

PHOTOS BY LOUISE KRAFFT/GAZETTE PACKET

Ninth grader Justin Cox delivers by memory the Martin Luther King Jr. "I Have a Dream" speech.

Living the Dream

Students, parents, teachers and a former governor gather to celebrate civil rights leader.

BY MICHAEL LEE POPE
GAZETTE PACKET

By the time 15-year-old Justin Cox was finished reciting the "I Have a Dream" speech from memory Monday afternoon, Jan. 15, at City Hall, several in the audience were holding back tears. Not only was the performance a flawless rendition of each word in the speech, but Cox's performance captured the essence of its meaning with a dramatic reading — sometimes straining the microphone sys-

tem to keep up as he rose to a crescendo toward the conclusion of the speech.

"It's inspiring," said Cox after the crowd gave him a prolonged standing ovation.

Although Cox is a student at Crossland High School in Temple Hills, Md., his mother is a teacher at James K. Polk Elementary School here in Alexandria. Ever since Justin was a child, his mother encouraged him to start memorizing the famous speech. She started when he was 3 years old. By the time he was 8, he could recite it from memory. Since that time, he's been on a tour of sorts interpreting Martin Luther King. It started with a few churches, then school groups. This week, he took the act to Alexandria City Hall to embody the famous civil rights leader during the annual Martin Luther King Poster Contest.

"He's got a gift," said Jeanette Cox, his mother. "We just tapped into it."

WHEN KING ORIGINALLY delivered the speech in August 1963 it was not universally praised. In fact, many were quick to dismiss the March on

SEE CELEBRATING, PAGE 7



Samantha Williams sings "Lift Every Voice And Sing."

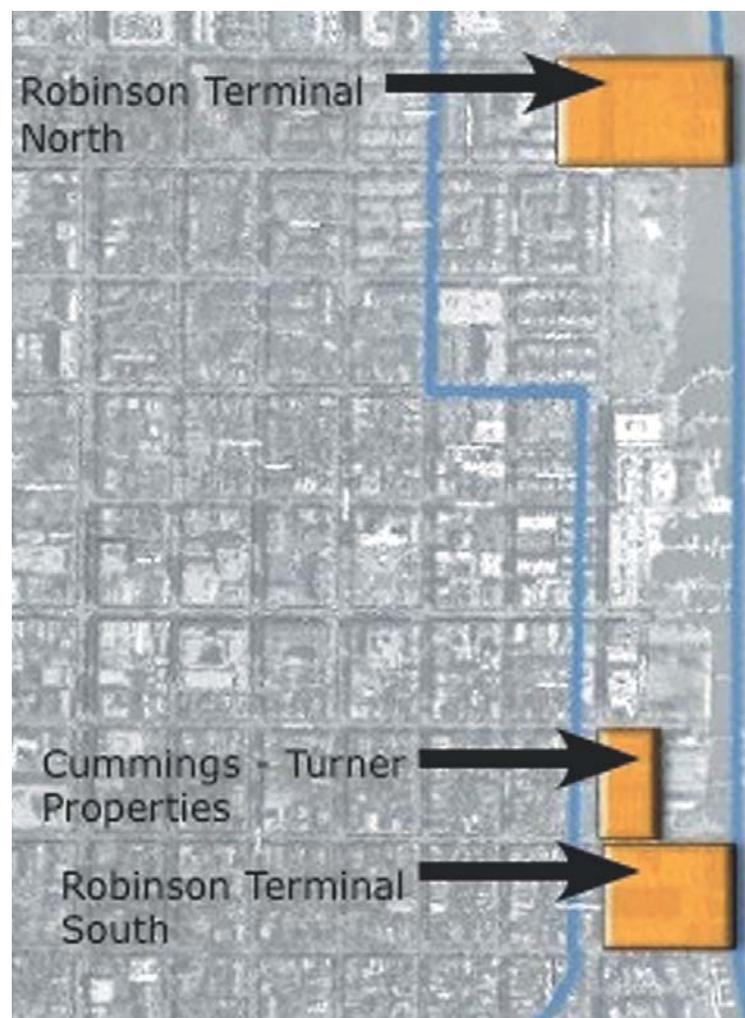
Urban Renewal on the Waterfront

City Council poised to adopt controversial plan to increase density and allow hotels.

BY MICHAEL LEE POPE
GAZETTE PACKET

In the game of Monopoly, players that have four houses on each property in a color group can buy a hotel from the bank and plunk the red plastic piece down and start raking in cash. Alexandria City Council members are ready to roll the dice on a similar strategy this week, overturning a longstanding ban on hotels along the waterfront and increasing the allowable density available to developers there. Property owners at three parcels stand to gain because the value of their property will increase dramatically, and city officials say adding 450 hotel rooms on the waterfront will add new revenue to install flood mitigation and create new public spaces up and down the waterfront.

SEE CITY COUNCIL, PAGE 3



ALEXANDRIA DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING AND ZONING

Much of the debate about the waterfront plan is driven by potential redevelopment at three sites on the waterfront.

Cutting Back Between the Semesters

Proposal would cut back on "intersession" classes at two schools, distribute money more broadly.

BY MICHAEL LEE POPE
GAZETTE PACKET

As School Board members prepare for the upcoming budget season, Superintendent Morton Sherman is suggesting the school system go back to the drawing board on "intersession" classes — the five weeks of instruction offered between semesters at the city's two year-round schools. At issue is about \$612,000 worth of annual expenditures at two elementary schools, Tucker Elementary School and Mount Vernon Community School.

"We feel this would pose a significant challenge to our contin-

ued success," said Ramee Gentry, PTA president at Tucker. "There's a lot of concern about this proposal because many of the parents at Tucker feel that we have a lot invested as a community in this."

Earlier this month, Sherman outlined a plan that would reduce the five weeks of intersession

classes at Tucker and Mount Vernon to three weeks. That would create hundreds of thousands of dollars worth of savings, which would then be distributed more broadly throughout the system.

Sherman declined to comment, but a Jan. 5 letter to students, par

SEE PROPOSAL, PAGE 7



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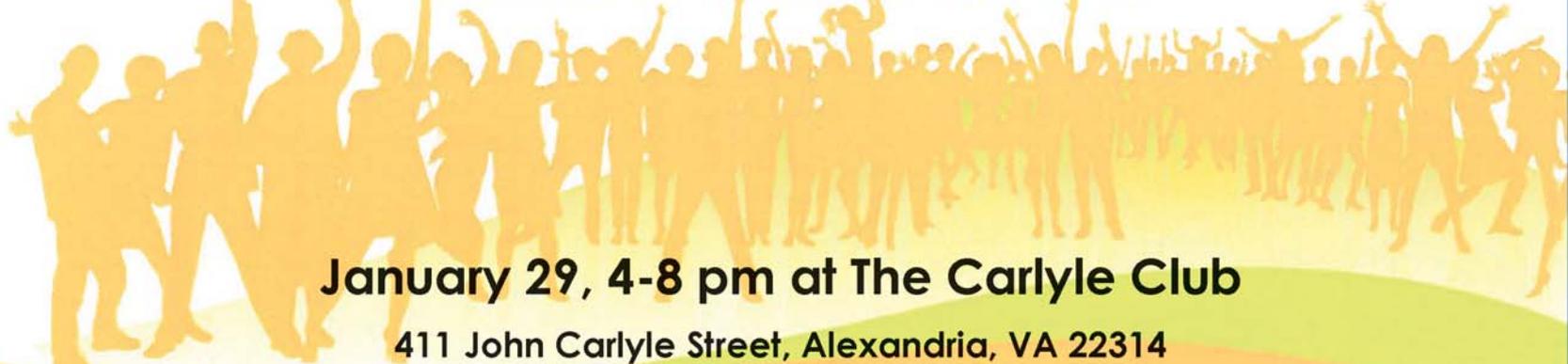
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Robinson Terminal North: Owned by the Washington Post, this site is expected to be redeveloped in the near future. The small-area plan currently under consideration allows for half the site to redevelop as a hotel and the other half to redevelop as multifamily residential site. The expected implementation would be between three to five years.



ALEXANDRIA DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING AND ZONING

Cummings/Turner Block: Owned by the Cummings family and the Turner family, these sites are part of a block that has a total of 100,992 square feet of existing buildings. The small-area plan under consideration could more than triple the density at the site now, increasing the allowable density by 50 percent. A hotel could be constructed within the next three to five years.

City Council To Vote on Waterfront Plan

FROM PAGE 1

“It really comes down to one big question: What do we get for a return in a modest amount of density?” said Councilman Paul Smedberg last week during a work session at City Hall. “Are the additional amenities — the five and a half acres of open space, the design of great public spaces, the flood mitigation that protects those spaces and the art and history elements — are they worth it?”

Critics of the plan say they’re not. A group known as Citizens for an Alternative Alexandria Waterfront has been speaking out against the proposal for most of the year, issuing its own report in October. Titled “Parks, Arts and Museums: The Key to Rediscovering, Protecting and Revitalizing the Alexandria Waterfront,” the report recommended keeping the existing zoning along the waterfront rather than increasing the density available to property owners. It also recommends against overturning the longstanding ban on allowing hotels on the waterfront, suggesting that the city work toward creating an Alexandria Maritime Museum instead.

“The plan that’s currently under consideration prevents us from creating a great waterfront,” said former Vice Mayor Andrew Macdonald, who has been leading the charge against the city’s efforts. “Two years of hearings were a monologue at best because no real options to hotels were ever presented or accepted.”

IN MANY WAYS, the waterfront small-area plan mirrors the debate over urban renewal that took place in the 1960s and 1970s. Back then, advocates for urban renewal said demolishing several blocks of historic buildings in Old Town was necessary to create a new sense of vibrancy and drag Alexandria into the modern world. Then as now, a handful of property owners stood to gain financially, and city officials

were eagerly eyeing new tax revenue that would come from redevelopment. The effort created what is now known as Market Square, which many modern-day supporters of urban renewal say is the crown jewel of the urban renewal movement.

“The old buildings were run-down and dilapidated,” said the former Councilman Win McConchie in a 2010 interview shortly before his death. “Urban renewal was the turning point. There was no building that was torn down that was worth saving.”

Even today, many people disagree with that assessment — an indication that disagreements about the waterfront plan are likely to linger into the coming decades. Opponents of the modern-day plan to al-

low hotels and increase density on the waterfront say that moving forward with the current plan would be repeating the mistakes of urban renewal. By undercutting the fabric of the existing waterfront for the sake of raking in new revenue and appeasing powerful forces in favor of development, they say, the city is making a Faustian bargain that will remain as controversial as urban renewal.

“There’s this simplistic thinking that more development brings more money,” said former state Sen. Patsy Ticer (D-30), who worked with her late husband Councilman Jack Ticer against urban development in the 1960s and 1970s. “I don’t think people have stopped to think about the consequences.”



Robinson Terminal South: Owned by the Washington Post, this site is expected to be redeveloped after Robinson North. The small-area plan currently under consideration allows for half this site to redevelop as mixed-use with a hotel and the other half to redevelop as residential. The expected implementation would be between five to 15 years.

CITY OFFICIALS fear the legal and financial consequences of taking no action. Back in 2008, when planners first started brainstorming about a waterfront small-area plan, they were slapped with a lawsuit from Robinson Terminal Corporation. Charging that city officials engaged in “illegal spot zoning” by reducing allowable density at Robinson North in 1992, the lawsuit said that the land owner was entitled to develop according to a 1981 settlement agreement.

Robinson now desires to cease using the North Terminal property for warehouse and terminal purposes,” the 2008 lawsuit explained. “Robinson has designed a development plan in accord with the provisions of the Settlement Agreement and has determined to proceed with such a development.”

Officials from the company then began a public-relations campaign, meeting with community members to show them architectural drawings outlining a concept that would have included a hotel at the site. Robinson Terminal eventually dropped the lawsuit, although the threat of a potential legal action still looms over the planning process. When city planners released the concept plan for the waterfront in 2010, it increased the density to what Robinson Terminal Corporation was seeking in the lawsuit. It also overturned a longstanding ban on hotels along the waterfront.

“We were not going to be bullied,” said Planning Director Faroll Hamer. “At the same time, we viewed the lawsuit as an opportunity.”

THE DEBATE ABOUT property rights on the waterfront dates back to 1791, when Maryland ceded a portion of its territory to the United States for the creation of a permanent seat of government. At that time, the boundary between Maryland and Virginia was a high-water mark between the

SEE URBAN RENEWAL, PAGE 5

Teacher Shout Out

The governor's annual State of the Commonwealth speech is one of the high-water marks of each General Assembly session, a time when both chambers get together with a sense of pomp and circumstance that rivals the presidential State of the Union speeches each year at the United States Capitol. The speech is usually a celebration of recent achievements and a laundry list of proposals from the governor.

This year, Republican Gov. **Bob McDonnell** was able to do both at the same time — supporting one of Alexandria's chief legislative goals of the session while giving a shout out to an Alexandria teacher. During a section of the speech in which McDonnell came out in favor of repealing the notorious King's Dominion Law, which forces school divisions to begin classes after Labor Day, the governor mentioned one of Alexandria's star teachers.

"We've got so many great teachers in Virginia, teachers like **Stacy Hoeflich** a fourth grade teacher at John Adams Elementary School in Alexandria, who was recently named the National Teacher of the Year," said McDonnell. "I happen to think my sister **Nancy**, a public school teacher in Amherst County, is a great teacher. Your House Majority Leader, **Kirk Cox**, is a great teacher."

Triple Header

Del. **Charniele Herring** (D-46) has three things in mind with House Bill 191 — creating new jobs, helping small businesses and helping recent Virginia college graduates find work. Herring crafted the bill in part as counterbalance to the approach by Republican Gov. **Bob McDonnell**, which Herring said is disproportionately aimed at helping big businesses such as Amazon.com. Essentially, the bill would give a tax credit to businesses that hire recent Virginia college graduates to fill newly created jobs.

Here's how it works: Businesses with 75 or fewer employees who hire a Virginia grad with a degree from the last three years would be eligible for the tax credit. If approved, the business would receive \$2,500 for each newly created full time job created. The credit would sunset in 2014.

"It's an opportunity to help a group of people who are likely to be unemployed," said **Zach Rickard**, Herring's chief of staff. "It's also a way to help give small businesses a leg up on the competition."

Redrawing the Lines

Redistricting is always a messy process, with partisans on both sides trying to craft maps that benefit themselves. Sometimes the parties work together in a way to maximize one party's votes in certain areas as a strategy to make other seats more competitive. Other times, the parties try to find a way to hurt the other party by drawing incumbents out of their own districts or forcing two incumbents to face each other in a primary.

Neither is the case for U.S. Rep. **Jim Moran** (D-8), who generally benefits from the redistricting process because the Republicans try to put as many Democrats as they can into his district. The plan currently under consideration would take Reston out of his district and add parts of Springfield as well as Mason Neck.

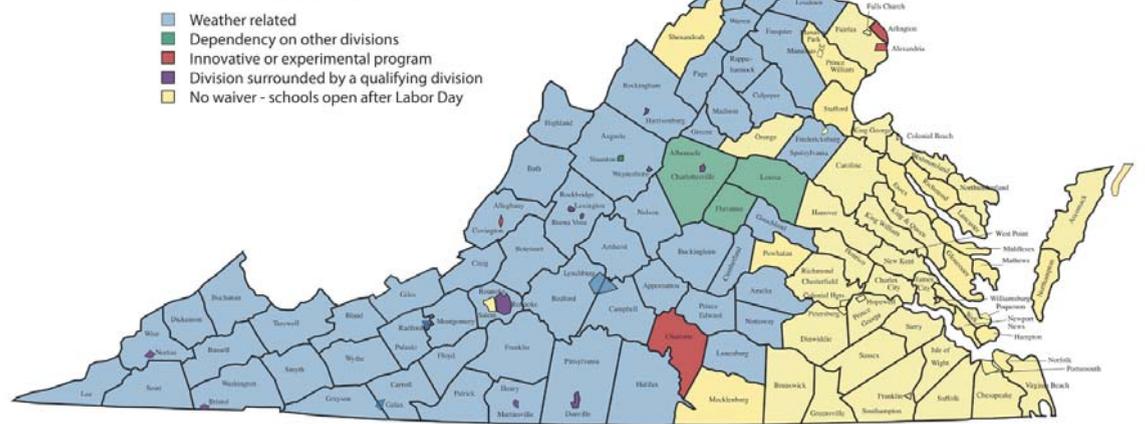
This week, a panel of Virginia state senators narrowly approved a House of Delegates plan that would redraw the commonwealth's 11 congressional districts on an eight-to-seven vote. Last summer, Senate Democrats were able to block approval of the map. But now that Republican Lt. Gov. **Bills Bolling** is casting the tie-breaking vote, the G.O.P. used its new power to stack the committees in favor of Republicans. If the bill is approved this week as expected, it will go to the governor for his signature.

For Democrats in Alexandria, quick action by the Republicans on the G.O.P. redistricting plans has two silver linings. For one, Moran will be in a safe seat that is likely to get even safer for Democrats. Another benefit for local Democrats is that quick action will prevent the summer primaries from being pushed back to August, when many people are out of town. So the Democratic primary for City Council races is now much more likely to happen in June.

— MICHAEL LEE POPE

NEWS

Virginia Department of Education School Divisions with Pre-Labor Day Waivers 2011-12



Map depicts school districts approved for pre-Labor Day opening due to weather waivers.

Undercutting 'King's Dominion Law'

Governor supports Northern Virginia's plight to start schools before Labor Day.

BY MICHAEL LEE POPE
GAZETTE PACKET

Ever since Republicans gained a narrow one-vote majority in the state Senate, many in Northern Virginia have been fearing a loss of influence in Richmond. But Republican Gov. Bob McDonnell threw the region an unexpected lifeline last week on an issue that was at the top of the legislative agenda for the region — ending the prohibition against beginning schools before Labor Day. The mandate is known as the "King's Dominion Law" because the amusement park successfully lobbied for the prohibition in the 1980s.

"Local communities can best balance their teaching and calendar needs with the important concerns of local tourism and business," said McDonnell during his annual state of the commonwealth address. "They know their situations far better than Richmond."

For most of Virginia, the issue doesn't make much of a difference because of the amount of snow that falls west of the Fall Line. School divisions in those parts of Virginia can get a weather waiver, allowing them to begin school before Labor Day because they are unable to hold classes during the coldest parts of winter. Yet school divisions in the eastern parts of the state can't get a weather waiver because they don't get enough snow. And when Alexandria City Public Schools tried to get an "innovative program" waiver, they ended up abandoning the application when it became clear that the State School Board was about to reject it.

"It's just downright silly to say that schools can

start early if they get a lot of snow but can't if they want to help teachers," said Alexandria Superintendent Morton Sherman. "The state is flat out wrong."

SEVENTY SEVEN of Virginia's 132 school divisions already have some form of waiver, which means that the exception has become the rule. That also means that the hospitality industry that fought for the mandate is fighting for an increasingly smaller share of the profits. The Virginia Hospitality and Travel Association, which represents King's Dominion and other amusement parks, will be leading the charge for maintaining the status quo. The association estimates that shortening the tourism season would forgo spending by about \$274 million and decrease wages and benefits by about \$104 million.

"We've never seen any kind of difference in academic achievement in terms of starting before Labor Day," said Katie Hellbush, director of government affairs for the association. "But studies have shown a distinct change in tourism."

But school officials in Northern Virginia say momentum is on their side. Even before McDonnell highlighted the issue in his state of the commonwealth speech, the Virginia School Boards Association identified it as a top priority. The mandate against beginning classes before Labor Day has become a shared frustration across the region. This year, the effort to abandon King's Dominion Law is supported

by the Virginia Education Association, the Virginia Association of School Superintendents as well as a handful of Northern Virginia jurisdictions.

"The big hurdle is going to be having the business community not as concerned as it's been in the past," said Michael Molloy, director of government relations for Fairfax County Public Schools. "It's really about persuading legislators that this change is needed to help student achievement."

THE HOSPITALITY INDUSTRY has spent more than \$200,000 in the last 15 years contributing to

SEE GOVERNOR, PAGE 6

Urban Renewal on the Waterfront

FROM PAGE 3

two states, which ceased to be a boundary upon the creation of the District of Columbia. That 1791 water mark later became the basis for a 1973 lawsuit brought by the Nixon administration's Department of Justice against 34 Alexandria landowners, including the owners of Robinson Terminal.

A settlement agreement was reached in 1983 limiting development to 238,816 square feet at Robinson Terminal North with a height limit of 66 feet. But when the city was considering a small-area plan a decade later, planning officials decided to limit the development to 195,296 square feet with a height limit of 55 feet. Planning documents from the era indicate that city officials from that era clearly felt they were well within their rights to downzone the property.

"Nothing in the waterfront settlement agreements prevents the city from reducing heights and densities," wrote then-City Attorney Phil Sunderland in a 1990 memorandum.

Now things have changed. During a work session last week, current City Attorney James Banks indicated that failing to increase the density at Robinson Terminal North could put the city in legal jeopardy. Although he said he didn't want to preview any legal argument he might use in court, Banks said that inviting a lawsuit would be a gamble because it's unclear which side would prevail in court. And the implications

of losing in court could mean that city planners would forfeit the controls currently outlined in the plan.

"Even though we acknowledge that Robinson Terminal lawsuit has certain merit to it, we also believe, frankly, that the city's position about the efficacy of the 1992 rezoning has some merit to it as well," Banks told City Council members and Planning Commission members. "That's exactly the kind of case in which no one could truly predict what the result would be."

NOW THAT the waterfront plan is headed to a final vote this weekend, the 2008 lawsuit has become a ghost haunting the process. Planning officials say failing to adopt the current plan could put the city in a difficult position — one in which the Robinson Terminal Corporation would get the additional density without amenities such as one-acre public pier or increased regulatory control for restaurants and hotels. Opponents say the city is folding to powerful interests without standing for the interests of the city.

"The city is arguing that failing to upzone is downzoning?" asked Katy Cannady, a frequent critic of the plan. "That's the most Orwellian thing I've ever heard."

Supporters of the plan include the Alexandria Chamber of Commerce, the Parks

SEE URBAN RENEWAL, PAGE 18

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Mount Vernon Gazette

Governor Backs Schools' Flexibility

FROM PAGE 4

Republicans and Democrats in Richmond. Top recipients in Northern Virginia include \$4,500 to Del. David Albo (R-42), \$2,050 to Del. Scott Lingamfelter (R-31), \$2,000 to former Del. Vince Callahan (R-34), \$2,000 to Del. Tim Hugo (R-40) and \$1,750 to state Sen. Dick Saslaw (D-35). But votes don't always follow the money. Albo, for example, said he'll be voting to overturn the law this year.

"Now that we have the Standards of Learning, it's really important to give the schools time to prepare the students to take the test," said Albo. "You can't have it both ways."

Two years ago, Del. Adam Ebbin (D-49) introduced a bill that would have allowed school with high rates of poverty be exempted from the Labor Day restrictions. That failed, but Ebbin is undeterred. Alexandria's experience being essentially

denied a waiver has galvanized local school officials to put pressure on Alexandria City Council members, who added the item to their legislative package this year. Now Ebbin says he's going to take another crack at it. This week, he introduced a bill that would give school divisions the ability to start school whenever they want, regardless of poverty statistics.

"I feel strongly about local school divisions having autonomy," said Ebbin.

BULLETIN BOARD

THURSDAY/JAN. 19

High Capacity Transit Corridor Work Group meeting. 7-9 p.m. at Patrick Henry Elementary School (Auditorium), 4643 Taney Avenue. Public invited. The facility is transit accessible via DASH route AT8 and WMATA routes 29K/N and 8Z (school is several blocks from stop on Duke Street). Enter building from entrance facing Taney Avenue. The meeting will focus on the secondary screening analysis of Corridor B concepts (Duke Street). www.alexandriava.gov/HighCapacityTransit.

WEDNESDAY/JAN. 25

Language Stars is inviting community members, families and teachers to a grand opening evening on Wednesday, Jan. 25, from 5 to 7 p.m., to tour the space, meet teachers, and learn more about its foreign language programs. Located at 318 Montgomery Street, Alexandria. To contact Language Stars, call 1-866-55-STARs or e-mail info@languagestars.com.

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Celebrating Martin Luther King, Jr.

FROM PAGE 1

Washington and the “I Have a Dream Speech.” Two days after the speech, the Alexandria Gazette ran an Associated Press item with the headline “State Congressmen See Few Results From D.C. March.” None of the delegation indicated they would support civil rights legislation that was the aim of the March on Washington.

“So far as the Senate is concerned, I don’t think it changed a single vote,” said Democratic Sen. Absalom Willis Robertson, a member of the conservative coalition. “Of course, I’m so thoroughly convinced of the unconstitutionality and undesirability of the president’s legislative program that I may be an unfair judge. But, certainly, it had no effect on me.”

The Associated Press story made it clear that members of the Virginia congressional delegation were solidly against President John Kennedy’s proposed civil-rights legislation — a series of reforms that would later become the basis of the landmark Civil Rights Act of 1964. Democratic Sen. Harry Byrd was not quoted in the story, although the Associated Press noted he had already indicated “he would pay little attention to the day’s events.” U.S. Rep. Howard Smith (D-8), who represented Alexandria in the House of Representatives, said he considered the civil rights legislation supported by the March on Washington to be “unnecessary, unnecessary and unconstitutional.”

“The march struck me as a giant pep rally and is likely to have a similar value,” said Democratic Rep. J. Vaughan Gary. “Opponents of the civil rights legislation won’t change, but the proponents are likely to press their demands with greater enthusiasm.”

Proposal Would Cut Back ‘Intersession’

FROM PAGE 1

ents, teachers, principals and School Board members reveals some of his thinking on how the other schools would be given an opportunity to make systemic changes.

“Schools will submit proposals to extend the school day or year to address their academic achievement needs, as defined in their

School Education Plans and the division’s strategic plan,” Sherman wrote. “Schools that apply for these funds and wish to operate on a modified calendar will pursue a two to three-year phased approach to full implementation.”

Sherman plans to formally present the proposal to School Board members later this week.

THE CONCEPT OF INTERSESSIONS first originated in 2002, when former Alexandria Superintendent Rebecca Perry presented the idea of “modified school calendars” to principals throughout the system. By abandoning the traditional school calendar, which includes a lengthy summer break, Perry ar-



PHOTO BY LOUISE KRAFT/GAZETTE PACKET

The awardees of this year’s contest included: Helen Cooper, Maury; Ammarah Taij, Ramsay; Connor McMaster, Polk; Giselle Garcia, Ramsay; Emily Suratt, Macarthur; Mia Humphrey, Maury; Immanuel Metateria, Ramsay; Riley Butcher, Maury; Turner Ashby, Maury; Analeiza Persaisa, Tucker; Aiden Domellan, Tucker, and Ana Humphrey, Maury.

THE CONGRESSMAN was right. Opponents of civil rights remained solidly against change, sometimes with violent consequences. But supporters were galvanized by the speech, and it has become a hallmark of the civil-rights movement. It’s also to the central theme of the Alexandria Society for the Preservation of Black Heritage’s poster contest, which is held every year at City Hall. This year’s event featured former Gov. George Allen, who is currently running to return to a seat in the U.S. Senate. Before the event began, Allen recalled that the University of Virginia’s football team was integrated when he was a student there.

“To me, it was a perfectly normal thing to have an integrated team,” said Allen, who attended high school in the desegregated schools of California. “It would have been odd to have it any other way.”

gued that students could be offered a series of “intersession” classes between the semesters. Tucker was the first to adopt the program in 2004.

“The initial implementation at Tucker Elementary has been extremely successful,” said Perry as she introduced her budget in early 2005.

So she expanded the program to Mount Vernon, budgeting about \$810,000 to implement the program in two elementary schools. It was a decision to implement modified school calendars — known by the acronym MSC — created a wellspring of opposition and support. A letter of opposition was signed by 78 parents, which was countered by a letter in support signed by 55 parents.

“We have grave doubts that the stated objectives of a MSC are achievable,” the letter in opposition explained. “MSC will put our children out of sync with their community and with the nation.”

“The bottom line is we want our children to reach their highest potential and we believe year-round

SEE CUTTING BACK, PAGE 28

Arrest in Vehicular Manslaughter

Alexandria may have logged its first murder of the year on Sunday afternoon, when a 22-year-old Fairfax County man drove a 1994 Honda Accord that struck a 31-year-old Lincolnia woman and her 8-year-old son. The woman survived, but the boy died on the scene. He was later identified as Brian Hernandez-Chavez.



Victor Aldana

On Monday, Alexandria police announced they had arrested Victor Aldana, who lives in the Alexandria section of Fairfax County. He’s charged with DUI manslaughter, DUI maiming, reckless driving and not having an operator’s license. He is being held at the Alexandria Adult Detention Center without bond.

During a pair of court hearings Tuesday, witnesses said Aldana lost control of the car but had enough time to correct without hitting the pedestrians. Instead he hit the mother and son and continued driving until his car went down an embankment. Prosecutors said he had a blood-alcohol level of 0.15, more than twice the legal limit, and they indicated they are ready to make the case that he had been drinking since 9:30 a.m. They also told the court that they could not establish Aldana is a legal citizen of the United States, which would explain why he is also charged with not having an operator’s license.

This is the first fatal pedestrian crash of 2012 in Alexandria.

DUI Crackdown

Ironically, the potential DUI manslaughter happened on a weekend when the Alexandria Police Department was conducting a crackdown on drunk driving. From 8:30 p.m. Saturday night to 6:30 a.m. Sunday morning, officers were out looking for drunk drivers. Vehicles observed committing traffic infractions were stopped and drivers were checked to assure that their abilities to drive had not been impaired by alcohol or drugs.

During the roaming effort, 154 vehicles were stopped and four arrests were made for driving while intoxicated. In addition to those arrests, 75 summonses were issued for miscellaneous traffic offenses. Seven police officers and one emergency communications technician participated in the mobile enforcement effort.

First Bank Robbery

Happy New Year! It’s another bank robbery.

With 2012 just a few days old, the Alexandria Police Department logged the first bank robbery of the year on Tuesday, when United Bank on South Washington Street was hit. The city logged five separate bank robberies last year, with only one of the offenses leading to an arrest.



Surveillance footage of the bank robber that struck United Bank on Tuesday.

Police say a man entered United Bank Tuesday morning around 9 a.m., displayed a handgun and demanded money. Witnesses said he was wearing blue jeans, a black coat, a camouflaged floppy hat and a black scarf around his face. The teller relinquished an undisclosed amount of cash and the suspect fled toward South Washington Street on foot. No one was injured.

The suspect is described as a light-skinned black male between the ages of 25 to 30 who is about 5’9” tall.

— MICHAEL LEE POPE

LIVING LEGEND

Bob Calhoun: Residents Need To Get Involved

Bipartisan praise for Democrat-turned-Republican.

BY SARAH BECKER

Robert “Bob” Calhoun encourages all Alexandrians to become involved in their neighborhoods. A Democrat turned Republican, he was drawn to community at a young age. Born in Oak Park, Ill. in 1937, he said his grandmother was active in Illinois politics. “She was what was called a Southern Democrat, seriously concerned with Social Security and the Wagner Act,” Calhoun said. “In the 1970s it was Virginia Republican Governor Linwood Holton who held my interest. I liked him as an affirmative person.”

Holton was a “Mountain and Valley” Republican opposed to the Byrd machine and massive resistance. The first Republican Governor elected since Reconstruction, Holton, in his 1970 inaugural address, declared “the era of defiance is behind us. Let our goal be an aristocracy of ability, regardless of race, color or creed.” Ability is a trait often attributed to Calhoun.

“With all due respect to anyone who has ever served in public office — Republican, Democrat or otherwise — Bob is the smartest, most-well read, curious (in a good way), broadly knowledgeable politician I have ever known,” former State Delegate and City Councilman David Speck said. Speck first worked with Calhoun as a member of the Alexandria Republican Party and then joined the Democratic Party in 1995.

“Unfortunately in the 1970s Virginia Republicans were scarce, split into two camps: Goldwater or Rockefeller,” Calhoun said. “The divisions didn’t disappear until Reagan’s election in 1980. Since then the Republican Party has become increasingly more conservative.”

“I first ran for political office in 1973, for the Virginia House of Delegates,” Calhoun laughed. “I lost, a sacrificial lamb running against House Majority Leader Jim Thomson. Thomson was a Byrd Democrat, a Byrd relative.”

Calhoun was elected to the Alexandria



“With all due respect to anyone who has ever served in public office — Republican, Democrat or otherwise — Bob is the smartest, most well-read, curious (in a good way), broadly knowledgeable politician I have ever known,” said former State Delegate and City Councilman David Speck.

City Council in 1976. He won a single Republican seat. However he and the Alexandria GOP wanted more.

“Incumbent Republican Robert L. Calhoun, an attorney, apparently captured the spot of vice mayor,” The Washington Post reported in 1979. “This was an historic election as Alexandria Republicans finished one, two and three among the six winners. ‘People were looking for a consensus form of government [and] we, the Republicans, are all middle-of-the-road people,’ Calhoun said.” By 1982, the city of Alexandria had the most elected Republicans of any city in Virginia.

“People most likely associate me with transportation matters, but then we were mostly involved with landlord-tenant, metro and busing issues,” Calhoun said. It was not fun running as a Republican. I had a pie thrown at me and a dog sicked on me.”

Attorney Calhoun graduated from Yale Law School in 1963. “I met Bob at Yale Law School in 1961-62 and we frequently had lunch together,” former Old Town Civic Association President Robert Dempsey recalled. “He was a great luncheon companion; loquacious, humorous and unhesitant to make declaratory judgment about any topic of our table-talk. Of course a conversation with Bob consisted, in the main, of punctuating his rapid-fire monologues with admiring interjection.”

Calhoun came to Washington as a rules and practices lawyer with the now-defunct Interstate Commerce Commission. He entered private practice in 1971 and today is Of Counsel with the Alexandria law firm of Redmon, Peyton & Braswell.

“John Volpe is one of my great heroes in government,” Calhoun smiled. Volpe, a Bay-stater, served as Secretary of Transportation from 1969 until 1973. Amtrak was created on his watch and the railroad industry fascinated Calhoun.

In 1982 Calhoun ran “The Race of the Century.” The Washington Post reported: “Neither incumbent Alexandria Mayor Charles Beatley nor his opponent, Vice Mayor Robert Calhoun — the first Republican to run for mayor in more than 100 years — expects voters to have any trouble separating the princes from the peas ... the biggest issue in this year’s campaign has been whether to impose a trash collection fee [yet] the race has been described by both sides as unusually partisan and hard fought.” Calhoun conceded the race but not before “Democrats conceded Calhoun is popular, fast-talking and often witty.”

Calhoun is also described as irascible. “Irascible?” responded former Alexandria Mayor and state Sen. Patsy Ticer. “Bob is not at all difficult to get along with. He is very polite, very thoughtful, never nasty and very respectful.” Ticer, a Democrat, defeated incumbent Virginia Senator Calhoun in 1996. Calhoun served in the State Senate from 1988 until 1996.

Supporters claim Calhoun’s co-sponsor-

ship of Virginia’s 1995 Public-Private Partnership Act is his hallmark. Metro’s Dulles silver line was the first to use the Act for funding purposes. Others list his service on the WMATA Board, his preliminary study of the city-owned DASH bus system, and the overhaul of child custody statutes as his greatest achievements. Calhoun thinks the King and Braddock Street stations are “architectural atrocities.”

“As OTCA President I appeared rather frequently before City Council,” Dempsey noted. “Sometimes Bob voted in favor of Old Town’s position, sometimes not, but always he articulated his position with clarity and persuasiveness.”

“Bob advocates persuasively,” former Republican City Councilman Carlyle Ring agreed. “He focuses on what is doable and drafts legislation with clarity and precision.”

What is Calhoun’s life lesson? “Always take a hard look. You need a sense of where you are in life. Get involved, set a goal and stay active. Don’t lose interest, especially in your community or state. I’m Irish and the Irish have an upbeat attitude. We also have a darker side. Politics has changed in the last several years. You can get away with a lot if consistent.”

“I voted for the first time in 1961,” Calhoun concluded. “Then everything seemed so bright and so new. Now I worry what the world will hold for our grandchildren. The country survived a Civil War and a Great Depression but the future concerns me. I’m an issues person, not an ideologue.”

Writer Sarah Becker was nominated as a Living Legend in 2007.

Living Legends: The Project

Now in its sixth year, Living Legends of Alexandria is an ongoing 501(c)(3) photo-documentary project to identify, honor and chronicle Alexandria’s Living Legends. The project was conceived by Nina Tisara to create an enduring artistic record of the people whose vision and dedication make a positive, tangible difference to the quality of life in Alexandria.

Platinum and Gold sponsors this year are the Alexandria Commission for the Arts, Club Managers Association, Dominion Foundation, Erkiletian Real Estate Development, John McEneaney in memory of Ginny, Renner & Company, CPA, P.C. and the Rotary Club of Alexandria.

This is one of a series of 12 profiles that will appear this year. For information, to volunteer, become a sponsor or nominate a Legend for 2013, visit AlexandriaLegends.com or contact Nina Tisara, AlexandriaLegends@ninatisara.com



PHOTO BY STEVEN HALPERSON/TISARA PHOTOGRAPHY

Meet the Artist

Prudential PenFed Realty, 300 N. Washington Street, Suite 100, is hosting a “Meet The Artist” hour on Tuesday, Jan. 24, 6:30-7:30 p.m. Visitors are invited to see the exhibition of Living Legends of Alexandria portraits and hear artist-photographer Nina Tisara speak about the evolution of the Living Legends of Alexandria project. Above, guests gathered at the Prudential PenFed office for the opening of the exhibition in December. For reservations and/or information, contact Becky Arnold, 571-345-6175, becky.arnold@penfedrealty.com by 5 p.m., Jan. 23.

Insightful Technology

Advances in technology levels the playing field for people who are blind.

BY MONTIE MARTIN
GAZETTE PACKET

Ian Elliott is a contract specialist for Boeing, and knows how to read the fine print. Unlike many who deal in contracts, however, Elliott is legally blind.

Elliott, who lives in Alexandria and commutes everyday to his office in Germantown, Md., uses assistive technology to perform his job. His only requirements are a magnifying camera and an additional monitor.

"Boeing already had the assistive technology set up on the first day," said Elliott. "It's something other companies can learn from."

People like Elliott who are blind or visually impaired have unprecedented employment opportunities in today's competitive world thanks to rapid advances in technology.

Hot keys leverage the full function of computers just as quickly as visually maneuvered mouse clicks. Auditory notices bring to attention misspelled words or grammar errors. Text-to-speech software is standard issue.

"Computers have been the greatest champion for people who are blind, they are the greatest tool that reaffirms I can work alongside anyone," said Anthony Stephens, a public policy specialist with the Alexandria-based National Industries for the Blind.

The technology available in 2012 would have been unimaginable 30 years ago.

As primitive as it might seem by today's standards, the 1983 Apple 2E was the first technology that incorporated a type to speech capability.

For book lovers such as Stephens, the act of reading in the early 1990s required a specialized scanner and accompanying software. The entire package was expensive,



Steve Bacon, a customer service representative at NIB, uses magnifying assistive technology to perform his job.

totaling nearly \$4,500.

It was only in 1994 when the Guttenberg Project transferred all public domain books to electronic format that readers who were blind could access a new world of insight.

"I love books, but I couldn't go to the library. With the project completed I could read," said Stephens. "That day I cried."

It was only a short time ago in 2007 when technology once again redefined daily life for people who are blind or visually impaired. The Apple 3G iPhone supports Apps that cost as little as \$20, yet can identify items at grocery stores using the camera function.

Assistive technology takes many shapes and can be tailored to meet the needs of the individual. In some cases people who are visually impaired require nothing more than a magnifying glass.

Steve Bacon, a National Industries for the Blind customer care representative from Alexandria with partial sight, uses an enlarged monitor to help send a constant stream of emails to clients.

"It helps me do my work efficiently," said Bacon. "It's a big plus, I probably wouldn't be able to do what I do without it."

Of critical importance to people who are blind or visually impaired is the degree to which businesses understand that technology is the golden key.

Misperceptions in the business community continue to persist, as companies are

Insights from the Blind

The Alexandria-based National Industries for the Blind offers information about people who are

blind or visually impaired. To find employment, purchase services or to simply learn more about the organization and advances in assistive technology, visit: nib.org.



Kevin Lynch, president and CEO of National Industries for the Blind, honored Boeing with an award following the company's recent hire of Ian Elliott. From left are Kevin Lynch, NIB president and CEO, Elizabeth Huldin with Boeing, Rhonda Mower with Boeing, Ian Elliott with Boeing and Bily Parker with NIB.

wary of hiring people who appear unable to write an email or search the web. As a consequence, 70 percent of all job-seeking people who are blind or visually impaired remain unemployed.

According to Kevin Lynch, president and CEO of the National Industries for the Blind, such high unemployment figures have been the norm over the past 30 years.

"It can be discouraging, even with the advances in technology," said Lynch. "New tools have been developed over the past few years, and as they become more well known the unemployment number may change."

Closing the employment gap is at the core of the National Industries for the Blind. NIB and its affiliated agencies across the United States help to employ over 47,000 people who are blind or visually impaired. Al-

though a significant portion of NIB products and services are geared toward the federal government, expanding into the private sector is a major goal.

People who are blind or visually impaired are now entering a level playing field thanks to assistive technology, and companies like Boeing have been quick to capitalize on this new pool of highly qualified applicants.

"Ian Elliott is quit typical of the individuals we serve," said Lynch. "He's highly educated, very bright and committed. He represents an opportunity for opening doors."

"We all come with different challenges, and Ian is a great employee," said Elizabeth Huldin, director of human resources for Boeing's network and space systems division. "We're always looking for really strong talent".

OBITUARY

Winfred Winans (Fred) Charlot

Winfred Winans (Fred) Charlot, 49, died at his home in Buena Vista on Dec. 27, 2011 after battling esophageal cancer. Fred was raised in Alexandria and Arlington and lived in Northern Virginia until moving to the Shenandoah Valley in 2002. He attended T. C. Williams High School and National Business School in Alexandria.



Charlot in 1978 .

He is survived by his late wife Cheryl's adult sons Christopher A. and Jason S. Helmick and her mother Susan (Baugher) Obaugh of Staunton, and his companion/domestic partner Carol D. Pelter of Buena Vista and his adoptive sister Lynn M.

Javins of Greenville, formerly of Alexandria as well as many friends in both Northern and Central Virginia.

He was preceded in death by his wife Cheryl V.(Obaugh) Charlot in 2008, his father Col. Winfred Walter Charlot in 1997 and mother Elizabeth (Malone)

Memorial contributions may be sent to Rockbridge Area Hospice at rockbridgeareahospice.org/

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OPINION

Counting the Homeless

... And making the homeless count.

BY MARY ANNE WEBER
CHAIR, ALEXANDRIA COMMUNITY SERVICES BOARD



We have a whole group of people dedicated to bringing them out of the cold and into permanent housing and a life like everyone else's. What we don't have is a blueprint of how to do it permanently, when the unemployment rate is high, the minimum wage is no-

where near a living wage, some are too disabled to work full time or work at all, and society does not recognize the depth of the problem.

"We need really low income housing," said Bill Rooney, comprehensive recovery team supervisor for the Community Services Board and one of those who deals with the problem of the homeless. But until such housing is available,

"There is a plethora of services for people who are street homeless. There is no reason people should live outside," Rooney said.

Those services include the Alexandria Shelter, Carpenter's Shelter, a shelter for victims of domestic violence and three emergency shelters. They handle both families and single people. In addition there is the winter shelter which is open from December 1 to April 1. "There is room for every person. We always accept people and have places," said Rooney who noted that might mean they will take people to places in other jurisdictions. There is also transitional housing and programs such as Safe Haven, which is permanent housing for homeless who have a mental illness.

There are meal programs and outreach cen-

Where To Call

In an emergency: 911
Non-emergency police: 703-838-4444
Emergency Mental Health Services: 703-746-3401
Adult Protective Services: 703-746-5778.

ters. But the homeless remain. As does the question, how to get them housed.

Once a year jurisdictions throughout the Washington metropolitan area conduct a count of the homeless, those who are on the street and those in shelters. They try to figure out who they are; men, women, single, families, children, employed or unemployed, mentally ill or dealing with substance abuse. It's called the point in time count and this year it will take place on Jan. 25.

Last year, Alexandria decided to do the count differently. Directed by Michelle Albert, the city's new homeless outreach and PATH coordinator, the city increased the number of volunteers doing the count, broadened the search area and began their check at 4 a.m. in the morning rather than 9 a.m. The result was that the numbers were larger than they had been the previous year and the percentage of homeless in Alexandria higher than our neighbors. To verify those higher number, a second count was done in July. It is Albert's job to provide outreach to the homeless and connect them with services. Knowing who they are is part of the job as is the emphasis on finding the homeless who are seriously mentally ill.

Albert thought it was significant that 44 percent of the homeless reported chronic substance abuse, 21 percent serious mental illness

SEE COUNTING, PAGE 19

COMMENTARY

Alexandria is often described as an affluent community. One recent report pegged the median income at \$102,000, not the highest in the area, but not low. Meanwhile, despite the housing slowdown, a home remains out of reach for many faced with stagnant wages or an income that keeps going down.

But the housing problem is much bigger than that. We have residents with disabilities living on less than \$5,000 a year. Someone on Social Security disability might get \$700 a month. Many of the elderly, particularly the women, who may have lived in this city most of their lives, earned small incomes during their working years, or their jobs might not have qualified for Social Security at all. All of these are residents of Alexandria too. They live with families if they have them, or double up, or if they are lucky live in group homes, subsidized housing or transitional housing. Then there are the homeless.

They are often not visible and only come to public attention when they are recognized on King Street or Mount Vernon Avenue or near a Metro, a business, a church. We know how many there are and very often who they are.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

It's About Quality of Life

To the Editor:

Look around Alexandria. What percentage of Old Town is actually old?

Huge swathes of our main thoroughfare,

King Street, are dominated by modern office buildings and hotels with the three, four, and five hundred blocks of King Street particularly notable testaments to razing history for development. Paddle a canoe from Jones Point up to Canal Center Plaza and you are hard-pressed to find anything that was there 40 years ago. Enter Old Town via the parkway from Wash-

ington, D.C., and you are welcomed by blocks of new construction before you get to any old buildings. Let's not even begin to address how many blocks of subsidized and low-income housing have been replaced with upscale townhouses and condominiums.

Yes, Gadsby's Tavern, the Apocathery Shop, the Carlyle House, and the Athenaeum, among others, are well-preserved treasures. But, what is left of the old structures, those built in the 18th and 19th centuries, is largely owned by individual homeowners.

I consider myself fortunate to live in a house built in 1776. My neighbors and I maintain our homes to the exacting and expensive standards of the Board of Architectural review. We navigate our neighborhoods crowded with double-parked restaurant, hotel, and store delivery trucks and get stuck driving behind gigantic tour buses proceeding at a glacial pace while belching exhaust. We search in vain for parking spots near our homes. We pay more in real estate taxes year after year. While we love living here — we pay a price.

Regarding the city's proposed waterfront plan, I feel that the interests of businesses and developers are being catered to on the backs of residents of Old Town. I feel used and unrepresented by my elected officials.

I am all for increasing access to the waterfront, but increasing density and encouraging

SEE LETTERS, PAGE 12



PHOTO BY LOUISE KRAFFT/GAZETTE PACKET

'Yarn-Bombed'

Threads of Community, Connectivity, opened Jan. 12 at the Torpedo Factory. The exhibit runs through Feb. 5. Above is the "Yarn-Bombed" torpedo at the City Dock entrance of the Art Factory.

Alexandria Gazette Packet

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HEAR YE, HEAR YE, GOOD CITIZENS OF ALEXANDRIA!

Waterfront News Flash!



City to auction off waterfront on Saturday, January 21st

What do WE get from this sale?

- Hotels, massive blocks of offices, town homes, restaurants, condos, and higher density and less control
- Tiny parks
- Even bigger traffic problems
- More noise and pollution
- Minimal affordable public access to the river
- Loss of Old Town's historic spirit and charm
- No great public places
- Minimal protection of Potomac and Chesapeake Bay
- Need for more costly flood control
- Pleasure boat marina for visitors

IT'S YOUR WATERFRONT, ALEXANDRIA!

Help us stop this sale!!

SATURDAY'S AUCTIONEERS:

Mayor Bill Euille
Vice Mayor Kerry Donley
Councilwoman Del Pepper
Councilman Rob Krupicka
Councilman Paul Smedberg

ASSISTED BY:

Planning Department
Planning Commission
Investors in the waterfront

Please join your neighbors and friends at the **Take Back Your Waterfront Rally!**

JANUARY 21, 2012, 8:30 AM • MARKET SQUARE, CITY HALL

EMAIL COUNCIL before January 21

SIGN UP NOW to speak to City Council on January 21. The meeting starts at 9:30 AM. Sign up online or call the City Clerk at 703-746-4550.

Don't BRAC the waterfront!

AlternativeAlexandriaWaterfrontPlan.com

Paid for by: Citizens for an Alternative Alexandria Waterfront Plan

LETTERS

FROM PAGE 10

new hotels, restaurants and houses along the Old Town waterfront will have a negative impact on my quality of life. And as someone who contributes to making Old Town historic, rather than new, I would like my voice to be heard.

Twig Murray
Alexandria

Tread Lightly

To the Editor:

It seems everyone is “weighing in” on the proposed Alexandria waterfront plan. As a rower I want to say “weigh enough” which means stop what you are doing now. I see the city from a vantage point that most Alexandrians do not. This past summer with the increased number of wooden sailing ships visiting it felt like the clock had been turned back as I rowed. Looking at the shoreline and Old Town skyline above the masts the city was frozen back in the 1800s and 1900s. That look needs to be preserved especially between Princess and Gibbon streets. With prudent small-scale development this can be accomplished. Let’s keep what we have already in the lower King Street area. The Waterfront Park & Old Dominion Boat Club should remain as is but a sidewalk should be added on the Strand and the fencing improved in front of the boat club’s parking lot still keeping a view to the river.

Recent news stories have indicated some members of the city council may have a conflict of interest. They should recuse themselves. Alexandria lost a good mayor in the ‘80s - we do not need history to repeat itself. I urge the remaining city council members to take a cautious approach and tread lightly since there will be no second chances in the future.

George Bergmann
Alexandria

Waterfront Plan Deserves Approval

To the Editor:

It has been nearly three years since Alexandria kicked-off the Waterfront Small Area Plan-making process with a public forum at City Hall. In that time, I’ve had the privi-

lege of participating as a member of the Waterfront Committee and Waterfront Plan Work Group. Today, however, I’d like to share my personal reasons for supporting the Waterfront Plan.

Today’s Waterfront does not fulfill its potential as a gathering place for Alexandrians or a must-see destination for visitors. Existing plans do not encourage development on Alexandria’s few remaining Waterfront industrial parcels in a manner consistent with the community’s vision for a vibrant Waterfront that celebrates our historic and cultural legacy, expands and supports public uses, yet retains and preserves the special charm and ambience of our community for future generations.

The draft Waterfront Small Area Plan, aided by recommendations of Waterfront Plan Work Group, addresses these shortcomings to create the world-class Waterfront that Alexandria deserves. It promotes the arts and Alexandria’s seaport history. It carefully balances new public amenities like enhanced parks and public spaces with new commerce. It provides stringent guidelines for new development to ensure compatibility with surrounding neighborhoods and consistency with Old Town’s historic character.

This is a plan that can be accomplished without raising taxes, by reinvesting new revenue generated from modest and appropriately-scaled redevelopment of existing warehouse sites to fund civic improvements and programming that will enliven our Waterfront. And by reaching an amicable agreement with property owners through the planning process, we can bring more certainty to plan implementation. Given the various budgetary priorities of our City government, this is key to attaining the significant public amenities envisioned by the plan.

The Waterfront Plan Work Group found broad agreement with the City’s Waterfront Plan, but offered a number of recommendations for improvement. It de-emphasizes reliance on hotels by favoring mixed use. It points the City towards negotiation with the Old Dominion Boat Club and away from applying eminent domain to make King Street a great street where it meets the river. It recommends structures for governance, funding, and public oversight to facilitate plan implementation. In short, these sug-



PHOTO BY LOUISE KRAFT/CAZETTE PACKET

Snapshot

2:06 p.m., Jan. 12: Daffodils bloom in the Peabody’s yard on Quaker Lane.

gestions made a good plan even better. It’s time for a Council vote in favor of this plan.

Nate Macek
Alexandria

Don’t BRAC Waterfront

To the Editor:

It’s your waterfront, Alexandria.

It is until Jan. 21, anyway. That’s when the majority Democratic City Council will hold a final public hearing on the waterfront plan. Democrats on council appear to have already decided to give 8.5 acres of prime historic river shoreline away to developers for what amounts to little more than the gilded and glitzy promise of tax revenue and a “waterfront for all.”

At the work session last week, the Mayor announced, “We can’t please everyone,” as if the differences of opinion between citizens and elected officials and planners can never be resolved, and the debate has been going on as long as that over whether to build a museum at Fort Belvoir [laughter].

Then, there was this recent response to a constituent from another member of Council who I will not name: “Opponents of the city’s efforts have been clear they will work to stop anything. If you see some outcome for these three sites that would be different

with more time, I’d love to hear it. I think the bigger question is do we let a group of people mislead, grandstand, threaten, and misrepresent facts over and over. At some point the city has to move forward.”

This is what I would politely call a yarn, spun to preserve the real status quo here and obscure the truths we all agree on. We do have warehouses that block us all from enjoying a great natural resource, stop us from retelling our nation’s history, don’t help Old Town thrive, and don’t improve property values.

Here are a few observations worth retelling. The City began with one central theme in mind: “boutique-ish” hotels, higher density, and more flexibility for developers. Citizens objected and the response was you are too late, your alternatives are unrealistic, and our plan costs taxpayers nothing. Nothing? A vision?

There is no waterfront plan, really. The developers and property owners might as well have written the vague guidelines that exist in its place. History and the arts were inserted at the 11th hour and take a back seat to the rezoning goals. You don’t need to be a conspiracy theorist to see that the City had made up its mind about the purpose of this planning process long before it ever held its first public meeting in 2009. Sound familiar? Then there is the small

SEE LETTERS, PAGE 13

State Legislature Begins with Bill on Personhood

BY CHARNIELE HERRING
DELEGATE (D-46)

As Virginia begins the 2012 Legislative session, many issues are at the forefront in the minds of the residents of the Commonwealth: jobs, transportation, and education. However, in the first week of this new legislative session the focus has shifted. Instead of talking about legislation like HB 191, which would give small businesses a credit for creating new jobs and hiring our graduates, Richmond is abuzz with a radical agenda attacking women. A personhood bill, similar to the one defeated by Mississippi voters last year, is alive and well in the House of Delegates. It was the



very first piece of legislation filed.

There will be votes on legislation aimed at suppressing voting rights — making it more difficult for students, the elderly, and the disabled to cast their ballot for a candidate of their choice.

Governor McDonnell’s budget strips funding for teen pregnancy prevention centers and legislation will make it even harder to access reproductive healthcare. These are the agenda items facing the General Assembly. The question becomes how does this

COMMENTARY

extreme agenda help fix the congestion we face in Northern Virginia? How does it help children find success in school? How does this agenda help people get back to work? The simple answer is that it does not. This session I am introducing legislation that will help spur small business growth and get our graduates into the workforce here in Virginia. I also have filed legislation calling on VDOT to make mass transit a priority as we plan for our future, and I have asked for a JLARC study to look into changing our renewable energy portfolio into a mandatory program with real benefit rather than a lot of incentive for little environmental or economic reward. These are the questions — educa-

tion, employment, transportation, and the environment that we as a Commonwealth must face, not an extremist agenda pushed by ideologues seeking higher office. As this session progresses, I hope we can return to a place of sensible solutions and a conversation dealing with the most pressing issues before the people of the Commonwealth. As long as we are faced with extreme legislation, attacking women I will continue to fight back.

Charniele Herring (D-46) serves as the House Democratic Whip and represents Alexandria City in the Virginia General Assembly. She serves on the Courts of Justice and Science and Technology Committees. Visit www.charnieleherring.com and up-to-the-minute updates can be found on twitter @c_herring.

LETTERS

FROM PAGE 12

point that the “plan” being voted on next Saturday does not capture the vision of a large slice of the community. Additionally, issues like traffic, the environment, parking, public access, parks, and great public places won’t be addressed until later, if ever. Don’t BRAC the waterfront? No cost-benefit analysis? I can just hear the laughter.

In this case, and I’m afraid in several other instances across Alexandria, the line between what should be fair, transparent, and thoughtful public policy debate has been replaced with laughter, claims that opponents are misrepresenting the facts and seeking to delay the plan’s approval for political reasons.

Spot planning in a National Historic Landmark district, short-term thinking, cozy relationships with developers ... Ha-ha-ha.

Well, it’s your waterfront, Alexandria, at least until Saturday.

Andrew Macdonald

Make It Distinctive

To the Editor:

Although I strongly support the city’s waterfront plan, I believe it has a major flaw: It does not provide enough funding for the features needed to transform the area into a truly vital, distinctive place.

The plan includes projects that should really be part of the city’s normal capital budget; for example, flood mitigation and Windmill Hill Park improvements. The cost of these improvements will crowd out fund-

ing for the elements that could make the waterfront special, especially the art walk and history proposals. Reducing hotel uses — and the revenues they are expected to bring in — would further reduce the funding for distinctive elements. If we can’t create a distinctive waterfront, we’ll never have a successful waterfront — one that people value and want to visit.

The City Council should approve the plan and then take four steps:

(1) Ask staff to do a detailed cost analysis of the elements needed to create a distinctive place. If money from developers and new tax revenues isn’t sufficient, consider additional taxpayer funding to make up the difference. If the waterfront is to be a special place for all residents, funding from all taxpayers can be justified.

(2) Appoint a committee — distinct from any implementation committee — of design professionals, artists, and others to refine and advance the thinking about the elements of the plan that can transform the waterfront into a special place. This committee can work to overcome a major obstacle in creating a distinctive place: the tendency of people to be too rigid and stodgy in their thinking about design. The committee should especially focus on the art walk and history proposals.

(3) On the three development sites in which hotels are allowed, demand the highest architectural standards, and even insist on design competitions. The challenge south of King Street will be to find designs

SEE LETTERS, PAGE 14



Thanks to many generous supporters throughout the Alexandria community, Inova Alexandria Hospital brought to a successful close its six-year, \$25 million capital campaign for Project 2010.

At Inova Alexandria Hospital our priority is to meet the growing medical needs of the Alexandria community.

Did you know that last year one out of four Alexandrians reached age 55 or more? An aging population meant that Inova Alexandria Hospital needed to expand its services.

Envisioning the Future: Project 2010 was the most ambitious building expansion in the hospital’s 139-year history.

Expansion Highlights:

- Expanded Emergency Department, serving 60,000 patients annually
- New operating and procedure rooms for stroke and cardiac patients
- New 24-patient bed post-surgical center

Nearly one-third of this \$84 million construction project came from private donations. On December 31st we announced that we reached our goal to raise \$25 million from private donations.

Thank you, Alexandria, for allowing the hospital to serve you better!

For a tour of the hospital and Project 2010, contact Mary Myers, Foundation Executive Director, 703-504-7770.



Inova Health System is a not-for-profit healthcare system.

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Session Ahead Includes Opportunities for Progress

By DAVID ENGLIN
DELEGATE (D-45)



Last week, Virginia's 100 state delegates and 40 state senators gathered in Richmond to begin the 2012 General Assembly session. Over the next eight weeks, we will review and act on more than 2,000 pieces of legislation, elect judges, confirm gubernatorial appointments, and craft the state's multibillion dollar two-year budget. Governor Bob McDonnell and his fellow Republicans now control both houses of the General Assembly. On the one hand, that bodes for a very challenging session standing up for our community's progressive values and priorities. On the other hand, in the few cases where Governor McDonnell's agenda and mine happen to overlap, my legislation is already gaining steam, if in a roundabout way.

For example, I have long been an advocate of repealing the so-called "King's Dominion Law" that restricts local school divisions from setting their own school calendar and forces school to start after Labor Day. Working with a bipartisan group of legislators, I drafted a bill to fix the problem. No sooner was my bill ready to go into the hopper when Governor McDonnell publicly

announced his support for our effort, preempting the need for my legislation. Another of my bills would enable Virginia's military veterans to request that the Department of Motor Vehicles place a "veteran" identifier on their driver's licenses to facilitate their access to a variety of services. Shortly after I introduced this as House Bill 1025, the McDonnell Administration announced plans to create a separate identification card that can be issued to Virginia's veterans, accomplishing the goal of my legislation.

Other priorities for this session will no doubt be more challenging. Governor McDonnell has proposed shifting \$55 million per year in sales tax proceeds from schools to road maintenance, cutting tens of millions of dollars of education funds that account for Northern Virginia's higher cost of living, and slashing funds to neighborhood clinics and pre- and post-natal early childhood development programs. All of this, while widening corporate tax loopholes that siphon off revenue with little scrutiny as to whether those giveaways actually pro-

duce any return on investment for taxpayers. I will be working hard to defeat these shortsighted proposals and steer Virginia's budget in a smarter and more responsible direction. Beyond the budget, Republicans have proposed a range of objectionable bills. One bill would define "personhood" as beginning at conception, effectively outlawing not only abortion but also some of the most common forms of birth control. Several bills would make it more difficult for minorities and young people to exercise their right to vote, which is part of a nationwide effort to suppress turnout for President Obama's reelection. Another bill would offer tax credits for people who want to shoot their cremated remains into space. Don't get me wrong; some of my U.S. Air Force Academy classmates are astronauts, and I'm a strong supporter of Virginia's spaceport initiatives. But tax credits for space burials means less money for things like early childhood education, which has demonstrably superior return on investment for communities across Virginia.

For my part, I have proposed bills to expand access to high-quality early childhood education, lower college costs by granting more credit for Advanced Placement tests, create jobs by focusing on climate- and na-

tional-security-friendly energy and energy-efficiency technologies, and a number of other initiatives. One of my goals this session will be to use my position on the House Finance Committee to shine as much sunlight as I can on 187 separate tax preferences, loopholes, and giveaways that drain nearly as much as we raise in revenue. As liberal as I am, I enjoy good friendships and strong working relationships with some of the most conservative legislators, and this concern about tax preference transparency and accountability is something we have in common. Therefore, I'm hopeful that together we can build momentum for badly needed reform of Virginia's tax code, which currently is an opaque two-century accumulation of nonsensical hodgepodge.

To share your views during the session, or to request service or assistance from my office, please contact me at 703-549-3203 or DelDEnglin@house.virginia.gov or visit www.DavidEnglin.org/survey to take my constituent survey. You may also sign up for my email newsletter at www.DavidEnglin.org/subscribe or follow me on Facebook or Twitter. Thank you for the honor and opportunity to serve the people of Alexandria, Arlington, and Fairfax.

RICHMOND
REPORT

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

FROM PAGE 13

that fit into our historic fabric. Surely this can be done while also creating distinctive architecture.

(4) For the Robinson Terminal North location, consider a truly striking piece of architecture of the caliber done by signature architects such as Frank Geary or Santiago Calatrava. This site lends itself to iconic architecture because the land juts into the Potomac River and overlooks the Washington skyline. It is now surrounded by modern office buildings and townhouses with little trace of Alexandria's history.

The task of transforming the waterfront into a distinctive place will not be easy, given that one of the chief features of today's waterfront is its lack of distinction. The waterfront is mostly a semi-private enclave of townhouses and office buildings.

The challenge will be compounded by the generally unimaginative designs of existing parks and public spaces. (Contrast our parks with, for example, the stunning Waterfront Park in Charleston, S.C.) To be sure, walking or bicycling along the waterfront can be enjoyable, but visually, most of the waterfront is boring.

In the long debate over the waterfront plan, there was unfortunately relatively little public discussion about what makes a public place distinctive. It's easier to show examples of such a place than to explain it, but in essence, a distinctive place is one in which the various elements are combined in such a way that they enliven the senses, prompting people to visit and to think, "Wow, this is really special."

I feel fortunate to live in the Washington, D.C., area where there are so many distinc-

tive places to visit. I hope that Alexandria's waterfront can eventually become one of these. We have an enormous opportunity ahead of us.

Bill Hendrickson
Alexandria

Delay Vote

To the Editor:

As a final City Council vote on the Waterfront Small Area Plan draws near, I wish to make several points to clarify issues and dispel myths about the Small Area Plan.

Current W1 zoning has sufficient safeguards against "unbridled as of right development." Special Use Permits are currently required for any proposals over a Floor Area Ratio of 1.0 and most over a FAR of 1.25. Waterfront Height District restrictions apply to all projects within the waterfront area and all proposals within the Historic Landmark District are subject to BAR review. The Small Area Plan does not increase oversight in any meaningful way, but does allow significant density increases.

I have heard it stated that the Small Area Plan is simply a framework and a vision and that all the real restrictions are to be developed during implementation. However, there are concrete statutory changes in the Small Area Plan which once approved are not subject to any change. These include density increases at the three development sites, the addition of hotel use and the text amendments which document these changes. The Small Area Plan does include serious statutory changes that once passed are law.

Some have stated that the City is divided

on the Small Area Plan. However, I observe hundreds of "Don't Rezone the Waterfront" signs in Old Town windows and very few "Waterfront 4 All" posters. Even businesses and members of the Chamber of Commerce in Old Town display more "Don't Rezone" signs. Outside of Old Town I believe most Alexandrians are ambivalent about the waterfront, but I believe they are disenchanted with City actions on BRAC, similar development initiatives elsewhere in the City, reported conflicts of interest and a general disregard for the will of the citizens. I do not believe there is significant support for the City's plan anywhere in Alexandria.

Others have said we have spent enough time discussing the waterfront and the City should pass the plan and move on. In business, in government and in our personal lives, we don't move forward with decisions that are inherently flawed. There is always time to make things right, to improve things and to avoid costly mistakes. The citizens of Alexandria place our trust in those who serve to do the right thing, not to make unwise decisions for the sake of expediency. After two years and one million dollars it may be difficult to admit the current plan is deficient, but it is, and the residents of Alexandria deserve a better plan and better action from the elected officials and staff who serve at their pleasure.

Even though a majority of Work Group members were supportive of the current Plan from day one, a Work Group finding suggested that the current Plan does not have a clear vision. If supporters of the Plan cannot articulate its vision, why would City Council pass the Plan? It seems counterintuitive to develop a vision after the

Plan has been passed and is law.

I must respectfully ask one last time — why would City Council ignore the will of their constituents and rush to pass a plan that has no clear vision, has several significant flaws, does little to add restrictions on future development and actually allows higher density, and will adversely impact already saturated traffic conditions in Old Town. Alexandria is asking City Council to do the right thing, to delay action on the current Plan until its shortcomings are fully vetted, and publicly supported modifications are made.

Joe Demshar
Alexandria

Increased Density

To the Editor:

The jumble of letters in last week's Gazette supporting the waterfront plan either ignores important facts, misrepresents facts or makes statements that are nonsensical in the context of the waterfront debate.

A couple from Middleburg point out, as do members of City Council, that the increase in development is modest. It is a modest increase over what was approved in the waterfront small area plan of 1992. The glaring but ignored fact here is that the 1992 plan has never been built out. The three development sites are as they were before the 1992 zoning went into place. Right now developers could build new structures with a floor area ratio of two and heights in the historic district of 55 feet, the height limit the folks from Middleburg see as an important limit.

SEE LETTERS, PAGE 24

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OPEN
SUN 1-4



Monticello Park/Beverly Hills \$799,000
3008 Russell Road, Alexandria, VA 22305
New Listing. Charming, meticulously updated 3BR, 3BA Cape Cod in Alexandria. Completely renovated kitchen & dining room, all BA updated. Hardwood floors, 1 car garage & more! 3008Russell.com. Rachel Carter 703-851-4207



JUST LISTED



Virginia Hills \$369,900
6602 Berkshire Drive, Alexandria, VA 22310
Under Contract. Beautifully updated and maintained 3BR, 2BA home in Alexandria. Updates throughout! Refin. Hdwd. floors, new granite & fixtures in kitchen & more! 6602Berkshire.com. Rachel Carter 703-851-4207



JUST LISTED



Colecroft in Old Town \$387,000
556 North West Street, Alexandria, VA 22314
Large private patio. Rare 2 bedroom, 2 bath ground floor Garden condo has large patio, fireplace, sep DR + storage and parking! Braddock metro, King Street shops. www.556Colecroft.com. MarieMeyer@Live.com. Marie Louise Meyer 703-836-2080



OPEN
SUN 1-4



Del Ray \$1,049,000
103 West Monroe Avenue, Alexandria, VA 22301
Gorgeous renovated 1915 Victorian w/ wrap-around porch! 4BR, 2.5 BA, 3 finished lvls plus cellar on nearly .25 acre corner lot. New roof & windows, HW floors & moldings throughout. Joy Deevy 703-930-5198



JUST LISTED



Hillwood \$299,000
287 Pickett Street, #301, Alexandria, VA 22304
Spacious, 2-Level Condo. 2 bedroom, 2 bath, 2 levels, 1,150 sq ft. Open living area, updated kit, 2-sided fireplace, large suite w/walkin closet, soaking tub, crown molding, private balcony, assigned parking. Joy Deevy 703-930-5198



JUST LISTED



EOS Twenty One \$143,900
16 North Van Dorn Street, Alexandria, VA 22304
Bank owned 3 Bedroom 2 Bath Condo with balcony in good condition. 2 pools, tennis courts, club house, volley ball court, fitness center, and shuttle to metro. www.sherryork.com. Sherry York 703-625-3377



OPEN
SUN 1-4



Watergate at Landmark \$164,900
307 Yoakum Parkway, Unit 1001, Alexandria, VA 22304
New Listing! Beautifully updated one bedroom condo w/ dark hdwd floors & amazing views from private balcony. Condo Fee covers All Utilities, 24/7 gated security, pools, gym, shuttle to metro and much more. The Jill & Liz Team 571-438-1166



JUST LISTED



River Towers \$187,000
6631 Wakefield Drive, Unit 812, Alexandria, VA 22307
Amazing view of the wetlands with river view! This one bedroom condo features updates, lots of closets, neutral decor, ample parking and great location. This one is a must see. Denise Davis 571-332-8531



JUST LISTED



Burgundy Village \$329,000
5602 Norton Road, Alexandria, VA 22303
One-level living! Charming updated rambler in Burgundy Village. Features 4 bedrooms, 2 full bathrooms. Main level addition and completely updated. Near Metro! View photos at www.RitaRealtor.com. Rita McCauley-Redmond 703-447-9114



OPEN
SUN 1-4



Stratford \$559,000
8616 Yardley Drive, Alexandria, VA 22308
Gracious home in lovely sought after neighborhood! HW floors on main & upper level! Updated kitchen with breakfast room & granite! Impressive list of updates throughout! 4BR, 2.5BA! Nicky McDonnell 703-201-3318



OPEN
SUN 1-4



Old Town \$1,945,000
608 Oronoco Street, Alexandria, VA 22314
Historic Old Town Facing Lee's boyhood home, exquisite 3000+sqft, 4BR/4.5BA. Landscaped backyard retreat, garage & 4+car pkgng. Spectacular addition, upgraded kit & MBR Suite. UphamRealEstate.com. Chris Upham 202-359-1308



JUST LISTED



Cameron Station \$249,999
191 Somerville, Alexandria, VA 22304
Coveted Cameron Station, rare unit with 12' ceilings. Wood floors throughout, garage + off-street parking. Red/black updated kitchen with sparkling stainless steel appliances. Jolee Rubin 703-548-0697



Old Town Alexandria

310 King Street | Alexandria, VA 22314 | 703.518.8300

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Managing Broker
Bill Jourdan

JUST LISTED! **OPEN SUN!**

8528 Monticello Ave
\$559,000

Updated Colonial!
Classic Colonial in pristine cond. & updated throughout! Features inc: 4 large BRs, gourmet kit with custom cabs, granite countertops and SS appliances. First floor family room w/ FP. Updated baths and master suite with private bath. Garage parking, prime location on fenced level lot. Walk to nearby park and Stratford Landing School. **OPEN SUN, 1/22, 1-4!** GW Pky S; R-Collingwood; L-Riverside; R-Penn. Ave.; L-Monticello.

NEW PRICE! **OPEN SUN!**

4002 Belle Rive Terr
\$839,900

Classic Colonial! River View!
HUGE PRICE DROP! Classic brick colonial, custom built in prestigious Belle Rive. A neighborhood of many \$1 million properties. Truly special home with many features including: elegant trim detail, updated 'state of the art' kitchen, 5 bedrooms & finished lower level. Gorgeous setting on half acre grounds with view of river. Uniquely attractive home in premier location. **OPEN SUN, 1/22, 1-4!** GW Pky S; L-Old Mt Vernon Rd; L-Rive; R-Belle Rive.

JUST LISTED!

4200 Kimbree Ct
\$949,000

Updated Custom Home Near River!
Majestic brick colonial on quiet cul-de-sac in prestigious Oxford on the Potomac. Fabulous features include all brick exterior, 3 finished levels, elegant trim detail, luxurious updated kitchen and baths, multi-tiered exterior deck, oversized 2 car garage and private level backyard. Custom home in premier setting is priced to make it a truly astounding value.

\$ 459,900
Arlington
"WHAT A GEM!"

An elegantly remodeled 1,500sqft 2BR/2BA home w/loads of sunlight in all rooms. Unique kitchen remodel w/SSA, upgraded maple cabs w/ undermount lights & moveable island. Plus newer windows, lighting, fixtures, & ceramic. Private fenced brick patio. **LOCATION:** 1 stop to DC, steps to bus stop, shops & restaurants.

Ginger Webre 703.927.8399

\$ 500,000
Alexandria
"LOCATION! LOCATION!"

Four lvl, 3BR/2.5BA, 2 car garage TH w/vaulted ceilings, gas FRPL + built-ins in LR. Master has private loft BA & extra storage. Wonderful Stonegate Community w/ an excellent commute to DC, Ft. Belvoir, & Old Town.

Randy Bender Real Estate Expert.com
Randy Bender 703-906-1749

JUST LISTED!
\$ 485,000
Alexandria South
"WOODSTONE"

Lovely light, bright, well-kept comfortable 3BR/2.5BA home w/2 car garage on quiet cul-de-sac backing to woods & parkland! Updated kitchen & baths, family room w/fireplace. Loft overlooking main level. Deck & brick patio off family room. Home Warranty provided by seller.

Martha Deal 703.622.6797

NEW HOME!

4009 Colonial Ave
\$749,500

New Home-Gorgeous Site!
Pre-construction opportunity-fabulous home by Wakefield Homes on gorgeous half acre level lot on quiet street in the heart of Mt. Vernon. Popular Belle View model with open floor plan, fabulous amenities and quality construction that have made Wakefield Mt. Vernon's leading builder for generations. Exceptional value-priced significantly lower than other new home on street. (Pre-construction picture is of similar house)

NEW HOME!

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!

8612 Fort Hunt Rd
\$739,000
Total

Renovation - Fort Hunt Area!
Classic brick totally renovated from top to bottom by one colonial just

CONTRACT!

Ann Kavalljian 703.626.9171

\$ 542,000
Alexandria House
"EYE-CATCHING"

Stunningly renovated 2BR/2BA home in sought after Alexandria House. Gourmet kit, marble in Bas, ceramic tile floors in living area, closets abound throughout, garage space conveys. Rooftop pool & sundeck w/panoramic views, concierge, 24 hour security plus more. A must see unit! *Call for more details & showings:*

Susan Batchelder 703.919.8359

OPEN SUN. 12:30 - 3!
\$ 295,000
Parkside@Alexandria
1405-C N VAN DORN ST

One buyer's missed opportunity can be your gain! Quiet, well lit, sep. patio & ample prkg sets this 2BR/1.5BA condo apart from others. Wood flrs in LR/DR, BR carpet, SSA, stacked W/D, & gas cooking defines living area. Pet friendly, pool, clubhouse, work-out rm, mins to everything + more.

Michael Manuel 703.615.6317

OPEN SUNDAY 1 - 4!
\$ 1,550,000
Alexandria
555 S Washington St #101

For those who appreciate luxury & legend, live in history on 3 completely renovated lvls, 3,812sf, quality finishes & craftsmanship, 1 wood & 2 gas FPs & wood floors! Every amenity, 2-car detached gar, private patio & outdoor FP. 3BR/2.5BA.

Michael Manuel 703.615.6317

CONTRACT!

2300 Candlewood
\$569,000
Expanded Tri-

Level! Builder's own!

Exceptionally large well maintained

JUST LISTED!

9115 Volunteer Dr
\$598,500
Large Home

Gorgeous 3/4 Acre Grounds!
Rare find in Mt. Vernon

SOLD!

the heart of Vernon provides the ultimate private

3805 Riverwood Rd
\$629,000
Check this Price!

Best value in prestigious Riverwood home

in years! Large just substantially updated. Fabulous

SOLD!

Renee Raymond 703.507.5330

\$ 579,000
Alexandria / Old Town
"NEW YEAR AT NETHERGATE"

Spacious 4 lvl end TH - 1,700sqft of modern decor, 2 master suites, 3 wood FPs, many updates including master suite BA w/heated floor, rain shower w/designer tiles, soaking tub, cascade faucets, vessel sink, FR FP, wood fl, patio & prkg. House beautiful.

Franki Roberts 703.898.0840

OPEN SUNDAY 1 - 4
\$ 249,500
Washington
510 N ST, SW #222

Harbour Square-1BR/1BA w/partial view of the Washington Channel & gardens-wood flrs, newly renovated kit, updated BA, lots of storage (7 closets) fresh paint-amenities inc. indoor pool, exercise rm, extra storage, 24hr security, guest & monthly rental prkg + rooftop deck w/monumental views. Move-in!

Sheryl Lambson@inf.com
Sheryl Lambson 703.217.7012

OPEN SUNDAY 1 - 4
\$ 274,900
Seminary Walk
2702 DARTMOUTH RD #9

Top level 2 bedroom, 1 bath condo. New kitchen with granite and new bath, fresh paint, large private balcony off living room, sliding glass door, separate dining room, washer/dryer in unit.

Sheryl Lambson@inf.com
Sheryl Lambson 703.217.7012

SOLD!

9387 Mount Vernon Cir
\$950,000
Majestic Home-Mt. Vernon on the Potomac!

Unique opportunity price - bargain on property with true estate potential in

JUST LISTED!

7929 Bayberry Dr
\$549,000
Spacious Home-

Two Car Garage!
A large home in prime location with an oversized 2 car garage for under

SOLD!

8723 Badger Dr
\$439,000
Stunning

Renovation!
Completely renovated-model shows like a home! Prime location on huge lot

SOLD!

Kendra Carey 703.887.2117

\$ 589,900
Dupont Circle
"PARKING & LOCATION!"

Renovated Penthouse w/ terrace & move-in ready! Low condo fee. High-lights: wood-burn fireplace, extra + bike storage, built-ins, W/D, granite, 12" ceilings, skylights, Fr doors, HW floors, heated MBA floors plus more!

THE CAREY TEAM
Kendra Carey 703.887.2117

COMMERCIAL PROPERTY WAREHOUSE FOR LEASE!
Alexandria
408 E Glebe Rd & 3006 Jeff. Davis Hwy

Prime location across from Potomac Yards residential/commercial area. 2 sep. bays consisting of 2100+ sqft each. Open space of approx. 16,000sqft of fenced area. Heated space w/restroom facilities on each side. Auto uses require special use permit.

Katherine Ward 703.627.8782

COMMERCIAL PROPERTY FOR SALE!
Alex / Old Town
\$650,000***

Owner financing offered for qualified purchaser. Circa 1890's, property has history & location. Steps from King St. 2 lvls offer 1,860 sqft of space zoned gen. commercial + possibility to convert back to residence. Patio & basement. ***Owner may consider

Katherine Ward 703.627.8782



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www.OldTownAlexandria.com



River Towers Condos for Sale [Just South of Old Town]

Resort like living on 26 acres! Landscaped gardens, pool with cabana, tennis courts, picnic grove, garden plots, exercise room, etc. Enjoy Mt. Vernon trail, shopping nearby; commuter bus to METRO & ample parking! Condo fee includes all utilities. Approved for both FHA & VA financing.

Charm abounds in this unique condo with private patio, spacious living room with beautiful hardwood floors, well equipped kitchen, large master bedroom, second bedroom/den with custom built-ins, 1-1/2 baths, closets galore including walk-in. **Estate Sale priced at \$219,000. 6621 Wakefield Dr - Unit 109 - Open Sunday 2 to 4**



Also buyer representation services offered for other units.



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Alexandria, VA 22310

HOME SALES

In November 2011, 150 Alexandria homes sold between \$1,140,000-\$55,000. This week's list represents those homes sold in the \$1,140,000-\$525,000 range. For the complete list, visit www.ConnectionNewspapers.com

Address	BR	FB	HB	Postal	City	Sold Price	Type	Lot AC	Postal Code	Subdivision
126 PRINCE ST	3	3	2		ALEXANDRIA	\$1,140,000	Semi-Detached	0.02	22314	OLD TOWN
708 DUKE ST #6	3	2	1		ALEXANDRIA	\$1,065,000	Townhouse		22314	ST JOHN'S SQUARE
107 PRINCESS ST	3	4	1		ALEXANDRIA	\$1,009,000	Townhouse	0.04	22314	OLD TOWN
420 LEE ST S	4	2	1		ALEXANDRIA	\$1,000,000	Townhouse	0.14	22314	OLD TOWN
207 PRINCESS ST	3	2	1		ALEXANDRIA	\$954,000	Townhouse	0.04	22314	OLD TOWN
10 KEITHS LN	3	3	1		ALEXANDRIA	\$935,000	Townhouse	0.02	22314	FORDS LANDING
702 PRINCE ST #2	2	2	0		ALEXANDRIA	\$925,000	Other		22314	SWANN DAINGERFIELD
213 RAYMOND AVE E	4	3	0		ALEXANDRIA	\$885,000	Detached	0.07	22301	DEL RAY
308 SAINT ASAPH ST S	3	2	1		ALEXANDRIA	\$865,000	Semi-Detached	0.02	22314	OLD TOWN
619 PITT S	3	3	1		ALEXANDRIA	\$865,000	Semi-Detached	0.04	22314	OLD TOWN
1731 POTOMAC GREENS DR	3	2	2		ALEXANDRIA	\$850,000	Townhouse	0.03	22314	POTOMAC GREENS
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Urban Renewal on the Waterfront

FROM PAGE 5

and Recreation Commission and a handful of land-use attorneys who plan to benefit if developers are free to build hotels along the waterfront. They say the tax revenue from the hotels are needed to pay for the new public parks and open spaces that will be part of the redeveloped waterfront. With a majority of City Council members in agreement, the public hearing on Saturday is likely to approve the controversial plan and spark years of debate in the future.

We're concerned that it might not go far enough," said Andrew Palmieri, incoming chairman of the Alexandria Chamber of Commerce. "But we certainly

think that what's on the table is worth moving forward with."

Opponents hoped to force a supermajority of six members in order to pass the plan. But city officials say that process is designed for a rezoning, not a text amendment to the Zoning Ordinance, which is what's on the docket for Saturday. Those seeking the supermajority indicated this week they're likely to appeal that decision to the Board of Zoning and ultimately the Alexandria Circuit Court. Some opponents have also talked about potentially challenging the plan as "illegal spot zoning," meaning that council members could find themselves in a lawsuit whatever decision they make on Saturday.

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OPINION

Counting the Homeless: Making the Homeless Count

FROM PAGE 10

such as bi polar disorder or schizophrenia while 27 percent reported they were dually diagnosed. While none described themselves as having an intellectual disability, one or two experienced brain injury.

During the point in time count done in January of 2011, 42 unsheltered adults were counted (those actually on the streets) while 60 were counted in July. In January, three were women, in July, nine. Thirty five of those counted in January were considered chronically homeless while 49 of those counted in July were. According to HUD, a chronically homeless individual is a person with a disabling condition who has either been continually homeless for one year or more or has had at least four episodes of homelessness in the last three years. More disturbing were the facts that in January of 2011, 22 families were in an emergency shelter, 21 in July. In January that included 35 children. Another 30 families including 59 children were in transitional housing programs in January, 2011, housing that generally lasts up to 24 months and then the family is expected to move on. By HUD standards they are also considered homeless which means that last year 94 children in Alexandria did not have a permanent place to call home.

Alexandria is far from ending homelessness, but there are definitely services available for those who have no place to go. So why do some remain on the streets? Both Rooney and Albert said it is a long process convincing people to accept help. "Many individuals are not interested in participating in a program. They have too many rules or too many restrictions" said Albert "That doesn't mean we don't continue to attempt an intervention," said Rooney.

"It's taken years to engage someone, in one case, almost 20 years," said Albert, "It's very difficult to respect a person's choice." But they do. Not just Rooney and Albert but all those working on the problem, employees of the Community Services Board, the police, social workers, Ann Moore, director of the office of Community Services, those who work at the shelters, the soup kitchens, all the volunteers.

So why don't the police just round the homeless up and insist they take shelter? There are residents who ask that, some out of concern, some out of frustration. But the answer is simple. Homelessness is not a crime.

"They certainly can call the po-

lice, said Captain Scott Ogden of the Alexandria police. "We are one agency that is around 24-7. We are the first step." Ogden noted that the police work with other agencies throughout the city, that the homeless are discussed at roll call and that the police work to intervene and "offer all kinds of assistance." He recommends that if the situation is an emergency, people should call 911. Otherwise the non-emergency number is 703-

838-4444.

"There are no vagrancy laws. And it is not against the law to be homeless," he said. The police get calls regularly, particularly from the King Street area as well as Mount Vernon Avenue. He said that the police can ask someone to move if they are loitering in front of a business, they can offer information about shelters and other programs but if they refuse help and are not a threat to them-

selves or other people, they are free to go.

Jail is not the answer for a social problem. So the police keep on trying, one person at a time, one day at a time just as the social workers and counselors working for the Community Services Board and the Department of Community and Human Services do.

The public can help too. If residents have questions on how they can help or if a civic association

or any other group wants to learn more about the homeless, Albert asks that you contact her. "I understand people want to help," she said. She has offered to talk with anyone who wants to know what can be done and added that she has information cards to distribute that tell people where the shelters are, the meal programs and other services. The best way to reach her is by email Michelle.Albert@alexandriava.gov.



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The Yoga Generation

Yoga credited with relieving stress, boosting self-esteem and improving grades in children.

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL
GAZETTE PACKET

Hannah Ticardi deals with the pressure of competitive soccer games or rigorous science classes by striking a pose. The 16-year-old Vienna student usually prefers downward facing dog or cobra.

"It is really important to have a stress reliever, and yoga is really good for that," said Ticardi who is an 11th-grade student at James Madison High School in Vienna.

Katherine Harris, who has practiced yoga since middle school, agrees. "What I like best about yoga is the feeling I have after class where I feel like I'm floating," said Harris, a high school junior who takes classes at Sun and Moon Yoga Studio in Arlington.

Ticardi and Harris are part of a generation of children who are growing up with yoga, the practice impacting their lives from in utero through high school. Most studios now offer prenatal classes as well as instruction for toddlers, elementary, middle and high school students.

"When I visit my prenatal students in the hospital after they have their baby, I can pick up the newborn child and they almost always take a deep breath and say 'om,'" joked Luann Fulbright of Dream Yoga Studio and Wellness Center in McLean.

Aficionados, educators and researchers credit the discipline for addressing issues ranging from self-control to self-awareness. A study conducted by researchers at the California State University, Los Angeles' College of Education showed that regular yoga practice boosted students' self-esteem and improved their physical health, behavior and academic performance.

"It is amazing to watch what happens with these children. Their focus and concentration is improved," said Dawn Curtis, owner of East Meets West Yoga Center in Vienna.

Yoga classes for middle and high school students incorporate exercises that deal with issues like peer pressure and body image. "We use warrior pose, for example, where kids come into the pose with their arms stretched up to the ceiling or out to their sides, and we say 'Feel how strong you are,'" said Annie Moyer of Sun and Moon Yoga Studio in Arlington. "It is a gesture of opening oneself up to the world and creates the feeling of real confidence."

Instructors say it's good exercise. "It helps them to get physically fit," said Freddy Margolis of Village Yoga in Potomac.

SISTERS Joey and Eva Schulman, who practice at Budding Yogis studio in Washington, D.C., agree. "My favorite yoga pose is eagle pose, said 11-year old Joey. "It challenges your body to balance, to twist and

to be strong all at the same time."

Eva gets a charge from the down dog tunnel. "You have to run, stretch into downward dog and then hold that pose for a long time. It's like a cardio, stretch and strength workout. I like it because it challenges all of your body," said the 14-year old.

Classes are structured to appeal to children at each age group. "For smaller children, everything is done on a theme. Sometimes classes are themed around the holidays or seasons or animals or stories," said Curtis.

Moyer's young yogis often pass a swath of brightly colored fabric across the room by balancing it on their heads or grasping it with their elbows. The object is for the students to work in tandem to get the cloth from one side to the other without using their hands.

"We're all pursuing this goal together," said Moyer. "It is a group effort. It's team building. None of the games we play are about winning. We all win. Some of the things kids do at school are goal oriented and have a component of pressure and stress. In yoga, there is never anything that you have to achieve or attain except for a good feeling inside."

Teachers keep students engaged by using age-appropriate language and adapting traditional yoga poses for children. "We learn poses that relate to nature or animals," said Cynthia Maltenfort, an instructor at Sun and Moon Yoga in Fairfax. "There is a lot of interaction and developing a connection with themselves and with each other. We start to address feelings and emotions."

Each class ends with a relaxation technique often referred to as shavasana. "We teach them how to calm themselves," said



PHOTO BY CHRISTIE ZEPEDA PHOTOGRAPHY

Clara Godard practices yoga at Sun and Moon Yoga Studio in Arlington. Experts say yoga can help boost self-esteem.



PHOTO COURTESY OF YO KID

Children take a YoKid yoga class in Alexandria. Teachers keep young students engaged by adapting traditional yoga poses for children. Classes often end with a relaxation exercise.

Moyer. "They lie down or curl up and listen to a story, a poem or music. Often, the most fidgety kids you've ever seen in your life will just chill and let go of everything when you set the right tone."

Many yoga studios also host yoga summer camps and yoga birthday parties. There is also yoga for families. "Family yoga classes give parents and children a chance to be together in a supportive, non-threatening, non-hierarchical way," said Fulbright. "They can just interact and enjoy each other without the parents having to discipline. There's lots of laughter and lots of fun. You build a stronger, healthier connection with your child."

SOME LOCAL SCHOOL officials have embraced yoga for children. Potomac Elementary School students are offered yoga classes from instructors at Village Yoga in Potomac.

"I believe that exercise and relaxation techniques should start at a very early age," said Linda Goldberg, principal of Potomac Elementary School. "Children will enjoy exercise throughout their lifetime when they experience pleasurable learning when they are young."

YoKid, a non-profit organization that makes yoga available to at-risk and underserved youth, also deploys instructors to a growing number of public schools in Arlington, Alexandria, Fairfax, Montgomery and Prince George's Counties and the District.

"I have some teachers who, when the class is getting too busy, say to the students, 'Stand up and everybody take some deep breaths,' and they do a yoga position, sometimes just to calm children down," said Marjorie Myers, Ed.D., principal, Francis Scott Key Elementary School in Arlington. "We have an after-school yoga class that the parents put together, and there is a family yoga night where parents come in with their children and everybody does yoga together. One of the pluses is that these activities have demystified yoga for the children."

YoKid runs Key's after-school yoga program. Alexandria resident Michelle Kelsey Mitchell, the program's co-founder and executive director, says yoga's principle of self-acceptance can help boost self-esteem and confidence. "In yoga, kids don't have to

prove anything to anybody. They can just come and be who they are."

YOGA HAS BEEN criticized for having religious overtones. "We often 'om'" at the end of class We also say namaste. While the words aren't religious, they can be construed that way," said Linda Feldman, director of Budding Yogis, a studio that caters solely to children. "I tell our teacher trainees that if they're in a public school scenario or where there are concerns over religion, they can use a word other than om or namaste."

As with any physical activity, injury is possible, but preventable. "Sometimes [children's] muscles haven't yet developed to hold things where they need to be, so we have to be strict with them in making sure their alignment is proper," said Margolis.

Instructors say incidents are rare, even among the most vulnerable students. "I've had kids with all sorts of limitations like partial paralysis due to stroke, cerebral palsy, ADHD, Asperger's syndrome and others," said Feldman. "All have been able to practice yoga with no concerns or injuries."

While many doctors agree that yoga is a healthy practice, they say the benefits children get from yoga can also be found just as effectively elsewhere. "The good thing is that there [are] a variety of cost-efficient and simple ways for children and teens to relax and unwind," said Kristin Anderson, M.D., M.P.H., family and preventive medicine physician for Molina Healthcare, Community Health Care Network clinic in Reston. "Going on walks as a family can also help everyone get the exercise they need as well as spend quality time together while they de-stress. This can help kids and their parents improve posture, relieve anxiety, practice deeper breathing, build lungs and stretch muscles."

But Ticardi, who is planning for college and preparing to take the SAT this spring, believes that yoga is the best stress reliever for her. In fact, she approached Curtis about starting a Yoga club for teens at East Meets West Yoga Center. Curtis agreed and will begin classes later this month.

"It's nice to have an hour every week where I don't need to think about anything but my breath," said Harris.

'25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee'

LTA production spells success.

BY JEANNE THEISMANN
GAZETTE PACKET

It's an American institution that millions of children have suffered through — the spelling bee — and contestants in the 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee are preparing for the county championship in this lively production of the Tony Award-winning musical now playing at The Little Theatre of Alexandria.

With music and lyrics by William Finn and book by Rachel Sheinkin, the show centers on a fictional spelling bee at Putnam Valley Middle School where six misfit teens are competing in the championship Bee.

Amy Conley is Rona Lisa Peretti, the bee's moderator who won the Bee herself as a child. Ms. Peretti is also the audience's narrator together with Vice Principal Douglas Panch, played to persnickety perfection by Jeff Davis. Carl Williams rounds out the trio of adults as Mitch Mahoney, who is doing community service as the Bee's "comfort counselor" to eliminated contestants.

The Bee's six contestants include defending champion Chip Tolentino (Eric Hughes); Logainne Schwartzandgrubenierre (Emily "E.J." Jonas), the radical daughter of two gay fathers; Leaf Coneybear (Josh Goldman), who despite finishing third in his previous competition ends up in the finals because two other girls had to attend a Bat Mitzvah; Marcy Park (Claire O'Brien), an over-achiever who advanced to last year's national championship; William Barfee (Matt Williams), a quirky teen who spells out words with his "magic foot"; and Olive Ostrovsky (Maureen Rohn), a soft-spoken teen who finds solace in the dictionary.

The ensemble cast is exceptionally talented, each with strong vocals and improvisational skills, which come in handy as four random adults are chosen from the audience to participate onstage as contestants in the Bee.

"That part of the show is a lot of fun but very unpredictable," said LTA publicist Rachel Alberts. "We scout out people in the lobby just before the show and ask them if they would like to participate."

Directed by Frank Shutts and produced by Mary Beth Smith-Tomey, the physical energy of ado-



Emily "EJ" Jonas as Logainne Schwartzandgrubenierre

PHOTO BY SHANE CANFIELD/THE GAZETTE

lescence is masterfully orchestrated by Shutts and brought to life through choreographer Grace Manly Machanic. Music direction is by Christopher A. Tomasino with sets and lighting by Ken and Patti Crowley.

The original 2005 Broadway production was nominated for six

Tony Awards, winning two, including Best Book for Sheinkin, and the original Broadway cast recording was nominated for a Grammy Award.

With a gifted cast and catchy score, The Little Theatre of Alexandria's revival of The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling

Bee can be summed up in one word: S-U-C-C-E-S-S.

The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee is playing now through Feb. 4 at The Little Theatre of Alexandria, 600 Wolfe St., Alexandria. For tickets or more information, call 703-683-0496 or visit www.thelittletheatre.com.

A Star is Born!

LTA education program offers classes for all ages.

BY JEANNE THEISMANN
GAZETTE PACKET

The Little Theatre of Alexandria is one of the oldest and most respected community theaters in the nation and some of the most prestigious actors, including Academy Award-winner Marcia Gay Harden and Dermot Mulroney, have performed on the Wolfe Street stage.

But there is more to LTA than razzle-dazzle productions like last summer's blockbuster musical "Hairspray." It is also home to one of the best kept secrets in the Washington area: the LTA adult education program and summer camps for kids.

"I'm not sure exactly when we started our classes," said Roland Branford Gomez, an award-winning actor and director who oversees the education programs. "I joined the theater in 1968 and we were already teaching classes back

then."

Some of the finest theater professionals in the region teach the programs offered at LTA, including Emmy-winners Mike Baker Jr. and Rich Amada, and Gomez himself teaches a musical theater course.

"For those not acquainted with the theater, this is a way to see how it all works backstage," Gomez said. "And you don't have to aspire to be on stage to enjoy the classes and learn about the craft. Many students just want to get a better understanding of the theater."

Classes being offered during the winter session include acting, improvisation, musical theater and playwriting. New this year is a documentary filmmaking course taught by Northern Virginia Community College film instructor Clinton Parker.

"Everyone is making videos for YouTube these days," said



PHOTO BY SHANE CANFIELD/LTA

Students participate in one of the many summer camps for kids programs at LTA.

Gomez, who has a Master's degree in film. "We thought this would be a great class to add and a way to reach out to a broader audience."

Registration is now open for the winter session and any classes that have already started can be joined at a prorated rate.

"We are pretty flexible," said LTA publicist Rachel Alberts. "And if a class is not for you, you can switch

to another class. We want this to be fun for everyone."

Adult classes meet at various days and times and run from eight to 10 weeks. The cost varies from \$120 to \$225 depending on the course and specific information can be found on the LTA website (www.thelittletheatre.com).

"Anyone interested can go online, print out a registration

forms.

"This is a wonderful way for children and adults to discover the world of theater," Gomez said. "And everyone always comes away learning something and making friends."

For more information on the LTA adult education classes and summer camps for kids, visit www.thelittletheatre.com or call Virginia Lacey at 703-683-5778.

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THEATER

Little Theatre Earns 43 WATCH Nominations

'Hairspray' is top area production with 22 nods.

BY JEANNE THEISMANN
GAZETTE PACKET

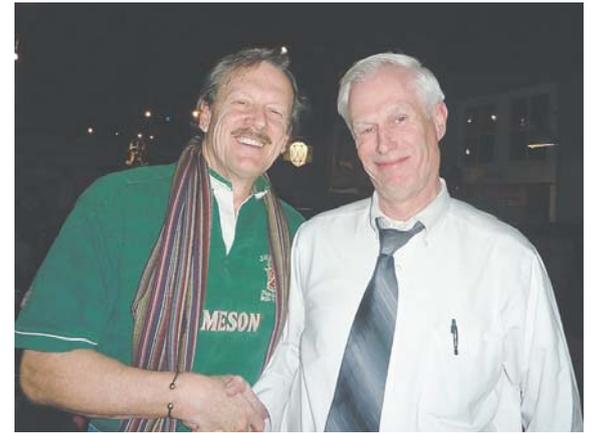


PHOTO BY JEANNE THEISMANN/GAZETTE PACKET

Mark Lee Adams, left, is congratulated by producer and director Eddie Page for his WATCH Award nomination as Outstanding Lead Actor in a Play for his role in the Port City Playhouse production of 'Mindgame.'

With an astounding 43 nominations, The Little Theatre of Alexandria led the way as the Washington Area Theatre Community Honors announced the nominees for the 2012 WATCH Awards Jan. 15 at the Birchmere Music Hall.

Last summer's blockbuster production of "Hairspray" garnered 22 nominations — including Outstanding Musical — the most of any single community theatre production in the Washington region. The farcical comedy "Noises Off" was nominated for Outstanding Play.

"I'm very happy," said Sue Pinkman, who earned a nod as Outstanding Director of a Musical for "Hairspray." "Everyone worked so hard on all of these productions and we are very excited about our nominations."

Shannon Kingett earned an Outstanding Lead Actress in a Musical nomination for her role as the spunky Tracy Turnblad and Christopher Harris is up for Outstanding Lead Actor in a Musical for his role as Tracy's mother Edna. Other acting nominations from "Hairspray" include Adrian Cubbage as Seaweed J. Stubbs, Jaclyn Young as Penny Pingleton, Scott J. Strasbaugh as Mr. Pinky, Gina C. Tomkus as Matron/Gym Teacher, Mark Williams as High School Principal and Brenda Parker as Motormouth Maybelle.

"Noises Off" walked away with six nominations, including Outstanding Featured Actor in a Play for Adam Downs. "Move Over Mrs. Markham" earned six nominations and "Widdershins" is up for four awards. The musical "Oliver!" garnered three nominations and the mesmerizing drama "Rabbit Hole" walked away with two, including Outstanding Direction of a Play for Joanna Henry.

Alexandria's Port City Playhouse received three nominations, all in the marquee acting categories: Mark Lee Adams as Outstanding Lead Actor in a Play for "Mindgame," Robin Zerbe as Outstanding Lead Actress in a Play for "Angel: A Nightmare in Two Acts" and Lolita-Marie as Outstanding Actress in a Play for what is commonly referred to as the "No" play.

"I am so proud of Port City," said Adams after his nomination was announced. "Sometimes it's hard for the smaller theatre companies to break through the WATCH Awards. But that was the best role I have ever played. You know it's a good role when you miss it after the show closes."

Nominees were selected from 127 productions that were adjudicated at 32 community theatre companies. In each of 38 categories, five nominees (more in case of a tie) were selected based on the average scores of eight judges.

Winners will be announced at the WATCH Awards ceremony March 11 at The Birchmere Music Hall.

Port City Playhouse

- ❖ Outstanding Lead Actress in a Play - Robin Zerbe as "Irma Grese" - Angel: A Nightmare in Two Acts
- ❖ Outstanding Lead Actor in a Play - Mark Lee Adams as "Dr. Farquhar" - Mindgame
- ❖ Outstanding Lead Actress in a Play - Lolita-Marie as "Mattie Cheeks" - No Niggers, No Jews, No Dogs

Little Theatre of Alexandria 2012 WATCH Nods

- ❖ Outstanding Cameo in a Musical - Scott J. Strasbaugh as "Mr. Pinky" - Hairspray
- ❖ Outstanding Cameo in a Musical - Gina C. Tomkus as "Matron/Gym Teacher" - Hairspray
- ❖ Outstanding Cameo in a Musical - Mark Williams as "High School Principal" - Hairspray
- ❖ Outstanding Choreography - Ivan Davila - Hairspray
- ❖ Outstanding Costume Design in a Musical - Jean Schlichting & Kit Sibley - Hairspray
- ❖ Outstanding Direction of a Musical - Sue Pinkman - Hairspray
- ❖ Outstanding Featured Actor in a Musical - Adrian Cubbage as "Seaweed J. Stubbs" - Hairspray
- ❖ Outstanding Featured Actress in a Musical - Brenda Parker as "Motormouth Maybelle" - Hairspray
- ❖ Outstanding Featured Actress in a Musical - Jaclyn Young as "Penny Pingleton" - Hairspray
- ❖ Outstanding Hair Design in a Musical - Anna Michelle Jackson & Irene Kasotakis - Hairspray
- ❖ Outstanding Lead Actor in a Musical - Christopher Harris as "Edna Turnblad" - Hairspray
- ❖ Outstanding Lead Actress in a Musical - Shannon Kingett as "Tracy Turnblad" - Hairspray
- ❖ Outstanding Light Design in a Musical - Franklin C. Coleman - Hairspray
- ❖ Outstanding Makeup Design in a Musical - Robin Parker - Hairspray
- ❖ Outstanding Music Direction - Christopher A. Tomasino - Hairspray
- ❖ Outstanding Musical - Hairspray
- ❖ Outstanding Properties in a Musical - Judy Kee & Margaret Snow - Hairspray
- ❖ Outstanding Set Construction in a Musical - Chris Feldmann - Hairspray
- ❖ Outstanding Set Decoration in a Musical - Marian Holmes & Russell Wyland - Hairspray
- ❖ Outstanding Set Design in a Musical - Myke Taister - Hairspray
- ❖ Outstanding Set Painting in a Musical - Kevin O'Dowd - Hairspray
- ❖ Outstanding Sound Design in a Musical - David Correia & David Hale - Hairspray
- ❖ Outstanding Hair Design in a Play - Howard Vincent Kurtz - Move Over, Mrs. Markham
- ❖ Outstanding Light Design in a Play - Liz Owens & Nancy Owens - Move Over, Mrs. Markham
- ❖ Outstanding Makeup Design in a Play - Howard Vincent Kurtz - Move Over, Mrs. Markham
- ❖ Outstanding Properties in a Play - Rebecca & John Johnson - Move Over, Mrs. Markham
- ❖ Outstanding Set Construction in a Play - Chris Feldmann - Move Over, Mrs. Markham
- ❖ Outstanding Set Painting in a Play - Mary Hutzler - Move Over, Mrs. Markham
- ❖ Outstanding Costume Design in a Play - Annie Vroom - Noises Off
- ❖ Outstanding Featured Actor in a Play - Adam Downs as "Garry Lejeune" - Noises Off
- ❖ Outstanding Play - Noises Off
- ❖ Outstanding Set Construction in a Play - Dan Remmers - Noises Off
- ❖ Outstanding Set Design in a Play - C. Evans Kirk & Dan Remmers - Noises Off
- ❖ Outstanding Set Painting in a Play - Kevin O'Dowd - Noises Off
- ❖ Set Decoration in a Musical - Nancyanne Burton et al - Oliver
- ❖ Outstanding Set Painting in a Musical - Erin Cumbo - Oliver
- ❖ Outstanding Sound Design in a Musical - David Correia - Oliver
- ❖ Outstanding Direction of a Play - Joanna Henry - Rabbit Hole
- ❖ Outstanding Properties in a Play - Nicole Zuchetto - Rabbit Hole
- ❖ Outstanding Costume Design in a Play - Annie Vroom - Widdershins
- ❖ Outstanding Light Design in a Play - Ken & Patti Crowley - Widdershins
- ❖ Outstanding Makeup Design in a Play - C. Evans Kirk - Widdershins
- ❖ Outstanding Special Effects - Ken & Patti Crowley - Widdershins

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ENTERTAINMENT

THURSDAY/JAN. 19

Downsizing and Decluttering Seminar. 1 p.m. Beth Conord, owner of Smooth Transitions, provides an entertaining presentation with functional tips and suggestions on how to get started downsizing and cleaning out the clutter. At Hollin Hall Senior Center, 1500 Shenandoah Road, Alexandria. Call 703-765-4573.

A Bee's Eye View of Native Plants. 7:30 p.m. Explore the plant-pollinator relationship from the bee point of view and learn why what we plant has consequences for these fascinating creatures. At Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road, Alexandria. www.vnps.org and www.vnps-pot.org

R.E. Lee Banquet. 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. Celebrating the 205th birthday of Gen. R.E. Lee. Cost is \$75/person. At the Belle Haven Country Club, 6023 Fort Hunt Road, Alexandria. RSVP to Mr. J.J. Smith at 703 299-1725. Checks should be made out to R.E. Lee Camp #726 and mailed to 401 Wilkes St., Alexandria, VA 22314 and must be received by Jan. 18 as no payments will be accepted at the door. Visit www.leecamp.org.

Colonial Republican Women: The next meeting will be Thursday, Jan. 19 from 6:30 p.m. – 9 p.m. at the Virginia Hills Administration Center (Old Virginia Hills School), 6520 Diana Lane, Alexandria. Social time begins at 6:30 p.m., the meeting begins at 7 p.m. Contact Debbie at 703-768-1934 or dbodlander@hotmail.com

FRIDAY/JAN. 20

Poetry Slam Alexandria with Shelly Bell. 7 p.m. Live music, open mic and poetry slam. Sign up for the open mic and share your original work. Admission is free, but attendees interested in competing in the poetry slam pay \$10 to have the chance to win a \$100 cash prize. At The Athenaeum in Alexandria.

Mount Vernon Swing Band. 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. Owen Hammett will conduct the live band. Light refreshments will be provided by "Seniors Living Well". \$4 at the door. Open to the Community. At Hollin Hall Senior Center, 1500 Shenandoah Road, Alexandria. Call 703-765-4573.

Jonathan Parker Quartet. 8 p.m. At St. Elmo's Coffee Pub in Alexandria. Contact Jonathan Parker at 703-819-3808

Historic Beer Dinner. 7 p.m. This culinary adventure pairs history-inspired beers from Yards Brewery of Philadelphia with a four-course meal. Tickets are \$85. At Gadsby's Tavern Museum, 134 North Royal St., Alexandria. Call 703-746-4242 or visit www.gadsbystavern.org.

JAN. 20-21

"Why Try?" Training. 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. The Urban Passage Inc. is hosting this compelling training. At 711 No. Columbus St., Alexandria. Contact Jim Wilson, Director at "Why Try?" at 866-949-8791 or www.whytry.org.

SATURDAY/JAN. 21

FIRST Tech Challenge Qualifying Tournament. 10:30 a.m. opening ceremony. At Northern Virginia Community College, Annandale Campus, Ernst Community Cultural Center, 4001 Wakefield Chapel Road, Annandale.

American Balalaika Symphony Performs. 8 p.m. The American Balalaika Symphony (ABS), under the artistic direction of Peter Trofimenko, presents White Dance, a winter revel of music for waltz, foxtrot, tango and more, at the Rachel M. Schlesinger Concert Hall and Arts Center, 3001 North Beauregard Street, Alexandria. Tickets are \$20/advance; \$25/door. Visit www.ABSorchestra.org.

Pinewood Derby Workshop. 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Old Town Ace Hardware announces its fourth annual Pinewood Derby Workshop. Cub Scouts, their parents and siblings are invited to bring their Pinewood Derby cars to the store to have local craftsman Jesse Cathell rough cut their designs. Cub Scouts are required to have the car design traced on their cars. In addition, electric sanders, sand paper and hand tools will be available for the Cub Scouts to perform additional work on their cars. At 809 S. Washington St., Alexandria. Call Rich Heilman at 703-879-0475.

Author Talk. 1:30 p.m. Norwood Holland returns to Gum Springs to discuss his legal thriller, *Sleepless Nights: The Drew Smith Series*. Residents will gather in the community center, a building once named Drew-Smith Elementary School, and attended by the author who grew up in Gum Springs, and traces both parental lineages to Mount Vernon slaves. At Gum Springs Community Center, 8100 Fordson Road, Alexandria.

THROUGH JAN. 22

Alexandria Winter Restaurant Week. 60 restaurants offer a \$35 prix-fixe three-course dinner or \$35 dinner for two. Savor the flavors of Alexandria's distinctive collection of eateries, from fine dining establishments to casual neighborhood favorites. Participants include the Majestic, Bastille, La Bergerie, the Grille at Morrison House, Tempo, and Cheesetique. 703-746-3301. Menus and online reservations on VisitAlexandriaVA.com

MONDAY/JAN. 23

Tavern Toddlers. Weekly open playtime on Mondays between 10:30 a.m. and noon, and a new craft activity each week. Each week costs \$7 for a group of three, which must include one adult, and additional people are \$3. At Gadsby's Tavern Museum, 134 North Royal St., Old Town Alexandria. Call 703-746-4242 or visit www.gadsbystavern.org.

TUESDAY/JAN. 24

WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM



Alex Wong as Richard III

JAN. 19 TO 21

"Richard III." West Potomac High School drama department will present "Richard III." Performances are Thursday, Friday, and Saturday at 7 p.m. and Saturday at 1 p.m. Tickets are \$10. All performances are at West Potomac High School in the Kogelman Theater, 6500 Quander Rd., Alexandria. Tickets are available at the door. Call 703-718-2585. Starring Alex Wong as Richard III. With Emilyann Key as Queen Elizabeth, Toby Mananzan as Buckingham, Nell McKeown as Duchess of York, Maggie Solo as Margaret, Emily Woods as Lady Anne, Jon Poole as King Edward IV, Dominic Sey as Richmond, Jared Walters as Clarence, Eliza Lore as Grey, Sarah McKeown as Rivers, Dan Evans as Hastings and many more talented actors, designers, technicians, and musicians.

Alexandria Singers Open Auditions. The Alexandria Singers, the D.C. area's adult pops chorus, is auditioning for all voice parts on Tuesday, Jan. 24, 6:45-10 p.m. We invite you to join us at our regular rehearsal time from 6:45-9:30 p.m. with auditions immediately following. At the Lincolnia Senior Center, 4710 N. Chambliss St., Alexandria. Contact audition@alexandriasingers.com to arrange an audition. Visit www.alexandriasingers.com.

WEDNESDAY/JAN. 25

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

Potomac Harmony Chorus Open House. 7 to 9 p.m. For women and teens who like to sing. Visitors will be treated to refreshments and socializing, along with quartet and chorus demos and a group singing lesson during which everyone will learn and perform a full song. At The Hermitage Auditorium, 5000 Fairbanks Ave., Alexandria. Visit www.PotomacHarmony.org.

Author Talk. 7 p.m. Free. Local author Brooke C. Stoddard talks about his book, *The World in Balance: The Perilous Months of June - October 1940*. At the Charles E. Beatley, Jr. Central Library, 5005 Duke Street, Alexandria. Call 703-746-1702.

Visual Tour of Civil War Alexandria. 7:30 p.m. Tickets are \$10/person. Encore Lecture by Author Wally Owen includes 3-D and rare Civil War images. See what Alexandria looked like during the Civil War through the eyes of photographers who documented it. Meet some of the people behind the lens who are responsible for Alexandria's rich Civil War photographic heritage, such as Andrew J. Russell and Egbert Guy Fowx. Tickets are available by calling The Lyceum at 703-746-4994 or through www.alexandriahistory.org. At the Lyceum, 201 South Washington St., Alexandria.

FRIDAY/JAN. 27

Pieta Brown in Concert. 7:30 p.m. With Iris Dement. Tickets are \$35. At the Birchmere, 3701 Mt. Vernon Ave., Alexandria. Call 703-965-3347 or visit www.birchmere.com/calendar

Tim Zimmerman and The King's Brass. 7:30 p.m. Concert features 3 trumpets, 3 trombones, tuba, percussion and keyboards. At Fairlington United Methodist Church, 3900 King Street, Alexandria. Contact Louise Wilson, Director of Music at louise@fairlingtonumc.org or www.fairlingtonumc.org or call 703-671-4057.

SATURDAY/JAN. 28

Archaeology Talk. 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Friends of Fairfax County Archaeology and Gunston Hall are co-sponsoring a symposium on Mason Neck archaeology. The program includes talks by Mike Johnson, Christopher Sperling, David Shonyo, Wendy Miervaldis, Paul Inashima, and Douglas Comer. Visit the website at <http://www.gunstonhall.org/grounds/archaeology.html>.

Author Discussion. 1 to 3 p.m. Free. Author and former Chief Historian for the Fredericksburg and Spotsylvania National Military Park, Robert K. Krick, will give a free lecture on "Robert E. Lee and His Detractors in the Age of the Anti-Hero." At the Charles E. Beatley Jr. Central Library, 5005 Duke St., Alexandria. Call 703-746-1702.

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LETTERS

FROM PAGE 14

The new plan, for some reason presented as a text amendment, increases densities by another 25 to 50 per cent on each site. The actual increase over what is and what could be is at least 162 percent. Just building what is currently allowed with no changes is likely to produce major increases in traffic and parking needs. With the build out approved in the new plan, traffic on the waterfront could go from congestion to gridlock. How is that going to make the waterfront lively and inviting to tourists?

Next, a group of citizens signs a letter promoting that absolute canard that the properties that may be rezoned could somehow be redeveloped without the city government exerting control over them. No landowner would ever develop valuable property "by right." The by right development limits are too low. Every future landowner of these sites will apply to the city for a special use permit. Special use permits are granted after public hearings before the Planning Commission and City Council. They have been the mechanism for control in this city for decades. Recent City Councils have chosen to enact special use permits that are weak in my opinion. That could change.

Finally, we come to the nonsensical assertion. Dennis Auld defends the urban renewal of Old Town that many Alexandrians who were around in those days lament by saying that before urban renewal we had prostitutes working on King Street. Mr. Auld is the same person who is promoting three new upscale hotels. Does he not understand that some of the visitors to those hotels will be, without doubt, members of the oldest profession?

Katy Cannady
Alexandria

Comparing Plans

To the Editor:

Recently a flyer concerning the Alexandria Waterfront is being circulated by CAAWP. Upon reading it, it reminded me of why a few of us citizens came together to start Waterfront4All. We formed because of the constant barrage of misinformation the opposition to the City's Waterfront Plan was disseminating. This flyer showed that even though CAAWP has given up on the issues about the plans, they are still pursuing an aggressive position that is simply not truthful. It is OK to have an opinion that is for or against the plan. It is wrong to couch opinions in inaccurate statements.

Let's start at the beginning of the flyer.

1. It says "It's your Waterfront, Alexandria - Why the rush to give it to outsiders?" Rush? It has been nearly three years that this plan has been vetted in public, with many suggestions from citizens incorporated in the plan. For some time now no new valid issues have emerged. It is time to vote and move on to other pressing City business.

2. As to giving the waterfront to "outsiders" just what does that mean? I am guessing CAAWP means their dreaded word "developers." Developers enable the City to grow for its citizens providing housing, retail, other amenities, and tax revenue. If Council failed to vote in favor of the plan,

it would result in the current property owners moving ahead developing residences and offices without any City input. The current property owners pay \$500,000 in tax revenue every year. As any property owner, they need to get value for this payment. Today, it is empty warehouses with by-right zoning. Proposed text amendments on the three properties are the center of the waterfront debate and the City can control the outcomes on these properties through utilization of the SUP process. These outcomes are readily identified in the City's Plan.

3. "A cascade of new hotels, offices and shops - oversized buildings crammed into just a few blocks of historic waterfront"? Hardly. There is about 8 million sq. ft. of development on the waterfront now. The overall amount of development proposed for the three sites is about 800,000 sq. ft., 160,000 sq. ft. more than they can do now. Therefore only a 2 percent increase over existing development. Again, of the 350 acres on the waterfront, the three parcels occupy only 8.5 acres. The original plan called for 600 rooms. Citizen input reduced that to 450. These are boutique hotels, ones that will fit in well in Alexandria and the type of waterfront amenities that citizens will enjoy.

4. "...along with thousands of more trucks, buses and cars." Where do thousands of vehicles come from? There are about 1200-plus parking places around this area today. Hotels, by many studies, result in the fewest traffic concerns compared with residential and offices.

In the CAAWP plan, they called for a museum which would produce 500,000 visitors per year. The city analysis is this attendance is overestimated and the traffic generated by 500,000 visitors would be difficult to absorb. 500,000 visitors would equate to about 1400 vehicles per day. I can imagine Old Town residents objecting to this increase in traffic.

The next five points in the flyer: Long-term economic growth, Strong property values and city revenues, Successful local businesses with a stake in Alexandria, Resources for our schools, and a priceless quality across the city can be obtained by the City plan, not the CAAWP proposal. Stephen Fuller, expert on local economics says so in his letter of Jan. 11, 2012: "Smart, carefully thought out plans geared to the long term good for everyone." I agree, and that is what the city has done. The City produced a balanced plan, not one driven by revenues as CAAWP proclaims. The CAAWP proposal asks the City to purchase those three properties for between \$100 million (CAAWP number) and \$200 million (City number). This is simply not economically or legally doable. There are approximately 950 acres of park in Alexandria, 150-plus of which are on the waterfront. This means about 15 percent of city parks are already on the waterfront, which is less than 4 percent of total city area. Also currently 40 percent of the waterfront is parks. We need parks and open space throughout Alexandria, especially in the West End. Drying up the open space fund for waterfront parks is not fair to all of the other communities in Alexandria.

Finally, "We have one chance get this right." I totally disagree with this notion.

The City's plan is right for today, and for the future. Every day you can read in the papers about changes to an area developed many years ago. Alexandria historically had an industrial waterfront. Can anyone here predict what people will want 50 to 100 years from now? No. When doing long range planning, you do look years down the road, but you have to deal with the resources you have now and the majority of you planning process reacts to that. The resources we have now do not allow the City to implement the CAAWP plan, nor would the citizens accept it if that were the choice. The City's plan elegantly balances current needs for the waterfront and the City of Alexandria.

After reading the City Plan, the CAAWP proposal, and the Work Group report, it is my opinion that the only real issue on CAAWP's agenda is "no change" at all. I say this because all three reports show about the same references to history, arts, and culture. The CAAWP proposal does not, even though they emphasize these values, say as much about these features as the City plan. CAAWP likes to say that the City plan is a "Hotels plan with a history afterthought." After reading the CAAWP proposal you could say the "CAAWP plan is parks, with a history afterthought." If I lived around the waterfront, I probably would be worried about more traffic and parking issues also.

They do put up with more than most other neighborhoods. The waterfront plan is not the issue. The need for "close to my house parking," is the real problem in Old Town. Parking is an aggravation to people that live in wonderful waterfront cities, whether San Francisco, London, New York, Boston, Miami or Alexandria. By the way, the City's Waterfront plan not only absorbs the parking of the boutique hotels, but adds parking.

Dennis Auld
Alexandria

A Concept, Not a Plan

To the Editor:

I attended almost all of the meetings last fall of the Waterfront Plan Working Group appointed by Mayor Euille. From the minutely detailed presentations by Alexandria City staff and the probing questions asked by Working Group members, I came away with a very clear picture; namely, that there is no plan to the City's so-called "waterfront plan." To call it a concept is being generous. In my opinion, it ranks somewhere between wishful thinking and window dressing, the sole purpose of which is to support an argument for increased density on three waterfront sites.

There is not sufficient space here to go into details, but here are a few examples to illustrate my conclusions:

1. The City's waterfront "plan" fails to address at all adequately the increased traffic and parking congestion that will accompany any new development on the waterfront. There was no traffic study at all done on Union Street, which would be most affected by waterfront development. After the traffic fiasco associated with BRAC-133 in the West End, one would think the City would have learned better, but apparently

this is not the case.

2. The City's "plan" for sub-grade parking on a waterfront that is already prone to flooding would be laughable if it weren't so sad. And the response to questions about the feasibility of staff's proposals for flood mitigation were brushed aside with the dismissive comment, "Oh, that will be studied in the implementation phase." Excuse me, but basing a so-called "plan" on ideas that may prove not to be feasible makes about as much sense as planning to build castles in the air.

3. And then there was "Fitzgerald Square." Originally conceived to be the centerpiece of the entire waterfront "plan," this recommendation ran afoul of the inconvenient fact that the City does not own this part of the waterfront and that the Old Dominion Boat Club — which does own it — has no interest in giving it up. This led to a threat to use eminent domain to take the property, which was an embarrassment to the City and which wisely seems to have been taken off the table since then.

I continue to be perplexed by the City's deeply flawed approach to waterfront planning. If the 1992 zoning is in fact legal, then the only reason for the upzoning currently proposed for the Robinson Terminal and Cummings-Turner sites is to cave in to the property owners' wishes for greater flexibility in developing their sites. However, the hotels which this upzoning would allow are at best problematical. The Washington Post Company, which owns the Robinson Terminals, appears to have conflicting views about this. On the one hand, they argue that the upzoning that would be permitted by the current waterfront plan would give developers "increased flexibility" in developing these sites, when sold, i.e., to build hotels. On the other hand, they appear to regard at least the site of Robinson Terminal North as unlikely to be suitable for a hotel. If this is in fact the case, as I believe it to be, then why is the City persisting in pushing this agenda?

The site of Robinson Terminal North is also known to be contaminated by pollutants from past industrial activities and would have to be cleaned up by any prospective developer before new construction could begin, which would add to the developer's costs.

It's time for City Council to put a stop to this nonsense, scrap the current, deeply flawed waterfront plan, and engage in a process that really does have the potential to produce a world-class waterfront. Other cities have found ways to develop their waterfronts with great success. Given the unique role of Alexandria in the history of our nation, City Council owes it to future generations to do as well for our city.

Hugh M. Van Horn
Alexandria

Time To Dig Deeper

To the Editor:

It is time for the closing arguments for and against the City Waterfront Plan. Although I don't believe that supporters of the plan have made a compelling argument why we must use the three development sites on the historic Alexandria Waterfront to

SEE LETTERS, PAGE 25

LETTERS

FROM PAGE 24

generate revenue, especially when all that tax revenue will go back into the waterfront and won't contribute to the general tax base for 25 to 30 years, I would rather try to make an argument for why we should dig deeper and look for an alternative.

First, the plan hinges on projections and promises, not to be fulfilled for 15 to 30 years. Yes, there has been more talk of doing something right away, but what that is and how it is paid for are still unclear. There are no proffers from the potential developments to guarantee that at the same time we get development we get something in return. The developers of hotels, office and residential on these three remaining developable parcels on the waterfront are not being asked to repair the docks and piers, pay for flood mitigation, or contribute to street-scaping on the Strand or the Unit Block of King. We are giving developers maximum flexibility, and I am not sure what we are getting in return.

So, lets look at an Alternative. If the City were not to up-zone these parcels, and therefore increasing their price, and would consider purchasing them instead, in just a few years we could have additional parkland, the connectivity between parks that we want, and possible locations for a museum, bandshell, and other public amenities that would be long term attractions for residents and visitors.

Instead of every time we have a festival, or the Alexandria Symphony Plays on the Waterfront and the City Pulls up a Trailer, we could have a permanent performance space. Maybe every Friday night there would be a concert on the Waterfront. The city plan increases the value of these three properties, putting any possible purchase or consideration of alternatives further out of reach.

Personally, I am not an opponent of restaurants on the waterfront. I think they would add vibrancy, and enjoyment. I have been a huge advocate for restoring the Beachcomber into a great Waterfront Dining Venue. I think the Alexandria Marine building at the other end of the Strand could be a great café. There is a great opportunity for a new restaurant or market hall in the now closed food court. Behind the food court in the next building, now an office, there is the possibility of a new restaurant. And the Robinson Terminal office at 2 Duke St. I think would be a wonderful public market house as it is where goods were once traded on the waterfront.

But is the only way to get new restaurants to build hotels? I don't

believe it is, and most hotel chains come with their own restaurants, so they will not be local unique restaurants for Alexandria, and 50,000 sq. feet of new restaurant space on these three sites is far too much. There are 32 restaurants at National Harbor, many of them national chains that can undermine local businesses which are the backbone of our community. That is not something that we should re-create here.

I am also greatly concerned with the placement of many things in this plan. It is planned to move the Dandy cruise boat to behind the already crowded docking area behind the Torpedo Factory. The Dandy is a different sort of operation. Instead of a 3.6 million dollar civic building at the foot of Duke, why not take the parking lot across from Chadwicks and create a Port of Alexandria, where the Dandy can dock and other Potomac river cruise boats would be welcome.

I would also welcome putting the Ferry Dock at the foot of King St.

And then why put a marina against the docks at Robinson Terminal south, when this is one of the two places where Tall Ships can dock.

Lets rebuild the bulkhead in

windmill hill park and create a marina for residents. Boating and boats should be part of the waterfront, but crowding them into a place where there are other uses is odd, when part of the purpose of the waterfront planning process was to spread activities out along the waterfront. Project for Public Spaces recommends having 10 different activities to create a vibrant waterfront, and if we explore some alternatives to hotels I think we can do it.

So imagine, instead of one thing to do, go to a hotel, that there are many things to do. Think about how many of us make sure when our relatives and friends visit that they see all the sites in Washington. Imagine if there were enough things to do here in Alexandria to make a three day visit memorable. They might start at a Museum that tells the history of West Point, Tobacco, how George Washington kept his boat The Farmer at the wharf there, which was the first wharf in Alexandria. Maybe they go out to the dock to see a replica of George Washington's Ship. They might also learn about the civil war and railroad history, and how Abe Lincoln's rail car was built here, and then see a replica of that. From there they could go to the Torpedo Factory, and learn where

they could go by water taxi.

They could stop for lunch at the new Beachcomber Restaurant, or if it is warm consider renting a kayak. They could go to the Robinson Terminal Market House, and buy fruits and vegetables, and if possible take a walk down to the Jones Point Lighthouse, all the while enjoying our great ribbon of environmentally innovative parkland. This is the Waterfront I imagine. A waterfront that is only possible if the City plan is rejected.

Boyd Walker

Still Needs Work

To the Editor:

As a member of Alexandria's Waterfront Work Group, I participated in the recently completed review of the City's waterfront plan. As co-author of the Work Group report, I understand how we reached our conclusions and why we recommended more work ahead for the City if it wishes to implement a successful waterfront plan. Now that the report is published, I want to offer my personal perspectives on it and recommend a constructive way forward for City leaders as they consider waterfront plan adoption.

After six months of review and deliberations, the Waterfront Plan

Work Group offered 39 findings and 69 recommended changes to the waterfront plan. Clearly, the plan offered for approval last summer needed much more work. The City's planning staff agreed and, on Jan. 10, recommended acceptance of all Work Group recommendations.

Indeed, the Work Group's report provided constructive ideas that once incorporated in the current plan will add needed detail and help plan implementation. Important recommendations included:

- ❖ An integrated waterfront district with more focused city management
- ❖ Better support and planning for waterfront activities
- ❖ Stronger environmental leadership and stewardship
- ❖ Public oversight of plan implementation
- ❖ Rejection of eminent domain to take private property
- ❖ Budget transparency and spending against clear plan priorities
- ❖ A better and more feasible location for a new public marina
- ❖ A public space at the foot of King Street that acknowledges private property rights of the Old Dominion Boat Club
- ❖ Flexibility for mixed-use development

SEE LETTERS, PAGE 26

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Legal Notices

ABC LICENSE

AEY LLC trading as River Towers Deli Mart, 6631 Wakefield Drive, Alexandria, Virginia 22307. The above establishment is applying to the VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL for a Wine & Beer off premises license to sell or manufacture alcoholic beverages.
Jin S. Yang, owner.

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 or 800-552-3200.

LEGAL NOTICE

AT&T intends to file an application to construct a cellular telecommunications tower and install new equipment at 6011 Crater Place, Alexandria, Virginia 22312. AT&T is publishing this notice in accordance with Federal regulation 37CFR1.1301 et seq, the National Environmental Policy Act and the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation 36 CFR 800. The project referenced as "Dowden Terrace-Candidate B" will consist of the construction of a new 128-foot tall monopole within a 1,153 square foot telecommunications compound. Antennas will be installed at an elevation of 120 feet RAD center. A raised AT&T equipment shelter is proposed within the proposed fenced compound. Parties interested in submitting comments or questions regarding any potential effects of the proposed facility on Historic Properties may do so in writing by contacting Carolyn Mitchell, AT&T, at 7150 Standard Drive, Hanover, Maryland 21076 or c/o theresa.scarlato@atcassociates.com.

Legal Notices

Legal Notices

PUBLIC HEARING

Public Hearing will be held by the City Council of the City of Alexandria, Virginia, in the Council Chambers, City of Alexandria, Virginia, on Saturday, January 21, 2012, at 9:30 a.m. or as soon thereafter as may be heard on the hereinafter described items:

Public Hearing on the Northern Virginia Regional Water Plan. The Northern Virginia Regional Water Supply Plan was prepared by the Northern Virginia Regional Commission.

An Ordinance to Sell City-owned Property at 716-718 N. Columbus Street. 716-718 N. Columbus Street is a two-story townhouse, owned by the City, zoned residential RB, located in the Parker Gray neighborhood.

An Ordinance to amend and reordain Article A (Water), Chapter 6 (Water and Sewer) of Title 5 (Transportation and Environmental Services), all of the Code of the City of Alexandria, Virginia, 1981, as amended. This will add definitions for a water shortage condition and a water supply emergency; expand the list of possible voluntary or mandatory restrictions or prohibitions during a water shortage condition or water supply emergency in order to conserve water; and include new and updated sections related to exemptions for the public health, safety and welfare, appeals and penalties.

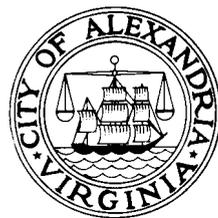
The public is advised that amendments or additions may be made to proposed ordinances without further publication. It is recommended that persons interested in any of these ordinances obtain free full-text copies from the City Clerk at City Hall.

Jackie M. Henderson

City Clerk and Clerk of Council

Legal Notices

Legal Notices



Public Hearing

Public Hearing will be held by the City Council of the City of Alexandria, Virginia, in the Council Chambers, City Hall, City of Alexandria, Virginia, on Saturday, January 21, 2012, at 9:30 a.m., or as soon thereafter as may be heard on the hereinafter described items.

AN ORDINANCE approving and authorizing the sale of property owned by the City of Alexandria, located at 716 and 718 North Columbus Street in the City of Alexandria, Virginia to King Street Properties, LLLP. The proposed ordinance authorized the sale of the referenced real property and authorizes the City Manager to enter into all appropriate agreements to complete the sale.

AN ORDINANCE to amend and reordain Article A (WATER), Chapter 6 (WATER AND SEWER) of Title 5 (TRANSPORTATION & ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES), all of the Code of the City of Alexandria, Virginia, 1981, as amended. The proposed ordinance creates two divisions within Article A, Division 1, which contains the current code provision related to stagnant water, and Division 2, which contains new sections related to local and regional water supply emergencies and related processes and procedures.

PUBLIC HEARING on the Northern Virginia Regional Water Plan.

MASTER PLAN AMENDMENT #2011-0001
TEXT AMENDMENT #2011-0005
WATERFRONT SMALL AREA PLAN

Public hearing and consideration of a request for A) an amendment to the City's Master Plan to include the Waterfront Small Area Plan chapter; and B) a text amendment to Section 5-500 of the Zoning Ordinance for the W-1/Waterfront mixed use zone. Staff: Department of Planning and Zoning

The Waterfront Small Area Plan boundary includes Daingerfield Island at its north end and Jones Point Park at its southern end (both national parks). In between, the plan is bounded to the east by the Potomac River and to the west by (from north to south) East Abingdon Drive beginning just north of Marina Drive to the railroad tracks, continuing southeast along the railroad tracks to a point just west of Pitt Street, continuing east along Bashford Lane to North Royal Street, continuing south along North Royal Street to Third Street, continuing east along Third Street to North Fairfax Street, continuing south along North Fairfax Street to Queen Street, continuing east along Queen Street to a point approximately 100 feet west of North Union Street, continuing south about 100 feet west of Union Street to Wolfe Street, following along the northern, western, and southern boundary of Windmill Hill Park until it meets South Union Street, continuing south on South Union Street to Jones Point Park.

THE PUBLIC IS ADVISED THAT AMENDMENTS OR ADDITIONS MAY BE MADE TO PROPOSED ORDINANCES WITHOUT FURTHER PUBLICATION. IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT PERSONS INTERESTED IN ANY OF THESE ORDINANCES OBTAIN FREE FULL-TEXT COPIES FROM THE CITY CLERK AT CITY HALL. JACKIE M. HENDERSON, MMC, CITY CLERK

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LETTERS

FROM PAGE 25

velopment

- ❖ A design plan well beyond the plan's simple design framework
- ❖ Additional public funding for the arts and history.

While the Work Group successfully amended and agreed on roughly 85 percent of waterfront plan content, we could not resolve issues dealing with density, amenities, flood mitigation and specific commercial uses. Our attempts to reach agreement and find a way forward suffered from the plan's lack of convincing analysis or compelling detail in these areas. Serious questions remain about the plan's real costs, tangible public amenities, environmental impacts, engineering and design details, traffic and parking effects, and feasible funding alternatives.

Alexandria's City Council faces the same problem — inadequate analysis and insufficient detail to support the final critical choices that set our City's waterfront, literally, in concrete for future generations. Although, as noted earlier, the Waterfront Plan Work Group and its recommendations represent real and substantial progress, further progress can only be built on additional work. The waterfront plan, in its entirety, is not yet ready for approval by city leaders.

I strongly recommend two steps to correct plan shortfalls and continue to move this planning process forward.

First, before final plan passage by Council, the City should complete a majority, if not all additional studies recommended unanimously by the Work group. These eight requested studies would answer fundamental, first order questions defining change in this historic and fragile cityscape. Do this critical analysis to turn what still remains a self-described conceptual waterfront plan into a more complete and acceptable product, ready for implementation. At a minimum, real answers and further details are needed to resolve these questions:

- ❖ How can the City add density or choose flood mitigating measures without understanding traffic impacts along the river or related engineering costs?

- ❖ What if the City's best efforts to resolve parking problems prove ineffective?

- ❖ How can the City expect amenities in trade for added density when developers face generally stated guidelines instead of stringent plan requirements?

- ❖ Without knowing the proffers yet to be negotiated from developers, how can we count on their investments in public spaces on the waterfront?

- ❖ With no environmental assessment supporting this plan,

what hidden costs make our intentions and plans for the waterfront pure fiction?

- ❖ If the developers' own experts argued strongly against hotel and amenity requirements by faulting the City's own studies, how can we expect to unite diverse City interests behind this plan with its critical but suspect reliance on hotel revenue?

- ❖ If the City's own presentations show it is possible to pay for this plan with mixed use development, longer but assured cost recovery, and no change in zoning, why are we rushing to concede density increases to owners beyond legally defensible, City staff supported, and federally backed limits?

- ❖ Since the GenOn site, the largest parcel of land to be developed within our defined small area plan boundaries, was excluded from our planning assessment, how can we be sure this plan doesn't miss obvious solutions in hindsight or cause serious and expensive unintended consequences.

Second, the City should make a relatively small investment (\$50,000-\$100,000) in modeling and simulation technology used by other Virginia cities to dynamically assess urban planning alternatives where the interplay of flooding, development, traffic, and commercial activities complicate public policy. Norfolk, with the help of the Virginia Modeling and Simulation Center (VMASC), has thoroughly modeled such critical choices to promote better public policies. The director of VMASC at Old Dominion University, Dr. John Sokolowski, has offered the Center's existing models, powerful simulation tools, and technical skills to address our challenges immediately. He believes that our problems and their analytical tools are well matched. Alexandria can retain, adapt, and use these tools to help implement this waterfront plan and tackle other city zoning and policy challenges.

There is no reason for our City's leaders to rush to failure by implementing an unfinished plan for transforming our waterfront. Slow, don't stop this process; adopt and acknowledge the good work already done; complete the analysis needed to reach the best conclusions on the most difficult issues; and acquire better means and learn modern methods to help guide plan implementation while balancing development, public usage, and traffic impacts. Most importantly, City Council must resist the pressure to "do something" when that "something" abruptly ends public engagement and dialog, embitters whole neighborhoods, and poisons the sense of community so necessary for successful waterfront plan implementation.

Bob Wood

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I-395 HOV/Transit Ramp Seminary Road City of Alexandria

Citizen Information Meeting and Design Public Hearing

Wednesday, January 25, 2012, 7 – 9 p.m.
Francis C. Hammond Middle School
4646 Seminary Road, Alexandria, VA 22304
*(If the school is closed due to inclement weather,
meeting will be February 1, 2012, 7 – 9 p.m.)*

Find out about the proposed major design features and draft environmental assessment for the I-395 HOV/transit ramp to Seminary Road.

In compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and 23 CFR Part 771, a draft environmental assessment is being prepared. Information concerning the potential effects of the proposed improvements on properties listed in or eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places will be included in the environmental document in compliance with the National Historic Preservation Act, Section 106 and 36 CFR 800. The draft environmental document, including other environmental information, will be made available for public review and comment.

Review project information at www.vamegaprojects.com, at the public hearing, or at VDOT's Northern Virginia District Office at 4975 Alliance Drive in Fairfax. Please call ahead at 800-FOR-ROAD (800-367-7623) or TTY/TDD 711 to ensure appropriate personnel are available to answer your questions. Property impact information and relocation assistance policies are available for review at the above address and will be available at the public hearing.

Give your written or oral comments at the hearing or submit them by **February 10, 2012** to Robert Iosco, Environmental Engineer at the VDOT District Office address above. You may also e-mail comments to meeting_comments@vdot.virginia.gov. Please reference "I-395 HOV/Transit Ramp" in the subject line.

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State Project: 0095-100-722, P101; UPC 96261
Federal Project: NH-000S (218)

Bishop Ireton Boys Match Overall, WCAC Win Totals

Youthful Cardinals fall short against Bishop O'Connell.

BY JON ROETMAN
GAZETTE PACKET

Third-year Bishop Ireton boys basketball coach Neil Berkman said the team's rebuilding process is proceeding as planned, calling the Cardinals a "program on the rise." On Jan. 16, however, Ireton was "dismantled" by an already established Bishop O'Connell program.

"It's not convincing them, it's conveying a sense of deserving to win, expecting to win and working hard and not being surprised we're winning games."

— Bishop Ireton boys basketball coach Neil Berkman

The Cardinals played well early, building a 17-8 first quarter lead, but the Knights came surging back and ran away with an 80-61 victory at O'Connell. Ireton showed signs of life, pulling to within five when Davon Wiley's 3-pointer made the score 37-32 early in the third quarter, but the Cardinals could not match the Knights' size and athleticism.

While Ireton fell short against O'Connell, there has been plenty to get excited about for the Cardinals. Ireton has already matched last season's totals for overall victories (10) and wins in the Washington Catholic Athletic Conference (2) — a conference Berkman called the "toughest league in the country bar none, hands down." And with eight sophomores and juniors on the ros-



Junior guard Davon Wiley, one of Bishop Ireton's top offensive threats, scored 13 points against Bishop O'Connell on Jan. 16.

ter, many of the Cardinals' primary contributors will return next season and beyond.

Wiley, a junior guard, is arguably the team's top offensive threat. He scored 13 points against O'Connell, including eight in the first quarter.

"Davon, first of all, is a terrific kid off the court," Berkman said. "He brings a lot of things to the table. He's a good scorer. He's not a great shooter, but he's a good scorer. We like when the ball goes in the basket. ... He has an old school mid-range game that's kind of been lost lately."

Sophomore guard Taylor McHugh led Ireton with 16 points against O'Connell, including a 3-pointer that gave the Cardinals a 24-19 lead in the second quarter.

"Taylor has a chance to be special," Berkman said. "He just came off a shoulder injury and he's a competitor. He's motivated and he's going to become a pretty good



Bishop Ireton sophomore Dan Noe, left, defends Bishop O'Connell's Melo Trimble on Jan. 16.

leader."

Sophomore Dan Noe scored 14 points for the Cardinals, knocking down a pair of 3-pointers.

"He brings versatility — he can play the 3 or the 4," Berkman said. "He's going to eventually become a matchup problem. If you lay off him he can shoot the ball. He can play with his back to the basket, which a lot of kids don't like to do today."

Berkman said junior guard Louis Khouri is also a key contributor. He scored six points against the Knights and during a four-game stretch this season posted a 4-to-1 assist-to-turnover ratio.

"He doesn't make mistakes," Berkman said. "He's a 4.2 student. He's a poster child for Ireton."

Berkman, who coached at Coastal Carolina and Cornell along with other high schools, said the Cardinals are working hard

and trying to change the culture around the program, but he doesn't feel he needs to convince the Cardinals they can win in the WCAC.

"It's not convincing them," Berkman said, "it's conveying a sense of deserving to win, expecting to win and working hard and not being surprised we're winning games."

Next up for Ireton is a road game against Paul VI at 7:30 p.m. on Friday, Jan. 20. The Cardinals will get another shot at O'Connell in the regular season finale on Feb. 17.

Things are looking up for Ireton, but the Cardinals still face a tough WCAC road ahead.

"O'Connell did a terrific job of dismantling our team," Berkman said. "They were tougher than us and they played hard and deserved to win. Hats off to them and we look forward to the rematch on senior night."

SPORTS BRIEFS

Erg Sprints Looking For Volunteers

With early registration figures indicating this year's MidAtlantic Erg Sprints could see the highest turnout ever in its 27-year history, the organizers of the world's third-largest indoor rowing competition have put out a call for more volunteers to help things run smoothly once the competition gets underway.

"In 2011, we had over 1,400 athletes from over

100 clubs and schools take part in the competition," Jeff Byron, the director of the MidAtlantic Erg Sprints, said in a press release. "In light of the fact that our registration totals are running ahead of where they were at this time last year, our expectation is that we will have as many if not more athletes competing in 2012. As a result, we're putting out a call for additional volunteers who might be willing to lend a hand."

This year's MidAtlantic Erg Sprints will take place
SEE SPORTS BRIEFS, PAGE 28

Volunteer staff members are seen working at the 26th Annual MidAtlantic Erg Sprints, which was held on Jan. 29, 2011 at the Gerry Bertier Gymnasium at T.C. Williams High School.



SUBMITTED PHOTO

SPORTS

FROM PAGE 27

on Saturday, Feb. 4 from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. in the Gerry Bertier Gymnasium at T.C. Williams High School. According to Byron, the Erg Sprints typically rely on the efforts of more than 150 volunteers, who help out in areas ranging from registering athletes to handing out awards.

SPORTS BRIEFS

Volunteers generally work in three to four hour shifts, he said.

This year's shifts include: helping with set-up the night before the event on Friday, Feb. 3, from either 4-7 p.m. or 7-10 p.m.; and lending a hand during the event on Saturday, Feb. 4, from either 10 a.m.-1 p.m., 1-4 p.m., or helping with clean-up afterward from 4-6 p.m. Individuals who wish to volunteer can do so at <http://ergsprints.com/volunteer/contact.html>. For more information on the Erg Sprints, please visit <http://ergsprints.com/>.

"Volunteers are one of the main reasons the MidAtlantic Erg Sprints has become the third largest indoor rowing event in the world," Byron said. "We couldn't do it without them, and we're looking forward to their help once again this year."

The MidAtlantic Erg Sprints

were first held in Alexandria in January 1986. The event is sponsored by the Alexandria Crew Boosters.

SSSAS Wrestling Wins City Tournament

The St. Stephen's & St. Agnes wrestling team won the Alexandria City Tournament, beating Bishop Ireton 45-39, Episcopal 60-24 and T.C. Williams 58-24.

SCHOOL NOTES

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

Marymount University announces that the following residents are among the more than 450 undergraduates and 350 graduate students who received degrees at the University's 60th Commencement Ceremonies at DAR Constitution Hall in Washington, D.C., on May 8.

❖ **Denielle Yesuvida of Alexandria** earned a/an B.S. in Nursing (second degree).

❖ **Ali Al Saadi of Alexandria** earned a/an B.S. in Information Technology.

❖ **Matthew Deegan of Alexandria** earned a/an M.Ed. in Special

The Saints will host a meet with Annapolis Christian, Landon and St. James at 10:30 a.m. on Saturday, Jan. 21.

Episcopal Boys Improve to 11-1

The Episcopal boys basketball team defeated Bullis 62-57 on Jan. 13 to improve to 11-1 this season. The Maroon will host Flint Hill at 6 p.m. on Thursday, Jan. 19.

Education, grades K-12.

❖ **Jennifer Hubbard of Alexandria** earned a/an B.A. in Interior Design.

❖ **Corin Inderbitzin de Uviedo of Alexandria** earned a/an B.S. in Nursing (second degree). Inderbitzin de Uviedo graduated magna cum laude.

❖ **Susan Kimber of Alexandria** earned a/an B.S. in Nursing (second degree).

❖ **Kristen Long of Alexandria** earned a/an M.A. in Forensic Psychology.

❖ **Samantha Millen of Alexandria** earned a/an M.A. in Forensic Psychology.

❖ **Lizelle Pereira of Alexandria** earned a/an M.B.A.

❖ **Amber Price of Alexandria** earned a/an B.S. in Nursing (second degree).

❖ **Trinh Tran of Alexandria** earned a/an B.S. in Nursing.

NEWS

Cutting Back 'Intercession'

FROM PAGE 7

learning makes sense for our particular school," the letter in support explained. "MSC offers something for every child in the school."

THESE DAYS, the results of the experiment are unclear. The original scope of the program has been reduced from \$810,000 in 2005 to \$612,000 in 2011. And although many parents say they valued the enrichment their children gained in the "intercession" classes, which include everything from remedial math to Greek mythology, the investment never had the payoff that school officials wanted as a payoff.

"We just haven't seen the increases in student achievement," said School Board member Mimi Carter, a former PTA president at Mount Vernon. "Nobody wants to keep doing the same thing over and over again expecting a different result."

Many parents say they

strongly support the intercession classes at the two schools, previewing what may be a dramatic clash in the coming weeks. Several parents have already spoken out against the proposal earlier this month, and more are expected after Sherman formally presents the proposal to School Board members this week. The coming weeks are likely to see parents clashing with administrators and board members over the value of maintaining the current level of funding for five weeks of intercession classes.

"Our community will be speaking out in favor of keeping five weeks of intercessions," said Hal Cardwell, current PTA president at Mount Vernon. "It's an issue of where you want to spend your resources, and School Board members have competing priorities. But parents here are overwhelmingly in favor of five weeks of intercessions."



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21 Announcements

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TREE SERVICE



Joan Masin Freck, 74 of Ashburn, VA, passed away January 5, 2012 from complications associated with idiopathic myelofibrosis, a rare bone marrow disorder. As was her way, and in keeping with her career as an educator, Joan waited until the final school dismissal bell at 3:30 PM, when she passed away peacefully in the company of her family.

Joan was born on July 29, 1937 in Neptune, NJ, the daughter of Josephine Nurkin and Louis Masin. She was married for 54 years to her college beau, Peter Grier Freck. Joan is survived by her husband, three grown children and their spouses: Stanley Grier Freck (Tina Braun), William Robert Freck (Catherine), and John Stuart Freck (Karen); seven grandchildren whom she loved dearly: Kendall, Jake, Peter, Henry, Symon, Aidan and Asa and her older brother, Michael A. Masin of Fletcher, NC.

Joan was a lifelong and gifted educator who believed firmly in the value of a strong education for all. She was a graduate of Prospect Hill Country Day School (Orange, NJ) and received a Bachelor's of Arts from Vassar College, a Master's degree in Teaching from the University of Virginia and a Doctorate of Education in School Administration from Vanderbilt University.

She began her career as an elementary school teacher in Beverly Hills, CA and Fairfax County, VA before becoming a principal in Fairfax County Public Schools first at Mt. Vernon Woods Elementary School and then at Woodley Hills Elementary School from which she retired. Afterward, she continued to work in the school system as an interim administrator and elementary school principal. Joan also taught student teachers at the undergraduate and graduate levels at Mary Washington and George Mason Universities. She was the past President of the Fairfax Association of Elementary School Principals.

Joan was an Elder and active member of Burke Presbyterian Church. She received endless amounts of joy and fellowship from her time at the church and with the members there.

A Memorial Service to celebrate Joan's rich and full life will be held at 2:30 pm on February 10, 2012 at Burke Presbyterian Church, 5690 Oak Leather Drive, Burke VA (703-764-0456). On her passing, it was Joan's wish to establish a book fund for the library at her beloved Woodley Hills Elementary School. Therefore, in lieu of flowers, please consider making a donation to the Woodley Hills Elementary School Library to honor Joan's life and her commitment to promoting high quality education for all children. Your tax-deductible donations should be made payable to the Woodley Hills Elementary School and reference the "Dr. Joan Freck Memorial Book Fund" in the memo section of the check or in a separate accompanying note. Donations should be sent directly to: Woodley Hills Elementary School at 8178 Old Mount Vernon Road, Alexandria, VA 22309.



**I-395 HOV/Transit Ramp
Seminary Road
City of Alexandria**

Citizen Information Meeting and
Design Public Hearing
Wednesday, January 25, 2012, 7 – 9 p.m.
Francis C. Hammond Middle School
4646 Seminary Road, Alexandria, VA 22304
(If the school is closed due to inclement weather,
meeting will be February 1, 2012, 7 – 9 p.m.)

Find out about the proposed major design features and draft environmental assessment for the I-395 HOV/transit ramp to Seminary Road.

In compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and 23 CFR Part 771, a draft environmental assessment is being prepared. Information concerning the potential effects of the proposed improvements on properties listed in or eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places will be included in the environmental document in compliance with the National Historic Preservation Act, Section 106 and 36 CFR 800. The draft environmental document, including other environmental information, will be made available for public review and comment.

Review project information at www.vamegaprojects.com, at the public hearing, or at VDOT's Northern Virginia District Office at 4975 Alliance Drive in Fairfax. Please call ahead at 800-FOR-ROAD (800-367-7623) or TTY/TDD 711 to ensure appropriate personnel are available to answer your questions. Property impact information and relocation assistance policies are available for review at the above address and will be available at the public hearing.

Give your written or oral comments at the hearing or submit them by **February 10, 2012** to Robert Iosco, Environmental Engineer at the VDOT District Office address above. You may also e-mail comments to meeting_comments@vdot.virginia.gov. Please reference "I-395 HOV/Transit Ramp" in the subject line.

VDOT ensures nondiscrimination and equal employment in all programs and activities in accordance with Title VI and Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. If you need more information or special assistance for persons with disabilities or limited English proficiency, contact VDOT's Civil Rights Division at the above phone numbers.

State Project: 0095-100-722, P101; UPC 96261
Federal Project: NH-000S (218)

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