

Alexandria Gazette Packet



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APRIL 19, 2012

25 CENTS



A view of the shuttle from the Old Dominion Boat Club when the 747 flew south over spectators' heads.

State Justices Consider Virtue

Virginia Supreme Court hears Boat Club case against city and ^oVirtue Feed and Grain.

BY MICHAEL LEE POPE
GAZETTE PACKET

Does Alexandria have the right to close Wales Alley? That's an issue now before justices of the Virginia Supreme Court, who heard oral arguments in a case that's divided Alexandria for years. At issue in the case is a deed from 1789, which allows "free use and passage of the several streets and alleys." Lawyers for the Old Dominion Boat Club say that document allows their members to use the alley to get boats to and from the organization's boat launch at the foot of King Street. But City Attorney James Banks told justices any

easement rights the club had were vaporized when the city assumed responsibility for the road in 1972.

"Our position is that there are no extra rights or benefits for the Boat Club because it previously had easement rights," Banks told justices in the Supreme Court chamber across the street from the Capitol. "The private easement rights should be extinguished."

Lawyers for the Boat Club said the city was perverting the charter provision granting authority of public land. Instead of making that land available to the public, they said, the city was doing the opposite — making it available to a restaurant known as Virtue Feed and

SEE VIRGINIA, PAGE 30



PHOTOS BY LOUISE KRAFFT/GAZETTE PACKET

'Flight 905 Heavy'
The Space Shuttle Discovery, atop its Boeing 747 carrier, flies over Old Town on Tuesday, April 17. The shuttle will become part of the Smithsonian Institution's permanent collection at the Steven F. Udvar-Hazy Center in Chantilly. The flight was referred to as "flight 905 heavy" on the air traffic control channel.



No Butts About It

Ramparts shifts to "No Smoking" policy.

BY JEANNE THEISMANN
GAZETTE PACKET

The gang of regulars at Ramparts had a friendly wager going: How long would it take Butch Shunk to return after his vow to never again set foot in the popular Alexandria watering hole after its sudden shift to a no smoking policy on Easter Sunday? Some said three months

SEE RAMPARTS, PAGE 8



PHOTO BY JEANNE THEISMANN/GAZETTE PACKET

Ramparts began a no smoking policy on Easter Sunday.

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Joint Investigation

The Alexandria Police Department is charging three California men with conspiracy to import marijuana into Virginia. The investigation included the police, Alexandria Commonwealth's Attorney Randy Sengel and the Drug Enforcement Administration. The suspects are Frederick Michael Sayles, 34, of Selma, Calif., Gabriel Hernandez Sepeda II, 38, of Fresno, Calif., and David Ray Flowers, 38, of Fresno, Calif.

Sayles is a police officer with the Selma Police Department in Selma, and Sepeda is a former police officer with the Selma Police Department. The estimated street value of the marijuana is \$635,000.

The trio were arrested Tuesday night in Tysons Corner and taken into custody by federal agents. Police say the men were in the process of transporting more than 27 pounds of marijuana into the commonwealth of Virginia from California. They are currently being held in the Alexandria Adult Detention Center without bond.

Hughes Won't Participate

Ever since Alexandria has elected city officials, voting has taken place in the spring or late winter. That long tradition comes to an end this year.

After the Alexandria Democratic Committee lost two seats in 2009, the lame-duck Democrats changed the election process as one of their last actions before leaving City Hall. Now elections will take place in November, when hundreds more Democratic voters will show up to support the presidential ticket or other statewide races, posing a steep challenge to any non-Democrat on the ballot.

Now, as the first-ever November election for City Council approaches, Republican City Council member Alicia Hughes says she thinks it may be too soon to participate in political debates.

"I have taken ample time to deliberate what precedent I want to set right now," Hughes wrote to the Taylor Run Civic Association. "As you are aware, Alexandria has long held spring elections, which under regular circumstance would make the timing of this forum most appropriate."

However, given that elections were moved to fall and the November slate is not yet complete, I have opted not to participate at this time."

Debating Democrats

Speaking of City Council debates, Democrats announced this week that Sorenson Institute executive director Bob Gibson will serve as moderator for the party's City Council primary debates on May 9 and June 4.

"Bob Gibson is one of the most respected political journalists in the Commonwealth of Virginia," said Alexandria Democratic Committee chairman Dak Hardwick. "We look forward to Bob moderating a lively discussion among our candidates as they discuss their vision for Alexandria."

Orr Out

Director of Human Resources Cheryl Orr has resigned to accept an appointment as the Prince William County director of Human Resources, leaving a position she has held since 2008. Her last day as a city employee is May 11. Assistant City Manager Tom Gates will serve as acting director until City Manager Rashad Young appoints a permanent replacement.

During her time as director, Orr led the reorganization of the Personnel Department in the Human Resources Department and developed the department's first strategic plan. She also helped create the city's diversity plan.

Under Orr's leadership, the department used new technology to create an online employee evaluation system. She was also responsible for the launching of a new competency-based job classification system, expanding of the city's training program and creating a new customer-service unit.

— MICHAEL LEE POPE



PHOTOS BY JEANNE THEISMANN/GAZETTE PACKET

Community Lodgings board chairman Chris McMurray, left, presents Harriet Owusu with the Outstanding Achievement Award as her mentor, Besu Feleke of BB&T Bank, U.S. Rep. Jim Moran and Mayor Bill Euille look on.

Helping the Homeless

Community Lodgings celebrates 25 years, raises \$40,000 at annual gala.

BY JEANNE THEISMANN
GAZETTE PACKET

More than 170 people turned out April 15 for the 7th annual "Spring Forward to Union Street," a fundraiser to celebrate the 25th anniversary of Community Lodgings that also recognized program participant Harriet Owusu for her exceptional strides in attaining self-sufficiency.

"I know where I came from," said Owusu, a young mother from Ghana with two small children. "I have no family here but knew I had to do something to make a future for my kids."

For the third year, Union Street Public House donated the venue and food for the event, which raised more than \$40,000 for programs that serve homeless and low-income families.

The evening featured a silent auction that included a trip to watch a taping of ESPN's Emmy-

winning show "Pardon the Interruption" and culminated with an awards presentation that renamed the Outstanding Achievement Award in honor of retiring board chairman Chris McMurray.

In addition to Union Street Public House, sponsors for the evening included Landmark Honda, Nixon Peabody, The Paddle Home Group, Your Dog's Best Friend, Marie Muscella, Donna Cramer of McEnearney Associates, BB&T, Speck-Cauldron Investments, Systems Engineering Group, John Marshall Bank and Jack Taylor's Toyota. "This is about our neighbors," said U.S. Rep. Jim Moran (D-8), who along with Mayor Bill Euille presented Owusu with her award. "Children suffer for reasons totally out of their control and Community Lodgings is there to provide them with housing and mentoring and to give them a vision of a better future and the confidence to achieve that future."

Community Lodgings' mission is



CommuniTea Calling is a nonprofit private label tea company founded by Mary Hellem to benefit Community Lodgings and can be purchased at Reunions.

to lift families from homelessness and instability to independence and self-sufficiency through Transitional and Affordable Housing Programs and Youth and Adult Education Programs. For more information call 703-549-4407 or visit www.communitylodgings.org.



Chef A.J. Gress serves Community Lodgings supporter Luis Paniagua.



Susan and Dennis Fitzpatrick browse auction items for their dog at the Community Lodgings fundraiser.

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PEOPLE

SCAN Names 2012 Ally in Prevention Awardees

SCAN named Erick T. King, co-founder of the Capital Youth Empowerment Program (CYEP); Valerie Cuffee, who recently retired as division chief of Arlington County's Child & Family Services Division; and the late Cynthia Hull, former executive director of United Community Ministries, as the 2012 Allies in Prevention for Alexandria, Arlington and Fairfax, respectively. The award was given at SCAN's 10th Annual Allies in Prevention Awards Luncheon.

"These are the people making the news we want to report," said ABC7's Leon Harris, who emceed the event along with fellow news anchor Alison Starling.

In 2008, with his brother Isaac, King founded the Capital Youth Empowerment Program, or CYEP. A probation officer in Arlington County, he is also a local business owner.

He and his brother saw a void in the community when it came to treatment options for fathers involved in domestic violence, CPS and child abuse and neglect cases. Investing their own money and time, the brothers made a commit-



Keynote speaker Judge Stephen Rideout and ABC7's Leon Harris pose for a photo with Erick T. King from Alexandria.

ment to make a difference through CYEP's Fathers In Touch Program, which provides a 12-week fatherhood class along with three coordinated group activities — at no cost to families — to help dads find support from their peers and strengthen their parenting skills.

Less than four years since its launch, King's program has helped more than 200 children and families in Alexandria and Fairfax.

His private company, King

Brothers & Associates, has also provided affordable housing for families previously in low-income housing projects or homeless shelters. In 2010, CYEP won the NAACP Community Service Award in Alexandria and Fairfax. Earlier this month, the Northern Virginia Urban League honored King with the Next Generation of Leadership Award.

CUFFEE is a woman on a mission

for prevention. Over the course of her nearly 30-year career in child and family welfare, she has handled the variety of overwhelming, complex and changing needs of abused and neglected children. She began her career as a social worker in Arlington, and by her recent retirement, she had served over a decade as the division chief for the county's Child and Family Services Division.

She played a critical role in the establishment of Arlington's Child Advocacy Center as well as Project PEACE, a coordinated community response to domestic violence.

HULL empowered those around her to make real change, even in the face of the greatest obstacles. Hull was executive director of United Community Ministries for the last five years, a time of unprecedented financial strain on public and private resources.

But her belief in UCM's impact — as the organization served over 13,000 children and adults every year — helped her to educate others about the necessity of UCM programs like Healthy Families. UCM is the primary safety net for

families in crisis in southeastern Fairfax County, tackling issues from precarious housing situations to hunger to emergency medical assistance.

Hull's understanding of the complexities of families in crisis guided her work to strengthen programs so they could more effectively handle family relationships, mental illness, substance abuse and poverty — all issues with deep ties to child abuse and neglect. She also played a key role in bringing together local nonprofit leaders to pool resources and prioritize critical programs.

Throughout her three decade-long career, which included leadership roles at Offender Aid and Restoration (OAR) in Arlington and Fairfax, Hull promoted issues of justice and the value of every program participant's life.

With support from Verizon, SCAN held the event to kick off its 2012 Northern Virginia Child Abuse Prevention Campaign, The Little Picture.

Learn more about the 2012 campaign, The Little Picture, at www.scanva.org/tlp.

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NEWS



PHOTO GALLERY!

"Me and My Mom"

To honor Mom on Mother's Day, send us your favorite snapshots of you with your Mom and The Alexandria Gazette Packet will publish them in our Mother's Day issue. Be sure to include some information about what's going on in the photo, plus your name and phone number and town of residence. To e-mail digital photos, send to:

gazette@connectionnewspapers.com

Or to mail photo prints, send to:

The Alexandria Gazette Packet,
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1606 King St., Alexandria, VA 22314

Photo prints will be returned to you if you include a stamped, self-addressed envelope, but please don't send us anything irreplaceable.



PHOTOS BY LOUISE KRAFT/GAZETTE PACKET

Volunteers return with more sorted trash to the drop-off point on Commonwealth Avenue.

Watershed Cleanup

Volunteers collected hundreds of pounds of trash from Four Mile Run Park in Alexandria on Saturday, April 14. The cleanup was organized by Alexandria's Transportation and Environmental Services, Office of Environmental Quality and Solid Waste Division in conjunction with the Alice Ferguson Foundation. The foundation, established in 1989, organized watershed cleanup activities at 600 sites in five states on Saturday.



A cyclist rides by sacks of sorted trash collected at Four Mile Run Park in Alexandria.

In recognition of Volunteer Awareness Week, we would like to thank ALL of our community partners and volunteers.
Thanks for ALL that you DO!

The Honorable William D. Euille and Alexandria City Council □ Alexandria Health Department □ Department of Community & Human Services □ Alexandria Redevelopment Housing Authority □ Alexandria Public Health Advisory Commission □ Healthy Families, Inc □ Alexandria City Public Schools □ Wise Educational Services, LLC □ Alexandria Police Department □ Alexandria Neighborhood Health Services, Inc. □ Campagna Center □ Creative Play School □ George Washington University: Project ITAP □ Northern Virginia Community College □ Arlington/Alexandria Smart Beginnings □ Applied Policy □ Virginia Commerce Bank □ The Reading Connection □ Northern Virginia Health Foundation □ Virginia Cooperative Extension & Master Gardeners □ Long & Foster Real Estate □ Dept. of Recreation, Parks & Cultural Activities □ Department of Planning & Zoning □ Congregational Health Resource, LLC □ WIC □ Happy Home Child Learning Center □ Hopkins House □ Alive! Center for Child Development □ Grace Episcopal Church □ Child & Family Network Centers □ Commission on Women □ Agudas Achim Preschool □ Beverly Hills Preschool □ Fairlington Preschool □ KaBOOM! □ Teddy Bear Preschool □ Trinity Mops Preschool □ Creative Play School □ La Leche League □ Community Services Board □ Public Health Advisory Commission □ Inova Health System □ Inova Alexandria Hospital □ Alexandria Chamber of Commerce □ Alexandria PTAs □ ACPS School Board □ Alexandria United Way □ GWU School of Public Health □ City of Alexandria Fire/EMS □ YMCA Alexandria □ ECDC African Community Center □ ALIVE! Inc. □ NAMI □ Senior Services of Alexandria □ Parks & Recreation Commission □ Families First of Alexandria, Inc. □ Beza Ethiopian Community Service □ Boys & Girls Club □ Atwater Communications □ School Health Advisory Board □ Northern Virginia Urban League □ Office of Youth Services □ Alexandria Sheriff's Office □ Virginia Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control □ Alexandria Youth Council □ Inova Kellar Center □ Alexandria Gazette Packet □ American Physical Therapy Association □ K Consulting Online □ Cross Fit Old Town □ Fit2Be □ Old Town Whole Foods Market □ Friends of the Alexandria Mental Health Center □ Alexandria Commission for the Arts □ Alexandria Office of the Arts □ Alexandria's Therapeutic Recreation Program □ American Art Therapy Association □ Kelly Cares Foundation □ Virginia Tech University □ ACT for Alexandria □ Torpedo Factory □ Regal Fig, Inc □ Campaign for Tobacco-Free Kids □ Department of Transportation & Environmental Services □ Environmental Policy Commission □ Y Street □ Teen Wellness Center □ ACTion Alexandria □ AFC Management Services & MEC Kids □ YoKid □ IIR □ Four Mile Run Farmers and Artisans Market □ Alexandria Campaign on Adolescent Pregnancy □ Alexandria Court Services Unit □ Alexandria Gang Prevention Community Task Force □ Alexandria Mentoring Partnership □ Alexandria Small Business Development Center □ Alexandria Times □ Community Anti-Drug Coalitions of America □ Alexandria Black History Museum □ Commonwealth Attorney's Office □ Downtown Baptist Church Youth Ministry □ Local Kicks □ Mount Vernon Patch □ Old Town Alexandria Patch □ Parent Leadership Training Institute □ SCAN of Northern Virginia □ T.C. Key Club □ Tenants and Workers United □ Center for Alexandria's Children □ Metro Stage □ Alexandria's playgroups □ Alexandria Arlington Coalition for the Homeless □ Community Lodgings □ ALEXANDRIA YOUTH, PARENTS & COMMUNITY MEMBERS



Check out a spotlight on our volunteers of the quarter
and find out more information about our work!
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Thank You!



OBITUARIES

Nancy Larsen Turner

Nancy Larsen Turner, 83, formerly of Alexandria, died on March 2, 2012 at her home in Boonton, N.J. Born in Ogden, Utah, in 1928, she spent her childhood in Yellowstone Park, Wyoming, where her father worked for the Park Service. She married Calhoun Harris Turner in South Carolina in 1956. After his death in 1970, she lived and worked throughout the United States and in Calgary, Alberta, Canada.



**Nancy Larsen
Turner**

Nancy was a registered nurse, then earned a master's degree in education and worked in the field of continuing education. After retirement she lived in Damascus, Syria before moving to Alexandria where she was a volunteer at the Charles Beatley Library. In 2010 she moved to Boonton, N.J.

In her 70s, Nancy began traveling around the world on cargo ships with such journeys as through the Great Lakes, across the Atlantic Ocean, back and forth across the Mediterranean Sea several times, through the Suez Canal and Red Sea, and into the Indian Ocean. Another trip took her through the Panama Canal and down the west coast of South America. She visited ports in Cuba, Portugal, France, Spain, Italy, the Netherlands, Israel, Egypt, Pakistan, and India, in addition to Colombia, Peru, and Chile. Often she would be the sole female on the freighter and occasionally, she would be the only passenger. Amsterdam was one of her

didn't know where he was. When he got back, he didn't know where he had been."

She is survived by a son, Nathaniel Turner of Austin, Texas and two daughters: Faith Turner of Richmond, Va. and Valerie Turner and her husband Muhammad Hozien of Boonton, N.J. She is also survived by her siblings Joel Larsen and his wife Judy of Burlington, Vermont; Carol Bringham and Lois Walker of Alexandria, Va.; and Gary Larsen and his wife Sharon of Stamford, Conn.

Services were held in the Islamic Center of Passaic County and she was interred in Laurel Grove Cemetery in Totowa, N.J. on March 2, 2012. Friends are invited to an Alexandria celebration of Nancy's life on April 28 between 11 and 3 at Lois Walker and Carol Bringham's condo at 1115 Cameron Street, Unit 104 (fronting on North Henry Street). Friends will be able to remember Nancy and share these memories.

Winifred Reilly Tracy

Winifred Reilly Tracy died on April 11, at her home in Alexandria, of complications from Alzheimer's disease.

Win was born on June 8, 1920 in the Bronx, N.Y., to Elizabeth Murphy Reilly of Brooklyn, N.Y., and James J. Reilly of New York City, N.Y. She grew up in Teaneck, N.J., and was graduated from the Englewood NJ Hospital School of Nursing, with an R.N. degree. Win was commissioned as an officer in the U.S. Navy Nurse Corps in 1942 and served on active duty until 1946. She served tours of duty at Naval Hospitals in St. Albans, N.Y. and Atlanta, Ga. She served the final year of World War II at Naval Hospitals in San Francisco and Alameda, Calif., treating sailors and marines who had been wounded in action in the Pacific Theatre of Operations, including those wounded in the Battles of Iwo Jima and Okinawa. After the war, she was employed as a nurse at Harkness Pavilion, Columbia Presbyterian Hospital, New York City, N.Y.

In 1949 she married John J. Tracy, Jr. of Brooklyn, N.Y. at St. Patrick's Cathedral, and they moved to Washington, D.C. Win worked as a nurse at D.C. General Hospital and Providence Hospital. In 1950, they moved to Alexandria, Va. Win was an active volunteer for many years with St. Mary's School, the Northern Virginia Swim



**Winifred Reilly
Tracy**

League, Good Shepherd Catholic Church, where she was a member of and chaired the Social Justice Committee, and United Community Ministries, among other organizations. She worked for many years at the Silhouette Shop in Old Town and was also employed by the U.S. Census Bureau for the 1980 census.

Win was predeceased by her parents, and her brother Donald J. Reilly of Williamsburg, Va. She is survived by her husband of 62 years, John J. Tracy, of Alexandria; her sister, Elizabeth Grady of Ocean Pines, MD; her children, Kevin Tracy and his wife Patti, of Annandale; Eileen Murray, of Chattahoochee, Fla.; Donald Tracy and his wife Loraine, of Richmond, Va.; Beth Louison and her husband Rodney Louison, of Alexandria; and Thomas Tracy, of Fairfax. She is also survived by 15 grandchildren and 4 great-grandchildren.

The family received visitors on Monday, April 16 at the Cunningham Funeral Home, Alexandria. A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated at Good Shepherd Catholic Church, Mount Vernon, Va. on Tuesday April 17. Interment will be at Arlington National Cemetery at a later date.

The family is grateful to Maria Espinoza and her daughters for the devoted care they provided to Win, and also to the staff of Capital Caring.

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BUSINESS MATTERS

A Tall Order

Remember that commercial building that was approved near the Braddock Road Metro station? Well forget about it.

This weekend, members of the Alexandria City Council approved a development special use permit for Braddock Metro Place that spikes that old commercial building in favor of a larger residential building. Planning officials recommended an option that adhered to height limits stipulated in a small-area plan, although the Planning Commission recommended a higher building in addition for affordable housing units.

"The height limit was hotly contested," said Planning Director Farroll Hamer. "From my point of view, it was about staff credibility."

Planning Commission members and City Council members were not concerned about staff credibility, setting aside the height limits in the plan to get affordable housing units. During the public hearing on Saturday, several speakers opposed the proposal.

"It's like putting 10 pounds of potatoes into a five-pound sack," said Nancy Hughes, who lives near the site. "It will tower over everything."

"We're trying to cram too much into this," agreed former Vice Mayor Andrew Macdonald. "It sounds more like a marketing document than an analysis."

Vice Mayor Kerry Donley disagreed with Macdonald. He said the principles of "smart growth" call for the highest density development to be located near Metro stations. As a result, he said, he set aside criticism of abandoning the height limit specified in the small-area plan in favor of accepting 40 new units of affordable housing.

"I appreciate the platitudes and the euphemisms and the generalities," responded Donley. "A lot of what he's talking about I find ironic."

A Taxing Schedule

Uncle Sam's deadline may have been this week, but City Hall has its own schedule. May 1 is the deadline for business personal property tax returns. Any business that has not received a tax return should contact the city immediately or download the form from the city's website.

All returns should be accompanied by an asset listing or federal depreciation schedule, and city officials say they will conduct a statutory assessment of any business not filing by the deadline. The city will also assess a late filing penalty of \$10 or five percent of the tax due, whichever is greater, for failure to file a return by the due date. The penalty will not exceed \$500 if a return is filed within the first 30 days after the due date.

All returns should be accompanied by an asset listing or federal depreciation schedule to determine the correct classification of equipment, which will be the basis for the city's annual business personal property tax assessment.

Energetic Commonwealth

Natural gas infrastructure can be expanded in economic development projects. Thermal energy and landfill gas can now be considered renewable sources of energy. State vehicles will be converted to alternative fuels. And the state energy plan will be amended to encourage Virginia-based production.

Republican Gov. Bob McDonnell signed 13 pieces of legislation this week he says will advance Virginia as what he calls the "energy capital of the East Coast." The legislation continues the governor's all-of-the-above strategy for advancing development of Virginia's energy resources.

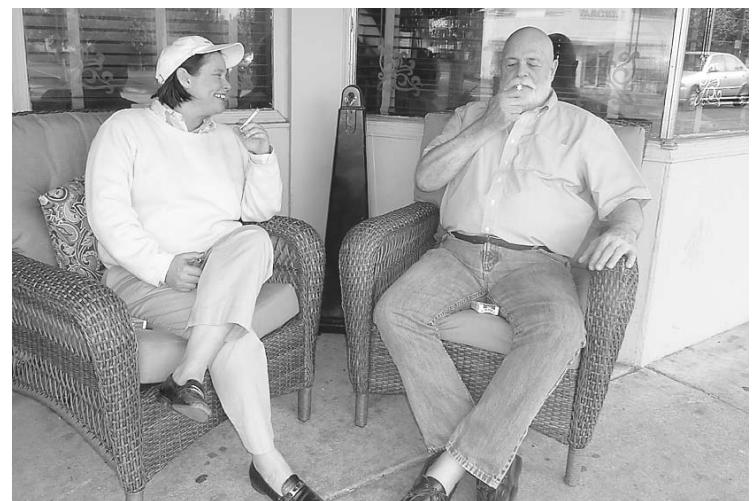
"We have sustained winds off of the Atlantic coast, bountiful coalfields in southwestern Virginia, rich natural gas deposits along with some of the top scientists and research institutions in the world," said McDonnell in a written statement. "We will continue to develop all of Virginia's energy resources, even as we encounter roadblocks from a federal government that professes similar goals but has failed to follow up with actions."

— MICHAEL LEE POPE

BUSINESS



Ramparts decided to go no smoking as of April 8.



Ramparts regulars Mary Wadland and Butch Shunk enjoy a cigarette in Ramparts new smoking section — the sidewalk.

PHOTOS BY JEANNE THEISMANN/GAZETTE PACKET

Ramparts Shifts to 'No Smoking' Policy

FROM PAGE 1

but in the end it only took three days for the loyal customer to be back in his customary place at the end of the bar.

"I really had no intention of coming back," said Shunk after taking some good-natured ribbing from his friends. "But I've been coming here for 26 years so I decided to just try to adjust."

Virginia's statewide restaurant smoking ban took effect Dec. 1, 2009, but Ramparts instead went to considerable expense to install a specialized air filtration system that allowed it to keep its smoking license, one of the few remaining in Northern Virginia.

"We're not going to give up our license," said Ramparts manager Jonathan Jackson. "But we've been thinking about going to a no-smoking policy for some time now and decided this was the time to do it."

Some smokers said that negative reviews on the website Yelp.com prompted the sudden decision to ban smoking.

"It's like the eBay rating system for sellers," said Holly Burnett of the online review website. "Those reviews are important but on Yelp, anyone can go on there and say whatever they want. There's no way of knowing if the complaints are legitimate or coming from a disgruntled competitor."

A check of recent reviews on the website did produce a few anti-smoking comments as well as some pro-smoking support, which, according to Jackson, did not affect the final decision.

"We do read everything that is posted there," Jackson said. "Customer reviews are very important to us but at the end of the day it was our decision to go



Ramparts patron Gary Holme, left, shares a laugh with bartender Buster Didas. A former smoker, Holme supported the change to a no smoking policy.

no smoking."

As required by state law, Ramparts had maintained a separate smoking section with its own entrance.

"We really love our neighborhood and our neighbors," Jackson said. "I hope people came here not just to smoke but for the familiar faces, food and atmosphere."

Gary Holme, a former smoker and 18-year patron of Ramparts, is happy with the decision.

"I hope people don't hold this against Ramparts," Holme said. "They went out of their way to help smokers but it's a business decision and is for the best for everyone."

As for Shunk, he shrugged his shoulders as he settled into a chair and lit up a cigarette outside Ramparts.

"What are you going to do?" Shunk said. "It's the coming thing everywhere. Everyone knows that."

New Fleet of Hybrid Trolleys on Its Way

Alexandria's free King Street trolley service gets clean and green with the launch of an all-new fleet of hybrid trolleys on April 22. Owned by the City of the Alexandria and operated by Alexandria Transit Company's DASH system, the clean diesel hybrid electric trolleys consume less fuel, emit fewer pollutants, and will require less maintenance. Riders will notice new design features including bike racks, low floor design (no steps), wheelchair ramp instead of a hydraulic lift for easier access, plus a smoother ride, quicker acceleration, reduced engine noise and a more spacious and accessible interior.

The City purchased the five new trolleys with



American Reinvestment and Recovery Act Stimulus funds.

On a trolley rider survey conducted March 22 to April 4, 72 percent of the respondents stated the trolley increased the number of restaurants and businesses that they used on that particular day; 26 percent stated the trolley did not make any difference in the number of restaurants and businesses they used; and 1 percent stated the trolley decreased the number of restaurants and businesses they used. The Alexandria Convention & Visitors Association distributes the official Alexandria Visitors Guide and Map on the trolley to expose riders to local businesses and attractions in the area. For more information see VisitAlexandriaVA.com.

NEWS

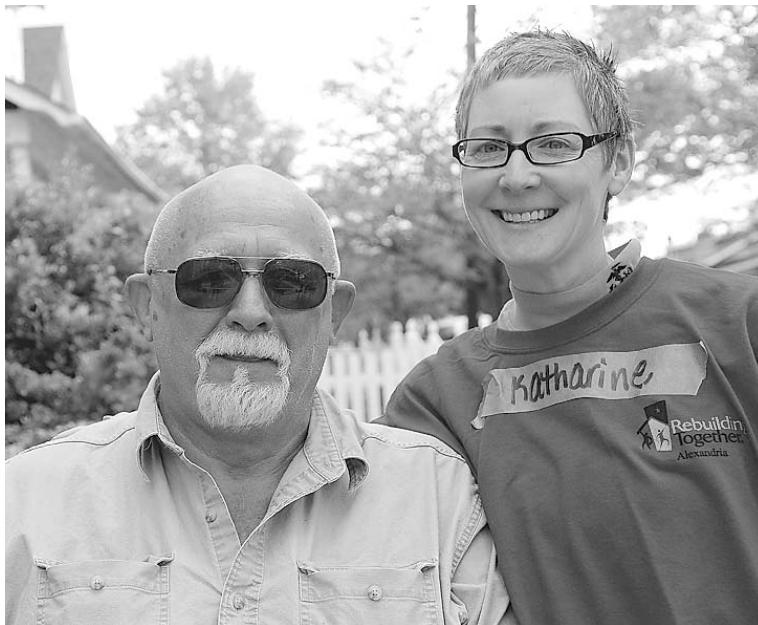


Volunteers from Safeway cut, fit and nail in place planking for the new deck and wheelchair ramp at John Patterson's home in Alexandria.

Helping Rebuilding Together Alexandria

Twenty-one volunteers from Safeway spent Thursday, April 12 constructing an outside porch and wheelchair ramp for John Patterson, a double amputee veteran of the Vietnam War. The volunteers also repaired broken faucets, painted, repainted a fence and pergola and planted a summer garden. Katharine Dixon, executive director of Rebuilding Together Alexandria said, "In addition to the \$20,000 donation from Safeway, we leveraged a significant amount of volunteer help, discounted materials, and professional labor."

Rebuilding Together Alexandria is a volunteer-based, non-profit organization that preserves affordable housing and revitalizes communities. Safeway collaborated with Rebuilding Together as part of Safeway's annual Support for People with Disabilities Campaign,



Alexandria resident John Patterson and Rebuilding Together Alexandria executive director Katharine Dixon.

a fundraiser and awareness campaign that supports organizations

that provide services and outreach to people with disabilities.

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Waterfront Turnaround

City vows to appeal Zoning Appeals vote in favor of opponents.

By MICHAEL LEE POPE
GAZETTE PACKET

The waterfront plan is dead, at least for now. That's the consequence of a late-night vote of the Alexandria Board of Zoning Appeals, which overturned Planning Director Farroll Hamer's determination in January that property owners near the waterfront could not force a supermajority vote to pass the controversial upzoning. In a four-to-two vote after midnight, members approved a motion by Geoffrey Goodale rejecting the city's argument that the protest petition process did not apply because the council vote was a text amendment rather than a map amendment. Even if it's true that the vote was for a text amendment rather than a map amendment, Goodale's motion added, the city was ignoring the plain language of its own code that allowed property owners to bring a challenge of either.

"The city has done a good job at obfuscating," said Goodale as the witching hour approached. "But the plain meaning is the plain meaning."

The turnabout was a dramatic development for opponents, who have not had much luck challenging the plan until now. Opposition to the small-area plan has been building over the course of the last year as Old Town residents say they are concerned about the future of their neighborhood when the density is nearly tripled compared to the buildings there now. But they lost the City Council vote, then they lost in court. Now that the Board of Zoning Appeals has rejected Hamer's determination, city officials are on the defense. After the vote, City Attorney James Banks vowed to appeal the decision.

sion to the Circuit Court.

"I think there's plenty of grounds for an appeal," said Banks after conferring with his legal team.

CITY OFFICIALS tried to cast a distinction between a text amendment, which changes the language of a zoning ordinance, and a map amendment, which changes what kind of zoning is assigned to parcels appear on a map. But members of the Board of Zoning Appeals were critical of that distinction, which several said was being used as a ruse to prevent public participation. During the public hearing, several speakers said the city could use the same tactic in any planning process to prevent citizens from employing the protest petition process.

"I believe it's a property rights state for all property owners," said Katy Cannady, one of the strongest opponents of the plan, "not just land owners seeking to maximize profit on their property."

City officials were also under the gun to explain why a section of the code that allows the protest petition for a text or map amendment didn't apply. Board members clashed repeatedly over how to interpret one section, which a majority of board members felt allowed a challenge to either a map amendment or a text amendment.

They said allowing the city to ignore the "plain language" of the code and using a technicality to dismiss the concerns of property owners was unreasonable. As more cases come forward, said vice chairman David Lantzy, city officials could deny any challenge by labeling everything a text amendment.

"That's clearly not the intent of the zoning ordinance," said Lantzy. "This has broken down badly."

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OPINION

Every Day Is Earth Day

BY DANIEL WHITE
THE NATURE CONSERVANCY

In celebration of Earth Day on April 22, I asked fellow Nature Conservancy staff from Maryland, D.C. and Virginia to offer their favorite ways of going green. Here are some responses that can help you save money, energy and maybe even the planet. To share your tips for living green every day, join us at www.facebook.com/dc.md.va.nature.conservancy.

THE RUN DIARY

Arlington's Kate Hougen, our marketing director, invites anyone who cares about the environment and healthy living to join her on Team Nature: "the team shares tips like how to recycle your running shoes, and raises money for environmental causes, join us and run for a healthier you, and a healthier planet." For more info, visit us online at nature.org/rundc.

HANG 'EM DRY

New mother Kristin Bramell, a fundraiser in Bethesda, prefers to air-dry her laundry: "Why not save energy by using a clothesline at least for your large items? I put up a clothesline in my backyard and love to hang my towels, sheets and t-shirts outside. It takes just five minutes, and there's nothing better than that fresh, natural smell. Now that the weather's nice, I'll probably start hanging up my cloth diapers too!"

THE THRIFTERS

Philanthropy Coordinator Karen Schuyler, who lived in Alexandria prior to settling in Barboursville, shops for clothes at thrift stores: "It's very green since the clothing is being used again, thus saving the energy costs in growing and harvesting plant-based fibers, as well as saving energy in the production and transport of new factory-made garments. Most exciting of all, it's like a treasure hunt and you never know what you'll find."

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Too Late

To the Editor:

I cannot understand why Mayor Euille thinks that VDOT should give Hunting Towers to the City of Alexandria. Why should Virginia taxpayers give a special gift to Alexandria? Apparently when the Towers were originally transferred to VDOT Councilwoman Pepper suggested including a provision that VDOT give the property back for a dollar. For whatever reason that suggestion did not prevail. That was the appropriate time to think of the future disposition of the Towers.

David A. Norcross
Alexandria

Neighbor Mourned

To the Editor:

My neighbor and friend, Gen. William H. Montcrief, Jr., passed this week at 90 years old. He will be remembered for his wit, his amazing historical recall and being an indomitable flirt. I will miss him very much. He was so neat. We are consoled by his burial in Arlington National Cemetery on May 15. General Montgrieve served as Head of Walter Reed Army Hospital, had a thriving medical practice in thoracic surgery in San Francisco and survived many years in medical operations in Viet Nam. He served his country well. He was a passionate and compassionate

military man. And he made wonderful Scottish drinks on the day of the Scottish Walk. The world is less without him.

Betty Spar
Alexandria

Shortchanging Schoolchildren

To the Editor:

How many more times do we have to read about the poorly performing schools twinned with internal issues? And for how long do we continue to seek "savings" by cutting our library hours and reducing personnel? Like most Americans, I do not mind paying

taxes, but I really, really mind how they are spent.

Public education and libraries are highly important to me and flow from my heritage. My mother was a great Ohio public school teacher for 35 years and my library interest is twofold: my own love of reading and my father's 45 years library board service. As a public school and state-college graduate, I owe ever so much of my personal success to this wonderful national benefit: public education.

So, when I read that our library continues with cutback hours and a diminished budget, I get very upset. We are seriously short

SEE LETTERS, PAGE 12

Alexandria Gazette Packet

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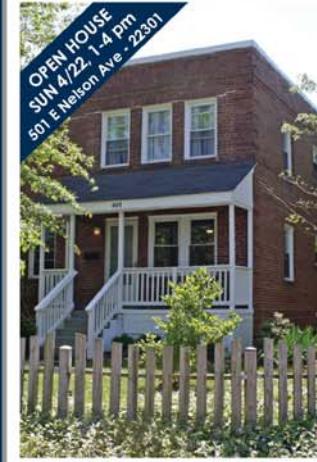
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LETTERS

FROM PAGE 10

changing the many children who benefit from visiting a library, being introduced to books and having access to computers and the Internet — all Alexandria families are not rich, so we are depriving the under-privileged when we short-change our libraries. We apparently have money for \$700,000 trolleys and outside legal and planning consultants. What is wrong with this picture! If our legal and planning departments can't "cut the mustard," then they should be replaced with employees who can because their salaries are very handsome and the savings realized from not using consultants could be spent on our children.

Now let's talk about our schools — they do get abundant taxpayer dollars but unfortunately the money flows in the wrong direction: upstairs to administrators and not downstairs into the classrooms. A Virginia Department of Education study last year reported Alexandria with the worst ratio, which highlights a policy that is lopsided. Another policy that is of concern is the emphasis in the schools — at least at T.C. Williams. When I ran into two European

teachers who recently were at our high school for an exchange program, I heard something from them that I had heard whispered about town. That is, students just have to show up and be quiet to get passed. On the other hand, advanced students are receiving all the "teaching" — the rest are being warehoused. No wonder we see too little improvement by our children despite the superintendent's remark in last week's Packet "that our accomplishments are amazing."

Our children are America's most valuable resource, and public libraries and schools are great contributors to ensuring each of our children gets a chance to have a successful life. Alexandria's priorities are simply out of whack: lots of new buildings, lots of goodies for the business community and not enough for our children. We keep hearing promises of improvements in our schools but we have now had at least an entire decade of poor results — results that affect each and every student who did not get what he or she needed in our classrooms. As a career counselor, I firmly believe that each human has the desire to achieve; parents and great teachers can help each of us find and

nourish our spark.

Let's stop spending money on consultants, fancy buildings and high-paid school administrators and aides and instead spend the money keeping our libraries open longer hours and school dollars dedicated to the classroom. And, please, school board members and City Council, stop accepting excuses for poor outcomes — we've heard enough of those to last a lifetime.

Linda Couture
Alexandria

Just the Facts

To the Editor:

ACPS facts ... no politics, nothing personal, no rhetoric:

1. ACPS and the City of Alexandria use the same auditor for its operating and overall budgets. ACPS budgets have received national awards each of the past three years as the auditors have commended our financial reports and processes. The recent CIP procedural review was part of our additional ongoing reviews of each department.

2. The National School Boards

SEE LETTERS, PAGE 13

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LETTERS

FROM PAGE 12

Association just recognized ACPS with a First Place Magna award for its strategic planning, one of 15 school communities in the country to receive this award.

3. T.C. Williams had its highest scores ever in Writing, Reading, and Mathematics last year.

4. Advanced Placement enrollment was at an all time-high last year while maintaining historically high scores ... enrollments in AP courses are even higher this year.

5. More eighth graders took Algebra I or Geometry last year than ever before ... with a 99 percent pass rate ... enrollments are even higher this year in eighth-grade Algebra I.

6. Preschool enrollments have increased seven-fold in ACPS in the past three years.

7. Elementary math and writing scores are up.

8. Enrollment has increased from 10,600 in the spring of 2008 to 12,400 in 2012, about a 17 percent increase.

9. Budget increases in the past four years have averaged 2 percent per year as per pupil costs have decreased.

10. We have created an amazing new curriculum which replaced our "pacing guides" based on the SOLs.

11. One of our many schools to receive recognition this year, Lyles-Crouch Traditional Academy is Virginia's School of Character and is one of 22 public schools recognized nationally for their accomplishments.

The list of important facts and points of pride is very long. There are many more to come in the following weeks as we honor our students accepted to prestigious colleges, receive awards in music, and set standards of accomplishment which will challenge the next generation of students.

And we will not shy away from our emphasis on candid conversations as we focus on continual improvement in all departments.

We welcome our community to visit our schools. Please see first hand the exceptional work going on in ACPS as we serve the children of Alexandria.

Morton Sherman
ACPS Superintendent of Schools

A Perfect Symphony

To the Editor:

The Board of Zoning Appeals (BZA) marathon meeting on April 12 was a textbook perfect picture of collaborative decision-making at its best — equi-

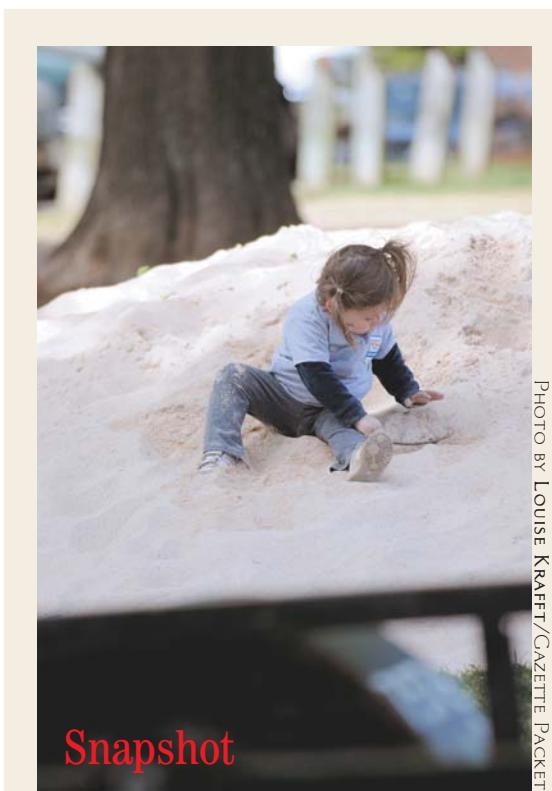


PHOTO BY LOUISE KRAFT/CAZETTE PACKET

Snapshot

A new mound of sand becomes a playground for a small child outside Simpson Field on Saturday morning, April 14.

table and obliging. It was a symphony of diverse voices and views that blended the expertise, opinions, and facts, from all major stakeholders — except those east of Union. It resounded with concerns of everyone in the room.

Board members, lawyers, citizens, and city staff each keenly listened, especially as the night wore on into morning, and none of us knew what the final outcome would be. Each had done their best in presenting their positions. No single group dominated, no single party attempted to assert control, and in the end all the cards were on the table — in plain view and often in plain language.

It was my pleasure last night to watch the rebroadcast and see that, indeed, it was an extremely well done process. The task before the Board of Zoning Appeals, a citizen board appointed by the city, was to consider whether or not to overturn the planning director's decision that a protest petition, filed by residents regarding the zoning changes for the waterfront plan, was invalid. This decision enabled the Jan. 21 vote on the waterfront plan/text amendment;

SEE LETTERS, PAGE 14

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PHOTO BY LOUISE KRAFFT/GAZETTE PACKET

Snapshot

11:15 a.m., April 14: Simpson Park.

LETTERS

FROM PAGE 13

however, a super majority vote had not been achieved. A vote of this type was created to ensure that the outcome of grave decisions such as the rebuilding that would significantly increase the density of the riverside in Old Town would not radically change the character, property value, or the quality of life of residents. The hearing at the BZA was essentially an important opportunity for citizens to enjoy a lengthy dialogue with the city and others outside a court of law.

Taking the first step to push complex multistakeholder issues into the courts often results in a flowering of related legal cases, when each group sees its position denied. This presents great opportunity and gain for lawyers but little for citizens or their elected officials, who can be whiplashed around by competing interests. Narrow legal arguments and tactical maneuvers abound as the heart of the issue crusts over in a festering shell.¹⁰ This is a well-documented phenomenon in the mediation literature. For example, in Memphis, where the court route was taken, as commercial development was favored over that of history and the environment, the

riverfront has become a portrait of unfinished business. Competing stakeholder visions have resulted in delay and cost overruns.

We are at a pivotal point right now. The BZA's opinion opened the way for everyone to take a deep breath and sit down together at the table to craft a viable and equitable shared vision. Putting all the landowners or their representatives at the same table with citizens and the city is essential — they all have a stake in this matter and should all directly hear what the other has to say. As the BZA meeting clearly demonstrated the people of Alexandria are smart, flexible, determined and in statements at the open session at City Hall voiced their strong willing to help craft a good deal — for everyone.

Old Town residents accept the expense of maintaining historic properties because of the quality of life in Old Town — small, friendly, with a view of nature, supporting and supported by a network of diverse merchants in pocket-sized places. Dramatically increased density could radically change the character of Old Town — its spillover will stress the resources of an already densely built historic town. Only by putting all

interested parties at the table. Together can we achieve a viable future: small scale, low density, environmentally friendly, and reflective of the historic districts' cultural heritage and continuing expression through the arts. Nobody loses and we get a better end result — for the cost of a couple hundred sandwiches, lots of coffee, and the time and intelligence that each could dedicate.

The meeting can be found on the city's web site: http://alexandria.granicus.com/ViewPublisher.php?view_id=34. It is a tour de force in collaborative decision-making. Tune it in, if you have the time to sit back with a pitcher of ice-tea and your favorite snack food — and enjoy democratic process at its best.

Kathryn Papp

Sound of Change

To the Editor:

If the explosive eruption of Krakatoa in 1883 was a "sound heard 'round the world," the cheering you heard on Friday morning at 1 a.m., after the Board of Zoning Appeals reversed a City decision that prevented citizens from protesting a major waterfront zoning decision last January was heard all over Alexandria.

The 4-2 vote by a small body of appointed citizens tasked with ensuring that the City's zoning code is properly and fairly applied, did more than shine a spotlight on a corrupted public and political process. It challenged the direction in which Mayor Euille and developers want to take the City, one that I believe is having profound negative impacts on the face of Alexandria.

In a statement released by the City, Mayor William D. Euille said, "the BZA decision on the protest petition will not halt the Plan's implementation; however, ensuring a change in zoning use is a critical element of the plan. City Council will need to discuss the BZA's decision and determine how to move forward, because this component is not only important to shaping the future of Alexandria's waterfront, but also critical to the future of development in our city."

In other words, the Mayor is saying I don't care what you think, we are going ahead with our plans; we don't need to listen. In fact, I think this plan and others like it are part of the reason that City spending has risen so dramatically over the last decade. This

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Forest Knoll
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This fantastic updated colonial offers amazing space with 4,100+ SF and .29 acres, 4BRs, HW floors, high-end appliances, new roof, huge sunroom & walkout basement in a park like setting! Joy Deevy 703.930.5198



Parkfairfax
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Canal Way
1170 N. Pitt Street, Alexandria, VA 22314
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\$20K reduction!! Beautiful Cape Cod in Great location! Remodeled kitchen, bathrooms, extended dining room, garage & more! More views at 3008Russell.com! Schedule a showing today! Rachel Carter 703.851.4207



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Collingwood Estates
1121 Amesbury Lane, Alexandria, VA 22308
Ready For Contract! Priced for quick sale. 4BR, 3BA 2 lvl rambler in Waynewood school district. Upgrades incl tile for entry/kit, LR picture window, dishwasher, insulation. Pool membership included. Ed Pagett 703-518-6161



Poplins Heights
2430 Ross St, Alexandria, VA 22306
First Offering! Recently updated including windows, painting, roof w/ridge vent & more. 5BR, 2BA 2 LVL, walkout rambler w/ deck on private lot in close-in neighborhood. Fantastic buy for under \$470K! Ed Pagett 703-518-6161



Hunting Creek Club Condos
2059 Hunting Avenue #1006, Alexandria, VA 22303
Commuter's Dream - blocks to Huntington Metro. 2 BR / 2 BA rare end unit overlooking trees, pool & tennis court. Gated parking lot with 24 hour front desk security. Only 1/4 mile to 495 & 95. Terry Ann Stevens 757-647-4705



Old Town Alexandria
310 King Street | Alexandria, VA 22314 | 703.518.8300

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OPEN SUN
JUST LISTED!

9403 Ferry Landing Ct
\$75,000

Large Colonial-Custom Pool!!!

Fabulous Colonial in prime location on one of area's most attractive streets. Home features unique courtyard effect with "L" shaped two car garage. Exceptionally well maintained home with bright floor plan and spacious rooms. Open kitchen and family room. Gorgeous professionally manicured 1/2 acre grounds with custom pool. Exceptionally well price. OPEN SUN 4/22, 1-4! GW Parkway S, past Estate; L-Old Mount Vernon Rd; L-Ferry Landing Ct.



OPEN SUN
NEW PRICE!

9017 Stratford Ln
\$899,000

Totally Expanded and Updated!

Understated elegance-modest front elevation belies stunning expanded interior featuring room sizes and amenities typically associated with new custom homes. Many fabulous features include gourmet kitchen, stunning master suite, hardwood floors, upgraded HVAC system, imported tile and many additional luxurious amenities. No cost was spared in renovation resulting in top of the line brands throughout. OPEN SUN 4/22, 1-4! GW Parkway S, past Estate; L-Ferry Landing; R-Mount Vernon Cir to Mount Vernon Landing.



OPEN SUN

9514 Mount Vernon Ln
\$1,950,000
MVOP
WATERFRONT-
PRIVATE DOCK

Unique opportunity to acquire direct water frontage with private dock in prestigious MVOP! Designed by architect to capitalize on waterviews. Dramatic open flr pln, soaring ceilings, expansive glass walls and all brick exterior. All major components in place-personalize interior. OPEN SUN 4/22, 1-4! GW Parkway S, past Estate; L-Ferry Landing; R-Mount Vernon Cir to Mount Vernon Landing.



OPEN SAT & SUN 1 - 4!
\$ 485,000
Cameron Station
165 MARTIN LN

Largest 4lvl TH/condo * End Unit * Garage * Dramatic floor-to-ceiling windows on 3 sides * 2-story LR * 3-sided Gas frpl * Master Suite w/2 walk-in closets * Beautifully presented & spotlessly clean * Welcome Home!

Mary Siverson 703.209.6918



\$ 725,000
Quaker Ridge
"STUNNING"

4fly/3BR/2.55 TH w/\$200K + in builder/owner upgrades. Highlights: Gourmet kit w/granite & SS, hardwood floors/stairs, custom paint, wood trim & mouldings, window treatments, 2 gas frpls. 3rd lvl MstrSuite, rear balcony & porch, custom 2-car gar plus mins to Metro & Old Town... and more!



Marc Foster 202.550.6042



OPEN SUNDAY 1 - 4!
\$ 519,000
Parker Gray Historic District
309 N FAYETTE ST

- Charming 2BR / 1.5BA
- Hardwood throughout
- Living rm w/fireplace
- Open kit to DR to lovely patio
- 2 nice size BR
- Finished attic - use for office/bonus room
- Walk to metro



Martine Irmer & Alexander Irmer
703.346.7283 or 703403.2465



JUST LISTED!

808 Pendleton St
\$495,000

Just Completed-
Total Renovation!!

Unique property combining the best of both worlds-new home amenities with the character and convenience of a prime Old Town location. Fabulous features include: open floor plan, brand new kitchen & baths, upgraded trim detail and hardwood floors. New windows, siding and roof. Complete rebuild by leading builder. No condo or HOA fees.



NEW HOME!

516A E Howell Ave
\$679,000

De Ray-Rare Opportunity!

Exceptionally spacious home by one of area's leading builders in prime location. Four stories of luxury featuring bright open floor plan, open kitchen-family room, stunning master suite and private rear yard and deck. Unique combination of close-in convenience with up to date floor plan and amenities. Buy during construction and customize to suit your taste. (Photo is rendition)



NEW PRICE!

2327 Wittington Blvd
\$645,000

Better Than New-
Gorgeous Lot!

Stunning 3 level, 4 bedroom Colonial just renovated from top to bottom! Many features include: large room sizes, open kitchen-family room, finished lower level and 2 car garage. Virtually every major component is brand new! Upgraded throughout! Gorgeous large fenced lot. Walk to nearby pool! Amazing Value!



OPEN SUNDAY 1 - 4!
\$ 485,000
Alexandria
2181 JAMIESON
AVE #1101

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www.brianandjerry.com
Brian Hong & Jerry Beamer 703.929.5764



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"SPARKLING"

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Marcy Covarrubias 703.772.6569



OPEN SUNDAY 1 - 4!
\$ 885,000
Alexandria
5109 FT
ELLSWORTH CT

On a cul-de-sac, this immaculate Chevy Chase has gourmet kit, gorgeous house width deck/entertainment area incl a very large side yard. Main lvl formal LR/DR plus ofc, pwdr rm, great rm & morning rm. 6BR/4BA + new carpet on upper 2 lvs. Absolute luxury & move-in ready. Enjoy!

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CONTRACT!

9020 Old Mt Vernon Rd
\$650,000
Stunning
Renovation-Borders
Mt. Vernon Estate!



CONTRACT!

9107 Mount Vernon Dr
\$539,000
Main Level
Master Suite!
Don't let the front
elevation fool you-this 4 level home
is huge! Unique property with large



CONTRACT!

8617 Valley Lee Dr
\$549,500
Gorgeous Custom
Pool & Grounds!!
Spacious two level rambler with
bright open floor plan. Expansive glass
walls on both levels overlook gorgeous pool and



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1900 BELLE
HAVEN RD

Colonial w/3,000+ sqft of living space on 3 fin lvs inc. 2 fp, HWs & an au-pair suite w/full kit. The FR opens to well-appointed kit w/ access to Fr. doors leading to patio & prof. landscaped yd. MBR has w-in closet, natural stone spa BA. Min to Old Town / Parkway.

Suzanne Backus 703.338.3594



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Alexandria
611B ESSEX
HOUSE SQ

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Adele dePolo 703.298.5987



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\$ 614,000
Alexandria
"HAS IT ALL!"

House Beautiful! A spectacular renovation highlighting sunken LR w/built-ins & fp, FR w/fp, eat-in kit w/custom cabs & granite, custom moldings & paint thru-out home. Landscaped .45 acre lot has huge screened porch plus deck. 4/5BR, 3BA. Community pool & tennis. Close-in but quiet location.

Julia Martin 703.850.5543



CONTRACT!

2413 Randolph Dr
\$547,500
Stratford Colonial/
Classic 4BR Colonial in
prime location in Stratford
Landing. Many features include: updated



CONTRACT!

3035 Cooper Rd
\$428,000
Stratford Colonial/
Classic 4BR Colonial in
prime location in Stratford
Landing. Many features include: updated



CONTRACT!

8826 Cooper Rd
9219 Ashwood Dr
SOLD!



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LEASE!**
\$ 524,900
Alexandria
"MILLION \$ VIEW"

... but at half the price! Stunning 2BR/2BA 20th fl unit w/unobstructed views of Old Town/DC. An enclosed sunroom w/ flr to ceiling windows, warm wood flrs, newly renovated high-end kit, & built-ins thru-out are the pluses of this open flrplan. Near commuter routes, VRE & Metro plus 1 oversized gar parking. Full service bldg w/24hr sec.

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1 - 4!**
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HEROES

Above and Beyond

Chamber to honor
first responders with
Valor Awards April 26.

BY JEANNE THEISMANN
GAZETTE PACKET



Benard Baldwin,
Lifesaving Award



Anthony Casalena,
Lifesaving Award



Raymond Golden,
Bronze Medal



Anthony Gorham,
Bronze Medal



Michael Kochis,
Bronze Medal



Dana Lawhorne,
Bronze medal



Brian Mauck,
Lifesaving Award



Frank McGrigg,
Bronze Medal



Joseph Porcelli,
Lifesaving Award



Sheila Richardson,
Lifesaving Award

There was no time for careful deliberation. The water was swiftly rising as an elderly driver was trapped inside a submerged vehicle at the intersection of Edsall Road and Winter View Drive during the flash flooding that devastated the region on Sept. 8, 2011. Unequipped for swift water rescue, Lt. Patrick Lyon and firefighters Michael Chandler, Louis Simpson and Joseph Porcelli from Ladder Truck 208 quickly assessed the situation.

Moving the truck to the edge of the flood waters, Simpson positioned the aerial ladder to allow Chandler and Lyon to attempt to reach the vehicle. But the surging current caused the car to shift position several times, leaving the men unsecured on the moving ladder 85 feet out over the rapidly rising waters.

As Simpson and Porcelli repositioned the ladder, Lyon attached a safety rope to Chandler, who climbed down to the roof of the car, broke through the sunroof with his axe and pulled the trapped driver from the vehicle. Within minutes, firefighters got the victim onto the ladder as the car began moving with the current, leaving Chandler still on the roof. With only seconds to spare, Chandler grabbed the ladder and hung on, dangling over the rushing waters as the car beneath him was swept downstream.

Meanwhile, the crews of Engine 205 and 209 were in Eisenhower Valley battling the same flash flooding in an attempt to rescue motorists and building occupants.

As swiftly moving flood waters rushed across Eisenhower Avenue onto Telegraph Road, numerous vehicles were being swept away, trapping their occupants inside as the currents carried them downstream towards the Potomac River. Without proper equip-

ment or training in swift water rescue, Captains Phillip Perry and Anthony Casalena and Firefighters William Dunleavy and Christopher Smith entered the rushing currents, rescuing victims from submerged vehicles and saving at least nine people who were in serious danger.

For their acts of heroism that day, these men and others will be honored April 26 at the 26th annual Alexandria Chamber of Commerce Public Safety Valor Awards to be held at the Crowne Plaza Hotel.

The chamber will recognize 31 of the city's first responders, including Perry and Chandler who will be honored with a Gold Medal for their valor, the highest honor presented in the awards.

Other awards include Dunleavy and Lyon, who will be presented with Silver Medals and 13 first responders who earned Bronze Medals for their acts of bravery in the line of duty. The chamber will also present 12 Lifesaving Awards and two Certificates of Valor during the ceremony.

The flash flooding of Sept. 8, a result of 6 to 10 inches of rain that deluged the area, brought numerous calls for water-related rescues and Sheriff Dana Lawhorne, who was nominated by the fire department, will be honored with a Bronze Medal for his efforts that day.

Lawhorne was monitoring the situation at a hotel at Mill Road and Eisenhower Avenue when he saw a man trapped in a Ford Explorer that was caught in a strong current of water. The driver was told to stay in the car and await rescue but a sudden surge propelled the vehicle under the Eisenhower Avenue overpass and out of sight.

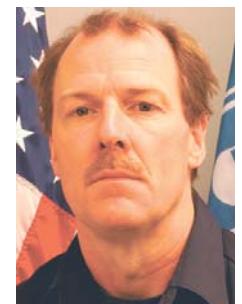
Lawhorne followed the path of the car, positioning himself in the median on a mound of grass where he used a road sign to maintain his stability in the water. Even as the rapidly rising currents reached waist level, Lawhorne remained with the vehicle until a fire rescue team arrived to bring the driver to safety.

Lawhorne cannot swim.

For more information on the Valor Awards, call 703-549-1000 or visit www.alexchamber.com.



Charles Davis,
Lifesaving Award



William Dunleavy,
Silver Medal



Tarek Helmy,
Bronze Medal



Anton Keith,
Lifesaving Award



Joshua Leach,
Bronze Medal



Patrick Lyons,
Silver Medal



William Morgan,
Lifesaving Award



Gustavo Paulino,
Bronze Medal



Robert Robinson,
Bronze Medal



Joseph Runquist,
Lifesaving Award



Charles Seckler,
Certificate of Valor



John Shaffer,
Bronze Medal



Louis Simpson,
Bronze Medal



Patrick Taylor,
Certificate of Valor



Robert Townsend,
Bronze Medal



Ryan Waple,
Bronze medal



Sherman Warner,
Lifesaving Award

Alexandria on Tour During Historic Garden Week

Sponsored by Hunting Creek Garden Club and The Garden Club of Alexandria; Saturday, April 21 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Information Centers and Restroom Facilities: Alexandria Visitors Center — The Ramsey House, 221 King street in Alexandria. Call 703-746-3301. Visit www.vagardenweek.org.

Tickets: \$40, full ticket on tour day includes six private houses and gardens, refreshments at St. Paul's Episcopal Church and all-day admission to nearby historic properties. Group tours for 10 or more people and tickets purchased in advance are \$35. Single site ticket, \$20. Full tickets for children under 12 are \$20. Children younger than 17 must be accompanied by an adult.

Advance Tickets: \$35, are available at the Alexandria Visitor's Center, 221 King St. For internet tickets, visit www.Vgardenweek.org.

Refreshments: Complimentary light refreshments available at the Old Presbyterian meeting House, 323 South Fairfax St., from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. on the day of the tour.

117 SOUTH LEE STREET

This Italianate style Victorian residence was probably an early public building along the 18th century waterfront. The south façade indicates early window and door configurations, which are "ghosted" in the old brick patterns. Mid-19th century architectural and interior trim details are from Victorian pattern books (1850 to 1875). These details, including the prominent bracket cornice, pierced metal door and window hoods, interior transom window and hand carved interior window trim in the entry, living room and dining room, indicate a major renovation during that time period. Also at that time, wood burning fireplaces were replaced with coal fireplace heaters. From 1902 to 2009, the home was occupied by the Bernheimer family who made some major improvements during the 1930s, most notably, adding second floor plumbing. The current owners completely renovated the home and garden in 2010, opening the kitchen to a new family room and walled garden. The garden features a large split boxwood salvaged from the original garden and a privacy hedge of Russian olive trees. Ken and Esther Carpi, owners.

212 SOUTH FAIRFAX STREET (THE WRIGHT GARDEN)

The lots on which the dwelling and garden sit were purchased by Lawrence Washington in the original Alexandria land auction of 1749. He subsequently lost title when he failed to build within the required time. The property was later acquired by Dr. William Brown, Physician General in the American Revolution, friend of George Washington, fellow officer at Valley Forge and author of the first American "Pharmacopoeia." The emphasis in this elegant shade garden is on color, texture and spring blooms. Many of the boxwood and azalea plantings were present in 1969 when the current owner purchased the property. They were later moved when the gate was relocated from the side of the house to its present location. The small brick building at the back of the garden, once a smoke and spring house, is original. The patio was constructed using brick pavers excavated from the rear of the property near an old stable that is shown on an early map. Cobblestones, which were also unearthed, were given to the city to use for repairing Alexandria's two cobblestone streets. The orangery was constructed by the current owner in 1991. Also of note are the espaliered ginkgo trees along the driveway. Mrs. Frank H. Wright, owner.

320 SOUTH LEE STREET

The central portion of this Federalized Victorian was likely built during the first quarter of the 19th century. Alexandria required that residents build on their lots within two years of possession. Originally, the dwelling unit would have been entered by the side door that today provides access to a closed alley. In

1850, the home was significantly enlarged and an adjoining mirror image home was built for the two married sisters. The two properties were connected via a doorway at the top of the back stairs. In 1949, the dwelling was renovated by the Armfield family and an English garden replaced old dog kennels, which were used by the previous owner for their hunting dogs. In 1999, the kitchen was completely renovated by the current owners. Legend says that the house was visited each Christmas by the spirit of a mid-19th century gentleman. His visits ended when a new doorway was built between the living room and dining room. In the garden, the boxwoods planted in 1950 still thrive. A large triple trunk river birch shades the dining patio. The garden features specimen plantings of dwarf loppetum, snowball viburnum and hydrangea. Mr. and Mrs. George Boteler, owners.

206 WOLFE STREET

This 19th century Greek Revival townhouse is built on the foundations of an earlier house which was destroyed by fire. On Jan. 4, 1871 at 11 p.m., a fire broke out in Frederick Schwoop's bakery at 210 Wolfe Street destroying the bakery and several adjacent structures, including 206 Wolf. The owner, a seaport captain, did not rebuild and subsequently sold the property two years later. The current home was later rebuilt and has undergone multiple renovations, most recently last year. The result is a lovely, warm, bright and open interior. In 2010, the owners added a sunroom and outdoor porch off the master bedroom. The floor in the sunroom was purchased in Marrakesh during one of their travels. The garden features a Haddonstone fountain and understory trees such as Sweet Bay magnolia, Acer griseum, Stewardia pseudocamilla, camellias, poenies, boxwood, spring bulbs and Japanese perennials. This garden has evolved over the past 12 years under the stewardship of the owner who is a retired horticulturalist from the U.S. Botanic Garden. It has also expanded into the cobblestone lane beyond the garden walls. Betty and Ed Spar, owners.

613 SOUTH ROYAL STREET

This fine traditional brick town home was built over 30 years ago. Sited back from the street, raised beds in the front of the home feature hosta, daylilies, hydrangea and colorful annuals shaded by a mature cherry tree. During the last 10 years the owner has completed major renovations including second floor bedrooms and baths at the back of the first floor, an open air inviting new floor plan. The kitchen now opens to a dramatic volume ceiling in the family room with a stone fireplace and views of the garden. The owner has transformed the previous Japanese garden to a more casual space, adding traditional Virginia plantings while retaining a specimen Japanese maple. Also featured around the flagstone and brick terrace are cornus florida, rhododendron, crepe myrtle, peonies and a styrax. In addition, the owner converted a potting shed at the back of the property into a bar area with architectural arbor and a fountain to create a lovely outdoor entertaining area. A brick walkway on the south side of the property leads to a glass conservatory which floods the kitchen with natural light. Shelby Scarborough, owner.

215 JEFFERSON STREET.

This fine 18th century home was last on the Historic Garden Week Tour in 1955. This property dates to 1782 when a free-standing dwelling was constructed on five lots. The original owner was the son of John Alexander, for whom the city is named. In the living room, the original windows and fireplace mantel can still be seen. It was not until 1966 that the large west addition was constructed. Recently, the home was completely renovated by the current owners offering a spacious family room opening to the expansive gardens. In 2010, the gardens were refreshed by noted landscape designer Jane MacLeish. Known as the Sally Ann Gardens, they consist of four areas: The parterre garden with Korean boxwood, tulips and hollies, the East garden featuring euonymus and sarcocca shrubs, the North garden lined with American holly and filled with hydrangeas and the West garden, composed of azaleas, euonymus and crepe myrtle. A side walkway is lined with magnolias, azaleas and acuba. There are more than 50 boxwoods throughout the gardens, some dating back 60 years. Mr. and Mrs. Gene Jankowski, owners.

Other places of interest are also included in the Historic Garden Week ticket. Please note, tour tickets are not sold at the following locations:



The gardens of Ken and Esther Carpi and Betty and Ed Spar, which will be on Alexandria Garden Tour.

The Lee-Fendall House Museum and Garden, 614 Oronoco Street at North Washington Street. Built in 1785 by Philip Fendall on land purchased from Revolutionary War hero "Light Horse Harry" Lee, this gracious historic house museum presents an intimate study of 19th century family life. Home to several generations of the famed Lees of Virginia (1785-1903) and labor leader John L. Lewis (1937-69), the house is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Guided tours are offered 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. on the tour day. Visit www.leafendallhouse.org.

Carlyle House Historic Park, 121 North Fairfax Street. When Scottish merchant John Carlyle completed his riverfront house in 1753, this was the grandest mansion in the new town of Alexandria. The stone architecture, furniture and decorative finishes reflect Carlyle's status and wealth. The Garden Club of Virginia restored the front landscape to the mid-18th century period. A lovely garden with a boxwood parterre graces the rear of the house. The site is owned by the Northern Virginia Regional Park Authority. Guided tours are offered 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on the tour date. Visit www.nvrpa.org.

George Washington's Mount Vernon Estate and Gardens, 8 mi. south of Alexandria on the George Washington Memorial Parkway. Situated on the Potomac River, Mount Vernon was the home of George and Martha Washington. From the end of the American Revolution in 1783 to his election to the presidency in 1789, Washington replaced outbuildings, reshaped gardens, created new lawns, planted trees and even realigned roads and lanes. The George Washington Pioneer Farmer Site features a distinctive replica of Washington's 16-sided barn and displays of his farming principles. With funding from Historic Garden Week, the Garden Club of Virginia has helped to restore Mount Vernon's bowling green, one of the major landscape features on this vast plantation. The Mount Vernon Ladies Association owns the property. Visit www.mountvernon.org.

PHOTO BY LOUISE KRAFFT/GAZETTE PACKET

American Horticultural Society at River Farm, 7931 East Boulevard Drive. The headquarters of the American Horticultural Society overlooks the Potomac River and was one of George Washington's original properties. The property is comprised of 25 acres of gardens and grounds, which include perennial borders, annual beds, children's gardens, a meadow, a woodland, and picnic areas. The estate house was remodeled in the early 20th century and the property is described as a "gentleman's estate." Large porches offer a panoramic view of the Potomac River and gardens. Open 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Visit www.ahs.org.

Woodlawn. 9000 Richmond Highway, 3 mi. west of Mount Vernon at the intersection of Rte 235 and U.S. Rte. 1. This Federal mansion was built on 2,000 acres that George Washington carved from Mount Vernon when his wife's granddaughter Nelly Custis married his nephew Lawrence Lewis. Designed by Dr. William Thornton, the first architect of the United States Capitol, the house contains fine Federal period furnishings, many brought from Mount Vernon. The garden was restored by the Garden Club of Virginia in 1958-60 and is owned by the National Trust for Historic Preservation. Open 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Visit www.woodlawn1805.org.

Gunston Hall Plantation. 15 mi. south of Alexandria off U.S. Rte. 1 on Rte. 242. This 550-acre National Historic Landmark was the home of George Mason (1725-92), author of the Virginia Declaration of Rights. The estate consists of a Georgian mansion, ca. 1755, and reconstructed kitchen, dairy, laundry and schoolhouse. The brick mansion exhibits elaborately carved woodwork enhanced by furnishings of the colonial period. The Potomac River is viewed through the original Deer Park. While no longer a restoration project of the Garden Club of Virginia, the Club assisted Gunston Hall with landscaping work in 1949-53. Open 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Visit www.gunstonhall.org.

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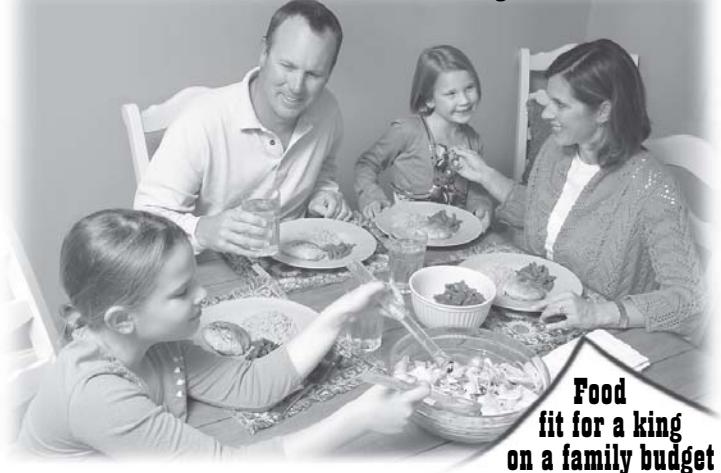
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ENTERTAINMENT

Hollin Hills Hosts House & Garden Tour

Date: Saturday,
April 28, from
12 to 6 p.m.

Hollin Hills, the mid-century modern neighborhood in Alexandria, hosts its next House & Garden Tour on Saturday, April 28, from noon to 6 p.m.

The self-guided walking tour showcases stunning examples of mid-century modern architecture, furnishings and landscape. The homes have been individually sited to be harmonious with the land and to maximize views and privacy. Large expanses of floor-to-ceiling windows give the homes a sleek appearance and allow for a synergy between exterior and interior spaces.

The community was created by mid-century master architect Charles Goodman, who shared his vision along with developer Robert Davenport of designing and building homes contemporary to the time and with respect for the environment. Homes were nestled into the hillside; wooded areas were preserved. Roads meandered and followed the lay of the land. Landscape plans were designed for each home. Dan Kiley, the preeminent 20th Century landscape architect, was one of the landscape architects who drew up these plans which were presented to each homeowner.

Over the years, homeowners have built additions which have followed the MCM style or extended it. Yet there are many that have kept the original footprint. The tour will have examples of both.

In collaboration with the Tour, the Interior Design department of The Corcoran Gallery of Art, College of Art + Design in Washington, D.C., will host a program entitled "A Community of Vision: Hollin Hills, Modern Then and Now." This program will take place at 6 p.m. Friday April 27, at the Corcoran, 500 Seventeenth Street, NW, Washington, D.C. Architect, author, critic and native of Hollin Hills, Michael Sorkin (sorkinstudio.com); Landscape architect Dennis Carmichael, FASLA, Principal, Parker-Rodriguez; and Heidi Nasstrom Evans, Ph.D., Corcoran College of Art + Design with special interest in American 20th Century visual



culture, will discuss the history and influence of Hollin Hills, Mid-century Modern architecture, landscape and design and its impact today. Program qualifies for CEU credits.

The program will be moderated by Lisa Lipinski, Ph.D., Interim Chair of Arts and Humanities, Corcoran College of Art + Humanities.

On the day of the tour, Thomas Kerns, FAIA, resident and architect, will give a brief history of Hollin Hills and an orientation to the tour. This will be held at 11 a.m. at Hollin Meadows Elementary School at 2310 Nordok Place, Alexandria, where tickets may be

picked-up or purchased.

As an added bonus, the tour will include the Hollin Meadows Elementary School Student Garden. The Student Garden is an innovative project that integrates science and art with dynamic hands-on experience. Students' art and sculpture identifies different sections of the garden. The Garden was visited by First Lady Michelle Obama in 2009.

Tickets are \$25 and are no longer available online. They may be purchased on the day of the tour at these locations: Fort Hunt Road and Paul Spring Road (swimming pool area) or Hollin Meadows School at Nordok Place and Range Road.

ENTERTAINMENT

MONTH OF APRIL

Harvest Assembly Baptist Church 25th Anniversary.

At 8012 Fordson Road, Alexandria. Services are held at 8:30 a.m.; 10:30 a.m.; and 5 p.m. Special dates:

♦ April 29: Dr. David Cunningham, Dr. Regretta B. Johnson Ruffin and Bishop William Walker, Latta SC. Featuring: HABC Dance Ministries and the HABC Unity Choir; Adults: \$40 13 & up; Children: \$20 12 & under; Featuring: The Singing Angels, HABC Pastor's Praise Team; Call: 703-799-7868.

THURSDAY/APRIL 19

Rhino Wars. 6:30 p.m. Alexandria resident and National Geographic staff writer Peter Gwin will speak at The Potomack Company about his book "Rhino Wars: The Violent Underworld of Black Market Medicine" in conjunction with Potomack's auction of a collection of wild game hunting trophies with proceeds going to the International Anti-Poaching Foundation. At The Potomack Company Auctions & Appraisals, 526 North Fayette St., Alexandria. Visit www.potomackcompany.com.

Beverley Hills Garden Club Meeting. 10 a.m. to noon. Presentation by Dr. Robert E.

Lyons on "Ornamental Plant Choices for the Cultivated Landscape." Lyons is a professor of Landscape Horticulture and Director of the Longwood Graduate Program at the University of Delaware/Longwood Gardens. He will discuss breeding breakthroughs, solid garden standards and plants with untapped potential. Meetings are held in the Fellowship Hall of Westminster Presbyterian Church, 2701 Cameron Mills Rd., Alexandria. Contact Amy Reed at ahreed703@yahoo.com or 703 837-8861.

Silver Restoration. 12 noon to 5 p.m. Melissa Kenis, a silver restoration expert, will be at Silverman Galleries, Antiques and Antique Jewelry, 101 North St. Asaph St., Old Town Alexandria. She will give recommendations and estimates on repairing and refinishing sterling heirlooms.

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.

Pollen as a Window Into the Past. 7:30 p.m. How Ecologists Use Pollen to Reconstruct Past Vegetation. Dr. Emily Southgate will illustrate how paleoecologists

SEE ENTERTAINMENT, PAGE 21

ENTERTAINMENT

FROM PAGE 20

use the unique characteristics of pollen preserved in sediments as a window on the past. At Green Springs Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road, Alexandria. Visit www.vnps.org.

APRIL 19, 20, 21, 22

Spring Book Sale. The Friends of the Beatley Central Library in Alexandria host "It's Raining Books, Hallelujah." Preview is Thursday, April 19 from 4 to 8:30 p.m. Continues Friday, April 20 from 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.; Saturday, April 21 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.; Sunday, April 22 from 1 to 4:30 p.m. Prices: paperbacks \$1; hardbacks \$3. At the Charles E. Beatley Library, 5005 Duke St., Alexandria. Call 703-746-1702 or visit www.alexandri.lib.va.us.

FRIDAY/APRIL 20

Third Friday with the Mount Vernon Swing Band.

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

APRIL 20 AND 21

"Ghost Light: A Comedy with Spirits. 7 p.m. At the George Washington Middle School Auditorium, 1005 Mount Vernon Ave., Alexandria. All tickets are \$5 and available at the door. Contact Robert McDonough at robert.mcdonough@acps.k12.va.us

Colin Hay in Concert. 7:30 p.m. Tickets are \$30. At The Birchmere, 3701 Mt Vernon Ave., Alexandria. Call the Birchmere at 703-549-7500 or visit www.birchmere.com; for tickets, please call Ticketmaster at 800-745-3000 or order online at

www.Ticketmaster.com.

SATURDAY/APRIL 21

MVPC Preschool Spring Festival and Silent Auction.

Noon to 4 p.m. bid on many items donated from local businesses and families. Rocknoceros will be playing from 1 to 2 p.m. Buy tickets for \$10 in the preschool office or online at <http://mvpcrocknoceros2012.eventbrite.com>. At 2001 Sherwood Hall Lane, Alexandria. Call 703-765-6118.

See Raptors Up Close. 10 a.m.-noon. For Earth Day, at Dyke Marsh Wildlife Preserve, at 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, the National Park Service, and the Raptor Conservancy of Virginia. The Raptor Conservancy will bring live raptors for close-up encounters. Meet at the Belle Haven picnic area near the bike path. Visit www.fodm.org, or call the National Park Service Information Line at 202-619-7222.

Nourish & Flourish Spring Luncheon and Fashion Show. Sponsored by the United Methodist Women. Tickets are \$20/person. At Aldersgate United Methodist Church, 1301 Collingwood Road, Alexandria. Proceeds benefit Rising Hops United Methodist Church and UMW Missions in Cambodia. For tickets, visit www.aldersgate.net.

Global Youth Service Day. Children and youth will address critical issues in their communities. More than a dozen nonprofits are offering projects throughout Fairfax County. Locally, more than 700 youth and families are expected to give back to the local community. To view a project near you, visit www.volunteerfairfax.org.

Chalk Walk. 7:30 to 8:30 a.m. in the Mount

Vernon High School Football Stadium. Run or walk around the track and school for exercise and honor your favorite teacher at the same time. The \$5 registration fee includes a Chalk Walk T-Shirt. Contact Ms. Card (703-619-3120 or bmcards@fcps.edu).

Author Event. 2 to 4 p.m. Local author Tansil Johnson will sign and discuss her new books, Who Is Mooma? And Mooma and the Mouse. At Charles Beatley Central Library, 5005 Duke St., Alexandria.

Bike Collection. 9 a.m. to noon. Trinity United Methodist Church will be collecting gently used bicycles (and parts) for Bikes for the World (B4W). At 2911 Cameron Mills Road, Alexandria. B4W ships bikes to many countries, thus helping poor people overseas become more productive through providing affordable bicycles for personal transport to work, school, and health services. Visit Trinity UMC: <http://trinityalexandria.org> or visit Bikes for the World: <http://b4w.org>

Spring Mulch Sale. \$5/bag - 3 cubic feet, double shredded hardwood bark mulch. Orders of 10 bags or more will be delivered to select ZIP codes. For more information or to order, send a note to mvhsmulchsale2012@gmail.com or call 571-214-4348. Proceeds will support the senior class All Night Grad Party.

Garden Day Herb & Craft Sale. 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sponsored by Friends of Carlyle House. An exciting mix of herbs and vegetable plants from Mount Vernon and Layng & Company will be available for purchase. Bring your family and participate in child-friendly activities, listen to performances by area musicians and living historians throughout the day, as well as shop for items made by local artisans and crafters. This event is free, however admission for the House

tour is \$5 for adults; \$3 for children 5-12 years old; free for children 4 & under or free with your Alexandria Garden Day ticket. This event will take place rain or shine. Carlyle House Historic Park is at 121 N. Fairfax Street, Alexandria.

Project Discovery-Alexandria's 16th Annual 3K Walkathon.

8 a.m. Registration, 3K Walk at 9:30 a.m. \$20/adults; \$5/students; \$500/corporate sponsors. The program serves T.C. Williams High School students with limited financial resources and/or who will be the first in their family to go to college. Proceeds help pay for program activities such as visits to colleges and workshops dealing with such topics as the college and financial aid application process, goal setting and personal development. At Fort Ward Park, 4301 Braddock Road, Alexandria. Call 703-746-5970. Donations may be made to www.alexandriava.gov. Register online at alexandriava.gov/PDWalkathon or call 703-746-5970.

Lecture on Archaeology of the Lee-Fendall House Garden.

2 p.m. Admission is \$5. Co-sponsored by the Friends of Alexandria Archaeology (FOAA). At Lee-Fendall House Museum, 614 Oronco St., Alexandria. Call 703-548-1789.

Wellness Detoxification Bio-Cleanse Workshop.

1 to 3 p.m. 532Yoga — an introduction to a 7-day or 21-day program. \$35 if pre-registered. At 532 N. Washington St., Suite 100, Alexandria. Visit www.532Yoga.com or call 703-209-0049.

'Off the Mat' Workshop, 4 to 7 p.m. 532Yoga — live life more fully! \$45 if pre-registered. Book the series of 3 Off The Mat workshops and save! At

SEE ENTERTAINMENT, PAGE 22

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ENTERTAINMENT

FROM PAGE 21

532 N. Washington St., Suite 100, Alexandria. Visit www.532Yoga.com or suzanne@532Yoga.com or 703-209-0049.

ASA Exhibits at Earth Day. 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Alexandria Sanitation Authority's CEO Karen Pallansch will be on hand at Alexandria's Earth Day, Ben Brenman Park, 4800 Brenman Park Drive, Alexandria.

APRIL 21 TO 22

Out of Africa Auction. Featuring animals preserved by taxidermist James L. Clark in the Howard Sykes safari collection. At the Potomack Company Auctions & Appraisals, 526 North Fayette Street in Old Town Alexandria. Call 703-684-4550 or visit www.potomackcompany.com.

SUNDAY/APRIL 22

Gardens and Graveyards. 4 p.m. Poetry from the Meeting House featuring the poetry of Alexandria's first poet laureate, Jean Elliot. Also reading will be the two other City of Alexandria poets laureate: Amy Young (2010-present) and Mary McElveen (2007-2010) as well as other poets and friends of the Meeting House. At the Old Presbyterian Meeting House, 323 S. Fairfax St., Alexandria. Contact Mary McElveen at maryjmc@yahoo.com or 703-299-1719.

Film Screening. 6:15 p.m. "Love Free or Die: How the Bishop of New Hampshire is Changing the World." At Christ Church Auditorium, 118 North Washington St., Alexandria. Questions/RSPV: mcapers@rocketmail.com

Student Pottery Sale. 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. At The Clay Queen Pottery, 2303 Mt. Vernon Ave., Alexandria. Call 703-549-7775.

Low-Cost Rabies Clinic. 2 to 4 p.m. Cost of rabies vaccine is \$12/pet. To receive a three-year vaccination, pet owners should bring proof of their pet's current rabies vaccination. At Mount Vernon RECenter, 2017 Belle View Road, Alexandria. Call 703-830-1100.

Touch-A-Truck Preschool Fundraiser. 3 to 6 p.m. Admission is \$5/person; \$20/family. At Fort Hunt Preschool, 1909 Windmill Lane, Alexandria. On the grounds of Mt. Vernon Unitarian Church. Visit www.forthuntpreschool.com.

Earth Force Fundraiser. As part of its 2012 Earth Day celebration, Ten Thousand Villages in Old

Town Alexandria will donate 15 percent of the sales to Earth Force, a national nonprofit dedicated to engaging youth as active citizens in their communities and their environment. The fundraiser will benefit the local work the organization does in Alexandria and Arlington.

Partner Yoga & Adjustments Workshop. 2 to 4 p.m. - 532Yoga — prepare to have fun! No experience necessary! \$35 if pre-registered. At 532 N. Washington St., Suite 100, Alexandria. Visit www.532Yoga.com or suzanne@532Yoga.com or call 703-209-0049.

A Guided Meditation. 6 to 7:30 p.m. - 532Yoga - no experience necessary! \$35 if pre-registered. At 532 N. Washington St., Suite 100, Alexandria. Visit www.532Yoga.com suzanne@532Yoga.com or call 703-209-0049.

MONDAY/APRIL 23

Author Judith Viorst. 4 to 6 p.m. Free. Will speak on "Life Lessons from Under Eight Until Unexpectedly Eighty." At Beth El Hebrew Congregation, 3830 Seminary Road, Alexandria. Registration is required by April 21 by signing up at events@athomeinalexandria.org or calling the AHA! office at 703-231-0824. Visit www.athomeinalexandria.org.

Earth Day Plant Swap. 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Assess your garden or your houseplants and dig up those "extra" plants, move them into pots or plastic bags, then transport them over to Hollin Hall Senior Center! New gardeners may arrive empty handed and willing to take some plants off your hands! Others may arrive with plants galore and willingly exchange some for others. At 1500 Shenandoah Road, Alexandria. Call 703-765-4573.

Is Alexandria Going to the Dogs? The Importance of Animals in Local Living" with Paul Haire, Your Dog's Best Friend; Dr. Lisa Marisco, Del Ray Animal Hospital; Randy Plante, author of "My Wingman Oliver"; and Tykie Tobin, Animal Welfare League (the Shelter) at the Holiday Inn Eisenhower Metro Center, 2460 Eisenhower Avenue. Reception at 6:30 p.m., dinner (members with reservations by April 17: \$28; with reservations after deadline: \$33; without reservations: \$38/non-members with reservations by April 17: \$33; after deadline: \$38; without reservations: \$43) at 6:45; program (\$5 non-

members) 7:15. Dinner reservations required. For information or reservations, contact Sherry Brown, 703-548-7089 or agendaalexandria@aol.com.

Bela Fleck & The Flecktones. The band is: Bela Fleck (banjo), Howard Levy (piano/harmonica), Victor Wooten (bass), and Roy Futureman Wooten (percussion/Drumitar). At the Birchmere Music Hall, 3701 Mount Vernon Ave., Alexandria. Call 703-549-7500.

TUESDAY/APRIL 24

Swing Dancing. 9 to 11 p.m. Tickets are \$10. With the band, The Knighthawks. At The Carlyle Club, 411 John Carlyle St., Alexandria.

WEDNESDAY/APRIL 25

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

Niche — Jane Franklin Dance. 7 p.m. Free. A "Mapped" performance. The event begins near the Union Street entrance. In this location, one dance is performed, "Compartment." Then everyone gets a map to locate the other dances; small solos for hidden spaces. This large pillar on the third floor is the concluding location for the final dance, "Header." At The Torpedo Factory Art Center, 105 North Union St., Alexandria. Call 703-933-1111 or visit www.janefranklin.com.

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

Author Andrew Wingfield. 7 p.m. Come and hear local author Andrew Wingfield speak about his book Right of Way: Stories, winner of the Washington Writers Publishing House 2010 fiction prize. At the Beatley Central Library, 5005 Duke St., Alexandria. Call 703-746-1702 or www.alexandria.lib.va.us

APRIL 25 TO APRIL 29

"Seussical the Musical." Performed by West Potomac High School theater department. Tickets are \$12/door. Performances are April 25 at 5 p.m.; April 26, 27, 28 at 7:30 p.m.; April 29 at 2:30 p.m. At West Potomac High School, 6500 Quander Road, Alexandria.



James Woods as Tom Sawyer.
Children's Theatre
Stages 'Tom Sawyer'

The Mount Vernon Community Children's Theatre will present "The Adventures of Tom Sawyer" for three more performances this weekend — April 20 and 21 at 7:30 p.m. and April 22 at 3 p.m.

Featuring a cast of 54 actors ages 8-18, the musical is held at Carl Sandburg Middle School, 8428 Fort Hunt Road, Alexandria. Tickets are \$10 in advance online at www.mvcct.org and \$12 at the door.

THURSDAY/APRIL 26

Does Mom Need to Move? 7 to 8:30 p.m. The seminar is part of its free Spring 2012 Seminars for Family Caregivers series. At Martha Washington Library, 6614 Fort Hunt Road, Alexandria. Register online (go to www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dfs/olderadultservices and link to caregiver series), email caregiver@fairfaxcounty.gov, or call 703-324-5205, TTY 711.

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COMMUNITY



PHOTOS BY LOUISE KRAFFT/GAZETTE PACKET

2012 Alexandria Little League players pose for photos at the conclusion of Saturday's opening day ceremony.

Celebrating Opening Day for Alexandria Little League

Twenty-five teams took the field at Simpson Field for the annual Alexandria Little League opening day ceremony Saturday morning, April 14. League president Bill Gehrig introduced the teams as they paraded onto the field. Majors commissioner Rusty Rhodes and his two sons led the players in reciting the Little League Pledge.

"I trust in God, I love my country, and will respect its laws, I will play fair, and strive to win, but win or lose, I will always do my best." Local sponsors Harris Teeter, Dick's Sporting Goods and Episcopal High School were recognized. Harris Teeter has been a financial supporter of the league for a number of years. Dick's Sporting Goods offered discounts on baseball merchandise before the start of the season and donated scorebooks, equipment bags and two buckets of practice balls for every team. Episcopal High School allowed the league to use the Flippin Field House for try-outs earlier this year.

League president Bill Gehrig presented Alexandria director of Sports Field and



Marine Corps Brigadier General Richard L. Simcock II, a former Little League player growing up in California addresses the players at the ceremony.

Courts Coordinator for the City Recreation, Parks and Cultural Activities Mac Slover and chair of the Miracle League Fundraising Committee Donnie Simpson with a \$5,000



League president Bill Gehrig presents Alexandria director of Sports Field and Courts Coordinator for the City Recreation, Parks and Cultural Activities Mac Slover and chair of the Miracle League Fundraising Committee Donnie Simpson with a \$5,000 check from the league for Alexandria's Miracle Field at the Lee Center.

check from the league for Alexandria's Miracle Field at the Lee Center. Opening Day for the Miracle League is Saturday, April 21 at 1 p.m. at the Nannie J. Lee Center.

Marine Corps Brigadier General Richard L. Simcock II was the opening day speaker and afterwards threw in the first pitch.

— LOUISE KRAFFT



AA McNearney Associates team is managed by Lisa Burkett, Demian Brady, Rich Forsht, Bob Mannel, LaRae Narkinsky and Chris Sexton.



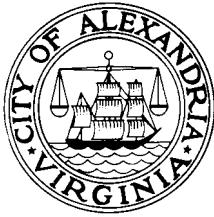
AAA Five Guys team is managed by Eric Stark.



Chairman, CEO and founder of the Alexandria Aces Don Dinan, right, and Alexandria Aces General Manager Dennis Feeney.

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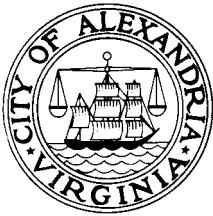


Public Hearing will be held by the City Council of the City of Alexandria, Virginia, in the Council Chambers, City Hall, City of Alexandria, Virginia, on Saturday, April 14, 2012, at 9:30 a.m., or as soon thereafter as may be heard on the hereinafter described items.

PUBLIC HEARING on the Draft Fiscal Year 2013 Action Plan for Housing and Community Development.

A public hearing will be held on the Draft FY 2013 Action Plan for Housing and Community Development, which includes the City's application for Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2012 funding of \$678,236 in Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) monies and \$373,796 in Home Investment Partnerships Program (HOME) monies.

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



Public Hearing will be held by the City Council of the City of Alexandria, Virginia, in the Council Chambers, City Hall, City of Alexandria, Virginia, on Saturday, April 14, 2012, at 9:30 a.m., or as soon thereafter as may be heard on the hereinafter described items.

AN ORDINANCE making supplemental appropriations of funds for the operation of the city government in fiscal year 2012.

The proposed ordinance makes supplemental appropriations of funds for the operation of the city government.

AN ORDINANCE to amend and reordain Article E (ALEXANDRIA WATERFRONT COMMIT-

Legal Notices

TEE) of Chapter 4 (COMMITTEES, BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS) of Title 2 (GENERAL GOVERNMENT) of the Code of the City of Alexandria, Virginia, 1981, as amended.

The proposed ordinance amends the City Code to accomplish the changes to the composition and functions of the Waterfront Committee directed by City Council as discussed on docket item #15 on March 27, 2012.

AN ORDINANCE to amend and reordain the Master Plan of the City of Alexandria, Virginia, by adopting and incorporating therein the amendment heretofore approved by City Council to the Eisenhower East Small Area Plan Chapter of such master plan as Master Plan Amendment No. 2009-0002 and Master Plan Amendment No. 2011-0005 and no other amendments, and to repeal all provisions of the said master plan as may be inconsistent with such amendment. (Project Name: Hoffman Blocks 11 and 12 and Block 8)

The proposed ordinance accomplishes the final adoption of Master Plan Amendment No. 2009-0002 and 2011-0005 to increase the height in Blocks 11 and 12 (2210 Eisenhower Avenue) and to transfer allowable gross floor area from Blocks 2 and 3 to Block 8 (2401 Eisenhower Avenue).

AN ORDINANCE to amend and reordain Section 4-702 (PERMITTED USES) of Section 4-700 (CR/COMMERCIAL REGIONAL ZONE) of Article IV (COMMERCIAL, OFFICE AND INDUSTRIAL ZONES) of the City of Alexandria Zoning Ordinance, in accordance with the text amendment heretofore approved by city council as Text Amendment No. 2012-0001.

The proposed ordinance accomplishes the final adoption of Text Amendment No. 2012-0001 to add the public school use to the list of permitted uses in the CR/Commercial Regional Zone.

AN ORDINANCE to amend and reordain Section 3-2-181 (LEVIED; AMOUNT), Section 3-2-188 (CLASSIFICATION AND TAXATION OF CERTAIN COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL PROPERTY), and Section 3-2-189 (TIER 1 POTOMAC YARD METRAIRAIL STATION SPECIAL ASSESSMENT DISTRICT TAX) of Division 1, (REAL ESTATE), and Section 3-2-221 (LEVIED ON TANGIBLE PERSONAL PROPERTY OTHER THAN MOBILE HOMES, AUTOMOBILES, TRUCKS, ANTIQUE MOTOR VEHICLES, TAXICABS, MOTOR VEHICLES WITH SPECIALLY DESIGNED EQUIPMENT FOR USE BY THE HANDICAPPED, MOTORCYCLES, CAMPERS AND OTHER RECREATIONAL VEHICLES, BOATS AND TRAILERS; AMOUNT), Section 3-2-222 (LEVIED ON MACHINERY AND TOOLS USED IN MINING OR MANUFACTURING BUSINESS; AMOUNT), SECTION 3-2-223 (LEVIED ON MOBILE HOMES; AMOUNT), Section 3-2-224 (LEVIED ON AUTOMOBILES, TRUCKS, TRAILERS, SEMI-TRAILERS, ANTIQUE MOTOR VEHICLES, TAXICABS, MOTORCYCLES, CAMPERS AND OTHER RECREATIONAL VEHICLES, BOATS AND TRAILERS; AMOUNT) of Division 3 (TANGIBLE PERSONAL PROPERTY AND MACHINERY TOOLS) all of Article M (LEVY AND COLLECTION OF PROPERTY TAXES), Chapter 2 (TAXATION), Title 3 (FINANCE, TAXATION AND PROCUREMENT) of the Code of the City of Alexandria, Virginia, 1981, as amended.

The proposed ordinance sets the City's 2012 general tax rates for (1) real property; (2) personal property; (3) machinery and tools; (4) for additional real property taxes assessed on commercial and industrial property; and (5) real property located in the special services tax district located in the Tier 1 Potomac Yard Metrairail Station Special Services District.

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

NEIGHBORHOOD

Seminary Valley

The West End is about to receive a great upgrade with the installation of a new playing field at Francis C. Hammond Middle School. A meeting about the project is scheduled for May 2 at 7 p.m. at the school. ACPS will introduce the design and construction teams and there will be a presentation on the effect on pedestrian and auto traffic in the area, and logistics like street cleaning, construction entrances, hours and overall schedule. For more information, contact Monika Szczepaniek at monika.szczepaniek@acps.k12.va.us or 703-461-4168.

Need another meeting to attend? The Brookville-Seminary Valley Civic Association holds its April quarterly meeting on April 30, at the Beatley Library at 7 p.m. Maurice Daly, chief of Alexandria's Transportation and Environmental Services, will give a presentation on sewer and storm water systems in Seminary Valley. Also on the meeting's agenda will be a general discussion of potential Civic Association activities, and a vote on a number of proposed changes to the Association's bylaws. Your input is important, please come!

If spring cleaning has taken hold in your household, there are a few opportunities for your castoffs. First, for items that cannot be "recycled," Big Trash

Day is coming on Saturday, May 5. Just put your unwanted metal or bulky items on the curb that morning. With that accomplished, you can head to Holmes Run Park for the annual Spring Cleanup, starting at 10 a.m. Meet at the Beatley Bridge. Lastly, if you have decided to purge your bookshelves, the T.C. Williams Titan Expo can redistribute them. There are drop off sites throughout the City; the closest is right here at the Hetzer's at 604 N. Mansfield St., or stop by T.C. Williams High School. All proceeds benefit the Alexandria Scholarship Fund. Please, no textbooks or books in poor condition.

For other fun spring events, don't forget the annual Book Sale at the Beatley Library, which will be held from April 19 through April 21, and Alexandria's Earth Day, close by at Brenman Park on April 21 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. And mark your calendars: The West End Farmer's Market will open the first Sunday in May; it is located in the large parking lot near the lake in Cameron Station. Go to www.westendfarmersmarket.org for more information.

— MIA JONES

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

FROM PAGE 14

a brighter future with broad community support.

There are other names for the smart growth approach, including "the new urbanism", "urban villages", and what the Obama Administration calls "livable communities." But they all involve certain core principles, including:

- ❖ "mixed-use development," mixing a variety of housing choices with commercial and retail spaces so residents and workers can walk to a lot of what they need;

- ❖ "transit-oriented development," providing attractive and convenient transit options to those residents and workers so they don't always have to drive to more distant destinations;

- ❖ "complete streets" that welcome pedestrians and bicyclists, wheelchairs and strollers and produces streetlife that makes neighborhoods safer; and

- ❖ "place-making," creating public spaces that people actively enjoy.

Smart growth development greatly increases the value of that property. That increased value can be "captured" to pay for transit and other improvements in that area and throughout the city.

I am not proposing a subway in Alexandria, but Arlington's Rosslyn-Ballston Corridor generates half of Arlington's tax revenues from 11 percent of its land, and traffic counts in the Corridor are less than they were in the 1970s. Arlington's smart growth in that Corridor was good for the Corridor and for the rest of the County.

In Alexandria, some people use the term "smart growth" when

they really mean "growth that isn't stupid." We are getting better at real smart growth: both the Potomac Yard development and the Beauregard Corridor small area plan honor its principles to a large extent. But Alexandria needs to really commit itself to smart growth in the way Arlington, Washington, D.C., the entire State of Maryland and hundreds of other jurisdictions have done.

That would mean integrating our land use and transportation planning. Instead, we have two silos: In the planning silo, transportation is often an afterthought. In the transportation silo, the land use impacts of transportation choices is not part of their job description.

Instead, transportation choices should often be the earliest and most important choices in planning because those transportation choices can drive the rest of development. Highway construction induces sprawl. Rail transit construction induces transit-oriented development.

Smart growth is more environmentally sustainable because it reduces automobile usage. It especially benefits seniors and lower-income residents who don't want to depend on cars to get anywhere. It also presents great opportunities for affordable housing.

Smart growth also fits well with a more inclusive, interactive public participation process. Instead of focusing on public meetings where staff and citizens make speeches, the City could implement smart growth through real dialogue with

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21 Announcements

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Write

FROM PAGE 24

citizens, utilizing new technologies through comment sections with on-line City documents, webinars, blogs and electronic town meetings. Alexandria is blessed with so many well-informed citizens with real expertise who should have more opportunities to contribute to the development of City plans when they have the time to do so.

Smart growth presents a new way to look at Alexandria's future with optimism instead of anxiety. It is an approach that has proven itself hundreds of times over. When combined with an interactive public process, it would enable Alexandria to handle development pressures in a way that reduces traffic and enhances our quality of life with the understanding and support of its citizens.

Tim Lovain
Alexandria

How To Save Affordable Units

To the Editor:

Folks need to understand a few things about Hunting Towers:

♦ First, VDOT abused its acquisition (eminent domain) authority when it took all three towers when it only needed one and a few out buildings for the Wilson Bridge project;

♦ Second, had VDOT not become the Hunting Towers landlord, the private owner would likely already have converted the buildings into "luxury housing";

♦ Third, Mayor Euille, are you listening, just as when Old Town residents go to court city hall is less likely to cooperate with them, so too is VDoT less likely to cooperate with city hall when Alexandria cheerleads for Arlington County's novel legal suit against HOT lanes on I-395, against which the Commonwealth has to spend money to defend and make construction plan revisions. VDoT needs the money from market-rate sale of Hunting Towers to cover the costs of coping with the lawsuit against HOT lanes on I-395;

♦ Fourth, if the city really wants to make a difference at Hunting Towers, it should use the property's age and unique features to declare the two remaining towers historic, thereby giving city hall a basis for wresting some number of "affordable" units to the extent such a declaration would require a new owner to have to seek an SUP.

Dino Drudi
Alexandria

Write

The Gazette Packet welcomes views on any public issue.

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

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SPORTS

ALEXANDRIA GAZETTE PACKET SPORTS EDITOR JON ROETMAN
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SSSA Girls' Lacrosse Avenges Spring Fling Loss to Good Counsel

Reed scored 5 goals for Saints,
Phillips, Fogarty add 3 apiece.

BY JON ROETMAN
GAZETTE PACKET

Pressure is nothing new to the St. Stephen's & St. Agnes girls' lacrosse program. Consistently ranked as one of the top teams in the nation, the Saints can expect to receive an opponent's best effort on a game-to-game basis.

While competitive situations are the norm, an April 14 contest against Good Counsel presented a motivational scenario that captured the Saints' attention.

Last season, SSSA lost just two games en route to another state championship. One of those losses, however, came against Good Counsel—an 11-7 defeat during the Saints' own Spring Fling event. One year later, SSSA had a chance for payback and the Saints weren't going to let the opportunity slip away.

The Saints defeated Good Counsel 13-6 on Saturday during the 21st Annual St. Stephen's & St. Agnes School Spring Fling—an event featuring some of the nation's top teams, including schools from New Jersey, New York and Pennsylvania. SSSA led 10-6 with less than three minutes before pulling away with a trio of late goals.

"We said to the girls, 'This is a big game for you. Last year you lost at your Spring Fling, 11-7,'" Saints head coach Kathy Jenkins said. "[Good Counsel] had a very strong team last year ... they had probably

six or eight outstanding DI players. And I [said], 'So this year they're a little bit down. We want to come out and play our game, play strong, move them, but we need to make sure with their goalie [Meagh Graham being a standout], we have to make good decisions on our shot selection."

Jenkins said junior attacker Carly Reed, the Saints' all-time leading goal-scorer, was trying to force things early in the game. But as time went by, the University of North Carolina commit settled in and played what Jenkins called her best game of the year.

"Once she calmed down with it," Jenkins said, "she shot beautifully and she let the game to her."

Reed finished with a team-high five goals. She said the Saints were motivated to beat Good Counsel not only because of last year's loss, but due to a desire to perform well while surrounded by talented teams.

"At St. Stephen's, we always have a target on our back, so we always have to prove who we are and every single game we're trying to prove something to someone," Reed said. "Definitely, with all these people watching there's a lot of pressure, and we've just got to come out strong and do what we do best."

"You definitely want to look good because a lot of girls are scouting us because we're playing a lot of these teams throughout the season," SSSA senior Michele Phillips said. "You want to bring your best game for everyone watching."



PHOTO BY JAMESON BLOOM

St. Stephen's & St. Agnes junior Carly Reed scored a team-high five goals against Good Counsel on April 14 during the Saints' 21st annual Spring Fling.

Phillips, who will play lacrosse at Notre Dame, and junior Margaret Tucker Fogarty each scored three goals. While Reed and University of Virginia commit Besser Dyson receive most of an opponent's attention, Phillips and Fogarty reminded onlookers that the Saints have goal-scoring depth.

"Besser and I always have a lot of pressure," Reed said. "People are sliding early, so it's good because we can use ourselves to create opportunities for other people. Michele is great at challenging; she finished well today. It's good to see other people putting numbers up on the scoreboard."

"Michele is just a 'Steady Eddie,' a leader

on offense, a leader on defense. She's like the quarterback on the whole field," Jenkins said. "... Margaret Tucker has so much speed and athletic ability."

Jenkins said the Spring Fling event used to have more of a scrimmage structure, but SSSA changed to a game format in order to attract better teams. SSSA defeated Honeoye Falls-Lima of New York 17-5 on April 13. Saints' rival Georgetown Visitation suffered its first loss of the season during the event, falling to Notre Dame Prep 8-7 in overtime on April 14 before bouncing back with a 13-8 win against Archbishop John Carroll of Pennsylvania.

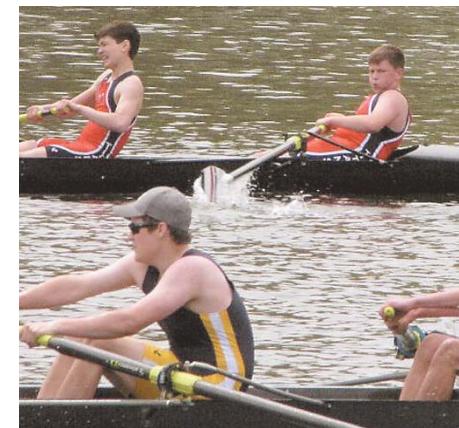


PHOTO SUBMITTED

Rower Jack Kane (in the bow seat, top right) stares down the competition as the T.C. Williams boys' freshman 8 storms past Bethesda-Chevy Chase on their way to victory.

repeat of this past weekend, the boys return to Occoquan for the Smokey Jacobs Regatta and the girls return to Delaware for their third and final race on Noxontown Pond.

The T.C. Williams crew team is guided by boys' head coach Pete Strame and girls' head coach Mercedes Kiss. For race schedules and more information on the program, visit www.tccrew.org.

Freshmen Excel for T.C. Williams Crew

The boys and girls of the T.C. Williams crew team went their separate ways this past weekend, traveling to separate regattas on Saturday that were each marked by sunny skies, stiff competition, and stellar performances by the freshman boats.

The T.C. Williams boys' team stayed in the Commonwealth, traveling south of the **TC To Host Capital Classic**

T.C. Williams High School will host a day of high school basketball all-star festivities when the 39th Annual Capital Classic comes to Alexandria on Saturday, April 21.

There will be two girls' games and two boys' games. At noon, the Maryland girls' all-stars will face the Virginia all-stars. At 2 p.m., a prep/private girls' team will face the Interhigh stars.

At 6 p.m., the District boys' all-stars will face the Suburban all-stars, followed by the Capital all-stars against the United States all-stars at 8 p.m.

Tickets are available online at thecapitalclassic.com.

Beltway to the Occoquan Reservoir at Sandy Run Regional Park for the Darrell Winslow Regatta, a competition that featured more than 1,500 athletes. Conditions were optimal for racing, with temperatures in the high 70s and a light to moderate headwind.

After finishing second to Bethesda-Chevy Chase in their morning heat, the T.C. boys' freshman 8 stormed past B-CC in the afternoon final and never looked back. The young Titan rowers captured first place with a time of 5:13.4, topping not only B-CC, but crews from Lake Braddock, McLean, Madison, and Great Bridge, as well. Members of the victorious T.C. freshman 8 included coxswain Richard Mervis and rowers Rodrigo Robles, Connor Quantannens, Perry Connor, Garrett Youmans, Yahya Yaziji, Angelo Leitner-Wise, Daniel Hinker and Jack Kane.

Other top performances at Occoquan included the T.C. boys' lightweight 8, who took second-place honors with a time of 4:54.4 behind rival W.T. Woodson, and the defending state champion T.C. boys' varsity 4, who also took home second-place honors with a time of 5:25.4 behind Mathews High School. In other races, the T.C. boys'

junior 4 finished in third place behind South County and Woodson with a time of 5:24.7, while the T.C. Williams boys' novice 8 also came in third behind Gloucester and Thomas Jefferson with a time of 5:15.3.

While the T.C. boys were competing on the Occoquan Reservoir in Virginia, the T.C. Williams girls were competing on Noxontown Pond at the St. Andrew's School in Middleton, Del. — the site of their last race on March 31, and like two weeks ago, a race that featured some of the most competitive boats in the region. Warm weather with a quartering tailwind throughout the day made for fast conditions and great racing.

In a hard-fought contest that came down to the wire, the T.C. girls' freshman 8 came away with second-place honors in an afternoon race that saw them cross the finish line a mere 1.7 seconds behind Merion Mercy Academy with a time of 5:33.2. In another impressive performance, the girls' third 8 also captured second place with a time of 6:17.8 behind host St. Andrew's School.

The next competition for the T.C. crew team is this Saturday, April 21, when, in a

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SPORTS



PHOTO BY JERRY VERNON/GAZETTE PACKET

Baseball legend Frank Howard, left, with Athlete of the Month winner Will Schuler, coach Rusty Rhodes, lacrosse winner Margaret Nealon and Bishop Ireton Athletic Director Bill Simmons.

Glory Days Baseball legend Frank Howard visits Sportsman's Club.

BY JEANNE THEISMANN
GAZETTE PACKET

He took the field with the likes of Carl Furillo, Gil Hodges, Pee Wee Reese and Ray Campanella. But Frank Howard didn't just play with baseball's finest, he was one of them, winning National League Rookie of the Year honors in 1960 and appearing in four All Star games for the American League from 1968 to 1971.

On April 17, the former Washington Senator and Los Angeles Dodger spoke at the Alexandria Sportsman's Club and recounted some of the most memorable moments of his career.

"I'll never forget the best standing ovation I ever received," said Howard to a standing room only crowd at the Old Dominion Boat Club. "It was during a double-header up at Fenway Park. I even set a major league record that day — in 145 years of Major League Baseball I was the only guy to make eight outs in seven at-bats, six of them strikeouts. I got the best standing ovation ever for an opposing player, although it's not exactly the kind of record I was hoping for," he added with a laugh.

Howard, who won a World Series with the Dodgers in 1963, played 16 seasons in the major leagues for the Los Angeles Dodgers, Washington Senators, Texas Rangers and Detroit Tigers and was on hand to help present the ASC Athlete of the Month awards.

Awards were presented to Bishop Ireton lacrosse team cap-



Frank Howard entertains the crowd with tales of his early days in baseball at the Alexandria Sportsman's Club meeting April 17 at the Old Dominion Boat Club as club president Frank Flaherty looks on.

tain Margaret Nealon and Little League 2011 Sportsman of the Year winner Will Schuler.

because "he liked old players and brought us all back" when he was coaching in Detroit.

"But you don't have to be a Rhodes Scholar to know that your days are numbered when you are 38 years old," Howard said. "Still, I thought I was going to go out in style when I was called in to pinch hit for Eddie Brinkman with two men on and no outs in a game at Tigers Stadium. I hit a fastball that I thought was a bullet into left field. But this third baseman comes out of nowhere and before I knew it, I made three outs with one swing of the bat. Thanks to Brooks Robinson, I got my walking papers the next day."

And as he did in Fenway Park, Howard brought the crowd to its feet.

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PHOTO COURTESY OF CULINARIA COOKING SCHOOL

Young food enthusiasts get a lesson from Chef Brian Batsel of Culinaria Cooking School in Vienna. Some local culinary schools now offer cooking birthday parties and summer camps for children.

Culinary Classes for Children

Little gourmands cook up fun in the kitchen.

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL
GAZETTE PACKET

If you lick your hands you have to wash them," said instructor Beth Bigler as she teaches a class of kindergartens students how to make vegetable pizzas.

"Are these pickles?" asks a 6-year-old student as she clutches a dark-green, cylindrical vegetable in her tiny fingers.

"No, these are baby cucumbers," said Bigler. "We need to cut the ends off and then chop them up very, very finely. Always put it on a cutting board so you don't cut your hands. We're going to do the same thing with the celery and carrots. We have lots of vegetables to cut."

Soon the click-clop of plastic knives hitting cutting boards fills the air, along with the giggles and squeals of curious young foodies.

This is a typical session for Tiny Chefs, one of a handful of local culinary schools that cater to children. In these classes, pint-sized gourmands are introduced to all things epicurean. They also learn about kitchen safety and the importance of eating healthy food. Instructors say the lessons extend beyond the edible.

"Cooking classes for kids build and instill confidence," said Anna Reeves, founder of Tiny Chefs. "Children get to do things that they didn't think they were able to do. A 4 or 5-year-old may not be used to someone handing them a bowl or spoon and saying 'Stir this all by yourself.'"

In addition to after school classes like the one at Norwood, local culinary schools offer parent-child classes, seasonal classes, holiday classes, cooking birthday parties and cooking summer camps. The level of complexity depends on the age and interest of the children.

"We teach simple techniques like sautéing and

braising," said Stephen Sands CEO of Culinaria Cooking School in Vienna. "Students make full meals in our summer camps. We have other classes during the year. We do a pasta class where kids make fresh pasta. They learn what goes into it instead of just seeing it come out of a box. They learn how to make sauce instead of just opening a jar."

DURING A TYPICAL CLASS, pint-sized culinary enthusiasts come in, wash their hands, don aprons and begin the prep work for the day's dish.

Classes are often divided by theme and culinary discussions are intermixed with food preparation. "The theme this session is 'On the Farm,'" said Bigler, an instructor with Tiny Chefs. "Students learn about fresh vegetables and where they come from."

Students are introduced to new ingredients or get hands-on experience with familiar food items. "Maybe they've heard of cinnamon, but have never smelled or touched a cinnamon stick," said Reeves. "They've probably heard of eggs, but they've never actually cracked one."

Instructors say the lessons can also be academics disguised as recreation. "They have so much fun that they don't even realize that they are working on math and reading skills," said Arlington resident Whitney Gray, director of auxiliary programs at The Langley School.

"Students learn how to use cooking tools and they get to add and subtract fractions by using measuring cups," said Jennifer McInroy, a Tiny Chefs instructor who teaches classes and summer camps at The Langley School in McLean.

Social skills are also enhanced. "With five or seven kids in a group they learn to wait their turn and cooperate work together and have patience," said Reeves.

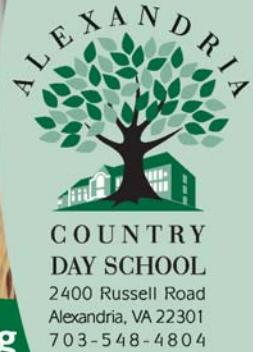
An increasing number of local schools are offering cooking classes as an afterschool activity for students.

"Cooking is an important life skill," said Liz Holland, afterschool activities coordinator at Alexandria Country Day School. "Children definitely need to be making healthy choices for themselves and having those skills is definitely enriching."

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Virginia Supreme Court Hears Wales Alley Case

FROM PAGE 1

Grain, denying the public an opportunity to use it in the process. In court documents and before justices this week, Boat Club lawyers argued that their right to use the alley dates back to the 1789 deed.

"The easement doesn't just disappear into thin air," said David Chamowitz, attorney for the Boat Club. "This is condemnation by other means."

MOST EMINENT DOMAIN cases involve governments taking private land for public use. This case turns that on its head, with city officials making the case they can take a public street and lease it to a private restaurant. Banks says that the city has treated Wales Alley as a public street since 1972, in the wake of a separate lawsuit the Boat Club brought against a retailer known as Dockside Imports that wanted to shut down public access to the alley. Since that time, Banks said, the city has been plowing snow, issuing parking tickets and filling potholes.

"The city received the property though the process of implied dedication," he said. "As a result, any private easement rights must necessarily be extinguished by that dedication." Boat Club lawyers countered that the city was inventing what they called a "merger doctrine," merging the special easement rights previously enjoyed by the club into the same access rights every other citizen



No photographs, videos or audio recordings are allowed in the Virginia Supreme Court. The clerk's office says the court's audio recording is not available to the public.

zen can claim. "This merger doctrine is an argument of the city," said Chamowitz, "not a doctrine of Virginia law."

When one justice asked how the city could take property without offering compensation, Banks responded that the proper remedy was for the Boat Club to ask for monetary damages. Instead, the boat club is seeking an injunction to prevent the city from allowing Virtue to use the alley for its restaurant. The Supreme Court is expected to rule in the next six to eight weeks.

THE HISTORY of the alley dates back to

the earliest days of the city, when former Mayor John Fitzgerald and businessman Valentine Peers had joint ownership of land that's now known as Wales Alley. Back then it was called Fitzgerald Alley, until Andrew Wales started selling beer in the alley in 1786. Three years later, Fitzgerald and Peers decided to dissolve their joint ownership, creating a deed that allowed "free use and passage." "They probably didn't like working with each other on it," speculated Andrew Carroll, attorney for Virtue Feed and Grain Restaurant, according to court documents. "So they said, 'let's split it,' and they split it."

The Boat Club has long been at odds with the city, especially over a waterfront parking lot that the city wants to transform into a public park. Club members have rejected the city's advances, prompting Banks to threaten taking the parking lot by the city's power of eminent domain last summer. Now the city has entered into a license agreement with Virtue that allows the restaurant to use 11.5 feet of the alley. Boat Club members say the city is currently in contempt of court for violating Judge McGrath's ruling.

"What the city has done here is give one private property owner priority over another," said Boat Club member David Elsberg in an interview last year. "What the city is doing is worse than eminent domain because they failed to compensate us."

Timeline

1789: Former Alexandria Mayor John Fitzgerald and Maryland businessman Valentine Peers divide up their holdings, including the land that is now Wales Alley. The deed allows "free use and passage of the several streets and allies."

1850: In a case that doesn't directly involve the alley, the United States Supreme Court describes Wales Alley as public property, referring to it by its original name, Fitzgerald Alley.

1935: The Old Dominion Boat Club begins operating a boat yard and parking lot at Number 2 King Street. Club members begin using Wales Alley to transport boats to and from its waterfront parking lot.

1970: Dockside Sales erects a five-foot wooden fence blocking public access to Wales Alley to store inventory. The Old Dominion Boat Club files a lawsuit, charging that it has the right to use the alley to transport boats to its waterfront parking lot.

1972: The Alexandria Corporation Court rules that Dockside Sales does not have the right to block access to Wales Alley for retail inventory storage. City workers begin treating the alley as a public way by clearing snow, issuing parking tickets and filling potholes.

2010: The Alexandria City Council grants a special use permit to a restaurant known as Virtue Feed and Grain allowing the restaurant to use part of Wales Alley. The Boat Club sues the city, arguing that its easement rights to the restaurant have been violated.

2011: The Alexandria Circuit Court sides with the Boat Club, ruling that its members have an easement right to use the alley to move its boats to a boat launch.

2012: The Virginia Supreme Court hears the city's appeal of the Circuit Court ruling.

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