



The women of the Zharava perform.

'Hopa Tropa Kukerica!'

The Ambassador Theater presented "Hopa Tropa Kukerica!," a Bulgarian masquerade with puppetry, song and dance April 1 at the George Washington Masonic Temple in Alexandria. The play was conceived and directed by Lilia Slavova with choreographer Ivan Dimitrov, set designer Antonio Petrov, puppet design by Julia Tashev and music arranger Petko Kilov. For more information on upcoming events visit www.aticc.org



Tatiana Sarbinska, artistic director of the singing group Orfeia leads Sarah Allard, Natalia Blinkova, Courtney Deines-Jones, Carlendra Franks, Lily Hamburger, Heather Livingston, Diane Weinroth and Elin Zurbrigg in song.

PHOTOS BY
LOUISE KRAFFT
GAZETTE PACKET

Uneasy Neighbors

Alexandria and Arlington at odds over streetcars versus bus-rapid transit.

BY MICHAEL LEE POPE
GAZETTE PACKET

Arlington and Alexandria planning officials are moving in different directions along Route 1. While Arlington has already dedicated funds to upgrading the transit corridor to streetcars in the next five years, Alexandria officials say they want to hold off and stay with the bus-rapid transit system slated to open next year.

When the five-mile stretch of the transit corridor opens in late 2013, riders will be able to shuttle between Pentagon City through Crystal City into Potomac Yard and ultimately stop at the Braddock

Road Metro station. The route will include several stretches of dedicated lanes, where the transit vehicles will not have to share the road with regular traffic — a first for Northern Virginia. The launch will be a system known as bus-rapid transit, essentially using buses instead of railcars.

The real problem is down the line.

Five years from now, Arlington plans to upgrade to streetcars. The effort is part of an aggressive campaign to launch a streetcar system that would eventually connect to the Columbia Pike streetcar system. The Arlington County Board has already included funding in a

SEE STREETCARS, PAGE 3

Council Campaign Shifts Westward

Two new Democratic candidates change dynamic of council race.

BY MICHAEL LEE POPE
GAZETTE PACKET

With two more candidates entering the race for Alexandria City Council, the lines of combat are moving west. Victoria Menjivar and Sammie Moshenburg formally announced their candidacies Monday night at the Alexandria Democratic Committee meeting, challenging the Democratic incumbents and the other candidates on

the issue of the city's poor and Latino communities.

Menjivar and Moshenburg were both outspoken in their opposition to a redevelopment in Arlandria they said would push out existing residents. And now that City Council members are considering a massive redevelopment on the West End, Menjivar and Moshenburg both said they would vote against the small-area plan now under consideration. Several

SEE TWO NEW, PAGE 6

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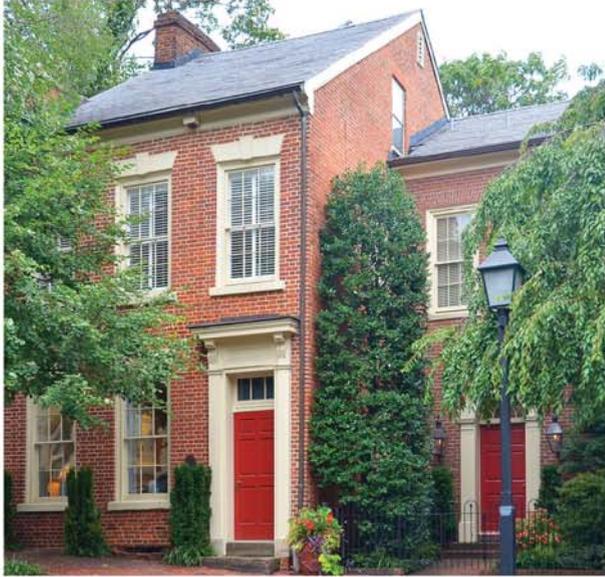


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Englin Won't Seek Reelection

In an emotional speech to the Alexandria Democratic Committee Tuesday night, four-term Del. **David Englin** (D-45) said he will not seek reelection to the House of Delegates next year. Englin acknowledged being unfaithful in his marriage to political consultant **Shayna Englin**, adding that he will "leave political life" to focus on rebuilding his marriage and his family.

"Shayna has always been the true source of my strength and my happiness, and we have been a team in my political work," said Englin. "I am deeply sorry for hurting the people that I love the most and for disappointing so many others who put so much faith in me over the years."

Englin said that with his announcement, attention will naturally turn to his successor. The seat was held for many years by former Del. **Marian Van Landingham**, and when she announced her retirement the crowded Democratic field included six Democrats vying for a spot on the general election ballot. Englin was considered by many to be a long-shot candidate because he had lived in Alexandria for a very short time before he ran for office. But through an aggressive door-to-door campaign in the summer of 2005, he emerged victorious.

"I want you to remember that as candidates emerge to succeed me," said Englin.

"No matter how improbable your candidacy may seem to others, if you believe you have something to offer people of the 45th District I urge you and I hope you will consider stepping forward to serve."

Krupicka Changes Course

When he lost the Democratic primary for the Virginia state Senate last year, Alexandria Councilman **Rob Krupicka** told supporters that his campaign to succeed former state Sen. **Patsy Ticer** (D-30) would be his "last big campaign for a very long time." Now that Englin has announced he will not seek a fifth term to the House of Delegates, Krupicka has changed course.

"I don't think anybody could have predicted this," said Krupicka when asked about his previous comments. "I made those comments with no state leadership opportunities in my community, and I have a lot of concerns about the direction this state has been heading in for some time."

More School Problems

Last month, Alexandria Superintendent **Morton Sherman** was fending off calls for his resignation. Now he's in the hot seat again, trying to explain a new report showing testing irregularities in the school system's adult education program.

In an April 2 letter to Sherman, Virginia Superintendent of Public Instruction **Patricia Wright** announced that state Office of Adult Education and Literacy will be conducting an on-site monitoring visit to review records from the last five years and conduct interviews.

"Pending the outcomes of the on-site review — or if circumstances require earlier action — ACPS may be subject to actions up to and including suspension or termination of grant funding to the ACPS adult education program," Wright explained in the letter.

The report, issued March 30 from the state Division of Technology, Career and Adult Education and Literacy Services, found "serious flaws" in the assessment and data entry process.

The memorandum from state education officials concludes that Alexandria City Public Schools has "serious flaws" with the administration of the program. The report documented an inordinate number of adult education students received the same score on a basic skills test. It also pointed out that a total of 95 students supposedly took a speaking and comprehension test on the same day.

"This outside report was part of our ongoing review of all programs in the division," said Sherman in an email responding to the report. "We can't do everything at once, so adult ed was slated for review and improvement this year."

— MICHAEL LEE POPE

NEWS

Streetcars or Bus-Rapid Transit?

FROM PAGE 1

long-range capital improvement plan to upgrade. Alexandria leaders, on the other hand, say streetcars are too expensive — at least for now. That means that the two sister jurisdictions are headed for a conflict. One day soon, transit riders arriving at Potomac Yard might have to get off the Arlington streetcar and on an Alexandria bus.

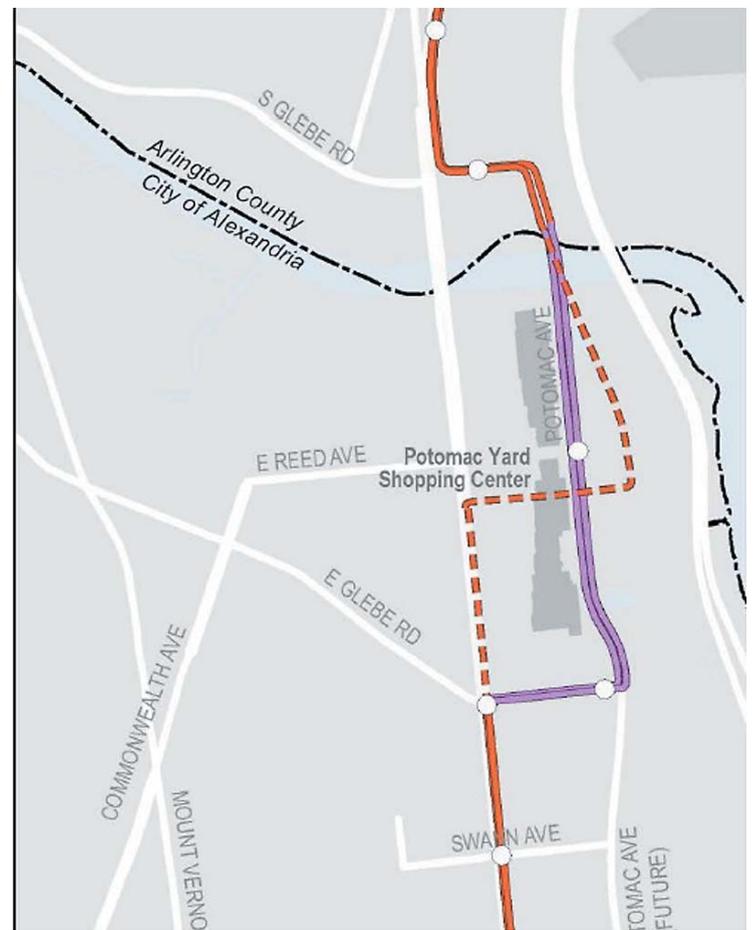
"A mess," said newly elected County Board member Libby Garvey. "That's not going to work very well."

DURING HER CAMPAIGN in the special election to replace former Arlington County Board member Barbara Favola, who was elected to the Virginia state Senate in November, Garvey said Arlington should do a better job communicating and collaborating with other jurisdictions. In an interview on her first day on the job at the Arlington County government center, Garvey said that finding a resolution to the debate on streetcars versus buses could be a good place to start. Alexandria City Councilman Rob Krupicka, a former political rival in a heated Democratic primary last year, agrees with his former opponent that the two jurisdictions need to have a better game plan.

"We've come to the conclusion that rail is something to consider in the future," said Krupicka. "But it is not something that is financially viable right now in the short term."

Capital costs for streetcars are two to three times more expensive, although operating costs are less because streetcars last longer than buses. That means that if it wants to upgrade the transit corridor to streetcars in the near future, Alexandria would need to make a major investment — one city leaders are hesitant to do because the city is responsible for raising \$240 million to build the Metro station at Potomac Yard. City leaders are currently examining three different locations for a potential location for the Metro station, which would be located on the Crystal City Potomac Yard transit corridor.

Currently, no federal funds are available to help pay for Alexandria to fund the Metro station. So the city plans to create a special district where tax increment financing will help pay for the Metro station. And property owners will pay a tax rate that's 20 cents higher than the rest of the city, which will also help fund the station. Developers are expected



ARLINGTON COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES.

LEGEND

- Stop
- Proposed Alignment**
- Dedicated Lanes for Transit
- Transit Vehicles in Mixed Traffic
- - - Future Alignment
- M Metrorail Station

to pay for about one third of the station. Arlington is using a similar strategy to fund the streetcar system.

"Potomac Yard will be a major work center, and you basically need your regional heavy rail system to be able to pull people from all over the region to be able to access Potomac Yard. The streetcar system is a subregional system," said Deputy City Manager

Mark Jinks.

On the ground at the border between Arlington and Alexandria, opinions are divided about the new transit corridor. Some say it would be a mistake for Arlington to have one mode of transportation while Alexandria has another. Others say it really wouldn't matter all that much because com

SEE STREETCARS, PAGE 6



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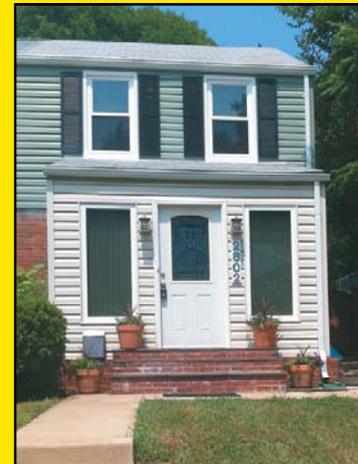
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Alexandria
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Gary Chute 703-371-9926



Alexandria
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Mary Smith 703-626-9207



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Alexandria
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PEOPLE



Maggie Stogner, Mike, Bud, Connie and Christy Hart and Mary Catherine Gibb.

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Lizzie Rupp, Erin Phillips and Carter Foote.



Goodwin House administrator of operations David Baker and executive director Harry Baldwin.

PHOTOS BY
LOUISE KRAFFT
GAZETTE PACKET



From right to left: Mimi Rolph, Stacey Clayton, Joy Frelinghuysen, Stephanie Clayton, Jocelyn Adamoli and Jane Hughes.

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- Reinventing Your Home for Today's Lifestyle

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Two New Democratic Candidates Change Dynamic of Campaign

FROM PAGE 1

other candidates also said they disagreed with the council's decision in Arlandria and that they are concerned elected officials might be repeating history on the West End.

"I get the sense that the city staff is there to promote the interest of developers," said Menjivar. "And every time one of these proposals is brought before City Council, it seems like it's already a done deal."

"People will be displaced," said Moshenbourg. "And I don't think the city understands how many people are going to be displaced."

Menjivar and Moshenbourg both testified against an unpopular redevelopment in Arlandria known as Mount Vernon Village Center. Council members heard hours of testimony from community members who said they had been shut out of the process and that they feared gentrification would push out low-income and Latino residents, especially as adjacent properties began to redevelop. Council members sat through hours of testimony from people opposed to the project, then voted six-to-one in favor of the project.

"The same thing is going on right now in the West End," said Democratic candidate Arthur Peabody, who said he would have voted against the Arlandria redevelopment. "This city needs to negotiate more strenuously and more aggressively for affordable housing."

THE ARLANDRIA decision left many feeling that incumbent City Council members were unconcerned about how community members felt about the redevelopment. Several of the candidates issued statements at the time, including two who have since withdrawn from the race. One of those candidates was Democrat Sean Holihan, who called attention to how the dedicated affordable housing units were calculated.

"These affordable housing units will be available for those making around \$50,000 a year," said Holihan. "Unfortunately, many



Sammie Moshenbourg, 61: A native of Baltimore, Moshenbourg has a bachelor's degree in humanities from Shimer College in Chicago and a master's degree in education from Loyola University in Maryland. She is currently the director of Washington operations for the National Coalition of Jewish Women. Moshenbourg votes at the Cora Kelly Center precinct.

residents don't meet that definition of affordable."

Because all of the Democratic incumbents seeking reelection voted for the Arlandria redevelopment, they will be challenged on the campaign trail about the issue — especially as planning efforts move forward with the Beauregard small-area plan. Those who voted in favor of the Arlandria redevelopment say that the city offered ample opportunities for community input, disagreeing with those who say the city failed to listen to concerns about the project.

"There's been a lot of discussion and a lot of input," said Councilman Paul Smedberg during the public hearing on the redevelopment, "much more than a lot of other plans over the last decade."

THE TWIN ISSUES of Arlandria and Beauregard offer a glimpse into how can-



PHOTOS BY MICHAEL LEE POPE/GAZETTE PACKET

Victoria Menjivar, 53: A native of El Salvador, Menjivar came to America in 1980. She has a bachelor's degree in individualized studies and multicultural communities from George Mason University, and she is currently an administrative assistant at T.C. Williams High School. Menjivar votes at the Mount Vernon Center precinct.

didates view the changing demographics of the city. A recent Census report showed the city is becoming older and more educated, an indication that residents are also wealthier than they used to be. That means that poor and working class residents are being edged out. But responding to that challenge in the context of land-use decisions and small-area plans can be daunting for candidates.

"No comment," said Democratic candidate John Taylor Chapman when asked what he would do if elected.

Other candidates have a lot to say on the issue. When asked about her thoughts on

Arlandria and Beauregard, Democratic candidate Allison Silberberg recounted a story about a recent work session outlining details about the controversial small-area plan. She was concerned that the issue of affordable housing appeared last on the docket, after lengthy discussions about transportation and zoning.

"It was the caboose when it should have been the lead train," said Silberberg, who is chairwoman of the Economic Opportunities Commission. "The city needs to engage people at the outset, not have a plan on the table and then vote on it."

DEMOCRATIC CANDIDATE Melissa Feld says she would have voted against the Arlandria redevelopment, adding that she is concerned the Beauregard proposal may be displacing poor and Latino people in Alexandria. She agreed with Silberberg that council members should have been more responsive to the outpouring of concern from people who said they felt their voices were being ignored.

"It's caused a lot of strife in the community," said Feld.

On the other end of the issue is Planning Commissioner Donna Fossum, who is also a Democratic candidate for City Council. She supported the Arlandria redevelopment and is a supporter of the plans in Beauregard. During a speech to the Alexandria Democratic Committee Tuesday night, Fossum said current plans for the West End are a responsible way to address the issue of affordable housing in Alexandria.

"I've spent much of the last month making sure we do have affordable housing in Beauregard," said Fossum. "We're now up to 800 dedicated units, which are the first and only dedicated units west of I-395."

Streetcars or Bus-Rapid Transit?

FROM PAGE 3

muters could simply move from one to another. On her way to the grocery store, Arlington resident Lili Shelton stops for a moment to consider the county's plans.

"Many years ago when I was in France, we had streetcars. They were wonderful, but they had the track," said Shelton. "I like the aesthetic of Crystal City."

VISITING POTOMAC YARD today is a tale of two jurisdictions. The Arlington side has massive new high-density development and mixed-use buildings with ground-level retail and underground parking. Across the boundary, Alexandria has a large surface parking lot attached to a strip mall slated for redevelopment. It's essentially a blank canvas for the Potomac Yard of the future — one that many people say should include a streetcar.

"Alexandria always has extra money," said Alexandria resident Rebecca White while she was walking her dog on a recent morning. "We are one of the richest cities with all of our taxes. So I don't see why it should be a problem."

In a joint statement issued this week, Alexandria City Manager Rashad Young and Arlington County Manager Barbara Donnellan said that the two neighboring jurisdictions have been working in a partnership on the transit corridor that dates back at least a decade and are currently engaged in a joint study.

"The Route 1 Corridor is a vital business district for both Arlington and Alexandria," the two chief executives wrote in the statement, "and we are committed to working together and fostering initiatives for the benefit our communities, as well as the entire region."



At GWMS

Recording artist and blues preservationist Curtis Blues sang and played at George Washington Middle School on March 2 to more than 300 students and teachers. His educational performance on the Mississippi Delta Blues wove together music, history and an inspirational message about creativity and character. Blues' visit was sponsored by the Hammerheads (above with Blues), an afterschool club whose members had recently finished building their own cigar box guitars. Tech Ed teacher Kyle Godfrey sponsors the club in partnership with the Alexandria Seaport Foundation.

Sewage Spill Affects Stream

Arlington County has reported a sewage spill in the area of Columbia Pike and S. Dinwiddie Street earlier this week, spilling into Four Mile Run Stream. The spill has been contained by crews working the scene, but City of Alexandria residents are advised to avoid direct contact with water in Four Mile Run to eliminate the risk of exposure to untreated sewage. This includes keeping all pets and children away from adjacent areas until further notice. Residents should not fish in Four Mile Run or have any contact with the waters — including wading or swimming — until further notice from the City. The advisory to avoid all contact is considered an extra precaution until the discharge is stopped and to allow the effect of the discharge to be diminished by natural flushing of the streams.

Police Make Arrests for Underage Alcohol Sales

Alexandria police conducted alcohol compliance checks at several businesses on March 29. This awareness and enforcement campaign focused on various retail business locations that sell alcoholic beverages. Prior to the enforcement efforts, uniformed officers visited businesses throughout the City and provided education and awareness information for the businesses and their employees.

Officers used confidential informants under the age of 21 but above the age of 18 to purchase alcoholic beverages from various locations. The informants were instructed to enter the businesses and attempt to purchase alcoholic beverages. If asked for identification, the informant showed the clerk their legal identification, which revealed they were under 21 years of age. If the sale of alcoholic beverages transpired, officers entered the business and placed appropriate charges on the seller.

Thirty-five businesses were checked and 11 arrests were made for the illegal sale of alcoholic beverages to a person under the age of 21.

The following businesses at listed locations illegally sold alcoholic beverages:

- ❖ CVS - 433 N. Washington St
- ❖ Gourmet Center and Deli - 817 King Street
- ❖ 7/11 - 1667 N. Quaker Lane
- ❖ 24 Hour Express Mart - 4007 Mt. Vernon Avenue
- ❖ 7/11 - 411 E. Braddock Road
- ❖ Giant Food - 425 E. Monroe Avenue
- ❖ Rite Aid - 4515 Duke Street
- ❖ 7/11 - 30 S. Reynolds Street
- ❖ CVS - 259 S. Van Dorn Street
- ❖ Claremont Deli & Market - 4622 King Street
- ❖ Rite Aid - 3614 King Street.

Police Arrest 8 for DWI

Alexandria police conducted a DWI checkpoint in the 5800 block of Duke Street from 10 p.m. on Friday, March 23, to 6 a.m. on Saturday, March 24. Vehicles were stopped and drivers were checked to assure that their abilities to drive had not been impaired by alcohol or drugs.

During the DWI checkpoint, 881 vehicles passed through and eight arrests were made for Driving While Intoxicated (DWI). In addition, 26 summonses were issued for miscellaneous traffic offenses and two people were charged with possession of marijuana.

Twelve Alexandria police officers, one Alexandria Sheriff's deputy, two Parking Enforcement Officers and one Emergency Communications Technician participated in the DWI enforcement effort.

Annual Hydrant Flushing Underway

Hydrant flushing is scheduled in Alexandria from April 8 through May 25, according to Virginia American Water. The rou

SEE NEWS BRIEFS, PAGE 9



PHOTO BY LOUISE KRAFFT/GAZETTE PACKET

'Banking on Our Future'

Chairman, Founder and CEO of Operation Hope John Hope Bryant gave a special presentation to the afterschool math students at Hammond Middle School on March 29. Starting out with the theme of respect of each other and oneself, Bryant dove into the source of real wealth: that which is within each person. Bryant initiated a program "Banking on Our Future" to foster dignity and hope and teach financial literacy and economic self-sufficiency to low-income communities in the U.S., South Africa and Haiti. For more information on the program visit www.operationhope.com.



PHOTO BY JEANNE THEISMANN/GAZETTE PACKET

Helping Inova

The Board of Lady Managers held a fundraiser at The Little Theatre of Alexandria March 13 to raise money to purchase new anesthesia machines for Inova Alexandria Hospital. The new machines are part of the board's latest \$500,000 pledge for the hospital. Above, event chair Barbara Brenman, Board president Cynthia Puskar and first vice president Ruth Corlett serve punch during intermission of "Heaven Can Wait." For more information email TheBoardofladyManagers@gmail.com.



Lauren Akilah Adams and Wesley Alan Harris

Adams, Harris Engaged

Mr. and Mrs. Larry H. Adams, of Fairfax County, are proud to announce the engagement of their daughter, Lauren Akilah Adams to Wesley Alan Harris, son of Mr. and Mrs. William Harris of Columbia, Md. The couple plan to wed on Nov. 10, 2012. Both members of the happy couple reside in Alexandria. Ms. Adams is an alumna of North Carolina A&T State University and Mr. Harris is an alumnus of Hampton University and Pennsylvania State University. Ms. Adams is CEO and director of Little Ambassadors' Academy Preschool in Arlington, and Mr. Harris is a systems engineering manager for Lockheed Martin Corporation in Gaithersburg, Md. They plan to make Northern Virginia their home.

Leaving Charm-Ville

Alexandria's chief tourism promoter **Stephanie Pace Brown** is leaving a city her organization calls "Charm-ville." The Alexandria Convention and Visitors Association announced last week that Brown will be stepping down in June to lead the Asheville Convention and Visitors Bureau in Asheville, N.C. Brown has been president and chief executive officer of the ACVA since 2007.

"Stephanie has done a fabulous job for Alexandria," said Mayor **Bill Euille**. "Tourism in the city has grown significantly under her outstanding leadership, generating more than \$22 million in city tax revenue annually."

Brown leaves at a time when the city's tourism business is thriving. In the last four years, the industry grew by 16.8 percent, drastically outpacing Prince William, Fairfax and Arlington. One recent report showed that the city's tourism industry provides more than 6,000 jobs. During Brown's tenure at ACVA, visitor spending increased at a rate that was more than double the average growth in Virginia.

"She has given us an incredible gift to build upon," said **Charlotte Hall**, vice president of the Potomac Riverboat Company. "When I helped form the ACVA in 1996, we could only dream of the incredible level of benefit this organization could leverage for the city and its businesses."

When Brown assumes her new duties in Asheville, she will oversee a team of 21 individuals and a budget of \$8 million. By comparison, ACVA has a staff of 11 and a budget of \$3 million. One of the biggest distinctions between the two jobs is that Asheville has a tourism development fund, which collects revenue from a lodging tax.

"Working with Stephanie has been an honor and a pleasure," said **Jody Manor**, chairman of the ACVA board of governors. "We will miss her in Alexandria, but look forward to building on the foundation she created."

Free At Last

Mark your calendar and hold your wallet. Tax Freedom Day in Virginia is April 20.

Every year, the Washington-based Tax Foundation calculates the date based on the latest government data on income and taxes. This year, Americans will work more than three months into the year before they have earned enough to pay for tax obligations at the federal, state and local level.

"This year, Americans will pay \$2.62 trillion in federal taxes and \$1.42 trillion in income for a 29.2 percent tax bill," said economist **Bill McBride**, who helped calculate the date. "That means taxpayers will pay more in taxes in 2012 than they will spend on food, clothing and housing combined."

Conceived by Florida businessman **Dallas Hostetler** in 1948, Tax Freedom Day has fluctuated over the years. The date furthest into the calendar was May 1, 2000.

The earliest date calculated by the foundation is Jan. 22, 1900, when taxpayers forked over only 6 percent of their income in taxes. This year, Connecticut has the largest tax burden and will mark its freedom on May 5 while Tennessee has the lowest tax burden and already breezed through its emancipation on March 31. Virginia ranked 11 among states in terms of total tax burden.

"Tax Freedom Day is a vivid, calendar-based illustration of government's cost," said McBride. "And it gives Americans an easy way to gauge the overall tax take."

Towers for Sale

Folks at Hunting Towers are about to get a new landlord. For several years, the high rise towers at the southern edge of Old Town have been owned by a very unusual entity — the Virginia Department of Transportation. The state agency purchased the three towers to facilitate construction of the Woodrow Wilson Bridge. One tower was demolished to make way for the southern half of the bridge.

Now that construction has been completed, VDOT is planning to put the properties on the market later this year.

— MICHAEL LEE POPE

BUSINESS



Calling Card Event planners **Annette Miller, Stacey Hawkins and Karen Kilday.**



Sabrina Campbell of Occasionally Cake.

Wedding Vendors Gather at Carlyle House

Stacey Hawkins, Annette Miller and Karen Kilday hosted a wedding vendor fair March 24 at the historic Carlyle House in Alexandria. Calling Card Events specializes in small events and programs at historic sites in the local area. Caterers, vacation planners and gift shops staff were on hand to offer information and samples of most of their services. The group is planning two more wedding vendor events at Collingwood on June 16 and July 21.



Favor ideas from Old Town Spice & Tea Exchange.



Teresa Belcher of Honeymoon Islands.

PHOTOS BY
LOUISE KRAFFT
GAZETTE PACKET



Paula Adkins and Alexandria Fire Department Community Services Officer Patsie Ann Misiti distribute information on smoke alarms and other lifesaving tips in the event of a fire.



Richard Joiner of PNC Bank spins the wheel to see what the next prize giveaway will be.

PHOTO BY LOUISE KRAFFT/GAZETTE PACKET

At Regional Housing Expo

The doors at Washington-Lee High School in Arlington opened March 24 to the 2nd annual Northern Virginia Housing Expo. The Expo is sponsored by Fairfax-based nonprofit

AHOME in cooperation with the Virginia Housing Development Authority, the cities of Alexandria and Falls Church, the counties of Arlington, Fairfax and Loudoun, and the Town of Herndon. The fair featured homeownership and

rental opportunities and resources throughout Northern Virginia. Free classes included "Are You Ready to Rent?," "Are You Ready to Buy?," "The ABCs of Credit and Credit Scores" and "Financing Your Home."

PEOPLE



From left: Freeman Jelks, CFNC supporter; Margaret Patterson CFNC CEO, and Heather Jelks, CFNC supporter.



From left: Elizabeth Reynolds, Gala Chair, and Margaret Patterson, CFNC CEO.

In Support of Child & Family Network Centers

On March 22, the home of designer Sydne Pettengill served as the backdrop for The Child & Family Network Centers' benefit kickoff. The event honored CFNC donors, and introduced 2012 Benefit Chair Elizabeth Reynolds Marino. Steering committee members include Lizzie Siegel, Ann Scully, Kim Gess and Lisa Herget. Committee chairs include Twig Murray, Tandy Harrison, Shazalynn Winfrey, and Alex Deringer.

"It was an honor and a pleasure to open my home to such a compelling cause," said Pettengill. "Alexandria is a place of contrasts. The latest poverty figures indicating that one in five children from birth to six live below the poverty line in Alexandria astound me. CFNC's programs attack poverty at its core, decreasing those factors while equipping families for success. I cannot think of a better way to insure the future of this fine city."

CFNC relies on the community for much of its support. For more information or to schedule a tour



From left: Rob Krupicka, City Council member; Kate Boyce, CFNC Board member and Suzanne Young, CFNC staff.

contact Alison Doherty, development associate, at 703-836-0214 or adoherty@cfnc-online.org.

Based in Alexandria, CFNC pro-

vides bilingual, free education and social services to at-risk children and families in their neighborhoods.

NEWS BRIEFS

FROM PAGE 7

tine work is being done as part of the company's annual pipeline flushing program to improve water service by flushing, or cleaning, mineral deposits and sediment from water mains.

The flushing will be performed Sunday evenings through Friday mornings between 8:30 p.m. and 5 a.m. During the flushing work, crews will open the fire hydrants and allow them to flow freely for a short period of time.

The annual flushing program is being performed in conjunction with a routine change in the form of chlorine used in the water treatment process by Fairfax Water, Virginia American Water's bulk water supplier. Fairfax Water will be implementing the change beginning April 2 through July 2.

Because of the treatment process change, customers might notice a slight chlorine taste and odor in their drinking water. Customers who are especially sensitive to the taste and odor of chlorine should keep an open container of drinking water in their refrigerators. This will enable the chlorine to dissipate, reducing the chlorine taste.

No interruptions in water service will occur as a result of the work. Virginia American Water advises that when crews are flushing nearby, customers might experience a drop in water pressure or some discoloration of their water.

If water is discolored, customers should let the cold water run to clear before using it again and refrain from doing laundry during that time. Before doing laundry, check for discolored water. If you have already started the laundry and clothes become stained, do not let the clothes dry. Instead, wash them again in clear water using a rust remover, which can be purchased at grocery stores.

If problems persist or customers have questions, call Virginia American Water's toll-free, 24-hour customer service line at 800-452-6863.

Volunteers Sought For Watershed Cleanup

City of Alexandria seeks volunteers for the 24th Annual Potomac Watershed Cleanup on Saturday, April 14, 9 a.m. – noon.

The City's Department of Transportation and Environmental Services, Office of Environmental Quality and Solid Waste Division, and the Department of Recreation, Parks and Cultural Activities, in conjunction with the Alice Ferguson Foundation, are currently seeking volunteers to clean up local streams in the Potomac River Watershed. The City is hosting three sites:

- ❖ 3700 Commonwealth Avenue in Four Mile Run Park,
- ❖ Four Mile Run at Mt. Vernon Avenue,
- ❖ Eaton Square Clubhouse at 801 Four Mile Road.

RSVP at jesse.maines@alexandriava.gov to help at one of the locations.

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BOOTHBAY HARBOR, MAINE, June 10-16\$995
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OPINION

Please Share **Call for Mother's Day Photos, and Father's Day.**

Every year at this time, the Gazette Packet puts out the call for photographs of moms and their children, grandmothers and their children and grandchildren. Most years, we're lucky enough to receive some photos include four generations — great-grandma and all the rest.

Mother's Day is Sunday, May 13, and once again the Gazette Packet will publish a selection of Mother's Day photos, celebrating the mothers who make so many things possible in families, businesses, communities, schools and other institutions in local neighborhoods.

EDITORIALS

Email photos, including the full names of the people in the picture, the approximate date and location the picture was taken, the ages of the children and sentence or two about the people and/or event.

Father's Day is June 17; soon it will be time to send photos of Dads and children, grandfathers and children and grandchildren.

You can upload your photos on our website at www.connectionnewspapers.com/mothersday or email them to smauren@connectionnewspapers.com.

Share Your Poetry: April Is Poetry Month

April is National Poetry Month. We invite local poets of all ages to send in submissions for inclusion in our papers and/or online. Are you a poet? The Gazette Packet will print poetry submitted by readers this spring, and occasionally throughout the year. Email your poem to smauren@connectionnewspapers.com. Be sure to include the poet's name and address (we'll print your town name, not your full address). Photos of the poet are also welcomed.

LETTERS

ACVA's Fruit Salad

To the Editor:

Old Town Alexandria is not the same market as The City of Alexandria. Tourism ads for Old Town are not all tested before reaching the world. Tourism and advertising study results are mixed together to make good PR, but create a poor basis for decision making — of any kind.

These are a few of the difficulties with ACVA's recent presentations of how tourism benefits Alexandria. It compares apples and oranges and ends in making mixed fruit salad.

Most alarming is the complete mismatch of how the advertising showcasing historic Old Town — with its distinctiveness and strong image of authenticity, history, charming houses-gardens-river parks, restaurants and retail experiences — is characterized as being fully responsible for generating the large numbers for "visitor spending", "taxes", "local jobs" etc. In fact, it is not the advertising featuring, small historic Old Town, that creates the \$627 million in spending, \$22 million in taxes, and 6,000 jobs — those study numbers belong to the City of Alexandria. The City of Alexandria is 15.2 square miles and the densest city in Virginia. It includes 50 hotels. Old Town is only 1.4 square miles, is less dense because of its unique architecture, and bears 7 hotels, which as an ACVA study shows are often used by residents' visiting family members.

There is limited understanding of what Old Town ads actually do for the City's roughly seven distinctive market areas.

Think about Del Ray. What would be exceptionally useful would be a rigorous analysis of the 800,000 visits to the tourism

SEE LETTERS, PAGE 11



The apothecary displayed only the Leadbeater name in this c. 1890 photograph.



Today the facades and entrances of the two buildings are simpler than before, but other details remain the same.

Old Town History: Stabler-Leadbeater Apothecary

BY MICHAEL K. BOHN
GAZETTE PACKET

Martha Washington was ailing terribly in April 1802. Searching for help in that era of primitive medicine, she sent a man with a note to an apothecary in Alexandria. "Mrs. Washington desires Mr. Stabler will send by the bearer, a quart bottle of his best castor oil, and the bill for it." Sadly, the treatment did not improve her health and she died the following month.

THEN & NOW

Edward Stabler opened his apothecary in Alexandria in 1792, and four years later moved to 107 South Fairfax Street. As the business thrived, Stabler expanded next door into number 105. Son William carried on when his father died in 1831 and welcomed his brother-in-law John Leadbeater into the firm.

Upon William's passing in 1852, Leadbeater bought the firm from the widow Stabler and gave it his own name.

The Stablers and Leadbeaters manufactured and sold medicines and nostrums, as well as medical and dental equipment, soap, cigars and combs. In the years after the Civil War, the firm sold supplies to hundreds of pharmacies in the Washington area, and operated out of several buildings in the city.

The firm's business slowed in the first 30 years of the 20th century. The emerging national drug industry changed how physicians and patients obtained and used both over-the-counter and prescription drugs and medicines. The mom-and-pop operations faded. Edward S. Leadbeater, Jr. filed for bankruptcy in 1933 just before he died.

The Landmarks Society of Alexandria soon bought the buildings, and the Friends of the American Pharmaceutical Association purchased the remaining inventory.

The Landmarks Society later gained control of everything and opened a museum in 1939. That group donated the facility to the city in 2006. See the museum's website for more information: www.apothecarymuseum.org.

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LETTERS

FROM PAGE 10

website, especially as web visits are expected to exponentially grow.

Tracking visitor travel through the site can show what interests visitors, how long they spend in each place, even where they come from. Google analytics can open up a wide world of numbers to identify special travel marketing segments for more targeted spending and ad placement. Is there an opportunity here?

Let's not spend a lot of time and money doing this - it's an in-house job. But let's get our story straight, please. And above all talk to the residents much more — test the

ads before the tearsheets go out — as each tourism study highly recommends. As we all know, "Charm-ville" has long belonged to Baltimore.

Kathryn Papp

Schools Should Re-Do Budget

To the Editor:

Time is running out on Alexandria's Adult Education program. In three months, our successful Alexandria Adult Learning Center will cease to exist.

For more than 40 years, the center has successfully served literally thousands of students — teaching them English and providing classroom instruction to attain a GED.

I know how important getting basic skills is. After I learned to type, I got a promotion with Capitol Police Department and went on to serve as a member of Alexandria's City Council and vice mayor.

Recent action by Superintendent Sherman and the ACPS School Board to dismantle the center will deprive all current and future adult students of a real education. After June 30, the dedicated full-

time teachers will be replaced by computers and "hourly workers" (ACPS's words, not mine).

The center's teaching staff — with a combined 150 years of experience in adult education — has been told they will have to compete for the "hourly worker" jobs with no guarantee of real teaching or staff positions in ACPS schools. The students have received no information about what educational services will be available to them at the end of this semester.

The dedicated teachers and staff — the heart of the center — and the diligent students. SEE LETTER, PAGE 12

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PERK UP COFFEE
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The Shops at 801 South Washington Street • Alexandria

LETTERS

FROM PAGE 11

dents, many of whom work two jobs, have children in ACPS schools, and make time to improve their lot in life by getting a GED and learning English, deserve better. These students deserve real teachers and classroom instruction and these hard-working, experienced teachers deserve to be treated as the professionals they are.

Dr. Sherman has indicated that savings of \$370,000 a year is at the root of his Adult education changes.

It is incredible that Dr. Sherman expects the public to accept the mismanagement of millions of dollars while refusing to spend the minimal funds required to continue successful and real adult education at the center.

Recent audit scrutiny of ACPS's mismanagement of the Capital Improvement budget has raised serious fiscal integrity issues that, quite frankly, call the management of the Operating Budget into question as well. The breadth and depth of the fiscal integrity issues raised are so serious that our Vice Mayor Kerry Donley has called for Superintendent Sherman's resignation.

Last month, trusting Sherman's budget figures, the School Board — with the one notable exception of Ronnie Campbell who abstained due to her concerns about the obliteration of adult education — voted to approve the budget that included adult education changes.

In view of these critical fiscal integrity and educational efficacy issues, the School Board and City Council should require a "budget re-do" and insist that all decisions made prior to the audit findings be reconsidered. In so doing, the Board would have the opportunity to reject Sherman's devastating adult education changes.

Bill Cleveland
Former Vice Mayor
City of Alexandria

Radle Endorses Shuttleworth

To the Editor:

When I made the careful decision to enter the Democratic Congressional [8th district] primary, my goals were to help address the serious needs of the American people, invest in our future, enhance our quality of life, instill confidence in our nation, prevent future government shutdowns, and expand opportunity for every American.

After spending the past several days in discussions with family and friends, after personally sharing with over 1,700 neighbors why I am standing as a Democrat, I have decided to discontinue my 2012 campaign to represent Virginia's 8th Congressional District.

It has not been my goal to join the club atmosphere of Congress. My focus remains working to help move our nation forward. Together we can create effective, sustainable solutions to the challenges confronting our community and our nation.

Whether we discuss health care, jobs, the economy, education, access to higher education, environmental stewardship or traffic, we need solutions.

We need serious leaders who listen and take responsible action. We need public servants who reach out across our community listening to the people.

I encourage everyone to support Bruce Shuttleworth. Mr. Shuttleworth is a true gentleman who will represent the Democratic Party well in fighting for those who can't fight for themselves; battling for those who too often battle for us in faraway lands, and governing as an honest broker. As a former fighter pilot, strategy consultant and businessman, he will help provide solutions to the many challenges confronting our nation.

Will Radle

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 Jane Cole 703.598.6198 / Bonnie Rivkin 703.598.7788



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 Bonnie Rivkin 703.598.7788



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 Sherry York 703.625.3377



Parkfairfax \$219,000
 3414 Gunston Road, Alexandria, VA 22302
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 Sherry York 703.625.3377



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The Legends of 2012: L-R First Row, Lillian Patterson, Mike Oliver, Al Grande, Allen Lomax, Bill Kehoe, Rep. Jim Moran, Harry "Bud" Hart, Wendy John, Gwen Menefee-Smith, Living Legends director Nina Tisara, Dorothy Turner; L-R Second Row, Pat Miller, Jimmie McClellan, Mayor Bill Euille, Bob Calhoun, Joe Shumard, Eugene Steurele and Master of Ceremonies John Porter.



Living Legend Jim Henson with wife Arlene and 5-year-old grandson Eric Ingram.



Glenn Hopkins and Patsy Ticer share a laugh during the Meet the Legends reception March 22.

Meet the Legends

2012 Living Legends of Alexandria honored.

The 5th Annual Meet the Legends reception was held March 22 at the U.S. Patent and Trade Office where more than 300 people gathered to celebrate the 2012 Living Legends of Alexandria.

"If you want someone to stick to a script, don't invite me to speak," laughed U.S. Rep. Jim Moran (D-8), who was supposed to read the list of nominees but instead began praising the accomplishments of each individual. "You are the people who make up Alexandria's history and are setting the ex-

ample for subsequent generations." Founded by photographer Nina Tisara, the Living Legends of Alexandria honors citizens who have made extraordinary contributions to the quality of life in the city.

The 2012 Legend s include Lillian Patterson, Mike Oliver, Al Grande, Allen Lomax, Bill Kehoe, Harry "Bud" Hart, Wendy John, Gwen Menefee-Smith, Dorothy Turner, Pat Miller, Jimmie McClellan, Bob Calhoun, Joe Shumard and Eugene Steurele.

— JEANNE THEISMANN

Bob Calhoun receives his official Living Legends pin from Lynn Mills.

PHOTO BY JEANNE THEISMANN/GAZETTE PACKET



Applauding are (from left) 2012 Nominee Patrick O'Brien and 2012 Legends Pat Miller, Jimmie McClellan, Allen Lomax and Bill Kehoe.

PHOTOS BY STEVEN HALPERSON/TISARA PHOTOGRAPHY



John Porter presents flowers to Living Legends founder Nina Tisara.

PHOTO BY MELINDA SIGAL



Historic Christ Church Gift Shop volunteers Holly Wright, Anna Willis and Kathy Moore (from left) present a display of jewelry by Tiffany Scott and oil paintings and reproductions by Nancy Ziegler that will be featured at an April 19 Meet the Artist exhibit at the Gift Shop.

Gift Shop Hosts Meet the Artist Exhibit

What do Alexandria Meals on Wheels, Carpenter's Shelter and Christians for Sudan have in common? These three and many others receive financial support from the Historic Christ Church Gift Shop.

Celebrating its 97th year of operation, the Gift Shop supports 24 local and global organizations and missions off its retail sales of cards, art, jewelry, home accessories, books and more. Managed by two dozen volunteer staff, the gift shop is open Tuesday through Saturday 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., and on Sundays from 8:45 a.m. to 1 p.m. The gift shop is located at 121 North Columbus Street, Alexandria, on the grounds of the Historic Christ Church.

According to Gift Shop Manager Kathy Moore, the shop was expanded physically in 1987 and its offerings also increased as were the recipients of its charitable donations. At the same time, the ranks of its dedicated volunteers grew. According to Moore, the Gift Shop volunteers are committed to offering unique merchandise and gifts in the shop, including art by local artists. The Gift Shop will feature two of the artists whose items are sold there at an April 19 Meet the Artist exhibit and reception from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.

Alexandria artist Nancy Ziegler, whose original oil paintings are in private and corporate collections in

the U.S. and abroad, is one of the featured artists. Ziegler is a member of the Vander Zee Studio Painters in Alexandria.

Virginia artist Tiffany Scott founded Holly Lane Designs in 2002 with the vision to create Christian jewelry that touched people in a way that encouraged them to ask about it. Each jewelry piece is accompanied by a passage from Scripture which relates to its design.

Scott's Holly Lane Designs jewelry and Ziegler's original oil paintings, giclee reproductions and art cards will be on display and available for purchase. In addition, Scott will conduct a jewelry creation demonstration and the Gift Shop will be open for browsing and sales.

The Gift Shop's Meet the Artist exhibit and reception will take place in the Mead Room of the Church's Administrative Building at 115 N. Columbus Street. The event is open to the public. Sales from the event will benefit the community organizations and global missions supported by the Gift Shop.

For more on the Historic Christ Church, visit www.historicchristchurch.org.

For more on Nancy Ziegler and her art, visit www.nancyzieglerpaintings.com.

For more on Tiffany Scott and her jewelry, visit www.hollylanedesigns.com.

City of Alexandria Launches Mobile Website

The City of Alexandria has launched a new mobile-friendly design that makes it easier to browse the City's website on a smartphone. Approximately 20 percent of all visitors to the City's website now access the web from a mobile device.

The new mobile website has been streamlined for speed, ease of use, and readability on smaller screens, while retaining the content and functionality of the traditional full site. In addition, there are no separate URLs to remember, or duplicate pages for mo-

bile versions of content. Visiting alexandriava.gov will display the format that works best for the user's device, and will offer the ability to set and remember a preference for mobile vs. desktop view.

The mobile design makes popular elements of the City's website easy to find and interact with, including the homepage news features, Citywide events calendar, social media connections, online services, site search, emergency news, and more.

To access the City's new mobile website, visit alexandriava.gov on a smartphone or mobile device.

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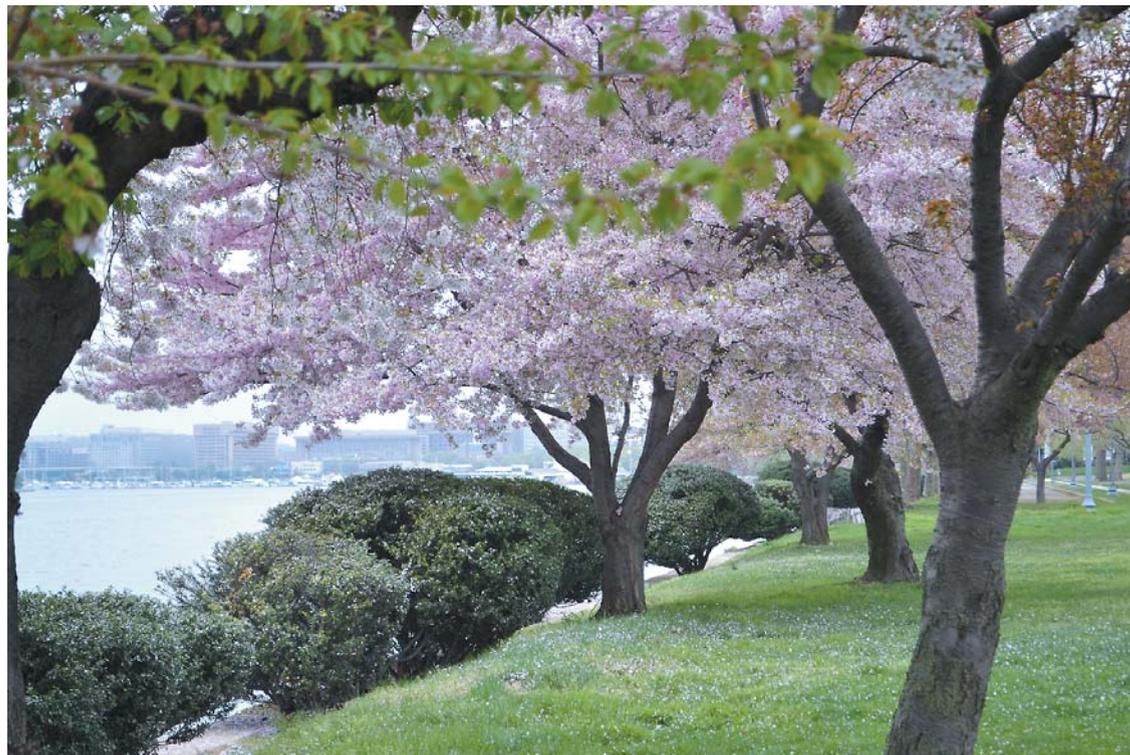



PHOTO BY MARILYN CAMPBELL

Cherry blossoms and tulips made an early appearance this spring. Experts say those who are allergic to pollen can expect an intense and prolonged allergy season.

Surviving Spring Allergies

Local allergists offer suggestions for coping.

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL
GAZETTE PACKET

The Washington region's unseasonably mild winter led to the early arrival of spring. While many delighted in the balmy temperatures and blossoming flowers, some who suffer from allergies began sneezing earlier than usual. "The pollen started coming out early and a lot of people were blindsided by their allergy symptoms," said allergist Dr. Heidi Isenberg-Feig, a Potomac resident and allergist at Johns Hopkins Community Physicians in North Bethesda. "The tree pollen count has been high already which is unusual."

The American Academy of Al-

lergy, Asthma & Immunology (AAAAI) estimates that 35 million Americans suffer from allergies due to pollen and mold. Symptoms include sneezing, a stuffy or runny nose and itchy, watery eyes. This allergy season is expected to last longer and be more intense than usual. Local allergists offer strategies for surviving spring allergy season.

"Although there is no cure for allergies, symptoms can be managed," said Dr. Jean Glossa, medical director for the Fairfax County Community Health Care Network and Molina Healthcare. "It is pos-

sible to reduce or eliminate exposure to allergens. Minimize walks in wooded areas or gardens and stay indoors as much as possible on hot, dry, windy days when pollen counts are highest. Think about wearing a mask when mowing the lawn or gardening and don't hang linens or clothes out to dry."

"Although there is no cure for allergies, symptoms can be managed."

— Dr. Jean Glossa

TIPS TO HELP manage symptoms:

- ❖ Decrease your contact with pollen. "The best way to do that is to close the windows of your car and house," said Isenberg-Feig. "Even if it is a nice day, the pollen count can still be a little high." Pollen can drift through open windows and settle onto carpet and upholstery.

- ❖ Take showers at the end of the day. "Shower and change clothes as soon as you get home to wash pollen from your hair and skin," said allergist Saba Samee, M.D. of Alexandria & Clinton Allergy Associates. "Leave your purse or book bag at the front door. Don't drop them on the sofa or bed because they are all covered in pollen. The same goes for shoes."

- ❖ Use sunglasses to defend against pollen. "If you have prob-

SEE SUGGESTIONS, PAGE 19

3RD ANNUAL MOUNT VERNON HELPING HANDS TENNIS CHARITY EVENT

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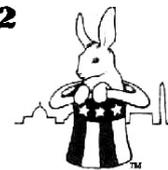
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201 Cambridge Rd, Alexandria, VA

Door opens 6:30 p.m. Show starts at 7:30 p.m.

Order tickets at www.Magi-Whirl.Org/Gala or at the Door

Military in uniform admitted free.



Suggestions for Coping with Allergies

FROM PAGE 18

lems with itchy, watery eyes, wear sunglasses when you're outside and avoid being outside on windy days if you can," said Samee.

❖ Stay ahead of allergies. "If you are someone who suffers from allergies, try to take your medicines before things get too bad," said Samee. "If you wait until you're absolutely miserable the medicines don't work as well."

❖ Eat fruits and vegetables judiciously. Many people with seasonal allergies also suffer from pollen food allergy syndrome. "Some people experience itching hands or mouth or a scratchy throat if they eat certain raw fruits or vegetables because of the cross-reaction between the pollen and certain fruits and vegetables," said Isenberg-Feig.

❖ Use air filters to help create a pollen-free home. "Ensure that the filters fit properly and are changed regularly," said Samee.

❖ Know the pollen count. "This information is readily available on the web or the weather section of the news," said Isenberg-Feig.

The National Allergy Bureau (NAB) tracks and reports current pollen and mold spore levels. A



PHOTOS CONTRIBUTED

Allergist Dr. Saba Samee, of Alexandria & Clinton Allergy Associates, advises allergy sufferers to take a shower after entering their home to wash away pollen from skin and hair.

local pollen count can be found at <http://www.aaaai.org/global/nab-pollen-counts.aspx>

"If you need long lasting relief, nasal sprays and allergy shots may be recommended," said Glossa. "However, if symptoms persist for more than a week or two and tend



Dr. Jean Glossa, medical director for the Fairfax County Community Health Care Network, Molina Healthcare advises allergy sufferers to consider wearing a mask when mowing the lawn or gardening.

to reoccur, make an appointment to see your doctor. The good news is that most allergies are not life-long conditions.

By following your doctor's advice and taking control of your environment, allergies shouldn't keep you from enjoying springtime."

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THEATER

The Power of One

'On the Waterfront' at The American Century Theatre.

BY JEANNE THEISMANN
THE GAZETTE

It has been hailed as one of the greatest movies of all time, winning eight Academy Awards for an all-star cast that included Marlon Brando, Eva Marie Saint, Lee J. Cobb and Karl Malden. But for playwright Budd Schulberg, himself an Oscar winner for Best Story and Screenplay, the 1954 film version of "On the Waterfront" was never quite the story he wanted told.

Having had subtle changes made to the script by director Elia Kazan, Schulberg took the unusual step of adapting his work to a stage play more than 40 years after the iconic film debuted. It is this often overlooked version of the union violence and corruption on the docks of New York that is presented by The American Century Theatre, now playing at Gunston Theatre II in Arlington.

Director Kathleen Akerley has assembled a brilliant ensemble cast to tell Schulberg's story of the kid who "coulda been a contender," fighter Terry Malloy who reluctantly becomes a hero for facing down mob boss Johnny Friendly.

In the central role of Terry, immortalized by Marlon Brando in the film, is Jack Powers, a newcomer to American Century.

"I know I have this specter hovering above me," Powers said following the opening night performance March 30. "I wasn't allowed to see the movie so that I can bring my own nuances to the role."

In the menacing role of Johnny Friendly is the award-winning Bruce Alan Rauscher, one of the most talented and versatile actors in the region. Rauscher is riveting as the brute fury boss and provides a fierce performance while not letting his character turn into a caricature of evil.

Matt Dewberry joins Rauscher as a leading presence in the play

as the gritty and brave Father Barry, who defies the system rather than be a pawn in the ruthless killings. Dewberry brings a heroic strength to a performance that builds to a brilliant crescendo as he risks his life in the fight for justice.

Caitlin Shea is excellent as the naïve but feisty Edie Doyle, whose brother was murdered with the unwitting help of Terry. Shea and Powers share a palpable connection as Edie brings out a tenderness and consciousness in Terry's heart where none existed before.

In a production filled with notable performances, other standouts include Graham Pilato as the reporter who chronicles and eventually breaks open the corruption of the docks, Christopher Herring as Charlie "The Gent" Malloy, and Tyler Herman, who admirably and seamlessly tackles four roles, beginning with the murdered Joey

Doyle.

"I love my cast," said Akerley on opening night. "There are challenges in this space but the production has turned out extremely well."

Rounding out the cast are Daniel Corey, Joe Cronin, Cyle Durkee, Christopher Holbert and William Haynes. With the exception of Powers, Dewberry and Shea, the entire cast flawlessly tackles multiple roles within the show, a testament to the immense talent of the ensemble.

— Jack Powers

Elizabeth Jenkins McFadden (scenic design) and Marianne Meadows (lighting design) combine to powerful effect to transform the intimate theater from grim waterfront dock to church sanctuary to tenement rooftop.

They say evil only triumphs when good men do nothing. When those same men stand up for what they believe in, they show evil for what it really is — cheap and malicious, and The American Century Theatre production of "On the Waterfront" finally provides the gritty and powerful drama Schulberg always hoped it would be.

"On the Waterfront" is playing now through April 28 at Gunston Theatre II, 2700 S. Lang St., Arlington. For tickets or more information, call 703-998-4555 or visit www.americancentury.org.



PHOTO BY DENNIS DELORIA

From left: William Hayes, Christopher Herring, Bruce Rauscher, Daniel Corey, Joe Cronin, Cyle Durkee and Jack Powers in a scene from "On the Waterfront."



PHOTO BY DENNIS DELORIA

Caitlin Shea and Jack Powers in "On the Waterfront."

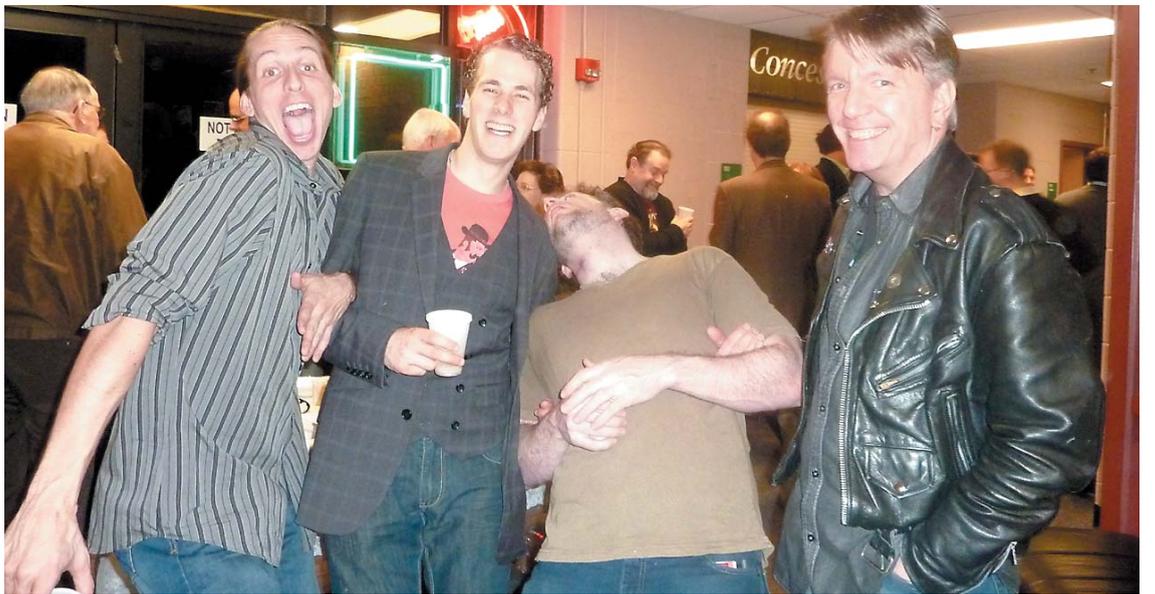


PHOTO BY JEANNE THEISMANN

Christopher Herring, Tyler Herman, Graham Pilato and Bruce Alan Rauscher celebrate March 30 at the opening night cast party of The American Century Theatre production of "On the Waterfront."

THEATER

Notes from the Artistic Director

“Be Careful! The Sharks Will Eat You!”

BY CAROLYN GRIFFIN
METROSTAGE

Patrons ask how do I come up with a season of plays and musicals, and I always respond that every single show has a different story of how it got to my desk. Favorite actors bring their favorite plays to my attention and if I fall in love with the play, it feels like a match made in heaven. Our reputation for launching new musicals (chamber size musicals—four to six characters, no more than five musicians, unit set) means I get a lot of demo tapes sent in my direction.

As we open our newest production of “Be Careful! The Sharks Will Eat You!,” it has a great story behind it and feels like it was meant to be. To begin, I get an email blast from broadwayworld.com daily with all the up-to-date theater information one could desire. But it just doesn't get opened and read every day. That is why it is so incredible that the day “Sharks” was featured, I opened the email and was immediately intrigued. One-man shows work brilliantly on our small intimate stage with its raked theatre audience. In addition, Cuba is a really hot topic right now and its acclaim as Best Solo Performance at the 2011 NY International Fringe Festival and Best of Fringe at the Hollywood Fringe Festival made me very curious. The internet with all



1964: COURTESY OF JAY ALVAREZ

“Be Careful! The Sharks Will Eat You!” at MetroStage.

the comments from audience members who had experienced the incredible artistry and heart of the writer and actor Jay Alvarez convinced me that I might have just stumbled upon a gem.

Requesting the script came next. The story is Alvarez's own story of his family escaping Castro by boat in the moonless night when he was 4 years old. Of course, the title comes from what his mother says to him on the boat. The accompanying photo captures the moment in 1964 with Jay resting in his mother's arms surrounded by family, probably unaware at that age that they were risking their lives trying to escape to the free-

doms awaiting them across the Caribbean Sea.

We all know that the family makes it across which makes it all the more remarkable that the audience is on the edge of its collective seats as the story unfolds. That is a tribute to the performer and a testimony to the fact that this is a universal story that will touch everyone regardless of his or her country of origin.

It is always exciting to open a new show and for me the opportunity to present new material that covers a broad range of subjects and stories in a range of genres continues to drive me, motivate me and reward me even after 28 years at MetroStage.

Bittersweet Wins 8th Annual Rum Punch Challenge

Bittersweet was the big winner with its “Pomander Punch” on March 24 at the Eighth Annual Great Rum Punch Challenge at Gadsby's Tavern Museum, beating out runner-up Gadsby's Tavern Restaurant, the defending champ Dogfish Head, and worthy competitors Bacardi, FireFlies, and RedRocks. This is the third win for Bittersweet, which took top honors in 2007 and 2009.

Rum Punch Challenge guests enjoyed the many different styles of punches but also a wide range of food from local establishments including Gadsby's Tavern Restaurant, Bittersweet, R&R Catering, RedRocks and FireFlies. Gadsby's Tavern Museum Society provided the “Designated Drivers” punch, and many local businesses donated to the silent auction. Guests toured the historic ice well and learned about the importance of ice in the 18th and 19th centuries.

The origins of the Great Rum Punch Challenge came from the Museum's participation in the



American Whiskey Trail, an educational experience into the cultural heritage and history of spirits in America. To learn more, visit www.americanwhiskeytrail.com.

In the late 18th and early 19th centuries, Gadsby's Tavern was the center of social and political life in Alexandria and the new Federal

City of Washington. The tavern served as the premier gathering place for residents — including George Washington — and visitors to eat, drink, learn, and influence history. Gadsby's Tavern Museum is located at 134 North Royal Street in the heart of Old Town Alexandria. visit www.gadsbystavern.org.

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FINE ARTS

THURSDAY/APRIL 12

Spring Awakening. 6 to 9 p.m. Free. Browse Open Studios, Interact with Artists, and Enjoy Refreshments. Free. Part of the 2nd Thursday Art Night. At The Torpedo Factory Art Center, 105 N. Union St., Alexandria. Visit www.torpedofactory.org; or call 703-838-4565.

NOW THROUGH APRIL 27

Word Incarnate. The Gallery at Convergence presents "Word Incarnate" featuring Visionary Artist Anita Breitenberg Naylor. Come explore as biblical passages are brought to life and rearranged visual images to provide a focal point for contemplative thought. Artist Reception, Saturday, April 21st from 5-7 p.m. At the Gallery at Convergence, 1801 N. Quaker Lane, Alexandria. Call 703-998-6260. Visit www.convergenceccf.net.

NOW THROUGH MAY 6

"In Medusa's Company." Ceramic artist Judith Kornett's works at the Schlesinger Center Margaret W. & Joseph L. Fisher Gallery at the Alexandria Campus of Northern Virginia Community College. Opening Reception Saturday, March 31, from 3 - 5 p.m. with Artist's Talk at 4 p.m.

NOW THROUGH JUNE 25

Mark Dorman is the featured artist at River Farm, the headquarters of the American Horticultural Society, for the months of April, May, and June 2012. His exhibit, "Color in Nature" will be on view beginning April 2 through June 25. Dorman is a professional artist, journalist, and art critic. He studied drawing and painting with Manlio Guberti in Rome, studied at Atelier, Le Grande Chaumiere in Paris, the Corcoran Museum School, and at the Maryland Institute of the Arts. He has won numerous awards for his oil paintings,



Textured porcelain platter by Martin Karcher of the District.

APRIL 30 TO MAY 28

Moody Mud: Gentle to Geometric. A Ceramic Guild show that runs at the Scope Gallery, 105 North Union St., ground floor Studio 19, Alexandria. Call Scope Gallery at 703-548-6288 or visit www.torpedofactory.org/galleries/scope.

watercolors, and pastels, both abstract and representational. His colorful post-impressionist landscapes are reflective of a wealth of experience abroad. More details are at www.MarkDorman.net.

NOW THROUGH APRIL 29

Japan's Gift to Nature. Solo exhibit of Oriental Brush Paintings celebrating 100th anniversary of planting of the cherry trees in D.C. Art exhibition at Green Spring Gardens Park, 4603 Green Spring Road, Alexandria. Meet the artist's reception is Sunday, March 25 from 1 to 3:30 p.m. Visit www.Greenspring.org.

NOW THROUGH APRIL 29

The Garden Path. Consistency and Change in Botanic Art. The Garden Path contains works by members of the Botanical Art Society of the National Capital Region (BASNCR), and is curated by botanical artist Marcia DeWitt.

Special Programs include:
 ❖ A gallery talk with Karen Coleman: The Path of Botanic Art on Sunday, April 1 at 4 p.m.
 ❖ Children's Workshop: Flowers, Textures, and Leaves Saturday, April 14 at 3 p.m.
 ❖ Janet Egan Design Trunk Show (during Alexandria's Historic Garden Tour) on Friday, April 20 at 4 to 7 p.m. / Saturday, April 21 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.
 At the Athenaeum. Free, but space is limited so call 703-548-0035.

APRIL 2 TO 29

The Kiln Club Annual Show. Featuring works by clay artists. Novie Trump, a Northern Virginia sculptor, will judge the show. Reception and awards presentation on April 12 from 6:30 to 9 p.m. At the Scope Gallery, 105 North Union Street, ground floor Studio 19, Alexandria. Call 703-548-6288, visit www.torpedofactory.org/galleries/scope.htm and www.kilnclubwdc.com

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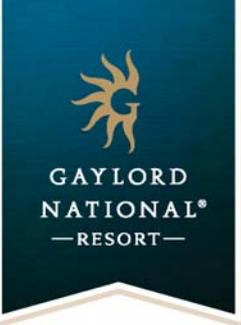
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*Traditional room, per night, plus tax and parking for select dates through April 30, 2012. Limited availability, subject to blackout dates. Not retroactive or valid with other offers or groups. Valid employment ID from educational institution required upon arrival. See website for restrictions.



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ENTERTAINMENT

APRIL 5, 6, 8

Messiah Lutheran Church invites you to Holy Week services.

- ❖ April 5 — Maundy Thursday at 7:30 p.m.
- ❖ April 6 — Good Friday at 7:30 p.m.
- ❖ April 8 — Easter Celebration at 10:30 a.m.

Messiah Lutheran Church is at 6510 Fort Hunt Road Alexandria. Call 703-765-5003

APRIL 6 TO 29

Childhood Memories.

Works by artists inspired by their childhoods. Memories are endless: an experience, a trip, a gathering, an animal, a poem, a person or a place that brings one back to a childhood memory. Show exhibits April 6-29; opening reception April 6, 7-10 p.m. Open Thursday-Sunday. Del Ray Artisans, 2704 Mount Vernon Ave., Alexandria. 703-838-4827. www.TheDelRayArtisans.org

SATURDAY/APRIL 7

Eggstravaganza. 1 to 4 p.m.

Activities include Arts & Crafts and basket making with an egg hunt as the final activity. At the Gum Springs Community Center, 8100 Fordson Road, Alexandria. Call 703-360-6088.

Free Lecture. 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. Civil War: Northern Virginia

1861. Sponsored by the Friends of Local History. At Alexandria Library, 717 Queen St., Alexandria. Call 703-746-1706.

"Arms of the Pilgrims — John Alden." 1 p.m. View the actual rifle carried by John Alden as he stepped off the Mayflower in 1620 and hear about other arms carried by the Pilgrims. Free. Advanced reservations required. At the Collingwood Library and Museum, 8301 East Blvd. Dr., Alexandria.

Great Vigil of Easter. 7:30 p.m. Fire, drama, mystery, baptism, music and more: this service, on the holiest night of the church year, has it all. Music is provided by both our Children's Choir and our Adult Choir, as well as congregational hymns. Bring bells to ring at the triumphal moment when we celebrate Christ's resurrection, and uncover the alleluias that the children hid away for Lent. At Emmanuel Episcopal Church, 1608 Russell Road, Alexandria. Call 703-683-0798 or administrator@emmanuelonhigh.org

Firearms Discussion. 1 to 2:30 p.m. Free admission. Doug Wicklund, senior curator for the National Firearms Museum, will display John Alden's actual rifle and talk about it and other arms carried by the Pilgrims on the Mayflower. At the Collingwood Library and Museum, 8301 East Blvd. Drive, Alexandria. RSVP by April 5 to KRGroff@CollingwoodLibrary.Org. Be sure to provide your full name and the name(s) of any guests. Presented in partnership with National Firearms Museum in cooperation with The Mayflower Society.

Cleve Francis and Friends. 7:30 p.m. Tickets are \$32.50. At the Birchmere Music Hall, 3701 Mount Vernon Ave., Alexandria. Call 703-549-7500. Visit www.clevefrancis.com.

SUNDAY, APRIL 8

Easter Flowering of the Cross and Egg Hunt. 8 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.; egg hunt at 11:50 a.m. Celebrate Christ's resurrection at Emmanuel Episcopal — enjoy special music at both services from the Adult and Children's choirs (children sing at 10:30 a.m. only). Children of all ages are invited to help flower the cross as a sign of Christ's resurrection. Stay on



Aiden White as Huck Finn and James Woods as Tom Sawyer.

APRIL 14 TO 22

"Tom Sawyer." MVCCT presents the play "Tom Sawyer," featuring 54 actors ages 8-18. Directed by Frank Pasqualino; Musical Direction by Cathy Manley. Tickets are \$10/advance; \$12/door. Show times are April 14, 20, 21 at 7:30 p.m.; April 15 and 22 at 3 p.m. At Carl Sandburg Middle School, 8428 Fort Hunt Road, Alexandria. Visit www.MVCCT.org.

8 p.m. Free. At The Lyceum, 201 South Washington St., Alexandria. Call 202-767-5658 or visit www.usafband.af.mil.

Mt. Vernon's Helping Hands. 4:30 to 10 p.m. Third-annual tennis charity event for youth and adults will be held at the Mount Vernon Athletic Club. It will benefit Inova Fairfax Hospital for Children Pediatric Oncology Programs with emphasis on children's access to education, promoting physical exercise and activities, and maintaining connections with family and friends while the children are hospitalized. Youth activities \$10, from 4:30-6:30 p.m.; Adult activities \$25 (\$30 at door), from 6:30-10 p.m. Walk-ins without tennis \$10. Silent Auction, Raffle, Food & Beverages and more. At 7950 Audubon Ave., Alexandria. Call 703 360-7300. Visit www.mtvac.net.

APRIL 13 AND 14

Spring Garden Market. Vendors from throughout the mid-Atlantic region will be selling a wide variety of plants as well as garden supplies and garden art. Friday, April 13 from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Saturday, April 14 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. AHS members-only preview night is Thursday, April 12 from 4 to 8 p.m. Hosted by the American Horticultural Society. At River Farm headquarters. Call 703-768-5700.

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SATURDAY/APRIL 14

Potomac River Watershed Cleanup. 9 a.m.-noon. At Dyke Marsh Wildlife Preserve, the Belle Haven Picnic area, off George Washington Memorial Parkway in the Mt. Vernon area of Fairfax County. Sponsored by the Friends of Dyke Marsh (FODM), the National Park Service, and the Alice Ferguson Foundation. Meet at the entrance to Dyke Marsh's Haul Road, near the Belle Haven south picnic area. Wear sturdy shoes, long pants, sun protection and gloves. Cleanup supplies

SEE ENTERTAINMENT, PAGE 24

for an Easter Egg Hunt in the church grounds. At Emmanuel Episcopal Church, 1608 Russell Road, Alexandria. Call 703-683-0798 or administrator@emmanuelonhigh.org

TUESDAY/APRIL 10

Swing Dancing. 9 to 11 p.m. Admission is \$10. With the Soul Tones of Swing. At the Carlyle Club, 411 John Carlyle St., Alexandria.

WEDNESDAY/APRIL 11

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

THURSDAY/APRIL 12

Explore Activities for Seniors. 10:30 a.m. At Chinguapin Park Recreation Center, 3210 King St., Alexandria. Visit www.seniorservicesalex.org or call 703-836-4414, ext. 13.

FRIDAY/APRIL 13

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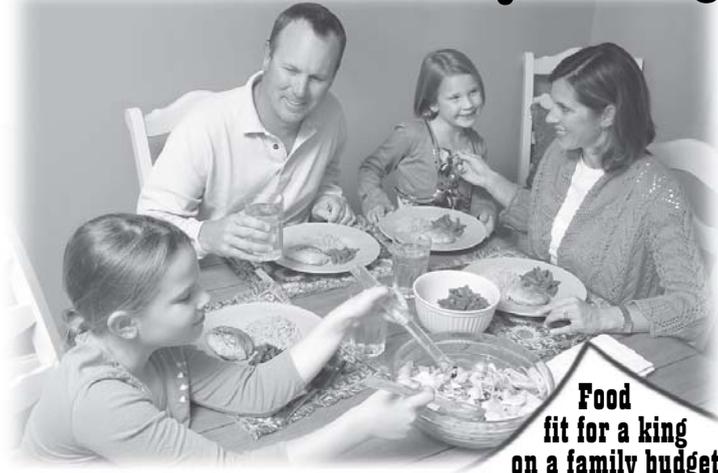
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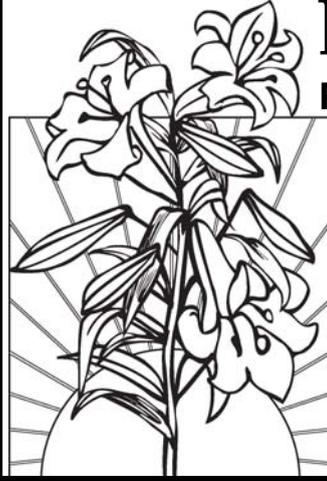


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ENTERTAINMENT

FROM PAGE 23

provided. Visit www.fodm.org, or call the National Park Service Information Line at 202-619-7222.

Singer Lera Lynn with Joan Osborne. 7:30 p.m. Tickets are \$35. At The Birchmere Music Hall, The Birchmere, 3701 Mt. Vernon Ave., Alexandria.

Magi-Whirl 2012. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. with strolling magicians; showtime at 7:30 p.m. Las Vegas Style Family GALA Magic Show staged by Ring 50 of the International Brotherhood of Magicians and Bishop Ireton High School. Five world-famous magicians — one from Argentina. Tickets are \$12/adults, \$10/seniors and students; \$15/door — family packs available. At Bishop Ireton High School. Visit www.magi-whirl.org/gala/

BPAC Ride. 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Free. Take part in a 13-mile ride from Old Town to National Harbor. Meet at Founders Park, Orconco and N. Union Streets, Alexandria. RSVP: jonathan@jonathankrall.net.

The Grandest Congress: The French and Indian War in Alexandria. Noon to 4 p.m. Donation of \$5. Spring, 1755: Major General Edward Braddock, Commander-in-Chief of His Majesty's Forces in North America convened a meeting of five colonial governors at John Carlyle's Alexandria home. Among Braddock's objectives was to secure funding for his upcoming campaign against the French. Carlyle called this gathering "the Grandest Congress ... ever known on the Continent." Peek in on the meeting inside and enjoy the sights and smells of 18th-century style food being prepared for a grand dinner for Braddock and the Governors. Costumed interpreters will be on site to answer your questions.

Growing Flowers and Vegetables in

Containers. 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. Learn how to grow flowers and vegetables in pots, planters or other containers for maximum beauty and bountiful crops on your deck, balcony, porch or patio. Sponsored by Virginia Cooperative Extension, with the support of Master Gardeners of Northern Virginia. At the Duncan Library, 2501 Commonwealth Ave., Alexandria. To register, call 703-228-6414 or email mgarlalex@gmail.com or visit www.mgnv.org

Explore Alexandria's Firefighting History. 1 p.m. Tickets are \$6/adults; \$4/youth. The walking tour, "Blazing a Trail: Alexandria's Firefighting Past." As they walk through Old Town, participants will learn about volunteer firefighting in early Alexandria and stop at historic buildings that once served as fire stations. At Friendship Firehouse, 107 South Alfred St., Old Town Alexandria. Visit www.friendshipfirehouse.net or by calling 703-746-4994.

George Washington's Whiskey for Sale. 10 a.m. George Washington's home, Mount Vernon, will have the limited edition George Washington Rye Whiskey available for sale on April 14 at 10 a.m. This is a limited edition rye whiskey made at George Washington's reconstructed distillery — 600 bottles are available for sale. Each 375 ml bottle retails for \$95; purchases are restricted to two bottles per person. The whiskey will be available for sale in person only at the Distillery & Gristmill site gift shop and The Shops at Mount Vernon. The whiskey sale hours are: Mondays through Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Sundays from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m.

SUNDAY/APRIL 15

Family and Friends Day. 11 a.m. With Guest

Speaker: Reverend Sonja Flye-Oliver. At Roberts Memorial United Methodist Church, 606-A South Washington St., Alexandria. Call 703-836-7332.

Claudia Schmidt and Dulcie Taylor. 7 p.m. Tickets are \$18/general; \$15/advance. At Church of the Resurrection, 2280 N. Beauregard St., Alexandria. Visit www.focusmusic.org. call 703-501-6061.

MONDAY/APRIL 16

Concert. 7:30 p.m. Free. Featuring the U.S. Air Force Band-Concert Band and Singing Sergeants. At Hayfield Secondary School, 7630 Telegraph Road, Alexandria. Call 202-767-5658 or visit www.usafband.af.mil.

Masters of Tradition. Celebrating the art of Irish music with seven of Ireland's most compelling musicians, including Fiddler Martin Hayes and singer Iarla O Lionaird. Will appear at The Birchmere Music Hall, The Birchmere, 3701 Mt. Vernon Ave., Alexandria.

TUESDAY/APRIL 17

Nina Tisara Discussion. 5:30 to 7 p.m. Artist-photographer Nina Tisara will speak on the beginnings of the Living Legends of Alexandria project and tell the stories behind some of the portraits at an Artist's Talk at the Dr. Oswald Durant Memorial Center for the performing and visual arts. Thirty-seven black and white portraits — the Legends of 2008, 2009 and 2010 — are on view at the Center through July. The Durant Center, 1605 Cameron Street, is open Monday through Friday, 9 a.m.-10 p.m. Visit www.AlexandriaLegends.com.

Swing Dancing. 9 to 11 p.m. Admission is \$10. Featuring the band, All Wheel Jive. At The Carlyle

Club, 411 John Carlyle St., Alexandria.

Mount Vernon Genealogical Society. 1 p.m. Free. Speaker Robert D. McLaren presents a lecture on DNA Testing for Genealogy: The Basics. Meets at the Hollin Hall Senior Center, Room 112, 1500 Shenandoah Road, Alexandria. Contact Phyllis Kelley at 703-660-6969 or publicity@mvgenealogy.org.

WEDNESDAY/APRIL 18

Usonian Architecture. 9:30 a.m. Free. The Alexandria/Mount Vernon Antiques Club will feature Mr. Peter Christiansen, a long-time docent, speaking about the "Usonian" Pope-Leighey House, situated on the grounds of the Woodlawn Historical Home. Mr. Christiansen is an authority on Frank Lloyd Wright and will speak about the man and this type of architecture. At Hollin Hall Senior Center, 1500 Shenandoah Road, Alexandria.

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

Mount Vernon At Home. 2 p.m. Virginia's premier "Village" is holding its spring information sessions every other Wednesday in April and May. Mount Vernon At Home is a nonprofit organization that helps residents in the Mount Vernon community "age in place" Wednesday, April 18 and May 2 at 2 p.m. at Sherwood Regional Library. Volunteer opportunities are available. Call 703-303-4060 or mountvernonathome.org

THURSDAY/APRIL 19

Author Katie Truitt. 4 to 6 p.m. Will sign copies of her book, *The Hillbilly Debutante Cafe*. At Hollin Hall Pastry Co. & Shop, 7920 Fort Hunt Road, Alexandria.

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5:00 pm; 6:30 pm (en Español)

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

2:00 pm (en Español)

6:30 pm Mass (Starts Sept. 11)

Weekdays

(Mass or Communion Service) 9:00 am (followed by Rosary)

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April 5, Maundy Thursday

7:30 pm: Holy Eucharist and Stripping of the Altar

April 6, Good Friday

11:00 am: Stations of the Cross

12:00 pm, 1:00 pm, 2:00 pm and 2:45 pm:

"Seven Last Words of Christ"

7:30 pm: Liturgy for Good Friday

April 8, Easter Sunday

8:00 am: Holy Eucharist

10:15 am: Holy Eucharist followed by Children's Easter Egg Hunt

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Maundy Thursday, April 5

7:00 p.m. • Childcare Available

Good Friday, April 6

11 a.m., Family Worship

7:00 p.m., TENEBRAE • Childcare Available

EASTER SUNDAY, April 8

7:00 a.m., Sunrise Worship at Mt. Comfort

8:20 and 10:40 a.m., Music of the Resurrection

8:30 & 11:00 a.m., Festival Worship

with Holy Communion

Easter Pancake Breakfast

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NEIGHBORHOODS

Seminary Valley

If it is Spring Break, graduation must not be far away. Congratulations are definitely in order for 10 T.C. Williams seniors who started out their ACPS careers at James K. Polk Elementary School as kindergartners. These Owl-Titans are: Michelle Avila, Haley Cooper, Abby Cox, Phillip Espinoza, Tiffani Gibson, Sam Jones, Layla Mustafa, Franz Vosseler, Rebecca Wood-Conover and Scott Young. Well done!

It seems that this is the year for international adventure for our neighbors (remember Mia Brown, still ensconced on her Semester at Sea?). In what they characterize as the trip of a lifetime, Rebekah Hersch and Howard Frank of Pickett Street recently returned from a wide-ranging trip to Israel. The trip, co-sponsored by Agudas Achim Congregation and Westminster Presbyterian Church, was a natural outgrowth of a deep friendship, inspired as they shared worship space during large construction projects. Thirty-two intrepid souls went on the trip, which, because of the interfaith nature of the group, was wide-ranging. Rebekah reports that the group started out in the north, taking in chocolate, wine and historic sites, and even a Jeep trip along the Golan Heights and a peek across the border into Syria. Five



Some 21 students from Spittal, Austria, visited for three weeks and were hosted by families from T.C. Williams High School. The students attended classes at T.C. Williams and visited cultural and historic sites in Alexandria and Washington, D.C., with a side trip to New York City. The host students will be visiting Spittal, Vienna, and Germany in late June.

days in Jerusalem were spent visiting various historical sites, including the Kotel (The Western Wall) and Yad Veshem (The Holocaust Museum). The trip was not limited to sightseeing; the group met with several notables who represent modern Israel: a Christian reporter for the Guardian Newspaper, a teacher of Sufi Muslim, the Mayor of Sderot (the target of Gaza rockets for many years), educators of poor children of all faiths

in the city, and amazingly, the Prime Minister of the Palestinian Authority, Salam Fayyad.

Rebekah and Howard especially enjoyed their time in modern Tel Aviv, with its lively nightlife and student culture. They marveled at the diversity of views among the people they met and the complexity of possible solutions facing Israel. Finally, they even survived the loss of Rebekah's purse (and its miraculous return by a kindly

doctor who arranged for the item's speedy but circuitous delivery from the airport to its owner). Not enough space for that story here!

Last but certainly not least ... a warm Seminary Valley welcome to Jillian Grace Dundon of Polk Avenue. Jillian joins brothers Jackson and Mason and will add a little "pink" into parents' Jimmy and Kristin's spring of 2012.

— MIA JONES
MAMAMIAJONES@GMAIL.COM

Taylor Run

SHERLOCK TO VANDERBILT

Daniel Sherlock has been accepted for the master's program in special education at Vanderbilt University. Daniel worked for years for the therapeutic recreation program here in Alexandria, as a result of which he developed his interest in the work.

GRAND SLAM

A Park Road foursome who have been playing bridge for about 30 years witnessed an unusual feat last week. Doreen Johnson bid and made seven no-trump vulnerable. We have all made that contract from time to time; the hard part is bidding it. Doreen reached the bid using the Blackwood Convention.

TRCA ELECTION

Taylor Run Civic Association will hold its spring meeting and election Wednesday April 18 at 7:30 p.m. at the George Washington Masonic Memorial.

More than a dozen candidates are striving for the six city council seats, probably because of a perceived dissatisfaction with Council's recent achievements.

— LOIS KELSO HUNT

19-Year-Old Pianist Wins with 103-Year-Old 'Rach 3'

BY SUSAN KNIGHTON CAVANAUGH

Min Ji Lee won first prize playing one of the most challenging piano concertos in the standard classical repertoire — Sergei Rachmaninov's Piano Concerto No. 3 in D Minor.

Lee participated with 11 other aspiring young musicians at the annual Mary Graham Lasley Scholarship Competition which was held on Sunday, March 25, at the Alexandria campus of Northern Virginia Community College.

The Symphony Orchestra League of Alexandria co-sponsors the event annually with the Alexandria Symphony Orchestra to encourage college-level students from Virginia, Maryland, and D.C. to pursue classical music education in schools throughout the United States.

SOLA is an all-volunteer organization, raising funds in support of the ASO and providing funding for the competition. First place winner was awarded \$2,000, second place \$1,500 and third place \$1,000. Over \$95,000 has been awarded to students since the competition's inception 36 years ago.

Maestro Kim Allen Kluge, Music of the ASO presented the awards to:

First Place: Nineteen-year-old Min Ji Lee, a South Korean native, presently attends Shenandoah University in Winchester, Va. She performed the first movement



Front: Allyson Goodman, second place winner; Sharon Walker, president of SOLA; Shine Kang, co-chair of the MGL Scholarship Competition, and Dr. Wendy Matthews, judge. Back: Claudia Chudacoff, judge; Rosa Fuller, co-chair of the MGL Scholarship Competition; Dr. Jonathan Kolm, judge, and Javier Iglesias Martin, third place winner.

of Rachmaninov's Piano Concerto No. 3 in D Minor, Op. 30, which is known for its technical and musical demands on the performer. When Lee learned she had won first prize she said, "I felt extremely excited

about winning and grateful that I can enjoy playing symphonic music." She has won other competitions, including first place in the 2000 Korean Eum-Youn Piano Competition and the 2004 National Symphony

Orchestra of Ukraine Competition.

Second Place: Violist Allyson Goodman, performed the first movement of Béla Bartók's Viola Concerto. Allyson is a native Alexandrian and attends Rice University in Houston, Texas.

Third Place: Cellist Javier Martin played the first movement of Schumann's Cello concerto in A Minor, Op. 129. Mr. Martin is originally from Spain and currently attends Peabody Conservatory.

Honorable Mention: Cellist Frances Borowsky, who won Honorable Mention for the second year in a row, performed Tchaikovsky's Variations on a Rococo Theme, Op. 33.

The following were judges: Dr. Wendy Matthews, assistant dean at Northern Virginia Community College's Alexandria Campus; Dr. Jonathan Kolm, assistant professor of music at Northern Virginia Community College's Alexandria campus, and, Claudia Chudacoff, concertmaster of the Alexandria Symphony Orchestra.

The students were not the only ones who were grateful for the challenging event. Rosa Fullerton who co-chaired this year's Mary Graham Lasley Competition with Shine Kang said, "I feel very fortunate to be part of a program that assists young, talented musicians to continue their musical education and to achieve their future career goals."

PEOPLE



GenOn representatives joined Alexandria Seaport Foundation staff and apprentices February at the ASF workshop. From left: Darius Ligon (ASF), Kent Barnekov (ASF), Howell Crim (ASF), Chris (ASF apprentice), Chuck Kania (GenOn), Michael (ASF apprentice), Dale Hall (GenOn), Steve Hernandez (ASF), Dewayne Crone (GenOn), Maurice (ASF apprentice), Gene Davis (GenOn), Nick Folden (GenOn), Mark DeBoe (GenOn) and Kathy Seifert (ASF).



GenOn's Dale Hall (right) talks with Howell Crim, Director of Apprentice Programs at Alexandria Seaport Foundation during a visit to the ASF workshop Feb. 10.

COURTESY PHOTOS

Building Hope GenOn donates \$25,000 to the Alexandria Seaport Foundation.

Representatives of GenOn gathered Feb. 10 at the Alexandria Seaport Foundation to work side by side with ASF apprentices and mark the donation of \$25,000 to the nationally acclaimed nonprofit.

Six employees from the wholesale electricity generating company visited the ASF Duke Street workshop, bringing with them juice, muffins and a supply of safety equipment. One by one they spoke to the appren-

tices about the importance of safety on the job, work ethic and the need for respect and humility.

"Their genuine concern for the growth of the Alexandria Seaport Foundation apprentices was apparent," said ASF Director of Development Kathy Seifert. "It reflected a philosophy like the one we hold here at ASF.... to better lives and help advance future generations ... one lesson, one dollar, one person at a time."

Through the building and use of wooden boats, the Alexandria Seaport Foundation provides full-time apprenticeships for at-risk youth who earn their GED and prepare for a career in the building trades.

"We also run an after school program four days a week," Seifert added.

Additional ASF programs include an educational assistance program in the middle schools, using hands-on teaching methods to develop math skills and encourage en-

gagement in school, and Building to Teach, a train-the-trainers program intended to expand ASF teaching methods to a national audience.

For more information on the Alexandria Seaport Foundation, visit www.alexandriaseaport.org. To learn more about GenOn and their philanthropic efforts, go to www.genon.com.

— JEANNE THEISMANN

Cherry Dishes Compete in Alexandria

BY GALE CURCIO
GAZETTE PACKET

Twelve years ago, the George Washington Birthday Celebration Committee was looking for a way to get the local restaurants involved.

Sharon Sobel, who served on the committee for the past 12 years, said, "We had talked about various kinds of food-related events, and had trouble figuring out what the logistics would be. We came up within this idea, and with help of restaurant owners and the committee, we got it going."

That idea is called The Cherry Challenge. It is "a unique culinary competition only open to Alexandria restaurants."

The culmination of this year's competition (the fourth annual) coincided with the George Washington Birthday Parade.

Twelve restaurants participated the first year, while this year there was 20 participants. Sobel and others are hoping that it will continue to grow.

Hundreds of patrons enjoyed dishes that the restaurants created that utilized cherries in some fashion.

Each person who ordered the dish or menu item was supplied with a ballot so that they could judge the menu item on taste, presentation and creativity. Scoring was done by rating both the number of bal-



Three-time winner, Duck ala Cherry from Murphy's Irish Pub and Restaurant.



Virtue Feed and Grain wins with their Cherry Duck Sausage entrée.

lots submitted, and how each dish rated in the palates of the citizens who ordered the items.

Votes were tallied up the week of Feb. 12, and the winners were announced from the parade grandstand during the George Washington Birthday Parade. RedRocks Fire-Roasted Cherry Blossom was also served at the annual Birthnight Ball that was held at Gadsby's Tavern.

Sobel said, "Some were very close races, so we take into account how many ballots were submitted."

The competition has four categories that restaurants are allowed to consider: starters, mains, desserts, and drinks. Restaurants can choose one category, or more than one.

The winners were:

❖ Starters Category: Cherry Duck Sausage from Virtue Feed and Grain.

❖ Entree Category: Duck ala Cherry from

Murphy's Irish Pub and Restaurant.

❖ Drinks Category: Fire-Roasted Cherry Blossom from RedRocks.

❖ Dessert Category: Cherry Cobbler from King St. Blues Old Town.

"I really enjoyed this event — it's been a great week, but maybe not for my waistline," said Danny Smith, who visited several of the participating restaurants throughout the week. King St. Blues' Cherry Cobbler wasn't a new concoction, but rather a revival — it was the same recipe used when the dish was featured on its original menu.

The winning restaurants were invited to ride in the George Washington Birthday Parade, on Feb. 20.



J. B. Knapp serves up his award-winning drink, Fire-Roasted Cherry Blossom, to Jay Palermino.

COURTESY PHOTOS



Ballot Boxes were placed at each participating restaurant.

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Episcopal Boys' Lax Team Cruises Past T.C. Williams

Junior Dubose, freshman Davy score 3 goals for Maroon.

BY JON ROETMAN
GAZETTE PACKET

Episcopal attackman Brooks Davy managed to attempt a shot while falling to the turf against T.C. Williams at the Hummel Bowl. The freshman whipped the ball from the left side of the field past the Titans keeper, putting the finishing touches on a dominant effort by the Maroon.

In an Alexandria public-private school matchup, public school T.C. Williams was no match for Episcopal, which built a 9-0 lead and cruised to a 16-2 victory on March 31. While the contest wasn't competitive, each team benefitted from the experience. On one side, Episcopal reserves received playing time, helping build depth and experience for the future.

"We don't have a lot of games where we can get leads like this and get the opportunity to play everybody," Episcopal head coach Scott Conklin said. "That's an important part of it is getting everyone in. I told the team in the huddle after the game that this was the best that our second group has looked all season, so I was proud of that."

Davy, a reserve attackman, scored three goals.

"That's good for him confidence-wise," Conklin said. "Right now he's probably our



Episcopal freshman Brooks Davy scored three goals off the bench against T.C. Williams on March 31.

fourth attackman, so if someone gets injured, he's going to have to step in and play, so that's where a game like this gives him a little bit of confidence that he knows he can get out there and do it."

On the other side, the T.C. Williams defense got to test itself against one of the better opponents it will face this season.

"So far on our schedule, and possibly for our season, they move the ball better than anyone else we've played," TC head coach Mike Mulherin said. "They have a very senior team. They had great accuracy, consistently, and their ability with speed to move the ball on offense was good experience for

our defensemen. Really, we wanted to see how our defense matched up on their offense and it gave us an experience where we had to make two, three slides instead of just one."

Episcopal took control early, outscoring TC 8-0 in the opening quarter. Senior attackman Armour Shaw scored the Maroon's first two goals and was one of nine Episcopal players to score at least once.

"The past week and a half, he's played pretty well," Conklin said about Shaw. "... He's taken on a little bit more of a leadership role and I thought he played well today. He has to be a finisher for us, and he

does well on a lot of little things, too — he picks up tough ground balls, he settles the offense when we need him to."

Junior midfielder Brown Dubose scored three goals for Episcopal and junior midfielder Eric McDonald and senior attackman Will Davy each scored two. Senior attackman Michael Vance, sophomore midfielder Gray Williams, senior midfielder Austin Debutts and freshman attackman Thayer King each scored one.

"It's exciting," Shaw said, "to get everyone involved and everyone a chance to play."

Michael McGonagle scored both goals for T.C. Williams, which was without two of its primary attackmen. Ed Kargbo missed the game with an injury and August Bryant was on a family vacation.

Episcopal improved to 6-2 win the win, while T.C. Williams fell to 1-7.

"Nobody likes to lose," Mulherin said. "You try to convince these guys that wins and losses aren't what we need to focus on and it's just getting better and building our skill, [which] is always a challenge ... and they really have showed they're focused on getting better and they understand that the record is not something to concentrate on."

Episcopal will host St. Albans at 4:30 p.m. on Thursday, April 5. T.C. Williams will host West Springfield at 7:15 p.m. on April 13.

"I'm just really glad that we're able to maintain this game because I think it's great for Alexandria," Mulherin said. "I really appreciate Coach Conklin and Episcopal being such great hosts as well as having such a class program to play us and serve as a good experience for us."

TC Rowers Take Home Three Victories at Noxontown

The T.C. Williams crew team traveled to the St. Andrew's School in Middletown, Del., on March 31 to compete in the Noxontown Regatta, a contest that saw the Titan rowers go up against some of the best boats in the Mid-Atlantic region and come home with three victories by the end of the day.

Leading the way for TC were the boys' varsity 4, the girls' freshman 8, and the boys' lightweight 8, which not only won first place in each of their respective races, but did so by sizable margins, as well. The TC boys' varsity 4 — which won the Virginia state championship last year — cruised to victory with a winning margin of 33 seconds, while the girls' freshman 8 crossed the finish line 19 seconds ahead of their nearest competitor. The TC boys' lightweight 8 captured top honors nine seconds ahead of the competition. Members of the boys' varsity 4 include coxswain Mark Comey and rowers Greg Montenegro, Henry Anderson, Madison Weitekamp, and Cameron Pattisall. Weitekamp and Pattisall were also members of last year's state championship boat. Competing on the girls' freshman 8 are coxswain Kathrina Policarpio and rowers Maeve Bra-

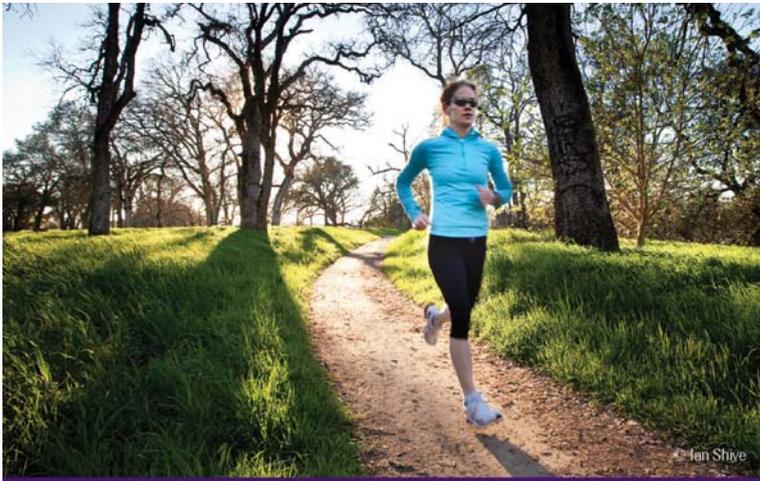


The T.C. Williams Girls Freshman 8 head out for a practice run before the Noxontown Regatta in Delaware on the morning of March 31. The Freshman 8 would go on to capture 1st place in their race later in the day. Members of the boat include (from right to left): coxswain Kathrina Policarpio and rowers Maeve Bradley, Kyra McClary, Maura Nakahata, Claire Embrey, Lynn Stevens, Ana Diaz, Rachael Vannatta and Zoe Gildersleeve.

dley, Kyra McClary, Maura Nakahata, Claire Embrey, Lynn Stevens, Ana Diaz, Rachael Vannatta and Zoe Gildersleeve. Members of the T.C. boys' lightweight 8 include coxswain Brian Comey and rowers Cody Brooks, Ethan Vannatta, David Salmons, Constantine Ivanis, Mitchell Youmans, Chris Porter, Ben Blakeslee and Chris Kidd.

In addition to these victories, several other T.C. Williams boats took home second- and third-place finishes in their respective races for the day. Second-place honors were awarded to the T.C. girls' varsity 4 "B" boat and the girls' third 8, while third-place honors went to the T.C. girls' varsity 8, the girls' varsity 4 "A" boat, the girls' novice 8, the boys' freshman 8 and the boys' novice 8. Other high schools competing in the Noxontown Regatta this past Saturday were The Lawrenceville School (N.J.), St. Augustine College Prep School (N.J.), Monsignor Bonner High School (Pa.), Archbishop Prendergast (Pa.), Washington-Lee and St. Andrew's.

The T.C. crew team's next event is Saturday, April 14, when the girls return to St. Andrew's and the boys travel to Occoquan for the Darrell Winslow Regatta.



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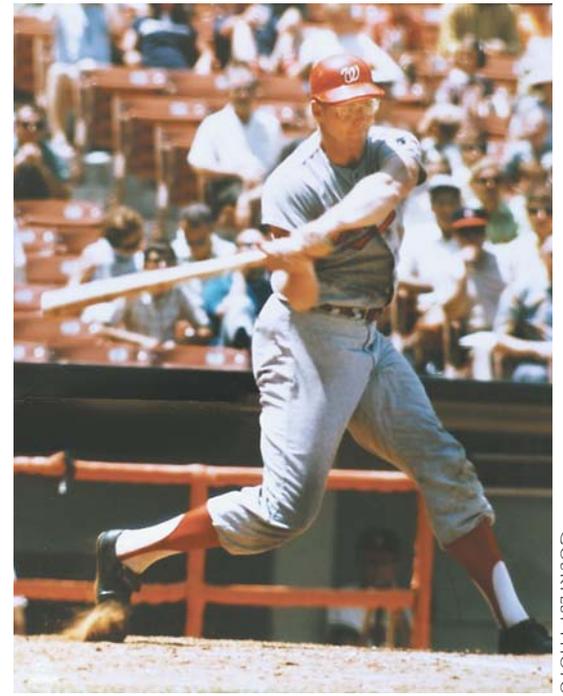
Sportsman's Club to host Frank Howard April 17.

Washington baseball legend Frank Howard will be the guest speaker at the April 17 meeting of the Alexandria Sportsman's Club.

Nicknamed by some as "The Washington Monument" because of his stature, Howard was named the National League's Rookie of the Year in 1960 and went on to lead the American League in home runs and total bases twice. His 237 home runs in a Washington uniform still stand as a record for any of the city's franchises over the years.

The meeting will be held at the Old Dominion Boat Club, 1 King Street, and is free and open to all. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. with the formal program kicking off at 7 p.m. For more information, visit www.alexandriavasports.org.

— JEANNE THEISMANN



COURTESY PHOTO

Washington Senators player Frank Howard will be the guest speaker April 17 at the Alexandria Sportsman's Club.

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.

Kathryn L DiSalvo of Alexandria received academic honors from the Harpur College of Arts and Sciences at Binghamton University by making the University's Dean's List for the Fall 2011 semester.

Everton Nascimento Batista, a senior at Hampden-Sydney College, was named to the dean's list for the fall semester of the 2011-2012 academic year. Everton is a graduate of St. Stephens & St. Agnes School and is the son of Louis A. Masochini of Alexandria.

Students, faculty, and staff at **St. Stephen's & St. Agnes School in Alexandria**, greatly reduced their carbon footprint during the 2012 National Green Cup Challenge held Jan. 18-Feb. 15. Out of 116 participating schools nationwide, St. Stephen's & St. Agnes reduced its electricity use by the second-highest percentage (28 percent) during the challenge. SSSAS also won its regional division (Mid-Atlantic/Chesapeake). The Green Cup Challenge, sponsored by the Green Schools Alli-

ance, empowers school communities to conserve electricity, raise environmental awareness, and decrease their impact on the environment. The largest reduction was at St. Andrew's School in Florida (32 percent). Collectively, the challenge prevented 1,567,562 pounds of global warming carbon dioxide from being released into the atmosphere.

Zachary Charles Whitacre of Alexandria was named to the Dean's List at Washington University in St. Louis for the fall 2011 semester. Whitacre is a graduate of T.C. Williams High School in Alexandria, and is enrolled in the university's Olin Business School.

Elizabeth Romano of Alexandria, who is studying at Widener University in Chester, Pa., was named to the Deans' List for the Fall 2011 semester at Widener.

Meghan Palmer, a member of the class of 2013 from Alexandria, has been named to the fall 2011 Dean's List at Loyola University Maryland.

Muriel Lamois, a graduate of T.C. Williams High School, was named to the Dean's List for the fall semester at The College of Wooster. Lamois, a senior history major from Alexandria, achieved a grade point average of 3.65 or above.

Madeline Ogden of Alexandria has been invited to join the Mu chapter of Omicron Delta Epsilon, the international economics honor society.

The University of Mary Washington has announced its President's List for the fall semester of the 2011-12 academic year. The following area students are among the 105 students who have been named to the President's List:

- ❖ **Jessica C. Bittner**, a freshman, of Alexandria;
- ❖ **Elizabeth D. Green**, a sophomore, of Alexandria.

Two Alexandria residents have been named to the

Dean's List at Boston University for the Fall semester. Students recognized for this honor include: **Daniel A. Carman and Adam O. Sadick**.

The University of Mary Washington has announced its Dean's List for the fall semester of the 2011-12 academic year. The following area students are among the 802 students who have been named to the Dean's List:

- ❖ **Joann P. Liu**, a senior, from Alexandria;
- ❖ **Marie-Claire L. Mandolia**, a junior, from Alexandria.



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The reward of a thing well done, is to have done it.
- Ralph Waldo Emerson

Legal Notices

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

OBITUARY

Patricia Ann Elam - 1935 - 2012

Patricia Ann Elam, 76, of Alexandria, Virginia, passed away Sunday, March 25, 2012 in San Diego, California. Patricia was born in Covington, Virginia on March 27, 1935. Patricia's parents were Otis and Geraldine Hiler of Covington. Patricia was married for eight years to Robert Dayton Keller of Covington who passed away in 1960. She then remarried Dr. William N. Elam, Jr. of Alexandria, Virginia. They were married for 40 years until he passed away in 2009. She had a brother Otis "Buddy" Hiler who is deceased. She is survived by her son Kevin Neil Keller, daughter-in-law Debbie, and two grandchildren Bobby and Jackson of Rancho Santa Fe, California, first cousins Norma Bush and Richard Gaddy of Alexandria, and sister-in-law Eileen Hiler of Pennsylvania.

Services will be held at a date to be announced for this coming July, 2012 at Mount Comfort Cemetery, Alexandria, Virginia.

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21 Announcements

21 Announcements



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21 Announcements

21 Announcements

21 Announcements

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

Wonder how to grow great tomatoes, which tree is best for your home landscape, or what strange insect you have found? VCE Master Gardeners can help find the answers at weekly Plant Clinics held in the following locations:

❖ **Old Town Farmers' Market**, 301 King Street, Alexandria, Saturdays, from 6:30 to 9:30 a.m., May 5 through Sept. 29.

❖ **Del Ray Farmers' Market**, intersection of Mt. Vernon and East Oxford Avenues, Saturdays, from 8:30 to 11 a.m., May 5 through Sept. 29.

VCE Master Gardener Help Desk (703-228-6414), or mgarlalex@gmail.com; staffed from 9 a.m. through noon, Monday through Friday, year round.

Bring fresh samples of problem plants, weeds or insects with you to ensure the accurate identification of any diseases or pests. VCE recommends carrying samples in plastic bags or other clear containers. Don't bring live insects. All clinics and Help Desk are free of charge.

The City of Alexandria's Beautification Commission is accepting nominations for the 2012 Alexandria Beautification Awards. The awards program recognizes City residents, organizations, and businesses for their efforts in contributing to the beautification of City neighborhoods and public vistas with landscaping and aesthetic design.

Nominations must be received by Friday, May 11. Nomination forms are available at <http://alexandriava.gov/Beautification>.

Nomination forms may be returned by e-mail to AlexandriaBeautification@gmail.com or by postal mail to:

Alexandria Beautification Commission
6300 Stevenson Ave. #908
Alexandria, VA 22304

Beautification Awards are presented in four categories: Residential, Commercial, Public, and Service. Nominations are judged on the use of texture, color, plant material, neighborhood context, marked improvements, and overall appearance. Nominated properties must be visible from the public right-of-way. Award winners will be recognized at the Beautification Awards Ceremony this September.

Summer Art Camps. One-week sessions for elementary and middle school students in Alexandria. Located in the Rosemont neighborhood at 700 Commonwealth Ave., a few blocks from the King Street Metro. Full day camps (9 a.m. to 3 p.m.) will be offered:

- ❖ Session One, July 2-6, 2012
- ❖ Session Two, July 9-13, 2012
- ❖ Session Three, July 16-20, 2012
- ❖ Session Four, July 23-27, 2012

Tuition is \$300, plus a \$45 supply fee. Class size will be limited to keep classes small and the student-to-teacher ratio low. Each session will be led by Luisa Tio. Luisa is a full-time Alexandria public school art teacher. She earned her B.A. in Art from Duke University and her M.A. in Studio Art from NYU. For more information and to reserve a space, email Luisa Tio at luisatio@earthlink.net or call at 703-599-7923.

NOW THROUGH MAY 23

Police Citizens Academy. Free. Alexandria Police Department is now accepting applications for the 27th session of the Police Citizens Academy. The academy will be held every Wednesday from 6:30 p.m. to 10 p.m. at the Police Department's new Headquarters at 3600 Wheeler Ave., in the Community Room, located on the 1st floor, Alexandria. Participants must be 21 years old and live or work in the City. Visit www.alexandriava.gov/police or e-mail the Volunteer Office at Virginia.obranovich@alexandriava.gov.

EVERY TUESDAY

Five-Star Toastmasters, Club # 9623. 5:30 p.m. to 7 p.m. at the Pentagon Conference Center. Visit <http://fivestar.freetoasthost.com> or contact Club Vice-President for Membership, Katharine Gagné at 202-521-2307 or e-mail of Club_VP_Mbrshp@fivestar.freetoasthost.com

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