in full. We initially fell behind after 9/11. Most of the payroll taxes in this period were paid, but some balances remained due. For several quarters in 2007-2008, we again fell short.

As President and Chief Executive Officer of Connection Newspapers, I take personal responsibility for this significant failure in oversight and in the organization's management systems. I am deeply sorry this happened.

I am personally making arrangements to pay the most recent shortfalls in full. We have changed our organization's processes to ensure that nothing like this happens again. We have been current on our payroll taxes for more than three years. No employee of Connection Newspapers has suffered any financial loss whatsoever because of this.

On July 19, 2011, I pled guilty to two misdemeanor charges of failure to make timely payments of payroll taxes in the U.S. District Court in Alexandria. To our employees, our readers, our communities and local and federal governments, I apologize. I understand that newspapers are a public trust and I know our entire organization works hard every day to earn that trust. I will do all I can to sustain that trust as we go forward.

It's my privilege and responsibility to serve as steward of these historic and vital newspapers. I hope to continue in this role. I am committed to doing whatever I can to ensure the Connection Newspapers adapt to these very difficult and challenging times and continue serving our communities for years to come.



PHOTO BY LOUISE KRAFFT/GAZETTE PACKET

Snapshot

3:36 p.m., July 18, The Wavepool at Cameron Run Regional Park.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Need To Work Together

To the Editor:

As ARHA Resident Association members and Hopkins Tancil residents, this response is addressing the July 7, 2011 article "Neighborhood Under Siege." As tenants of ARHA we are working together to rebuild our community in a positive way. Each month we collectively meet with other ARHA residents to enhance self empowerment to be stronger leaders of our families as well as our community.

Reading this article was a surprise in the manner that we as residents were not able to join the Chatham Square Work Group. It is very difficult to be neighbors with someone who has a problem yet will not tell you directly instead complain to people that are not in our neighborhood. Our Chairman Melvin Miller stated, "I think their concerns are overblown."

As residents living in Hopkins Tancil we can say overblown they are. The article stated, "Gunshots in the middle of the night. Drug dealing in plain sight. Public urination. Threats of violence. A car set on fire. Screaming and loud music. Litter rolling through the streets." I had to wonder where this neighborhood they were talking about was and when exactly are these incidents happening. Crime in Hopkins Tancil has significantly decreased over the last four years. The Ruby Tucker center continues to engage with our community for activities for youth and adults, such as homework help, GED prep, job skills, and landscaping. ARHA also has a relationship with job link that has helped provide training for some of our residents.

Continuing efforts from the city and ARHA have created more opportunities for our residents to be positive members of our community which we are taken advantage of. These are a few of the reasons crime has been decreasing.

Kara Clemens, a resident of Chatham Square stated, "We'd like to see zero tolerance." We as residents see a zero tolerance for people committing crimes in our neighborhood. We see a heavy police presence in our neighborhood as well and wonder why if things stated in this article like gunshots, a car set on fire, drug dealing in plain sight, and threats of violence are there not in incident reports.

Through serving on the ARHA Resident Association, trash groups have been formed. They have been seen picking up trash early morning and even at night. Our area is often used by others coming from the waterfront who litter. And just this weekend after leaving the fireworks, I saw someone who is not one of our residents publicly urinating. The people who contribute to the delinquency are not always residents. We would also like to thank the police for keeping people that are barred from our property off of our property.

As a member of the Parker-Gray Roundtable I have seen firsthand what can be done if communities work together. We do this by coming together and sharing concerns, ideas, praise, and plans with each other. Our group has public housing residents, home owners, police, ARHA, and Rose Boyd; together we are creating a better

SEE LETTERS, PAGE 11

Write

The Gazette Packet welcomes views on any public issue. The deadline for all material is noon Friday. Letters must be signed. Include home address and home and business numbers. Letters are routinely edited for libel, grammar, good taste and factual errors. Send to:

Letters to the Editor
The Gazette Packet
1606 King St.
Alexandria VA 22314
Call: 703-778-9410.

By e-mail: gazette@connectionnewspapers.com



PHOTO BY LOUISE KRAFFT/GAZETTE PACKET

Grand Opening

On Saturday, July 23, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., Paradise Play, the new play structure located at Great Waves at Cameron Run, will celebrate its grand opening. The Northern Virginia Regional Park Authority is offering free "Official Playground Tester" T-shirts to the first 50 youngsters age 3-12 (with paid admission) at Paradise Play at 11 a.m. The structure is more than 2,400 square feet of slides, tubes, winding staircases, towers, decks and more. Visit www.greatwaveswaterpark.com

LETTERS

FROM PAGE 10

quality of life for our community. We have events, discussions, and host camps for neighborhood children. Most importantly we get to know one another and have torn down that imaginary line that for so long kept us apart.

Everyone wants to live in a safe, clean, and peaceful environment. The key to achieve this goal is to work together as a community. Get to know your neighbors. ARHA residents are teachers, nurses, students, retail clerks, child care providers, bus drivers, administrative assistants, cooks, legal assistants, mechanics, electricians, parents, authors, volunteers, the list goes on and on but most importantly we are your neighbors. We have more in common as Alexandria citizens than we do differences. We have and will continue to invite homeowners and residents of the City of Alexandria to our events as well as to volunteer with the many programs we offer in the community so they can get an insight on our culture and we can be exposed to new and exciting opportunities. We welcome the chance to meet with the Working Group to go over concerns as well as work with more organizations in the city to further our resident's growth. What we can do together as a culturally diverse community with varying socio-economic incomes will keep us a jewel in the crown of our city.

Chyrell Bucksell ARHA Resident Association President

Shanelle Gayden ARHA Resident Association Vice President, Hopkins Tancil resident

Divisive Coverage

To the Editor:

My vision for Alexandria is that we are a unified community, continually working towards the common goal of one Alexandria. The July 7 Alexandria Gazette article, "Neighborhood Under Siege?" by Michael Lee Pope, was a divisive, unbalanced story, that failed to verify statements, and has contributed to polarization in our community.

First and foremost, let me say that I understand the concerns that were raised at both the June 15 Chatham Square Workgroup meeting and the July 14 community meeting held at the Charles Houston Recreation Center regarding problems in the Hopkins Tancil and Chatham Square neighborhoods. The Alexandria City Council is working very hard with the community, the Alexandria Police Department and City staff to find solutions to quality of life and crime issues in these communities as quickly and effectively as possible.

The goal of inclusive, safe, and peaceful neighborhoods — no matter where they are in Alexandria — is certainly one that we can all agree with. What I do not agree with is how these issues were reported in the Gazette story, for three reasons.

❖ First, the story was not balanced. The North Old Town Community group first outlined their concerns at a meeting with the City on June 15. Many of the community concerns were directed at the Alexandria Police Department and our current Police Chief. However, when the story was reported in the Gazette 22 days later, there

SEE LETTERS, PAGE 12

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Actualizing a Vision Requires Strategic Response

BY DR. MORTON SHERMAN
SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS



tivating world citizens. Foremost, ACPS will implement a new, rigorous, relevant and internationally benchmarked curriculum to enable all students to succeed as citizens in the global community. The new curriculum:

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- ❖ Reinforces the value of community service projects and student participation in extracurricular and enrichment activities.
- ❖ Supports a systemic commitment to helping students develop positive relation-

ships, respect and responsibility, and self-reliance.

Additionally, ACPS will further heighten and embrace the concept of inclusion in our classrooms and provide equity in education for all students with enhanced inclusive practices and implementation of a new community-vetted plan for Special Education services. The tremendous and humbling responsibility of educating children is one that ACPS accepts with great pride and assiduousness.

ACPS will welcome new and returning students, teachers, and principals this school year with a wealth of resources and strategies for success. The roadmap to student success has been skillfully and carefully crafted. In September, when students return to class, an International Baccalaureate program (at Jefferson-Houston PreK-8), additional AVID programs, additional middle school math honors courses, and an International Academy (T.C. Williams High School) are some of the new programs that await them, offering additional opportunities for success. ACPS will build upon the success of the first year transformation efforts at T.C. Williams (including a noticeable positive change in school climate and state assessment scores of more than 90

percent or higher passing in reading and writing). Our middle school students are making good progress as well. Last year's increase of middle school students taking Algebra I in 8th grade, 44 percent compared to less than 20 percent three years ago is astounding. Even better, 95 percent of these students passed the SOLs! Our teachers also have new focused professional development time (an additional 21 hours) and remain leaders among their local colleagues in annual earnings and increases.

Finally, the reorganization of the central office will help to ensure that the administration's key focus moves to and remains on quality instruction and curriculum and comprehensive student support. ACPS, like many other school divisions, is retooling significant operations to ensure increased efficiency and effectiveness as budget discussions become more difficult, new schools are needed for increased enrollment, and the focus on student achievement stays central to our work.

Remember, we are the Titans. We will fulfill the promise for our current students and their parents, our community, our past Titans, the Titans yet to come, and for all our futures.

Alexandria City Public Schools will set the international standard for educational excellence, where all students achieve their potential and actively contribute to our local and global communities. That is the vision statement of ACPS that we work toward each day. Teachers and administrators strive daily to provide the environment, resources, and commitment to ensure that each and every student succeeds — academically, emotionally, physically and socially. That is the mission of ACPS. Along the path to realizing this vision and accomplishing our mission, there are challenges and obstacles; that is just how life happens. What is most important is how we respond to those challenges and obstacles. Complete realization of our vision depends greatly on our response to our circumstances, our situations and our challenges.

ACPS has chosen to respond to the challenge of educating a diverse population of students and closing achievement gaps by delivering an exceptional education and cul-

COMMENTARY

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

FROM PAGE 11

was no response or comments included from the Alexandria Police Department. The City's Director of Communications specifically requested that the reporter speak with police, and the Alexandria Police were available to respond during those 22 days. The police were finally contacted on July 5, just before deadlines for the paper. The fundamental core of journalism is presenting both sides of a story. This did not happen resulting in a misleading story.

❖ Second, serious statements presented as facts must be verified before they are reported. Specifically, the opening paragraph of the story details gunshots in the middle of the night, and a car being set on fire. There is no record of either incident happening in these neighborhoods in the previous three years. Why were these serious, unattributed statements not verified by the Gazette before they were included as the lead to the story? This sort of sensationalized reporting only harms the credibility of the article and angers the community.

❖ Third, the story's headline, "Neighborhood Under Siege?" was unfair and inflammatory. Alexandria is an excellent place to live, but some areas of our community, much like any urban environment, do have crime and quality of life issues. However, in the neighborhoods featured in the story crime has gone down every year since 2008 (and this decrease has been well documented). In the first half of this year, reported offenses are down 35 percent compared to 2010. In the Hopkins Tancil neighborhood, calls for police service are down 20 percent, and calls for service in Chatham Square are down almost 16 percent in the

first half of 2011. This is good news, thanks to hard work from our community and the Alexandria Police. We acknowledge that these neighborhoods do have some challenges and crime issues, but overall, they are peaceful places to live — certainly not communities "under siege."

However, we must move forward, and in doing so I believe that the City, community, police and the media can work together to unify the community as we work through these challenges. As mentioned previously, City Council and I are committed to solving these particular issues and are working with everyone involved. We ask our community members to not only be vigilant in reporting disturbances and crime-related issues to the police, but also to work together with their neighbors in building bridges across their differences. And we ask the media to focus on reporting the facts fairly. Accountability is one of the key building blocks to our success. Everyone must do their part to make sure that Alexandria continues to thrive as an inclusive, unified city.

William D. Euille
Mayor of Alexandria

Tribute to Betty Ford

To the Editor:

First Lady Betty Ford was a controversial pioneer, a crusader for women's rights and one of the most respected and beloved women in America.

Like the suffragists, she empowered generations and changed the lives of thousands. It is women like her who have shaped our

nation and as the president and CEO of the National Women's History Museum, I feel a special obligation to pay tribute to her.

Soon after her husband was inaugurated, the first lady held her first press conference, immediately addressing the Equal Rights Amendment. In 1975, Ford spoke at the International Women's Year meeting where she made what was called "the most progressive [speech] made by any president's wife since Eleanor Roosevelt," she encouraged all women to work for passage of the ERA. To quote Mrs. Ford, "The search for human freedom can never be complete without freedom for women."

Before Ford's admission, the subject of breast cancer and substance abuse was taboo. She freed women from their emotional solitary confinement. Ford's brave disclosure gave men and women suffering from addiction a sense they were not alone.

In 1982, she went on to found the Betty Ford Center for substance abuse and addiction in Rancho Mirage, Calif. She tirelessly campaigned to raise funds for, and awareness of, drug addiction and treatment.

In 1991, Ford was awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom by President George H.W. Bush for her contribution to health issues, with a citation reading, "Her courage and candor have inspired millions of Americans to restore their health, protect their dignity, and shape full lives for themselves."

Ford's ability to influence and advocate so effectively — and to overcome the controversy generated by some of her candor — stemmed from the nation's introduction to her as an appealing and relatable first lady. While she infused the role of first lady with passionate advocacy, she also em-

braced her traditional duties with the same enthusiastic energy. We all owe a great debt of gratitude to Betty Ford — we will never forget her.

Refer to www.nwhm.org for our tribute to Mrs. Ford.

Joan Wages
President & CEO,
National Women's History Museum
Alexandria

POETRY

'It's Summer'

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All the little laughs ...
Tea cups and dolls ...
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Or two ... A child and a soup ...
A taste of a mother's love ...

Skips and hops from here and there ...
The sound of bees ...
and pretty butterflies
that bring a smile to a child eyes ...
Ladybugs and lightning bugs bright
and pretty ...
In sight ... of a child's eyes ...
Wonder how such a bright light could be?

Ice cream and snow cones and cotton candy ...
Cup cakes and pies ...
A slice or two ...
Layers of cakes and bake sales ...
In the eyes of a child all are winners ...

— GERI BALDWIN

POLITICS

Citizens React to Deficit

FROM PAGE 8

the ideas would've decreased the deficit and others would've increased it. Some of the proposals listed were gradually eliminating the mortgage interest deduction, letting some or all of the tax cuts from 2001 and 2003 expire, freezing defense spending, and gradually raising the retirement age for Social Security. There was also a proposal to eliminate the \$1 bill.

Members of each group didn't always agree with each other on specific proposals. However, despite their differences, every participant was respectful of one another. Alex Zaloum, a recent graduate of Yorktown High School and resident of Arlington, enjoyed the discussions because he and other attendees were able to talk to each other and give their opinions about the issues. "It wasn't just someone just some one telling you their ideas," said Zaloum, "We got to talk out some of the major debt issues with strangers who were also well educated and very smart, and it was just fun to see what other people had to say about it."

Halfway through the meeting, Moran arrived to discuss the budget negotiations going on currently in Congress and his thoughts of what should be done to deal with it. He proposed a balanced approach of spending cuts and tax increases. After the speech, he went around the room to talk to his constituents.

At the conclusion of the meeting, Moran said that the meeting was, "an opportunity not only for my constituents to be educated, but to educate me on how they feel about these issues." He was surprised to find out that many of his constituents had a lot of agreement on what to cut from the federal budget. "I was stunned that there was near unanimous [agreement] that we should freeze the defense budget. The vast majority of people thought that we should take away the mortgage interest deduction. I would not have known that unless we had a session like this. I think there were a lot of Republicans as well as Democrats. It was a good reflection of the constituency as a

SEE DEFICIT, PAGE 34

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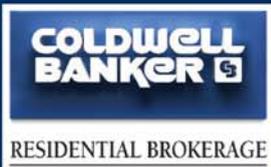


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www.techpainting.com



Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage

Find Your Next Home - Go To CBMove.com/Alexandria



Old Town
608 Oronoco Street, Alexandria, VA 22314

Historic Old Town Alexandria. Located across from Lee's boyhood home, rare find exquisite 3,000+ sq ft, 4BR, 4.5BA. Landscaped backyard, garage & 4 car parking. Spectacular addition, kit renovation & MBR suite. UphamRealEstate.com.



Chris Upham 202-359-1308



Golden Beach \$350,000
40328 Waterview Drive, Mechanicsville, MD 20659

Waterfront. Deep water lot in commutable distance! Already has pier and boat house. Build your primary or secondary home. Enjoy boating, fishing, crabbing & more! Electric on the property- inground PERC approved.



James Haskins 202-498-6526



Fort Hunt \$1,595,000
8957 Fort Hunt Road, Alexandria, VA 22308

New Construction. Pre-construction opportunity on a beautiful 3/4 acre site. Minutes from Old Town off GW Parkway. This site is already tapped into all public utilities, just waiting for your dream home to be built!



Mary Gray Edwards 703-907-9800

We are pleased to announce that
Liz Crawford and Jill McGillivray
have joined the Coldwell Banker Alexandria Office.

As sales associates with Coldwell Banker, Jill and Liz offer the highest quality real estate services with one of the largest and most respected real estate companies in the world.



Liz Crawford
(571) 438-1166



Jill McGillivray
(703) 606-2904

Please feel free to call Liz or Jill to plan your next move!



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

4 bedroom & 2.5 bath colonial on a cul-de-sac near historic Mt Vernon. Features neutral paint & HW. Gourmet kitchen/breakfast room addition with cathedral ceiling, stainless steel appliances and granite!



Cindie Fish 703-201-4451



Fort Hunt \$659,000
8311 Crown Court Road, Alexandria, VA 22308

Fantastic New Price! 4 bedroom, 3 bath, 2 car garage home boasts new hardwoods, eat-in kitchen and fenced flat backyard on a cul-de-sac. Priced to sell and walking distance to Stratford Landing Elementary.



Bonnie Rivkin 703-598-7788



Old Town/Captain's Row \$1,250,000
126 Prince Street, Alexandria, VA 22314

One of A Kind Historic Home! Rich in history, this 3 bedroom, 3.5 bath exquisite home exudes its' 18th century beginnings while also being renovated to reflect living in the 21st century. Gleaming hardwoods & 5 fireplaces



Bonnie Rivkin 703-598-7788

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



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**COLDWELL
BANKER**

RESIDENTIAL BROKERAGE



George Washington Park \$795,000
607 West View Terrace, Alexandria, VA 22301

Delightful & gorgeous home located just blocks to the King St Metro! 4BR, 3BA with recent expansion & kitchen renovation. Nicely finished lower level, lovely deck, large lot, long driveway & garage. Pristine condition.



Sherry York 703-625-3377



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

Sophisticated pied-a-terre offering 1,545 sq ft of luxury living with loads of upgrades. Lovely LR with bay window. Gourmet kitchen with granite counters & SS appls. 2/3BR, 3 large BA & 2 garage parking spaces!



Donnan C. Wintermute 703-518-6156



Old Town
\$925,000

314 Commerce Street, Alexandria, VA 22314

Located only several blocks to the King Street Metro, this 2,800 sq ft brick end townhome offers the perfect opportunity to combine home and office. Zoned commercial & includes a one car garage plus one off-street parking space.



Donnan C. Wintermute 703-518-6156



UNDER CONTRACT

Alexandria/Beverly Hills
\$419,000
716 West Glebe Road, Alexandria, VA 22305

Charming renovated all brick end row house. Glamorous kitchen with granite, SS with breakfast bar. 3BR, 2.5BA plus driveway and large fenced yard. Fabulous lower level recreation room. Located approximately 1 mile to Del Ray.



Liz Bucuvalas 703-626-8400



JUST LISTED

Wellington \$595,000
7812 West Boulevard Drive, Alexandria, VA 22308

Charming Cape sold "as is". Steps to the bike trail on 1/2 acre along the scenic George Washington Parkway. Wayneswood Elementary School. Backs to private cul-de-sac on Ridgcrest Drive. www.PhyllisPatterson.com.



Phyllis Patterson 703-518-6158



OPEN SUN 1-4

Kings Cloister Circle \$1,495,000
624 Kings Cloister Circle, Alexandria, VA 22038

Flawless retreat! Bright location in cul-de-sac backing to trees. Cooks kitchen opens to tiered deck. 4 bedrooms, 3.5 baths, 2 car garage, wood floors on main and upper levels plus 2 custom staircases. www.PhyllisPatterson.com.



Phyllis Patterson 703-518-6158



PRICE REDUCTION

River Towers
\$295,000
6641 Wakefield Drive #403, Alexandria, VA 22307

Price just reduced for this three bedroom, 2 full bath 1360 sq ft condo. Features new kitchen with granite and stainless steel appliances. Convenient location, ample free parking, landscaped grounds plus many amenities! Move right in!



Denise Davis 571-332-8531



OPEN SUN 1-4

Hollin Hall \$499,900
1911 Ingram Place, Alexandria, VA 22308

A Best Buy in the Fort Hunt Area! Fantastic 4BR, 2BA, 2 level brick rambler on cul-de-sac with fabulous fenced yard. Gourmet kitchen, newer windows, updated baths, FR and den. Wayneswood School District.



Ed Pagett 703-518-6161



Sulgrave Village \$1,195,000
1912 Prices Lane, Alexandria, VA 22308

Beautiful nearly new brick 4BR & 4.5BA Colonial with 3 car garage. Close-in Mt Vernon location. All the amenities one would expect as well as a wall mounted 61" plasma TV with sound system and a permanent back-up generator.



Ed Pagett 703-518-6161



OPEN SUN 1-4

Huntington Metro
\$399,995
5962 Edgehill Court, Alexandria, VA 22303

Oasis in South Alexandria. Excellent condition 3 level brick front townhouses that backs to trees. Located a short walk to Metro. 2/3BR, 2.5BA & deck with Wisteria. Pro landscaping, new SS in kitchen & great price! Hurry! Call Tom for directions.



Tom Rickert 703-447-7901



UNDER CONTRACT

Old Town
\$499,000
419 North Patrick Street, Alexandria, VA 22314

Charming light-filled single family home in the heart of Old Town featuring 2 spacious BR, renovated custom kitchen, updated bath, private rear patio, professional landscaping & bricked off-street parking for two cars.



Joy Deevy 703-930-5198



UNDER CONTRACT

Old Town \$145,000
801 N. Pitt Street #314, Alexandria, VA 22314

Studio in the Heart of Old Town! 3 blocks to Potomac, nearby Trader Joe's, Dash bus & Metro. Executive studio is freshly painted with updated kitchen/bath, large windows & private balcony. 24 desk & parking. www.PortRoyal314.com



Marie Louise Meyer 703-836-2080

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If Negotiations Fail, City Considers Eminent Domain

FROM PAGE 1

zation. “Otherwise why would they put a lowball price on the table?”

EARLIER THIS WEEK, city officials staged a press conference on the Strand to show the properties it was acquiring. Banks stressed that the \$150,000 did not include the controversial waterfront parking lot, which city planners want to transform into a new public space they refer to as Fitzgerald Park. Instead, he said, the aim of the potential eminent domain would be to clear the dispute about the ownership of Wales Alley and part of Strand Street as well as several parking spaces adjacent to Mai Thai Restaurant.

“Most all of the value is in the parking spaces,” wrote acting City Manager Bruce Johnson in a July 18 memorandum to City Council members, “as the Strand Street is a publicly owned right-of-way and so is Wales Alley.”

Banks said clearing up the ownership to the Strand was especially important because the city plans to move forward with flood-mitigation as part of the waterfront small area plan. The moribund planning process for the waterfront broke down last month, when City Council members decided to delay making a decision until after the summer recess. In the meantime, Euille has appointed an advisory panel that has been asked to examine the issues over the summer and come back later this year with a recommendation.

“Hopefully this will put the city in a better negotiating position,” said Boyd Walker, chairman of the Greater Alexandria Preservation Alliance. “Obviously they’re trying to ratchet up the pressure on the Boat Club.”

ONE OF THE ISSUES that’s at stake is the future of Wales Alley — named for Andrew Wales, who owned a brewery on the alley and sold beer there as early as 1786. Last year, the City Council approved an ordinance authorizing the city manager to execute a five-year lease agreement with a restaurant known as Virtue Feed and Grain that would allow the restaurant to use part of Wales Alley for outdoor seating.

The Boat Club responded by filing a lawsuit, seeking an injunction preventing any obstructions in the alley. In April, visiting judge John McGrath ruled that the city



PHOTO BY LOUISE KRAFT/GAZETTE PACKET

The city is seeking to resolve the ownership of Strand Street and Wales Alley — including the option of pursuing eminent domain.

owned the alley and that the Old Dominion Boat Club had a right to be able to move its boats and trailers through the alley.

“Keeping in mind that the deed which has given rise to this litigation was executed only months after George Washington had taken his oath of office as the first President of the United States and only four days before the storming of the Bastille,” McGrath wrote, “it is not surprising that there are huge gaps in the evidentiary record.”

While that decision is being appealed, the city has granted Virtue a permit to install tables and chairs in Wales Alley. The Boat Club responded by filing a contempt of court motion, but Banks said the city was acting in accordance with the court’s decision as well as the King Street Outdoor Dining Program. He said the tables and chairs are temporary, allowing Boat Club members access to use the alley in the early morning hours.

“This is squarely within the perimeters of the King Street Dining Program,” said Banks.

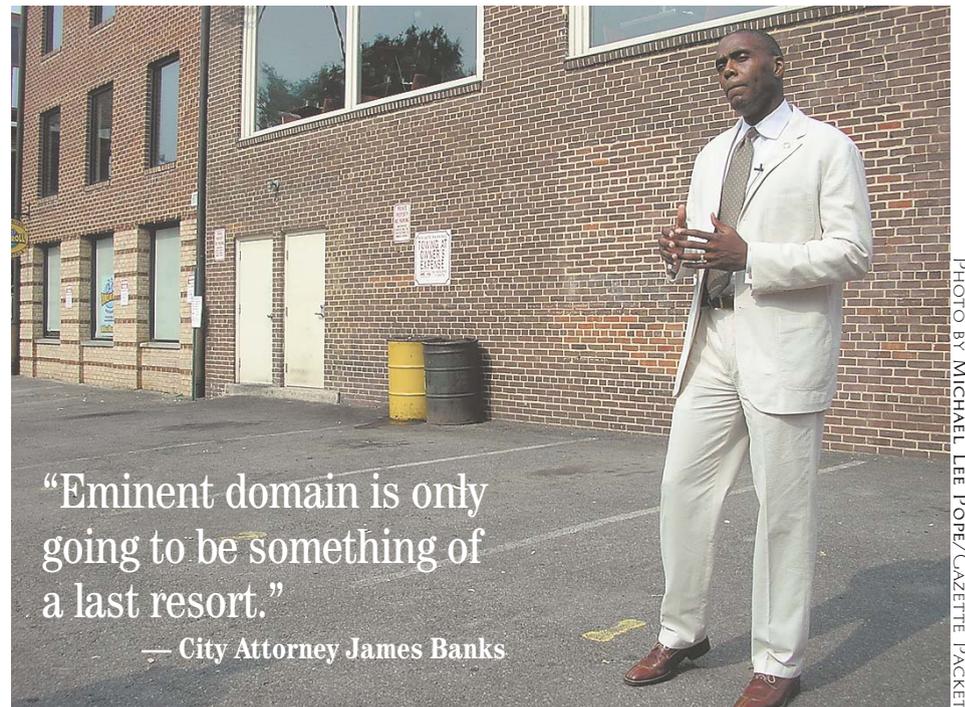


PHOTO BY MICHAEL LEE POPE/GAZETTE PACKET

“Eminent domain is only going to be something of a last resort.”

— City Attorney James Banks

City Attorney James Banks stands on land the city is considering using the power of eminent domain to acquire.

BULLETIN BOARD

To have a notice listed, e-mail gazette@connectionnewspapers.com. Call Steve Hibbard at 703-778-9412 with questions.

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: www.VisitAlexandriaVA.com/Dogs

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.

EVERY THURSDAY

Environmental Activists Needed. 6 to 9 p.m. Clean up the community, the country, the 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 571-970-0257 or phillip.ellis@sierraclub.org.

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.

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.

Alexandria. Call 703-535-5418.

WEDNESDAY/JULY 27

Meet State Sen. George Barker. 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. Free to Chamber Members, WEBA members; \$25 non-members. At Clyde’s in Alexandria, 1700 N. Beauregard St., Alexandria.

Foster Parent Orientation. 6 to 7:30 p.m. UMFS will hold a free, no obligation information session for prospective foster parents. Agency representatives and foster parents will be on hand to answer questions and explain the requirements to foster or adopt. At UMFS, 5400 Shawnee Road, Suite 101, Alexandria. To RSVP, call 703-941-9008.



PHOTO BY MICHAEL LEE POPE/GAZETTE PACKET

Community organizer Lenny Harris speaks to a standing-room only crowd at the Charles Houston Recreation Center last week.

‘Increasing Polarization’

FROM PAGE 1

ton Recreation Center last week.

“There’s nothing wrong with us standing on the corner discussing sports, family and friends,” Harris said. “That’s part of our culture, and you can’t take that away from our culture.”

Neighbors who originally raised the concerns during a tense meeting with officials at City Hall last month were outraged that that Alexandria Communications Director Tony Castrilli invited the press to Harris’ meeting but failed to notify them of the event. As to assurances from the Alexandria Police Department that crime statistics show a decline, several neighbors expressed skepticism that the numbers were a fair representation of what was happening in their neighborhood.

“We are disturbed that the city is playing fast and loose with crime statistics,” wrote Jennifer Smith, president of the Gadsby’s Court Homeowners Association, in a sharply worded letter to city officials. “In our opinion, this meeting is a calculated effort by the city and ARHA to discredit the good citizens who live in Old Town and are using race as a divider.”

ACTING CITY MANAGER Bruce Johnson responded that Castrilli invited the press because city officials were “concerned over the credibility” of coverage of the issue. He made no apologies for not reaching out to neighbors who raised the concerns, describing the event as a meeting organized by Harris and others “who felt disrespected and denigrated” by comments from North Old Town residents. Johnson said he and other

city officials would work to make the city an “inclusive, safe and enjoyable and peaceful” place to live.

“This task has been made more difficult in your neighborhood as recent events have led to an increasing polarization between some residents,” Johnson wrote in a letter released Friday evening, July 15. “This situation is regrettable. It is in all our interests to bring neighbors together, not divide them.”

“This situation is regrettable. It is in all our interests to bring neighbors together, not divide them.”

— **Acting City Manager Bruce Johnson**

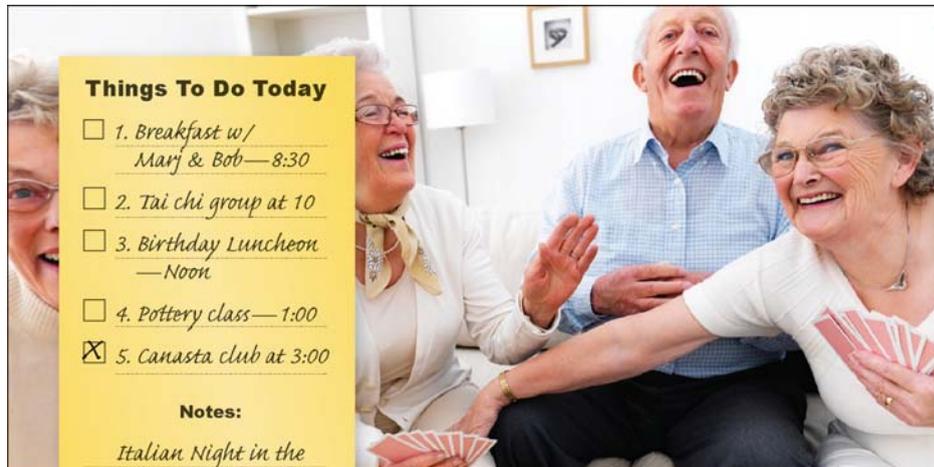
One of the issues raised by neighbors who are concerned about crime in their neighborhood is that they are concerned statistics don’t tell the whole story. Several neighbors expressed reservations about calling the police for fear of retaliation. Other neighbors said they were concerned incidents were only logged into the official record when an arrest was made or when a neighbor specifically

requested that the incident appear as part of the crime report. A spokesman for the police department said the threshold for whether or not an incident is recorded is a result of the police investigation.

“If the officer determines that a crime has occurred (whether or not there is an arrest or even a known suspect), a police report is initiated and captured as a criminal incident,” said Alexandria Police Department Public Information Officer Jody Donaldson. “If not, then no report is taken, but the call for service still appears in the calls for service database with a disposition of ‘no report.’”

NORTH OLD TOWN is home to some of the starkest disparities in Alexandria, with \$1 million homes literally next door to pub

SEE NEIGHBORS, PAGE 34



Things To Do Today

- 1. Breakfast w/ Marj & Bob—8:30
- 2. Tai chi group at 10
- 3. Birthday Luncheon—Noon
- 4. Pottery class—1:00
- 5. Canasta club at 3:00

Notes:
Italian Night in the dining room!

This is assisted living?

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Alexandria, VA 22311
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703-797-3800




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nationals.com/fun

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LONG & FOSTER

OLD TOWN HISTORIC DISTRICT OFFICE



ALEXANDRIA

#1 LONG & FOSTER OFFICE IN VIRGINIA



Managing Broker
Bill Jourdan

JUST LISTED! **OPEN SUN!**

9307 Mount Vernon Cir
\$779,500
Prestigious Mt. Vernon on the Potomac!
Best price in years for a home in area's premier waterfront community. Classic center hall colonial in pristine condition on gorgeous 1/2 acre plus lot fronting quiet cul-de-sac. Numerous features: 3 finished levels, 4 spacious bedrooms, bright updated kitchen, first floor family room and oversized 2 car garage. Unique Opportunity! **OPEN SUN 7/24, 1-4.** GW Pkwy, S. Past Estate, L. Ferry Landing Rd, R. Mount Vernon Cir.

OPEN SUN!

8890 McNair Dr
\$749,500
Pristine Custom Colonial!
Custom colonial in enclave of 17 homes on quiet cul-de-sac surrounded by grounds of Mt Vernon Country Club. Many fabulous features include: large room sizes, stained hardwood floors, updated kit & baths, open kitchen-family room, upgraded trim detail & custom built-ins. Spacious master suite and 2 car gar. Pristine condition on gorgeous professionally landscaped lot. **OPEN SUN 7/24, 1-4.** GW Pkwy, Past Estate, R. Old Mill, L. McNair.

NEW PRICE! **OPEN SUN!**

2205 Basset St
\$675,000
Total Renovation- Price to Sell!
Price slashed for immediate sale! Seller's loss is your gain. Purchased last Aug. for over \$700,000 + additional \$20,000 invested. Fabulous 3 level colonial shines! Features: 4BR, 3.5BA, stunning kitchen, sumptuous MBR, 2FP, fin lower level with outside entrance. No expense was spared on renovating this better than new home from top to bottom! **OPEN SUN 7/24, 1-4.** GW Pkwy, R. Stratford Ln, L. Basset.

NEW LISTING!
\$1,399,999
City of Falls Church
"LUXURIOUS"
Welcome home to this spectacular 6 bedroom, 6.5 bath home with over 6,300 square feet of living space on four finished levels. A rare opportunity!
For more information call Katalin... Homesbykatalin.com
Katalin Melamed 703.819.9787

\$ 419,000 / Alexandria
"AMAZING REMODEL"
Renovated 4BR/2BA rambler near OT w/gourmet kit, SS apps, granite, fin LL w/BR, BA & rec room.

\$ 625,000 / Alexandria
"GREAT CURB APPEAL"
Classic home on .47ac w/ remodeled kit, HWs, lg BRs, fenced bklyd, patio & rare detached 2-car gar.

OPEN SUNDAY 2-4!
\$ 719,000 / Alexandria
1758 POTOMAC GREENS
Sophisticated 3BR/3.5BA townhome in convenient location. Highlights: gourmet kit, owner's suite w/deluxe BA, 2 bedroom suites, office/rec room, rooftop terrace & garage parking.
Dayna Blumel / Kerry Adams 703.597.2552

JUST LISTED! **OPEN SUN!**

3718 Carriage House Ct
\$719,000
Riverwood Opportunity!
Spacious 5BR home on quiet cul-de-sac in prestigious waterfront communities. Fabulous home features, updated kitchen, baths and gorgeous hardwood floors. Bright open floor plan with open kitchen-family room. Private fenced rear yard. Community river access. Great Value! **OPEN SUN 7/24, 1-4.** GW Pkwy, Past Estate, L. Old Mt Vernon Rd, L. Riverwood, L. Carriage House.

JUST LISTED!

8320 Felton Ln
\$615,000
Collingwood Stunner!
Spacious home just renovated. All major components including roof, kitchen, appliances, baths, flooring, lighting, furnace, A/C, water heater & windows are brand new! Custom quality trim, ceramic & paint. Oversize 2 car gar. Four levels of updated luxury on gorgeous, professionally landscaped, fenced lot in the heart of Collingwood-Wayne wood neighborhood.

804 Pendleton St
\$799,000
CONTRACT!
Construction opportunity combines the advantages of premier Old Town

JUST LISTED!
\$ 556,900
Alexandria
"NEW AT WATERGATE"
Popular Old Town community two blocks to the Potomac River. Brick end townhouse, 3BR/2.5BA, LR FP, bright open floor plan, separate DR, eat-in kitchen, sunny patio, 2 deeded garage spaces, close to shopping & restaurants. A must see. Call...
ReneeSellsAlexandria.com
Renee Reymond 703.507.5330

NEW LISTING!
\$ 359,900
Washington, DC
"GREAT LOCATION"
Fantastic condo! 1BR w/ adjoining den. Renovated 2005. HW, granite, SS appls, gas cook, W/D in unit. 796 sqft, corner unit, lots of light. 3 blks to Metro, close to eateries, nite life & shops on U St. Secure, elevator bldg. Move in ready! Call re: parking!
Ellen Young 703.518.8769

\$ 600,000
Old Town
"FANTASTIC VALUE"
Rarely available, remodeled, 1890 Brick Victorian in Old Town. 3 lvs of historic charm w/modern conveniences + parking for 2 cars & patio. Kit 2yrs new/granite, SS, cabs. HW. FP. Attic. Basement. Near King St, Metro, Potomac & Whole Foods. Do not miss this one!
Call for more information:
Deborah Alea 703.447.1315

NEW HOME!

1205 Cedar Dale Ln
\$1,250,000
Pre-Construction Value!
Rare new home opportunity just off GW Parkway! Fabulous price on spacious Fairfax model by Wakefield Homes, the area's leading custom builder. Craftman architecture with full front porch to enhance natural beauty of gorgeous 1/2A lot. Home is loaded with upgrades and custom features and located in Wayneswood School Dist. Priced thousands below other new homes in area! (Pic is similar home)

NEVER PRICED!

4003 Belle Rive Ter
\$1,895,000
River Front Opportunity!
Owner wants immediate sale and has priced home accordingly. Previously listed at \$4.8 mill 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.

PRICE REDUCTION!
\$ 515,000
Alexandria House
"SHOW STOPPER"
Move in ready 2BR/2.5 BA condo. You must see this great unit featuring HW, lg closets, updated BAS, lg floor-to-ceiling windows/doors, southern exposure full of light, views of gardens & plaza. A great community to live in with lg balc, rooftop pool, 2 lvs prkg, mins to DC/airport, 24 hr concierge & more. *Details call...*
Ann Kavalljan 703.626.9171

HUGE PRICE REDUCTION!
\$ 990,500
Rosemont
"A GREAT BLEND"
1930's bungalow. Over 4,000sf of traditional and luxurious living space. Hardwoods on main/second levels, high ceilings, open floor plan with eat-in chef's kitchen. Formal living and dining rooms plus a den/library. Fireplace in the living room. ALL 4 BR have their own private BAS. Great front wrap porch. *Please call for an appointment.*
Klanci Vanderhyde 703.919.4460

PRICE REDUCED!
\$ 499,000
Shad Row / Old Town
"OLD TOWN BEAUTY"
Stylish four level townhouse condo in popular Shad Row! Four blocks to the Potomac River & garage parking. New kitchen and more!
Marcy Covarrubias 703.772.6569

NEW PRICE!

3932 Ft Worth Ave
\$949,000
Updated Colonial!
Exciting new listing! Spacious 3 level colonial in prime Seminary Ridge location. Home is in pristine condition with many fabulous features including four large bedrooms, updated white kitchen, hardwood floors, luxurious master suite and oversized 2 car garage Deck overlooks private grounds. Walk to St. Stephens/St. Agnes School. Convenient to everything!

JUST LISTED!

1203 Falster Rd
\$519,950
SOLD!
Spacious 5 bedroom home on truly magnificent private 19,000 sq ft

NEW PRICE!

4503 Ferry Landing Rd
\$599,000
One Level Luxury!
Rare opportunity- Spacious one lvl home in premier Yacht Haven location! This home has been updated & offers many features: open floor plan, updated kit and baths, stunning MBR suite w/cath. ceiling and luxury bath, sunroom and 2 car gar. Looking to eliminate stairs & not sacrifice size and amenities- this is it!

\$ 360,000
Duke Gardens
"LOCATION"
On bus line, near Metro, Old Town & Beltway. 3BR/1.5BA upper level w/additional 1BR/1BA au-pair/in-law suite w/kit & w/d on lower level w/separate entry. Newer appliances, refreshed kit & baths. Hardwoods on main & upper levels. Off-street, private parking.
Virtual Tour www.susanmovesyou.com
Susan Haughton 571.242.9913

PRICE DROP!
\$ 459,000
Dupont Circle
"RARE OFFER"
2BR/1.5BA in the "Art Deco" Pierre Condo. Birch HWs, repainted, gourmet kit w/granite, SSA & mosaic glass.
Renovated BA, new HVAC, & windows. 17th St, Metro, restaurants & more!
THE CAREY TEAM
Kendra Carey 703.731.7975
Sean Satkus 703.731.8086

\$ 480,000
Parker Gray Historic District
"INCOME PRODUCING"
2 rental units, upper is 2BR/1BA & lower is 1BR/1BA - could easily convert to single family. Rear fenced patio, 2 parking spaces per unit. Conveniently located in the rapidly developing North End of Old Town. 4 blocks to Metro.
Denise Elfes 571.212.3114
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Alexandria Chamber of Commerce

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Belle Haven Country Club

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- Awards Reception Buffet
- Premium Giveaway Item To Each Player
- Hole-in-One Car Giveaways: Mercedes, Toyota, Land Rover, Hyundai
- Putting Contest
- Longest Drive - Straightest Drive - Men & Women
- Sleeve of Golf Balls
- Snacks & Beverages During Play

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ALEXANDRIA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE



Sign up at www.alexchamber.com or call 703-549-1000 to play in the tournament and make an online donation to ALIVE.

HOME SALES

In June 2011, 220 Alexandria homes sold between \$3,250,000-\$61,750. This week's list represents those homes sold in the \$3,250,000-\$910,000 range. For the complete list, visit www.ConnectionNewspapers.com

Address	BR	FB	HB	Postal City	Sold Price	Type	Lot AC	Subdivision
510 CATHEDRAL DR	4	4	2	ALEXANDRIA	\$3,250,000	Detached	1.53	MALVERN HILL
121 DUKE ST	5	3	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$2,450,000	Townhouse	0.09	OLD TOWN
202 SAINT ASAPH ST	4	4	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$2,100,000	Townhouse	0.13	OLD TOWN
702 KAHN PL	5	2	2	ALEXANDRIA	\$1,800,000	Townhouse	0.00	FORDS LANDING
555 WASHINGTON ST S #102	3	3	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$1,625,000	Townhouse		GENERAL WASHINGTON CLUB
509 LEE ST S	5	2	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$1,600,000	Townhouse	0.07	OLD TOWN
5091/2 FAIRFAX ST S	3	2	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$1,295,000	Atth/Row Hse	0.04	THOMAS SHELTON ESTATE
3601 TUPELO PL	5	5	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$1,250,000	Detached	0.74	GENERAL COOPER ESTATES
722 UNION ST S	3	3	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$1,210,000	Townhouse	0.03	FORDS LANDING
3721 TAFT AVE	4	3	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$1,100,000	Detached	0.23	COOPERS GROVE
6 FRANKLIN ST	3	3	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$1,005,000	Attach/Row Hse	0.02	FORDS LANDING
311 PARK RD	3	2	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$1,000,000	Detached	0.23	GEORGE WASHINGTON PARK
635 FIRST ST #201	3	2	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$960,000	Garden 1-4 Floors		LIBERTY ROW
9 WALNUT ST E	3	3	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$950,000	Detached	0.10	ROSEMONT
505 CATHEDRAL DR	5	3	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$929,900	Detached	0.46	MALVERN HILL
1858 CARPENTER RD	3	3	2	ALEXANDRIA	\$925,000	Townhouse	0.03	POTOMAC GREENS
2151 JAMIESON AVE #1804	3	2	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$910,000	Hi-Rise 9+ Floors		CARLYLE TOWERS

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606 Upland Place A Magnificent Property \$1,295,000



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This is a rare opportunity to own a home that backs to the Masonic Temple. This stunning Custom Home has been tastefully remodeled and is wheelchair accessible. The home includes a gourmet kitchen with granite countertops & cherry cabinets, Butler's pantry with wet bar, a spiral staircase leading to a loft/media room, 2 car side load garage fits large SUV, 8 off street parking spaces, 4 bedrooms and 2.5 updated baths with Jacuzzi tub and steam shower. All this and you can walk to King Street Metro. This is a great home for entertaining or just relaxing. Call Kevin @ 703-509-5804 for more info and to arrange a private showing.

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The Dynamites: Zaria Stott, Amanda Corbett, Samantha Williams, with Shannon Kingett.



Shannon Kingett as Tracey Turnblad with Sam Jones as Link Larkin.



Shannon Kingett as Tracey; Christopher Harris as Edna



Sam Jones as Link Larkin; Shannon Kingett as Tracy Turnblad

Think Mink

“Hairspray’s” Mink Stole to headline LTA talkback discussion.

BY JEANNE THEISMANN
THE GAZETTE

In the book “Shock Value,” award-winning filmmaker John Waters describes Mink Stole as the best actress he has worked with. One of Waters’ original Dreamlanders, the cult favorite’s memorable roles include the villainous Connie Marble in “Pink Flamingos,” Tiffany Davenport in “Female Trouble,” Dottie Hinkle in “Serial Mom” and Tammy Turner in “Hairspray,” which opens July 23 at The Little Theatre of Alexandria.

“I am very excited to see the play,” said Stole, who will be headlining a talkback with the LTA cast and crew following the Aug. 5 performance of the show. “I saw the original play with Harvey Fierstein on



Mink Stole as Tammy Turner with Shawn Thompson as Corny Collins in the John Waters film “Hairspray.”

Broadway and loved it but this will be the first time I will be seeing it on a small stage.”

Stole, who received the Boston Underground Film Festival’s first Lifetime Achievement Award in 2010, was part of the original 1988 film that became a Tony Award-winning Broadway musical in 2003. A 2007 remake of the original film starred John Travolta, Nikki Blonsky and Michelle Pfeiffer.

“My film role isn’t in the stage version of Hairspray,” said Stole, who recently moved

back to her native Baltimore after 30 years of working in New York and Los Angeles.

“Filming ‘Hairspray’ with John was wonderful,” Stole said. “This was my sixth or seventh movie with him but was a big step up for me and other actors like Divine. This was our first union film and we all had a great time.”

“Hairspray” takes place in 1962 Baltimore, where plump teenager Tracy Turnblad dreams of dancing on The Corny Collins Show, a local TV dance program. When Tracy wins a role on the show, she becomes an overnight sensation and uses her newfound celebrity status to launch a campaign to

integrate the show. “I can’t wait to see this version of the show,” said Stole, who is a friend of LTA assistant stage manager Jim Hutzler. “I got a tour of the theater last week and it’s really beautiful and charming. With a cast of 30, it will be interesting to see how they transition the production to a smaller stage.”

Directed by Sue Pinkman, the LTA cast includes Shannon Kingett as Tracy Turnblad, Sam Jones as Link Larkin, Christopher Harris as Edna, Larry Grey as Wilbur and Brenda Parker as Motormouth Maybelle.

The Aug. 5 actor’s talkback will be a first for Stole, who is currently working on her debut CD titled Do Re MiNK!

“I’ve never done a talkback before and am really looking forward to it,” Stole said. “This is such an energetic production and the excitement of the LTA cast and crew is contagious. It’s going to be a wonderful evening.”

Hairspray runs from July 23 through Aug. 13 at The Little Theatre of Alexandria, 600 Wolfe St., Alexandria. A talkback with Mink Stole and the LTA cast will be held following the Aug. 5 performance. For tickets or more information, call 703-683-0496 or visit www.thelittletheatre.com.



Gospel singer and recording artist Vanessa Williams performs at the Soulful Gospel Summer Concert series at MetroStage July 18.

PHOTOS BY JEANNE THEISMANN/GAZETTE PACKET

Soulful Gospel in Old Town

MetroStage presented the second of its inaugural Summer Concert series July 18 with Soulful Gospel, a powerful vocal celebration starring Victoria Purcell, Vanessa Williams and Robert E. Person that had the audience on its feet through most of the performance.

“Just when you think it can’t get any better, it does,” said Century 21 real estate agent Christine Sennott. “I still can’t believe we have this incredible talent performing right here in Alexandria. It was truly amazing.”

Inspirational Jazz, with Lori Williams, Nova Tate and William Knowles and the Saltman Knowles Group, will wrap up the series on July 25 at 8 p.m. All tickets are \$30. For more information, call 703-548-9044.

— JEANNE THEISMANN



Gospel singer Victoria Purcell performs at MetroStage for the Soulful Gospel concert July 18.

Talk of the Town

Puppy Love Dogged by tails of woe in other communities, the Wanderer was terrierized at the prospect of finding a fetching spot to enjoy dinner out with his four-legged friends. Left muttering to himself as he listed to Poochini on his iPawed, the Wanderer discovered several establishments that will delight even the most pampered of pooches. So stop labradoodling around. Schnauzer your chance to check out a few of these places for yourself.

Photos by Jeanne Theismann



C DAIRY GODMOTHER

"Looks like he likes it," said Shawn and Alex Rich as their 8-month-old Standard Poodle Sheamus tried his first puppy pop at the Dairy Godmother in Del Ray. 2310 Mount Vernon Ave., 703-683-7767 www.thedairygodmother.com



The Dairy Godmother in Del Ray.



B BITTERSWEET CAFÉ AND CATERING

Bittersweet Café master baker Angel Brizuela, left, feeds one of his specialty "pup cakes" to Shari Bolouri's 12-year-old Pomeranian Pomeroy. "We've been carrying these for about seven years now and sell a ton of them," said Bittersweet owner Jody Manor. "That's great for us since dogs only say pawstitive things about us on Yelp. I know. Bad pun." Pup cake ingredients include wheat germ, honey and carrots and can be ordered in advance. 823 King St., 703-549-2708 www.bittersweetcatering.com

E HOTEL MONACO

Continuing a decades-long Old Town tradition, the Hotel Monaco holds Doggie Happy Hour Tuesdays and Thursdays from 5-8 p.m. with complimentary gourmet doggie snacks. 480 King St., 703-549-6080 www.monaco-alexandria.com

F ARTFULLY GIFTS AND CHOCOLATE

For canine cravings, this Carlyle boutique carries the doggie delights of Kristina Robertson and Barkley Square. "We have 'Yappy Hour' every other Friday all summer," said owner Eric Nelson. "Follow us on Facebook to join the fun." 506 John Carlyle St., 703-575-8686



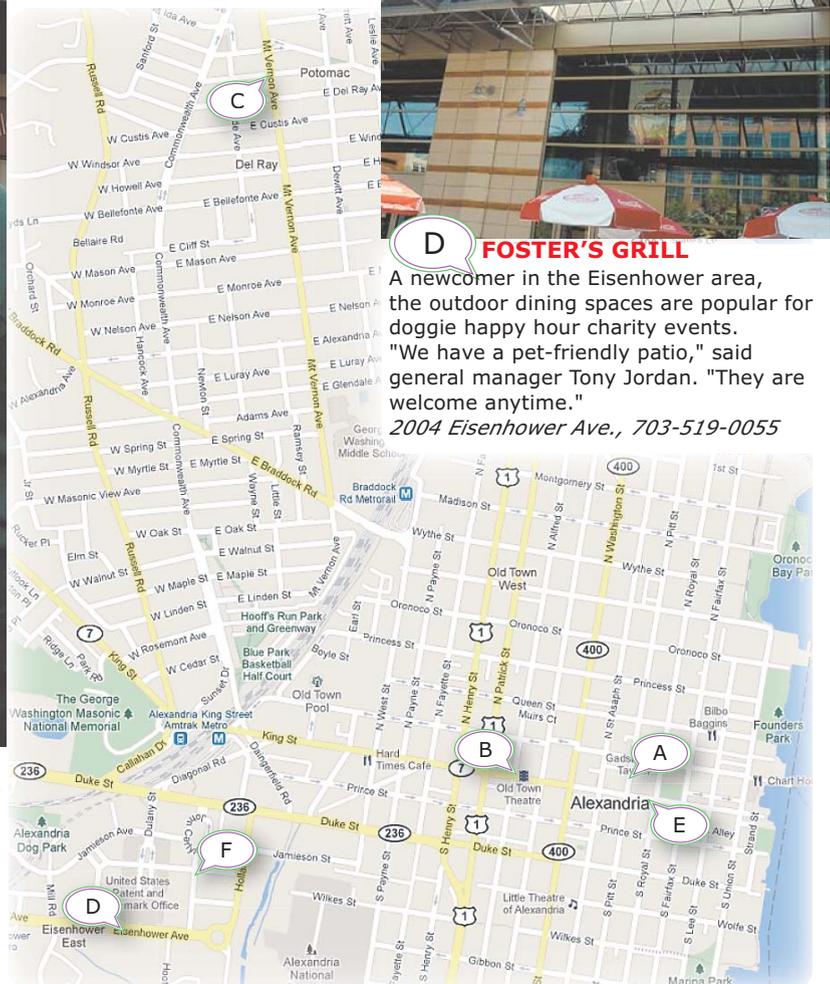
D FOSTER'S GRILL

A newcomer in the Eisenhower area, the outdoor dining spaces are popular for doggie happy hour charity events. "We have a pet-friendly patio," said general manager Tony Jordan. "They are welcome anytime." 2004 Eisenhower Ave., 703-519-0055



A PAT TROY'S IRELAND'S OWN

With its own specialty menu for dogs, Pat Troy's Ireland's Own Restaurant sets the standard when it comes to catering to man's best friend. "We're the only dog patio in the area," said D'Elia Chandler as she served a beef stew to Snicks, Michele Basham's 3-year-old Yorkshire Terrier. "Our regular stew is modified with ice so it's not too hot for dogs and easier to digest." 111 North Pitt St., 703-549-4535 www.pattroysirishpub.com



© Google Map data

DINING

Frozen Treat for The Summer Heat

Boccatto Gelato & Espresso opens new store on King Street.

BY ABBY MARCUS
THE GAZETTE

Cristian Velasco and Rob Shelton, co-owners of Boccatto Gelato & Espresso, are bringing their Arlington gelateria to King Street in Old Town. With the Wednesday, July 20 opening, the owners introduced Alexandrians to their frozen treat. They offer interesting gelato and sorbet flavors such as pistachio, pineapple basil, salted caramel, and cake batter, as well as coffee and tea.

The duo decided to go into business together after being in the restaurant business for years. They wanted a concept they could be passionate about and their search led them to coffee and tea service. They wanted to utilize Velasco's culinary experience, and so included gelato to finish the concept for what would become Boccatto. They sublet a Latin Market in Arlington in 2008 and opened their Clarendon location.

Old Town was always a market they wanted



Co-owners Cristian Velasco and Rob Shelton.

to include. "I love that there is a lot of history and a complex, sophisticated community," says Velasco. The location at 1012 and 1014 King Street was chosen for its older building and to be farther from the waterfront and more a part of the neighborhood. They are planning for their next store in Bethesda and



PHOTOS BY ABBY MARCUS/THE GAZETTE

The Alexandria Boccatto Gelato & Espresso is open for business.

considering expansions into Washington, D.C., and Tysons Corner. But the key for them is the choice of neighborhoods. Shelton says: "We're not opening a store in Chinatown, we're looking more at Capitol Hill or Eastern Market. We want to be a cozy place, not commercialized."

They strive to present a different kind of product and Velasco emphasizes the importance of perfecting their presentation. "It is about pre-

senting the product beautifully. Everything is beautiful, even beautiful machines," he says. Shelton, who has a background in construction, did much of the work in the store himself. In addition to the presentation, their style is reflected in the gelato itself, which Shelton dubs "pure American gelato." The gelateria does not emulate the Italian or Argentinian styles, but offers non-traditional flavors to create its own American style, he said.



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ENTERTAINMENT



FRIDAY/AUG. 5
The Band POCO. 7:30 p.m. Admission is \$35. At The Birchmere, 3701 Mt. Vernon Ave., Alexandria.

NOW THROUGH 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, 105 North Union Street, #327, Alexandria.

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.

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 or call 703-780-2000.



Julia Murney



Marc Kudisch

NOW THROUGH 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 \$20/\$25 each. Signature offers a special All-Access Pass for \$125. Call 703-820-9771 or visit www.signature-theatre.org.

NOW THROUGH 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.

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.

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

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 or register at: <https://www.123signup.com/register?id=cgtxr>.

SATURDAY/JULY 23

Go Green Event. 2 to 4:30 p.m. Free. "Addicted to Plastic" film screening at Beatley Library, 5005 Duke St., Alexandria. Visit www.alexenvironment.org.

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

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

Pianist Victoria Bragin. 8 p.m. Admission is \$15. Will perform a special "Blue Ribbon" salon recital at the



(From left): Jacklyn Young as Penny, Christina Kidd as Amber, Shannon Kingett as Tracy, Christopher Harris as Edna.

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 Lil 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 Wittener and Roger Yawson. At the Little Theatre of Alexandria, 600 Wolfe Street, Alexandria. Visit www.thelittletheatre.com or call 703-683-0496.

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.

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.

EcoVoce Concert. 3 p.m. Free. "Splendors of Nature," an innovative concert of music and multimedia on the theme of nature. At The Lyceum, 201 South Washington St., Alexandria.

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.

Family Tour Day. 1 to 4 p.m. Experience the historic Gadsby's Tavern Museum, 134 North Royal Street, through its Junior Docent tours! Junior Docents, volunteers from grades 3 through 7, will be stationed at each stop on the tour, including the taproom, bedchambers, ballroom, assembly room and dining room. Admission is \$5 for adults and \$3 for children, ages 5 to 12. Visit www.gadsbystavern.org or call 703-746-4242.

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, 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

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, 703-746-5592.

18th Century Dance Classes. 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. Cost is \$30/series or \$12/class. Learn the dances of Jane Austen's time. Dance master Corky Palmer will lead the series in preparation for the annual Jane Austen Ball on Aug. 13. Reservations at 703-746-4242 or www.gadsbystavern.org.

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 maureen.sturgill@alexandriava.gov, 703-746-5592.

SATURDAY/JULY 30

Happy Birthday Jerry Garcia: The U-Liners Tribute. 8:30 p.m. to midnight. Admission is \$15/door. At IOTA Club & Café, 2832 Wilson Blvd., Arlington. Call 703-522-8340 or visit www.iotaclubandcafe.com.

Cocker Spaniel Adoption Show. 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Come meet cockers of all ages available for adoption. Dogs are spayed or neutered. At Alexandria Hybla Valley Petsmart, 7690 Richmond Hwy. (U.S. 1), Alexandria. Call 703-533-2373 or visit www.cockerspanielrescue.com.

SUNDAY/JULY 31

Butterflies for Families. 10 a.m. to noon. Join recently graduated Virginia Master Naturalist and avid butterfly enthusiast Mary Alexander on a walk along Huntley Meadow's boardwalk looking for interesting butterflies. At Huntley Meadows Park, 3701 Lockheed Blvd, Alexandria.

WEDNESDAY/AUG. 3

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

Summer Concert Series. 8 p.m. Free. "Tunes of 'Toons." At Bishop Ireton High School, 201 Cambridge Road, Alexandria. Call at 202-767-5658 or www.usafband.af.mil.

FINE ARTS

SATURDAY, JULY 23

Battle Cries: Music and the Civil War. 1 to 2 p.m. Free. The Art League celebrates the 150th anniversary of the Civil War with a special history presentation from Civil War historian Christian McWhirter, Assistant Editor for the Papers of Abraham Lincoln. At The Art League Gallery, Room 21, Torpedo Factory, 105 N. Union St., Alexandria. To register, call 703-683-1780 or email gallery@theartleague.org.

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.

THURSDAY/JULY 28

Tory Cowles: Living LARGE! 6 to 8 p.m. Art Panel: Why Does Art Move You? Kids Art Activity July 30, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. painting activity inspired by Tory Cowles exhibition. At the Torpedo Factory Art Center, Target Gallery, 105 North Union Street, Alexandria. Visit www.torpedofactory.org/target; 703.838.4565, x4

SATURDAY, JULY 30

Living LARGE! Kids Art Activity. 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Free. Children are invited to create their own abstract paintings inspired by Tory Cowles' solo exhibition, Living LARGE! All art materials will be provided. At the Torpedo Factory, Main Hall, by the spiral staircase, 105 N. Union St., Alexandria.

NOW THROUGH JULY 31

Poetry of Light. Pastels by artist Rachel Estrada. Closing Reception: Saturday, July 30, from 5 - 7 p.m. At Gallery



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.

West, 1213 King Street, Old Town Alexandria. Visit www.gallery-west.com or call at 703-549-6006.

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 31

Exhibition of Commemorative

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

SUNDAY/JULY 31

Coffee + Critique + Conversation. 10:30 a.m. to noon. Free. Photographers of all levels are invited to share their work, ideas, and questions. Call 703-683-2205. At Multiple Exposures Gallery, Studio 312, The Torpedo Factory, 105 N. Union St., Alexandria.

AUG. 2 TO OCT. 3

"Forgotten" and "Off Season." Works by photographers Sandy LeBrun-Evans and Eric Jonson. Opening Reception is Aug. 7 from 3 to 5 p.m. At Multiple

Exposures Gallery, Suite 312, Torpedo Factory Art Center. Call 703-683-2205.

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.

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. Visit www.gallery-west.com or call 703-549-6006.

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.

NOW THROUGH 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.

SEPT. 7 TO OCT. 2

"Suburbia." Oils by Parisa Tirnaz. Artist's reception is Saturday, Sept. 10 from 5 to 8 p.m. Presented by Gallery West, 1213 King Street in Old Town Alexandria. Visit www.gallery-west.com or 703-549-6006.

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. For directions go to River Farm's website, http://www.ahs.org/river_farm/directions.htm.

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T.J. Stone's celebrates American cuisine with libations from around the world!

Menu Favorites:
Smoked Gouda Tater Tots, Truffle Chips & Spinach Dip, Braised Short Rib Sliders, Crab & Shrimp Salad, Bourbon Steak Classic Sandwich, House Smoked Barbeque, Hot smoked New York Strip, Chicken & Sausage Gumbo Pot Pie, Braised Short Rib Pot Roast, Vegetarian & Gluten Free Items, Great Kids Menu

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www.TJstones.com

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127 N. Washington St., Old Town • 703-548-4661
Smoke-Free Restaurant
www.lerefugealexandria.com



PHOTOS BY LASHAWN AVERY-SIMONS/GAZETTE PACKET

Artists Marketplace

Alexandria Art Market offers artwork from local artists, music from multicultural musicians and food from local restaurants on July 2 at Colasanto Park in the heart of Del Ray.



T.G. Roe features a selection of handcrafted paper items.



Kim S. Joy shows off a piece from her collection of stained glass windows and jewelry.

Commission Releases Strategic Plan

BY MAYA HOROWITZ
GAZETTE PACKET

The Alexandria Commission on Aging developed its strategic plan on aging for the years 2012-2016 entitled “The Alexandria of Our Future: A Livable Community for All Ages.”

With the baby boomer generation aging, the older population in Alexandria is expected to grow dramatically that will create social and economic changes. The plan outlines ways to support older people, particularly in terms of housing and mobility.

“We want people to be able to age in the community and stay in Alexandria,” said MaryAnn Griffin, director of the Office of Aging and Adult Services for the City of Alexandria.

The plan was created with the input of various

people: a 22-member Strategic Plan Advisory Group, 21 aging liaisons and two town halls that attracted 400 participants, among others.

“It’s been very important to us that we have as much public input as we can,” Griffin said. “The goal is to incorporate as much relevant individual feedback into the plan as we can.”

For those who still have opinions they would like to share, there are opportunities to be heard coming up before the plan is approved.

An initial council meeting will be held on Oct. 25 to review the plan. A public hearing follows on Nov. 12. A final council meeting takes place Nov. 22.

The full text of the plan will be available on the City’s website two-and-a-half weeks before the initial council meeting. The draft of the executive summary can be viewed at <http://alexandriava.gov/Aging>.

MILITARY NOTES

Air Force Airman Jeremy O. Mayers graduated from basic military training at Lackland Air Force Base, San Antonio, Texas. He is the nephew of Michell Maxwell of Century Drive, Alexandria.

William Babineau of Alexandria was recently promoted to the rank of

Specialist in the New York Army National Guard. Babineau serves with Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 42nd Combat Aviation Brigade. These promotions recognize the best qualified soldiers and attract and retain the highest caliber citizen soldiers for a career in the New York Army National Guard.

Army Reserve Spec. Ciancarlos B. Guerra has returned to the U.S. after being deployed overseas at a forward operating base in support of Operation Enduring Freedom.

Guerra, a cargo specialist, is a member of the 430th Inland Cargo Transportation Company, Baltimore, Md. He has served in the military for

Offering Advice on Conducting Business

The West End Business Association (WEBA) and Del Ray Business Association (DRBA) co-hosted a July 12 event at Mango Mike’s restaurant on Duke Street to mingle, network, and hear tips from Chamber of Commerce Board Chairman Mike Anderson and DRBA president Eric Nelson about how to have a successful business.

Anderson, a restaurateur and owner of Alexandria restaurants Mango Mike’s and the soon to open Pork Barrel Barbeque, said, “Don’t be afraid to reinvent yourself.” Nelson, artist and owner of Artfully Chocolate said, “Get involved with the community.” Both men emphasized the importance of loving what one does and taking advantage of the Internet for marketing.



PHOTO BY ABBY MARCUS/GAZETTE PACKET

Eric Nelson

— ABBY MARCUS

City Sells General Obligation Bonds

On July 14, the City of Alexandria competitively bid and sold \$69.95 million in AAA/Aaa-rated general obligation bonds at an overall 3.18 percent true interest cost over the 20-year life of these serial bonds, which is one of the lowest rates ever achieved by the City. Last year’s historical low rate of 2.93 percent rate was achieved through a combination of short-term tax exempt bonds and a 35 percent federal Build America Bonds sub-

sidy. That federal stimulus program subsidy is no longer available. There were 11 different bidding syndicates that bid on the City’s bonds, with Citigroup Global Markets, Inc. submitting the lowest interest rate bid.

The \$69.95 million bonds will be used to finance certain capital improvement projects including transportation improvements, sanitary sewers, public school facilities and other infrastructure costs.

Two-Alarm Fire Displaces Residents

Units from the Alexandria Fire Department responded to a report of a house fire in the 4400 block of Venable Avenue at 9 p.m. on July 14. Firefighters arrived on the

scene to find smoke emanating from the basement of a single-family residence.

A basement fire that stemmed from a malfunctioning dryer was discovered. Second alarm units were then dispatched to assist with the incident. The occupants of the home were able to evacuate safely and there were no injuries to fire department personnel.

The residents were displaced from their home and are being assisted by the American Red Cross.

The cause of the fire was investigated and ruled accidental.

College Can Wait

Some local high school graduates put off going to college for a year to pursue other opportunities.

BY JULIA O'DONOGHUE
GAZETTE PACKET

While most of her friends worried about whether they would get along with their freshman year college roommates last summer, Emily Hunt thought about living with a Mexican host family and attending high school classes conducted entirely in Spanish.

After graduating from McLean High School in 2010, Hunt deferred her acceptance to James Madison University for a year so she could live abroad through an exchange program sponsored by Rotary International.

"I didn't really feel ready to jump right into college life. I wanted to take some time to see more of the world and decide what I wanted to study," said Hunt, whose exchange was sponsored by the Rotary Club of McLean.

Over 10 months, she lived with three host families while she attended an extra year of high school in Aguascalientes, Mexico. She returned from Mexico in June and plans to enroll at James Madison as a freshman this fall.

Hunt said there were many tangible benefits to taking time off between high school

and college, typically referred to as a gap year.

For example, she speaks fluent Spanish now and spent time with students from many different cultures. Her classmates not only included other Mexicans but also students on Rotary scholarships from Japan and other parts of the world.

"I became so much more mature over the last year. I was away from my parents for an entire year and I had to handle situations all on my own. Now I feel very confident," said Hunt.

Many students who study abroad through Rotary International go during high school but Hunt worried that credits from a foreign high school wouldn't transfer. She wanted to be able to graduate on time from McLean with the rest of her friends, so she decided to go abroad after high school and start college a year late.

"I figured whatever year I started college, I was going to be able to make friends," she said.

MANY EUROPEAN students take a gap year to travel or do community service before starting university, though American students who take time off before college remain an exception to the rule. Fewer than one percent of incoming freshman at Vir-

ginia Tech, one of the commonwealth's largest universities, take time off between college and high school, according to the school's admissions office.

Gap years do have some high-profile advocates, including admissions officers at some of the country's most elite universities.

William Fitzsimmons, dean of admissions and financial aide at Harvard College, encourages taking time off between high school and college. Between 50 and 70 students defer admission to Harvard every year and the results have been "uniformly positive" in helping teenagers avoid burn-out in college, wrote Fitzsimmons in article on the university's admissions website.

"Perhaps the best way to get the full benefit of a 'time off' is to postpone entrance to college for a year. For nearly 40 years, Harvard has recommended this option, indeed proposing it in the letter for admission," he wrote.

The Massachusetts Institute of Technology [MIT] allows prospective students to check a box indicating they want to defer their enrollment for one or two years on the school's reply form.

"My hope is that you will at least consider, just for a moment, taking a gap year. ... We will grant a deferral for almost any

Gap Year Resources

Is your child considering taking a year off between high school and college? Here are some helpful websites and books with information on gap years.

- ❖ <http://www.usagapyearfairs.org> - Look for upcoming local gap year fairs during the 2011-2012 school year at this website.
- ❖ <http://www.gapyear.com> - General information on gap years and gap year programs
- ❖ "The Gap Year Advantage: Helping Your Child Benefit From Time Off Before Or During College," by Karl Haigler and Rae Nelson. This book has general tips on the gap year process.
- ❖ "The Complete Guide To The Gap Year: The Best Things To Do Between High School and College," by Kristin White. This book is another "tell all" on taking a gap year.

reason," said Matt McCann, an MIT admissions officer and graduate on the school's website.

Princeton University sponsors its own "bridge year" program for a small group of incoming freshmen. A handful of students put off the start of their freshman year at Princeton in order to do community service in Ghana, India, Peru and Serbia. The university covers the cost of the trip and living expenses for the students who participate.

YET PARENTS, other students and faculty

SEE STUDENTS, PAGE 29

WATCH FOR THESE UPCOMING SPECIAL EDITIONS IN THE CONNECTION
Ask about our Summer Specials

For advertising information, call 703-778-9410 or e-mail: sales@connectionnews-papers.com

- Pet Connection, publishes July 27, closes July 21
- Wellbeing, publishes Aug. 3, closes July 27
- HomeLifeStyle, publishes Aug. 10, closes Aug. 4
- A+ Education Learning Fun, publishes Aug. 17, closes Aug. 11
- Insider's Edition: Community and Newcomer's Guide, publishes Aug. 24, closes Aug. 18

Alexandria Gazette Packet

BROWNE Academy
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To learn more, visit **WASHINGTONBALLET.ORG** today!

Legal Notices

ABC LICENSE

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

Notice of Proposed Sale of Property Invitation for Public Comment Notice of Public Hearing

The City of Alexandria, Virginia Sanitation Authority (ASA) is considering an offer to purchase approximately two (2) acres of undeveloped land owned by ASA and located at 1700 Eisenhower Avenue, Tax Map Number 079.02-02-13. This property is the subject of an amendment to the Eisenhower East Small Area Plan (EESAP) approved by City Council on June 25, 2011. The amended EESAP recommends consolidation of the property with adjacent property and construction of an elevated landscape deck with parking beneath the deck to serve the consolidated properties. The proposed sale by ASA will include rights to develop up to 364,717 gross square feet of residential floor area.

The property is not contiguous to the other ASA parcels on the west side of Hoofs Run and is not needed for existing or future operations. ASA cannot utilize the residential floor area allocated to the property and proceeds from the sale will be used for necessary upgrades to existing ASA facilities.

Written comments on the proposed transaction will be accepted until noon on Tuesday, August 16, 2011. A public hearing on the proposed sale will be held at 7pm on Tuesday, August 16, 2011 at the offices of the ASA located at 1500 Eisenhower Avenue Alexandria, Virginia.

The mailing address for written comments is:

Karen Pallansch
Engineer-Director
ASA
1500 Eisenhower Avenue
Alexandria, Virginia 22314

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, with any questions.

PUBLIC NOTICE

PROPOSAL TO CLEANUP DISCHARGE OF OIL

There has been a discharge of oil at:

1135 Colonial Avenue
Alexandria, Virginia 22314-1324

The Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) is requiring Griffith Energy Services, Inc. to develop a Corrective Action Plan to address cleanup of an oil spill at the site. If you have any questions regarding the cleanup, please contact:

Charlie Raines
Safety Director
Griffith Energy Services, Inc.
2510 Schuster Drive
Cheverly, Maryland 20781
(301) 322-6691

The Corrective Action Plan has been submitted to the Northern Regional Office of DEQ on June 10, 2011. If you would like to review or discuss the proposed Corrective Action Plan with the staff of DEQ, please feel free to contact Jay Green at (703) 583-3812 or james.green@deq.virginia.gov after the date of the Corrective Action Plan submittal. DEQ Northern Regional Office will consider written comments regarding the proposed Corrective Action Plan until September 1, 2011 and may decide to hold a public meeting if there is significant public interest. Written comments should be sent to DEQ at the address listed below. DEQ requests that all written comments reference the tracking number for this case; PC #2011-3038.

Department of Environmental Quality
Storage Tank Program
13901 Crown Court
Woodbridge, Virginia 22193

NEWS



More Than 3,800 Pounds of Food

United Community Ministries (UCM) received more than 3,800 lbs in combined food donations from St. Luke's Episcopal Church and Long & Foster Realtors' Alexandria/Old Town Historic District Office on June 15. St. Luke's food donation, totaling 1,600 lbs, was the culmination of the parish-wide June 2011 Neighbors Helping Neighbors Food Drive, coordinated by parish member and West Potomac student, Julia Staple. She said that St. Luke's will continue collecting food for UCM's food pantry throughout the summer. In addition, Long & Foster office manager, Bill Jourdan, delivered 2,274 lbs of food and a check for \$50 to UCM's Food Pantry.

ASO Garden Party Raises \$61,000

The Alexandria Symphony Orchestra's end-of-season fundraiser, the Annual Garden Party, held on June 20, grossed an all-time high of \$61,000.

Tamara and Andrew Saltonstall opened their residence, Vowell Snowden House, former home of Justice Hugo Black, on South Lee Street in Old Town, to the ASO. The event was chaired by Judy Williams who was joined by committee members Julie Dyson, Liz Securo, Catherine Thompson, and Jeanne Warner in planning the function.

Several business partners contributed to the success of the event, including Design Cuisine



Jeanne Warner, Adron Krekeler, and Rebecca Mahood.

and Unwined.

The Garden Party is the ASO's major special event fund-raiser and is an annual spring affair with

a previous high of \$56,000 at last year's event held at Fitton's Landing on East Boulevard Drive.



Lynn Hooff, Gincy Carosi, John Hooff, and Dottie Hawkins.



Molly Singerling, Vicki and Fabrice Vasques, and U.S. Rep. Jim Moran.

OBITUARY

Edward William Webster

Edward William Webster, 86, of Stafford, Va., died July 8, 2011 after developing complications from surgery performed June 11 at the Potomac Hospital, Woodbridge. He was born in Alexandria on May 3, 1925 and lived there before moving to Stafford in 2003.

He served in the U.S. Navy as storekeeper from 1943-1946. Mr. Webster was married to Mary E. Carroll from 1947-1975. He retired in 1988 after 30 years of service with Analytic Services Inc.

Mr. Webster is survived by his children William of Oxen Hill, Md.; John (Barbara) of Springfield, Va.; Louis (Christine) of Alexandria, Va.; Maceo of Lorton; David (Deirdre) of Ft. Washington, Md.; Rose of Oxen Hill, Md.; Mary Webster Morris of Centreville, Va.; Larry (Sharon) of Stafford, Va.; his sister Joan Hipps Smith of Alexandria, Va.; 17 grandchildren, 32 great-grandchildren, and a host of other relatives and friends. He was predeceased by an infant son, Gregory, in 1952; his parents Rosena Dixon Webster Hipps and Milton J. Webster, Sr.; his brother Milton J. Webster Jr., and his sister Jean Webster Hall. He also leaves behind his brother-in-law Permus Hall and long-time friends Rosemary and Ponder Kemp.

Mr. Webster was known as "Pop" to his grand- and great-grandchildren whom he enjoyed. Pop loved walking and taking pictures of nature, and would walk several miles most days before his hospitalization.

Cupcake-Filled Anniversary

Occasionally Cake of Alexandria is celebrating its two-year anniversary on Thursday, July 21, and handing out one free cupcake per person to all its patrons on that day with no purchase necessary.

It will also donate 50 percent of all their sales that day to the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children, as well as collect donations that day to be given to the organization. Located at 8859 Richmond Highway, the cake boutique will be offering free cupcakes from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. Call 703-780-CAKE or visit www.occasionallycake.com.

Students Put Off Going to College for a Year

FROM PAGE 27

can be skeptical of the benefits of taking a gap year.

Bruce Pujanauski said he was a little skeptical of his son taking a year off between high school and college. Kevin Pujanauski won a scholarship with the Congress-Bundestag Youth Exchange to study abroad at a high school in Germany after he graduated from Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology in 2007.

"We weren't really familiar with these programs. His older siblings had graduated from high school and gone directly to college. It just wasn't something we were familiar with," said Bruce Pujanauski, who lives in Oak Hill.

But Bruce Pujanauski said he couldn't think of a better experience for his son, who came back speaking and writing German fluently. Now a student at the University of Virginia, Kevin returned to Germany between his freshman and sophomore years of college to intern in Berlin.

"The whole experience was just fantastic for him. He got everything out of it," said Bruce Pujanauski.

Some of Kevin Pujanauski's peers were also a little confused about his plans to go to Germany.

"My friends were like 'What? Huh? You're still going to be in high school?' ...It was strange for

most students. At TJ, life is all about getting ahead," he said.

Yet Kevin Pujanauski grew a lot as a person during his year in Germany, where he was the only American in his high school. It allowed him to experience the freedom and responsibilities that come with living on your own before he entered college. The teenager, who had never been outside the United States before, also got to visit 10 or 11 other countries.

The trip was not only good for Kevin Pujanauski's personal growth but his professional and academic development. Kevin Pujanauski still sees the benefits of that growth when he goes on job interviews.

"I think in terms of my maturity, the benefit was two or three fold. I worked out a lot of issues that most people have to deal with when they are freshman in college," he said.

THE COST OF gap year can also be a deterrent for some families. Some gap year programs, particularly those that are structured and involve international travel, can cost as much as a year of college itself.

Camille Morrow of Alexandria said her parents told her she will have to attend a public university or college after they help pay for her gap year excursions. She plans

to attend Virginia Commonwealth University in the fall of 2012.

Morrow, who graduated from T.C. Williams High School in June, is enrolling with National Outdoor Leadership School (NOLS) program this fall and may be traveling to West Africa in the spring. The costs for NOLS program alone is a little under \$12,000.

"I will need to spend a lot of my free time working but I need to pay them back for some of this," said Morrow, whose parents were very supportive of her taking time off before going to college.

"I've been in school for so long. I felt like it would be nice to take a break. I will pretty much be sleeping on the ground for three months and I am not allowed to have a cell phone," said Morrow, who will backpack, canoe and camp in the Southwest United

States. "I definitely think it will be good for me to get away. I think I will come back more attuned to myself."

NOT ALL gap year plans require that a family shell out an immense amount of money for tuition.

For example, Hunt and Pujanauski are both receiving full scholarships to study abroad, which assuaged their parents' concerns about the cost of taking a gap year. Volunteer programs like Americorps — where students can assist flood, hurricane and tornado victims for example — also cover room and board for their participants.

"I think the fact that I received a full scholarship helped. I think [the gap year] would have been a much tougher sell if I had been asking my parents to pay for it,"

said Kevin Pujanauski.

Some young adults also choose to work during their gap year.

Liam Malakoff is working on getting various Red Cross and wilderness first responder certifications so he is better qualified to get a job in Colorado outdoors community. A recent graduate of T.C. Williams, Malakoff would like to be a whitewater rafting, canoeing or camping guide in the western United States during his time off.

"The one rule I set for myself is that I have to do something. There is no point in taking a year off and not doing anything with it," he said.

Malakoff, who just returned from kayaking competition in Wisconsin, is also hoping to organize a whitewater kayaking race series on the East Coast.

SCHOOL NOTES

Send announcements to the Alexandria Gazette Packet, by e-mail to 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.

Eileen McNamara of St. Stephen's & St. Agnes School is receiving a \$1,000 scholarship this year through Comcast's annual Leaders and Achievers program.

Matthew Lawrence Klein became a graduate of The Jewish Theological Seminary on May 19. Klein earned a Diploma of Hazzan (Master of Sacred Music) from the H.L. Miller Cantorial School and College of Jewish Music. Klein is from Alexandria, attends Agudas Achim Congregation, Alexandria.

Michael C. Noll, a resident of Alexandria, graduated with a Bachelor of Arts degree in geography from the University of Mary Washington.

Julie A. Bates, a resident of Alexandria, graduated with a Master of Education degree from the University of Mary Washington.

Aida Dedajic, a resident of Alexandria, graduated with a Bachelor of Arts degree in international affairs from the University of Mary Washington.

Diego Armando Lituma, a resident of Alexandria, graduated with

a Master of Business Administration degree from the University of Mary Washington.

Ryan S. Lott, a resident of Alexandria, graduated with a Bachelor of Science degree in economics and business administration from the University of Mary Washington.

Frederick W. Rehbein, a resident of Alexandria, graduated with a Bachelor of Science degree in business administration from the University of Mary Washington.

Zachary B. Tillett, a resident of Alexandria, graduated with a Bachelor of Science degree in psychology from the University of Mary Washington.

Matthew M. Motley, a resident of Alexandria, graduated cum laude with a Bachelor of Science degree in physics and business administration from the University of Mary Washington.

Erin K. Burke, a resident of Alexandria, graduated cum laude with a Bachelor of Science degree in psychology and sociology from the University of Mary Washington.

Michael C. Dickerson, a resident of Alexandria, graduated with a Bachelor of Science degree in business administration from the University of Mary Washington.

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703-953-2854

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Mass Schedule

Saturday Evening

5:00 pm; 6:30 pm (en Español)

Sunday

7:30; 9:00; 10:30 am; 12:00 Noon
2:00 pm (en Español)

Weekdays

(Mass or Communion Service) 9:00 am (followed by Rosary)
Children's Liturgy of the Word
Sundays (Sept.-July) during 9:00 am Mass (English)
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Sunday at 9:00 am Mass

8710 Mount Vernon Highway, Alexandria VA, 22309
Tel: 703-780-4055 Fax: 703-360-5385 www.gs-cc.org

Loving as Christ loves, serving as Christ serves

Bethany Lutheran Church

2501 Beacon Hill Road, Alexandria, Virginia 22306

BEGINNING JULY 3:

SUMMER WORSHIP SCHEDULE

9:00 a.m. Sunday School/Adult Bible classes
10:00 a.m. Worship with Holy Communion

PandaMania!

Vacation Bible School

July 25 - 29 9:00am to 11:30am
A free program for the Bethany family and the surrounding community

Visit our VBS Website:
<https://www.groupvbspro.com/vbs/ez/BethanyVBSAlexandria>

(703) 765-8255

More info (703) 765-8255
or www.bethany-lcms.org

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CHRIST THE SAVIOR...703-953-2854
ST. ANDREW & ST. MARGARET OF SCOTLAND...703-683-3343

CHURCHES—APOSTOLIC

LOVE OF CHRIST CHURCH...703-518-4404

CHURCHES—BAPTIST

ALFRED STREET BAPTIST CHURCH...703-683-2222

COMMONWEALTH BAPTIST CHURCH...703-548-8000

CONVERGENCE CREATIVE COMMUNITY OF FAITH...703-998-6260

DEL RAY BAPTIST CHURCH...703-549-8116

DOWNTOWN BAPTIST CHURCH...703-549-5544

FIRST AGAPE BAPTIST COMMUNITY OF FAITH...703-519-9100

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF ALEXANDRIA...703-684-3720

PROVIDENCE, ST. JOHN BAPTIST CHURCH...703-683-2565

SHILOH BAPTIST...703-683-4573

MT. PLEASANT BAPTIST CHURCH...703-256-1239

VICTORY TEMPLE...703-370-2233

PLYMOUTH HAVEN BAPTIST...703-360-4370

CHURCHES—BRETHREN

GRACE BRETHREN CHURCH...703-548-1808

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THE VAJRAYOGINI BUDDHIST CENTER...202-331-2122

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ST. JOSEPH CATHOLIC CHURCH...703-836-3725

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PEOPLE

Commission on Aging Names Award Winners

Two city residents, an organization and two taxi drivers were recognized by the Alexandria Commission on Aging for their efforts in enhancing the lives of senior citizens in Alexandria at a ceremony at City Hall recently.

Bill Harris, a long-time advocate for older residents, received the Annie B. Rose Lifetime Achievement Award for exemplary accomplishments that span a lifetime of public service and that have been devoted to significantly enhancing the community, especially to advancing social justice and aging concerns.

Harris has given his time and leadership skills to benefit thousands of aging residents in Alexandria and Northern Virginia. After retiring in 2001 as the executive director of Culpepper Gardens, an affordable assisted living complex for low-income seniors in Arlington, he became the voice in Alexandria for older residents.

At age 82, he continues volunteering to rebuild homes of older low-income homeowners through Rebuilding Together and represents Alexandria's First Baptist Church on the ALIVE! Board of Directors for which he coordinates the church's semi-annual food donations. He also serves as an ALIVE! food truck driver and is a member of their audit committee.

Amber Kim Dewey received the Lois Van Valkenburg Excellence in Aging Award for an Individual for outstanding contributions to elevating the quality of life for older adults in Alexandria within the past year. This award is in honor

of Lois Van Valkenburg, a longtime Alexandria resident, community leader and past chair of the Commission on Aging. Van Valkenburg was a tireless advocate of and expert in issues related to aging.

Dewey volunteers in various capacities at St. Martin de Porres Senior Center in Alexandria. She has served as social volunteer, leading activities at the center, and building personal relationships with the seniors. As a new mother, she has provided many intergenerational celebrations and interactions between the seniors and her growing son, and as a Master Gardener

she has led various gardening projects to engage and help feed seniors at the Center.

The Zeta Chi Omega Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority received the Excellence in Aging Award for an Organization. This award identifies and recognizes an



Members of the Zeta Chi Omega Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority with Mayor Bill Euille



Award Winner Bill Harris with Mayor Bill Euille.



Amber Kim Dewey with Mayor Bill Euille

organization that has made outstanding contributions to elevating the quality of life for older Alexandrians.

A service organization with the mantra, "Service to All Mankind," Zeta Chi Omega sponsors and has hosted a senior citizen's annual

Christmas/Holiday Social for more than 15 years. The event, which offers music, entertainment, games, arts and crafts, and informational services for the elderly, has grown to serve more than 250 seniors. Each of the 278 chapter members participates in this event.

Jean Yeboah and Zaheer Ahmad received the Senior Taxi Driver Award that recognizes taxi drivers for compassionate and courteous service to seniors.

Yeboah immigrated to the United States in 1984 from Ghana and has been working for Alexan-

dria Yellow Cab since 1987. One of Yeboah's enjoyments comes from visiting with the seniors as he transports them around the City. Last year Yeboah logged more than 200 senior trips.

Ahmad has been driving for Alexandria Yellow Cab since 2001 after emigrating from Pakistan to the U.S. in 1999. He enjoys transporting the seniors because they remind him of his parents who live in Pakistan and he wants to treat his riders the way he would treat his parents — kindly and with respect.

NEIGHBORHOOD

Taylor Run

Summer finds all the neighbors traveling. Richard Swindell and family went on a two-week vacation to Vermont, in the course of which Richard ran 26.2 miles in a marathon. He had not run a marathon for 15 years, when he ran the Marine Corps Marathon, but he finished it, to the great admiration of his children. Son Nathaniel, age 8, ran toward him about half a mile from the finish exclaiming "You made it!" and ran the last half-mile with his father. Richard said that he said to himself at about mile 20, "Never again." The course was rather hilly and Richard said he

was rather surprised that he managed to finish.

They had a splendid family vacation at Lake Winnepesaukee and visited Scientist's Cliff where they found interesting mineral specimens.

STELLUTO TRAVELS

Arlene Stelluto has been traveling to visit her talented children. She went to Santa Fe, N.M. to see the presentation of a play by her daughter Georgia.

CONCERT VISITS

Arlene went to New York City for a concert at Juilliard. She also visited the Ravina Festival of the Chicago Symphony where her son George Stelluto is assistant direc-

tor. During the winter George is the assistant director of the Peoria Orchestra.

CORRECTION

The cannons in Tchaikowski's 1812 Overture were played last week at Alexandria's Birthday Party by the Marines from Quantico.

— LOIS KELSO HUNT

GOOD NEIGHBOR

Taylor Run Citizens Association would like to congratulate MacArthur Elementary School student Lilly Wilcox, this year's recipient of the TRCA Good Neighbor Award.

Odes to Dogs in August

The Alexandria Gazette Packet, the Alexandria Commission for the Arts, Alexandria's poet laureate Amy Young and the Animal Welfare League of Alexandria invite all dog-loving Alexandria residents to write poems about their favorite canine, past or present.

Poems may be submitted with photos and will be displayed

throughout August at the Vola Lawson Animal Shelter, at Alexandria's dog parks, and published in the Alexandria Gazette Packet as well as at many businesses. Poems should be submitted to: www.poet@alexandriava.gov no later than Aug. 1, although submissions after that date will be considered.

Rossi, Richardson Look To Continue Football Careers

Rossi hopes to walk on at Pitt, Richardson to play at Glenville State.

BY JON ROETMAN
GAZETTE PACKET

Will Rossi passed on some "sure things" in favor of fulfilling a dream. Isreal Richardson received a helping hand and wants to show his gratitude. The 2011 T.C. Williams graduates took different paths to the world of college football, but each will have a reason to stay motivated during his freshman season.

"The fact that someone actually believes in me: that's great. That makes me feel good."

— Former T.C. Williams defensive back Isreal Richardson

Rossi, a former receiver for the Titans, passed on multiple offers from Division II and Division III schools due to his desire to play at the DI level. The 5-foot-10 Rossi received an opportunity with the University of Pittsburgh, but will have to earn his way into the Panthers' program as a walk on.

"I've always wanted to play [against] the highest competition in college," Rossi said. "... DIII, I really didn't see it for me. I didn't take it serious. It's my dream" to play Division I football.

While attempting to play at the highest level means Rossi isn't guaranteed a spot on the team, his father, Gene Rossi, backed his son's choice.



PHOTO BY LOUISE KRAFFT/GAZETTE PACKET

Former T.C. Williams defensive back and receiver Isreal Richardson (4) will play college football at Glenville State College in West Virginia.

Former T.C. Williams receiver Will Rossi is attempting to walk on to the football team at the University of Pittsburgh.



PHOTO BY CRAIG STERBUTZEL/GAZETTE PACKET

"In a nutshell, it was an emotional roller coaster with a lot of highs and a lot of lows,"

Gene said. ... "We're proud that our son is rolling the dice and pursuing a dream."

out grades, there's nothing That's what I learned."

Rossi received a confidence boost when he found out he'll be on the fall roster and will appear in the media guide. Whether that translates to a future with the Panthers is up in the air.

"It makes me feel a lot better," he said. "I was worried in two-a-days I might get cut loose. I still might be cut loose, but it makes me feel like I have a better chance."

Rossi will head to Pittsburgh for orientation and to meet with the coaches on July 27. While Rossi will battle to show he belongs at Pitt, Richardson, a former defensive back and receiver with the Titans, said he wants to work hard to show he's thankful for the opportunity given to him by Glenville State College. Richardson has the talent to play high-level college football, but struggled with his grades during high school, limiting his options. That's when Division II Glenville State stepped in.

"Glenville still stuck their hand out for me and I can respect that," Richardson said. "Anyone who can take a chance on me with my grades the way they are" has his respect.

Richardson said his academic struggles in high school have taught him to re-focus his priorities. He said Glenville's "isolated" campus should help him limit distractions, as well.

"The fact that someone actually believes in me, that's great. That makes me feel good," Richardson said. "... Even if they're like, 'OK, you can't play football for us anymore,' the fact that they let me go to their school, I'm going to get good grades and I'm going to work extra hard in the classroom. With-

SPORTS BRIEFS

Summer Baseball Camps

The StrikeZone Academy, an indoor baseball training facility located in Alexandria, is offering week-long summer baseball camps for the weeks of Aug. 1, Aug. 15 and Aug. 29. Camps run from 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Monday-Friday. The target age group is from 7-11 years old. Extended hours from 1-4 p.m. are available as well. Cost is \$160 per week for the morning session and \$160 per week for extended hours. All camps are held indoors in a climate-controlled facility, so parents have no need to worry about security, excessive heat, bugs, or lack of cold water and restroom facilities. Inter-

ested parents can register online at www.thestrikezoneacademy.com/clinics, via telephone at 703-823-0061, or stop by in person at 826 South Pickett Street, near the intersections of South Pickett and South Van Dorn Streets.

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 Vehicles (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.

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.

SEE SPORTS BRIEFS, PAGE 32



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PEOPLE

From His Garden



Robert Calhoun, 9, of Alexandria, grew a 16-inch cucumber in his garden on Davis Avenue. In addition to cucumbers, he also grows eggplants, beans, carrots, peppers and tomatoes in his 5x4-foot garden. The rising third-grader is the son of Mollie and Andrew Calhoun; his grandparents are Sandy and Bob Calhoun. Robert is a Cub Scout with Troop 129, which meets at Westminster Presbyterian Church in Alexandria. He enjoys playing tennis and lacrosse, and collecting rocks and coins. He went to the beach in North Carolina for summer vacation where his grandparents are beekeepers, and retrieved a gallon and a half of honey from their first drawing.

SPORTS BRIEFS

FROM PAGE 31 Sports Updates On Twitter

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

Register 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.

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. 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 by 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 in 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.



Top Honors

Tiny Dancers, with studios in Alexandria, Fairfax and Gainesville, has been voted Best Ballet or Dance Studio and Best Day Camp in the July 2011 issue of Washington Family Magazine. The company, also named Best of NoVa by Northern Virginia Magazine in 2010, offers a dance program designed for young children ages 2-12. By introducing dancers to the basics of ballet, tap and jazz using well-known fairy tales and hundreds of costumes and props, students are encouraged to learn through creative self-expression and exploration.

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21 Announcements

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Neighbors

FROM PAGE 17

lic housing units. That was part of an effort to disburse public-housing throughout the city rather than clustering them in one area of the city. The centerpiece in that effort is Chatham Square, a development that opened in 2005 and mixes market rate housing with public housing. Three years later, a group of neighbors appeared at a City Council public hearing to complain about a laundry list of problems in their neighborhood — assaults, drug sales, child abuse, public drunkenness, open-container violations, trespassing, vandalism, profanity, littering, loitering, prowling, threats, intimidation, torturing of animals and graffiti.

“We have to discontinue touting Chatham Square as an award-winning community, a jewel in the crown of the city of Alexandria,” Chatham Square resident Kara Clemens told City Council members in a September 2008 public hearing. “The newspapers cannot print puff pieces about what a wonderful neighborhood this is anymore because it’s not true.”

Several neighbors say the problems went away for a while, and some even considered getting rid of their private security force. Now some say the pendulum has swung in the other direction, with gunshots in the night and drug dealing in plain sight. Police officials respond by pointing to crime statistics, which show a decline since 2008. Meanwhile residents of public housing at Chatham Square and government-subsidized housing at Hopkins Tancil say it’s time to stop making accusations and start working together.

“What disturbs me the most is that these are our neighbors,” said Hopkins Tancil resident Lisa Harper during the meeting at Charles Houston Recreation Center. “You have two different socio-economic backgrounds, and yes there are issues. But we have to come together and solve these problems.”

Deficit Fixes

FROM PAGE 13

whole.” However, when asked about how discussions on Capitol Hill are going, Moran replied that they’re “not as well as the one tonight.” Congress has until Tuesday, Aug. 2, to reach a deal to raise the debt limit. Otherwise, according to the Concord Coalition’s Thiebert, the United States would default on its debt for the first time in its history. If that does happen, Thiebert says that interest rates will rise, thus increasing the cost of borrowing, and the country wouldn’t be able to borrow more money to “pay its bills.” The Secretary of the Treasury would decide who would be paid first with what money the federal government already has. Thiebert is hoping that it doesn’t come to that. “Default isn’t an option. We’ve known this is coming. This isn’t something new.” He said that all that’s really needed is the political leadership to come to a deal.

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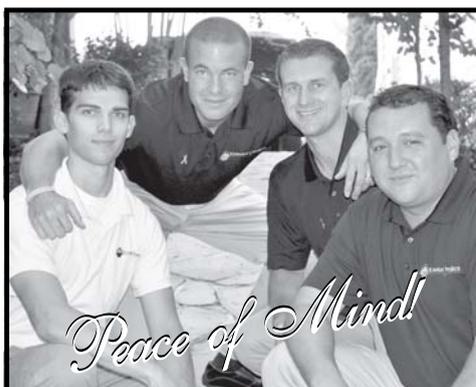
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