

# Alexandria Gazette Packet



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WELLBEING  
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Alexandria Film Fest  
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25 CENTS

NOVEMBER 3, 2011



PHOTOS BY LOUISE KRAFFT/GAZETTE PACKET

Following the grand marshal and official judges, the parade moves down the avenue.

## Halloween Parade through Del Ray



The T.C. Williams Marching Zombie Band.



Parade Grand Marshal Mount Vernon Community School student Edenilson Amaya-Garcia.



Ann Dorman prepares for the parade to start.



Josephine and Eleanor Lawson dance as the T.C. Williams Marching Zombie Band warms up.



Sabin Mead in her Medusa outfit recognizes a friend in the crowd.



Eden Boyd rode in a wagon with the barnyard crew.



Abygayl Moon and Skye Sheehy.

## Waterfront Volleys

Opponents of the city's plan declare war.

BY MICHAEL LEE POPE  
GAZETTE PACKET

Opponents of the waterfront small-area plan gathered last weekend at an old bank building now known as the Atheneum to declare war. The enemy was a much more powerful force, one with a majority of votes on the City Council and control of the city government. But like the leaders at the Old Dominion Bank, who suppos-

“Is a waterfront with no change financially feasible and legally defensible?”

— Bruce Johnson

a new report over the weekend  
SEE WATERFRONT, PAGE 32

## The Few. The Proud.

Going the distance in Marine Corps Marathon.

BY JEANNE THEISMANN  
GAZETTE PACKET

For two years, Marine Major Stefan Mueller had been preparing for this day. A casual runner at best, the Alexandria resident awoke in the early hours of Oct. 30 to join more than 30,000 other competitors at the starting line of the 36th Marine Corps Marathon.

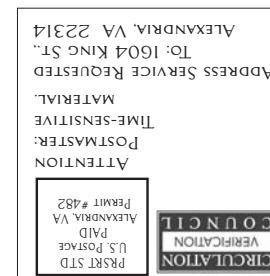
“Running a marathon has always been on my ‘bucket list,’ ” said Mueller, a Marine aviator with tours of duty in Iraq and Afghanistan. “When I turned 40 last year,

SEE MARATHON, PAGE 5



PHOTO BY DEB COBB/THE CONNECTION

Standing on the Memorial Drive bridge, Bev Cady of Alexandria holds a sign that reads “Let’s Go Complete Stranger!” to cheer on the roughly 30,000 participants in the 36th Marine Corps Marathon Oct. 30.





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## WEEK IN ALEXANDRIA

### End of Leone Era

The outspoken and lively president of the Alexandria Chamber of Commerce is leaving Alexandria and headed to Ballston, where she will take control of the Arlington neighborhood's business improvement district. Since assuming control of the chamber in July 2009, **Tina Leone** has created a new sense of liveliness among the city's captains of industry. Now that she's leaving, she can count one of her accomplishments as increasing membership from 530 to 850.

"The chamber is now much more relevant than it used to be," said Leone, who will step down at the end of this month. "Businesses used to question why they were in the chamber, now the city comes to us for our position on things."

Leone's style had its detractors. But she built a team that was able to expand the organization's membership while downscaling the overhead, moving the office into a smaller rental space to save money. She took some criticism for throwing lavish events, but Leone said she's leaving the organization in a much stronger position than when she arrived. She's also excited about moving into the field of economic development. Leone applied to become president of the Alexandria Economic Development Partnership several years ago, but the organization hired **Val Hawkins** instead.

"This is a career goal for me, so I'm really excited to have the opportunity," said Leone. "It's a great fit for me right now."

As she begins her new job in Ballston, Leone said one of her top priorities was bringing a bookstore to the neighborhood. She's also interested in working on the redevelopment of Ballston Mall.

"That's sort of low-hanging fruit," said Leone. "Right now, we're not really sure who it's serving."

### Wale of a Suit

This week, the Virginia Supreme Court granted the city of Alexandria's petition to appeal a Circuit Court ruling issued by visiting **John McGrath** back in April. That means the long-running legal dispute will now head to Richmond, prolonging the dispute between the Old Dominion Boat Club and the city.

"We believe the judge made an error," said City Attorney **James Banks**. "He used a ruling that doesn't apply to the city."

Back in June, the City Council approved an ordinance authorizing the city manager to execute a five-year lease agreement with Virtue Restaurant that would allow the use of part of Wales Alley for outdoor seating. The Old Dominion Boat Club responded by filing a lawsuit against the city, claiming it owned part of the alley and seeking an injunction preventing any obstructions in the alley. McGrath ruled that the city owned the alley, and that the Old Dominion Boat Club had a right to be able to move its boats and trailers through the alley.

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

City officials say they hope to resolve this dispute along with a handful of other conflicts in a "global" settlement with the Boat Club, although no signs have yet emerged such a settlement is close.

### Election Hotline

Having a problem voting? The American Civil Liberties Union of Virginia wants to help. This week, the Richmond-based organization announced a new hotline to answer questions from voters who encounter problems on Election Day. The number is 804-644-8080.

"Casting a ballot shouldn't be a complicated process," said ACLU of Virginia director **Kent Willis**. "But there are always glitches on Election Day."

— MICHAEL LEE POPE

### Correction

Last week's issue had the incorrect annual salary for incoming City Manager Rashad Young. The correct salary is \$245,000.



**St. Paul's Nursery and Day School headmistress Martha Scott Schafer greets the children and passes out treats on Wolfe Street.**

### Halloween in Old Town

**Centurion Skipp Calvert and the young pirate Noah Rodenberg.**



**Ellison Paul appearing as a witch and Elizabeth Chapman as Elizabeth the pirate.**

PHOTOS BY LOUISE KRAFT/GAZETTE PACKET

## Teacher Gets 30 Years in Prison

### John Adams Elementary School teacher sentenced for producing child pornography.

BY MICHAEL LEE POPE  
GAZETTE PACKET

Federal Judge Gerald Bruce Lee told 36-year-old Justin Coleman that he deserved an Academy Award for a convincing performance leading a double life. In public, he was an upstanding and well-respected fourth-grade teacher at John Adams Elementary School. But in private, he manipulated thousands of photographs of West End students by superimposing their faces over scenes of child rape and molestation. Lee described Coleman's behavior "cruel, despicable and outrageous," sentencing him to the 30 years prosecutors were asking for rather than the 15 years requested by the defense attorney.

"Mr. Coleman, you are a bad seed," the judge said. "You have harmed the image of teachers everywhere."

John Adams parent Steven Sykes agreed. Sitting in the back of the sixth-floor courtroom, Sykes attended Friday's sentencing hearing to find out what would become of Coleman. As the parent of a student at the elementary school where Coleman secretly took photographs of young girls, Sykes said that he wanted to see the judge issue the harshest possible sentence. Although his child was not a victim, Sykes said that the incident has caused him to

cast a wary eye on all teachers.

"It makes me look at teachers differently than I used to," said Sykes. "We put our trust in teachers, and our trust has been betrayed."

**COURT RECORDS** show that Coleman devised a number of schemes to illicitly photograph young girls at John Adams, positioning cameras under tables or on furniture. Although Coleman was sentenced for charges of producing child pornography with two Fairfax County girls, prosecutors say agents found more than 2,000 images of students at John Adams. More than 70 of the images were manipulated with a photo-imaging software known as Photoshop so that they appeared to be engaged in scenes of sexual abuse. Coleman was one of 900 individuals in the United States identified by Italian law enforcement officials as part of an overseas child-pornography investigation.

"It is my personal belief that sorry is just another word," Coleman told the judge as his mother wept openly in the third row. "My ultimate actions will be proof of how sorry I am."

U.S. Attorney Neil MacBride appeared outside the courthouse to take questions after the sentencing hearing, noting that this was the fourth case in recent years of teachers prosecuted for producing child pornography. When asked about criticism from Alexandria City Public School superintendent that Coleman was allowed to return to school after being interviewed by federal agents but before being arrested, MacBride said the agents had no other choice.

"The agents advised him not to go back to school, but he chose to do so anyway," said MacBride. "We have no evidence he engaged in any illegal behavior that day."

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# NEWS

## Going the Distance in Marathon

FROM PAGE 1

I decided it was time to finally train for a marathon and knew I wanted the Marine Corps race to be my first."

An injury forced Mueller to sit out last year's race but as the light of dawn spilled over the city of Washington Sunday morning, Mueller joined the stampeding chorus of footsteps for the grueling 26.2-mile race.

"I had no idea what to expect," said Mueller, who completed the course in 4:05:39. "There was this amazing sea of people at the start, all friendly and encouraging each other. It took about 6 or 7 miles into the race before I realized that I was actually running a marathon."

Elsewhere in that crowd was Marine Corporal Rob Jones, a Northern Virginia native with his own goal: To finish the MCM 10K.

"I'm not really a runner," said Jones, who ran the 10K portion of the race that stretched from the National Mall to the Iwo Jima Memorial in Arlington. "I would run the 3 miles that I needed to pass the Marine fitness test but that was about it."

But that was before July 22, 2010, when Jones lost both his legs in a roadside bomb explosion near the Helmand River in Afghanistan. Since that day, the 26-year-old tackled the Nation's Triathlon in September and the Army Ten Miler earlier this month, all on a pair of prosthetic legs.

"After the Ten Miler, I knew I could do a 10K," said Jones, who finished the race with a time of 1:35:35. "It's a different motion to run like this but the hard

SEE 26.2 MILES, PAGE 9



Alexandria's Patrick Fernandez crosses the finish line in 2:26:37 to take third place in the 36th Marine Corps Marathon.

PHOTO BY DEB COBB/THE CONNECTION

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## OBITUARY

### Monroe Edward Hill

**March 30, 1921- Oct. 24, 2011**

Monroe Edward Hill died at home Oct. 24, 2011 in Sarasota, Fla. He served as a navigator in the Army Air Corps during WWII, stationed in England. An engineer for the Department of Defense, he lived in Alexandria, for many years before retiring to Sarasota.

He was an alumnus of both Harvard University and Massachusetts Institute of Technology. He was an avid golfer and world

traveler, and a computer and HAM radio enthusiast.

He leaves his wife of 60 years Thelma (Sawyer), two daughters Jane Hill and Susan Bisanz, son-in-law Thomas Bisanz; three grandchildren William (wife Talia), Andrew and Elizabeth Bisanz; great-grand-daughter Olivia, and many cherished nieces and nephews. In honor of his life, donations may be made to Tidewell Hospice, 5955 Rand Boulevard Sarasota, FL 34238.

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# Upward Bound

## Braddock Road Metro attracts development.

BY NICHOLAS HORROCK  
GAZETTE PACKET

**N**ew residential construction drawn by the Braddock Road Metro Station is transforming north Old Town from shoddy warehouses and rundown public housing to an area of posh townhouses, high rise apartment buildings, classy grocery stores and trendy restaurants.

The building boom created by the Braddock Metro Station began in 2007, but tailed off as real estate financing collapsed in 2008 and 2009. Now, in 2011, there are nearly a 1,000 units of apartments and townhouses under construction in the Braddock Metro Station area. Another 1,200 residential units are in various stages of planning.

North of the Monroe Avenue Bridge, the Potomac Yard Development, LLC part of Pulte Homes, is selling the first homes and condominiums of what is planned to be over the next six years some 1,700 town homes and apartments as well as 1.8 million square feet of office space, 120,000 square feet of retail shops and a proposed hotel site.

One part of the Potomac Yard development, known as Land bay L, is a wedge-shaped property near the Braddock Road Station on the west side of rail and subway tracks.

Because of its proximity to Braddock Metro, the development "approval allows up to 310 multi-family units, 48 townhouses, 10,000 square feet of retail and 473,000 square feet of office."

Though Alexandria officials now hope to get a metro stop built between Braddock Road and National Airport, for the foreseeable future, Braddock Road will be the Metro stop for this growing development.

Existing new buildings have already transferred Braddock Road from bare, often lonely stop at night to a thriving Metro loading point.

**NOT ALL** of this development has been

without controversy. The Harris-Teeter grocery store chain first planned to build a store west of Washington Street as part of the Madison project. The Madison is planned to be a 360-unit rental apartment building occupying a city block bounded by Route 1 (Henry Street), Madison and North Fayette streets. The lot has been cleared and construction is underway.

When Harris-Teeter decided to build a 52,000-square-foot store east of Washington Street on what is called the Old Alexandria Gazette Newspaper lot, at Madison and St. Asaph streets, many residents of the surrounding area opposed the project. They pointed out that it means three large grocery stores, a Giant Food Store, a large Trader Joes and the Harris-Teeter will be within some four blocks of one another, all on the east side of Washington Street.

They were concerned about traffic and parking — two critically difficult problems in Old Town. The Harris-Teeter project plans 175 rental apartments with two levels of underground parking, but opponents pointed out that the store will attract, as does Trader Joes and the Giant, hundreds of cars a day as people stop to buy food. They also challenged the notion that the residents will only have one car. The opponents were overruled and the project was approved last June 25.

Nevertheless traffic from all these projects is likely to become a problem. There are only two ways to go directly north or south from Old Town: George Washington Parkway and Route 1. Route 1 north passes through Old Town as Patrick Street and going south as Henry Street. Anyone who uses the routes in the morning or evening rush hours knows they are clogged to capacity. They carry traffic from as far south as the Quantico Marine Base and Ft. Belvoir and with the anticipated congestion expected on Route 395 with the opening of the Mark Center, they will get overflow from that as well.

There are only three grocery stores in Old Town south of King Street; a World Foods,



**800 block of North St. Asaph at Madison is planned for a 52,000-square-foot grocery store.**



**Lot at Madison and N. Henry St. has been cleared for the Madison Project, a 360-unit rental apartment building.**



**On N. Fayette between Pendleton and Wythe St., Braddock Gate — a mixed use development — is expected to begin construction in 2012.**



© GOOGLE MAP DATA

**1.** The Madison, a 360-unit rental apartment building occupying a city block bounded by Route 1, Madison and North Fayette Streets. Lot has been cleared and construction is underway.

**2.** The Asher is a 206 luxury rental apartment development with 235 below-grade parking spaces between Wythe and Madison streets. It is under construction and one third complete.

**3.** Old Town Commons is a group of town houses and condominiums on a series of lots bounded by North Patrick Street on the west and Alfred Street along Madison, Montgomery and Wythe streets. This development is about two-thirds complete.

**4.** Harris Teeter of Old Town North was approved by the Alexandria Planning Commission on June 25, 2011 for construction on the old Alexandria Gazette property, bounded by Wythe Street, North St. Asaph Street, Madison Street and North Pitt Street. The plan is for a 52,000-square-foot grocery store and 175 residential units.

**5.** Braddock Gate is a five high-rise buildings mixed use development of 630 residential units, 70,000 square feet of office space and 15,000 square feet of retail. The plan was approved in 2008, but the developer did not go ahead due to market conditions.

**6.** James Bland Redevelopment — Phase 2 of the EYA Old Town Commons Project to raze 194 public housing units and replace with 360 units of mixed use market priced dwellings and lower income housing along North Patrick Street and North Alfred Streets.

**7.** EYA bought 129,564-square-foot building on Oranoco Park (on Potomac River) and 601 North Fairfax Street to convert into condominiums. The Department of Defense was a major tenant and the operation was moved to Ft. Meade, Md.

nership with the Alexandria Redevelopment and Housing Authority. The Old Town Commons is being built on what was public housing.

EYA is planning the James Bland Redevelopment — Phase 2 of the Old Town Commons. This project would raze some 194 public housing units and replace with 360 units of mixed use market priced dwellings and lower income housing along North Patrick Street and North Alfred Streets.

In 2009, EYA began another project in partnership with ARHA along West Glebe Road.

EYA recently bought the 129,564-square-foot office building on Oranoco Park on the Potomac River. The Department of Defense was a major tenant and the operation was moved to Ft. Meade, Md.

Braddock Gate was one of the first developers to recognize Braddock Road Metro as a development site. It is now planning five high-rise buildings as a mixed use development of 630 residential units, 70,000 square feet of office space and 15,000 square feet of retail. The plan was approved in 2008, but the developer did not go ahead due to market conditions. The seven-acre site is two blocks from Braddock Metro east of the tracks along North Fayette Street, an area of older warehouse buildings. It is expected to begin construction in 2012.

# Heading to the Polls

BY MICHAEL LEE POPE  
GAZETTE PACKET

Election officials in Alexandria are expecting about 15 percent turnout on Election Day, which is traditionally the lowest turnout in the four-year cycle of elections. Because there are no statewide races on the ballot, the same is likely to be the case this year. Here's what's on the ballot this year.

## STATE SENATE DISTRICT 39

This is one of the hottest races in Northern Virginia, one that's the target of financial support from the Democrats and Republicans who both view the seat as a battleground. In redistricting, it became 1.7 percent more Democratic. Although the seat has a Democratic incumbent, Republican Gov. Bob McDonnell won the old district by 54.5 percent. Even with the newly redrawn map, the G.O.P. candidate won 52.8 percent of the vote.

### Democrat: George Barker

*money raised: \$604,181*

Barker is a freshman member of the Virginia state Senate who ousted Republican incumbent state Sen. Jay O'Brien (R-39) in 2007. On the campaign trail, he has touted his record as an effective legislator as one of two members who were able to get 20 bills or more to the governor's desk. He raised more than \$600,000, one

of the largest amounts of money raised for any Northern Virginia candidate this election cycle. Most of his money came from the party, including \$295,000 from the Democratic Party of Virginia, \$31,000 from the Virginia Democratic Senate Caucus and \$10,000 from Senate Majority Leader Dick Saslaw (D-35).

### Republican: Miller Baker

*money raised: \$256,000*

Baker raised \$187,000 during the primary to fend off academic Scott Martin, emerging victorious in the August primary with 73 percent of the vote. On the campaign trail, Baker has tried to cast Barker as an ineffective legislator, blaming him for the expected traffic congestion expected at the Washington Headquarters Service as part of the Base Realignment and Closure process. The G.O.P. has targeted the race as a potential ticket, with \$21,000 from the Republican Party of Virginia, \$5,000 from the Republican Committee of the 7th congressional district and \$2,500 from the political action committee controlled by Virginia Attorney General Ken Cuccinelli.

## STATE SENATE DISTRICT 30

This is an open seat created by the retirement of longtime state Sen. Patsy Ticer (D-30), who was originally elected in 1995. In redistricting, the seat became 4.6

percent more Republican. But the Democrats still have a substantial edge here, and the race is not one that is targeted by the state parties. Election returns show that 36.9 percent of the old district voted for Republican Gov. Bob McDonnell while 41.5 percent of the new district went with the G.O.P. choice.

### Democrat: Adam Ebbin

*money raised: \$324,569*

Ebbin has been a member of the House of Delegates since 2003, when he emerged from a tightly contested primary to become the party's standard-bearer. During the next three election cycles, Ebbin had no Republican opposition. During the primary this year, he raised \$278,000 fending off challenges from Alexandria City Councilman Rob Krupicka and Arlington County School Board member Libby Garvey. After pulling off an upset victory of Krupicka, who had been expected to win early in the race, Ebbin raised \$46,000 during the general election cycle.

### Republican: Tim McGhee

*money raised: \$7,000*

McGhee is a social conservative who says his decision in office would be guided by the United States Constitution and the Virginia Constitution as revised in 1971. Beyond that, McGhee says

during his appearances on the campaign trail, all his decisions would be based on "life, liberty and justice." The Republican Party has not targeted his race, although McGhee has received \$600 from the Commonwealth Republican Women's Club and \$250 from the Mount Vernon Republican Women's Club. His Democratic opponent heads into Election Day with about 18 times as much money as McGhee.

## STATE SENATE DISTRICT 35

### Democrat: Dick Saslaw

*money raised: \$1.7 million*

As the Democratic majority leader in the Virginia state Senate, Saslaw sits at the center of a complicated web of money and power. He raised money for Democrats across the commonwealth, sometimes lending his support to favored candidates in contested primaries including Arlington County Board member Barbara Favola and other times lending support to vulnerable Democrats such as state Sen. George Barker (D-39). He also raised large amounts of money from various interest groups across the state, including \$27,000 from the Virginia Dental Association, \$20,000 from Dominion Power, \$20,000 from the Medical Society of Virginia and \$20,000 from Verizon.

### Republican: Robert Sarvis

*money raised: \$26,000*

A native of Fairfax County, Sarvis is the youngest of three children of an immigrant Chinese mother

and Kansas-born father. On the campaign trail, he's tried to tag Saslaw as a leader who has failed to deliver transportation solutions for Northern Virginia. The vast majority of his money has been self-financed, including money from the candidate himself and other family members. The race is not targeted by Republicans, although Sarvis did receive \$150 from the Commonwealth Republican Women's Club.

## ALEXANDRIA CLERK OF CIRCUIT COURT

This is a low-profile but high-power race, an office that comes up for election once every eight years. It features the city's longest serving elected official against the chief architect of the "plunking" strategy that ousted two Democrats from the Alexandria City Council in 2009.

### Democrat: Ed Semonian

*money raised: \$32,000*

Semonian is the longest-serving elected official in Alexandria, holding the job of clerk of court since 1980. Back in 1979, Semonian beat out six rival Democrats in a primary and then had no Republican opposition. Since being sworn into office in 1980, he's faced no Republican opposition until now. On the campaign trail, Semonian has trumpeted his record in office as someone who modernized the clerk of court's office and created the first-ever system in Virginia that allowed

SEE VOTING, PAGE 22

# In Little Bavaria, Lots of Good Cheer

## But American beer triumphs.

BY MONTIE MARTIN  
GAZETTE PACKET

The fifth annual Alexandria Oktoberfest, sponsored by Rustico Bar and Restaurant, drew large crowds this year amidst good weather and some of the finest imported and local brews on tap.

Octoberfest is the hallmark German festival celebrated in Bavaria during the final weeks of September. In 1994 the event was modified to coincide with Germany's Unity Day on Oct. 3, when East and West Germany reunited after decades of separation as a result of the Cold War.

Activities in Alexandria included a blend of German and American fare, including bratwurst, sauerkraut, strudel, burgers, sandwiches and turkey legs.

A family section complemented the

typical Oktoberfest festivities, and included a moon bounce, face-painting and pumpkin painting. Enthusiastic residents also dressed in traditional German garb.

Missy Whittington and Judy Rainey were eager to show off their Dirndl, purchased during a recent visit to Austria.

"We never made it to Oktoberfest, but the famous Hofbräuhaus has a giant beer garden and there are always large crowds," said Whittington.

The Alexandria Oktoberfest boasted nine German brews as well as 44 American micro beers on tap.

Mike Olsen, a financial analyst with the Motley Fool, was satisfied with the disparity between German and American options.

"Local beers are more appealing, the ones from Germany are staid and boring," said Olsen. "The past few years have seen a renaissance of American micro tastes."

"It comes down to handcrafted verses a macro automated line," said Bill Butcher, CEO of Port City beer in Alexandria. "Craft beer always tastes better closer to the origin, fresh beer is local beer."

In keeping with the movement to go lo-

## O'zapst ist!

The traditional opening toast in Bavaria is reserved for the mayor of Munich once he taps the first keg at noon. Cries of "it is tapped!" will fill the beer tents as thousands await their first stein.

cal, proceeds from the Alexandria Oktoberfest benefited the Arcadia Center for Sustainable Food and Agriculture.

"We want to support farmers from our backyards instead of other countries, and Arcadia builds connections between local farmers and neighborhood restaurants," said Rustico General Manager Jason Asher. "It's important to educate people about where our food comes from, we try and put on an outstanding event with great activities and it draws a large crowd."

One popular incentive that gathered a crowd at Oktoberfest also encouraged the use of public transportation. People who took a picture of in front of the Braddock Road metro received a free beer, mug or choice of food.

"It's pretty marvelous to see so many people, especially young folks," said Glen Davis, a WWII veteran who flew sorties over



Missy Whittingham and Judy Rainey show off their Dirndl from a recent trip to Austria.

Germany. "After the war ended I enjoyed some of the real beer from Bavaria."

# NEWS

## 26.2 Miles

FROM PAGE 5

est part is building up your endurance." Jones, who began running as part of his rehabilitation at Walter Reed Medical Center, enjoyed his MCM 10K experience but has no aspirations to run the marathon.

"I'm still not a big runner," Jones said. "But I loved being part of the Marine Corps Marathon. There were a lot of people supporting us along the way. As the miles added up, I needed that. The last 100 yards were the hardest I have ever done."

The overall winner of this year's race was Army 1st Lt. Chad Ware, whose time of 2:19:16 was the fastest MCM finish since 1997. Arlington's Michael Wardian was second in 2:23:46 with Patrick Fernandez of Alexandria third in 2:26:37.

Reigning Army Ten Miler champion Tezata Dengersa won the women's race in a time of 2:45:28, followed by Emily Shertzer (2:45:55) and Getachew Shiferaw (2:47:30).

Comedian and host of "The Price Is Right" Drew Carey, a former Marine Corps reservist, completed his first marathon in 4:37:10.

"It was a nightmare," said Carey, who ran the MCM Historic Half Marathon in May in 1:57:02. "I was hoping to run under four hours but my legs kept cramping up. But I am happy I finished. I didn't quit."

At 14 years old, Cara Golias of Fairfax was the youngest of the 20,940 runners who completed the race. Running with her sister Kelsey, 15, and father Michael, she finished in 6:08:18.

Retired Marine Col. Jonathan Mendes, a bomber pilot who earned a Distinguished Flying Cross in 1953, was the race's oldest participant. The 90-year-old finished his second marathon with a time of 7:02:30.

In the 10K race, Reuben Mwei shattered the course record with a time of 0:30:37. Brian Dumm finished second in 0:32:52 with Luke Belford third with 0:33:13.

On the women's side, Arlington resident Christine Rehwald's time of 0:39:54 was good enough for third place on the podium behind Amanda Rice (0:36:30) and Jennifer Perrottet (0:39:22).

For Mueller, the motivation that first powered him onto the course has inspired him to run again next year with the goal of breaking four hours.

"I thought I would do this one time and 'check the box' when I crossed the finish line," Mueller said. "But running in the Marine Corps Marathon was more gratifying than I expected. In the end, every mile marker was a victory and while I didn't like the training, the race itself was the experience of a lifetime."

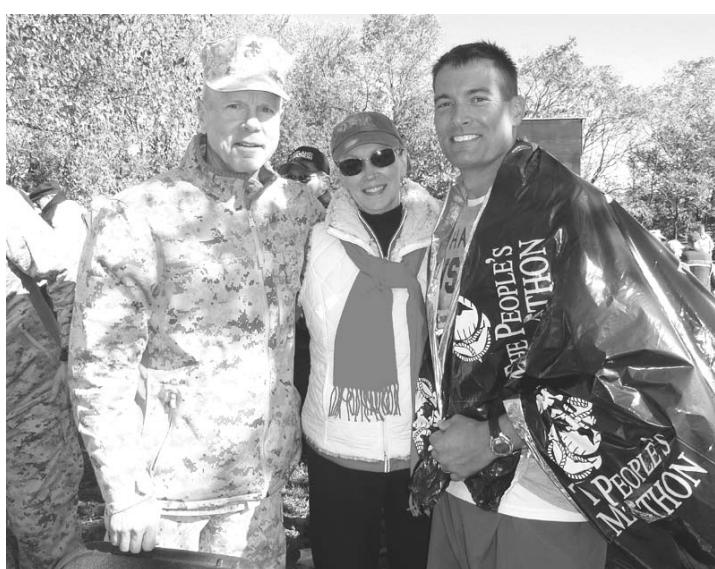


PHOTO BY JEANNE THEISMANN/CAZETTE PACKET

**Alexandria resident and USMC Major Stefan Mueller, right, is congratulated by Marine Corps Commandant Gen. James Amos and his wife Bonnie after completing the Marine Corps Marathon Oct. 30.**



PHOTO BY DEB COBB/THE CONNECTION

**Marine corporal Rob Jones crosses the finish line in the MCM 10K race in 1:35:35. Jones lost both legs in a July 22, 2010 roadside explosion in Afghanistan.**

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OF  
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DINNER GALA EVENT  
THURSDAY  
November 10, 2011  
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Join us**

For a dinner gala event honoring two of Alexandria's exemplary citizens. \$100 per seat.  
Visit Volunteer Alexandria's event profile page on Razoo for ticket and sponsorship purchase, and for further event and awardee information.

Sponsorships are available and allow Volunteer Alexandria to continue a 31-year legacy of fostering connections within the community. Can't attend but would still like to donate? See [www.VolunteerAlexandria.org](http://www.VolunteerAlexandria.org) or contact Donna Walker James for more about Volunteer Alexandria.

*Special Thanks to:* **Alexandria Gazette Packet**

# OPINION

## Vote (No Later than) Tuesday, Nov. 8

Voting early could save confusion on Election Day; most commuters eligible to vote early.

You can find Gazette Packet stories on candidates and races, plus letters from readers, on our Website, [www.ConnectionNewspapers.com](http://www.ConnectionNewspapers.com).

### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

## Different Tourists

To the Editor:

How can we get the City to stop ignoring some important public data that show how important historic preservation is to the bottom line of a locality and the state in which it is located? Ignoring these data has misled the public and entitles Alexandria officials and the business community to push for a revenue stream in its waterfront plan that they claim only hotels can offer.

Let the facts speak for themselves. Despite a declining economy, visitors to Virginia in 2007 brought in \$1.2 billion in state and local revenue. "The state tax revenue derived from tourism is enough to pay salaries and benefits of 11,500 new state police officers or educate 78,000 Virginia students," a tourism report notes. In turn, the local revenue totaled

\$592.2 million.

But, let's move on to the difference "historic preservation" visitors make. According to a study by the Preservation Alliance of Virginia, "Historic preservation visitors stay longer, visit twice as many places, and spend, on average, over two and a half times more money in Virginia than do other visitors." It continues to point out that the economic impact of Colonial Williamsburg alone on Virginia's economy is over half a billion dollars a year. Additionally: "Property values of historic buildings and sites in communities as diverse as Fredericksburg, Richmond and Staunton significantly out-perform the appreciation rates of non-historic properties." That fact translates into more property tax revenue, doesn't it?

So, based on these reports, why isn't the value of historic preservation visitors factored into the City's waterfront plan? These data would suggest that Alexandria

would bring in more visitors, ergo more money, if they concentrated on the historic aspects of the City's colonial waterfront history rather than pushing hotels that are definitely affected by economics.

Why are we rushing to support a plan that was prepared by a team that did little or no homework on how other cities are planning, developing and funding their waterfront improvements? Few, if any, are putting hotels on their valued water edges ... rather they are concentrating on public access, green vistas and activities that are suitable and available to the public. These waterfronts invite all income strata — not just those who can afford a fancy room in a fancy hotel, which in fact blocks the river view and inhibits public strolling.

Let's jump on the right bandwagon. Let's make sure that historic preservation visitation is given its valued place in our final waterfront plan. Everyone knows

We're keeping this week's editorial short to make room for more letters relevant to the election. You can vote early, "absentee in person," from now until Nov. 5 if you think that there is any chance you could be away from home for 10 hours on Election Day.

EDITORIAL Anyone who commutes or who has any sort of commitment away from home on Election Day would qualify. Remember: Saturday, Nov. 5 is the last day to vote early, absentee ballot in-person. Tuesday, Nov. 8 is Election Day, with polls open from 6 a.m. - 7 p.m.

For more election information: Alexandria Board of Elections, 703-746-4050, <http://alexandriava.gov/Elections> Fairfax County Board of Elections, 703-324-4700, [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/eb/](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/eb/) Arlington Board of Elections, 703-228-3456, <http://www.arlingtonva.us/departments/voterregistration/voterregistrationmain.aspx> City of Fairfax General Registrar, 703-385-7890, <http://www.fairfaxva.gov/Registrar/GeneralRegistrar.asp> Virginia Board of Elections <http://www.sbe.virginia.gov>

Alexandria doesn't deserve a cookie-cutter result. We deserve a waterfront that frames, embraces and enhances our waterfront's historic heritage.

Linda Couture  
Alexandria

## Fire City School Board

To the Editor:

Well, here we go again with our clueless Alexandria School Board who voted unanimously on Sept. 29, 2011 (Gazette Packet - 10-13-11) to renew Superintendent Sherman's contract for another three years ending June 30, 2015. Sherman's new contract gives him an increase in salary of \$250,000 with an annuity payment of \$40,000, plus health care, car allowance, pension and whatever else he doesn't have to pay for, but which Alexandria taxpayers are paying for. Mr. Sherman is making more money than our new city manager. And what has he done to improve the crisis in our school system except to continue to increase staff in central office, waste much needed money for classrooms and teachers for his consultants and still hasn't improved elementary, middle school achievement. Although T.C. Williams now has a new principal showing great promise, the one and only high school in Alexandria still isn't making the grade. I would suggest that the School Board no longer receives any salary as we taxpayers are paying their salary as they continue to defend very little success with Alexandria schools.

School Board members just go along with their talking points about how well things are improving with our school district and according to School Board members Charles Wilson and Ronnie Campbell the board always has "spirited discussions or disagree-

Alexandria  
**Gazette Packet**

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To discuss ideas and concerns,  
Call: 703-778-9410  
e-mail:  
[gazette@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:gazette@connectionnewspapers.com)

**Steven Mauren**  
Editor, 703-778-9415  
[smauren@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:smauren@connectionnewspapers.com)

**Michael Lee Pope**  
Reporter, 703-615-0960  
[@MichaelLeePope](mailto:mppope@connectionnewspapers.com)

**Steve Hibbard**  
Associate Editor, 703-778-9412  
[shibbard@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:shibbard@connectionnewspapers.com)

**Jon Roetman**  
Sports Editor, 703-224-3015  
[@jroetman](mailto:jroetman@connectionnewspapers.com)

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SEE LETTERS, PAGE II



### Snapshot

2:13 p.m., Oct. 16: The Big Meow at the Athenaeum.

## LETTERS

FROM PAGE 10

ments." Really? School Board Chair Sheryl Gorsuch defends the raise/renewal with comments that they realize the board needs to continue to reach out to the community, interact with citizens and staff and states for "meaningful gains to be made it's the long term commitment that matters." What has this School Board been doing for the past three years?

Well, I say its time for an appointed school board rather than an elected one, to eliminate the salary for all School Board members, to eliminate the increase in staff in central office and for Sherman to remember that this is a public school district and Alexandria taxpayers want results and not talk to further enhance his future and the failure of the School Board to act appropriately.

**Annabelle Fisher**  
Alexandria

## Council's Legacy?

To the Editor:

I have not been involved in the debate regarding the waterfront between a citizens' group in Alex-

andria and those on the side of a plan put together by city employees. My time has been occupied with my newborn son. However, I have been following with interest the editorial comments on both sides and have saved a number of the comments. As I understand the issue, the citizens disagree with the city employees' proposal to redevelop the Alexandria waterfront by including hotels, greater height allowances and increased density. Instead, the citizens are advocating for public parks, walkways adjacent to the river and educational facilities focusing on the historical significance of the city and of the river as an essential part of that history. The other side seems to be suggesting that such an approach would benefit only a few who live in the historical portion of Alexandria, while the city's plan with hotels and added density would benefit all of the citizens.

I love the historical element of our city and strongly believe that the land adjacent to the river should be preserved and open to all citizens and guests of the city for their enjoyment and for their education regarding the cultural and historical aspects of our community. How anyone could con-

clude that a riverfront public park in a historical area benefits only a few is beyond me.

As a new mother, I think a lot about the kind of neighborhood, and by extension, world, my son will grow up in. What will be the legacy of our city council, which I understand will be making the final decision on this matter: A legacy of hotels, taller buildings and increased density on the banks of our historic river, or a legacy of public parks, walkways and educational attractions which promote the use of the river and adjoining lands for the pleasure, education, and welfare of all the people of this city and the many visitors who will be attracted to the city as a place they want to see and enjoy.

**Jennifer Greene**  
Del Ray

## Well-Deserved Reputation

To the Editor:

The citizens of Alexandria are fortunate to have had Ed Semonian serve as the Clerk of Circuit Court for the past 31 years.

SEE LETTERS, PAGE 12

## Safety Measures Put Patients First

BY CHRISTINE CANDIO, RN, FACHE  
CEO, INOVA ALEXANDRIA HOSPITAL



Inova's healthcare workers are vaccinated against the flu. Are you? Have you gotten your flu shot yet? I did. And by the end of this month, every Inova employee, physician, nurse, student, and volunteer with direct or close patient contact will also be vaccinated. It's part of our ongoing commitment to putting the safety of our patients first: By staying healthy ourselves, we can help the community stay healthy, too.

### COMMENTARY

Inova adopted the flu vaccination requirement for its work force this year based on clinical evidence showing that vaccination of healthcare workers reduces patient illness and death. (Exceptions are allowed for those with certain medical or religious reasons.) Vaccination is also the single most effective means of preventing the spread of the virus, which is already making the rounds throughout our community and Virginia. In fact, the Virginia Department of Health confirmed the state's first case of flu early last month.

With the onset of colder weather and holidays that bring us indoors and in close contact with others, I urge you to vaccinate yourselves and your family. Even if you were vaccinated in prior years, you still need an annual shot for full protection because flu strains often change from year to year. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recommends the vaccine for everyone six months and older.

Inova HealthSource offers community vaccination clinics throughout the D.C. metropolitan area.

Our experienced nurses have been providing flu shots as part of the "Fight the Flu" campaign for 16 years. You'll find an extensive listing of community clinics and flu facts listed on our website at [inova.org/flu](http://inova.org/flu). Please note that children age four and under must attend one of our hospital-based community clinics.

**Bedside shift changes improve communication**  
Patient safety is also the focus of a recent Inova-wide initiative that gives patients greater involvement in their care plan. With grant money awarded from the prestigious Picker Institute's "Always Challenge," Inova developed a protocol to always involve patients in their caregiver's shift changes. Research conducted by the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality found that shift changes often pose a communication challenge because important patient information can be overlooked, posing a potential safety risk.

As part of the grant, investigators are researching patients' perceptions of clinical staff conducting shift changes at the patient's bedside – not at a hallway nurse's station – using a standardized process. The idea is to engage patients in their care, allow them to meet their caregivers, encourage them to ask questions and raise any safety concerns.

Study data will be submitted to the Picker Institute, which will publish best practices gleaned from the Always Challenge to help hospitals nationwide improve patient safety. Read more at [pickerinstitute.org](http://pickerinstitute.org).

## I Paid To Vote

BY HARRY COVERT

One of the most exciting days of the year for me has always been Election Day. This day not only has been the climax of political campaigning and campaigners but back in my young days it was somewhat of a social event, really a fun day.

On the day I reached 21 years of age, I proudly and innocently marched down to the city's voter registration office. There in the courthouse Mrs. Inez Ashe, Hampton's Registrar, had a few questions for me. Was I a property owner? Had I paid my taxes? How long had I lived in the city? I also produced a copy of my birth certificate and even my draft card, which I still have, all brown with age and showing 1-A. I never burned it and was never called up.

At the moment Mrs. Ashe's questioning seemed akin to being interrogated by the city police. All I wanted to do was vote. I did what I was told and signed the form. I was excited and ready for the next election, which would have been the spring primaries. Then Mrs. Ashe said, "You gotta pay the poll tax." No one had alerted me about more taxes. But a tax to vote? I put up a small argument but Mrs. Ashe didn't crack a smile. Firmly as a prison matron, she said, "if you want to vote you have to pay the \$1.50 poll tax." I had a dollar bill and at least 50 cents in assorted change. I just made it.

In today's world I chuckle when I hear about people who have trouble pulling the right lever or punching out the right holes. In my early days you just marked the ballot with a pencil, paid the poll tax and kept the receipt just in case you were challenged. You couldn't pay the tax the day before the election or the day of the voting.

In the Commonwealth of Virginia, several things were important in elections. It was advantageous to be a Democrat. It was smart to be a supporter of Winchester's Harry Flood Byrd, Senior, and also the local members of the Byrd Machine.

Whatever office you wanted to run for you had to have the Byrd blessing. Of course, you had to be a public Democrat, too. Another caveat was you had to pay the poll tax, thanks also to the Byrd Machine. And there was such an organization.

Now a \$1.50 was quite a high fee for a lot of people back in the '50s and '60s. I was such an

innocent it was only then I realized the reason for the poll tax: to keep "some" people from voting. No one wanted to admit it but those "some" people were primarily the black families and poor whites all over the Commonwealth and throughout the south.

I started working the polls. In those days the Commonwealth allowed everybody to get a driver's license at age 15 if you could pass the written, the driving and then the parking test. There was intimidation for a 15-year-old and that was with the uniformed and armed Division of Motor Vehicles agents, dressed similar to the State Police. You had to drive around the block, give hand signals out of the window and then park between two imaginary cars without bumping the curb. I passed the test in January.

In the spring, there came the primary elections. A "machine" friend offered me an Election Day job. I couldn't vote, but I could drive people to the polls. I loved it. The pay was five bucks and a lot of tips. We managed to get many people safely to the voting booths and no one complained.

Precincts were fun to be around. We'd pick up the voters, drive to the proper voting place and wait. While we were waiting we could enjoy all kinds of homemade cakes and pies and sandwiches. I liked the chocolate meringue pies and political talk.

Sometimes, we had to make late rides because it was getting near to closing time and the candidate or candidates needed an extra bit of help.

I didn't know the difference between the parties in those days. There weren't any because there was just one, Byrd Democrats. In those days we pretty well knew who was going to win on all levels. You couldn't even be a local precinct leader of the local Democratic executive committee unless you had permission and the approval of Senator Byrd's team.

Of course, now we voters and workers are a bit more sophisticated, some even superannuated. We have real voting rules, mainly no \$1.50 poll tax and 18 year olds can vote. Times have changed. Fifteen-year-olds can't have a full-fledged driver's license.

This year, we don't know who's going to win the elections before hand. Even the so-called experts really can't honestly predict. And I'm not either.

## OPINION

# Bold Action Can Create Jobs, Protect Environment

BY DAVID ENGLIN  
STATE DELEGATE (D-45)  
VICE CHAIRMAN, HOUSE DEMOCRATIC  
CAUCUS



**T**here is a global scientific consensus that climate change is real and it's the result of human activity that began during the Industrial Revolution and continues today. Unfortunately, the discussion about how to respond to this reality is too often framed as a fight between protecting the environment and creating jobs, as if the two are somehow mutually exclusive.

**COMMENTARY**  
Virginia cannot afford to sit on the sidelines or be distracted by side-shows. In 2009, I wrote legislation to offer tax incentives for companies that create new jobs in the renewable energy field. In 2010, a version of that legislation passed the General Assembly as the Green Jobs Tax Credit. That was a practical step in the right direction, but with even bolder action, we can create thousands of new jobs in Virginia by rising to the climate change challenge to

our environment and our future.

First, we should require that by 2020, 20 percent of all electricity sold in Virginia must come from renewable sources, such as wind and solar. Currently, Virginia has an unenforceable voluntary goal of

15 percent renewable energy by 2025. While that is better than nothing, we remain the only mid-Atlantic state besides West Virginia without a mandatory Renewable Portfolio Standard. Aside from a weak approach to addressing climate change, this puts us at an economic disadvantage. The jobs and capital investment required to build and generate renewable energy is going to states where their utilities are required to buy the renewable energy they produce.

Second, we need to start thinking about energy efficiency as if it were an energy source no different from wind, solar, or even coal. Instead of trying to satisfy the increas-

ing demand for electricity only by generating more electricity, it is far less expensive to meet growing demand by improving energy efficiency. The American Council for an Energy-Efficient Economy recommends that Virginia adopt a mandatory Energy Efficiency Resource Standard requiring that we meet 19 percent of Virginia's energy needs by 2025 through increased energy efficiency.

This would result in thousands of new jobs in fields as diverse as research and development, manufacturing, installation and construction, and information systems. Moreover, increasing energy efficiency is a way for families and businesses to maintain quality of life and economic growth while actually lowering their own energy costs.

Third, Virginia's utility regulators need to be more hospitable to the development of renewable energy, in particular, offshore wind power generation. Virginia has been called "the Saudi Arabia of offshore wind," with more untapped potential for offshore wind generation than any other east coast state. Some estimates suggest that offshore

wind could produce more than 10,000 Virginia jobs and add more than \$19 billion to Virginia's GDP. Studies have also shown that the cost of offshore wind electricity compares favorably to fossil fuels once environmental, health, and economic development benefits are considered. Unfortunately, the State Corporation Commission, which regulates utilities and determines whether utility-scale offshore wind projects can move forward, is not authorized to consider those external costs.

The General Assembly must remove this artificial barrier, so Virginians can enjoy the environmental and economic benefits of offshore wind and other alternative energy technologies.

There are a number of specific policy proposals that could move Virginia in the direction of a clean energy economy, and I have supported and worked on many of them over the years. But the fact remains that we must take bold steps toward systemic change so we can protect future generations from environmental catastrophe while creating a stronger, more prosperous future.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

FROM PAGE II

It was my honor to serve in this position for Arlington County and the City of Falls Church for 31 years and I can attest to Mr. Semonian's professionalism, leadership and vast technical knowledge in his outstanding years of service. His office was among the first to go "paperless" and has instituted many on-line services that benefit professionals and citizens on a daily basis. Most importantly, however, Ed and his staff have earned a well-deserved reputation for being accessible and helpful to the public. The Supreme Court of Virginia has only one Clerk on its Advisory Committee on Rules of Court. That person is Ed Semonian. His office is one that others seek to emulate. As a former president of the Virginia Court Clerk's Association I can say with some degree of authority that Alexandria's Clerk's Office is one of the best run anywhere. Ed Semonian is deserving of overwhelming re-election.

### David A. Bell

Retired Clerk of Circuit Court, Arlington County and the City of Falls Church

## Supports e-recording

To the Editor:

As the owner of a law firm and real estate title company, I am voting for Chris Marston for Clerk of Court.

When Chris decided to run for Clerk, he reached out to the leaders in the industry at the Virginia Land Title Association and the Property Records Industry Association to find out how the real estate deeds and other property records processes could be improved.

Chris is committed to working closely with title companies like mine to ensure that homeowners can count on the property records process to be quick, efficient and correct when they buy and sell their homes.

In Fairfax County, e-recording, the electronic recording of deeds without a trip to the court house, is already available. I see no reason why Alexandria cannot do the same. It's time that Alexandria catches up and Chris is committed to getting us there.

**Christopher I. Kachouroff, Esq.**  
Dominion Law Center, PC.

## Transformed Clerk's Office

To The Editor:

Originally as a member of Alexandria Police Department, and then as Sheriff of the City of Alexandria, it has been my distinct pleasure to work with Ed Semonian, Alexandria's Clerk of the Circuit Court. He and his staff are efficient, professional and courteous as they provide essential services to the citizens of Alexandria.

Over the years — and ahead of most other Clerk's offices — Ed transformed the Alexandria office into a mostly paperless, computer driven, on-line and customer friendly experience for all of us. Court dockets and filings are available on line and the researching of property records is streamlined.

The Clerk's web site clearly explains which services require an in-person appearance. Applications for those services — such as marriage licenses and weapons permits — are available for downloading. The applicants can fill them out in advance and bring them in. I see no realistic difference between the existing system and that pro-

posed by Mr. Semonian's opponent.

I am also concerned that his opponent admits that he is proposing initiatives without knowing what they will cost. In these difficult financial times, voters deserve to know how much of their hard earned money a candidate wants to spend.

Ed Semonian does an excellent job for Alexandria.

He does it in a modest way and he seeks to serve, not to receive accolades. Ed Semonian deserves your vote on November 8, 2011. Please make the effort to give back to him for all he has done for our City.

**Dana Lawhorne,**  
Sheriff, City of Alexandria

## Independent Perspective

To the Editor:

As an independent and not shackled by the bonds of a party, I can vote for the person who is best qualified for the job. Therefore I'm supporting Chris Marston for Clerk. He is young and will bring 21st century technology to the job unlike the current City Clerk who represents the past. Plus in a non partisan job, I prefer that my Clerk not to be political. As in signs I've seen by the current clerk who says "Democrat and working for US." Well I'm not a Democrat so he must be not working for me. So I hope that everyone can throw off their chains and vote the best man that will bring the office into the 21st century, Chris Marston, who will work for everyone regardless of party.

**Jacqueline Condakes**  
Alexandria

## Redevelopment

## Needs Revenue

To the Editor:

Responding to critics who argued that his economic theories would hurt economies in the long run, John Maynard Keynes famously quipped "In the long run we are all dead." Citizens for an Alternative Alexandria Waterfront appears to have adopted a long-run strategy for opposing the city planning commission's waterfront proposal by delaying and obstructing it until the plan, if not its proponents, is dead.

The CAAW mantra is that the waterfront should be dedicated to "parks, arts, and museums" in order to "rediscover, protect and revitalize" it. But the proliferation of "Don't Rezone the Waterfront" signs, principally along South Union Street, suggests that opposition to the commission's plan may stem as much from concerns with protecting the interests of the relatively few Alexandrians who live near the waterfront as it does with preserving its historical character.

In any case, parks, arts, and museums, however aesthetically pleasing, are no more reflective of the bustling, gritty port function of old Alexandria than the shabby, largely lifeless, remnants of that past — the motley collection of warehouses, dilapidated buildings, and pot-holed parking lots — which now blight the waterfront, much of it for decades. Nor would parks and museums likely generate the revenue needed to address other vital interests such as flood control measures to end the embarrassing recurring, and often televised, spectacle of kayakers paddling on South Union and King Streets past hapless sandbagged shopkeep

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# OPINION

FROM PAGE 12

ers. Tourism is vital to the economic health of our city. People visit Old Town because of its small town charm and historical ambience, its pedestrian-friendly streets, and the wonderfully eclectic offering of shops and restaurants. By all means, we should enhance our parks and build a museum to celebrate Alexandria's history as a port city. But it's time to move ahead on the commission's plan — yes, including appropriately designed and scaled hotels — that will bring sorely needed, and long overdue, improvements to the waterfront and attract economic activity, and jobs, to the city. In the long run, all of Alexandria's citizens will be better off.

**Edward A. Lenz**  
Alexandria

## History Enthusiast

To the Editor:  
As a history enthusiast, I'm supporting Chris Marston for Clerk of Court.

The Clerk is the custodian of important historical documents and I believe a love of history is an important qualification for the office.

In addition to his great plans for e-signatures, e-filing, and a 24/7 website, Chris Marston's love of history best qualify him to be Alexandria's next Clerk.

Chris has served for over a decade in leadership roles at the Library of Virginia, our state's archives and records management agency. He worked with the Friends of the Freedmen's Cemetery to secure their tax exempt status. An amateur genealogist, he's a member of the local Sons of the American Revolution Chapter. And, among many other volunteer roles with the Boy Scouts, he's a merit badge counselor for American Heritage Merit Badge at the annual merit badge jamboree.

**Linda Greenberg**  
Alexandria

## Professional Manager

To the Editor:  
The Clerk of Court has been an elected position in Alexandria over the centuries. It is also a position that should be occupied by a professional manager whose work has been shown to be efficient and non-partisan. The Clerk of Court is responsible for serving the judges in day-to-day operation of the courts, recording all real estate transactions and arranging for their preservation over time, initiating probate of wills, issuing marriage licenses, and performing countless ministerial duties essential to the smooth and efficient operation of our community. Edward Semonian was recruited for this important position from his work as a bank trust officer and he has served Alexandria and its courts as a superbly efficient professional manager over the years, skillfully operating the Clerk's office with foresight and ultimate non-partisan reliability.

He should not be replaced. He should be returned to office on Nov. 8 by every thoughtful voter.

**William E. O'Neill**

## Keep School Calendar As Is

To the Editor:

In response to Rob Krupicka's recent letter to the editor regarding the early start day for ACPS. I would like Mr. Krupicka to know that my family believes that the democratic process won when he lost; and we support the General Assembly keeping the school calendar as it is. You see, we voted against Mr. Krupicka because he supported an early start and the current waterfront development proposal. While some may believe that the General Assembly and State Board of Education involvement is bureaucracy or state meddling in local affairs, we appreciate it because it saves parents (who in even the ACPS survey demonstrated strong support for calendar status quo) from the ACPS school board that largely rubber stamps the superintendent's prerogatives. In addition the ACPS school board often acts first then asks later; so parents are left to cause a huge commotion about changes to prevent their imminent (or behind closed doors) adoption.

Some on School Board may like year-round school or be so worried about helping those students that are not getting support at home to succeed that they want to increase school time in order to make up for lack of parent support. I don't support this as a rational reason to change the school year start. It is not just amusement parks that like this start date, much as those like Mr. Krupicka like to color the issue to make light of it. In an area of the state where so much revolves around congressional action, having Labor Day weekend is a benefit as congressional recess means this can be last chance at long vacation. Frankly, ACPS has also not shown how this proposal would make any sense financially. It is hotter in August than June, what about increased expenses for air conditioning? How about increased teacher hours, is compensation really going to be adequate and even if so, is this the right way to spend money in tight fiscal times? Finally, how about an early week session specifically for students who are struggling? How about exploring family supports or interventions that may help those individual students. Why assume that any student performance problems can be solved by an en masse longer school day or year?

It may be more challenging to actually look at individual student issues and then try to figure out how teachers and classrooms can respond to bring everyone up in test scores, graduation rates, etc. But, it would seem to be better time and money spent to actually address the struggles. Our student is well supported and excels, it takes a lot of family time to make this happen; no amount of extra time at school could ever replace parental involvement.

I am grateful that Virginia Assembly remains involved, unfortunately I don't find

## Supporting Community Pillars

BY KATHARINE MEDINA, CAPS  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR  
REBUILDING TOGETHER ALEXANDRIA



**A**rchie\* loves this time of year because he gets to enjoy the football games played by T.C. Williams' students. He fondly remembers teaching some of the kids how to play the sport — some of whom as adults now live in his neighborhood.

**COMMENTARY** Archie first moved to Alexandria from the south in the early '60s, following years in the 1st Calvary in Korea. Moving in with his aunt on Queen Street, he searched for a government job, and in 1965 when the Pentagon was the "first to call," he accepted. In 1971, though racial tensions were high in Alexandria, he bought a two-story brick row home for his wife and two children in a community with an easy commute to work.

He remembers the flooding in his neighborhood during those early years and recalls "police and firemen coming in on boats to rescue people. Refrigerators were floating in my neighbors' kitchens." With water rising, he helped many of them lift their furniture onto higher ground. And Archie remembers the water marker a street away, reaching eight feet at its peak.

Archie is like many Rebuilding Together Alexandria clients who are proud homeowners; but due to life circumstances, they have a hard time maintaining their homes. Most of our clients make less than \$22,000, making them part of the more than 25 million households across the country living near the poverty level. Unfortunately, these households typically live in less efficient homes and pay a far higher share of their incomes for home energy, 14 percent vs. 3.5 percent for higher-income households, according to the Department of Energy.

Helping low-income homeowners winterize their homes helps them save money and it also helps protect the environment. Home repairs are also an important way to keep them healthy and

living in their homes — which is important to the stability of many neighborhoods.

That's why when Archie was having a difficult time making needed repairs, he reached out to Rebuilding Together Alexandria for free home repair services. Rebuilding Together has already installed a new energy-efficient furnace, replacing one that hasn't worked in years. And on Nov. 5, volunteers will weatherize Archie's home as part of a larger group of volunteers that join together for Energize Alexandria, a day devoted to making Archie's home and many other Alexandria homes ready for the winter.

By weather stripping, caulking, sealing air gaps and outlets, and installing insulation, volunteers will reduce the amount of air infiltrating many of our clients' homes. Replacing homeowners' incandescent light bulbs with compact fluorescents will use up to 75 percent less electricity and last up to 13 times longer.

Our volunteers' work enables homeowners to save money on utility bills, thrive in cleaner home environments, and be able to afford other essential needs. For Archie, these repairs, along with a new energy-efficient heating system, mean he will save approximately 20-40 percent on annual utility bills and live in a warmer, more comfortable home. Most importantly for this veteran, he will be able to hold down his first home for another winter.

Contact Rebuilding Together Alexandria if you know of homeowners in need, including elderly, disabled, military veterans and families. If you'd like to volunteer or donate, visit [www.rebuildingtogetheralex.org](http://www.rebuildingtogetheralex.org) or call 703-836-1021. For more tips on greening your home or to test your green housing IQ, visit the How-To section on our website.

\* Rebuilding Together Alexandria's organizational policy is to not disclose full names.

school board receptive to any contrary viewpoints — I have only ever seen it slow them down, they never change direction.

**Angela M. Ostrom**  
Alexandria

## Importance Of Moderation

To the Editor:

When I ran for the Senate four years ago, I pledged to represent the people of the 39th District with energy, accountability, and full-

time dedication. I believe I have accomplished much for the people of Northern Virginia thus far, and would be humbled to receive your vote again on Nov. 8.

Working with both Democrats and Republicans, I was the only Northern Virginia senator to get 20 bills passed this year, with measures to bring jobs to our region, protect women from dating violence, and give our returning veterans in-state tuition rates at our universities. I also carried three successful bills for Gov. McDonnell.

The most gratifying part of working in Richmond is the spirit of balance and com-

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# LETTERS

FROM PAGE 13

I promise that distinguishes us from Washington. With split control of state government, we are able to get more done, such as balancing the 2011 budget unanimously without a tax increase, which resulted in a \$500 million surplus. Extremism and partisanship don't accomplish these goals — moderation and effectiveness do.

I still have much I hope to accomplish in the Senate, such as improving accountability at senior retirement communities, restoring K-12 funding, expanding capacity at our Virginia colleges to get more slots for Virginia students, and developing a long-term funding source to ease our transportation woes. These are areas in which I believe Democrats and Republicans, the House and the Senate, and Gov. McDonnell can work together to make real progress.

I would be honored to serve you for another term in the Senate.

**George Lincoln Barker**

Senator, 39th District  
Fairfax and Prince William counties and  
the City of Alexandria

## A Tale of Two Bridges

To the Editor:

This tale is about a bridge that had many lives but lives no more except in the minds of some who have memorialized the bridge

that was and not understood the bridge that is. On a recent trip to Alexandria from my home in Florida, I biked over the bridge that connects Route 1 to Jefferson Davis Highway. When I arrived at the bottom of the bridge I discovered a plaque mounted on a stone. The plaque said "Monroe Avenue Bridge Fall 2009." The plaque then listed current and former City Council members and staff, Pulte officers, attorneys and such. What dismayed me was the lack of a narrative for how this bridge came to be. Alexandria is proud of its long history rooted in the birth and development of this nation. The City meticulously documents what happened in the City and its significance. Yet history is continually being made but if the stories stop so does history.

The Monroe Avenue Bridge, the one that is no more, has a long history and as a former resident who lived on Powhatan Street for 30 years and in Alexandria for 34 years I know quite a bit about that history. There was the original bridge and the bridge that the late Dayton Cook, director of Transportation and Environmental Services and the Virginia Department of Highways wanted to build to replace that original Monroe Avenue Bridge. The proposed double span bridge that supersized the then existing bridge and that would have placed Del Ray and Northeast in the direct pathway of so much commuter traffic was fortunately defeated by a brave woman from the Ozarks, my neighbor, the late Jean

Caldwell, who sued the State under the 1971 National Environmental Protection Act. I remember Dayton mounting the framed rendering on the wall behind his desk long after the demise of this concept was adjudicated.

Yet the deteriorating Monroe Avenue bridge had to be replaced but only so under guidelines provide by the courts — a single span bridge no more than two lanes in each direction. When the Northeast citizens were asked about the design of the new bridge they had one aim in mind. No longer should this highway bridge be directly connected to Powhatan Street and the local, neighborhood street system. Instead the eastern end of the new Monroe Avenue Bridge would be moved south and an indirect connection made to Powhatan. Land on the eastern end would be consolidated with street right of way to form a parcel for redevelopment (the current Powhatan Place residences).

The new Monroe Avenue Bridge was built but had an odd alignment. Since the eastern end was moved south but the western end connected to Monroe Avenue stayed connected to Monroe Avenue via a ramp the entire bridge zig-zagged across the Potomac Railroad Yards. There was a blind spot on the western end which caused some southbound drivers to continue straight when to do so would lead them into the bridge or perhaps clear off the bridge. As a result large sand-filled yellow buffer struc-

tures were strategically placed to prevent such drivers from flying off the bridge. Northbound traffic experienced the hazard of not being able to see the traffic light on Jefferson Davis Highway because of the sharp-angled approach. A flashing light was installed to warn drivers that yet another traffic light was approaching around the corner. This was a dangerous bridge dysfunctional by design or by unintended consequences.

With the closing of the railroad yard and the relocation of the mainline freight and passenger rail tracks consolidated to the east to join the Metrorail tracks, the Monroe Avenue Bridge truly became obsolete. The redevelopment of the Potomac Yard meant that new road infrastructure was needed to accommodate local and regional traffic. The rail consolidation meant that there was no reason for the bridge to clear over tracks on the Del Ray side that were no longer there.

Yet the former developer of the Yard proposed to construct a ramp on the eastern end of the bridge and construct a four-lane roadway (Potomac Avenue) which, in my mind and in the mind of my colleague Marlin Lord, would only compound the problem of an ill designed bridge trying to accommodate more traffic. The Potomac Yard redevelopment plan as submitted by the

SEE LETTERS, PAGE 31

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# NEWS



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## The Stars of Inova

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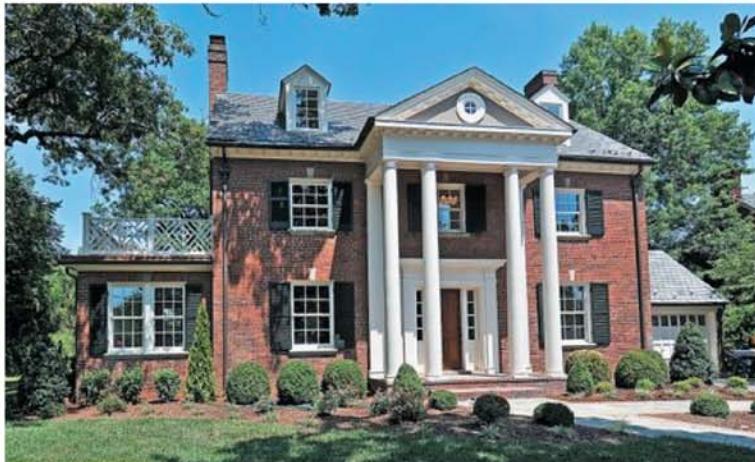
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## WELL BEING

### Lifestyle Change Key in Diabetes

A matter of nutrition and exercise.

BY MONTIE MARTIN  
GAZETTE PACKET

**Americans today are more at risk of developing type II diabetes than ever before. According to the Centers for Disease Control, nearly 79 million Americans are at risk of type II diabetes, roughly one third of the American population.**

Developed in response to research conducted by the National Institutes for Health, a program based on 16 group sessions, led by a trained professional, has emerged that can effectively prevent or delay the onset of diabetes by 58 percent.

The program, implemented nationwide in 23 states by the YMCA with support from the CDC, started Oct. 24 at the Alexandria branch of the YMCA.

Although type II diabetes is preventable, doing so requires a change in lifestyle. At risk individuals must permanently alter their diet to more nutritious foods and increase their physical activity. Lifestyle

**"Group support helps maintain long-term change."**

**— Irmina Ulysse, Director, YMCA Diabetes Prevention Program**

dialysis is required. Diabetes can also lead to strokes and heart attacks."

SEE DIABETES, PAGE 19

### Synergism

According to Dr. Steven Haering, director of the Alexandria Department of health, when individuals at risk of diabetes smoke, the effects are multiplied and lead to a significantly higher risk of stroke and heart attacks.



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\*Source: The U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics Monthly Labor Review November 2007

\*\*The on-site Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) degree program can be completed in three years of year-round study instead of the typical four years with summers off.

Chamberlain College of Nursing 2450 Crystal Drive, Arlington, VA 22202 is certified to operate by the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia, 101 N. 14th Street, 10th Floor, James Monroe Building, Richmond, VA 23219, 804.225.2600. Chamberlain College of Nursing has provisional approval from the Virginia Board of Nursing, Perimeter Center, 9980 Mayland Drive, Suite 300, Henrico, Virginia 23233-1463, 804.387.4515.

# WELL BEING

## Diabetes

FROM PAGE 18

Smoking magnifies the adverse health effects related to diabetes, and leads to a higher risk of strokes and heart attacks.

Whether it is smoking or prevention of diabetes, a lifestyle change must occur, and permanent change is most effective in-group settings.

"Group support helps maintain long-term change," said Irmina Ulysse, director of the YMCA Diabetes Prevention Program. "A classroom format allows for peer support, and can be applied to adapting needs. Individuals feel a sense of loyalty to the group and a sense of ownership."

Some diabetes prevention methods may seem unorthodox, yet they are a proven way to stay healthy.

"Park your car further away from your destination," said Dr. Haering. "Take the stairs. Get 30 minutes of physical activity a day and maintain a nutritious diet. Diabetes is preventable."

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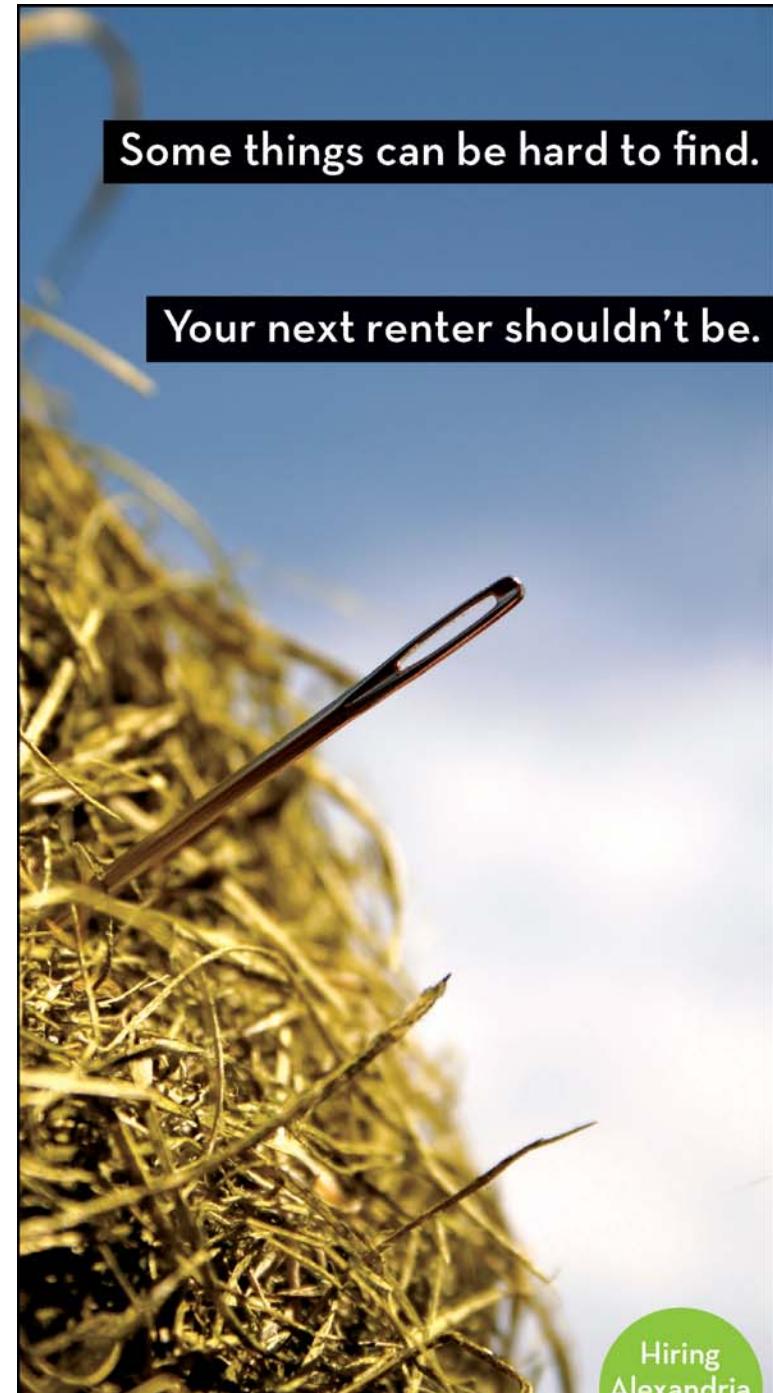
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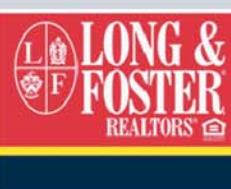
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# ALEXANDRIA

## OPEN HOUSE EXTRAVAGANZA 11/06/2011!



Managing Broker  
Bill Jourdan

**OPEN SUN JUST LISTED!**

7929 Bayberry Dr \$549,000  
*Spacious Home-Two Car Garage!*  
A large home in prime location with an oversize 2 car garage for under \$550,000 is the hardest property to find! Spacious home with 5 levels, 4 bedrooms including private master suite, hardwood floors and many updates throughout. Gorgeous setting minutes from Old Town. OPEN SUN 11/6, 1-4! GW Pkwy S; R-Collingwood; R-Candlewood; L-Bayberry.

**OPEN SUN JUST LISTED!**

3805 Riverwood Rd \$679,000  
*Unique Opportunity!*  
Large home just substantially updated priced for immediate sale! Many fab features include: 3 fin levels, 4BR, updated kitchen and baths, new HVAC system and side load two car garage. Home was just completely redecorated and is in "move-in" condition. Prime location on large corner lot. Best price in neighborhood. OPEN SUN 11/6, 1-4! GW Pkwy S, past estate; L-Old Mount Vernon Rd; L-Riverwood Rd.

**OPEN SUN JUST LISTED!**

2300 Candlewood \$585,000  
*Expanded Tri-Level!*  
Builder's own! Exceptionally large well maintained home for the money! Fabulous property in prime location featuring 4 bedrooms, bright open floor plan, finished lower level and large breakfast kitchen area. Most major rooms have been substantially expanded. Private backyard features large pool and deck. Unique opportunity! OPEN SUN 11/6, 1-4! GW Pkwy S; R-Collingwood; R-Candlewood.

**OPEN SUN JUST LISTED!**

8723 Badger Dr \$439,000  
*Stunning Renovation!*  
Completely renovated - shows like model home! Prime location on huge lot fronting quiet street in the heart of Mt. Vernon. Virtually every major component including roof, appliances, kitchen and baths are brand new! Just minutes from Fort Belvoir. Great value! OPEN SUN 11/6, 1-4! GW Pkwy S, past estate; R-Old Mill; R-Badger.

**OPEN SUN JUST LISTED!**

8612 Fort Hunt Rd \$739,000  
*Total Renovation - Fort Hunt Area!*  
Classic brick colonial just totally renovated from top to bottom by one of area's leading builders. Special features include: three luxuriously finished levels, large room sizes, gourmet kitchen, four BRs, including stunning master suite, updated baths, gorgeous hardwood floors, garage parking and fabulous private backyard. Sought after Fort Hunt area! OPEN SUN 11/6, 1-4! GW Pkwy S; R-Collingwood; L-Fort Hunt Rd.

**NEW HOME JUST LISTED!**

516A E. Howell Ave \$679,000  
*Del Ray-Rare Opportunity!*  
Exceptionally spacious home by one of area's leading builders in prime location. Four stories of luxury featuring bright open floor plan, open kitchen-family room, stunning master suite and private rear yard and deck. Unique combination of close-in convenience with up to date floor plan and amenities. Buy during construction and customize to suit your taste. (Photo is rendition)

**JUST LISTED!**

9387 Mount Vernon Cir \$979,000  
*Majestic Home-Mt. Vernon on the Potomac!*  
Unique opportunity-bargain price on property with true estate potential in area's leading waterfront community. Private marina access. Home offers approx 6,000 sq ft living space, brick exterior, spacious rooms, open kitchen-family room, high ceilings, library with custom built-ins, 3 finished levels, 4FPs and oversized garage. Half acre grounds, custom pool.

**NEW PRICE JUST LISTED!**

8890 McNair Dr \$699,000  
*Pristine Custom Colonial!*  
Custom colonial in enclave of 17 homes on quiet cul-de-sac surrounded by grounds of Mt Vernon Country Club. Many fabulous features include: large room sizes, stained hardwood floors, updated kit & baths, open kitchen-family room, upgraded trim detail & custom built-ins. Spacious master suite and 2 car gar. Pristine condition on gorgeous professionally landscaped lot.

**NEW PRICE JUST LISTED!**

3718 Carriage House Ct \$699,000  
*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!

**SOLD!**

4503 Ferry Landing Rd \$585,000 One  
*Level Luxury! Rare opportunity!*  
Spacious one lvl home in premier opportunity. Owner wants to miss

**SOLD!**

1907 Rampart Dr \$587,000 Stunning Home  
*Amazing Price!*  
moved and sell now! Don't out on this unique opportunity to acquire a

**SOLD!**

4313 Amblewood \$298,000 Terrific large end unit townhouse  
*just minutes to Fort Belvoir, In*



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Catherine.Foltz@longandfoster.com Catherine Foltz 703.626.6914

\$ 750,000 Alexandria 1300 A DUKE ST  
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Rich Ragan 703.307.5891

\$ 460,000 Alexandria House 400 MADISON ST #303  
NEW LISTING - has stunning river views, 2BR2BA condo w/tons of light, balcony, Mstr suite & 2 gar, well-maintained, great amenities.  
Norma Stratton 703.966.0756

\$ 410,000 Fairlington Villages 4644 31ST ST S #1738  
Full-sized, 1,500 sqft TH! Refin flrs, remodeled kit, freshpaint, Updated BA, & more.  
Connie McKeen 703.626.4417 Judy Pisciotta 703.405.4485

\$ 2,400,000 Belle Haven 2016 FORT DR  
Stunning 6BR/5.5BA w/4,000 sq ft, gourmet kit w/great rm, man cave/ media room w/ 10'0" digital projection TV, fabulous renovation!  
Suzanne Backus 703.338.3594

\$ 529,000 Alexandria 5465 PATUXENT KNOLL PL  
4 lvl, 3/4BR, 3.5 BA, & 2 car garage. Rec, fam, breakfast, liv/din rms + 4th lvl loft. Excellent location in Alexandria, short distance to everything.  
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\$ 534,999 Parker Gray Historic District 334 N PATRICK ST  
• GREAT SPACE for NEW \$!  
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\$ 650,000 Alex/off Seminary Rd 5833 COLFAX AVE  
Lovely 4BR/3.5BA, 3 level colonial, fully finished basement, 2 car garage, separate DL w/ fireplace off blkfst room.  
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## NEWS

## Voting

FROM PAGE 8

lawyers to view court documents from a remote location.

**Republican: Chris Marston**  
*money raised: \$57,000*

Marston's strategy for winning is based on the low expected turnout in Alexandria, which is 15 percent of registered voters accord-

ing to the registrar's office. Because the ballot has no statewide races driving Democrats to the polls, many voters are likely will stay home because Alexandria has no contested House races and only a handful of precincts that are in the hotly contested state Senate 39 District. Marston's path to victory would include turning out the Republican base plus bringing new people to the polls, a difficult challenge in a race as low profile as a clerk of court race.

## Calling All Band Geeks!

Help the T.C. Marching Titans  
purchase new uniforms.

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Donations of the full cost of a uniform (\$350.00) will have a uniform personalized in their honor.



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November 13<sup>th</sup>, 2011, 5:00 p.m.

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[tcwilliamsband.wordpress.com](http://tcwilliamsband.wordpress.com)

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## ENTERTAINMENT

# Schedule for the Alexandria Film Festival

The fifth-annual Alexandria Film Festival will kick off a four-day celebration of cinematic arts, featuring emerging and established filmmakers from all over the world Thursday, Nov. 3 through Sunday, Nov. 6.

More than 200 high-quality, independent, short and feature length films, documentaries, animation and narrative entries from 25 countries were received — some from as far away as China and Australia, said Pat Miller, chair of the Alexandria Commission for the Arts.

Two new locations will be added to this year's festival — the Alexandria Black History Museum and the Four Mile Run Community Center.

The Alexandria Black History Museum will feature "Checkers at 9th & S" about a checkers club whose members gather for camaraderie, trash talking, and competitive checkers playing. "Meet The Shark," "Chicago," "The Stealer," "Boy Wonder," "The Weasel," "Johnnie Cool," "The Hawk" and "The Master of Disaster," among others.

Special guests include Director Peggy Fleming and the men from The Capital Pool Checkers Club. Q&A with audience.

The Four Mile Run Community center will feature a first-time outdoor celebration with an exciting lineup of Latino films Friday, Nov. 4 at 7 p.m. This special event is free and open to the public.

The festival will conclude Sunday, Nov. 6 with a celebration of this year's Festival Jury Prize Winner "Des Indiens Comme Nous," ("Indians Like Us"), a quirky and touching film about a group of French people who share an obsession for everything Native American. When they finally arrive in the United States, they discover the reality is quite different from their idealized vision.

The 2011 Film Festival, organized and presented by the Alexandria Commission for the Arts and the Alexandria Office of the Arts, Department of Recreation, Parks & Cultural Activities, exhibits both curated and juried films that range in length from 5 minutes to 2 hours and cover a wide range of subject matter. For more information and to purchase tickets, visit the website at [AlexandriaFilm.org](http://AlexandriaFilm.org).

## Thursday/Nov. 3

### OLD TOWN THEATER 815 King Street

**ED HARDY TATTOO THE WORLD** 9 p.m.  
An artist's journey, his unexpected rise to cult status and his profound influence on pop culture. With one foot in the world of tattooing and the other planted in the fine arts, each informed the other. (Documentary, 86m, USA) Director: Emiko Omori. Special Guest: Emiko Omori. Q&A with audience.

## Friday/Nov. 4

### GEORGE WASHINGTON MASONIC MEMORIAL 101 Callahan Drive

**JOUEUSE (QUEEN TO PLAY)** 7 p.m. - Auditorium  
Sandrine Bonnaire and Kevin Kline shine in this sophisticated drama set in idyllic Corsica. Middle-aged chambermaid Hélène's newfound obsession with the game of chess leads her to seek the tutelage of a reclusive American expat, transforming both of their lives in the process. (Drama, 97m, France) Director: Caroline Bottaro. French with English Subtitles

### FOR AARON: THE DOCUMENTARY

7 p.m. - North Lodge  
A heart and soul film about coping with the death of a best friend by honoring life, not loss. Follow two lifelong friends as they embark on the greatest journey of their young lives as they cycle across America discovering just how far friendship, faith and family will carry. (Documentary, 111m, USA) Director: Justine Jarrett Special Guests: Justin Jarrett and Geoff Piraino (Cast Member). Q&A with audience.

### PROTEKTOR

D.C. Premiere 9 p.m. - Auditorium  
A young married couple finds themselves on opposite sides of the conflict after the Nazi occupation learns that the wife, a film actress, is of Jewish descent. Meanwhile, her husband, a conflicted Czechoslovak Radio journalist, believes he can protect her by becoming the voice of Nazi propaganda in the occupied country. (Drama, 98m, Czech Republic) Director: Marek Najbrt Czech and German with English Subtitles

### WISH ME AWAY

9:15 p.m. - North Lodge  
An intimate look at Chely Wright, the first country music star to come out as gay. After a lifetime of hiding, she shatters cultural and religious stereotypes, exposes her truth to her family and fans, and reveals how "Don't Ask Don't Tell" has found its way into the country music world. (Documentary, 87m, USA) Directors: Bobbie Birleff and Beverly Kopf.

## Friday/Nov. 4

### ATHENAEUM 201 Prince Street

**TOUCHED BY A LAWYER** 7 p.m.  
Phil has a phenomenal ability, but one that — practically speaking — seems all but useless. That is, until an accidental encounter convinces him that he may have a chance to be a real superhero. (Comedy, 5m, USA) Director: William R. Coughlan. Special Guest: William Coughlan. Q&A with audience.

### AIR

7:25 p.m.  
A fast-paced action adventure about falling in love at the end of the world. When all the air on the planet instantly becomes un-breathable, two people find each other as they struggle to survive. (Drama, 14m, UK) Director: Keir Burrows

### A LOVE STORY...IN MILK (World Premiere)

7:40 p.m.  
The path of true love never does run smooth... especially if you're a bottle of milk. Follow these star-crossed lovers from factory to fridge and beyond. (Romance, 2m, UK) Director/Writer: Danann Breathnach. Special Guest: Thembisa Cochrane (Producer) Q&A with audience.

### SECRET CLUB

D.C. Premiere 8:15 p.m.  
The film tells the story of Kyle who is bored of high school and its equally boring clubs until, listening to the morning announcements, he hears about the mysterious Secret Club. By 16-year old Ben Kadie, the festival's youngest featured filmmaker. (Comedy, 3m, USA) Director/Writer: Ben Kadie.

### ATROZ (AWFUL)

D.C. Premiere 8:20 p.m.  
Atroz is a curmudgeon teddy bear who tells us the lengths that he will go to flee from his owner, Luna, a girl that harasses him every moment with her devotion. (Comedy, 9m, Spain) Director: Francisco Alvarez. Spanish with English Subtitles

### GRANT ST. SHAVING COMPANY

D.C. Premiere 8:30 p.m.  
An Indian widower visits his workaholic daughter in New York. When he breaks his favorite razor, a first anniversary present from his late wife, he sets off on his own to find the shop they visited long ago. (Drama, 14m, USA) Director/Writer: Payal Sethi.

### GOD AND VODKA

D.C. Premiere 8:45 p.m.  
A lyrical drama about a writer's final attempt to capture the words and moments, both touching and comedic, of a relationship that ended all too soon. (Romance, 28m, USA) Director/Writer/Actor: Daniel Stine. Special Guest: Daniel Stine. Q&A with audience.

### FOUR MILE RUN COMMUNITY CENTER

4:109 Mount Vernon Avenue

### IN THE IMAGE OF GOD

7 p.m.

After several years of getting to know her neighbors of Chirilagua and building trusting relationships, Dawnelle Miller now runs after-school mentoring and Bible study programs for children in the community. She describes her spiritual calling to social justice and the difficult sacrifices it requires. (Documentary, 7m, USA) Director: Gillian Ray.

### CINEMA LIBERTAD

7:15 p.m.  
Two young friends give life back to the old and abandoned Cinema Libertad. With the use of a ray of light, they tell stories to the people living inside the old movie theater. (Drama, 25m, El Salvador) Director/Writer: Arturo Menendez. Spanish with English Subtitles

### AUSENTES (THE ABSENT ONES)

7:45 p.m.  
An intimate look at the emotional relationships between mothers and children separated by immigration, and the physical and legal barriers that prevent them from reuniting. (Documentary, 36m, USA) Director: Tomas Guevara. Special Guest: Tomas Guevara Spanish with English Subtitles

### DREAMING NICARAGUA

U.S. Premiere 8:30 p.m.  
A moving portrayal of five children submerged in poverty in Nicaragua. Filmed with gut-wrenching honesty, humor and joy, this film witnesses the courage and dignity of the human spirit while facing a dark side of our modern world. (Documentary, 60m, Spain) Director/Writer: Marcelo Bukin. Special Guest: Marcelo Bukin Spanish with English Subtitles

### ATROZ (AWFUL)

D.C. Premiere 9:30 p.m.  
Atroz is a curmudgeon teddy bear who tells us the lengths that he will go to flee from his owner, Luna, a girl that harasses him every moment with her devotion. (Comedy, 9m, Spain) Director: Francisco Alvarez. Spanish with English Subtitles

## Saturday/Nov. 5

### GEORGE WASHINGTON MASONIC MEMORIAL 101 Callahan Drive

### UNFINISHED SPACES

D.C. Premiere  
1 p.m. - Auditorium  
An enlightening story about the atmosphere of revolutionary Cuba and how Fidel Castro strove to create an entirely new language of Cuban architecture. This is the story of the rise and fall of the National Arts Schools and the recent efforts to restore these abandoned spaces, but still extraordinary, spaces. (Documentary, 93m, USA) Director: Alysa Nahmias and Benjamin Murray. English and Spanish with English Subtitles

### GESTACIÓN

1 p.m. - North Lodge  
Entangled in an emotional whirlwind of first love, two teenagers face the consequences of their carelessness and the hypocrisy of the adults in their lives. When Jessie learns she is pregnant, she and Teo discover the punishment of the Latin-American double standard. Inspired by a true story. (Drama, 91m, Costa Rica) Director: Esteban Ramírez Spanish with English Subtitles

### THE PRUITT-IGOE MYTH

3 p.m. - Auditorium  
The transformation of the American city in the decades following World War II, through the lens of the infamous Pruitt-Igoe public housing development and the words of the St. Louis residents who called it home. Some blamed the architecture, some blamed the government and others blamed the residents. (Documentary, 83m, USA) Director: Chad Freidrichs.

### LATZUF (FLOATING)

World Premiere  
3 p.m. - North Lodge  
Reut's parents don't know how to make her lose weight, so they send her for therapy at a children's ward for eating disorders. In the hospital, Reut meets Lilach who is the complete opposite of her, a skinny and pale anorexic. (Drama, 30m, Israel) Director/Writer: Inbal Gibrolter. Hebrew with English Subtitles

### LEAP BEFORE YOU LOOK

D.C. Premiere  
3:30 p.m. - North Lodge  
Faced with his wife's desire to become a mother, a filmmaker goes on a quest to find out how people decide to have kids and identify the sources of his own hesitation. What emerges is an intimate story, peppered with humor and poignancy. (Documentary, 21m, Mexico/USA) Director: Stephane Goldsand. Special Guest: Stephane Goldsand. Q&A with audience. English and French with English Subtitles

### DOWN IN NUMBER 5

East Coast Premiere  
4:10 p.m. - North Lodge  
A terminally ill coal miner struggles to find refuge for his 40-year old son with Down Syndrome. Based on a true story. (Drama, 17m, USA) Director/Writer: Kim Spurlock. Special Guest: Kim Spurlock. Q&A with audience.

### SOMETHING VENTURED

5 p.m. - Auditorium  
Behind some of the world's most revolutionary companies are a handful of men who, through timing, foresight, a keen ability to size up other people, and a lot of luck, saw opportunity where others did not: these are the original venture capitalists. (Documentary, 84m, USA) Director: Daniel Geller and Dayna Goldfine.

### CANCERPANTS

5 p.m. - North Lodge  
The intimate story of spirited 36-year-old Ro Poulson's battle to survive after she is unexpectedly diagnosed with stage III breast cancer. With her partner Julie, they engage their circle of friends, family and local community to find meaning and enrichment in their journey. (Documentary, 80m, USA) Director: Nevie Owens

### SEPARATION ANXIETY

East Coast Premiere  
6:45 p.m. - North Lodge  
Two childhood friends, Quinn and Jess come to terms with their once-innocent relationships as they grieve over the loss of their best friend Bailey and the mystery surrounding his death. The friends question: was it an accident, or did Bailey commit suicide following a string of rejections? (Drama, 94m, USA) Director: Cole Simon.

### THE FAIRY

D.C. Premiere  
7 p.m. - Auditorium  
The latest lark from the semi-absurdist comedians who brought you 2009 Alexandria Film Festival hit "Rumba." A hotel night clerk in the city of Le Havre meets a shoeless woman who claims to be a fairy. The fairy grants him three wishes. The clerk asks for a scooter and an endless supply of gas, but what he really wants is the love of the fairy herself. (Comedy, 93m, Belgium) Director: Dominique Abel, Fiona Gordon and Bruno Romy. French with English Subtitles

### THE GENERAL

8:45 p.m. - Auditorium  
A silent film classic with live organ accompaniment. Johnny loves Annabelle Lee and his train "The General." When Civil War breaks out, he is turned down for service but Annabelle thinks it's because he's a coward. When Union spies capture The General with Annabelle on board, Johnny must rescue both his loves. (Comedy, 107m, USA) Directors: Buster Keaton and Clyde Bruckman. Special Guest: Organist Andrew Simpson

### RAPT

D.C. Premiere  
8:45 p.m. - North Lodge  
A rich industrialist is brutally kidnapped. As he physically and mentally degenerates in imprisonment, his double life threatens to emerge while the kidnappers, police and the board of his company negotiate the ransom of 50 million euro. (Thriller, 125m, France) Director: Lucas Belvaux French with English Subtitles

### GIL'S BROTHER

World Premiere  
10:45 p.m. - North Lodge  
A young man dreams of escaping the dead-end suburbs where he grew up, but on the night of his cousin's wedding, he discovers that he must first stand up to his abusive father to save his younger brother. (Drama, 13m, USA) Director/Writer: Corey Bodoh-Creed.

### PROFILE

D.C. Premiere  
11 p.m. - North Lodge  
Caro has just gone shopping when she is approached by Thomas. He seems to know her, but she can't remember him. When he convinces her to have a coffee with him, Caro has no idea of the surprises this encounter will bring. (Drama, 7m, Germany) Director/Writer: Timo Pierre Rositzki. German with English Subtitles

### ALEXANDRIA BLACK HISTORY MUSEUM

902 Wythe Street  
ONE PUNCH AT A TIME

World Premiere 4 p.m.  
Asia Stevenson had a difficult childhood. But the 18-year old found love, friendship, and family at the Headbangers Boxing Club in Washington D.C. Follow Asia on her quest to qualify for the first women's U.S. Olympic boxing team in the 2012 games in London. (Documentary, 8m, USA) Director: Lawrence Dorch. Special Guest: Lawrence Dorch. Q&A with audience.

### CLOSE TIES: TYING ON A NEW TRADITION

World Premiere 4:25 p.m.  
An intimate look at a rite-of-passage ceremony that connects teenage boys with male role models. The ceremony at this New Orleans barbershop was created as a way to strengthen communities struggling with crime, poverty and alarming high school drop-out rates. (Documentary, 30m, USA) Director: Gemal Woods. Special Guest: Director Gemal Woods. Q&A.

### CHECKERS AT 9<sup>th</sup> & S

5:10 p.m.  
Saturday afternoons, the checkers club members gather for camaraderie, trash talking, and competitive checkers playing. Meet The Shark, Chicago, The Stealer, Boy Wonder, The Weasel, Johnnie Cool, The Hawk and The Master of Disaster, among others. (Documentary, 10m, USA) Director: Peggy Fleming. Special Guests: Director Peggy Fleming and the men from The Capital Pool Checkers Club. Q&A.

5:40 p.m. The audience is invited to bring their best game and face off with members of The Capital Pool Checkers Club.

### ATHENAEUM

201 Prince Street  
MISS SOUTH PACIFIC: BEAUTY AND THE SEA

World Premiere 6 p.m.  
Contestants compete in a week-long pageant for the crown of Miss South Pacific. Addressing the theme of Climate Change and its impact on their countries, the Queens implore judges and viewers to reduce global carbon emission lest their island homes will be lost to rising seas. (Documentary, 39m, USA) Director/Co-Writer: Mary Lambert.

### TAILOR MADE: THE LIFE OF GEORGE DES PARIS

World Premiere 6:45 p.m.  
The story of a French immigrant who worked his way up from homelessness in Washington, D.C. to become an accomplished tailor. George des Paris' custom suits have adorned every U.S. president since Lyndon Baines Johnson. (Documentary, 8m, USA) Director: Antonio Azios.

### HIDDEN BOOKS - THE ART OF KUMI KORF

World Premiere  
7:15 p.m.  
The beautiful work of book artist, printmaker and painter Kumi Korf is illuminated in this captivating documentary. Born in Japan and now living in Ithaca, NY, English and French with English Subtitles

### AWARDS CEREMONY

7:15 p.m. - Auditorium  
Free, no ticket required

### CLOSING RECEPTION

7:30 p.m. - Grand Masonic Hall

Free, no ticket required

Kumi's work can be found in the Library of Congress, New York Public Library, and Tate Library, among others. ((Documentary, 28m, USA) Director: Sam Hampton. Special Guest: Sam Hampton. Q&A with audience.

### DECEMBER 15

World Premiere 8:15 p.m.  
The holiday season in New York City is captured by two young photographers who have a chance encounter. (Romance, 4m, USA) Director/Writer: Ryan Russell Smith. Special Guest: Ryan Russell Smith

### COME WANDER WITH ME

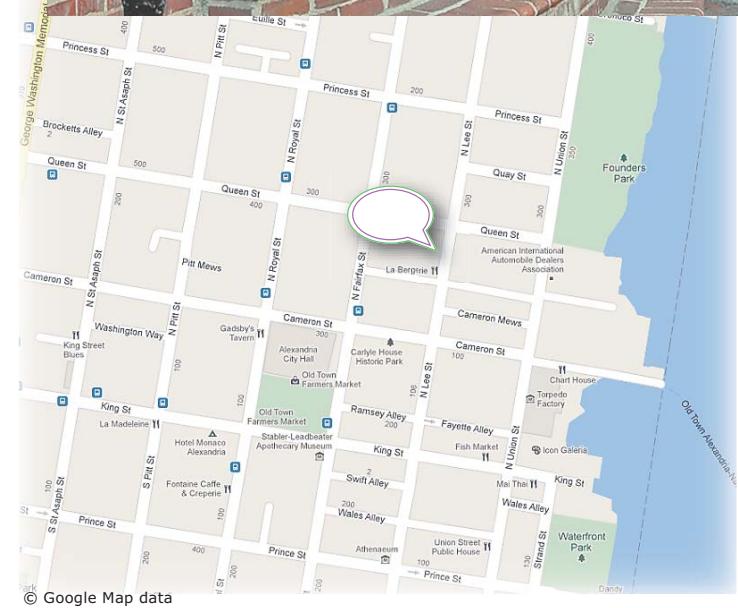
8:20 p.m.  
During a phone conversation, a young photographer tells his friend the strange events

# Talk of the Town

## Re-visiting Crilley Warehouse

Yet another special shopping and dining enclave of The Wanderer's past meanderings that have captured his interest once more. What's old becomes new again as he revels in his finding. Souffles at La Bergerie, anyone?

Photos by Louise Kraft



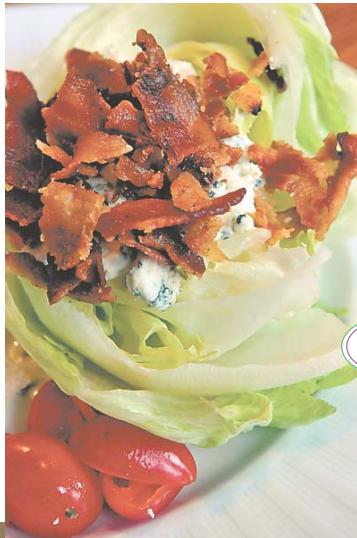
### MONDAY'S CHILD

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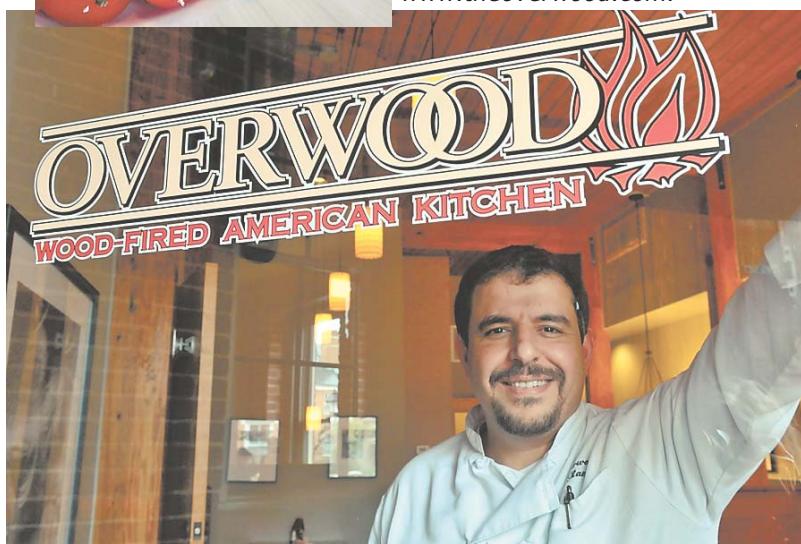
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## THEATER

NOV 4-5, 11-12, 18-19 AND NOV 12, 15, 19

**"Angel: A Nightmare in Two Acts."**  
Presented by the Port City Playhouse. Evenings at 8 p.m.; matinees at 2 p.m. on Nov. 12 and 19. At the LAB at Convergence, 1819 N. Quaker Lane, Alexandria. General admission tickets are \$18 for adults, \$16 for seniors and students, and \$14 for groups of 10 or more.

NOV. 11 TO DEC. 28

**"The Rough-Faced Girl."** Performances are Wednesdays to Sundays at 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. with some weekend 11 a.m. performances. Tickets are \$12/advance; \$15/door. At Signature Theatre, 4041 Campbell Ave., Arlington.

NOV. 5 TO 26

**"Noises Off."** Written by Michael Frayn, directed by C. Evans Kirk and produced by Jamie Blake and Kevin O'Dowd. Performance are Nov. 5 to 26; Wednesdays through Saturdays at 8 p.m.; Sundays at 3 p.m. At the Little Theatre of Alexandria, 600 Wolfe St., Alexandria. Visit [www.thelittletheatre.com](http://www.thelittletheatre.com) or 703-683-0496.

NOV. 21 TO JAN. 29

**"Hairspray."** Weeknights and matinees on Saturdays and Sundays. Directed by Eric Schaeffer. Tickets start at \$63. Call 703-573-SEAT or visit [www.signature-theatre.org](http://www.signature-theatre.org). At Signature Theatre, 4200 Campbell Ave., Arlington.

NOW THROUGH NOV. 6

**"Speak No More"** – The Silent Shakespeare Festival. Tickets are \$45-\$55. "Othello." At Synetic Theater at Crystal City. Wednesdays 7:30 p.m., Thursdays – Saturdays 8 p.m., Sundays 2 p.m. with some Sunday evenings 7:30 p.m. Box Office: 800-494-8487 or [www.synetictheater.org](http://www.synetictheater.org).

## ENTERTAINMENT

# Del Ray Chili Cookoff Brings Out Hot Competition



**Frankie Harris and Sheriff Dana Lawhorne.**



**Jack Schutzius and Eva Kaplan Miller.**



**Dana Lawhorne and Emma Schutzius delivering the trophy (like the Stanley Cup, the trophy returns every year with new decorations on it from each winner).**

The 10th annual Chili Cookoff held Saturday, Oct. 22 in Del Ray was another big success, thanks to everyone who came out. A huge thanks to Karen Helbrecht, Gordon, Janey and Maggie Johnston of the Irish Breakfast Band for providing the musical entertainment.

The following are winners in the cook-off challenge:

❖ 1st Place: Frankie Harris and

the Bellefonte Wizards with "Don't Forget the Chili";

❖ 2nd Place: Robyn Church with "Chili Chili Bang Bang";

❖ 3rd Place: Tie between Gregg Miller's "Down by de Ocean, hon" (said with a Bal'more accent) and Jack Schutzius' "Chili of the Valley";

❖ Best Name: Robyn Church with "Chili Chili Bang Bang";

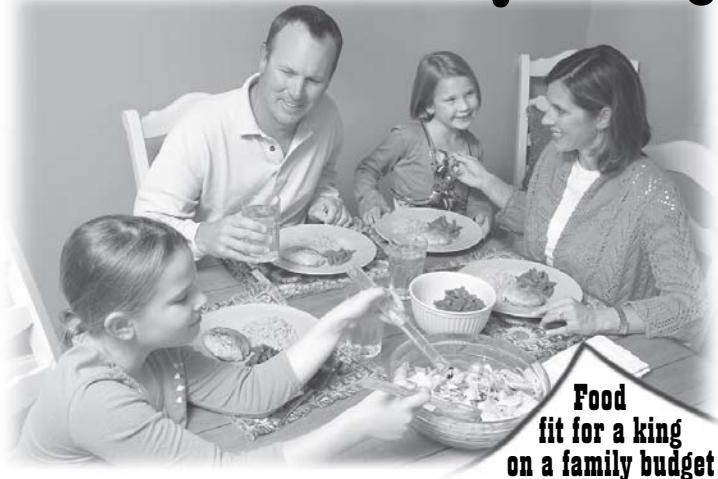
❖ Best Cornbread: Madison Chandler and Briana LaRosa with "Fiesty Fiesta."

The Del Ray Chili Cookoff was started in 2001 by a couple of neighbors in the alley behind their homes. Every year it grows and now the annual event is attended by neighbors, friends — and guests who are soon to become friends.



**Bellefonte House Wizards (a group home in the neighborhood) Frankie dedicated the win to them (her Grandfather Peter Mathews runs the group home).**

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# ENTERTAINMENT



NOW 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](http://www.gadsbystavern.org).

NOW THROUGH NOV. 5

**"Fools"** by Neil Simon. Tickets are \$5. Show times are Oct. 28, 29 and Nov. 5 at 7:30 p.m. Presented by the Stage One Players at St. Stephen's & St. Agnes Upper School, 1000 St. Stephen's Road, Alexandria. Visit [www.sssas.org/arts](http://www.sssas.org/arts).

NOV. 3 - 6

**Alexandria Film Festival.** This fifth-annual festival brings high-quality short and feature length films, documentaries, filmmaker panels, and arts presentations at the Masonic Memorial, Old Town Theater, Athenaeum, Black History Museum, Four Mile Run Community Center. The four-day celebration of film highlights the talents of local, national, and international filmmakers. Tickets \$10/film or showcase. Get tickets and film information at [www.AlexandriaFilm.org](http://www.AlexandriaFilm.org).

FRIDAY/NOV. 4

**"The Future of Food."** 7 p.m. A 2004 film offering an in-depth investigation into the disturbing truth behind the unlabeled, patented, genetically engineered foods that have quietly filled U.S. grocery store shelves for the past decade will be shown at Mt. Vernon Unitarian Church, Hollin Hall Fireplace Room, 1909 Windmill Lane, Alexandria. Donations accepted. 703-765-0595 or [gpourchot@yahoo.com](mailto:gpourchot@yahoo.com)

SATURDAY/NOV. 5

**Get Your Rear in Gear.** 5K Run/Walk in honor of former White House Press Secretary Tony Snow. A fund-raiser for colon cancer prevention, screening and education. Festivities begin at 8:30 a.m. at Fort Hunt Park in Alexandria. Register at [www.getyourrearingear.com](http://www.getyourrearingear.com).

**Top of the Town Walk Around.** 10 a.m. Free. Registration opens at 9:30 a.m. Activities will include a stair climb, games on YMCA's Ph.D. moving playground, workouts with CrossFit Old Town, an opportunity to meet with firefighters and to check out a fire truck, a potato sack race, cardio boxing with Fit2Be, and a chance to win raffle prizes. The event, planned in collaboration with Quantico Belvoir Regional Business Alliance, will be hosted by Mayor Euille and the Wounded Warriors. At the George Washington Masonic Memorial. Contact Carrie Fesperman Redden, Partnership for a Healthier Alexandria at 703-746-4914 or [carrie.fesperman@vdh.virginia.gov](mailto:carrie.fesperman@vdh.virginia.gov).

**Alexandria Symphony Orchestra/Symphonic NOVA.** 8 p.m. Saint-Saëns' Symphony No. 3, "Organ." Schubert/Liszt: Wanderer Fantasy, Thomas Mastroianni, piano. Tickets \$5 to \$65. At the Rachel M. Schlesinger Concert Hall & Arts Center 3001 N. Beauregard St., Alexandria. Visit [alexsym.org](http://alexsym.org) or 703-548-0885.

**"Toward Net-Zero Energy Fair."** 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Free. At Mount Vernon Unitarian Church (MVUC), Meeting House, 1909 Windmill Lane, Alexandria. Visit [www.mvuc.org/netzero](http://www.mvuc.org/netzero).

**Author Michael Lee Pope.** 2 to 4 p.m. Free. Will discuss the "savage art" of early 19-century political cartoons. This lecture was sparked by his research for his new book, *Hidden History of Alexandria, D.C.* The cartoons, many of which illustrate his book, reveal the complex politics and vicious partisanship of the era. At Barrett Branch Library, 717 Queen Street, in Old Town Alexandria. Call 703-746-1706.

**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](http://www.TheDelRayArtisans.org) or [DRA.AlexandriaArtMarket@gmail.com](mailto:DRA.AlexandriaArtMarket@gmail.com) to apply.

**Bridging the Gap.** 7:30 p.m. A violin and double bass duo which promises an evening of really fun and unusual music. Part of Concerts at St. Luke's Episcopal Church, 8009 Fort Hunt Road, Alexandria. Tickets are \$20/adults; \$15/seniors; \$10/students. Call 703-765-4342.

SUNDAY/NOV. 6

**Concert With a Cause.** 4 p.m. Free. With Teal Ruland, soprano. The free will offering beneficiary will be The Fund for Alexandria's Child, which helps children in foster care and those at risk of abuse or neglect by providing them with a range of enrichment activities from summer camp to participation in sports, dance, art, or karate. At the Old Presbyterian Meeting House, 321 South Fairfax St., Alexandria.

**Orchestral Brilliance.** 3 p.m. American Youth Philharmonic Orchestras with guest artist Jeffrey Jacob, piano. Tickets are \$14/adult; \$10/seniors; \$10/student. At the Rachel M. Schlesinger Concert Hall and Arts Center, 3001 North Beauregard Street, Northern Virginia Community College, Alexandria. Visit [www.aypo.org](http://www.aypo.org), [events@aypo.org](mailto:events@aypo.org), 703-642-8051. **"Mariel"** Film. 4:30 p.m. and 5:45 p.m. Documentary about the 1980 incident in Cuba when nearly 125,000 citizens boarded boats at the Port of Mariel to come to the U.S. Admission is \$10. At the George Washington Masonic Memorial in Alexandria.

MONDAY/NOV. 7

**Camp Dinner.** 6:30 to 9 p.m. The R.E. Lee Camp #726, Sons of Confederate Veterans, will hold a camp dinner catered by the Royal Restaurant. Speaker Doug Batson who will portray Lee's maverick general D.H. Hill will speak in the first person on significant events in 1862: Seven Pines, Seven Days Battles, the Dix-Hill POW Exchange Protocol, Lost Order 191, Battles

Boonesboro (South Mountain) and Sharpsburg. Cost to attend the dinner is \$25/advance; \$30/doorman. RSVP to Mr. J.J. Smith at 703 299-1725. At the American Legion Post 24 Hall, 400 Cameron Street at S. Royal Street behind Gadsby's Tavern. Visit [www.leecamp.org](http://www.leecamp.org).

TUESDAY/NOV. 8

**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](mailto:Christine.Levine@alexandriava.gov).

NOV. 9, 16, 21, 30

**Free Group Vocal Lessons.** 7 p.m. The lessons will be conducted by Ozzi Mask, master director of Potomac Harmony Chorus, Sweet Adelines International. Held at The Hermitage in Northern Virginia, 5000 Fairbanks Ave., Alexandria. To reserve your spot, call 703-764-3896 or visit [www.potomacharmony.org](http://www.potomacharmony.org).

WEDNESDAY/NOV. 9

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

THURSDAY/NOV. 10

**The Big Cheese.** 7 p.m. Tickets are \$10. At The Athenaeum, 201 Prince St., Alexandria. Visit [www.nvfaa.org](http://www.nvfaa.org) or call 703-548-0035.

**Promoting Native Bee Abundance.** 7:30 p.m. Join Maria Van Dyke, the Program Coordinator for Virginia Working Landscapes for a slide lecture about the importance and habitat requirements of native bees. At Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road, Alexandria. Call 703-642-5173.

FRIDAY/NOV. 11

**Spirit of the Civil War.** 7:30 p.m. Donation of \$10/adults; \$5/students. NOVA's 80-member, in-house performance ensemble, The Alexandria Band, and its 100-member NOVA Community Chorus will be joined by the Mount Vernon Concert Band and the Arlington Children's Choir to perform Civil War period music. At the Rachel M. Schlesinger Concert Hall and Arts Center, Alexandria Campus of Northern Virginia Community College.

**Veterans Day Program.** 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. The Alexandria Black History Museum's annual Veterans Day program, co-sponsored by the Alexandria Branch of the NAACP, at the museum, 902 Wythe Street. Visit [www.alexblackhistory.org](http://www.alexblackhistory.org) or call 703-746-435

**Veteran's Day Concert.** 3 p.m. With the Air Force Strings.

SEE ENTERTAINMENT, PAGE 29

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# ENTERTAINMENT

FROM PAGE 28

At George Washington's Mount Vernon, 3200 Mount Vernon Memorial Highway, Mount Vernon. Call 202-767-5658 or visit our homepage: [www.usafband.af.mil](http://www.usafband.af.mil)

**At the Crossroads of History: Bailey's through the Century.** 8:15 a.m. Tickets are \$30/person. Keynote speakers include Frank J. Williams, a retired Rhode Island Supreme Court chief justice and chair of the Lincoln Forum, and Dr. Edna Greene Medford, chair of Howard University's history department and board member of the Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial Foundation. At the Rachel M. Schlesinger Concert Hall and Arts Center, Alexandria Campus of Northern Virginia Community College. Contact Dr. Wendy Matthews at [wmatthews@nvcc.edu](mailto:wmatthews@nvcc.edu) or 703-845-6252 or Ken Balbuena at [kpbalbuena@nvcc.edu](mailto:kpbalbuena@nvcc.edu).

**Holiday Marketplace.** 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. and 7 to 9 p.m. With 20 vendors selling everything from hand-crafted art and accessories to reps from local businesses providing services from party planning to hand-picked childrenswear and toys. At St. Aidan's Episcopal Church, White Hall, 8531 Riverside Road, Alexandria.

**Mount Vernon Celebrates Veterans Day.** 11 a.m. Harmony Heritage Singers perform; 2 p.m. wreathlaying at the tomb of George Washington. Cost is \$15/adults; \$7/children 6-11; and free under age 6. At Historic Mount Vernon Estate.

**Fashion Show and Silent Auction.** 10:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. Tickets are \$43. Sponsored by the Board of Lady Managers, Founder and Supporter of INOVA Alexandria Hospital. Fashions by Lord & Taylor and modeled by INOVA Alexandria physicians, nurses and staff. Proceeds support the Board of Lady Managers current pledge to purchase anesthesia machines for the Surgical Service. At the Hilton Alexandria Mark Center. Contact Lynda West 703-836-8853.

## NOV. 11, 12, 13

**"Inherit the Wind."** West Potomac Drama Department presents "Inherit The Wind," a fictional retelling of the 1925 "Scopes Monkey" Trial. Friday Nov 11 at 7:30 p.m., Saturday, Nov. 12 at 2:30 p.m. and 7:30 p.m., Sunday, Nov. 13 at 2:30 p.m. in the Kogelman Theater, West Potomac High School, 6500 Quander Road, Alexandria. Tickets \$10. Call 703-718-2585.

## NOV. 11 TO 20

**The Sound of Music.** Show times are Nov. 11, 12, 18, 19 at 7:30 p.m.; matinees on Nov. 13, 20 at 3 p.m. Tickets are \$10/advance; \$12/door. Presented by the Mount Vernon Community Children's Theater. Schools represented by the cast include Bishop Ireton, Browne Academy, Burgundy Farm, Carl Sandburg MS, Fort Hunt ES, George Washington MS, Home Schools, Key MS, Lyles Crouch ES, Mark Twain MS, Maury ES, Mount Vernon HS, Oakridge ES, St. Bernadette's, St. Louis, St. Mary's, Stratford Landing ES, TC Williams HS, Thomas Jefferson HS, Washington Lee HS, Waynewood ES, West Potomac HS and Yorktown HS. To be held at Carl Sandburg Middle School, 8428 Fort Hunt Road, Alexandria. Visit [www.mvcc.org](http://www.mvcc.org) or call 703-360-0686.

## NOV. 11, 12, 18, 19

**The Laramie Project.** 7:30 p.m. The Laramie Project is a play that tells the story of the brutal beating and death of Matthew Shepard, a gay college student, in Laramie, Wyo. Presented by T.C. Williams High School. Tickets are \$5/students; \$10/adults.

## SATURDAY/NOV. 12

**Christmas Market & Silent Auction.** 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. High-end vendors, crafts, jewelry, collectibles, youth-sponsored White Elephant Sale, children's shop, bake sale, Casserole's to Go, homemade café lunch and silent auction. At Aldersgate United Methodist Church, 1301 Collingwood Rd., Alexandria. Call 703-765-6555 or [www.aldersgate.net](http://www.aldersgate.net). **Anniversary Ball.** 8 p.m. At Gadsby's Tavern Museum. At a reception at 7 p.m., enjoy a preview tasting of the new Winter Menu by Klaus Keckeisen, executive chef of Gadsby's Tavern Restaurant. The ball begins at 8 p.m. and features a variety of English country dances, live music, dessert collation, and cash bar. Period costume optional; "after-five" attire encouraged. Tickets for the reception and ball are \$75 per person, and tickets for the ball only are \$45. Advance reservations are required. At 134 North Royal Street, Old Town Alexandria. Call 703-746-4242 or



## NOV. 11, 12, 18, 19

**"The Laramie Project."** 7:30 p.m. The Laramie Project is a play that tells the story of the brutal beating and death of Matthew Shepard, a gay college student, in Laramie, Wyo. Presented by T.C. Williams High School. Tickets are \$5/students; \$10/adults.

to 7 p.m. At Broadway Gallery, 5641-B General Washington Dr., Alexandria.

**Choreographers Collaboration Project.** 7 p.m. Admission is \$10/adults; \$5/kids 12-17. Will present repertory and new works-in-progress, plus, improvisation inspired by scientific concepts. At the Athenaeum, 201 Prince St., Alexandria. For information, [ccpdance@gmail.com](mailto:ccpdance@gmail.com), 703-683-2070, [www.ccpdance.org](http://www.ccpdance.org).

**Volunteer Appreciation & Holiday Party.** 6 to 8 p.m. Celebrating 50 years of Archaeology in Alexandria. At the Alexandria Archaeology Museum, 105 N. Union St., #327, Alexandria. Call 703-746-4399 or [Archaeology@Alexandriava.gov](mailto:Archaeology@Alexandriava.gov).

**Fairfax Symphony Orchestra.** 8 p.m. George Mason University Center for the Arts, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. With harpist Yolanda Kondonassis. Mozart's Symphony No. 10, Barber's Adagio for Strings, Ginastera's Harp Concerto, Barber's First Essay for Orchestra, and Schubert's Symphony No. 5. Free pre-concert discussion for ticketholders at 7 p.m. Tickets \$25-\$55. [info@fairfaxesphony.org](mailto:info@fairfaxesphony.org).

**"Standing on My Sisters' Shoulders."** 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.alexbblackhistory.org](http://www.alexbblackhistory.org).

**Boston String Quartet Concert.** 7:30 p.m. The Boston String Quartet is seeking 104 high school orchestral, band, and choral students to join them for two days of workshops, master classes, and rehearsals, culminating in a final performance. At the Rachel M. Schlesinger Concert Hall and Arts Center, Northern Virginia Community College, Alexandria Campus. Students can pre-register until Oct. 23 at [www.xibus.org](http://www.xibus.org). Call 617-875-7851.

## SUNDAY/NOV. 13

**Musician Nassar Abadey.** 4 p.m. Donation is \$15. Part of the Jazz at Meade program. At Meade Memorial Episcopal Church, 322 N. Alfred St., Alexandria. Call 703-549-1334. Visit [www.meadechurch.org](http://www.meadechurch.org).

**Violin/Cello Duo: Claudia Chudacoff and Sean Neidlinger.** Works by Gliere, Ravel, Schulhoff. 7 p.m., The Lyceum, 201 S. Washington, Old Town Alexandria. \$15 admission payable at door. Cash or checks only. Info: [www.alexperformingarts.org](http://www.alexperformingarts.org) or 703-505-0700.

**An American Girl Experience.** Tickets are \$50. American Girl fans of all ages are invited to bring their favorite dolls to Mount Vernon for a chance to meet the book series' creator and one of its authors, Valerie Tripp. Ticket sales begin at 10 a.m. on Oct. 3. At Mount Vernon Historic Site. Visit [MountVernon.org](http://MountVernon.org).

**Concert.** 7 p.m. Admission is \$15. Claudia Chudacoff, violin; and Sean Neidlinger, cello. Will perform a special "Blue Ribbon" salon recital at the Lyceum in Old Town Alexandria. At The Lyceum, 201 South Washington St., Old Town Alexandria.

## NOV. 14 AND 15

**Jewelry Sale.** All jewelry is \$6. Designer inspired handbags \$12 - \$48. Sponsored by The Board of Lady Managers of INOVA Alexandria Hospital. All proceeds go to the purchase of new anesthesia machines for the hospital's surgical services. Monday, Nov. 14, 9 a.m. - 6 p.m. and Tuesday, Nov. 15, 7 a.m. - 4 p.m. Open to the public in Education Rooms 1 & 2 at INOVA Alexandria Hospital.

## NOV. 14 TO 19

**"Angel: A Nightmare in Two Acts."** Tickets are \$18/adults; \$16/seniors and students; \$14/groups of 10. Opening night is Friday, Nov. 4, with further performances on Saturday, Nov. 5; Friday and Saturday, Nov. 11-12 and Nov. 18-19; and Tuesday, Nov. 15. The evening performances on Friday, Saturday and Tuesday begin at 8 p.m. In addition, there will be matinees on Saturday, Nov. 12 & 19 at 2 p.m. Presented by Port City Playhouse, which performs at The LAB at Convergence, 1819 N. Quaker Lane, Alexandria.

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## WELLBEING



PHOTO BY MARILYN CAMPBELL/THE CONNECTION

**Dean Adams (right) and Jonathan Bisagni have tried unsuccessfully to stop smoking. Researchers say it often takes several attempts for smokers to quit.**

# Butting Out

By MARILYN CAMPBELL  
GAZETTE PACKET

**D**ean Adams says that he has been smoking for 25 years. The Alexandria-based bartender has only tried to quit once, a cold-turkey attempt that was unsuccessful.

"It's kind of a manic thing for me," said Adams. "I smoke all the time, probably a pack to a pack and half a day."

He plans to try again on Nov. 17, a day designated as the Great American Smokeout, a campaign launched by the American Cancer Society to spotlight the dangers of tobacco use and the challenges of quitting.

"Most smokers make three to five serious quit attempts (i.e., for 24 hours or more) before they are finally successful," said Thomas J. Glynn, Ph.D. Glynn resides in Great Falls, and is the director of Cancer and Science Trends for the American Cancer Society. "Deciding to quit smoking seems easy, but actually doing it is where the real challenge begins. That's why the

Great American Smokeout can be so helpful — it gets smokers on the road to being smoke-free."

**ONE OF THE GOALS** of the Great American Smokeout is to raise awareness and make smokers aware of the obstacles to smoking cessation and the resources available to deal with those barriers.

"Cigarettes have a strong physiological pull on their users," said Glynn. "Nicotine maintains their physiological dependence, and the routines of smoking — reaching for the pack, lighting up ... the cigarette after a meal, etc., maintains their psychological dependence."

Medical experts say that before deciding on a cessation method, a smoker must first have a desire to stop. "Most important is for the smoker to want to quit," said Dr. Jasmine Moghissi, of Fairfax. "It is almost impossible to get your wife/son/mother/cousin to quit if they don't want to. It has also been my experience that it is extremely difficult for someone to quit for their future health. If the smoker wants to quit because it's a filthy, smelly, dirty habit — that seems to be most effective."

Tools for quitting run the gamut from hypnosis and acupuncture to medication and laser therapy. Glynn says that no one method works best.

"Recent studies do suggest that a combination of medications [such as] Varenicline or Chantix and nicotine gum and counseling — either individual, group or by

phone — may work best for many people."

Maureen Meehan, a certified hypnotist with Maryland Hypnosis, is a former substance abuse counselor who found hypnosis to be an effective tool for addressing addiction. "The reason it works so well to help people become non-smokers is because it deals with your subconscious mind which is powerful, alert and awake," said Meehan. "We talk to the subconscious mind and tell it to cut the cord to bad habits." Meehan says her method has a high success rate.

"I had been diagnosed with emphysema and my kids were after me to quit smoking," said one Alexandria resident who quit smoking 22 years ago. "I was skeptical at first, but I decided to try hypnosis. During the initial session, the hypnotherapist showed me a picture of bladder cancer and for some reason that was the moment I decided to quit smoking. I finished my hypnosis treatments and never had another cigarette."

**VIRGINIA HOSPITAL CENTER** in Arlington offers a two-week smoking cessation class several times a year. "We teach smokers how to conquer the three aspects of smoking: addiction, habit and psychological dependency," said Cathy Turner. Turner resides in Burke and is Virginia Hospital Center's director of health promotion as well as its smoking cessation instructor.

SEE SMOKEOUT, PAGE 36

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5:00 pm; 6:30 pm (en Español)

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7:30; 9:00; 10:30 am; 12:00 Noon

2:00 pm (en Español)

6:30 pm Mass (Starts Sept. 11)

8710 Mount Vernon Highway, Alexandria VA, 22309

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### Steps to Quit Smoking

1) Think of your resolution to stop smoking as a project, a process that will take some time, and not one that is a snap decision or that will take only a few days. Remember, you are starting on a journey to health and greater prosperity, but also undoing a psychological and physiological habit that took many years to develop.

2) Make a list of all the reasons you want to stop smoking — health, cost, family/friends, longer life, etc. — and keep that list in your pocket at all times and take it out and review it whenever you are tempted to smoke.

3) Enlist the help of your family, friends and co-workers. Share your list of reasons for quitting with them — it will help them support you.

4) Decide on a quit date — maybe three or four weeks from the time you decide to become a nonsmoker (so you have time to prepare).

5) Speak with your physician or your pharmacist about your plan. Ask them for their advice and support, and discuss with them whether one of the seven FDA-approved medications for quitting smoking might be useful for you. Science shows that the most successful quitters use a combination of advice and

medications.

7) In the days just before your quit date, remove all smoking paraphernalia from your home and workplace.

8) Quit on the big day, and be sure to let your support group know.

9) Be prepared for some of the immediate, and often unpleasant, side effects of quitting, and understand that these are good signs that your body is repairing itself and making adjustments as the toxins from your years of smoking begin to go away.

10) If you slip, as most smokers do, just analyze the situation in which your slip took place (e.g., a cigarette after dinner), and adjust your routine for a couple of months to avoid the situations in which you are in danger of slipping.

11) Start thinking of yourself as a nonsmoker who is on the journey of a lifetime, one that certainly has its unexpected twists and turns, but with great rewards at the end.

1-800-QUIT-NOW is a toll-free tobacco cessation program for adults who want to quit smoking.

Source: The American Cancer Society (ACS) and Thomas J. Glynn, Ph.D., the ACS Director of Cancer and Science Trends.

## RECREATION



### Halloween Joy

Youths enjoy Halloween fun in the Ford Nature Center's Afterschool Buddies Program. The Nature Center director is Mark Kelly.



Halloween fun attracted youths to the Mt. Vernon Recreation Center. Its director is Elsie Akinbobala.



**Hundreds of ghostly figures and gruesome goblins lined up to delight in the Haunted House, the brainchild of Assistant Director of Nannie J. Lee Memorial Recreation Center Rodney Bates. Many lost themselves in the horror-filled maze. Children witnessed their parents' vulnerabilities as one patron called out in baritone voice: "How do I make it end!" He was trying to get out of the House of Horrors.**



### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

#### FROM PAGE 14

then developer proposed this scheme for approval. Marlin Lord, architect, a living legend no doubt, and I collaborated on an alternative to what the developer proposed for the Monroe Avenue Bridge. We lived on opposite sides of the bridge, he in Del Ray and I in the Northeast so we had every incentive to find a better solution to the bridge replacement project. With us it wasn't a question of whether one neighborhood would be advantaged to the disadvantage or harm to another neighborhood.

We used a simple objective, straighten the bridge connection between Route 1 and Jefferson Davis Highway to provide a safe and direct pathway for regional traffic. The second principle was taken from the Northeast citizens playbook, remove the direct connection between the local street system and the regional traffic highway; that is, don't make the new bridge a Monroe Avenue Bridge.

Just the opposite, extend Monroe Avenue to connect with the local street system that would be constructed to serve Potomac Yard redevelopment. Thus Monroe Av-

enue would be constructed underneath the new bridge and have no direct connection through a ramp. The third principle was provide pedestrian and bicycle access across the bridge on both sides. The fourth objective was to create open space by demolishing unneeded portions of Jefferson Davis and converting asphalt to parkland connected to Simpson Field.

Marlin sketched out the concept (which I had framed and presented to him at a Del Ray citizen meeting) and I brought this to my fellow planner Al Cox. I asked Al to embellish the sketch and add street extensions from Del Ray south of the former bridge so that Potomac Yard development could be woven into the existing fabric of the city which was yet a fifth objective of straightening the bridge. How Al presented the case for considering this alternative is his story (pun intended) so he might add his own narrative. Al prepared a sketch plan and I emblazoned it on a T-shirt with the message "this time let's get it straight" which, given the history of the bridge, meant this time let's finally get it right. Rob Krupicka, now a City Councilman, then

president of Del Ray was very helpful in getting Del Ray to buy into the straighten the bridge alternative. Alternative II was adopted by City Council with the support of the citizens and the Potomac Yard partnership built and paid for it not waiting for State financing.

So we don't have a Monroe Avenue Bridge anymore. We do have a bridge that was the result of ideas and actions originating from Alexandria citizens, the people who live here and who care about the city. It was not proposed by a developer or by a consultant. I felt the tale of two bridges the one that was and the one that is needs to be told.

The plaque needs to be rewritten to reflect a bridge that purposely was designed not to be a Monroe Avenue Bridge. The bridge that is needs to be given a proper name. Marlin and I are not lacking for ideas on this one. We recently opened a bottle of champagne to dedicate the bridge. Ask Marlin. Best wishes to all.

**Larry Grossman**  
Longboat Key, Fla.

## Housing Options for Seniors

BY GORDON PEYTON  
BOARD MEMBER  
SENIOR SERVICES OF  
ALEXANDRIA



continuing care facilities.

There will be plenty of free resource materials available for you to read and take home.

Bring your parents, adult children, friends, and neighbors and join the panel of experts as they present valuable information and answer your questions.

Doors will open at 9:45 a.m. with light refreshments. The moderated panel will include professionals from the Division of Aging and Adult Services, At Home in Alexandria!, Alexandria Housing Department, Alexandria Redevelopment and Housing Authority, and Senior Services of Alexandria.

Space is limited, so please RSVP by Nov. 14 by calling SSA at 703 836 4414 x10, [www.seniorservicesalex.org](http://www.seniorservicesalex.org), so that there will be plenty of food and materials available for all who attend.

# NEWS

## Legal Notices

**ABC LICENSE**  
Guac & Roll, LLC trading as Moe's Southwest Grill, 7698 Richmond Hwy, Alexandria, VA 22306. The above establishment is applying to the VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL for a Beer On premises license to sell or manufacture alcoholic beverages. Frank Maresca, Member Guac & Roll, LLC  
**NOTE:** Objections to the issuance of this license must be submitted to ABC no later than 30 days from the publishing date of the first two required newspaper legal notices. Objections should be registered at [www.abc.virginia.gov](http://www.abc.virginia.gov) or 800-552-3200.

### LEGAL NOTICE

Notice is hereby given to members of the NY, nonprofit, American Society of Clinical Oncology, Inc., that eligible ASCO members may vote by proxy ballot from Oct. 13 to Nov. 21, 2011 to elect the President Elect, Treasurer, five seats on the Board of Directors, and two seats on the Nominating Committee for service beginning on June 4, 2012. Information about proxy ballots is available at [www.asco.org](http://www.asco.org). Completed proxy ballots will be delivered to the ASCO President or his designee for casting at a meeting held on Nov. 30, 2011, 7:30 AM – 8:00 AM at ASCO Headquarters, 2318 Mill Road, Suite 800, Alexandria, VA 22318. Members with questions can email [ASCOelection@asco.org](mailto:ASCOelection@asco.org) or call 571-483-1316.

### LEGAL NOTICE

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

### ORDER OF PUBLICATION

Case No JJ031119-05-00  
Commonwealth of Virginia  
VA. CODE § 8.01-316  
Alexandria J & DR Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court  
Commonwealth of Virginia, in re  
JAYDEN WARD  
The object of this suit is to:  
Terminate the residual parental rights and responsibilities of unknown father to Jayden Ward, born on 11/19/2010 to mother Sophie Ward, and to authorize the placement of the child for adoption.  
It is ordered that the defendant unknown father, appear at the above named Court and protect his or her interests on or before 12/02/2011 at 2:30pm

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THE CONNECTION  
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# Two Sides Collide over Waterfront

FROM PAGE 1

that suggests the city keep the existing zoning and try to negotiate with landowners to acquire some open space. Delivering the keynote address at the Athenaeum event, which crowded the building with 150 people, former Vice Mayor Andrew Macdonald compared his fight to the one waged by the late Ellen Pickering that prevented a developer from constructing high-rise condominiums on Founders Park.

"We're fighting the same battle," said Macdonald, who resigned from City Council in 2007. "We're not against all commercial development on the waterfront, and we're not for just parks."

City officials organized a conference call Tuesday to respond to the alternative plan. Acting city manager Bruce Johnson described conflict between "change versus no change or limited change." He announced he will be asking city officials if they consider the alternative to be financially sustainable and the legally defensible. Although he said he had not yet had a chance to read and digest the plan, he said a formal response would be forthcoming.

"Is a waterfront with no change financially feasible and legally defensible?" asked Johnson. "I do not want to be in a position of having counsel go down a path that's going to involve years of additional litigation."

Meanwhile, members of the Waterfront Work Group decided Wednesday morning that they would allow leaders of the CAAWP to make a presentation. Although the idea was initially rejected by panel member Mindy Lyle, several other group members chimed in that the alternative plan represented a serious effort at contributing to the discussion, and ignoring it would only serve to exacerbate the tension between the already warring factions.

"Ten to 15 minutes," Lyle conceded, "end of subject."

"It's not end of subject," protested panel member Bob Wood.

"I was talking about the presentation," Lyle shot back.

**THE CAAWP REPORT** is a long-awaited reaction to the city's plan, which was released in January. City planners recommended overturning a longstanding ban on hotels and increasing the amount of density, which would

increase the value of the land Robinson Terminal owner Washington Post would receive when they sell the properties. Now the CAAWP has responded with an alternative, which suggests keeping the existing zoning rather than increasing density and maintaining the ban on hotels.

"Citizens have voiced their opposition to the city's preferred plan and asked for changes that do not match the commercialization goals of this plan," states the overview of the document. "The city has made no serious effort to calculate the costs and the benefits of its hotel-based waterfront plan by comparing them with the costs and benefits of other alternative waterfront uses."

One chapter of the plan lays out a series of deals city officials negotiated in the 1970s that led to the creation of Founders Park and Oronoco Bay Park. In exchange for giving up plans to build three residential towers, the alternative plan noted, the city traded the surplus Fickling School site from Smoot Lumber to Watergate and developed Founders Park. Then, when Texaco announced plans to donate a tank farm to the United Way, the city asked for a property donation that eventually created Oronoco Bay Park.

"Today, thanks to citizens' efforts, Councilwoman Ellen Pickering and some artful, savvy trading by the city of Alexandria," wrote CAAWP member Katherine Papp, "we have two well-loved parks."

That concept received a cool reception at City Hall. When asked about the idea of using a land swap or density swap to acquire land, Johnson said the idea was never considered.

"I have no knowledge of unused city land, except for parkland or recreational facilities," said Johnson. "I'm not quite sure where they want to put the density. Were they proposing to swap density out in the Beauregard area?"

"No," responded CAAWP leader Katy Cannady. "Increased density in Alexandria could be exchanged in another jurisdiction. Let's put it in National Harbor."

**PERHAPS THE MOST** serious charge city officials leveled at the alternative plan is that it would be an illegal downzoning, one that would put the city in a precarious legal position. When asked why they considered the plan a downzoning, Banks referred to a paragraph of the overview that said "any new business should be located in existing structures." By

reusing historic waterfront warehouses, the alternative plan suggests, the redeveloped waterfront would preserve the historic tie to an era when sailing ships and steamboats made calls of port to Alexandria.

"They want the city to take the position that the Robinson Terminal warehouses must remain in place," said Banks. "I don't see how anyone could conclude that this would be anything other than a downzoning."

Macdonald rejected the notion that the plan called for a downzoning, adding that the paragraph city officials mentioned doesn't say anything about preserving the Robinson Terminal building. When asked about the criticism, Macdonald pointed out part of the alternative plan that outlines four development options, which are outlined in a part of the plan called "financing scenarios." Ultimately, he said, the alternative plan recommends that the city keep the current 1992 zoning rather than allowing additional density at the sites.

"The paragraph in question refers primarily to the adaptive reuse generally of the most historic structures, not the preservation of all the warehouses along the waterfront," said Macdonald. "If we buy a piece of land from someone at some agreed-to price — and of course is partly determined by the zoning — why would anyone object to what happens to the buildings?"

One scenario laid out in the alternative plan would have the city purchase all the land associated with the three redevelopment sites, which they calculated at \$97 million, then sell back 35 percent to offset the cost of purchasing the land. Another scenario would limit the purchase to the two Robinson Terminal sites, which they estimate at \$30.5 million. The third scenario would acquire two Robinson Terminal sites east of Union Street not the property west of Union, which they estimated at \$24.9 million. The final scenario suggests acquiring the Cummings-Turner property and the Robinson Terminal South east of Union.

"We present these alternative financing plans as a starting point for further discussion about how we might pay for a waterfront plan that relies much less heavily on commercial development like hotels and townhomes, which, if not carefully controlled, will suffocate the public nature in the waterfront," the alternative report concludes.

## Planning for The Future

### SSA holds first Senior Law Day.

**M**ore than 250 people turned out Oct. 15 for the first Senior Citizens Law Day sponsored by Senior Services of Alexandria and the Alexandria Bar Association.

"Think of it as a graduation, not a retirement," said Retirement Living Sourcebook publisher Steve Gurney in his welcoming

address at First Baptist Church. Attendees then learned about issues relating to estate planning, long-term care, in-home support and aging-related legal issues from an expert legal panel that included Lonnie Rich, Kenneth Labowitz, Deborah Matthews and Luke Lenzi.

"These aren't topics anyone likes to think about but we all need to be prepared for," said Anne Karoly who attended the event with her mother Marilyn. "This has been a great learning experience."

— JEANNE THEISMANN



**Marilyn Karoly and her daughter Anne listen to a presentation during Senior Citizens Law Day at First Baptist Church.**

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Job Announcement

## Clean Power Program Director

### American Clean Skies Foundation

The American Clean Skies Foundation (ACSF) is a Washington D.C. non-profit founded in 2007 to advance America's energy independence and a cleaner environment through expanded use of natural gas, renewables and efficiency. ACSF carries out its mission primarily by encouraging large scale fuel switching in the electric power sector based on innovative regulatory and business proposals; and promoting alternative fuel vehicles, especially natural gas powered vehicles, using public policy tools and demonstration projects. Both of these program initiatives seek to catalyze change through carefully targeted government interventions and entrepreneurial activity. ACSF also supports a wide range of educational and media programs, including white papers, conferences, workshops, TV shows, films, and web sites, to advance its goals.

ACSF seeks a Clean Power Program Director to manage a cutting edge project in Alexandria, VA (see [www.potomacrivergreen.com](http://www.potomacrivergreen.com)) and similar initiatives in other states. Candidates should be entrepreneurial with outstanding organizational and communication skills. Knowledge of local metropolitan Washington, D.C. zoning processes, local energy and environmental authorities, real estate development practices, and the National Park Service, are preferable. Experience working on clean power/coal retirement issues, experience with one or more aspects of the nation's electric grid and one or more advanced degrees (MBA, MPP, MPA), a plus. The Program Director reports directly to the CEO of the American Clean Skies Foundation (ACSF). The Program Director may help recruit additional staff for the Program. Some travel may be required.

Salary is very competitive and includes full benefits. ACSF is an equal opportunity employer.

To apply: send a resume, writing samples and three references to [settleson@verizon.net](mailto:settleson@verizon.net), subject line: ACSF - Clean Power Program Director.

Visit [www.cleanskies.org](http://www.cleanskies.org) for more information.

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# SPORTS

## TC Girls Secure Fourth Consecutive Region Berth

Schaedel, Smythe push each other during competition.

BY JON ROETMAN  
GAZETTE PACKET

**S**ydney Schaedel and Shannon Smythe pushed each other throughout the three-mile course at Burke Lake Park, motivating each other toward finishing in the top 15 during the Patriot District cross country championship meet on Oct. 26.

While Schaedel and Smythe willed one another to individual all-district honors, the T.C. Williams duo helped the Titans to a fourth-place team finish and a fourth consecutive berth in the Northern Region meet.

Schaedel placed fifth with a time of 18 minutes, 9 seconds. Smythe crossed the finish line one second later, finishing sixth.

"We're comfortable with each other because we know we're



PHOTO BY KATIE SMYTHE

**T.C. Williams' Sydney Schaedel, right, placed fifth and teammate Shannon Smythe finished sixth at the Patriot District cross country championship meet on Oct. 26 at Burke Lake Park.**

right around the same and we go back and forth with who wins," Smythe said. "We knew we can stick with each other and it pushes us because we have a little bit of competitiveness between us."

Smythe finished sixth at districts for the second consecutive season and shaved 44 seconds off her 2010 time of 18:54. Schaedel improved from an 18th-place finish last year and reduced her 2010 time of 19:27 by more than a minute.

"Each is better because of the other," T.C. Williams head coach Michael Hughes wrote



PHOTO BY ED LUULL

**T.C. Williams' Nick Brown advanced to regionals with a ninth-place finish at the Patriot District cross country championship meet on Oct. 26 at Burke Lake Park.**

in an email. "When there is another runner on your team capable of taking your spot, it keeps you working hard every workout. It reminds you that you can lose if you let your guard down."

Hannah Clark finished 27th for T.C. Williams with a time of 19:40. Hanna Smythe (19:54) finished 35th and Grace Garrahan (20:19) finished 40th. Each Titan posted a personal-best time for the course.

The Titans tallied 113 points, earning the fourth and final automatic team berth to regionals. West Potomac won the meet with 44 points, followed by West Springfield (65)



PHOTO BY ED LUULL

**T.C. Williams' Anteneh Girma finished 10th and advanced to regionals at the Patriot District cross country championship meet on Oct. 26 at Burke Lake Park.**

and Lake Braddock (74).

"Going [to regionals] as a team is more exciting," Schaedel said, "because you know you made it there together."

The T.C. Williams boys finished seventh, but Nick Brown and Anteneh Girma advanced to regionals as individuals. Brown finished ninth with a time of 16:07, and Girma finished 10th, crossing the finish line in 16:08.

"They drive each other in practice just as in the race," Hughes wrote. "They are better because of the other."

The Northern Region meet is Thursday, Nov. 3 at Burke Lake Park.

### SPORTS BRIEFS

#### ODBC Rowers Compete In Boston Regatta

The Old Dominion Boat Club Select Crew competed in the Head of Charles Regatta in Boston Oct. 22-23.

The ODBC competed in two events — the men's youth 8 and the women's youth 8. In the process, they also went up against the best rowers in the world, with competitors ranging from the elite Marin Rowing Association in California to Eton College in England. The young rowers from Alexandria — who have only been rowing together since September (unlike most of their competitors, who row together year-round) — performed admirably in their first showing as a team on the challenging Charles River course. Out of 75 boats, the ODBC women finished 49th with a time of 19:22.88. The men turned in a time of 17:54.18 on the three-mile twisting and turning course, coming in 68th out of 75 total boats.

ODBC men include Mark Comey, Henry

Walch, Madison Weitekamp, Greg Montenegro, Chris Porter, Chris Dobson, Dru Hodgens, Chris Kidd, and Sam Zickar and ODBC women include Lauren Soriente, Alexandra Lemke, Nadia Magallon, Allyson Emblom, Kate Banchoff, Katie Pickup,

Gabby Salcedo, Kelin Baldridge and Chloe Reynolds. Coaches are Meredith Mariani, Stephanie Patton, and Lori Simon Criado represented the City of Alexandria in Boston at the 2011 Head of the Charles.

The ODBC Select Crew Team rows out of



SUBMITTED PHOTO

**The ODBC women's youth 8 after their race at the Head of the Charles Regatta in Boston.**

the Dee Campbell Rowing Center in Old Town Alexandria and is composed of student-athletes from T.C. Williams and other area high schools and elite rowing programs.

#### SSSAS Girls Tennis, Stewart Earn Titles

The St. Stephen's & St. Agnes girls tennis team finished the regular season as co-ISL champions and sophomore Lizzie Stewart won the No. 1 singles title at the ISL AA girls tennis tournament on Oct. 31.

#### SSSAS, Episcopal ISL Field Hockey co-Champions

The St. Stephen's & St. Agnes and Episcopal field hockey teams finished the regular season as co-ISL champions. SSSAS and Episcopal will host ISL tournament

SEE BRIEFS, PAGE 37

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WELLBEING

## 'Smokeout'

FROM PAGE 30

Psychologist Dr. Gayle K. Porter of the Gaston and Porter Health Improvement Center in Potomac, Md., has counseled those who have stopped smoking successfully.

"I've worked with people who've been addicted to a variety of substances, and smoking was the most powerful addiction to give up," said Porter, a former faculty member in the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences at the Johns Hopkins School of Medicine. "It is like a friend that never leaves. If you're lonely, sad, angry, you can always light up."

Along with Dr. Marilyn Gaston, Porter wrote "Prime Time: The African American Woman's Complete Guide to Midlife Health and Wellness." The book includes an eight-step smoking cessation plan.

"First and foremost is stress reduction," said Porter. "If you're stressed, it is going to be hard to stop smoking, and if you've already stopped smoking and you're stressed, it is going to be difficult not to resume. You have to get control over your stress."



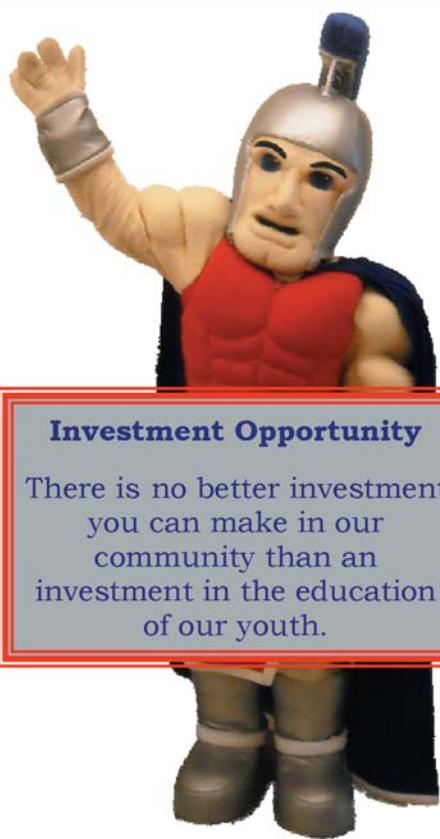
The Substance Abuse Prevention Coalition of Alexandria thanks the following retailers for working with us to help prevent underage drinking. During our recent Sticker Shock Campaign, teams of youth and adults placed "warning stickers" on alcohol products in their stores, highlighting the penalties for adults who purchase alcohol for minors.

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November 6, 4-9 p.m.

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SUBMITTED PHOTO

The ODBC men's youth 8 compete at the Head of the Charles Regatta in Boston.

#### SPORTS BRIEFS

FROM PAGE 35

quarterfinal games at 3:30 p.m. on Nov. 3.

#### Ireton Football Drops Second Straight

The Bishop Ireton football team lost to Potomac School, 14-6, on Oct. 29. It was the Cardinals' second consecutive loss following a 7-0 start.

Ireton will conclude the regular season with a road game against St. Mary's Ryken at 7 p.m. on Friday, Nov. 4.

#### T.C. Williams Football Falls to Lee

The T.C. Williams football team lost to Lee, 17-10, on Oct. 29. The Titans will conclude the regular season with a home game against West Potomac at 2:30 p.m. on Saturday, Nov. 5.

#### T.C. Williams' Whitmire Earns All-District

T.C. Williams junior outside hitter Kate Whitmire earned first-team all-Patriot District honors for the 2011 volleyball season. Senior outside hitter Zoe Newhouse garnered honorable mention.

The Titans lost to West Springfield, 3-0, in the opening round of the Patriot District Tournament on Oct. 31, ending its season.

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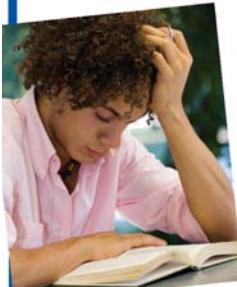
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## EDUCATION

# French Teens Visit TC Students

Cultural exchange yields some cultural shock.

By MONTIE MARTIN  
GAZETTE PACKET

**F**ive French teenagers from Alexandria's sister city, Caen, visited T.C. Williams High School last week under a cultural exchange program and experienced a day in the life of an American student.

What may seem standard to most American teenagers proved to be a major culture shock for the French visitors.

The French teen delegation arrived during TC spirit week, and in the run up to homecoming many of the students, faculty and staff were dressed in pajamas during the day of the visit.

"It was a little bizarre," said Alice Gervaise, a 17-year old high school student from Caen.

"We explained the importance of student engagement, and to connect in a fun way," said Maria Muhtadi-Roach, assistant director of School Counseling at TC. "Pajama day builds school spirit."

"The Americans are nice, they laugh, maybe Americans are more friendly than French," said Alexandre Leconte, a 17-year old high school student from Caen. "In France the schools are more severe."

The French teens were matched with American students in the French language program at TC, who were appreciative of the opportunity to connect with their peers from across the Atlantic.

"It's cool to meet them. We can read about French culture in books, but it's different to speak with someone first hand," said Elaine Bledsow, a senior at TC who has studied French for six years.

During the school day the teen delegation visited a French language classroom, where



PHOTO BY MONTIE MARTIN/GAZETTE PACKET

**Cyril Letellier, Louis-Vincent Rakotazafy, Alexandre Leconte, Alice Gervaise and Louis Hamelin from Caen, France, pose in front of T.C. Williams High School with their American student hosts Lorraine Pettit, Elaine Bledsow and Margaret West.**

French music was played as part of the lesson.

"They were surprised because it's a much more formal classroom in France," said Bledsow.

Although the classroom setting is perhaps more relaxed in the American school system, the school security at TC was a significant cultural difference.

"It was a different feeling," said Cyril Letellier, 17, from Caen. "There are no police in French schools."

"They were really thrown off by the resource officers," said Lorraine Pettit, a junior at TC and one of the American hosts.

Addressing such differences has always been the intent of the sister city relationship, which was established 30 years ago with the mission to promote intercultural understanding between the United States and France.

**It's cool to meet them. We can read about French culture in books, but it's different to speak with someone first hand.**

— Elaine Bledsow, a senior at TC

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