

Alexandria Gazette Packet



25 CENTS

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SEPTEMBER 1, 2011

GenOn Power Plant To Be Unplugged

City and company strike agreement to close Potomac River Generating Station in 2012.

BY MICHAEL LEE POPE
GAZETTE PACKET

Alexandria officials and GenOn Energy have reached an agreement to permanently close the company's Potomac River Generating Station, a longtime goal of city leaders that opens up a valuable spot of real estate on Alexandria's waterfront for redevelopment. Under the conditions of the agreement, the plant will close in October 2012. City leaders say negotiations on the agreement began more than three months ago.

"This is great news not only for the city of Alexandria, but the entire metropolitan region," said Mayor Bill Euille. "The city is pleased that its long-term public health goals and GenOn's business interests were able to come together."

After several years of trying to shut the plant down, city leaders struck a deal with then-owner Mirant in 2008 that would invest \$32 million to reduce particulate matter at the facility. Three years later, that money remains unspent in an escrow account. The Division of Environmental Services was on the verge of signing a contract to install "baghouse" technology that would reduce the amount of particulate matter emitted from the plant in September. But the agreement that was signed Monday,



PHOTO BY LOUISE KRAFT/GAZETTE PACKET

Under the terms of an agreement struck this week, the Potomac River Generating Station will close by October 2012.

Aug. 29, returns that money to the plant unless GenOn is not able to shut the operation down by October 2012.

"Today's announcement of the retirement of GenOn's Potomac River Generating Station is a culmination of many years of hard work by activists and concerned residents," said Sierra Club executive director Michael Brune and Greenpeace Coal Campaigner Robert Gardner in a joint statement. "The agreement between GenOn and the city of Alexandria to retire a major source of pol-

SEE GENON, PAGE 25

Sierra Club field organizer Phillip Ellis speaks at a press conference organized by environmentalists Tuesday to celebrate the announcement that the coal-fired power plant would be closing.



PHOTO BY MICHAEL LEE POPE/GAZETTE PACKET

32 Years Later, Clerk of Court Gains Opponent

Republican Marston gives incumbent Democrat Semonian his first competitive race since 1979.

BY MICHAEL LEE POPE
GAZETTE PACKET

Alexandria Clerk of Court Ed Semonian will have his first competitive race since 1979, with former chairman of the Alexandria Republican City Committee Chris Marston filing papers for the low-profile yet high-powered position last week. Like many lawyers in Alexandria, Marston says he has enormous respect for the long-serving clerk. But he also pledges to do more to drag the office

into the 21st century, pledging to make more documents available online and extending the number of forms that can be filed electronically.

"People aren't limited to bankers' hours when they're banking, and I don't think people should be limited to courthouse hours to do business with the clerk's office," said Marston. "In any case where you aren't required to be physically present, I think you should be able to file electronically."

Semonian is the longest-serving elected official in the city, holding office longer than

U.S. Rep. Jim Moran or Councilwoman Del Pepper. He's been clerk of court longer than several members of the Alexandria Bar As-

sociation have been alive. Yet he says he's ready to wage his first competitive cam-

SEE CLERK OF COURT, PAGE 25

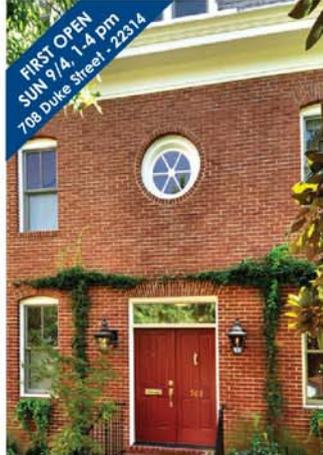
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The Embezzlers

It's been a difficult week for City Hall.

First there was the announcement that an 11-year employee who worked in the Department Human Resources had been arrested for embezzlement. **Jeffrey Power**, 44 of Springfield, has been charged with taking unearned overtime from the city. Then, a few days later, a four-year employee who worked in the Chinqapin Recreation Center was arrested for embezzlement. **Addo Lomotey**, 48 of Alexandria, has been charged with taking money from the cash register while he worked at the front desk.

"Some of the most disappointing moments of my time in service to the city have been when I've learned that someone has taken advantage of their public position for their own financial gain," acting city manager **Bruce Johnson** wrote in a memorandum to city employees. "Why someone would risk their career, their retirement benefits, their reputation, indeed their freedom, in this way is beyond my comprehension."

The two arrests come on the heels of several other cases, including a meter maid who was pocketing quarters, a DASH employee who was taking taxpayers for a ride and a Fleet Services division chief who sold a city-owned trailer to a local farmer for \$3,500. Johnson said he's asked acting chief financial officer **Laura Triggs** to conduct a formal evaluation of internal controls designed to prevent financial fraud.

"We will report on the status of our review of city financial checks and balances and discuss the internal audit function with City Council in early October," Johnson wrote.

Chimneys Survived

Anyone walking or driving through Old Town recently has noticed the corner of Cameron and North Royal streets has been closed to traffic. The reason? City officials were concerned that bricks from the chimney at Gadsby's Tavern might fall on pedestrians or motorists.

The danger began during last week's earthquake, when two chimneys cracked at the historic tavern where **George Washington** once hung out and **Thomas Jefferson** held an inaugural banquet. As Hurricane Irene approached last weekend, city officials became increasingly worried that the cracked chimneys might crumble to the street. Arriving on the scene to inspect the situation, Office of Historic Alexandria director **Lance Mallamo** noticed something strange about the crack.

"It looked like the color of the bricks were different," said Mallamo. "And the mortar joists were different."

As it turns out, the chimneys had been repaired in 1957 then again in 1965. The chimneys cracked at the exact spot where new bricks were installed in the 1960s. Mallamo said a temporary metal sleeve has been erected on the outside and cement has been poured on the inside as a short-term fix. In the long term, the chimneys will be dismantled and rebuilt.

"We're going to use as many of the original bricks as possible, although they are 1960s-era bricks," he said. "We still consider them part of the legacy of the building." The museum and the intersection are expected to reopen this weekend.

Missing Ampersand

Political consultant **Shayna Englin** says she never meant to call Arlington School Board member **Libby Garvey** a "cancer widow," although the phrase appeared briefly on her Twitter account. Instead, she said, the message was supposed to say that the core of Garvey's campaign was "cancer & widow." The tweet came in the final days of an intense primary fight between Garvey, Del. **Adam Ebbin** (D-49) and Councilman **Rob Krupicka**, who paid Englin Consulting \$28,000 during the primary campaign.

"It was up for about seven seconds before I realized what had happened," said Englin. "I immediately called to apologize."

It didn't take long for the expression "cancer widow" to become part of the language of the campaign, though. Before long, two influential blogs posted about the tweet. By election night, it was a frequent topic of conversation. Englin says it was all a misunderstanding. "I never called her a cancer widow," she said in an interview this week.

— MICHAEL LEE POPE



PHOTO BY LOUISE KRAFFT/THE GAZETTE

Alexandria Fire Captain Thurston McClain talks with the children from the Charles Houston Recreation Center. With Captain McClain are Michael Johnson of the Recreation Department Community Outreach, Richard Eubanks Sr., Cameron C., Cameron R., Jahbari G., Derek B., Chance R., Jaquan J. and AJ W.

Shear Fun

Firefighters hold Cuts for Kids Day.

BY JEANNE THEISMANN
GAZETTE PACKET

Students from throughout the area were treated to free back-to-school haircuts thanks to Alexandria and Fairfax County firefighters who sponsored the first Cuts for Kids Day Aug. 29 at the Gum Springs Recreation Center.

"These kids are looking good," laughed Mike Johnson, the community outreach director at Charles Houston Recreation Center. "We brought a group of kids here for the day to get their hair cut and meet some of the firefighters."

Gum Springs Recreation Center director Kenya Turner worked with local firefighters to plan the event, the first of its kind in the region.

SEE FIREFIGHTERS, PAGE 29



Richard Eubanks Jr., 7, shows off his new haircut with dad Richard Sr., an Alexandria firefighter.



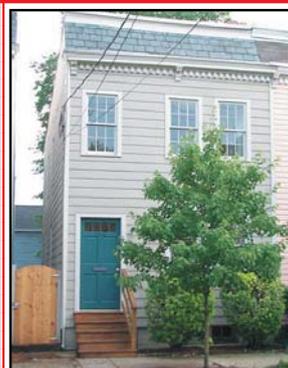
PHOTOS BY JEANNE THEISMANN/GAZETTE PACKET

Jahmai Arrington, 10, a fifth grader at Sheffield Landing, gets a back-to-school haircut from firefighter Craig White of Station 20 in Gunston. White is also a licensed barber and donated his services during the Alexandria Firefighters Cuts for Kids Day.



Gary Bailey, a barber at All at Once Hair in Del Ray, gives a back-to-school haircut to 10-year-old Tim Wiggins during the Alexandria Firefighters Cuts for Kids Day Aug. 29 at Gum Springs Recreation Center.

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Hurricane Irene

Sandbags line Starbucks on Saturday, Aug. 27.
MORE PHOTOS, PAGE 18.

PHOTO BY
JULIE KINZER

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VIEWPOINTS
What are you doing out during the hurricane?

BY ORRIN KONHEIM

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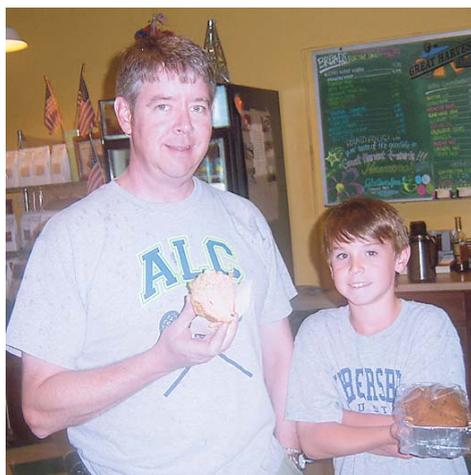
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— **John Quinn III** with son, John Quinn IV inside Great Harvest Bread Company



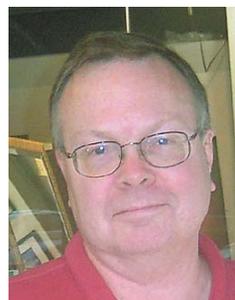
"They don't take it seriously. [The news] just exaggerates."
— **Mosa Manosur**, manager at Waffle Shop on why he still has a place full of customers. He's with customer **Jorge Suarez** who said, "For the coffee."



"Batteries and batteries. I have power TVs and flashlights. Also candles, batteries, bricks and ice."
— **Janice Meredith** with friend Mary Young at CVS



"Our dryer broke so we're here doing our laundry in case the power goes out"
— **Heather Cana**, at Forest 24-Hour Laundromat



"At some point it makes sense to quit staying outside. I was going to go home but a customer just came in. A lot of people have stopped shopping [at] this point except for food and necessities. I'm going to wait another half-hour and when that half hour is up, I'll just go home."
— **Lindsey Bashory** store proprietor of Diversions Cards



"From the way it looks, it looks like a normal rainy day."
— **Mahlet Getachew** (right) with friends Fanaye Woldeamanuel and Fiseha Darg at Starbucks

PEOPLE

A Sweeping History

'Historic Alexandria' provides complete narrative of city's history.

BY MICHAEL LEE POPE
GAZETTE PACKET

Cramming 262 years of history into 30,000 words and a few dozen photographs is no easy task, especially with a tale as sweeping as the history of Alexandria. But if anyone was up to the task, it was Ted Pullium. Back in 2009, he was approached by the Office of Historic Alexandria to craft a grand narrative of the city's history. The North Carolina native was given nine months to include everything from race relations and urban renewal to devastating fires and wartime occupation. The result is "Historic Alexandria: An Illustrated History," which was recently released by Historical Publishing Network in San Antonio, Texas.

"The most difficult parts is knowing which parts to include and which parts to leave



Ted Pullium

out," said Pullium, whose articles have appeared in such publications as The Washington Post and the Alexandria Chronicle. "There are certain stories you have to tell, of course."

Because the city's Special Collections Local History Department has shelf after shelf of early history, Pullium knew that would be a snap. And the difficulty writing about the Civil War is wading through the massive amount of writing about the subject. What worried him the most was telling the city's story after the World War II — a time when living memory overlaps with archival research.

"I wrote the last chapter first," he said. "I didn't want to be stuck at the end going through year after year of newspapers."

A NATIVE of Charlotte, N.C., Pullium graduated from Newton-Conover High School in 1961. He received a bachelor's degree in English from Davidson College and studied law at Columbia University Law School before marrying Queens College student Molly Ferguson in 1968. After that he joined the Army and served three years in Germany before travelling Europe with his

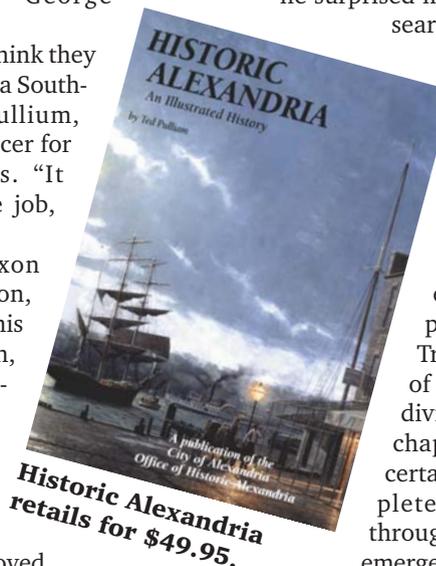
wife. After returning to the United States, he took a job with the Justice Department for a brief period of time before joining the presidential campaign of Democratic candidate George McGovern in 1971.

"To tell the truth, I think they needed someone with a Southern accent," said Pullium, who was the desk officer for the southern states. "It wasn't a high profile job, but it was fun."

When Richard Nixon won the 1971 election, Pullium returned to his hometown of Newton, N.C., to become a lawyer — a job that entailed everything from criminal law and automobile accidents to wills and estates. In 1980, he moved to Alexandria to take a job at the Department of Energy. That was when he began to take in the history of Alexandria, at first by wondering about things he saw on his way to work and then by conducting research at the Barrett Branch Library.

"He's a very highly esteemed researcher, and he brought a wealth of knowledge to

the project," said Lance Mallamo, director of the Office of Historic Alexandria. "The strength of the book is that he was able to hone in on little known details, and I know he surprised me a few times with his research."



TO RESEARCH the book, Pullium spent months in the Local History Special Collections Department at the Barrett Branch, going through the classics of Alexandria History — "Seaport Saga" and "A Town In Transition" plus back issues of the Fireside Sentinel. He divided the history up into 10 chapters and gave himself a certain amount of time to complete each one. As he went through the history, two themes emerged — how business adapted to changing circumstances and the racial interplay between blacks and whites.

"The Civil War chapter was the most difficult to write because it was so difficult knowing what to include and what to leave

SEE 'HISTORIC ALEXANDRIA', PAGE 29

Author Lecture

Author Ted Pullium will be speaking at the Morrison House on Sept. 6 from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. as part of the Torpedo Factory's "Morrison House Presents" series. The lecture, titled "Bringing the Past Alive: Writing Alexandria History," will explore the craft and challenges of writing history about Alexandria. The event is free and open to the public. The Morrison House is located at 116 South Alfred Street. For more information, call 703-838-8000.

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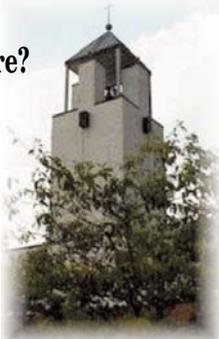
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Utterly Illegal

When somebody handed over a counterfeit \$20 bill to the Uptowner Café recently, the owner did the same thing that businesses do all over Alexandria. He posted the bill next to the cash register.

"We would encourage businesses not to do that," explained Sgt. **Ed Milner**, who is head of the Alexandria Police Department's financial and computer crimes section. "Possessing counterfeit money is a federal crime."

Not to put too fine a point on it, Milner said, but every business that has counterfeit money posted near the cash register is breaking the law. In many cases, officers will come and take the money so it can be turned over to the Secret Service, which investigates counterfeiting. That was the case at the Uptowner, when a police officer stopped by for a cup of coffee and saw the bogus \$20. He confiscated the bill, wrote a report and turned it over to the Secret Service.

"This is bigger than most people think," said Milner. "It happens all the time."

Milner said cases are reported to the Alexandria Police Department about twice a month. And recent advances in technology have given criminals expanded access to high-tech printing technology that would have been unavailable a few short years ago. One trick that has emerged in recent years is called passing a "bleach note," which involves bleaching a \$1 note or a \$5 bill until its blank and then printing the image of a \$100 on it — a way to get around the use of special markers designed to detect the wrong kind of material.

"We've definitely seen a rise in the quality of the counterfeit bills in recent years," said Miler. "But it's important for businesses to know how important it is to turn these things in because we can actually use them to catch the people responsible."

BRAC to Business

The Washington Headquarters Service may create regional gridlock. But that doesn't necessarily mean it will be bad for business.

The West End behemoth some have taken to calling the Death Star opened as a result of the Base Realignment and Closure process, creating a sense of panic in Alexandria because the lack of transportation infrastructure to handle more than 3,000 people who will work at the building. This week, the Washington Suites on Reynolds Street launched the "BRAC Bus," a new shuttle service to and from the Washington Headquarters Service.

"Over the years, the Washington Suites has acquired the reputation as a welcoming destination for our men and women in uniform," said **Mike Barber**, general manager of the hotel, "particularly from those with families who need a place to stay when their orders send them to D.C. on long-term assignment."

The bus is offered at no charge to hotel guests, running between 6 a.m. to 10:45 p.m. on weekdays and 7 a.m. to 10:45 p.m. on weekends.

Irene Opportunities

Hurricane Irene created the opportunity for disaster — fortunately one that blew by without incident. But clever retailers all over town were trying to cash in on the opportunity.

The Royal Restaurant had the "Hurricane Hogie." And visitors to the Hard Times Café were greeted with a sign welcoming them to "come get blown away by our BBQ ribs." After the storm was over, Diva Boutique offered a "disaster recovery sale."

Smedberg's New Gig

Councilman **Paul Smedberg** has left his position as director of policy and public affairs at the American Society of Nephrology. He's now in charge of government affairs and advocacy relations for Affymax, a pharmaceutical company based in Palo Alto, Calif.

"It's really a tremendous company, and it's an opportunity for me careerwise," he said. "I'm really excited about it."

— MICHAEL LEE POPE

BUSINESS

HomeMade Pizza Just Next Door

BY ABBY MARCUS
GAZETTE PACKET

HomeMade Pizza is coming to King Street. Opening in September, it will offer pizza to cook at home as well as salads and desserts. Always searching for good pizza, founder Eric Fosse said the idea came to him to create an easy option for those who don't feel like going out to a pizzeria, other than takeout pizza which sits in a box and loses freshness.

Fosse opened his first store in Chicago 14 years ago. Expanding to the D.C. area was always a goal of his, but it took about 10 years to occur. The King Street store is the latest expansion, joining the other Alexandria location at 2413 Mount Vernon Ave., as well as locations in Arlington and Washington D.C.

When expanding to a new region, HomeMade Pizza is committed to finding local produce. Seasonal ingredients are often purchased from area farmer's markets and products from Virginia and Maryland farms are used year round.

King Street was chosen as the site for a new store because Fosse looks for "lots of foot traffic and great visibility." The 1314 King St. store will also offer delivery within a 2-3 mile radius. The future manager of the King Street site, Melody Gilmore, said that is where the differences end between King Street



This is the Mount Vernon Avenue location of HomeMade Pizza Co. A King Street location will open this month.

and her current store in Arlington, promising "there will be the same fresh, natural ingredients that are at all HomeMade Pizza locations." Customers can pick from HomeMade Pizza's menu or choose their own toppings. Or they can get inspiration from the menu and make it their own as Gilmore did with her favorite based on the "backyard grill" — tomato sauce, vidalia onions, jalapeno peppers, bacon and barbeque chicken.

More information on HomeMade Pizza is available at www.homemadepizza.com.

Storming the Streets

BY JEANNE THEISMANN
GAZETTE PACKET

The streets of Old Town were filled with shoppers who braved the thunderstorms Aug. 13 to participate in the second annual Summer Sidewalk Sale.

"Despite the rain, people have been coming in all day," said BeautyFull Boutique owner Camille Leverette. "This is my first year in business and the sale has been a great opportunity for me to let people know about us."

The sale also provided an opportunity for BeautyFull Boutique to hold a casting call for plus size models to participate in the first Fashion's Night Out Plus, an event making its national debut at the Alexandria boutique. "For the last three years, the national Fashion's Night Out events have been a fun way to showcase new designers and products," said Leverette of the upcoming Sept. 8 event. "I'm excited that this year Alexandria and BeautyFull Boutique will premiere the first evening focusing on plus size women." More than 50 retailers in Old Town



Photographer Jovanna Reyes, left, prepares Nina Taylor and Nicky Bogues for a fashion shoot during a call for models at BeautyFull Boutique Aug. 13. The consignment store will participate in Fashion's Night Out Sept. 8.

participated in this year's sidewalk sale, which was sponsored by the Potomac Riverboat Company and the Alexandria Convention and Visitors Association.

"It's really been awesome," Leverette said. "It's wonderful seeing so many people coming out and supporting their local retailers."

Sweet Success for Artfully Chocolate Owner

BY CHRISTINE ZACCARO
GAZETTE PACKET

The taste of success is sweet for Artfully Chocolate owner Eric Nelson, who was presented with the 2011 Best Small Business of the Year Award by the Washington D.C. Economic Partnership in recognition of the unique contributions the store has made to the community.

"This was an incredible surprise," said Nelson, who received the honor July 19 from D.C. Mayor Vincent Gray on behalf of Artfully Chocolate's Dupont Circle location. "There are so many small businesses in D.C. For us to win this is remarkable."

Following a successful 20-year career as a trade association executive, Nelson founded Artfully Chocolate with chocolatier Rob Kingsbury. Together



Eric Nelson

they created a chocolate café — now with locations in D.C. and Del Ray — that also serves as an art gallery for Nelson's own distinctive works.

"This has been a busy summer," said Nelson, who is now the sole proprietor of Artfully Chocolate and co-owner with his partner Edward Hart of the new Artfully Gifts and Chocolate in the Carlyle neighborhood of Alexandria. "Rob

remains a consultant to us and he was actually the one who filled out the required forms for the award once we found out we were nominated."

The Economic Partnership awards are intended to

SEE ARTFULLY. PAGE 7

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BUSINESS

Artfully

FROM PAGE 6

recognize the importance of small businesses in Washington and to acknowledge those that are unique and contribute to the vibrancy of the city's character.

"Being the sole owner has given me a lot of freedom to make the stores a reflection of my personality," Nelson said. "But on the flip side, all the responsibility is now on my shoulders. I have pretty broad shoulders but it's still a huge challenge."

Nelson serves as the president of the Del Ray Business Association and is on the board of the Alexandria Convention and Visitors Association.

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Find out about design plans for the proposed high occupancy vehicle (HOV) and high occupancy toll (HOT) lanes between Edsall Road in Fairfax County and Garrisonville Road in Stafford County. Learn about the findings in the I-95 Environmental Analysis and the Department of Rail and Public Transportation's (DRPT) Transit and Transportation Demand Management (TDM) plan for I-95. Representatives from each of these projects will be available to answer your questions. Exhibits and a video will be available. There will be no formal presentation.

Review information at www.vamegaprojects.com and at the meeting. Plans are also available at VDOT offices at 4975 Alliance Drive, Fairfax, 6363 Walker Lane, Suite 500, Alexandria, or VDOT's Fredericksburg District Office at 87 Deacon Road, Fredericksburg. Please call ahead on the project hot line at 1-855-895-4646 to be sure that appropriate personnel are available to answer your questions.

The environmental assessment will be available on September 9, 2011, on the project Web site and at the above locations. The transit and TDM plan will be available on September 26, 2011 at www.drpt.virginia.gov and at the meeting.

Give your written or oral comments at the hearing. Comments on the project design and environmental analysis may be sent to John Lynch, P.E., Regional Transportation Program Director, 6363 Walker Lane, Suite 500, Alexandria, VA 22310 or e-mailed to info@i-95hotlanes.com by October 14, 2011 with "I-95 Joint Meetings" in the subject line. Comments on the transit and TDM plan can be sent to Public Information Office, DRPT, 600 E. Main Street, Suite 2102, Richmond, VA 23219 or to drptor@drpt.virginia.gov by October 26, 2011.

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The Shops at 801 South Washington Street • Alexandria

HISTORY

Sleeping with the Enemy

Alexandria struggles to regain a sense of identity as Union troops plunder.

BY MICHAEL LEE POPE
GAZETTE PACKET

September 1861 was a month of reckoning in Alexandria. By now, a season into the war, it had become clear that the conflict was not going to be a short affair. And it was becoming clearer every day that the occupation was going to last for some time. This was the time when the novelty of war began to fade away, and the reality of occupation set in.

"A conflagrant war of death and destruction surged over Southland as the order was swept away by a tidal wave of change," wrote historian William Francis Smith and T. Michael Miller in "Seaport Saga." "Undoubtedly with the influx of so many soldiers, there was great excitement and pandemonium."

Union occupiers generally adopted one of four attitudes about commandeering private property. Some men refused to steal anyone's private property. Others decided they would take only from the Confederates. Still others believed they could take at will in the name of war, and that the federal government would make appropriate restitution at a later time. One group of Union soldiers believed everything was up for grabs, including the belongings of other soldiers.

"Day after day it is the same thing," wrote Alexandrian Anne Frobel in her diary in late summer 1861. "Threshing down green fruit, robbing the tree hives, tearing down the grape vines and filling their hats with perfectly green grapes that no earthly use could be made of."

"Day after day it is the same thing. Threshing down green fruit, robbing the tree hives, tearing down the grape vines and filling their hats with perfectly green grapes that no earthly use could be made of."

— Anne Frobel

grapes that no earthly use could be made of."

Frobel also complained that marauding soldiers would march by houses and stare into windows and look in "with the most insulting" air. Their guns would be slung over their shoulders, and their bayonets would be "strung with fluttering chickens and green melons." The attitude was shared by many of the Federals occupying the Virginia Theological Seminary, where art-

works, musical instruments and the professors' clothes

disappearing. Many Federal officers became too attached to Seminary property and considered it theirs," wrote historian James Barber. "Certain doctors and nurses were included in the plunder."

Cassius Lee became so concerned about the state of lawlessness that he sought Gen. George

McClellan's permission to move the library to a town warehouse. School administrator Joseph Packard sent his books to the Smithsonian. One cavalryman observed that after the war was over, Alexandria residents would have to send a truant officer to retrieve their furnishings "in some rural village of Pennsylvania."

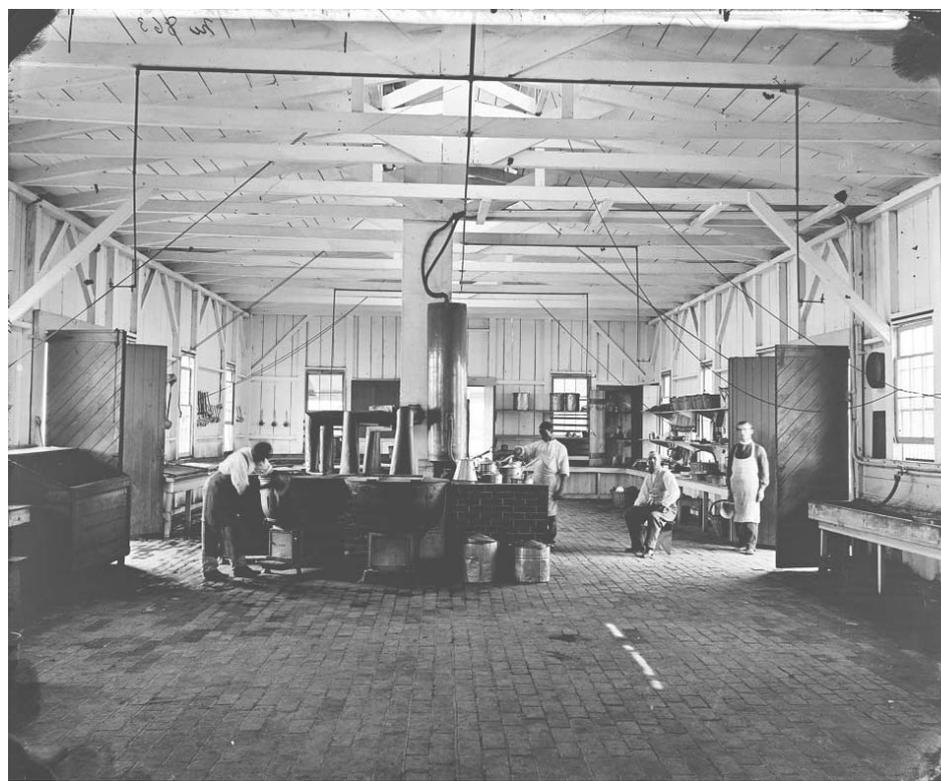
"The spring and summer months of 1861 witnessed the sudden and unexpected end of a decade and a half of commercial prosperity and the final demise of a way of life never to return," wrote historian Harold Hurst. "Alexandrians had to await another

era before political harmony and economic well-being would be restored to the old seaport on the Potomac."

On the streets of Old Town, boys mimicked soldiers by drumming along fences,



Artworks, musical instruments and even the professors' clothes began disappearing at the Virginia Theological Seminary.



Cooks in the kitchen of Soldiers' Rest in Alexandria.

on steps and above cellar doors. The playful children cut through the eerie silence of a city under enemy occupation. As summer drew to a close in late September, Alexandria businesses had still not recovered because of the Confederate blockade. Federal officials responded by requisitioning company wharfs and erecting warehouses to

store accumulating stockpiles of meat,hardtack and dry goods. Meanwhile, Confederate diplomats were working overtime for British intervention.

"Cotton was the principal weapon of southern foreign policy," explained historian James McPherson. "The inevitability of British intervention was a constant theme."

SEE CITY STRUGGLES, PAGE 9

2011 CIVIL WAR SESQUICENTENNIAL EVENTS

September

Sept. 10 — Civil War Fashion Show — The Carlyle House terrace turns into a runway for the fashions of the Civil War. Cost: Advanced Reservations: \$10 for adults, \$5 for children. Day of Event: \$15 for adults, \$5 for children. 10:30 a.m. to noon. 703-549-2997 or www.carlylehouse.org

Sept. 24 — Civil War Nurses Program -

noon to 4 p.m. Carlyle House Historic Park. 703-549-2997 or www.carlylehouse.org

October

Oct. 5 — Civil War Alexandria in 3-D — See what Alexandria looked during the Civil War through the eyes of the photographers who documented it. Wally Owen, assistant director of Fort Ward Museum and co-author of "Mr. Lincoln's

Forts: A Guide to the Civil War Defenses of Washington," will present an illustrated lecture featuring 3-D images and rare photographs, including many that have never been published. Admission \$10, reservations required. 7:30-8:30 p.m. 703-746-4994 or www.historicalexandria.org

December

Dec. 10 — Christmas in Camp — Join a patri-

otic Santa Claus at this family-fun holiday event that interprets how Christmas was observed during the Civil War. The program features living-history interpreters, a Victorian Christmas tree, refreshments, readings of "The Night Before Christmas" and a Santa inspired by Thomas Nast's war-time illustrations. Noon to 4 p.m. Suggested donation of \$2 for adults, \$1 for children. Fort Ward Museum and Historic Site. 703-746-4848 or www.fortward.org

HISTORY

City Struggles To Regain Identity

FROM PAGE 8

ish intervention to obtain cotton became an article of faith in the South during 1861." This was the point when Alexandria became a major supplier for the Union army. The federal government built slaughterhouses in the city and grazed cattle on the outskirts of town. Butchers on King Street handled more than 100 oxen each day. Bakers at the Custom House supplied soldiers in nearby camps with fresh bread. Meanwhile, prices at the market spiked to historic highs. Many Alexandria residents were forced to cross the river for a better deal as those without passes haggled with local poultry dealers who began selling uncleaned chickens and turkeys by weight.

All over town, residents shared a sense of uneasiness. If you can't beat 'em, many figured, join 'em. So one group formed a new Union Club in September. Members swore an oath of allegiance to the



View of Alexandria showing the military railroad engine barn.

Union, hoping they would be able to acquire legislative control of the city and replace secessionists who held municipal positions. These men were setting the scene for a hostile takeover a few months later, when they would work with Union soldiers to remove all officeholders who refused to take an oath of allegiance and hold elections for mayor, auditor, tax collectors, superintendent of police

and clerk of the market.

"After some discussion, these men resolved to fly American flags over their residences and places of business," wrote Barber. "In spite of this outward display of loyalty, one military official remained unimpressed. Col. George P. McClean of the 88th Pennsylvania talked with many Union men whom he considered 'of the milk and water class.'"



Artist Tory Cowles, left, discusses her art work with Marc and Cindy Huppert at a reception during Second Thursday Art Night at the Torpedo Factory Aug. 11.

PHOTO BY JEANNE THEISMANN/GAZETTE PACKET

Sultry Summer Nights

Cowles closing reception highlights Second Thursday Art Night.

Tory Cowles, the Torpedo Factory Artist of the Year, closed out her featured artist's exhibit with a Champagne and Cupcakes reception Aug. 11 in the Target Gallery as a highlight of the Sultry Summer Nights Second Thursday Art Night.

Live music from the Petrol-Free Gypsy Carnival Tour provided the backdrop as visitors toured the facility, viewed work from the summer's Visiting Artist Program and spoke with Cowles about her exhibit, Tory Cowles: Living LARGE!

"It's been an exciting experi-

ence," Cowles said. "I love interacting with visitors and having the opportunity to talk about my work."

Second Thursday Art Night is a free monthly event held on the second Thursday of each month at the Torpedo Factory Art Center. Visitors are invited to browse open studios, interact with artists and enjoy refreshments while taking part in special monthly programming and activities.

Visit www.torpedofactory.org for more information about Second Thursday Art Night.

— JEANNE THEISMANN



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OPINION

Crazy Week Contested primaries about as comfortable as earthquakes, but with far greater benefit.

A 5.8 earthquake gave the region a shaking up last Tuesday, and while it was mostly harmless, two landmarks, the Washington Monument and the National Cathedral, are still closed.

The quake came amidst primary election day for both Republicans and Democrats, with at least two somewhat unexpected results. It's a sign of health for both parties that candidates are prepared to compete in primary elections.

EDITORIALS

While some have cited the negativity in one of the Democratic primary races, the benefits of contested races outweigh the negatives, especially in districts that lean so heavily to one party, the primary is the election.

(It's true that the vitriolic negativity in the primary for the 31st, carried out via hundreds of thousands of dollars in slick mailers, was an unfortunate introduction for the many voters new to the district.)

But voters in the 30th and 31st Senate districts were offered real choices.

Too often these races involve the anointing of incumbent or heir-apparent who are then practically guaranteed a seat after the general election.

Not this time.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Self-supporting Waterfront Plan

To the Editor:

The Alexandria news this summer is all about the Potomac waterfront. This is good news to all Alexandrians. It is a mystery to many of us why we have not done something about our waterfront before now.

The good news is that there are no groups

The message was that good candidates can rise up and seek election. And the Republican challengers in these two races cannot be counted out, especially Caren Merrick in the 31st.

There were also Republican races for the right to challenge Virginia Senators George Barker, Toddy Puller and Dave Marsden, and Sheriff Stan Barry (D) of Fairfax.

Two Democrats faced off in a very close race

Nuclear Caution, Food for Thought

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission is sending a team to the North Anna nuclear power plant, which shut down during last week's earthquake. The plant, located just 10 miles from the epicenter of Tuesday's 5.8 quake, was reported designed to withstand that magnitude quake and no more, but shaking at the location of the quake might have exceeded that.

The plant could be shut down for six weeks to six months according to a report in the Freelance Star newspaper. North Anna is about

70 miles from our area.

In April, the Surry nuclear plant, about 140 miles away, automatically shut down after losing power when a tornado hit the electrical switchyard next to the plant, reported the Virginia Gazette newspaper. Diesel generators kicked in to provide emergency power.

And then, to complete the week, Hurricane Irene gave the area a power wash.

- MARY KIMM,

MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM,
ON TWITTER @MARYKIMM

opposed to improving the waterfront. There are only differences in how the waterfront should be improved.

Our professional City staff listened to all sides in many meetings over two years. Staff has developed an excellent compromise plan for the waterfront. A compromise that improves the waterfront by adding 5 acres of park land, provides for flood control, and provides access to the waterfront from Jones Point to the most northern point on the Alexandria waterfront.

And the staff has figured out a way to do this with no increases in taxes. At any time this is amazing, but especially in hard economic times like we have today. We should all be commending the staff.

The City's plan recognizes that the warehouses on the waterfront today have by-right zoning to build office complexes. Staff recognized that this is not the best use for the Waterfront. Office buildings, while producing tax revenue, have employees arriving at work in the morning and leaving at night. Small boutique hotels (the city's Waterfront Plan recommends three hotels with 150 rooms each to replace the warehouses) will bring people to the waterfront at various times in the day. The hotels will be a great addition to the existing Torpedo Factory and other businesses that complement the waterfront and will add much to its vibrancy, activity and safety.

The group opposed to the City's plan thinks we should have all park land and museums on the waterfront. They have said they live in Old Town and on the waterfront and need more park land to compensate for small yards. To do this it would be necessary to take \$50 million in assessed property value off of the tax rolls and replace it with additional taxes to pay for the new debt and new operating costs. The group that developed the history plan incorporated into the Waterfront Plan did not recommend a museum on the waterfront because it would compete with the City's existing museums and authentic historic sites.

An idea presented by the group opposed to the City's plan is to find donations to buy the property and create parks and museums. The City estimates this to be \$220 million. Alexandrians are generous — we support the

SEE LETTERS, PAGE 11



PHOTO BY LOUISE KRAFFT/GAZETTE PACKET

Snapshot

4:23 p.m., Aug. 23: The Fairlington Professional Building personnel and visitors were evacuated after a fire alarm went off and waited outside for the fire department to secure the building before returning.

Alexandria Gazette Packet

www.AlexandriaGazette.com

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The view from the top of the Volcán Osorno, an hour north of Puerto Varas, Chile.



The cruise across the Lago Frías, one leg of the "Cruce Andino."

PHOTOS BY ERIC GRESHAM

From Alexandria to Patagonia

BY ERIC GRESHAM

Growing up, non-fiction bored me. I would rather inhabit the worlds passed down to me by my older brother, created by writers such as Edgar Rice Burroughs and Robert E. Howard. I wanted to possess the strength of Tarzan, the spirit of John Carter of Mars, and the mien of Conan the Barbarian.

At St. Stephen's and St. Agnes School in Alexandria, such motivation led me to the football and lacrosse fields, and eventually to the football and lacrosse teams of Yale University. I viewed my time in school as mental and physical preparation for the future, whatever mine would be.

Following my junior year at Yale, for the first time I confronted that future, choosing an internship to prepare me for a career. Not having any true passion, I settled on investment banking. Since I didn't know my purpose, for now I would make as much money as possible.

However, such reasoning could not even last me the two months of my internship. I was incapable of faking the desire to succeed in a world I felt alien in. I finished the



Eric Gresham is a 2007 graduate from St. Stephen's and St. Agnes School in Alexandria and graduated last year from Yale University.

summer sure of one thing: I would not return to New York. It was then I began to search the pages of non-fiction for a life plan my fantastical heroes could not provide.

I came across a book written by Sam Sheridan, titled "A Fighter's Heart." Sheridan quenched his need for adventure by embarking on a worldwide journey learning how to fight, funding his travels through writing. Christopher McCandless, the subject of Jon Krakauer's "Into the Wild," provided me with another example of the avenues of escape from corporate life.

Hungry for adventures of my own, in January of my senior year I accepted a journalism internship at the Patagon Journal, an upcoming magazine about the nature, culture, travel and sports of Patagonia, based in Puerto Varas, Chile. Since my arrival in late June, I have experienced what I once sought in the pages of books.

In preparation for an article on the appeal of Puerto Varas in winter, I snowboarded a volcano and trekked through Patagonian draws in which a machete would have been more appropriate than a hiking stick.

The article also led me to interview a head

manager for Andina del Sud, a Patagonian travel firm, which in turn bought me a ticket on the "Cruce Andino." The trip took me across southern Patagonia's lake regions and the Andes Mountains to Bariloche, Argentina. Unfortunately, on account of a previous lack of snow and the recent eruption of Chile's Volcán Puyehue, the gondolas and ski lifts of one of South America's premier resorts were closed upon my arrival.

But, Bariloche had just received three feet of fresh powder, and I was determined to take advantage. After solo hiking up a mountain for two hours, I found a group of locals doing the same, and four hours later we were skiing down the Andes, enjoying the day as that mountain's creator must have intended.

WHEN VISITING the country's capital of Santiago I have had to chase down pickpockets, and struggle through salsa lessons with a patient Colombian friend in a packed late night bar. In the midst of these experiences, I have met many whose lives of adventure are on a scale far above my own.

Natalia Serna, an American-Colombian currently recording an album in Santiago, has boxcar hopped her way with a group of Mexican teenagers up through Central



The Andean Mountain range.

America to the U.S. border. I was fortunate to see her perform while in Santiago, hearing the translation of her many experiences to verse and guitar.

A friend of Natalia's, Christian, is a political refugee from the Congo, who arrived in Chile to escape the violence that has cost him a family. In Puerto Varas, my editor introduced me to a renegade American, Derek Way, who has been selling home-brewed beer in Chile for the past four years, recently opening a brewery.

However, my time in Patagonia is nearing its end; I will leave the friends I've made and the experiences I've had in August for Buenos Aires, Argentina. I will work at minimum a year for an Argentinian Consulting firm to earn a salary, hopefully continuing to write on the side. I am still searching for my life's purpose, and my restlessness will not end until I find it. The preparation is over; the journey has just begun.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

FROM PAGE 10

Carpenter Shelter, Seaport Foundation, Alexandria Community Trust, Volunteer Alexandria, Girl Scouts, Boy Scouts, Inova, the Campagna Center, the Scholarship Fund and many other good causes — but I don't think there is a rational argument to ask for money to purchase

land when a good self-supporting alternative is available.

When the City deferred the decision on the waterfront, a few Alexandrian's moms, dads, teachers, retirees, historians, boat club members and business owners, went together to form Waterfront4All to provide all Alexandrians with the truth about the

Waterfront Plan.

Our website incorporates plans and drawings from the City's website and provides a section on urban myths. We encourage you to go to our website (www.waterfront4all.org) and sign up to show your support. At the website you can also link to Facebook where you can join

the many others to "like" us.

Founders of Waterfront4All

Dennis Auld, Gina Baum, Murray Bonitt, William Cromley, Lauren Garcia, Charlotte Hall, Lynn Hampton, Jody Manor and Lonnie Rich, Alexandria

SEE LETTERS, PAGE 14

Young At Art: 25 Years of Excellence

BY JANET BARNETT,
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, SENIOR
SERVICES OF ALEXANDRIA



The City of Alexandria has a long tradition of supporting the arts — an attribute greatly cherished by its residents. Part of this community tradition is to ensure Alexandrians of all ages have access to the arts through our schools, recreation centers, nonprofit organizations, neighborhood events, camps, church programs, and more.

Exposure to the arts is a vital experience, and we are lucky that so many city leaders understand that such an experience is necessary for the development of a well-rounded citizen. Art conveys information, emotions, and experiences between people of different cultures, languages and age groups. So it is fitting that an juried art show designed for senior citizens, but available for all to view, is sponsored by Senior Services of Alexandria and the Goodwin House and held at the City's recreation facility for the arts — The Durant Center.

In 1986, the Young At Art juried show was started in the City of Alexandria as a way to highlight the artistic accomplishments, talents, knowledge, and contributions of area artists age 55 and older. This year, cel-

bration of the program's 25th Anniversary brings renewed attention to its original purpose and suggests that such a program could provide further insight into the situation faced by seniors in terms of society and the economy today.

For years, the Retired Seniors Volunteer Program (R.S.V.P.), held the role of primary coordinator for the event. Along with R.S.V.P., many of Alexandria's commissions and civic organizations aided the effort to ensure this event take place, including the Alexandria Commission on Aging, Alexandria Commission for the Arts, The Art League, the Campagna Center, Friends of the Torpedo Factory, Goodwin House Foundation, and Senior Services of Alexandria. In 2008, R.S.V.P. moved to Arlington, and left the Young At Art Show in the capable hands of Senior Services and The Goodwin House.

This year, the two organizations will continue the tradition by co-hosting the 25th Anniversary competition, which opens Monday, Sept. 19. Commenting on the show, the Goodwin House Foundation's Executive Director Jeanne Jacob said, "As proponents of the arts, I get excited each year when older artists submit their work to what has become a prestigious show. We are delighted to give these older artists an opportunity to participate in a juried show."

The 2011 Juror is Carol Lukisch, who is a graduate of the University of Maryland at College Park, recipient of a Fulbright Scholarship in 1996, current curator, art consultant, and artist. Each year, the exhibition receives a large quantity of submissions in a variety of media, including acrylic paint, oil paint, watercolor, mixed media, colored pencil, photography, fiber, wooden sculpture, metal sculpture and more. With the number of works featured in past exhibitions totaling over 60 and entries from artists as old as 90 years, the show is guaranteed to include a wide array of artistic concepts, historic themes, messages, and emotions.

This program provides excellent opportunities for communication, fun, learning and sharing. Our area's older residents have an opportunity to express themselves and tell their stories through art in a friendly, accessible environment, and people of all ages, races, backgrounds, can see how our area's seniors use art to convey how they see the world.

The 25th Anniversary Young At Art exhibition opens on Monday, Sept. 19 at the Durant Center, 1605 Cameron St. in Old Town and continues through Thursday, Nov. 17. An opening reception is scheduled for Thursday, Sept. 22, from 5-7 p.m.

Artists who are 55 years or older are in-

cluded to submit artwork for consideration by the juror. Submissions must be delivered to the Durant Center on Thursday, Sept. 15 between 10 a.m. and noon. The entry fee for up to three works is \$20 and there is a \$5 fee for each additional entry. Cash prizes will be awarded to First Place (\$150), Second Place (\$125), Third Place (\$100). Five honorable mentions certificates will be awarded as well. More information can be found on the Senior Services of Alexandria website at www.seniorservicesalex.org, or by contacting Senior Services of Alexandria at executivedirector@seniorservicesalex.org or 703-836-4414, ext 11, or Jeanne Jacob, executive director of Goodwin House Foundation, at jjacob@goodwinhouse.org or 703-824-1345.

Young At Art always welcomes new collaborators and sponsors. Businesses and organizations interested in sponsoring the 25th Anniversary Young At Art competition should contact Lydia Durand, Development Director of Senior Services of Alexandria at development@seniorservicesalex.org, or 703-836-4414, ext 14.

Senior Services of Alexandria is partnering with the Alexandria Bar Association to present Senior Citizens Law Day on Saturday, Oct. 15, from 9 a.m. to noon at First Baptist Church, 2932 King St. For information, call 703-836-4414, ext. 11.

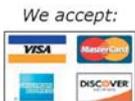


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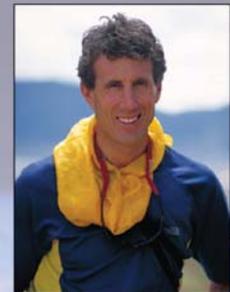
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Photographs by Robert Mackinlay

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11521 Potomac Road, Mason Neck, VA 22079

Waterfront Estate! Escape to Eagles Landing. Luxury Waterfront manor in a country Setting, just 18 miles to DC. Perfect for grand style entertaining & comfortable family living. 11 private acres with 440' of river front. www.MasonNeckHomes.com.
Susan Gray Chambers 703-203-9900



Hallowing Point River Estates \$779,000
5710 River Drive, Mason Neck, VA 22079

Waterfront Setting! Charming/updated on 1 acre with water views. Resort lifestyle bordered by wildlife refuge/trails/river. Minutes to Ft. Belvoir, 30 min to Old Town/DC. 4BR, 3.5BA, main level in-law suite, HOA boat launch/beach/park.
Susan Gray Chambers 703-203-9900



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

Circa 1802, this exceptionally grand 5BR + 5BA home features a 38 ft entrance hall with keystone archway, 12 1/2 foot ceilings, elaborate moldings, original pine floors and 5 fireplaces!
Donnan C. Wintermute 703-518-6156



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

Beautiful nearly new brick 4BR, 4.5BA, colonial w/3 car garage in close-in Mt. Vernon. All the amenities one would expect as well as a wall mounted 61" plasma TV w/sound system and a permanent back-up generator.
Ed Pagett 703-518-6161



Riverside Gardens \$619,000
1905 Old Stage Road, Alexandria, VA 22308

Spacious 5 BR, 3 BA split foyer with new roof. Hardwood floors. Formal living room plus Huge family room downstairs. Tons of storage. Large lot with back deck. Easy commute to GW Pkwy & only 10 min. to Old Town.
Terry Ann Stevens 757-647-4705



Historic Old Town \$2,095,000
608 Oronoco Street, Alexandria, VA 22314

Located across from Lee's boyhood home, rare find exquisite 3,000+sqft, 4 BR, 4.5 BA. Landscaped backyard retreat, garage & 4-car parking. Spectacular addition, kitchen renovation & MBR suite. UphamRealEstate.com.
Chris Upham 202-359-1308

NEW PRICE

River Towers
\$244,000
6621 Wakefield Drive, Unit 408, Alexandria, VA 22307
This lovely 2 bedroom, 1.5 bath condo with a view of the trees and landscaped grounds features a new kitchen, lots of storage, ample parking. Convenient location near shops, restaurants and Old Town. Move in Ready!

Denise Davis 571-332-8531

JUST LISTED

Japonica
\$339,900
6374 Trips Way, Springfield, VA 20150
Wonderful 3 BR townhome, beautiful hardwoods on main level. Master BR with huge walk in closet, dual vanity bath. Rec room, den, full bath on lower. Community pool and walking path to metro. www.sherryork.com.

Sherry York 703-625-3377

JUST LISTED

George Washington Park
\$740,000
605 West View Terrace, Alexandria, VA 22301
Lovely neighborhood, only a few blocks to the King Street Metro. Brick cape cod on large lot with long driveway. Garage, large deck, screened porch, hardwood floors, 2 fireplaces, lovely setting in quiet area. www.sherryork.com.

Sherry York 703-625-3377



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

4 bedroom, 3 bath, 2 car garage boasts new hardwoods, eat in kitchen and fenced flat back yard on a cul de sac. Priced to sell and walking distance to Stratford Landing Elementary!
Bonnie Rivkin 703-598-7788



JUST LISTED

Belle Haven \$799,500
2211 Windsor Road, Alexandria, VA 22307

Exceptional value on this lovely and welcoming home in sought after Belle Haven. 3 bedroom, 2 bath, spacious family room, 2 fireplaces, oversized lot and 2 car garage.
Jeanne VanderMyde Warner 703-980-9106

Old Town
\$1,750,000
611 Cameron Street, Alexandria, VA 22314
Circa 1780 Price reduced on this historic townhouse that once was the home of Robert E. Lee and his family. Currently used as a business and residence in the heart of Old Town, it offers seven parking spaces.

Jeanne VanderMyde Warner 703-980-9106

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



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OPINION

Coal Plant Closing Decision Benefits Residents

BY JIM MORAN
U.S. REPRESENTATIVE (D-8)



Earlier this week, GenOn and the City of Alexandria agreed to close the Potomac River Generating Station. This closure was a long fought but well won victory for the citizens of Alexandria and the nation's capital.

What once was the largest stationary source of air pollution in the region will be no more. Through citizen involvement and committed city officials, the Potomac River Generating Station and its outdated coal-fired boilers were finally held accountable. Forced, as a result of a lawsuit and enforcement of the Clean Air Act to reduce its harmful emissions and scale back its operations, the plant's former operator Mirant and its successor, GenOn, were ultimately unable

to compete with cheaper, cleaner natural gas powered electricity.

Power plants rarely get along with neighboring residents. But the Mirant/GenOn plant was sorely out of place. The facility, built in 1949, saw a commu-

nity build up around it as Alexandria grew and Old Town prospered.

When Mirant filed for bankruptcy in 2003, it was found to be emitting more than twice the amount of nitrogen oxide allowed. Not surprisingly, Alexandria residents, some who lived within 300 yards of the smokestacks, were beginning to feel the effects of harmful emissions: constant headaches, bouts of nausea and difficulty breathing.

The more we learned about what the plant was emitting, the easier it was to con-

nect the dots to the health of Alexandrians. A study revealed that approximately 59 premature deaths, 66 hospitalizations, 870 emergency room visits and over 3,000 asthma attacks annually could be attributed to the plant's release of high levels of sulfur dioxide, nitrogen oxide, volatile organic compounds, acid gases, lead, mercury, carbon monoxide and particulate matter.

Working with an engaged community and a supportive City Council, we pressed the state to more thoroughly analyze emissions from the plant. When the findings were released, they were alarming enough that Mirant "voluntarily" shut down the plant. That closure was, unfortunately, only temporary. In 2009, a new agreement with the City set aside \$34 million to make the plant compliant with lower emission requirements. With \$32 million still in the account and mounting operating losses, GenOn chose to take the money and run.

While this may close a chapter on Alexandria's unwanted neighbor, there are more than 200 power plants across the country exempt from clean air standards like the GenOn plant that continue to operate. These plants, given a regulatory pass under the promise the facilities were at the end of their useful life, continue to operate — despite the threat to the public's health and the environment.

Credit is due to the Alexandria City Council, EPA, advocacy groups, and concerned residents for bringing about this conclusion. Our combined efforts will improve the quality of life for future generations of Alexandria residents and should serve as a model for other communities to follow. The redevelopment of this site should ultimately provide an economic boost for the City, greater waterfront access for all residents, and cleaner air — a win-win for Northern Virginia and the Metro region.

COMMENTARY

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

FROM PAGE 11

Superb Candidates

To the Editor:

I voted in the Democratic primary for State Senate. As I left my polling place, a fellow voter said, "Those are three great candidates. I'd be happy if any of them won."

I want to thank Mr. Ebbin, Ms. Garvey and Mr. Krupicka and their many supporters for their hard work and dedication.

I also want to thank the volunteers who staff the polling places. It is always a thrill to vote; it was privilege to choose among such superb candidates.

Eileen Wallace
Alexandria

Appreciates Support

To the Editor:

I want to thank all of my supporters, volunteers and friends for their tremendous support, generosity, and all the good hard work we poured into this campaign together. While the result was not what we wanted, I think we really built something special over the past eight months. I'm sorry it has to end.

I especially want to thank Patsy Ticer for all her support. Her endorsement and strong support will always be an honor I cherish.

Also I would like to recognize my campaign staff. They ran a campaign we can all be proud of and made it fun at the same time. As they head off to their next jobs, we all wish Max, James and Drew the very best. They will be successful, and getting to know them has been very rewarding indeed.

We all congratulate Del. Adam Ebbin on his big win. I fully endorsed his candidacy when we spoke Tuesday night, and I encour-

age all of you to support him. Adam will be a strong voice in Richmond to stand up for us, and I look forward to working with him and all Democrats through November and beyond to keep the Virginia Senate in Democratic hands.

Finally, I cannot thank everyone enough. I am not sure what the future holds for me, but when one door closes, another always opens. As I continue my work on the Arlington School Board, I treasure the friendships I've made and renewed during this campaign. Please stay in touch.

Libby Garvey

Next Time, Extend Hours

To The Editor:

I am not one to dispute the voting results of the Aug 23 primary for state senator, but I do believe that the earthquake did play a role in affecting the count. Think of the traffic gridlock and the slow pace for Metro riders heading home from work throughout the D.C. region.

And the polls had closed down for a while because of the earthquake and that probably discouraged voters too.

At one point, as I was talking to a representative of the voting registration office, I explained how some voters weren't going back to vote — they just didn't feel up to it after being turned away.

I hope that in the near future if mother nature has such an effect on voting again, that hours would be extended somehow.

With all do respect to our primary winner Adam Ebbin, I believe all candidates may have had more votes than what was counted if the mother nature hadn't decided to step in.

Geri Baldwin
Alexandria

Offense

To the Editor:

Gazette Packet reporter Michael Lee Pope has both my phone number and my email address, so I am surprised and disappointed that he did not call me for comment before reporting as fact the false allegation that I described state senate candidate Libby Garvey as "cancer widow." My father has survived two different kinds of cancer, and my aunt died of cancer. As a former military spouse, I know far too many women who have lost their husbands before their time. I would never engage in the kind of name calling his "On the Campaign Trail" vignette alleges.

Here's the real story: Garvey criticized Rob Krupicka for emphasizing that he was the only candidate in the race with children in public school, bizarrely accusing a profoundly pro-gay public servant of using anti-gay "code words." During a conversation about this via Twitter with Garvey's campaign manager, I noted that Krupicka was merely invoking a relevant aspect of his biography, the same way Adam Ebbin invoked the fact that he is Virginia's only openly gay legislator and Garvey invoked the fact that she is a cancer survivor and a widow. (The Washington Post profile published the very next day even quoted Garvey emphasizing those experiences.) Unfortunately, during the public back-and-forth over Twitter, I accidentally dropped the "and" between two words Garvey herself used throughout the campaign. Moments after I realized my typo, I deleted the tweet, and I later called Garvey to personally apologize for any offense, which was of course unintended.

As an experienced campaign professional, I understand the urge a candidate's supporters may feel to accept rumors and innuendo as fact and as reasons to demonize her opponent's staff. However, the Gazette Packet has a higher obligation to the truth. The next time a salacious tidbit emerges, I

hope your reporter will take a few minutes to find out the whole story, especially when it can affect people's reputations.

Shayna Englin

Lessons from Other Cities

To the Editor:

As a member of Citizens for an Alternative Alexandria Waterfront Plan (CAAWP), I have the privilege of working with Hugh M. Van Horn and other community members on the Other Cities Working Group to investigate riverfront cities in the U.S. and abroad as a resource for optimum redevelopment planning in Alexandria. Wilmington, North Carolina's visionary, long-term plan to transform their waterfront deserves our attention.

The vision plan for Riverwalk, a waterfront-focused development plan that is a work in progress until 2020, is quite inspiring and instructive, with parallels to Alexandria's economic challenges and physical and historic attributes.

The goal is to revitalize the Wilmington business district by recognizing that the waterfront is the draw and capitalizing on the natural attractions of the river that will bring more people to shops, restaurants and businesses in the adjacent business district. The waterfront will feature 12 distinct yet linked parks and open spaces, each with a theme related to history, culture, and art, ie. shipbuilding.

The plan was developed in response to citizen interest in reclaiming the waterfront. The planning process emphasized public/private partnerships to create a "spirit of cooperation" among stakeholders: citizens, city staff, developers, businesses and local

PEOPLE

Colonial Curiosities

Gadsby's Tavern opens its doors.

The spirit of George Washington was everywhere as hundreds of visitors experienced what colonial life was like at Alexandria's five-star 18th century hotel during Gadsby's Tavern Day Aug. 6.

"I love teaching people about history here," said 11-year-old Junior Docent Katherine Detter, who was

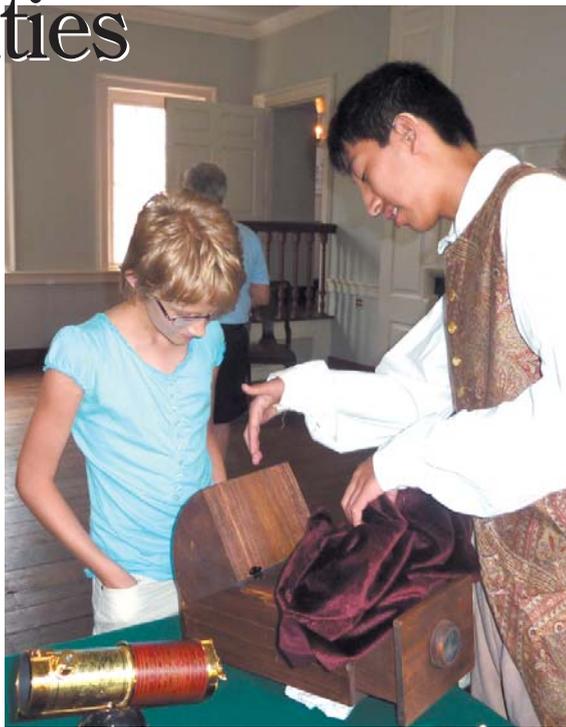


Junior Docents Katherine Detter, 11, and Paige Edwards, 12, volunteer at Gadsby's Tavern during the annual open house Tavern Day Aug. 6.

volunteering during the annual free open house. "This is a lot of fun."

This year's Tavern Day was highlighted by 18th-century science experiments and demonstrations of historical espionage techniques by Project Enlightenment, a student reenactment society from McLean High School.

"What better way to preserve history than to make sure young people are connected to it," said Project Enlightenment founder Dean



Elise Williams, 11, learns about a colonial camera obscura from Ted Lin, a 17-year-old participant in Project Enlightenment, during Tavern Day at Gadsby's Tavern Aug. 6.

Howarth. "Anything that draws people into the history of their neighborhood is time well spent."

For more information on Gadsby's Tavern programs, call 703-746-4242 or visit www.gadsbystavern.org.

— JEANNE THEISMANN

DOG DAYS OF AUGUST

Odes to Dogs Conclude

This week completes the August publication of poems compiled by The Alexandria Commission for the Arts, Alexandria's poet laureate, Amy Young, and the Animal Welfare League of Alexandria.



Capo Is Capricious

Capsizing his dish in the morning, he deigns to eat dry kibble only from the floor.

In the evening, wet is mixed with dry.

He eats politely, then with just as much gentility, asks to go outside.

All day he sleeps in his doughnut bed,

sometimes uncurled, so he looks like something lost at sea

and dragged to shore.

A toy for him is a kerchief or rag, although he is just as likely to go on a wild tear

around the living room as if nothing were there,

(no table no chairs).

He left his blue-ribbon life behind and came to live with us.

Now he's loved five times over, with less than half the fuss.

— AMY YOUNG
ALEXANDRIA CITY
POET LAUREATE

Tiny and Sleepy

Tiny and sleepy he was handed to me,

It was love at first sight, how could this be?

I had vowed to never love another dog I yelled!

After losing my beautiful, beloved Belle.

I looked into his beautiful, brown, bubble eyes,

And I knew that I would love him until the day that I died.

A Napoleon attitude he does maintain,

But honestly, I tell you, it's the way he was trained.

An angel from God he was sent down to me,

The darkest days of my life was just not meant to be.

He's quirky and funny and runs like a deer,

He flies off the bed like Superman with no fear.

Oh yeah, this little dog I do love, And everyday I thank God above!

— DARLENE SPURLOCK

CONNECTION

Photo Galleries

Now! Thousands of pictures of sports, graduations, current events and more—never published, but posted on the Web. Free for evaluation, available for prints.



ConnectionNewspapers.com
Click on "Photo Gallery"

Hadeed Carpet Alexandria West End Art and Wine Festival 2011



October 8-9
10:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m. Sat.
10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Sun.
Cameron Station & Ben Brenman Park

"A Taste of the West End"

Coming This Fall, October 8-9

Park and Shuttle Bus to Ben Brenman Park

- Macy's, Landmark Mall
- Alley Cat Restaurant 2 South Whiting Street
- Dunya Banquet Restaurant 5951 Stevenson Ave.
- Van Dorn Metro



LANDMARK MALL



Alexandria Gazette Packet



West End Event Productions, LLC
www.westendeventproductions.com

Visit
westendartandwinefestival.com
for more information



LONG & FOSTER

OLD TOWN HISTORIC DISTRICT OFFICE



ALEXANDRIA

#1 LONG & FOSTER OFFICE IN VIRGINIA



Managing Broker
Bill Jourdan



1907 Rampart Dr
\$599,000
Stunning Addition!
MOTIVATED SELLER!
One of the most truly spectacular properties in Ft. Hunt area! Exceptionally bright, open floor plan. Back of home was expanded resulting in breathtaking, glass walled, open kitchen/family room and main level master suite. Fabulous features include: updated gourmet kitchen with granite and custom cabinets. Expansive deck! Great location!



4503 Ferry Landing Rd
\$585,000
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!



5421 Grist Mill Woods Way
\$825,000
Modern Home-Magnificent Setting!
Large colonial with bright, open floor plan in prime location on 1/2 acre lot backing to gorgeous parkland. Fabulous home with all the bells and whistles including: high ceilings, dramatic two story foyer, gourmet kitchen, first floor study, large family room, sumptuous master suite, full walk-out lower level and two car garage. Amazingly beautiful, private setting.



\$195,000
Alexandria South BELLE VIEW
2BR/1BA in secure bldg. Green views from all windows. First Floor Unit w/nice sunlight/exposure. Located near GW Pkwy & within walking distance to shops, dining, Mt Vernon Trail, Marina, Rec Center, Library & mins to Old Town & Metro. Fr: Old Town Alex, GW Pkwy South, 2 mi, R Belle View, L 10th St to 6616 Unit # A1. Call...



Margaret Ruhe 703.599.7527



OPEN SUNDAY 1 - 4!
\$529,000
Alexandria 5465 PATUXENT KNOLL PL.
4 level, 4BR/3.5BA, 2 car garage end unit TH. Excellent Alexandria location, only mins to everything. Hrdwd flrs thru-out main lvl, many windows, family & rec rms. DIR: 395 W Edsall Rd, R Cherokee, L Patuxent Knoll, R Patuxent Vista Dr, R Chieftan, R then L on Patuxent Knoll last house on L.



Randy Bender 703.906.1749



OPEN SUNDAY 1 - 4
\$724,900
Waynewood 1012 CROTON DR GREAT ATTENTION TO DETAIL
• 5 Fin. lvs/2500 SF
• New Baths * windows
• 5 Skylights
• New Roof/Dual Zone



Martine Irmmer 703.346.7283



3718 Carriage House Ct
\$719,000
Riverwood Opportunity!
Spacious 5 bedroom home on quiet cul-de-sac in prestigious waterfront community. 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!



8313 Mount Vernon Hwy
\$749,000
New Home-Resale Price!
Brand new home opportunity in prime Mt. Vernon location by Wakefield Homes. Custom building with many modern amenities and upgrades. Features include: expanded master bedroom suite, front porch, gourmet kitchen, high ceilings, 2 car garage. Pre-construction sales price provides unique opportunity to purchase brand new home for the same price as a 40 year old resale! Model available to walk through by appointment.



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, four spacious bedrooms, bright updated kitchen, first floor family room and oversized 2 car garage. Unique Opportunity!



NEW PRICE!
\$220,000
Alexandria "BEST VALUE IN PARKFAIRFAX"
For those seeking value, this is it! Roomy 1 bedroom in lovely setting, features private foyer entry, fresh designer paint thru-out, new lighting, brand new energy efficient window w/custom trim, & new HVAC units. Kitchen has new flooring, counters, lighting & more. Private attic storage & lots of closets & washer/dryer.



Norma Stratton 703.966.0756



\$549,000
Nethergate "COMMUTER'S DREAM"
Turn-Key . . . Best floor plan in neighborhood, updated kit, 2 FP, vaulted ceiling in master bedroom suite, private backyard, ample parking, hardwoods, home warranty, walking distance to 2 Metros and more!



The Kohler Team Heidi 703.609.7367 & Elke 703.967.7633



NEW PRICE!
\$995,000
Porto Vecchio "WATER VIEWS"
Every room has Potomac River views in this elegant 3BR, 4BA home. Spacious balcony, updated BAs & kit w/ granite, SS & bamboo flrs plus new carpet & paint. His & her master baths. Garage parking. Walk to Old Town, 24 hr security, Limo service, Pool, Tennis and more!



Jennifer Collier 703.966.1810



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 Waynewood School Dist. Priced thousands below other new homes in area! (Pic is similar home)



4002 Belle Rive Terr.
\$879,900
Stately Colonial - Near River
Classic Brick Colonial, custom built in prestigious Belle Rive neighborhood of many \$1,000,000+ properties. Truly special home with many features: elegant trim detail, updated, "state of the art" kitchen, 5BRs & fin LL. Gorgeous setting on 1/2 acre grounds w/ views of river. Uniquely attractive property in premiere location. Priced to make a TRULY GREAT VALUE!



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



\$525,000
Old Town "GREAT PLACE"
Sunny & bright 2BR/2BA condo in desirable Tannery House. Amenities include: Hrdwd flrs, Wood burning FP ("As Is" never been used), 21' covered balcony, built-in bookcases, storage unit & 2 assign. prkg space, walk to everything. Virginia Jacob Owner/Agent



Virginia Jacob & Suzanne Backus 703.338.3594



NEW PRICE!
\$334,900
Alexandria "STORYBOOK PERFECT"
. . . inside & out! Enchanting Garden! 2 Master Suites, one w/a balcony and one w/a sitting room. Lower level has sep entrance & full bath for use as another bedroom. LR has fireplace, DR has big bay window. Big laundry room with storage area. Close to Metro, on bus line, walk to many shops.



June Sherwood 703.346.3029



\$480,000
Parker Gray Historic District "ENDLESS POSSIBILITIES"
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
Richard Webber 703.518.8448



2005 Westfield St
SOLD!
1906 Joliette Ct



1203 Falster Rd
SOLD!
8320 Felton Ln



2205 Basset St
\$665,000
Total
Renovation- Price to Sell!
Price slashed
CONTRACT!
for immediate sale! Seller's loss is your gain!



SPECIAL OPEN HOUSE
Wed / Sept 7th 5-7pm
\$899,000
Arlington 6136 35th STREET N
A delightful screened porch offers views of expansive deck & lovely landscaped garden. Cozy FP in LR & FR boasts a workout space, a wet bar & a gathering area. 2 Mstr suites on UL + 2BR on main floor. 2 car garage.



Katherine Ward 703.627.8782
Stephen Kindrick 703.518.8709



\$194,500
The Jefferson "SENIOR LIVING AT ITS BEST"
Enjoy your 2BR/2BA apartment in this luxury building in Arlington (must be 55+ to purchase). Spacious balcony, w/southeast exposure overlooks a nicely landscaped courtyard. Monthly fee covers so much more! Walk to Ballston shops & restaurants. Please call for more information...



Anne Hambley 703.946.7266



OPEN SUNDAY 1-4
\$449,000
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!



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Sean Satkus 703.731.8086



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www.OldTownAlexandria.com



HURRICANE IRENE

Before ...



Starbucks at the corner of King and S. Union Streets.



Virtue prepares for a Hurricane party.



PHOTOS BY LOUISE KRAFT/CAZETTE PACKET



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Will Edwards collects a few sandbags in a wagon along with other residents in preparation for the storm at the corner of King and N. Lee Streets.

... During ...



Deputy Sheriff Isidoro Battle kept busy checking out identifications of citizens lined up for the city's sandbags.



The Sheriff's Inmate Work Detail jumped into preparations to meet Hurricane Irene. The inmates filled 2,150 bags Friday and Saturday, each weighing 40 pounds.



Irene left lots of broken tree limbs, leaves and trash and the Sheriff's Inmate Work Detail was there cleaning up the mess.



The hurricane fills boats along the waterfront.



NBC correspondent Luke Russert and a camera crew take shelter from Hurricane Irene between live reports from the Alexandria City Dock Aug. 27.



BY JEANNE THEISMANN/CAZETTE PACKET

Republican 30th Senate District candidate Tim McGhee, left, talks with Enrique Sanchez at the City Dock as Hurricane Irene approaches the area Aug. 27.

... After



Cameron Mills Drive at Enderby on Sunday morning.



Enderby Drive on Sunday morning after Irene swept through.



PHOTO BY RICK DORMAN

A tree struck both a car and a home in the Beverley Hills neighborhood.

Keira Moran Keeps the Melody Going

Local teenage singer-songwriter garners acclaim across the country.

BY ADAM BASILE
GAZETTE PACKET

Keira Moran is like any other 16-year-old girl. She's in the band at T.C. Williams High School; she goes to the Titans' football games, and she likes listening to superstar, singer-songwriter Taylor Swift.

But, unlike most other teenage Swift fans, Keira is also a prolific singer-songwriter.

Keira, who is the granddaughter of U.S. Rep. Jim Moran, recently entered two songwriting competitions: the 2011 Smashtunes online contest and the Kauai Music Festival competition.

Keira won the Smashtunes online contest that required entrants to submit a YouTube video of a song that they had written; site-goers then voted on the videos that they liked the most.

The contest began April 26, but Keira did not enter her video until June 1. When she entered, she had no idea that the contest was already

half over.

Even though the other videos had had a head start, she was still able to garner enough support to advance through all five rounds and win the contest.

As a prize, she was granted an all-expenses-paid trip to the Kauai Music Festival competition. When she got there, she discovered that many of the participants were "serious people with some serious voices." The festival gave Keira an opportunity to work with experts from the music business.

While in Kauai, she was able to collaborate with pop songwriter Jason Blume, who had worked with Britney Spears and the Backstreet Boys. Working with Blume, Keira learned about "different aspects of songwriting, melody and rewriting a song — you want to go back and make [your songs] edgier."

"The competition was only a small part of [the festival,]" said Keira. But in this brief competition, she excelled. Of the 200-plus contestants that entered, she advanced to be one



Keira Moran performs "This Night," a single from her upcoming album.

of seven finalists.

According to Keira, the other finalists' songs covered all genres, and each song was better than the next.

"There were even some American Idol contestants who entered and didn't make it to the finals," she said.

After her performance in Kauai, Keira received several compliments from significant members of the music industry.

Songwriter BC Jean, who wrote

Beyonce's "If I Were a Boy," offered "really warm and really heartfelt" praise, and music developer Judy Stakey "really liked my voice."

This approval from industry professionals gave her an additional boost in confidence.

"It meant so much," said Keira. "They just have really great advice. The fact that they heard my stuff and were impressed meant a lot to me."

KEIRA BEGAN taking piano lessons when she was about 4 years old. She began performing at piano recitals soon after that.

She went on to join the school orchestra in fourth grade. Since then, she has performed in a variety of piano recitals, orchestral concerts, dance recitals and musicals.

While she had playfully written a few melodies growing up, it wasn't until a year ago that she started writing music seriously.

"I almost always start from melodies," Keira said, "...the lyrics are harder. The lyrics and the melody

really have to match."

Keira added that her music is inspired by her life experiences. "You don't talk about your personal life, you write about it," she said, which is a mantra that she borrows from Taylor Swift.

Keira first started to gain notoriety by playing her songs at charity events and galas.

She performed at venues and events all over Northern Virginia, including the Del Ray Music Festival, the National Children's Museum Benefit, the Chamber Orchestra Quintet Showcase at the Lyceum and the 20-Year Anniversary Congressional Gala.

Keira has been recording six songs for her new album. She left for Nashville on Aug. 16, where she worked with producer Jeff Dayton. She says that the album will have nine to 10 songs in total.

Keira's father, James Moran, approves of his daughter's responsible approach to her singing career. "For a 16-year-old, she's looking at it pretty maturely."

Keira says that she's "always going to be writing and performing. I'm taking it one step at a time."

Alexandria Welcomes Top Ranked Art Festival

Eclectic Mix of Artwork - Live Music - Interactive Art Activities

SEPT. 10-11

King Street Festival of the Arts. Saturday 10 a.m. to 7 p.m., Sunday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Free. For two days King Street from Washington Street to the waterfront is transformed into an outdoor art gallery with original fine artwork by more than 200 artists from the U.S. and abroad. Find paintings, life-size sculptures, photography, glass, wood, jewelry, collage, and more. The "Alexandria Art Experience" features artist-led, hands-on, creative activities, and an Ice Cream Bowl Fundraiser, presented by The Art League and the Torpedo Factory Art Center. Visit AlexandriaVA.com - 703-746-3301 or www.artfestival.com - 561-746-6615. Free.

SEPT. 10-11

Alexandria Art Experience. Saturday 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Sunday 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Near Market Square, 301 King St., Alexandria. Visit www.VisitAlexandriaVA.com. The Art League and the Torpedo Factory Art Center present the "Alexandria Art Experience," a village at the Alexandria Festival of the Arts. Through artist-led, hands-on, creative activities, and a ceramics fundraiser these tents share the enriching experience of the arts community in Alexandria. The Ice Cream Bowl Fundraiser supporting The Art League Ceramics Department is a delicious way to support the arts. Select and purchase a unique handmade ceramic bowl created by the talented artists of The Art League's Ceramics Department and get a bowl of artisan ice cream from ACKC Cocoa Bar of Alexandria's Del Ray neighborhood.

SATURDAY/SEPT. 10

Art Activated. Noon to 4 p.m. At the Torpedo Factory Art Center, 105 N. Union St., Alexandria. Visit www.TorpedoFactory.org; 703-838-4565. Visual art comes alive at the Torpedo Factory during the Alexandria Festival of the Arts! At this fifth-annual event, stop by the Art Lounge to cool off from the street fair and rejuvenate with refreshments. Artist demonstrations will include pottery on the wheel, fiber art, sculpture, and more. Get creative with hands-on projects including the Bubble Gum Art, a Create Your Own Button Project, and a large-scale collaborative Mystery Sculpture. Win big with a Q-ART Code Scavenger Hunt. The scavenger hunt will begin at the Alexandria Art Experience booth at Market Square.



SATURDAY/SEPT. 10

Autumn Serenade on Market Square. 5 to 7 p.m. At Market Square, 301 King St., Alexandria. Visit www.ArtsKaleidoscope.com. Presented by the Alexandria Singers, the Washington area's "Premier Pops Chorus," this concert features exciting selections of American popular music, including Broadway, film, jazz and pop; from Sinatra's "Come Fly With Me" to Toto's

"Africa!" Engaging choreography and accompanying instrumentalists are hallmarks of the Singers. The Singers welcome featured guests in this performance, including ensembles from the Alexandria Harmonizers and DC's Singing Capital Chorus, two of the area's top a cappella organizations, as well as Karen Reedy Dance. The show is part of Kaleidoscope, a celebration of visual and performing arts from Labor Day

to Halloween presented by the Alexandria Arts Forum and Access through the Arts.

SEPT. 10-11

Children in the Churchyard. 1 to 4 p.m. At Christ Church, 118 N. Washington St. Alexandria. Visit www.VisitAlexandriaVA.com; 703-549-1450. Historic Christ Church presents family friendly activities, rest area and moon bounce.

FINE ARTS

SEPT. 1 TO OCT. 30

"Diptychs, Triptychs & Tetrptychs." Art work by Maggie Stewart in the Printmakers Inc. Studio #325 at the Torpedo Factory Art Center, 105 N. Union St., Alexandria. Call 703-683-1342 or www.tfpi.org.

Work by Maggie Stewart



FRIDAY/SEPT. 2

Retakes and Transformations. 7 p.m. Art from everyday life. Runs through Oct. 2. At the Del Ray Artisans Gallery, 2704 Mount Vernon Ave., Alexandria. Visit www.TheDelRayArtisans.org

NOW THROUGH SEPT. 4

The Power of Color

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

SEPT. 7 TO OCT. 2

"Suburbia." A collection of impressionistic oil paintings by Parisa Tirnaz. Artist's Reception is Saturday, Sept. 10 from 5 to 8 p.m. At Gallery West, 1213 King St., Old Town Alexandria. Visit www.gallery-west.com or call 703-549-6006.

THURSDAY/SEPT. 8

2nd Thursday Art Night. 6 to 9 p.m. Free. Fall for the Arts Browse Open Studios, interact with artists. Also the Art League School's Life Size Papier-Mâché class, led by TFAA artist Lisa Schumaier, from the "Summer's Tide" exhibition, Site 2 & 3 Galleries. At the Torpedo Factory Art Center, 105 N. Union St., Alexandria. Visit www.torpedofactory.org; 703-838-4565.

SEPT. 8 - OCT. 3

Red Dots: Drawings by Shanthi Chandrasekar.

Opening meet-the-artist reception is Thursday, Sept. 8 from 6:30 to 8 p.m. At the Art League Gallery in the Torpedo Factory, Old Town Alexandria.

NOW THROUGH 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.

SEPT. 16 TO OCT. 30

"Chaos Matters." Works by J. Jordan Bruns. Opening reception Saturday, Sept. 17 from 5 to 7 p.m. Artist's talk at 6 p.m. At the Schlesinger Center Margaret W. & Joseph L. Fisher Gallery, Northern Virginia Community College, Alexandria.

NOW THROUGH SEPT. 25

So Yoon Lym: The Dreamtime. Artist uses hair and braid styles to make statement about immigration and diversity. Reception and artist talk on Sept. 8 from 6 to 8 p.m. At the Target Gallery at the Torpedo Factory Art Center, 105 N. Union St., Alexandria. Visit www.torpedofactory.org/target.

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. 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.

NOW THROUGH OCT. 2

Shades of Fall. At the Torpedo Factory Center's Scope Gallery. Hours are Monday through Sunday from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., with Thursdays until 9 p.m. At 105 North Union Street, ground floor Studio 19, Alexandria. Call Scope Gallery at 703-548-6288 or visit www.torpedofactory.org/galleries/scope.

NOW THROUGH OCT. 3

"Forgotton" and "Off Season." Works by photographers Sandy LeBrun-Evans and Eric Jonson. At Multiple Exposures Gallery, Suite 312, Torpedo Factory Art Center. Call 703-683-2205.

OCT. 5 TO 31

Kimberley Bush, Ceramist. Reception is Saturday, Oct. 8 from 6 to 10 p.m. At Gallery West, 1213 King Street, Old Town Alexandria. Visit www.gallery-west.com or call 703-549-6006.

The Twig's Historic Alexandria Homes Tour on Sept. 24

The Twig, the Junior Auxiliary of Inova Alexandria Hospital, is having its 70th Annual Historic Alexandria Homes Tour & Marketplace on Saturday, Sept. 24 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Six private residences and gardens in Old Town will be open to the general public. One of the homes featured on the tour is Duvall's Tavern where a reception for Gen. George Washington was held Dec. 31, 1783, after he resigned his commission as Commander-in-Chief of the Continental Army. From 1963-1990 the house was designer Frankie Welch's store, design studio, and family home.

The Marketplace will be held at the Old Presbyterian Meeting House, 316 South Royal Street, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and will feature gifts, home décor, jewelry and beautifully handcrafted works by local artists. Light refreshments can also be purchased at the Marketplace on the day of the tour.

The Honorary Co-Chairs for this year are celebrated Chef Cathal Armstrong and his wife, Meshelle. The Armstrongs own Restaurant Eve, The Majestic, Eamonn's, PX and the newly opened Virtue Feed & Grain.

Tickets can be purchased in advance for \$35. To purchase tickets online, visit www.thetwig.org. Tickets may be purchased at The Ramsay House Visitors Center, 221 King Street and The Twig Thrift Shop, 106 North Columbus Street. On tour day, the ticket price is \$40 and may be purchased at the above locations, at the Old Presbyterian



Meeting House, and at any of the tour homes marked by the Twig Pineapple.

All proceeds will go towards The Twig's most recent pledge, The Twig Surgical Center. Since its founding in 1933, The Twig has raised over \$2.5 million dollars for hospital projects and programs.

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Annapolis, MD

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~OLD TOWN~ WATERFRONT

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ENJOY ART, FAMILY FUN & MUSICAL ENTERTAINMENT

SUNDAY ♦ SEPTEMBER 11

AT ALEXANDRIA CITY MARINA, LOCATED BEHIND THE TORPEDO FACTORY ART CENTER

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- The Art League
- Alexandria Seaport Foundation
- Alexandria Archaeology

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Gazette Packet
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ENTERTAINMENT

NOW TO OCT. 31

Alexandria Arts and Crafts Fair. 11

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

NOW TO 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). Visit www.MountVernon.org or call 703-780-2000.

NOW THRU OCT. 31

Art Show and Sale. Sponsored by the Springfield Art Guild and the Friends of Green Spring Park. Opening reception is Sunday, Sept. 11 from 1 to 3 p.m. At Green Spring Gardens Park, 4603 Green Spring Road, Alexandria. Call 703-642-5173.

THURSDAY/SEPT. 1

Concert on the Lawn. Free with \$5 suggestion. 6 p.m. and 7:20 p.m. Scottish Roots concert with The Devil's Tailors combining instrumental dance sets with Scots and Gaelic song. At Carlyle House, 121 N. Fairfax St., Alexandria.

SEPT. 1 TO 5

Abbey Road on the River. Beatles Tribute Festival with 50 bands from around the world. A highlight will be the full reenactment of the soundtrack album LOVE, which was produced as a re-mix of over 130 Beatles songs for the Cirque Du Soleil show. The LOVE concert, presented by Gretsch Guitars, will take place on Saturday, Sept. 3 at 8:30 p.m. and feature 34 performers. At the Gaylord National Resort and Convention Center, National Harbor in Maryland. Also a fund-raiser for the American Red Cross. Visit www.abbeyroadontheriver.com.

FRIDAY/SEPT. 2

Big Chalk Draw. 8 to 10 a.m. Free. Bring any new school supplies you are able to donate to students in need in the area. At Art at the Center, 2804 Sherwood Hall Lane, Alexandria.

SATURDAY/SEPT. 3

Community Yard Sale. 7 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Seller set-up from 6 to 7 a.m. Cost is \$15/space for sellers. Sponsored by the Alexandria Junior Chamber of Commerce (Jaycees). Sellers may sell anything legal (appliances, clothing, toys, books, etc.) except for food and drinks. Go to www.alexjaycees.org for directions, other dates, registration information, and seller rules. At Anthony Lane Elementary School, 7137 Beulah Street, Alexandria. Call 703-866-7171.

Historic Downspouts Lecture. 10 a.m. Archaeologist Mark Michael Ludlow will present "The Mid-Nineteenth Century Decorative Cast Iron Downspouts of Old Town Alexandria: Decorative and Functional Architectural Statements of Social Status and Their Connection to the Two T.W. & R.C. Smith Foundries, the Early Hugh Smith Family, and Alexandria's Early Locomotive Manufacturers." At The Athenaeum, 201 Prince Street, Alexandria. To make a reservation, contact Paul Nasca at Alexandria Archaeology at paul.nasca@alexandriava.gov or 703-746-4399.

Alexandria Art Market. 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. The market boasts amazing artwork from local artists, music from multicultural musicians and great food from local restaurants. At Colasanto Park in the heart of Del Ray. Free and open to public. www.TheDelRayArtisans.org or DRA.AlexandriaArtMarket@gmail.com to apply.

SUNDAY/SEPT. 4

Civil War Sunday. 1 to 5 p.m. Explore the Civil War in Alexandria with Civil War Sundays at the Alexandria Archaeology Museum, 105 North Union Street, #327. Visit



SEPT. 10 AND 11

Alliance for Liberty: Military Encampment. Saturday and Sunday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. In September 1781, General Washington and French general Rochambeau traveled to Mount Vernon and created a bold strategy which led to the siege of British forces at Yorktown. In commemoration of the 230th anniversary of this historic visit, Mount Vernon will come alive with hundreds of Revolutionary War reenactors, including "General Washington" and "General Rochambeau." Alliance For Liberty: Military Encampment is included in regular Estate admission: adults, \$15; children ages 6-11, \$7; and children under 5 are admitted free. At Historic Mount Vernon.

Ray's Art on the Avenue, West End Art & Wine Festival, the Alexandria Film Festival, and dozens more. www.VisitAlexandriaVA.com; 703-746-3301.

SEPT. 5 TO OCT. 31

Kaleidoscope. An initiative of the Alexandria Arts Forum and Access through the Arts, focusing on visual and performing arts in Alexandria from Labor Day to Halloween. Enjoy theater, music and dance performances as well as art exhibitions at locations throughout the city. Dates and admission prices vary.

www.ArtsKaleidoscope.com or www.ArtsEventsAlexandria.com

TUESDAY/SEPT. 6

Author Ted Pulliam. 6 to 8 p.m. Bringing the Past Alive: Writing Alexandria History. Part of a Salon-Style Series celebrating culture through arts, literature and history discussions. At Morrison House, 116 South Alfred Street, Alexandria. Visit www.morrisonhouse.com or call 703-838-8000.

WEDNESDAY/SEPT. 7

Square Dance Lessons. 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. Sponsored by Boomerangs Square Dance Teaching Council. At Lincolnia Center, 4710 North Chambliss St., Alexandria. Alexandria. Call Nancy at 703-573-8378 or email tom.nancystafford@cox.net.

THURSDAY/SEPT. 8

2nd Thursday Art Night. 6 to 9 p.m. Free. Fall for the Arts Browse Open Studios, interact with artists. Also the Art League School's Life Size Papier-Mâché class, led by TFAA artist Lisa Schumaier, from the "Summer's Tide" exhibition, Site 2 & 3 Galleries. At the Torpedo Factory Art Center, 105 N. Union St., Alexandria. Visit www.torpedofactory.org; 703-838-4565.

Stars & Stripes: A Police & Firefighters Tribute. 6 to 9 p.m. Cost is \$40/person. Outstanding police, firefighters, and EMTs will be honored. At Belle Haven Country Club, 6023 Fort Hunt Road, Alexandria. Call 703-360-6925 or visit www.MtVernon-LeeChamber.org

Isabella Perelman. 7 p.m. Tickets are \$10. Part of the Second Thursday Music at The Athenaeum, 201 Prince St., Alexandria. Visit nvfaa.org or call 703-548-0035.

Fashion's Night Out Plus. 6 to 11 p.m. Catering to the Plus Size Community. At BeautyFull Boutique, 118 N. Fayette St., Alexandria. Visit <http://www.fnoplus.com>.

FRIDAY/SEPT. 9

9-11 Remembrance Ceremony. Noon. The City of Alexandria will hold a 10th anniversary of the events of Sept. 11, 2011. The ceremony will feature remarks from Alexandria Mayor William D. Euille, Alexandria Sheriff Dana Lawhorne, Police Chief Earl L. Cook, and Fire Chief Adam K. Thiel. The purpose is to give thanks and pay tribute to those who responded on 9-11. At Market Square, 301 King St., Alexandria.

SEPT. 9, 10, 11

Book Sale Blast. Friday, Sept. 9 from 10:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.; Saturday, Sept. 10 from 10:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.; Sunday, Sept. 11 from 1:15 to 4:30 p.m. Members-only preview Thursday, Sept. 8 from 4 to 8:30 p.m.

Kids events on Saturday, Sept. 10!

♦ 10:15 to 11 a.m.: "Singing Books with Emily" with Children's Author Emily Leatha Everson.

www.alexandriarchaeology.org or call 703-746-4399.

MONDAY/SEPT. 5

Good Shepherd's International Festival.

12 to 6 p.m. Listen to live multicultural music, indulge in ethnic cuisine, peruse local artisans and shop in a huge indoor yard sale, all the while waiting for your chance to win \$10,000 cash grand prize raffle drawing. Children will enjoy kids' games and rides while parents eat, dance, and shop.

<http://www.gs-cc.org/getinvolved-intlfestival.php> At the church at 8710 Mount Vernon Highway, Alexandria.

SEPT. 5 TO NOV. 6

Alexandria's Fall Arts Jubilee.

Colorful spectrum of events celebrating the arts includes the King Street Festival of the Arts, Del

ENTERTAINMENT

FROM PAGE 22

- ❖ 11 to 11:45 a.m.: Jane Harrington shares her book *Extreme Pets* and shows a pet or two.
 - ❖ 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.: Face-Painting with "Heavenly Face Designs" and "Cheeky Faces".
 - ❖ 1 to 2:30 p.m.: Lisa the Unicycle Lady and her "Wheely Wacky Circus Show".
 - ❖ 2:45 to 3:45 p.m.: Mr. Don and his amazing "Children's Music Show".
- At the Beatley Library, 5005 Duke Street, Alexandria. Call 703-746-1702.

SATURDAY/SEPT. 10

- Bake Sale.** 8 a.m. until sold out. All proceeds benefit INOVA Alexandria Hospital Surgical Services. At Fairlington United Methodist Church, 3900 King St., Alexandria.
- Community Fun Fair.** 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Games, prizes, gifts, dunk tank, moon bounce, face painting, cake walk, great food, popcorn, candied apples, cotton candy, music and more. Free health screening. Sponsored by Woodlawn United Methodist Church at Faith United Methodist Church, 7010 Harrison Lane, Alexandria. Visit www.woodlawn-umc.org. Contact: Rhona Powell at 703-360-9450.

Rock and Stroll to End Homelessness. 12:30 to 3 p.m. Event includes Help the Homeless Mini-Walk, BBQ lunch with entertainment by bluegrass sensation "Frank Solivan and Dirty Kitchen", and games for all ages. Benefits six local nonprofit service providers — ALIVE!, Arlington-Alexandria Coalition for the Homeless, Carpenter's Shelter, Community Lodgings, New Hope Housing, and Wesley Housing. Registration: \$20 for youth to age 25 and \$30 for adults. Sponsored by Acacia Federal. At Cameron Run Regional Park, 4001 Eisenhower Ave., Alexandria. Visit www.wesleyhousing.org/RockStroll.htm

Washington Balalaika Society. 7:30 p.m. Tickets are \$20. Presents An Ensemble of Russian folk instruments. At the Lyceum, 201 S. Washington St., Alexandria. Visit www.balalaika.org. Call 703-549-0760.

Civil War Fashion Show. 10:30 a.m. Admission is \$10/adults; \$5/children. The Carlyle House terrace will be transformed into a runway as fashion historians and living history interpreters describe the various styles and types of clothing



Pianist Robert Wyatt

SUNDAY/SEPT. 11

Spacious Skies: A Remembrance. A piano recital on the 10-year Anniversary of 9/11. Steinway artist Robert Wyatt takes us on a musical journey, from the works of Schumann and Schubert to Scott Joplin and George Gershwin. Suggested donation \$20. At The Lyceum, 201 S. Washington St., Alexandria.

- the models are wearing. At 121 N. Fairfax St., Alexandria. Reservations recommended, call 703-549-2997 or e-mail carlyle@nvrpa.org.
- "The Will to Survive."** 4:30 p.m. Part of Movies with a Mission Series. At the Alexandria Black History Museum, 902 Wythe St., Alexandria. Call 703-746-4356 or visit www.alexblackhistory.org.
- Toastmasters Open House.** 8 to 10 a.m. Learn public speaking and leadership skills in a fun self-paced environment. At the United Baptist Church of Annandale, 7100 Columbia Pike, Annandale. Visit <http://guts.freetoasthost.us>
- St. Luke's Episcopal Craft and Family Fun Fair.** 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Listen to music by local talent as you peruse unique arts and crafts created by the dozens of artisans and crafters. Sample pies, cakes and other delectables made

by the congregation's finest bakers, and stay for lunch — a hamburger or hot dog from the grill — while children enjoy games, face-painting and other festivities. Contact event cochairman Anne Hargrove at annehargrove@cox.net. At the church at 8009 Fort Hunt Road, Alexandria.

Art Activated. Noon to 4 p.m. Step inside from the street fair and let your creative side play at this 5th annual event. Visual art comes alive with artist demonstrations and interactivity. At the Torpedo Factory Art Center, 105 N. Union St., Alexandria. Visit www.TorpedoFactory.org; 703-838-4565.

Autumn Serenade. 5 to 7 p.m. Presented by the Alexandria Singers, this concert features selections of American popular music, including Broadway, film, jazz and pop; from Sinatra's "Come Fly With Me" to Toto's "Africa!" At Market Square, 301 King St., Alexandria. Visit www.ArtsEventsAlexandria.com.

Ice Cream Social. 2 to 5 p.m. Free. Sponsored by MVDDC. Sponsorships are available at the following levels: One Scoop (\$25); Two Scoops (\$50); Three Scoops (\$60); Banana Split (\$100); Ice Cream Cake (\$200). At 8146 Wellington Road, Alexandria.

SEPT. 10 AND 11

Alliance for Liberty: Military Encampment.

Saturday and Sunday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. In September 1781, General Washington and French general Rochambeau traveled to Mount Vernon and created a bold strategy which led to the siege of British forces at Yorktown. In commemoration of the 230th anniversary of this historic visit, Mount Vernon will come alive with hundreds of Revolutionary War re-enactors, including "General Washington" and "General Rochambeau." Alliance For Liberty: Military Encampment is included in regular Estate admission: adults, \$15; children ages 6-11, \$7; and children under 5 are admitted free. At Historic Mount Vernon.

Children in the Churchyard. 1 to 4 p.m. Historic Christ Church presents family friendly activities, rest area and moon bounce. At Christ Church, 118 N. Washington St. Alexandria. Visit www.VisitAlexandriaVA.com; 703-549-1450

Alexandria Festival of the Arts. Free.

Saturday, Sept. 10 from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m.; Sunday, Sept. 11 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Featuring 200 artists offering an eclectic mix of artwork, live music and interactive art activities. Also featuring an Ice Cream Bowl Fundraiser presented by The Art League and the Torpedo Factory Art Center. Located in Old Town, on Historic King Street from Washington Street to the Potomac River waterfront. Navigational address: 480 King Street, Alexandria. Visit www.artfestival.com or www.VisitAlexandriaVA.com or call 561-746-6615.

MONDAY/SEPT. 12

The Wrongers with Jimmie Dale Gilmore. 7:30 p.m. With a focus on classic songs with heirloom music. At The Birchmere in Alexandria.

SEPT. 12 THROUGH DEC. 19

Tavern Toddlers. Mondays between 10:30 a.m. and noon. Cost is \$7/group of three. A five-visit pass is \$30. A weekly open playtime and a new craft activity each week. At Gadsby's Tavern Museum, 134 North Royal St., Old Town Alexandria. Call 703-746-4242 or visit www.gadsbystavern.org.

SEPT. 13, 20, 27

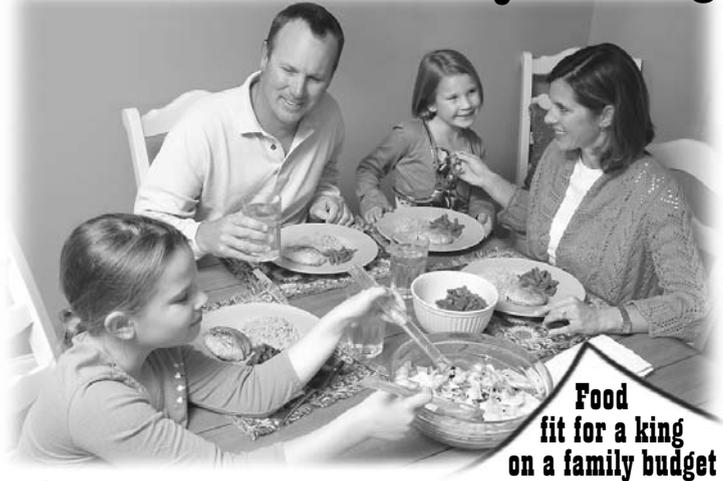
Open auditions for all voice parts with the Alexandria Singers are being held on Sept. 13, 20 and 27. Contact audition@alexandriasingers.com for an appointment, or call 703-941-SING. Visit www.alexandriasingers.com.

TUESDAY/SEPT. 13

Mediaeval Baebes. UK's number one selling classical vocal group. At The Birchmere, 3701 Mount Vernon Ave., Alexandria. Visit www.birchmere.com.

Foster Parent Orientation. 6 to 7:30 p.m. The City of Alexandria will hold a free, no obligation information session for prospective foster parents. An agency representative will be on hand to answer any questions. At Beatley Library, 5005 Duke Street, Alexandria. Call 703-746-5858 or email Christine.Levine@alexandriava.gov.

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- Avocado Crab Salad



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LETTERS

FROM PAGE 14

non-profits, to eliminate entrenched factions that typically impede the progress of new development.

The strategy for this vision is to activate the water's edge, connect people to the river, and promote attributes and related events. The first action is to develop the series of waterfront parks. Riverwalk is a family-friendly initiative that emphasizes public art and interpretive historic exhibits. There are plans for a maritime museum financed through public/private partnerships and a small amphitheater for outdoor performances. A new park is developed each year with a 2020 completion date. Private sponsors are solicited to maintain/improve each park.

One criteria for improvement is to have no visual obstructions of the river. People have to see the river to be drawn to it. All development that does not contribute to the goals for the waterfront is restricted. Efforts are being made to reduce traffic and increase both walking and public transportation to the river.

This plan accomplishes the goal of business revitalization — not by putting the businesses on the waterfront (hotels, restaurants, etc.) but by celebrating the river's heritage — historic, artistic and ecological, so that adjacent businesses just like our King Street shops, restaurants, and hotels, are once again filled and thriving with people, both residents and tourists, drawn to the open spaces on the river.

For more details please refer to two documents on the City of Wilmington N.C. website entitled Riverwalk Vision and Action plan and Open Spaces. I encourage the Waterfront Working Committee and all Alexandrians to consider the many benefits of this inclusive, visionary plan and process as we shape a bright future for our waterfront.

Nancy Morgan

CAAWP Working Group on Other Cities

Protect Riverfront

To the Editor:

The historic nature of Alexandria's Potomac River waterfront is one of the city's greatest long-term assets. Every effort must be made to safeguard the historic buildings, river quality and public access. The short-term gains that a major hotel and restaurant development may bring are far outweighed by the long-term benefits the town will reap if it retains its unique historic charm and scale. No other town in the greater Capital Region has so perfectly protected its colonial style and spirit. Anyone can build another mall, another National Harbor, but no one can rebuild George Washington's Alexandria. The more the population grows, the more property gains in value, the more the city must fight ever more aggressively to protect its historic riverfront. The pressure for change will always be there; now is not the time to concede, now, as always, is the time to protect.

Andrew Macdonald



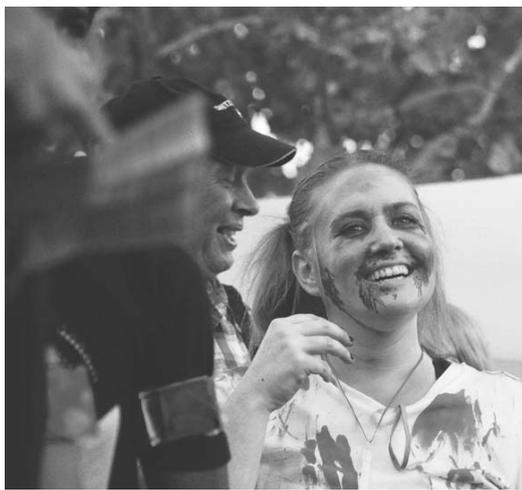
PHOTOS BY LASHAWN AVERY-SIMONS/GAZETTE PACKET

Zombie Tag

Hundreds of residents lined up to participate in the second annual Survive Alexandria Zombie Tag in Oronoco Park on Aug. 21.



Antwone Walters is Spiderman.



Amy Kirk smiles at her team members just before Zombie Tag kicks off at 7 p.m.

Examine Proposed Plan

To the Editor:

The Proposed Small Area Plan for the Alexandria Waterfront addresses numerous redevelopment, aesthetic, historic and economic issues, some of which are treated in a thoughtful manner and I trust that the final plan will evolve through the additional input of stakeholders and be improved. However, I wish to discuss the one most divisive issue of the Proposed Plan and the primary reason why I am opposed to the Proposed Plan.

The Proposed Plan increases current zoning at several parcels along the waterfront — most notably the two Robinson Terminal sites and the Cummings/Turner block (bordered by The Strand and Union, Duke and Prince Streets). Many conflicting opinions have been offered on this issue, but it is clearly discussed on page xii of the Executive Summary of the Proposed Plan. Table 2 clearly shows density increases (as defined by allowable floor area ratios) across all the properties as well as a height increase to 66 feet at one of the sites. If other groups, associations or individuals try to obfuscate

the issue — please look at the Proposed Plan itself, or directly ask the Mayor, Planning Director, or members of Council these simple yes or no questions:

❖ Does the proposed plan allow more density at these sites than current zoning: Yes or No?

❖ Does the proposed plan allow for additional uses such as hotels not allowed under current zoning: Yes or No?

❖ Does the proposed plan allow for taller buildings at Robinson Terminal North than current zoning: Yes or No?

If they answer directly, their responses will be Yes.

The proposed increases to current zoning are not in the best interest of Alexandria because:

❖ The sites already have significant underlying zoning in place and are developable.

❖ These sites are all in the flood plain. Allowing increased development in a flood plain is unconscionable.

❖ The Proposed Plan will increase parking demand. This can only be addressed by the construction of substantial parking structures on these sites. Large parking structures are inappropriate on these waterfront sites.

❖ The Proposed Plan does not acknowledge the impact of service-related traffic, noise, odors and vermin. Waste hauling trucks, food service and linen delivery trucks do not contribute to a best in class water front experience. Hotels, restaurants and bars are not “clean” or low impact uses in regard to service needs.

The Proposed Plan is simply a gift to a handful of land owners who will reap economic gain from a zoning change. It is a gift wrapped in the trappings of a “Plan.” The opposition is not a vocal minority but a large majority of Old Town residents who are galvanized against this Plan and the actions of City Hall.

Why risk ruining the natural and historic Alexandria waterfront so that a few land owners can gain. Please don't kill the goose that lays the golden egg — save Alexandria.

I ask all Alexandria residents to do their own research, form their own opinions, and tell City Hall whether or not they support the Proposed Plan. Take notice of who listened, then vote when Council and Mayor are selected again in the future.

Joe Demshar
Alexandria

Expand Vision Of Waterfront

To the Editor:

First, I would like to congratulate the City of Alexandria on their heartfelt efforts to close this power plant and the GenOn company for this wise decision to agree. This decision was a long time in the making, and I hope GenOn follows through on the closing of the plant in 2012. The plant not only caused health problems for the immediate neighbors at Marina Towers, Del Ray, and Old Town but it contributed to the bad air quality over the whole D.C. region, including our neighbor Arlington and across the water in Maryland. It also in most probability used coal from mountaintop mine removal that is destroying parts of West Virginia. There are also toxic by-products in the ash that is loaded on trucks and goes to an ash pit off site. Closing of this plant will be a huge victory for Alexandria and the air quality of our entire region.

I would like to personally congratulate Poul Hertel and Elizabeth Chimento for doing the study that originally brought this to the public's attention over 10 years ago and to their continuing work on this issue. I would also like to congratulate all the current and former members of city council that have worked tirelessly on this issue, forcing major and costly pollution controls that surely contributed to the decision to close the plant. I would also like to make special mention of Paul Smedberg and Del Pepper who have championed this issue. The Sierra Club helped bring the issue to national attention, which led to the \$50 million donation by Mayor Micheal Bloomberg of New York City to the Sierra Club to close coal fired power plants across the country. Using the GenOn power plant as a backdrop for a nationally televised press conference also contributed to the

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Clerk of Court Election Finally Competitive

FROM PAGE 1

paigned in more than 30 years. When asked about the politics of the campaign, Semonian downplayed the partisan differences in how the clerk's office is run on a day-to-day basis.

"This is a non-partisan office," said Semonian, who makes \$128,000 a year as the Alexandria Clerk of Court. "There aren't any issues in this office that are political issues."

THE CIRCUMSTANCES that led to Semonian's first election began with the unexpected death of 55-year-old Freddie Jackson, who died during a reelection campaign in 1979. Because Jackson died in late August, the deadline had expired for Republicans or independent to file to be on the ballot in November. That meant that Democrats would have a lock on the election, although it was unclear who would rise to claim the title. Republicans were shut out of the process because the deadline had already passed for the party to put a candidate on the ballot.

"There was no apparent reason to run a candidate against a man who was doing a good job and had the respect and confidence of the community," said state Sen. Wiley Mitchell (R-30) at the time. "But when you have an incumbent who either through death or resignation is removed from consideration, I think we have a whole new set of circumstances."

Seven Democrats threw their hat into the ring that year, including the late clerk's son Freddie Jackson Jr., attorney Joseph McGrail, attorney Blair Brown, attorney Ellen Peck, clerk's office employee John Beall, clerk's office employee Edward Dadurka and United Virginia Bank vice president Ed Semonian. Dadurka and Semonian received the highest evaluation from a select panel of influential Democrats.

The Candidates

Ed Semonian, 77: A native of the District of Columbia, Semonian moved to Alexandria as a child and has spent his entire life in the city. A 1951 graduate of George Washington High School, Semonian studied government at George Washington University before receiving his juris doctorate from George Washington University in 1960. After spending time as a management consultant and a corporate lawyer, he became a general practice lawyer with the firm of Clark, Richard, Moncure and Whitfield. Semonian was vice president of United Virginia Bank when he won a Democratic caucus to replace the late Freddie Jackson, who died during his 1979 reelection campaign.



All the candidates were asked to pay \$500 to participate in the caucus.

"This is a fundraising effort in disguise," criticized Democratic committee member and attorney John Carmody at the time.

"It is an entirely appropriate thing to do if the committee to do so," said Alexandria Democratic Committee chairman Don Henry at the time.

IN THE END, six dozen members of the committee met in council chambers at City Hall in a late September meeting, a caucus that would determine the party's candidate. Dadurka and Semonian tied on the first two ballots, although Semonian was victorious on the third vote with only 35 votes. Although the Alexandria Port Packet editorial board wrote it didn't have the "slightest quibble" with the choice of Semonian, the paper said allowing 67 Democrats decide the election was "one of the sorriest substitutes for elective democracy that we have ever witnessed."

Chris Marston, 39: A native of Grosse Pointe, Mich., Marston graduated Grosse Pointe South High School in 1992 before studying government at Dartmouth College. In 1996, he moved to Northern Virginia to take a job on Capitol Hill. He's lived in Alexandria since 1997,



filtering through a number of political appointments — everything from being a legislative assistant for the Subcommittee on National Security and International Affairs to serving as chief of staff to the Office of National Drug Control Policy. He received his juris doctorate from Georgetown Law School in 2003. From 2004 to 2010, he was chairman of the Alexandria Republican City Committee.

"It simply isn't right," the newspaper editorialized.

But it worked. Semonian appeared unchallenged on the November ballot, running without competition in his first-ever general election campaign. He won 7,240 votes with no opposition in that first election, and has subsequently been reelected three times. Each time, he has run unopposed.

Until now.

Marston's entry into the race represents the first time in more than 30 years that Semonian has had any kind of competition, and the first time in his career that he's ever had a Republican opponent in the general election. "Ed Semonian is an institution in Alexandria," said Susan Kellom, former chairwoman of the Alexandria Democratic Committee who is managing Semonian's reelection campaign. "He has transformed the office of the clerk of court into the standard for the commonwealth."

IN SOME WAYS, the race between

Semonian and Marston is a battle of the former party leaders — pitting Kellom's candidate against the man who invented Plunkie the Elephant, the cartoon character Marston invented during the 2009 city election that ousted two Democratic incumbents. The successful strategy involving asking Republicans to engage in "plunking" by casting votes for GOP candidates while leaving other spots on the ballot blank. Some Democrats charged the practice, sometimes known as "plunking" or "bullet voting," as unethical — a charge Marston flatly denies.

"This was a strategy that was created by the civil rights movement," said Marston. "I don't think Democrats in Alexandria would say that the civil rights movement was unethical." The strategy worked, and two Democratic incumbents were defeated. Shortly after the election, the lame duck members of the all-Democratic City Council ended the longtime practice of springtime elections for city offices in favor of moving them to November. Republicans opposed the move as a cynical way for Democrats to take advantage of large Democratic turnout to vote in federal elections for President and Congress.

Now, both parties are adjusting to the new reality. In the days since Marston announced, some have argued that he is setting himself up for another potential race. But that doesn't make sense, Marston said. Why would he try to set himself up to run as a Republican in a City Council election when President Barack Obama will be on the ballot for reelection? Frankly, he said in an interview last week, he has much more of a chance going up against Semonian in a low-turnout election in which the state Senate race is at the top of the ticket. "It's not my intention to set myself up for some other race," said Marston, noting his chances of winning this election are far greater than any other race. "I intend to win."

City, GenOn Agree on Closing Generating Station

FROM PAGE 1

lution in our nation's capital is a huge symbolic step toward moving the nation beyond coal."

ALTHOUGH THE 25-ACRE site will inevitably become one of the hottest redevelopment properties on the waterfront, city leaders do not plan to make any changes to a controversial small-area plan currently under consideration by the City Council. The plan will address three other areas slated for redevelopment, which have been part of the plan all along. City officials say it's too late to bring Pepco, which owns the land, into the small-area planning process. "The other parcels that are part of the current waterfront plan have been active participants in our discussion," said Assistant City Attorney Chris Spera.

"They have participated in that discussion, and the owners of this site have not."

Council members had hoped to pass the plan before the summer recess, but put the process on hold when they couldn't agree as summer approached. Now that another major redevelopment parcel along the waterfront has opened up — much larger than any of the redevelopment sites currently addressed by the plan — some say failing to address it would be a big mistake.

"I think their refusal to consider changing the plan to reflect this shows how weak the plan was to start with," said Boyd Walker, chairman of Citizens for an Alternative Alexandria Waterfront Plan. "A waterfront plan that doesn't include this site isn't much of a plan at all."

The plant opened in 1949 by a company known as the Potomac Energy Company, now known as Pepco. Back then, the

Potomac River Generating Station was situated between the Potomac River Clayworks and the American Chlorophyll Company. But over time the industrial use on the waterfront declined. Pepco eventually leased the plant to Atlanta-based energy company Mirant, which resisted the city's efforts to close the plant.

"We tried everything," Councilwoman Del Pepper told the Upper King Street Civic Association last month. "None of it worked."

Until now.

After Mirant became part of GenOn, the Sierra Club launched a major initiative to close the plant. Known as "GenOff," the campaign warned that the Potomac River Generating Station was responsible for 37 deaths, 60 heart attacks and 610 asthma attacks each year. Now that the agreement has been struck to shut the plant for good, environmentalists across the region hailed

the development as a major victory.

"GenOn was facing a growing movement, mounting legal fees, bad public relations and constant involvement of their senior staff," said Mike Tidwell, director of the Chesapeake Climate Action Network. "They made a cost-benefit analysis that closing the plant was the right thing to do."

"I have mixed feelings about this," said North Old Town resident Elizabeth Chimento, who has worked for years to shut the plant down. "It's obviously a victory for people who will not longer have to worry about pollution for the plant, but I'm also concerned about all the people who work at the plant who will lose their jobs in this very difficult economy."

About 120 people work at the plant, 40 percent of whom live in Alexandria.

LETTERS

FROM PAGE 24

effort to close this plant. Hopefully it will lead to the closing of other plants, including the one that the U.S. Congress uses that can be seen from 395 in D.C.

This is an opportunity for Alexandria. GenOn is on a 25-acre site on the Potomac, near Washington D.C., and along the George Washington Memorial Parkway. It is far larger than the eight-block area that has been under consideration for the last two years in the city waterfront plan. But it is within the same small area plan where the proposed re-zoning of the waterfront is currently being pushed by the city, and fought by members of CAAWP. How can we consider what happens to an eight-block area of downtown without taking into consideration what happens to a 25-acre site on the edge of Old Town? I believe it is reasonable that all further consid-

eration of the proposed waterfront plan be suspended, and that a new plan be developed with the cooperation of citizens to consider the new site as part of the waterfront. The city has said in its announcement that the GenOn Site will not be considered in their plan because GenOn was not a participant in the process already under way. This continues to show the short sightedness and narrow thinking of the city and the planning staff. The Waterfront Work Group is insufficient and not created to take on such a monumental task.

I hope that the Chamber of Commerce, The Alexandria Convention and Visitors Association, Old Town Civic Association, The North Old Town Civic Association and others join me in asking that the city set aside the proposed plan so that we can come up with a new plan acceptable to citizens, that includes the GenOn site, as well

as looks at the impact of development on all of Alexandria, not just a small area. We have a 2-mile-long waterfront, and we need to make sure that it all works together and that we will get the amenities we want not in 15 to 30 years, but start to get them as soon as the plan passes.

There are multiple possibilities to use this transformative moment of great change to transform Alexandria. There could be land swaps between Robinson Terminal and Pepco, the owner of the GenOn site. There could be Federal Government interest in expanding National Park Service Property. There also could be an opportunity for well-planned transit-oriented development or a green community. This frees up an unused rail line along the waterfront, a possibility that I have advocated for, giving a possible transit connection from the Waterfront to the Metro. It would not require development, but serve developments that are already there. It is short sighted to not consider this new and welcome development in the redevelopment of parts of Alexandria.

time for Alexandrians to reclaim their City and say: "enough is enough."

Francois Duret
Alexandria

Who Is 'All'?

To the Editor:

What's with this new organization "Waterfront for All"? By "all" do they mean the hordes of tourists, conventioners, etc. who will — if planned projections are to be believed — fill up those hotels? They pay hotel and restaurant tax but that doesn't make them Alexandria taxpayers too. And if hotel rooms turn over on average after three days, doesn't 300 hotel rooms mount up to the population of Alexandria in just a few years? Doesn't city hall have to take stock of these folks' well-being too — not just the people who live here?

Does city hall hope, by moving the city election to next November, to restore one-party rule so that city hall can continue to echo Councilmember Smedberg's remark at a West Old Town Citizens Association meeting, where, when pressed to oppose a light rail route down Patrick and Henry streets, replied "We have to do our part regionally," (apparently, nationally and globally too,) at the expense of city residents.

Who is included in this "all"? Not the city residents who can't afford to stay in these hotels.

Dino Drudi
Alexandria

Nonproductive Bureaucracy

To the Editor:

It comes as no shock that Alexandria students had the lowest test scores in Northern Virginia. After all, it was only short time ago that a national study identified our school system as the single most financially inefficient (worst student performance per dollar invested) system in the entire country. It is also no surprise that Alexandria Superintendent of Schools Morton Sherman immediately dismissed these latest test results. Why is it that academics rely on tests to evaluate students on a daily basis, yet dismiss the value of tests whenever it opens the door to criticism of their own performance? Have you ever heard an academic criticize a test that paints them in a good light? I don't think so. Sherman's sour grapes are merely the less than subtle sound of hypocrisy as our appointed and elected leaders once again shirk any responsibility for their own, repeated incompetence.

We must seek new and efficient

solutions instead of ignoring the problem, criticizing legitimate tests, mumbling weak excuses or throwing away yet more tax dollars on failed, shopworn, programs that protect the incompetent and foster nonproductive bureaucracies. We can and we must do better. Our children deserve it.

Bud Miller
Alexandria

Generating Income

To the Editor:

Now that the "grand opening" of BRAC 133 at Mark Center is less than a month away, just how is Alexandria going to recoup that "potential spin off revenue" its leaders projected as a justification for greenlighting the project?

One answer could be lunchtime trade. The cafeteria seats only a couple of hundred; there are only two eateries — Clyde's and Finn and Porter — in close proximity; and since the parking in the complex has been capped at only 1,000 spaces, I suspect few will be moving their cars. Translation: a captive audience waiting to be tapped, DOD encouragement of brownbagging aside.

Rental properties in the area — on both sides of Seminary Road/395 and Beauregard Street — were bought up with the intention of attracting relocated workers, but that hasn't panned out. Many of them already own their own homes, or couldn't sell in this economy even if they wanted to. The apartments have only been superficially remodeled at best, while noticeably awaiting a flip sale or a bulldozer. Why don't these landlords incorporate eateries into at least the first floors of their high vacancy buildings or convert some of them altogether to non-residential use? And with Blockbuster gone from "The Shoppes," Giant should expand its current square footage to include a salad bar and pharmacy, and if not, another restaurant could go into that space. Yes, it's a bit more distant from the complex, but still walkable. Ditto for the old Steak and Ale location, a foot bridge away. And for heaven's sake, with one service station monopolizing the area, my second suggestion would be to put in at least one other competitor.

Maybe then the City would be able to afford some of the improvements made necessary by its prior, ill thought out, decision. Because buildings don't generate income, people do.

Karen Ann DeLuca
Alexandria

Legal Notices

ABC LICENSE

BLUM OF WISCONSIN LLC, BUCCINOS, 6410 Landsdowne Center Drive, Alexandria, VA 22315. The above establishment is applying to the VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL for a Beer and Wine on Premises license to sell or manufacture alcoholic beverages. Michelle Orhan, Owner

Legal Notices

Emma, Madeline, and Charlie Lewis; and Ryan and Reade Lewis. He is also survived by his brother David M. Burke, his wife Agnes and his sister-in-law Polly Burke, and by many devoted nieces and nephews.

Born in Alexandria, VA, April 24, 1918, Julian attended Episcopal High School and The Bullis School. He graduated from the US Naval Academy in 1940. In the spring of 1942, assigned to the USS North Carolina in Casco Bay, ME, Julian and Betty married at St. Mary the Virgin Church in Falmouth. Several months later, the North Carolina, engaged Japanese forces at Guadalcanal. Subsequently, he transferred to submarines and made war patrols against Japanese maritime forces until the war's end, by which time he was the skipper of the submarine Guardfish. Thereafter, his career followed shore and sea assignments.

Ashore, Adm. Burke served in the Bureau of Naval Personnel and on the Staff of CINCLANT Fleet/Norfolk, VA. He served as Executive Officer Bancroft Hall/United States Naval Academy; as Deputy Assistant CNO of the Naval Reserve at the Pentagon; as Commander US Naval Forces Japan and Commander Sixth Naval District, Charleston, SC. He was a graduate of the Naval War College.

At sea, Adm. Burke had numerous commands in submarines, the amphibious force and other surface ships. As a Rear Admiral, he was Commander Amphibious Force, Seventh Fleet, and later Commander Service Force, U.S. Atlantic Fleet. He participated in fleet deployments in the Mediterranean, the Caribbean, the Western Pacific and the Atlantic. He also served as the Captain of the Presidential yacht the USS Williamsburg under Truman and Eisenhower.

During his 36 years of active duty, Adm. Burke received multiple decorations and medals, which he attributed to team effort. He considered his role as Commander US Naval Forces Japan, 1970-73, his most important. The Government of Japan awarded him The Second Class Order of the Sacred Treasure.

Upon retirement from active duty in 1976, Adm. Burke worked as Vice President of the Navy Relief Society, volunteered for the Alexandria Chapter of the American Red Cross becoming an honorary lifetime member of the Board. He served on the Vestry of Christ Church and delivered Meals on Wheels with Betty who organized the effort for Christ Church for 15 years.

Julian Burke will be remembered as a true gentleman. He was highly principled, courageous, and self-effacing. He won many hearts with the twinkle in his eye, his story telling and his sense of humor. For 36 years he chose to serve our country and for the remainder of his life, he served his hometown Alexandria, his lovely 'Bets' and their family.

A service celebrating his life will be held Saturday, September 10, 11 AM, at Christ Church Alexandria, reception following. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to The Christ Church Foundation, 118 N. Washington St., Alexandria, VA 22314; the Navy and Marine Corps Relief Society, 875 N. Randolph Street, Arlington, VA 22203; the Alexandria Chapter of the American Red Cross, 123 N. Alfred St., Alexandria, VA 22314



Obituary

CSM Robert Fulton Scott USAR-retired, age 82, died July 5th, 2011, following a courageous battle with COPD. He was born August 29, 1928, in Cleveland, OH. He grew up in Avon Lake, OH where he excelled in high school football and basketball. Robert enlisted in the Army his senior year at Avon Lake High School. CSM Scott's military career spanned 30 years. His first tour of duty was in Germany in the final months of WWII. Robert earned the Bronze Star as an amphibious tank squadron commander during the pivotal Inchon invasion of the Korean War. After serving in Germany he was promoted to 1st Sergeant Headquarters Co USAR at Ft. Myer, VA. Following a promotion to Sergeant Major he was transferred to serve in Long Binh, Vietnam. Upon return from Vietnam he received the Legion of Merit Medal and was promoted to Command Sergeant Major and retired from active duty following service at the Enlisted Promotions Board. Bob then worked for the Treasury Department for some 15 years. Bob was an avid bowler participating in 3 leagues and while serving as a league official. He was active in the Freemasons and also served as Boy Scout Troop leader while at Ft. Myer. Military Bob lived his daily life by the twelve steps. Bob's faith was unwavering even as he became physically unable to attend church services. His quick wit and affability were ever present and entertained friends and caregivers alike. CSM Scott is survived by his son Michael C. Scott, MD; his daughter-in-law Susan C., and Grandsons Michael T. and Robert E. Scott. Willadene Scott, ex wife, lives in Alexandria, VA. Funeral ceremony will take place at Arlington National Cemetery August 29, 2011 at 10AM.

Obituary

Julian Thompson Burke, Jr., Rear Admiral, USN, died Monday, August 8, 2011. He was predeceased by his late wife Betty Stuart Burke, who died in January, son Charly, and his brother G. Anderton Burke. He is survived by his daughter Tina, her husband B Millner and her sons Gordon Lewis, his wife Jami, and Burke Lewis and his wife Leigh, all of Richmond, VA; his son Jud Burke and his partner Barbara Cousins of Alexandria, VA; his daughter Sally, her husband Billy Brierre of Alexandria, VA, and their children Will Brierre of Los Angeles, CA, and Stuart Brierre of Washington, DC; and by 5 great grandchildren,

Ireton's Up-Tempo Offense Packed with Playmakers

Cardinals have 20-plus seniors on the roster.

BY JON ROETMAN
GAZETTE PACKET

Bishop Ireton quarterback P.J. Zingler fired a quick pass to Moses Webb in the left slot during the closing minutes of an Aug. 20 scrimmage against Riverdale Baptist, helping set in motion a display of offensive potency.

“We believe that the pace of our offense is part of our offense. Our DNA is to be fast and to finish plays ...”

— Bishop Ireton head football coach Tony Verducci

After another quick pass to Webb, Zingler took a shot deep down the left sideline to receiver Malcolm Westbrook, who drew a pass interference penalty against the Riverdale defender. A handoff to Webb advanced the ball near the goal line, and later Zingler connected with Matt McShea for a touchdown with 3 seconds remaining.

“I told you we’d score!” Zingler shouted.

The Bishop Ireton football team will lean on senior leadership and an up-tempo offense loaded with playmakers in an attempt to improve on last year’s 3-7 record.

“We believe that the pace of our offense is part of our offense,” fifth-year



Receiver Malcolm Westbrook is one of Bishop Ireton’s senior leaders and offensive playmakers.



Bishop Ireton junior P.J. Zingler enters his second season as the team’s starting quarterback.

head coach Tony Verducci said. “Our DNA is to be fast and to finish plays, so that when we get in [two-minute situations], even with the clock running, that our offensive linemen are used to finding the ball, getting lined up, snapping it and taking advantage of, at times, a defense not being set.”

Zingler, a junior, enters his second season as the Cardinals’ starting quarterback.

PHOTOS BY LOUISE KRAFFT/GAZETTE PACKET



Tony Verducci begins his fifth season as head coach of the Bishop Ireton football team.

Verducci said he expects more leadership out of his signal caller.

“We know that he has all the physical tools,” Verducci said. “He completed almost 70 percent of his passes for 2,000 yards last year [and] he was on the right side of more touchdowns than interceptions. We’re looking for him to make plays for us in the backfield and he’s got a couple of terrific weapons to share the ball with in terms of

Malcolm Westbrook, Moses Webb and Matt McShea.”

Running back Webb and receivers Westbrook and McShea are three of the team’s 20-plus seniors.

“[Webb has] exceptional vision on the field and an incredibly high football IQ,” Verducci said. “Malcolm has that positive attitude that he can make any big play and make any play big. Matt is old reliable. He’s going to catch the ball, he’s going to keep the chains moving and he has the wherewithal to make those minor adjustments to make plays work.”

Westbrook tallied more than 500 yards receiving and three touchdowns as a junior. With less than 10 seniors on the roster last season, Westbrook said he can tell the team has more leadership.

“I definitely notice a difference,” he said. “Our practices are a little bit harder. We’ve got more people going after each other, a lot of friendly competition.”

Webb totaled more than 900 yards combined rushing and receiving and scored seven touchdowns as a junior.

The “offensive side is where our strength is, I think,” Webb said. “We’ve got so many playmakers on offense.”

McShea is stepping into a more prominent role after catching five passes as a junior.

“We’ve got a lot of [senior] experience — 20 guys,” McShea said. “For me, it’s all leading by example — showing the younger guys what to do day in and day out.”

Senior center Eddie D’Antuono, junior Josh Reed, who will play either right tackle or right guard, and senior left guard Pat O’Connell, a three-year

starter, are standouts on the offensive line. The Cardinals’ 3-4 defense is led by senior linebacker Richard Walker and senior defensive end Andrew Lutterloh. Webb also plays cornerback for Ireton.

The Cardinals will open the season at home against Bishop O’Connell at 5 p.m. on Friday, Sept. 2. Ireton will host St. Stephen’s & St. Agnes on Sept. 17 and travel to face Episcopal on Sept. 24.

SPORTS BRIEFS

SSSAS Sports

The St. Stephen’s & St. Agnes football team will travel to scrimmage Flint Hill at 11 a.m. on Sept. 3. The boys soccer team will travel to face St. Christopher’s at 4:30 p.m. on Sept. 2. The field hockey team will host Stone Ridge at 4:15 p.m. on Sept. 8.

T.C. Williams Sports

The T.C. Williams football team will open the regular season on the road against Wakefield at 7:30 p.m. on Sept.

1. The Titans finished 6-4 last season, the program’s first winning record since 1995, but extended its postseason drought to 20 years. Wakefield has finished 1-9 each of the last two seasons. TC hasn’t won its season opener since 2007.

The volleyball team opened its season with a 3-0 (25-21, 25-17, 25-17) victory against Hayfield on Aug. 29. Kate Whitmire had nine kills and Grand Roberson finished with eight. The Titans will travel to face Falls Church on Sept. 6 and will host McLean on Sept. 8.

The field hockey team is off to a 4-1-1 start, beating Edison (2-0), South Lakes (3-

1), Woodbridge (1-0) and Yorktown (1-0). The Titans lost to Madison (3-2) and finished in a scoreless tie with Stuart in a game that was called after one half due to inclement weather. TC will travel to face Herndon on Sept. 7 and host Centreville on Sept. 9.

Bishop Ireton Sports

The Bishop Ireton football team will host Bishop O’Connell at 5 p.m. on Sept. 2. The volleyball team lost its season opener to Maryland School for the Deaf, 3-2, on Aug. 30. The Cardinals will travel to face St.

Mary’s Ryken at 5:30 p.m. on Sept. 1. The boys soccer team will travel to face Pope John Paul the Great at 4 p.m. on Sept. 6. The girls soccer team will travel to face Episcopal at 3:30 p.m. on Sept. 6.

Episcopal Sports

The Episcopal football team will scrimmage at Landon at 2:30 p.m. on Sept. 1. The boys soccer team will host Gonzaga at 4 p.m. on Sept. 6. The girls soccer team will travel to scrimmage St. Stephen’s & St. Agnes at 10 a.m. on Sept. 2.

Despite Setback, Race on Pace to Promising Start

Half-marathon returns. Looking to London 2012

BY ISABEL AMEND
GAZETTE PACKET

The second annual Woodrow Wilson Bridge Half-Marathon will kick off at 7:30 a.m. on Oct. 2 at the Mount Vernon Estate.

The expected 5,000 runners toeing the line will run along George Washington Parkway and across the Woodrow Wilson Bridge, to ultimately end up at National Harbor, Md.

This was not the original plan. Race founder and owner of Endurance Enterprises Steve Nearman pushed for part of the half-marathon to snake its way through the streets of Old Town. Last year, Nearman's proposal was denied by the City Council. July of this year, Nearman requested to have the route amended to include Old Town. Due to the City Council being in summer recess, the City of Alexandria deferred the issue to a Special Events Committee comprised of different departments and directed by Cheryl Lawrence.

The Special Events committee reached out to all civic, homeowner, school, and church organizations that they thought would potentially be affected by the race. The 12 organizations were: the Old Town Civic Association, Ford's Landing

Males who clock under 1:05:00 and females who clock under 1:15:00 automatically gain a spot at the USATF Olympic Marathon Trials in Houston on Jan. 14, 2012.

This Olympic aspect to the race is special — not many half-marathon courses can be official measuring marks for an athlete's ticket to an Olympic trial.

Race founder Steve Nearman believes the London 2012 spin will attract more professional athletes to the race.

Homeowners Associations, Jones Point Park, Lee Street Community Gardens, Burgess Square Homeowners Association, Old Town Hunting Creek Civic Association, Porto Vecchio Condominium Association, Yates Garden Citizen Association, the Old Presbyterian Meeting House, St. Paul's Episcopal Church, St. Mary's Catholic School and the Zion Baptist Church.

Eighty-three percent of these places did not support the half-marathon being held on a Sunday in parts of Old Town. However, the Old Town Civic Association accepted the route as long as all runners moved out of the area before 9:45 a.m.

Nearman asserted that "the only church that my route would directly interfere is the Zion Baptist Church, whose service doesn't open until 10:30 a.m." Nevertheless, when asked for input from the Special Events Committee, the three other churches

claimed that the race would impede some members from attending mass.

Administrator of Old Presbyterian Meeting House Bob Clarke said "the rejected half-marathon route would have negatively impacted parking spaces for our members. The demand is just too high for parking in such a crowded place like Old Town." Such concerns echoed across the broader church community where all leaders agreed that the route would not bode well for early mass attendees on a Sunday morning.

THE CHURCHES CAME to a general consensus that any race through Old Town would have a domino-effect on the surrounding area.

Residents would encounter blocked roads and a more populated presence due to enhanced police and fire forces.

James Spengler, the director of the Alexandria Department of Parks and Recreation, said "What needs to happen in the future is a proactive effort to reach out to associations heavily involved in the area that will be significantly impacted by any event." When asked if the potential economic benefits would outweigh the problems caused by inconvenience, Spengler noted that "there was no case study to prove a

concrete increase in profits for local businesses." Nevertheless, Nearman hopes to

Title Sponsor

One of the positives that race founder Steve Nearman cites is introducing to the race an initiative to raise awareness for the visually impaired. National Industries for the Blind, an agency based in Alexandria that seeks to enhance economic opportunities for the blind community, is the race's title sponsor. So far, 25 visually impaired athletes are planning to participate including 2004 Paralympian Joe Aukward. In 2010 only three of these athletes competed. The top visually impaired competitors will receive prize money. On Saturday, Oct. 1, a jobs seminar will also be held for visually impaired individuals that addresses the challenges posed by today's current market.

"I'd love to see the NIB National Championship in the future with hundreds of visually impaired athletes as a huge showcase to inspire other people with visual impairments to live life to its fullest. I am very thankful for NIB for thinking out of the box and sponsoring such a positive athlete event which is helping us bring in athletes from around the nation" said Nearman.

conduct a specific case study on his race's economic impact to the city in the future. He cites the influx in tourists it would bring, the sponsorships that local businesses would obtain, and the predicted spikes in hotel accommodations.

Ever the optimist, Nearman is not troubled by the proceedings with the city staff. "It's a minor part of all of this. We're a

SEE HALF-MARATHON, PAGE 29

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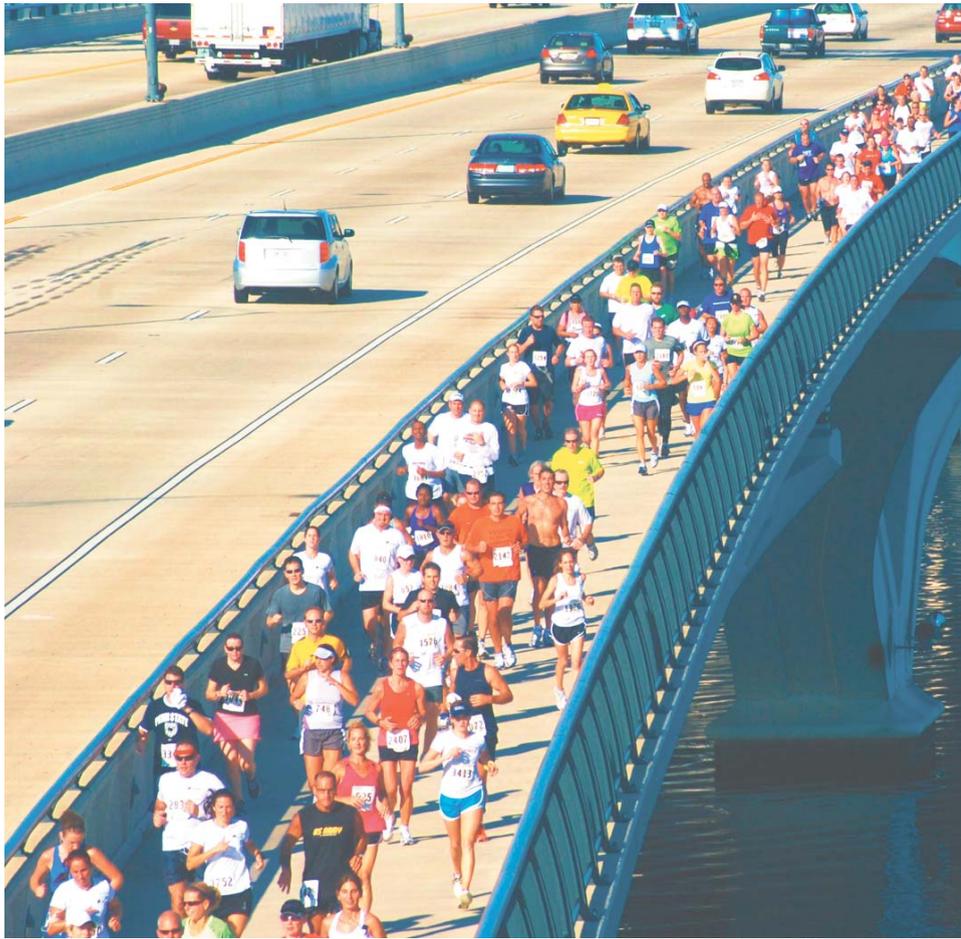
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Last year's Woodrow Wilson Bridge Half marathon.

Half-Marathon Returns

FROM PAGE 28

Distance Running

community and we have to sacrifice now and then. I'm only going to focus on the positives."

The veteran track and field journalist and business entrepreneur looks forward to hosting the event that got rave reviews in the past.

To register, visit www.wilsonbridgehalf.com/register

Race founder Steve Nearman wants to enhance support for American distance running. First, for every registrant, the director will donate \$1 to a single American youth training camp that he personally selects. Secondly, prize money will be awarded to the top-five American finishers for each gender. Lastly, additional prize money will go to the top-five finishers of members of the Potomac Valley chapter of the United States Track and Field Association. These three initiatives, he said, will "boost American running at all levels." Last year, Michael Wardian of Arlington was the top American male contestant, and Laura O'Hara of Alexandria was the top American female contestant.

'Historic Alexandria' Covers City's History

FROM PAGE 5

out," said Pullium. "I ended up with sort of a stream of conscious."

Aside from the required bits about George Washington and Robert E. Lee, the book is filled with interesting characters and anecdotes. There's everything from daredevil acrobatics performed during the great fire of 1827 to a song performed by an Alexandria mayor about eating "a good, fat duck." One of the strengths of the book is the origi-

nal source material that places the reader in the midst of history.

"Alexandria is one of the most wicked places I have ever beheld in my life; cock-fighting, horse racing, with every species of gambling and cheating, being apparently the principal business going forward," according to one 19th century account. "As a proof of this, you may judge of the extent of this dissipation when I inform you, this little place contains no less than between forty to fifty billiard tables."

Firefighters Host Cuts for Kids Day

FROM PAGE 3

"We started working on the idea about six weeks ago," Turner said. "We have a lot of kids from our camps that came in as well as a lot of walk-ins. It's been a great success."

Primo's Restaurant in Belle View Shopping Center donated lunch for the children, www.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

who were also treated to a tour of a fire truck complete with replica fire hats to take home.

"This may be our first year but it won't be our last," said Capt. Willie Bailey, an organizer of the event. "We had 10 barbers come out and donate their time today to help kids get excited and ready for school next week. It was a great day for everyone."

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21 Announcements **21 Announcements**

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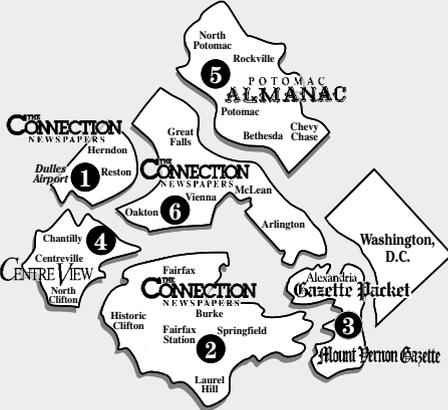
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4,032-SF, free-standing building with seven parking spaces. Easy access to Reagan National Airport and downtown Washington, DC.

John Quinn
703.683.2700
jqunn@mcenearney.com



FOR SALE \$1,700,000

or LEASE \$22.00/SF



315 Cameron Street

RETAIL/OFFICE: 5,235-SF historic building across from City Hall. First floor suitable for retail. Additional storage space in basement.

Diane Sappenfield
703.683.2700
dsappenfield@mcenearney.com



FOR SALE

\$349,000



801 North Pitt Street

OFFICE: 1,724-SF in residential building. Free surface parking plus one reserved garage space. Minutes to Reagan National Airport and Washington, DC.

Ed Cave
703.683.2700
ecave@mcenearney.com



FOR SALE

\$1,100,000



322 South Washington Street

OFFICE OR RETAIL – Street retail on first level, offices or residences above. Parking on site.

Bob Swearingen
703.683.2700
rswearingen@mcenearney.com



FOR SALE

\$499,900



109 South Columbus Street

1,276-SF RETAIL/OFFICE Building. Bright and cheerful. Built in 1890. Located amid shops and restaurants. Plenty of foot traffic.

Chuck Langdon
703.683.2700
clangdon@mcenearney.com



FOR SALE

\$299,000



Less Than \$100 per Square Foot

PROFESSIONAL OFFICE: 3,122 SF, SCIF space possible, 24-hour concierge desk, access to conference/meeting facilities, pool, tennis court and fitness center. Six assigned garage parking spaces.

Rick Sada
703.683.2700
rsada@mcenearney.com



FOR SALE

\$1,945,000



1422 Duke Street

5,708-SF office building in professional park on Duke Street. Four blocks to King Street Metro Station. Close to PTO, US Courthouse, amenities

Tom or Charles Hulfish
703.683.2700
thulfish@mcenearney.com



www.McEneaneyCommercial.com

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