



PHOTOS BY LOUISE KRAFT/GAZETTE PACKET

More than 600 Brownies and Girl Scouts from Alexandria, Mount Vernon and Arlington registered and marched in the annual George Washington Birthday parade on Monday afternoon, Feb. 18. More photos, page 6.

A Parade for George



Alexandria's Town Crier Ben Fiore-Walker leads the parade up S. Fairfax Street.



Grand Marshal Kerry Donley walks the parade route with his family.



George the dog watches as the Alexandria Police motor squad passes by.



A Bolivian dance troupe, F.C. Pachamama, performed a traditional Tinku Dance.

Council Poised To Rezone Waterfront

Despite lawsuits and vocal opposition, elected officials move forward with plan.

By MICHAEL LEE POPE
GAZETTE PACKET

Can City Manager Rashad Young name any developer who is interested in the waterfront? During a recent press conference about the waterfront plan, the city manager was asked that question. His response was quick, pointed and definitive. “No,” said Young. “I can’t name any specific developers that are interested in the waterfront.”

But then the city manager ac-

knowledged that many people have been talking about doing deals, and that a handful of developers have, in fact, expressed an interest in developing the waterfront. When asked who expressed an interest, Young backed down from his previous position and admitted that yes, he could identify a developer who has expressed an interest in the waterfront.

“Everyone knows — or, not everyone — it is common knowledge that there is a hotel developer who

SEE NEW CITY, PAGE 9

Silence Follows Shooting

Police refuse to release incident report in officer-involved shooting.

By MICHAEL LEE POPE
GAZETTE PACKET

Why did Alexandria police officers kill Taft Sellars? The incident report details events leading to the death of the 30-year-old, a graduate of T.C. Williams High School. But the Alexandria Police Department refuses to release the document, which would be a standard public disclosure in many other states.

“It doesn’t matter what type of case it is,” said Ashley Hildebrandt, spokeswoman for the department. “As a policy, we don’t release incident reports.”

From burglary to murder, the Alexandria Police Department is unwilling to share basic docu-

ments detailing their actions on behalf of the public. Even in cases that involve the use of lethal force, Alexandria police officials refuse to share documents that would show how officers act on behalf of the public. Critics say police officials should release the documents, which don’t stand in the way of investigations in other states.

“Keeping stuff secret in that circumstance doesn’t serve anybody well,” said Claire Gastañaga, executive director of the American Civil Liberties Union of Virginia. “It doesn’t serve the police department well, and it certainly doesn’t serve the community well.”

A PRESS RELEASE issued on the
SEE POLICE REFUSE, PAGE 9

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Monday Deadline

Time has run out for the old American Legion Hall on North Fayette Street, a building that was originally constructed as a nursery during World War II when black mothers were entering the workforce. Now developer Bill Cromley wants to demolish the building and construct high-end, modern condominiums. Monday is the deadline for a potential buyer to have closed the deal, a prospect that preservationists now say is impossible.

"There was hope that maybe an angel-type buyer with deep pockets would come forward and want to do something with the community," said Boyd Walker, who spent years trying to save the building. "Now it looks like that's not going to happen."

Back in 2010, the Alexandria government granted Cromley a demolition permit, although the plan was stalled when city officials decided that the property must be put on the market for a fair-market value to allow time for any potential buyer to step forward and offer to preserve the building. For two years, the building was listed at \$675,000. Nobody purchased the property, and now the door is open to demolition.

"I haven't given up hope yet," said Walker. "I think a new phase is beginning, and it's not too late for the city and the property owner and advocates who are concerned about the building can find some kind of solution."

Crisis Averted

The message came like an ultimatum late last year — help the Lee-Fendall House or see the historic house museum on Oronoco Street close its doors.

"We were facing closure," said Erin Adams, director of the museum. "We were either going to have to seriously truncate our offerings or we were going to have to re-envision the future of this facility."

The Alexandria Historical Society put the word out in November, letting people know the museum was at a critical crossroads. The end-of-the-year appeal for money worked, and the museum took in about \$27,000. That means the existential crisis has been averted at the house museum, a house constructed by prominent Alexandria businessman Philip Richard Fendall that was later the home of labor leader John L. Lewis.

"The response we got through December and even into January really reflected the generosity of the community," said Adams. "That was enough to position us to carry forward for the year, and it also provided a little bit of an extra windfall so we can build up some of the programs that we are offering and so that we can hire some part-time staff to help get the job done."

Sequester of Damocles

Don't look now, but the sequester is hanging over Northern Virginia like a sword of Damocles. According to a recent study from George Mason University, sequestration could cost Virginia about 140,000 jobs. Just this week, the Pentagon notified Congress that it will furlough its civilian workforce of 800,000 employees if the sequester is triggered on March 1.

"As we all know, the defense, and other, cuts in the sequester were designed to be a hammer, not a real policy," wrote Republican Gov. Bob McDonnell in a letter to President Barack Obama this week. "Unfortunately, inaction by you and Congress now leaves states and localities to adjust to the looming threat of this haphazard idea."

When fully implemented, the governor warns, the automatic sequestration reductions mandated by the Budget Control Act of 2011 could cast Virginia into a recession.

"These reductions will have a potentially devastating impact in the Commonwealth, with the Northern Virginia and Hampton Roads regions at the greatest risk," McDonnell wrote to Obama. "I know that you promised in your third debate of this past campaign that sequestration will not happen. Now is the time to deliver."

— MICHAEL LEE POPE



Distinguished Service Award winner Janet Barnett, center, is congratulated by Walter Clarke, Chief Judge Becky Moore, Harry Covert and Don DeHaven as George Washington.

PHOTOS BY
JEANNE THEISMANN/
GAZETTE PACKET

Gadson Addresses Annual Breakfast

Janet Barnett receives Distinguished Service Award.

BY JEANNE THEISMANN
GAZETTE PACKET

The Friendship Veterans Fire Engine Association held its annual breakfast Feb. 18 at the Holiday Inn and Suites in Old Town in the traditional kick-off to the city's George Washington Birthday Parade celebrations.

Highlighted by a keynote address by Fort Belvoir Garrison Commander Col. Gregory Gadson, the breakfast featured the presentation of the Rev. Ben Lynt Distinguished Service Award to Senior Services of Alexandria Executive Director Janet Barnett.

"Thank you so much for this honor," said Barnett, who received the award from Friendship Veterans Fire Engine Association board member David Baker.

In addition to Gadson, Don DeHaven as Gen. George Washington and Fire Chief Adam Thiel addressed the crowd of dignitaries that included Gen. Bruce Scott (ret.) and his wife Mary, whose father, Gen. Richard Tallman, was the last general to be killed in action in the Vietnam conflict.

"George Washington was a man of his time," said Gadson, the first double amputee to command a major Army installation. "He was the original American Idol and those of us who live and work in the shadow of Mount Vernon celebrate his life with a special pride."

A resident of Mount Vernon, Gadson noted that it was his injury that brought him to Alexandria.

"I was wounded six years ago and my recovery brought me back to Northern Virginia," Gadson said. "My wife Kim and I decided to make our home here — we're invested here and feel it's important to be a part of the community."

Gadson closed his remarks by noting that America remains a beacon to other nations because of Washington's influence.

"The name George Washington is associated with strength and honesty," Gadson said. "No doubt America would not be the beacon of democracy that it is today if not for George Washington."

For more information on the Friendship Veterans Fire Engine Association, visit www.friendshipfire.net.



Keynote speaker Col. Gregory Gadson, center, visits with Mary Scott, board chairman of the Alexandria-based National Military Family Association, Gen. Bruce Scott (ret.) and West Point senior cadet Caleb Bloom prior to the Feb. 18 breakfast.



Lucy Goddin, left, looks over a map of Colonial Alexandria while admiring the antique fire toy collection of the late Oscar Ryder. At right is Ruth Ryder, who contributed the display.



Gant and Fran Redmon admire the portraits of the 2013 Living Legends of Alexandria that were on display at the breakfast.

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NEWS

PHOTO BY LOUISE KRAFFT/CAZETTE PACKET



Community Covenant

Scouts from Pack 301 pose for photos with Battalion Commander of Ft. Belvoir Col. Greg Gadson; Col. David Maxwell, Commander, Marine Corps Base Quantico; Mayor Bill Euille; Commander David Varner, Naval Support Activity Washington; U.S. Rep. James P. Moran, and Councilman John Chapman at the conclusion of the Fifth Annual Armed Forces Community Covenant ceremony on Monday, Feb. 18 at Market Square in Old Town. The Quantico/Belvoir Regional Business Alliance, and the City of Alexandria George Washington Birthday Celebration Committee co-hosted the event that celebrates the partnership between local Army Posts and their host communities.

BULLETIN BOARD

Email announcements to gazette@connectionnewspapers.com. Deadline is Thursday by noon. Photos welcome.

THURSDAY/FEB. 21

Meeting. Colonial Republican Women will meet from 6:30-9 p.m. at Virginia Hills Administration Center at Old Virginia Hills School, 6520 Diana Lane. Refreshments will be served. E-mail colonialrepublicanwomen@gmail.com or call Debbie at 703-768-1934.

SATURDAY/FEB. 23

Alexandria City Council Public Hearing. 9:30 a.m. City Hall, Council Chamber, 301 King St. Contact Jackie Henderson, 703-746-4550.

Youth Master Plan. 10 a.m.-noon at William Ramsay Center, 5650 Sanger Ave. The plan will set long-term, community-wide priorities for young people to ensure they are healthy and safe, academically and vocationally prepared, and socially and civically connected. Public comments for the Youth Master Plan may be submitted

to Ron Frazier at ron.frazier@alexandriava.gov or by calling 703-746-5967. To attend a forum or request language interpretation assistance, call 703-746-5970.

MONDAY/FEB. 25

Agenda: Alexandria Presents.

“Washington and Friends ... If Alexandria’s Streets Could Talk” with Bob Madison, historian and author of “Walking with Washington: Walking Tours of Alexandria, Virginia” at 6:30 p.m. at Holiday Inn Eisenhower Metro Center, 2460 Eisenhower Ave. Includes dinner for \$28/member reservation by Feb. 19; \$33/member after Feb. 19; \$38/member without reservation or non-member with reservation by Feb. 19; \$33/non-member after deadline; \$43/without reservation. \$5/just the program. Dinner reservations required. For information or reservations, contact Sherry Brown, 703-548-7089 or e-mail agendaalexandria@aol.com.



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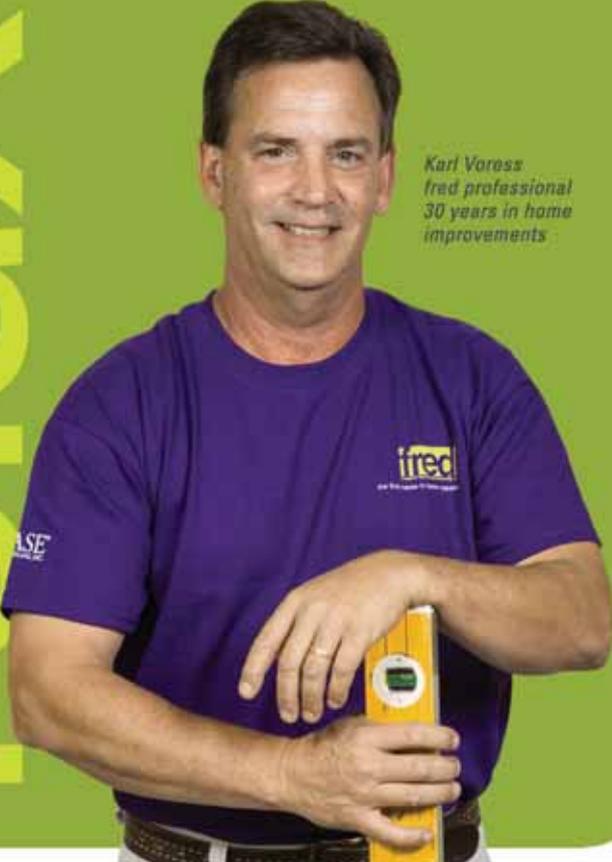
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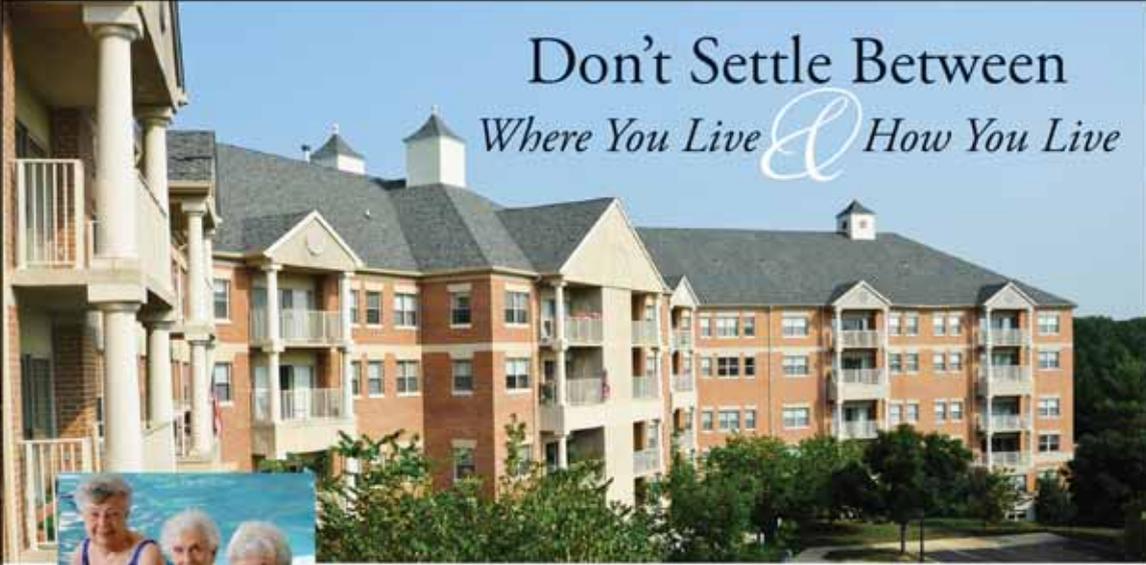
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The First Virginia Regiment fires off a cannon in the salute to General Washington.

A Parade for George



George and Martha Washington (Don DeHaven and Lari La Belle) enjoy a horse-drawn carriage ride to the reviewing stand.



American Legion Post 24 Commander Bill Aramony leads a group of members.



Girl Scouts from James K. Polk Elementary.



The Hammond Middle School marching band.



The KENA Klowns arrive at City Hall.

United Horsemen Association.



PHOTOS BY
LOUISE KRAFFT
GAZETTE PACKET

And the Winner Is ...

Greener Cleaner voted 'Heart of Del Ray.'

By JEANNE THEISMANN
GAZETTE PACKET

The votes are in and Greener Cleaner has been named the 2013 "Heart of Del Ray," an annual award presented during the Valentine's Day holiday by the Del Ray Business Association.

"We are very happy to win this award," said Serdar Basegmez, who opened Greener Cleaner at the corner of Mount Vernon and E. Custis avenues in 2008. "Being part of the Del Ray community has been a great pleasure."

Started in 2009, the award is presented to "the business that demonstrates a warm and welcoming attitude to the community and customers, a commitment and generosity to the community, and an overall contribution to what makes Del Ray the best place in the world to live, work and shop."

More than 550 people voted online for one of the five nominated businesses, which also included Caboose Café, Pork Barrel BBQ/Holy Cow, St. Elmo's Coffee Pub and Taqueria el Poblano.

"Del Ray is so blessed to have so many great businesses that it is always hard to narrow it down to just one to be recognized" said Gayle Reuter, a DRBA board member.

Past winners of the award include A Show of Hands, Jen Walker, Bobi Bomar and the Neighbor-



PHOTO BY WAYNE HULEHAN

Greener Cleaner owner Serdar Basegmez, center, accepts the 2013 Heart of Del Ray award from last year's winner Stacey Swartz and DRBA board member Gayle Reuter.

hood Pharmacy of Del Ray. "We are honored by the award," Basegmez said. "We will continue to give back to the community and help the neighborhood whenever we can."

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Uncommon Valor

Survivors reunite for 68th anniversary of Iwo Jima.

BY JEANNE THEISMANN
GAZETTE PACKET

The morning of Feb. 19, 1945, dawned eerily quiet as Private First Class Carl Norton made his way toward the shores of the remote Japanese island of Iwo Jima. But in an instant, 20-millimeter dual purpose guns buried in the side of Mount Suribachi exploded, erupting into one of the bloodiest battles in U.S. history.

"I was one of the first to make it onto the island without getting shot," said Norton, who knew his odds of survival that day were slim. "It was a terrible, terrible battle, with two sides who hated each other willing to fight until the bitter end."

Norton was badly wounded in the ensuing skirmish and later awarded a Purple Heart for his heroics. Now 93 years old, he joined 20 other Iwo Jima survivors at the Sheraton Hotel in Arlington over the weekend to mark the 68th anniversary of the battle.

"Dad never spoke of Iwo Jima when we were growing up," said Norton's daughter Becky Dunlop, who lives with her husband George in Arlington. "But he came to the dedication of the World War II Memorial in 2004 as part of an Honor Flight and it was then that we saw him lighting up and beginning to share his service stories."

Other survivors attending the reunion included Mount Vernon resident Harry Hink, an Air Force B-29 pilot who landed four times on Iwo Jima.

"Iwo Jima was an unimaginable battle that would never have been won without the courage of the Marines on the island," said Hink, who flew 28 combat missions in



Iwo Jima veterans gather for a group photo Feb. 16 during a reunion marking the 68th anniversary of the battle.

WWII and another 68 in Korea. "To this day, whenever I see a Marine, I say 'Thank you.'"

George Alden Sr. of Fort Worth, Texas, was just 17 years old when he enlisted in the Marines.

"I was wounded during that first day of battle," recalled Alden, who was caught in a Japanese crossfire and shot five times as his 5th Marine Division struggled to gain footing in the shifting volcanic ash of Red Beach-2. "I lost track of time after that but remember a few days later seeing the flag being raised atop Mount Suribachi."

The raising of the American flag by five Marines and one Navy Corpsman took place on Feb. 23, 1945, and was immortalized in a Pulitzer Prize-winning photograph by Associated Press photographer Joe Rosenthal.

"I went in the day the flag went up," said Lou Smith of Bellevue, Ky. "I never heard so much noise and cheering as when I looked up and saw the flag flying. But the very next morning I was hit with a hand grenade."

Smith was one of 19,000 troops wounded in the 35-day battle that claimed more than 21,000 Japanese lives. Additionally, approximately one-third of all Marines killed in action during World War II were killed on Iwo Jima, where more than 100,000 Americans fought and 6,821 died — 5,931 of them Marines.

"No one knows exactly how many Iwo survivors are still alive," said Fairfax High School history teacher Shayne Jarosz, executive director of the Iwo Jima Associa-

tion of America and organizer of the four-day reunion. "Just last week I got word that five more had passed away. It's sad to realize that we are at the precipice of the end of an era."

More than 250 people joined the veterans for the reunion, which included a symposium, dinner gala with music donated by Radio King Orchestra and a visit to the National Museum of the Marine Corps at Quantico.

"A docent was answering questions from a group of school children when he spotted Dad," said Norton's daughter Rachel. "Everyone's jaw just dropped as the children realized they were hearing about the Battle of Iwo Jima from someone who was there. After-

wards, they all lined up to shake Dad's hand."

Norton's eyes welled up when asked about Helen, the stateside nurse he met during his recovery who has been his wife for 65 years. Helen took her future husband to church on their first date, and from there he went on to study under Billy Graham and spend his life in the ministry.

"God has blessed us with so much," Helen Norton said as her husband wiped tears from his eyes. "Please tell the young people today to be thankful. We may have our problems but there is no greater country in the world than the United States of America."

For more information on the Iwo Jima Association of America, visit www.iwojimaassociation.org.

PHOTOS BY JEANNE THEISMANN/GAZETTE PACKET

Honoring the Greatest Generation

Post 24 veterans pay respects to Iwo Jima survivors.

BY JEANNE THEISMANN
GAZETTE PACKET

Representatives of American Legion Post 24 in Alexandria visited with World War II veterans in Arlington Feb. 15 during a reunion of survivors of the Battle of Iwo Jima.

"Receptions for WWII veterans seem to have gone off the radar scope in recent years," said Henry Dorton, whose father served in the Army Air Force in the South Pacific. "With the opportunity to meet these great Americans becoming increasingly rare, visiting with these Iwo Jima survivors was my way of honoring those still living as well as paying tribute to those, like my father, who are not."

Joining Dorton were Vietnam veteran and Virginia's 2012 Legionnaire of the Year Jim Glassman and Post 24 Commander Bill Aramony.

"It was an honor to meet these Iwo Jima veterans," Aramony said. "These members of the Greatest Generation humanized a historic event for us."

It was on Feb. 19, 1945 that the 35-day Battle of Iwo Jima began, with the notable flag raising atop Mount Suribachi taking place a few days later on Feb. 23.

"I didn't expect to hear first-hand accounts of the two flag-raising that took place on Iwo Jima," Dorton said. "I'd seen the images in movies and books but it's different when you hear something of such historical significance from the personal viewpoint of someone who was there."

The three men spoke at length with brothers Ira and Bob Rigger, who recounted how by chance they were reunited off the coast of Iwo Jima, and Ivan Hammond, who was friends with some of the original flag raisers.

"I was a little surprised at how open these men were about their ordeals," noted Dorton. "People forget that Iwo Jima survivors suffered horribly, not just from combat wounds, but from disease and malnutrition. Ivan Hammond, like so many others, suffered an incredible loss of weight that wasn't recovered until well after the war."

Members of American Legion Post 24 in Old Town visit with WWII veterans during a reunion of Iwo Jima survivors in Arlington Feb. 15. Shown are Henry Dorton, Commander Bill Aramony, Bob Rigger, Jim Glassman and Ira Rigger.



PHOTO BY JEANNE THEISMANN/GAZETTE PACKET

Alexandria's Post 24 plans to continue supporting the Iwo Jima veterans for as long as the reunions are held.

"We've all heard the stories about the fighting and hardships our men endured on Iwo Jima," Glassman said. "But to hear them

firsthand from heroes who actually were there and participated in the battle was incredible. It was really an honor to sit down and talk with these brave Americans and to personally shake their hands and say 'thank you for your service to your country.'"

New City Council Poised To Rezone Waterfront

FROM PAGE 1

is looking to develop a hotel on the waterfront," Young said. "We know that's out there. Residents know that's out there. That's not something we are trying to hide or walk away from."

The developer Young refused to name was Carr Hospitality, the Washington-based developer who has already submitted plans to City Hall for a 120-room hotel on the Cummings property. Last year, the developer submitted a design concept that was considered by the Board of Architectural Review. Members of the board had some concerns about the proposal, which was not approved. It was an academic discussion anyway because the zoning has not been increased to meet the demands of developers. Meanwhile, some say the city manager should have been more forthcoming when asked about development pressures.

"The city is not being transparent," said Boyd Walker, one of the leading opponents of the waterfront plan. "It's sort of a lie by omission."

THE ALEXANDRIA WATERFRONT has been at the center of controversy for almost two years, as city leaders have moved to

almost triple the allowable density compared to what's there now. The plan would allow 800,000 square feet to be developed on land that currently has about 300,000 square feet. That created a groundswell of opposition in Old Town, where neighbors collected signatures to require a supermajority vote of the City Council to approve the proposal — a threshold that supporters could not meet until Democrats ousted the two Republicans who opposed the plan.

"What's the real agenda here?" asked Bert Ely, member of the waterfront work group. "It's almost as if the waterfront is being used to mask the real intent here, which is to gut the protest petition."

Supporters of the plan say Alexandria needs the tax revenue created by the additional density, which they say will pay for flood mitigation while adding to the tax base. Even though the existing zoning would allow for an additional 350,000 square feet compared to what's there now, city planners hope to tack on an additional 150,000 square feet to that — a proposal that would almost triple the density compared to what's there now.

"If we don't move the process forward, there may never be expressed interest be-

cause prospective developers or investors may not want to do anything on the waterfront," said Mayor Bill Euille. "We need to be able to be generating some tax dollars and revenues so that we can move forward to do the things the citizens want us to do on the waterfront like open space and flood mitigation."

LAST JANUARY, the previous City Council approved the plan in 5-to-2 vote after a contentious daylong public hearing. Dozens of people testified in favor and against the plan, although a clear majority of neighbors in Old Town who live closest to the properties at issue are against the plan. Since that time, the plan has been caught up in a number of lawsuits, most of which have challenged the city's efforts to dismiss a protest petition of neighbors requiring a supermajority vote. The previous council lacked a supermajority vote, although the new council does not.

"Elections have consequences," said former Vice Mayor Kerry Donley. "And I think it's time to approve this plan and move on."

Now that Democrats have ousted the two Republicans, supporters of the waterfront plan have a clear supermajority vote. So the



PHOTO BY MICHAEL LEE POPE

City Attorney Jim Banks, City Manager Rashad Young and Alexandria Mayor Bill Euille answer questions from the media about their intention to move forward with a zoning change on the waterfront despite legal challenges.

city manager is now willing to yield to the demand of the protest petition and meet the threshold of six votes. City Council members are scheduled to vote on the rezoning March 16 despite outstanding legal challenges in the Alexandria Circuit Court and the Virginia Supreme Court.

"It's outrageous," said Ely. "What they are proposing to do is gut a very important due-process provision for property owners."

Police Refuse To Release Incident Report in Officer-Involved Shooting

FROM PAGE 1

day of the shooting explains that officers arrived at a home in the 3400 block of Duke Street Monday afternoon, Feb. 18, where they found a man with a gun. Officers shot and killed Sellers, although Hildebrandt won't say if he fired at them. She also won't say how many officers fired at Sellers or how many officers were placed on leave, although those questions would be answered by the incident report.

"The investigation is ongoing as to what happened," said Hildebrandt.

Under the Virginia Freedom of Information Act, law-enforcement agencies can withhold complaints, court orders, memoranda, notes, diagrams, maps, photographs, correspondence, reports, witness statements and evidence. Police officials have

interpreted this broad exemption as a way to withhold all documents in all cases, regardless of what the case is about and regardless of whether the case is open or closed. That means the public has to rely on selective information the police department chooses to release — or not release — through a public information officer.

"If you are protected by a shroud of secrecy, you just get in the habit of not having to explain what you do," said Sam Walker, professor emeritus of criminal justice at the University of Nebraska at Omaha. "Then you learn you can get away with things."

When the Associated Press tested the effectiveness of the Virginia Freedom of Information Act in 2006 by sending reporters to each county to ask for public records,

only 43 percent had success. The rest were told that the records would not be released or would cost thousands of dollars in fees. Arlington police officials have a policy of withholding documents and charging by the minute, sometimes charging hundreds of dollars for access to public records.

"Open government isn't free," said Thomas Blanton, director of the National Security Archive at George Washington University. "But it's still an obligation of the government, and the burden should be on the government."

Last year, a State Integrity Investigation ranked and graded each of the 50 states on government accountability, transparency and corruption.

Virginia got an F, largely because police agencies use an exemption clause in the

Virginia Freedom of Information Act to withhold basic documents — even in cases that are closed. Advocates for open government say that's unacceptable, especially if a lawsuit is never filed and the actions of the police remain shielded from public view forever.

"That raises a red flag, and it really denies citizens the right to see what went on in an investigation, if there was any sort of misconduct that occurred in an investigation, there's no way for people to know that even after a case is closed," said Caitlin Ginley of the State Integrity Investigation, in an interview shortly after the report was released. "When you have an environment like that, it raises the potential for there to be illegal behavior, corrupt behavior, unethical behavior."

NEIGHBORHOODS

Old Town

A MAN TO REMEMBER - Derry Bancroft left us forever this unforgiving winter. No he didn't. Can't happen. Won't happen. He wouldn't do this to us so soon.

But he did. This elegant gentleman won't be back anytime soon.

His full name is Frederic Wolcott Bancroft. But to his Old Town friends and everyone else he knew he was always known as Derry. He died earlier this month. He died quietly in his Old Town home, a departure so quiet that even his dearest didn't know for hours.

Mercifully, illness didn't drag on as so often happens. The other day he had even discussed a long-delayed lunch with a friend, who is writing this.

But even this gentle but strong-willed man couldn't delay this one.

Derry's funeral drew a crowd to St. Paul's Episcopal Church on S. Pitt Street. So did his reception at the church's Norton Hall next door. Derry probably stood in a corner of the hall, sipping a touch

(make that a few touches) of his favorite libation.

Derry knew the turf. He and his beloved Ellen for many years lived next door to the church. An easy stroll on an Old Town Sunday. Particularly if you were shrugging off a nip of the bud. I told you earlier that Norton Hall was bristling with food and drink — lots of both — at Derry's funeral.

Here's a brief and nowhere near complete look at some of the folks who bid Derry farewell: Anita Gilstrap, Judy Willard, Ben and Diane Anderson, Bob and Norma Gants, Stew and Loti Dunn, Patsy Ticer, Kay Frances Dolan, Rowe and Fritz Kroesen, Kirk Bowen, Arlene Mahon, Lenore Fein, Paula Tosini, Arnold Forte, Nancy Leisch, Audry Marcoe, Roberto and Maria Ramaciotti, Charles Ablard, Merney and Arthur Kelleher, and Sincerria Elliott.

Is it OK to say that everybody who came to say goodbye had a good time? Better be, because I just did. Why is it that Episcopalians have an unfailing know-how to make a funeral a party? A good time? A celebration? A nice place to be?

A disclosure: I'm married to one of them and it generally works out fine.

— Bob Feldkamp

Taylor Run

GOD AND DOUGHNUTS

The coming of Lent is announced differently in different places; friends who have been to New Orleans have informed me that beads and water were thrown on them and clothes were removed. For some reason Anglicans make pancakes, eat them, and run races flipping the pancakes in skilletts. The teenage Sunday School group at Emmanuel Episcopal Church put on a pancake supper and the traditional race. Hannah Buckman won the pancake race.

The group shrewdly decided to choose a King and Queen by the drawing of lots to avoid argument, so Blythe Markel was the Queen and Henry Nealon was the King.

Others involved in putting on this tremendously successful event were Claire Bilodeau, Henry Tennant, Katherine Conner, James Bambara, Gareth and James Markel, Kelly Dervarics and Morgan Vaughan.

— Lois Kelso Hunt

OBITUARY

Theresa Jean Edwards

Theresa Jean Edwards, age 81, of Alexandria, died Feb. 14, 2013 at Grace Nursing Home in Clarksville, Tenn. She was born Aug. 26, 1931 in Salisbury, N.C., the daughter of Scottie and Lizzie Walker. She was preceded in death by her husband of 43 years, Eugene Edwards of Alexandria.

She leaves to cherish her memory two daughters, Dr. Deborah Taylor of Alexandria, and Dana Dantzler of Clarksville, Tenn., son-in-law Rev. Richard Dantzler of Clarksville, Tenn., granddaughter Jessica Hopewell of Dallas, Texas, two great-grandchildren, Jaylen and Jayla Hopewell of Dallas, Texas, one sister Betty Robinson of Alexandria, and a host of other relatives and friends.

Theresa's request was to be cremated and her ashes buried next to her husband Eugene. Burial will take place in a private ceremony at a later date in Quantico.

Online condolences may be made at www.sykesfuneralhome.com

OPINION

Criminalizing Of a Child

BY HARRY M. COVERT

Time has come to pay attention to an age of accountability. Adults must seriously realize that boys and girls of 10 are categorically and truly children. No matter race, creed, color or national origin or anything else, they are of tender age.



This is not a matter of merely following a pack of ravenous wolves that many public schools administrators seem to have become treating their children.

Case in point is the recent arrest of a 10-year-old boy at Alexandria's Douglas MacArthur School.

COVERT MATTERS

The crime: having an obvious child's toy plastic pistol in his backpack. He was taken into police custody, thankfully not handcuffed, finger-printed and held. He was suspended from school and transferred to another.

It took juvenile court judge Uley Norris Damiani to release the child. A criminal record no less for him.

This audacious case is a cause celebre. School administrators, teachers and school board members should now go either to the "woodshed" or back to school.

Melinda Douglas, Alexandria's chief public defender, is "outraged" by the incident and has some stringent and pointed comments. Her office represents the child and described the matter as "totally and extremely outrageous and over-reactive." She's correct.

Douglas expects the prosecution to be dropped by the Commonwealth's Attorney's office. She's insisting the boy's school crime record be expunged. It should be.

"There is no indication (in the facts) of anything other than a toy," Douglas said. "The way it was handled is outrageous, totally outrageous, and shows the administration is worse than teachers and the juvenile system."

Douglas has "grave concern" about the impact on the youngster.

A child is indeed a youngster and not a "kid" as society is want to describe them. In one of the more egregious actions in the city's history, present-day school administrators appear to have forgotten how to treat a child.

Without debate, school safety is vital especially in these days when national attention is riveted on unimaginable school deaths not seen in the nation's history. Rightly so. But, there is no reason for common sense to get out of hand. Police authorities know the difference between serious crimes and child's play.

WRITE

The Gazette Packet welcomes views on any public issue. Letters must be signed. Include home address and home and business numbers. Letters are routinely edited for libel, grammar, good taste and factual errors. Email gazette@connectionnewspapers.com



PHOTO BY STEVEN HALPERSON/TISARA PHOTOGRAPHY

Living Legends Dash to Win

A number of Living Legends of Alexandria rode a Dash Trolley in Monday's George Washington Birthday Parade. 2012 Legend Allen Lomax (right) and 2013 Legend Willie Bailey (left) walked with director Nina Tisara. The group took the prize in the Senior category.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Teachers Deserve Better Salaries

To the Editor:

In a recent letter to the editor Richard Vis takes issue with Sen. Barker's contention that a 3 percent increase in teacher salaries would help close the gap in student achievement. (Article "Raises for Teachers," Jan. 17, 2013). Mr. Vis, having taught in Virginia for 30 years, contends that achievement gaps come about "only" by the heart and soul of the educators giving their "all" to the cause.

Reducing gaps in student achievement is certainly the education profession's conundrum and Sen. Barker's and Mr. Vis' contentions are at the center of the debate. Like Mr. Vis I, too, taught in Virginia (Alexandria) for 30 years. I know from my experience that if heart and soul devotion were all it takes to erase the achievement gaps, the task would have been accomplished long ago. The issue is not a passion for teaching, but rather an economic challenge.

In my 30-year teaching career I fought hard to increase money for teacher salaries, serving a two-year term as president of the Education Association. Legislators all too often tell us that throwing money at education won't solve the problem. Historically, however, I question whether we have adequately compensated teachers for their important work.

In my long lifetime, teachers' salaries have remained at the lower rung of the professional career salary ladder. The result, among other problems, is that we can't attract the "best and brightest" into the career. The task of giving "all" to the profession becomes much easier if teachers don't have to work second jobs to support their families. Too many teachers can't afford to live in the communities where they

teach; hence, have to spend time and money on long commutes to work.

Additionally, teachers have the same desires as other professionals to send our children to good universities and to be able to take a nice vacation once in a while. We also have to continually update our certification as well as keep abreast of new information and teaching techniques another time and cost issue.

Most importantly, we need the respect of the public and other professionals. Self-respect and self-worth depend to a large extent on how the community views teachers. We need to feel good about ourselves in order to effectively accomplish the myriad tasks we are called on to perform.

This is why I think legislators like Sen. Barker who fight for funds for teacher salaries deserve not only educators' support, but community support as well. This is why I will do what I can to help him get reelected and why I will urge my teacher friends and people in his district to do the same.

Hazel Rigby
Alexandria

Beauregard Plan's Benefits

To the Editor:

I am writing in response to the article, "Beauregard Waiting Game," which attempted to describe the impact of future redevelopment in the Beauregard area on existing residents, yet failed to include some important facts.

First, while the article said that "most of the [affordable] units won't be available until after 2023," it failed to mention that the affordable housing is being provided over time be-

SEE LETTERS, PAGE 12

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PEOPLE

Lots of Moving Parts Remain

BY ADAM EBBIN
STATE SENATOR (D-30)

Thanks to all of you who attended one of the town meetings in Mount Vernon or Old Town on Saturday. It's always good to hear what's on your mind, and your input helps me represent you better.

As the General Assembly approaches the scheduled adjournment of our 46-day legislative session, there are still lots of moving parts: amendments, conference committee reports, and remaining bills are all being rapidly considered; committees just completed their work on Monday; the Senate and House budgets are in conference committee to be worked out with Medicaid expansion being my top priority; and a transportation plan may yet emerge to address our enormous funding needs.

The Senate recently passed a bipartisan transportation proposal that represents a clear improvement over the House version as well as Governor McDonnell's original plan. Under the Senate plan, the gasoline tax would be increased by 5 cents per gallon and indexed to rise automatically with the cost of road construction materials. Also, a wholesale tax would be imposed on fuel and 1 percent regional sales taxes would be instituted in Northern Virginia, Central Virginia and Hampton Roads. The House plan, meanwhile, falls woefully short of the necessary funding because it eliminates the gas tax. I am hesitant to get into too many details, as the



final plan will likely be a compromise between the Senate and House plans. In the meantime, I'll keep working with Sen. Janet Howell, who serves on this important conference committee, to promote the best aspects of the Senate plan. I remain hopeful that House Republicans will work with us and recognize Northern Virginia's needs and garner adequate funding for roads and transit.

Another key issue remaining to be settled is Governor McDonnell's initiative to provide for state takeover of low-performing schools. I applaud his interest in helping struggling schools, but I do not believe a mandatory takeover mechanism is the best way to do it. While state support for those schools is welcome, his bill takes a hard-line approach that does not allow for continued involvement from the local school board and citizens. It employs a low standard for takeover without setting a timeline for a school to be returned to community control, and there could soon be over 100 schools in jeopardy of takeover. The legislation also does not consider existing transformation policies that are successfully taking hold. Though a constitutional amendment to provide authority for takeover legislation was effectively withdrawn, the legislation itself is still under consideration.

To read more about what I'm up to, visit www.adamebbin.com. Call my office at 571-384-8957 or email me at district30@senate.virginia.gov.

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LETTERS

FROM PAGE 10
cause the redevelopment will occur gradually over the next 30 years, not all at once. As such, a majority of the residents can remain in their homes for many years to come. In addition, those residents who are relocated by a phase of redevelopment will have ample notice throughout the development review process and will be provided with a generous relocation package, including a relocation payment and help finding a new home. Given the 40 percent average annual turnover rate, which is consistent with the market, there will be plenty of comparable homes available to accommodate relocated residents who choose to remain in the neighborhood.

Second, while 38 percent of the respondents in a recent resident survey reported they earn less than 40 percent of Area Median Income, and while a subset of that group is "calling on city leaders and JBG Companies to roll back rents to 2010 rates and freeze them in place," the article fails to mention that the residents have been and are currently paying market rents that are consistent with other similarly situated rental apartments in the area. There is no justification, nor legal authority, to impose rent control, let alone to control market rents in one location in the city for the benefit of one group of residents over all other similarly situated residents throughout Alexandria.

Finally, while the article mentions the Plan's \$167 million, 800 unit, affordable housing package, it fails to mention that dedicated affordable housing is the top priority in the Beauregard Plan, as evidenced by the allocation of over 41 percent of the total developer community benefit contribution to affordable housing and the city's commitment of increased tax revenues to be generated by the redevelopment to affordable housing. Increasing the number of affordable housing units beyond the extraordinary commitment that has already been made, as requested by Tenants and Workers United, would result in the reduction of other community benefits to be realized through the implementation of the Plan, including a fire station, bus rapid transit, a multi-purpose athletic field with lighting, and improved open spaces.

The way to preserve continued affordable housing in the Beauregard area is to realize the vision created during the three year long Beauregard Small Area Plan process, which will occur through the proposed redevelopment of the area. Without the pro-

posed rezoning and redevelopment, as stated previously, the property owners will either "renovate or redevelop under existing zoning, neither of which guarantees any affordable housing."

M. Catharine Puskar, Esq.
Walsh, Colucci, Lubeley,
Emrich and Walsh, PC

Need To Help Students Now

To the Editor:

I fully back the decision for the takeover of Jefferson Houston Elementary School. This used to be a wonderful school with good teachers and good leaders, not to say the teachers and leaders today are not good, but there has been such a turnover in the last few years.

There are a lot of people that are opposed to the upcoming legislation, they also oppose the current school building. There have been way too many changes at this school without the increase of academic achievement. There were several years when the school went through six principals, then we got a good one and the school showed promise. But the superintendent did not think there was quick enough turn around, so he moved her.

Since then we have had a CEO that showed hope, he stayed for about four months. The teachers and administrators continuously come and go. During this school year alone, my grandson in the third grade has now had three different reading teachers and he is now below grade level. When he first came to JH into kindergarten he was above grade level, then he started sliding due to the teacher not being in the class a lot of the school year, next he had the same teacher for 1st and 2nd grades with his reading teacher being his kindergarten teacher. This did not boost him, if anything, it held him back.

Granted boys are different learners than girls, but the teachers have got to grasp this, gain the focus and attention of the children, understand they have different learning needs and teach them in a way that will make them want to learn.

I have been so disappointed in this school in the last couple of years, I welcome outside intervention. My other grandson will be in kindergarten in the fall, he is currently receiving pre-k at the same day care provider his brother was at, so I expect him to come to JH with an above average level. I don't want to see the same thing happen to him. All of the JH chil-

dren deserve the best education they can get; these kids are our future.

There are currently 334 students at JH, the building was built to accommodate 800 students. Years ago it was at that capacity. Instead of spending the \$44 million on a new building at this site, get the students achieving first, maybe move them to other achieving schools, reintegrate them with students who are achieving. Give them the same chance the other students have.

Bea Porter

Pre-emptive Strike?

To the Editor:

The announcement at the mayor's news conference last week that the waterfront plan must be enacted at once is not about making an urgently needed land use decision. It's about heading off and muting the news that will come from the decisions in the pending court cases involving the way the waterfront decision was made. Many court cases drag on for years, but not the two cases the mayor and his allies on council hope are soon forgotten.

First there is the case in Alexandria Circuit Court in which the City of Alexandria is suing its own council-appointed Board of Zoning Appeals. The city is claiming that its own appointees were wrong to rule that the property owners living in close proximity to the planned new development had submitted a valid protest petition requiring a super majority vote of City Council.

The mayor and council are planning to vote on the waterfront plan on March 16. Arguments in this appeal will be heard in Circuit Court on April 8 and 9. If the council takes a new vote on March 16 and achieves a supermajority of six members, the city's outside legal counsel can argue on April 8 that the matter is moot. Maybe that will give the semblance of a legal victory and put the embarrassing matter of paying legal fees to overturn a ruling from their own appointees behind them.

Later in the spring the Supreme Court of Virginia is hearing an appeal from a Circuit Court judge's decision not to invalidate the vote on the waterfront plan, because senior staff did not follow the clear language of the zoning code. By acting on March 16, the mayor and council can say it's all moot.

In addition to the waterfront plan, the Planning Commission and council would vote in March

SEE LETTERS, PAGE 20

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Beautiful Charleston home with over 7,000 sq ft of living space. Five bedroom, three full and two half baths, two fireplaces, renovated kitchen, two car garage, in sought after cul de sac just steps to the Potomac River ~\$1,395,000



9051 Tower House Place Alexandria, VA 22308

Coming Soon in Villamay



Two level brick home with panoramic views of the Potomac River. Three bedroom, three bath, lower level suite, remodeled kitchen, two fireplaces and large garage on .4 acres. ~\$929,000



7305 Park Terrace Alexandria, VA 22307

OPEN SUNDAY 1-4



Incredible end unit brick townhouse with opportunity to expand the existing space. This three bedroom, one full and one half bath home on two levels features a large, deep fully fenced lot in the rear with room for a parking pad and existing plans for renovation. Wood floors throughout, sunlit and conveniently located within walking distance to the Metro. ~ 637,000



1005 Oronoco Alexandria, VA 22314

Coming Soon in Fort Hunt



Charming home in Wellington Heights. Three bedrooms, two baths on one half acre.

Remodeled kitchen and baths, bright family room addition, large living room and three fireplaces. Conveniently located near the Mt Vernon Trail in the Waynewood school district. ~\$583,000

7605 Fort Hunt Road Alexandria, VA 22308

Coming Soon in 22308



Classic center hall colonial in Stratford Landing. Four bedroom, 3.5 bath with swimming pool and 2 car garage. This sunlit home features a gourmet kitchen



and large informal dining space opening to living room. Lower level features office/den/exercise room, playroom, bar and French doors leading to patio and beautifully landscaped, fully fenced yard. ~ \$825,000

8406 Riverside Road Alexandria, VA 22308

Classic Wellington Home



Beautifully crafted colonial on over 1/2 an acre just off East Boulevard Drive in sought after Wellington. 5 bedrooms, 4.5 baths, on 3 fully finished levels spanning almost 4,000 finished sq ft. Large rooms, great flow, stunning kitchen renovation, overlooking huge family room and quite back yard, sited on private graveled road at the end of a cul de sac. ~



900 Clifton Drive Alexandria, VA 22308

Grand and Spacious



Southern colonial with all the bells and whistles. 6+ bedrooms, 5.5 baths, 3 car garage, swimming pool, over 7000 sq ft on 1/2 acre. Wide plank HW on main/upper levels. Cooks kitchen w/ gas 6 burner stove, 3 ovens, 2 sinks, 2 dishwashers, pantry & breakfast bar. Main and Upper level masters, large play/bonus room. Custom millwork throughout ~1,295,000

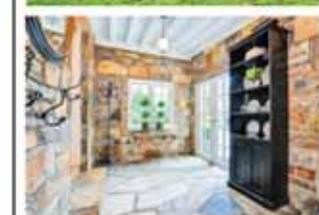


1604 River Farm Drive Alexandria, VA 22308

The One You Want To See



Charming stone cottage in pristine condition on 1/2 acre. Fully Renovated and modernized while maintaining all its historical features. Featuring a new chef's kitchen, master retreat with stone bath. Wood and stone floors throughout. 3 bedrooms, 2.5 baths, new two car cedar carport with workshop, lush landscaping and two flagstone patios. ~\$875,000



8316 Fort Hunt Road Alexandria, VA 22308



Coldwell Banker
310 King Street
Alexandria, VA
22314





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NEW HOME **OPEN SUN**

5211 Polk Ave
\$1,085,000
Just Completed - Grand Opening!
Best of both worlds-new home size and amenities combined with "in-town convenience". Spacious new home with all the bells and whistles: high ceilings, gourmet kit, upgraded trim detail, gorgeous hardwood flrs, 4 large BR including luxury MBR. Fin basement, 4.5 baths and 2 oversize 2 car garage. Nothing like it in City for close to this price! **OPEN SUN, 2/24 1-4PM!** From 395, Seminary Rd E; R-N. Pickett; R-Pegram; R-Polk.

NEW HOME **OPEN SUN**

8313 Mount Vernon Hwy
\$739,900
Brand New Custom Home!
Area's best new home value just became even better! Now offering free finished lower level with full bath (\$35,000 VALUE!) for any offer accepted by 2/28/13. One time opportunity-contact us today! Special features include: high ceilings, open floor plan, gourmet eat-in kitchen with gas cooktop, custom cabinets and granite. Stunning master suite. Thermal windows & upgraded insulation. 2 car garage. **OPEN SUN 2/24, 1-4! GW Pky S; at Estate, sharp Right on 235 N**

JUST LISTED **OPEN SUN**

9102 Old Mount Vernon Rd
\$545,000
Huge House-Little Price!
Most house for the money in prime Mt. Vernon location! Exceptionally spacious 6BR home on spectacular 3/4 acre lot overlooking wooded grounds of Mt Vernon Estate. Custom pool with new liner in complete privacy. Home has huge potential and fab features inc: bright, open floor plan, 2FP, hwd flrs (under carpet), updated kitchen cabinets, gas cooking and garage parking. Amazing opportunity-the lot alone would sell for this price! **OPEN SUN 2/24, 1-4! GW Pky S; L-Old Mt Vernon Rd.**

JUST LISTED

9488 Lynnhall Pl
\$849,000
Classic Oxford Colonial!
Custom Colonial in prime location in prestigious Oxford on the Potomac. Uniquely attractive property combines the best of Colonial details with striking bright, open floor plan. Fab features include dramatic 2 story foyer, bright, white kitchen open to great room, elegant trim detail, stained hwd flrs, 4 large BRs including luxury MBR suite, all brick exterior and oversize 2 car garage. Gorgeous fenced yard.

CONTRACT!

4716 Neptune Dr
\$1,250,000
Stunning Water Frontage Private Dock!
Spectacular contemporary Rambler on magnificent lot with 190 ft of bulkheaded water frontage. Custom home designed to capitalize on gorgeous water views and natural environment. Special features include open floorplan, expansive glass walls, soaring cathedral ceilings, main level MBR, walkout lower level. Gorgeous grounds with custom pool and private dock.

CONTRACT!

1250 S. Washington St
Porto Vecchio #824
\$599,000
Best Value!
Spacious residence with breathtaking panoramic river views from every major room. Special features include: glass walled great room, luxury MBR, marble foyer, and bright white kitchen. Spectacular elevated views. Outstanding building amenities include limo service, party rooms, work out room, pool and more! Unique opportunity-typically units with similar combination of views & elevation cost thousands more!

JUST LISTED

213 Woodland Terrace
\$1,759,000
Rare In Town Estate!
One of Alexandria's most admired homes! Magnificent property consisting of 18,000 sq ft manicured grounds, elegant main residence, two car garage and detached cottage.
Home has been tastefully updated and expanded with a careful eye on preserving its original charm and character. Fabulous features include: bright, open, free flowing floor plan, exquisite trim detail, hardwoods, custom built-ins, high ceilings and recessed lighting throughout. Striking gourmet kitchen any chef would envy. Magnificent family room open to kitchen. Stunning master suite with fireplace, luxurious bath & his and hers dressing rooms with custom cabinetry. Fabulous covered porch overlooks private rear grounds. Winner of the *Alexandria Beautification Award*, recognizing select Alexandria residences that beautify their surroundings. "Perfection" best describes this one of a kind offering!

CONTRACT!

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Old Town "MOVE-IN READY"
Beautiful top to bottom renovation and expansion just completed. Highlights: 3-story addition, gourmet kitchen, marble counters, SSA, high end cabinets; hardwood floors on MU levels, gorgeous master suite, finished walk-out basement with private entrance, fenced backyard, front porch, 2-car parking pad.
Dayna Blumel / Kerry Adams 703.587.7841

\$ 1,010,000
Alexandria / Old Town "PORTNERS LANDING"
All brick, 4 level, end townhouse with two-car garage completely renovated in 2011 with 3 bedrooms and 3.5 beautifully appointed baths, gourmet eat-in kitchen, granite counters, custom cabinets, hardwood floor, Plantation shutters, California Closets, 9' ceilings with custom crown molding, security system and more!
Klanci Vanderhyde 703.919.4460

OPEN SUNDAY 1 - 3!
\$ 430,000
Washington 1390 V ST, NW # 322
Spectacular, sleek 1BR, 2 level loft with city views from every room! This unit boasts soaring ceilings, bamboo floors, stainless and granite kitchen, huge walk-in closet, W/D, French balcony, Grohe fixtures, and extra storage space. Upgrades include ceramic tile, glass inserts in kitchen cabinets and blackout blinds.
Georgia McLaughlin 703.628.4463

\$ 279,000
Alexandria "HISTORIC PIED-A-TERRRE . . ."
Circa 1812, in the heart of Old Town featuring renovated kitchen and bath plus custom paint. Original refinished pine floors and wood-burning fireplace. Oversized eat-in kitchen with exposed beams. Just one block from shops and restaurants on King St. Also within walking distance to King St Metro, Whole foods and PTO. Too charming to miss!
Val Klotz 703.303.9744

OPEN SUNDAY 1 - 4!
\$ 319,000
Alexandria 2239 ROANOKE DR
WONDERFUL 3 LEVEL BRICK DUPLEX IN BEACON MANOR! Great starter home with 3BR, 2FBA and family room addition off kitchen. Updated baths, newer systems, lower level rec. room with built-ins and much more. Spring is just around the corner and the beautifully landscaped yard will soon be in bloom. Come visit.
Pat Wilson 703.598.7279

OPEN SUNDAY 1 - 4!
\$ 549,900
Arlington 105 S FILLMORE ST
"Turn-key! Entirely renovated from top/bottom!"
- 4BR / 3BA with Mstr suite
- 2,200+ sq ft of living space on a 4,000 sq ft lot
- New roof, windows, electrical & plumbing
- New high efficiency HVAC & tankless water heater
- All new kitchen / baths, open floor plan, LR has FP
- HW floors on ML / carpet in LL, recessed lighting
Martine Imer & Alexander Imer 703.346.7283 or 703.403.2465

OPEN SUNDAY 1 - 4!
\$ 639,000
Alexandria 2521 GADSBY PL
Lovely 3BR/2.5BA townhouse in the Stonegate community. The home has refinished hardwoods in LR/DR, freshly painted, new carpet and new SS refrigerator. There are 14' ceilings on the ML and 12' ceilings on the LL. Fireplace in family room. 2 large decks off main / lower levels. Backs up to woodland.
Randy Bender 703.906.1749

\$ 529,500
Arlington / Crystal City "REDUCED!"
Exciting opportunity to own corner unit with views of river and courtyard. 2BR/2BA condo has hardwood, granite and SS kitchen with center island, wrap around balcony. Amenities: pool, fitness center, party room, minutes to Pentagon, airport & Potomac Yard. Parking and future Metro stop.
Suzanne Briar 703.728.4999
Bob Wood 703.244.0505

\$ 450,000
Alex / Camerons Sta "RARE Opportunity"
Breathtaking Penthouse offers glorious walls of windows, soaring 12' ceilings and huge open living space with expansive views. Luxury, spacious kitchen, 2 separated bedrooms and 2 baths are featured in the just "like new" home. 2 garage spaces. One level living at its best!
Judy Pisciotta 703.405.4485
Mike Lekas 703.927.9895

\$ 949,000
Alexandria / Rosemont "STATELY COLONIAL"
For entertaining with gracious formal living room with wood burning fireplace and elegant dining room. Family room with wall of windows opens up to pretty patio and beautifully landscaped yard. Four bedrooms and two and half baths, hardwood floors, traditional moldings on main and upper levels. Finished lower level offers additional living space. Stone's throw to King St. Metro.
Mary Bourke 703.906.5825

\$ 628,950
Alexandria "STYLISH"
This upscale condo has it all! 12' ceilings, 2 master BR, en-suites and den, upgraded granite throughout. Glass backsplash in kitchen, bathrooms have vessel sinks and mirror frames, garden tub, breakfast bar, large walk-in closets, and 2-car parking. Walk out the door to Whole Foods, King St Metro, shopping and restaurants.
Effe Blankini 703.593.2634

RENTALS

240 S Reynolds St #204 \$1,595
Alexandria Garden 2BR/1BA 1 Fireplace
Eike Kohler 703.967.7633

12001 Market St #468 \$1,850
Reston Garden 1BR/1BA
Martha Deal 703.622.6797

110 Roberts Lane #401 \$2,100
Fort Ellsworth Garden 3BR/2BA 2 assigned Parking
Deborah Alea 703.447.1315

1250 S Washington St \$3,200
Porto Vecchio Condo 2BR/2.5BA
Mary Taylor 703.785.5519



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ENTERTAINMENT



PHOTOS BY LOUISE KRAFT/GAZETTE PACKET

All stand as the Northern Virginia Firefighters Emerald Pipe Band passes the reviewing stand during Alexandria's 2012 St. Patrick's Day Parade.



Ballyshanners Chairman Pat Troy introduces the 2012 St. Patrick's Day Parade Grand Marshals Tom and Melinda Mooney.



The Fairfax County Police Motor Squad performance marks the end of the 2012 St. Pat's Parade in Alexandria.

St. Patrick's Day Parade

Alexandria's 32nd Annual St. Patrick's Day Parade will be held on Saturday, March 2 at 12:30 p.m. in the heart of Old Town Alexandria. Hosted by the Ballyshanners, the parade will start at the corner of King and Alfred streets, and proceed east down King St. to the corner of King and Lee streets.

This year's parade will be led by Grand Marshal Bryan "Bugsy" Watson, owner of Bugsy's Pizza Restaurant and Sports Bar. After 17 seasons as a defenseman in the National Hockey League — three of them with the Washington Capitals — Watson and his wife Lindy chose to settle in Alexandria and open their restaurant in Old Town.

As always, the parade will feature more than 100 units, including groups celebrating their Irish heritage, marchers from the military services, Irish dancing schools, bagpipe bands and other Alexandria community groups.

In addition to the parade, festivities will include a Classic Car Show, held on Pitt Street between King and Cameron streets beginning at 10 a.m., and the Fun Dog Show held in Market Square, beginning at 10:30 a.m. The Fun Dog Show, an annual favorite, will benefit Lucky Dog Animal Rescue. Lucky Dog Animal Rescue is a non-profit animal rescue organization dedicated to saving the lives of homeless animals and educating the community on responsible pet ownership.

All events are free to the public. Parade-goers are encouraged to take Metro to the King Street/Old Town stop, then walk 10 minutes east on King Street to the parade route. All events are sponsored by the Ballyshanners — Gaelic for "Old Towners". A not-for-profit group, the Ballyshanners seek to promote and preserve Irish heritage through sponsorship of the Alexandria St. Patrick's Day Parade and the Alexandria Irish Festival, held every summer. Visit www.ballyshanners.org.

CALENDAR

E-mail announcements to gazette@connectionnewspapers.com. Photos and artwork are encouraged. Deadline is Thursday at noon.

ONGOING

Winter Classes. Beginning in Feb. 20 at Art at the Center, 2804 Sherwood Hall Lane. Children ages 6-10 can participate. Register at www.artatthecenter.org or 703-201-1250.

Occupied City: Life in Civil War Alexandria Exhibition. At The Lyceum, Alexandria's History Museum, 201 South Washington Street. Open daily through September, this exhibit traces life in Alexandria following Virginia's decision to secede from the Union in May 1861. See how Robert E. Lee's hometown was transformed literally overnight from a prosperous commercial port into a supply, hospital, and transportation center for the Union Army, and find out why Alexandria became a destination for African Americans seeking freedom. Explore the experiences of Alexandrians and others who lived here during this tumultuous time, through their own words, as well as in period photographs and collections items. The Lyceum is open Monday through Saturday, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sunday, from 1-5 p.m. Suggested admission is \$2. Visit www.alexandriahistory.org or call

703-746-4994.

Art Exhibit. Alexandria artist Francis Seeger will display "People" in the Athenaeum Gallery, 201 Prince St. through Feb. 24. Free. Features a number of the artist's larger figural paintings. Often appearing to be waiting for time to pass or expressing a touch of boredom, Seeger's subjects are captured with vibrant palette. Visit www.nvfaa.org or 703-548-0035.

Life in Civil War Alexandria Exhibition. Daily exhibit traces life in Alexandria following Virginia's decision to secede from the Union in May 1861. Through September at The Lyceum, Alexandria's History Museum, 201 South Washington St. Open Monday through Saturday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. and Sunday, 1-5 p.m. Suggested admission \$2. Visit www.alexandriahistory.org or call 703-746-4994.

Tavern Toddlers. Mondays, 10:30 a.m.-noon. Mondays through the end of April. Designed for walkers through 36 months and their caregivers. Tavern Toddlers features a weekly open playtime in Gadsby's historic ballroom. Gadsby's Tavern Museum is located at 134 North Royal St. Call 703-746-4242 or visit www.gadsbystavern.org.

THURSDAY/FEB. 21

Art Focus Group. 7:30-9 p.m. Collage - build on children's natural instinct for collecting by creating something

new out of scraps and bits and pieces. We will also explore extending collage into paper architecture. Classes are \$25 each or \$200 for the 10 class series. A school or group of teachers can share the registration for the full series. At 2804 Sherwood Hall Lane. Call 703-201-1250.

Creative Writing Session. 1 p.m. at Hollin Hall Senior Center, 1500 Shenandoah Road. Get the creative juices flowing with the help of Camilla Clocker and Julie Ellis. Free, open to the public. 703-765-4573.

Performance. 7:30 p.m. at Burgundy Farm Country Day School, 3700 Burgundy Road. Hear the 6th graders perform "Burgundy on Broadway: Dreams and Magic," a musical revue that includes music from "Harry Potter" to "Oklahoma!" There will be a puppet show, spoken narration, clarinet performance and more. \$5/door; \$1/child.

FRIDAY/FEB. 22

Bill Kirchen & Too Much Fun And Wayne 'The Train' Hancock. 7:30 p.m. \$29.50. The Birchmere Music Hall is located at 3701 Mount Vernon Ave. Visit www.birchmere.com or call 703-549-7500.

Music Performance. 8 p.m. at The Lyceum, 201 S. Washington St. The United States Air Force Band will play music for the clarinet. Free. Visit www.usafband.af.mil or 202-767-

Process: Photography



"Iris Throne," by Robert Creamer, 40 x 40", Epson print on Somerset Velvet, captured using an Epson 10000XL scanner as a camera, 2011.

The Northern Virginia Fine Arts Society presents Process: Photography, running Feb. 28-April 7. This show brings together established and emerging regional talent to demonstrate the capabilities and characteristics of a wide variety of picture taking devices ranging from large format with a 20" by 24" negative to electron microscopy to a scanner-as-camera. Over fifteen different types of equipment are represented. An free opening reception is scheduled for Sunday, March 3, 4-6 p.m. Sunday, April 7 at 2 p.m., many of the artists will participate in an Artists' Show & Tell where they will bring the camera used to shoot the image in the show and talk about their processes.

Featured Artists: John Brown, Robert Creamer, Jim Darling, Frank Hallam Day, Roger Foster, Reed A. George, Andrew Z. Glickman, Maxwell MacKenzie, Phil Nesmith, Christos J. Palios, Hal Rummel, Jim Steele, Craig Sterling, The Howard Hughes Medical Institute scientists, Andrew Zimmermann and Everitt Clark. At the Athenaeum, 201 Prince St. Visit www.nvfaa.org.

5658.

Performance. 7:30 p.m. at Burgundy Farm Country Day School, 3700 Burgundy Road. Hear the 6th graders perform "Burgundy on Broadway: Dreams and Magic," a musical revue

that includes music from "Harry Potter" to "Oklahoma!" There will be a puppet show, spoken narration, clarinet performance and more. \$5/

SEE CALENDAR, PAGE 17

ENTERTAINMENT

FROM PAGE 16

door; \$1/child.

Theater Production. 8 p.m. at Port City Playhouse, 1819 N. Quaker Lane. See "The Drawer Boy." \$18/adult; \$16/student, senior; \$14/groups of 10 or more.

Performance. 10:30 a.m. at Downtown Baptist Church, 212 S. Washington St. See "The Young Spectaculars and the Front Yard Adventure." \$8/person and can be purchased at www.artsonthehorizon.org or at the door.

Birthday Symposium. 1-4 p.m. at George Washington Masonic Memorial, 101 Callahan Drive. Hear three talks on "George Washington and Religion: Private Man and Public Issues." Free. 703-683-2007.

Birthday Concert and Gala. 6 p.m. at George Washington Masonic National Memorial, 101 Callahan Drive. Celebrate George Washington's birthday with music and more. \$100/person, reservations must be made by Feb. 18. <http://gwmemorial.org/birthday-celebration-2013.php> to buy a ticket.

Book Signing and Recipe Swap. 7 p.m. at Hooray For Books!, 1555 King Street. Mary Ellen Taylor will sign copies of her book "The Union Street Bakery," which is set in Old Town Alexandria. Free. Visit www.hooray4books.com or call 703-548-4092.

FEB. 22 THROUGH MARCH 9

Theater Production. Port City Playhouse's third production of the 2012-13 season "The Drawer Boy" by Michael Healey, directed by Jennifer Lyman opens on Friday, Feb. 22. Performances are Fridays and

Saturdays, Feb. 22-23; March 1-2 and 8-9; and Tuesday, March 5 at 8 p.m.; and Saturday, March 2 and 9 at 2 p.m. Port City Playhouse performs at 1819 N. Quaker Lane.

SATURDAY/FEB. 23

Harmony Sweepstakes 2013 'Mid Atlantic Regional.' 7:30 p.m. \$29.50. Visit www.harmony-sweepstakes.com/. The Birchmere Music Hall is located at 3701 Mount Vernon Ave. Call 703-549-7500 or visit www.birchmere.com.

Closing Reception. 3-5 p.m. See work by local artists Pamela Underhill and Rusty Lynn at The Gallery at Convergence, 1801 N. Quaker Lane. Free. Visit www.convergenceccf.net.

Free Wedding Open House. 11 a.m.-3 p.m. at Kimpton's Monaco Alexandria. Couples can browse the ballroom, courtyard, guest rooms and suites. Complimentary hors d'oeuvres will be served. There will be wedding vendors present, raffles and more. Visit www.monaco-alexandria.com or RSVP to Allison Manning at Allison.Manning@kimptonhotels.com.

Author Signing Event. 1-4 p.m. at Books A Million, 6230-I N. Kings Highway. S.E. Simpson will sign copies of her book "Ginger and the Bully." Free.

Theater Production. 8 p.m. at Port City Playhouse, 1819 N. Quaker Lane. See "The Drawer Boy." \$18/adult; \$16/student, senior; \$14/groups of 10 or more.

Performance. 10 a.m. or 11:30 a.m. at Downtown Baptist Church, 212 S. Washington St. See "The Young Spectaculars and the Front Yard Adventure." \$8/person and can be purchased at www.artsonthehorizon.org or at the door.

SUNDAY/FEB. 24

Annual Jury Information Session. 2-3 p.m. in Studio 31 at the Torpedo Factory, 105 N. Union St. Visual artists who are interested in joining the Torpedo Factory Artists' Association can get more information. Free. Visit www.torpedofactory.org.

Film Day. 2 p.m. at Beatley Library, 5005 Duke St. Watch "The Color Purple" in honor of African-American History Month. Free. Visit www.alexandria.lib.va.us or 703-746-1702.

African Drumming Workshop. 2-3:30 p.m. at Mount Vernon Unitarian Church, 1909 Windmill Lane. Susan Berning leads the interactive rhythms. Bring own drum, bell or shaker, or ask to borrow one. \$5/person or \$15/family. Contact Susan Berning at 443-761-0165 or sberning@worldportico.com.

THROUGH FEB. 24

Exhibit. "Dot and Dash" art exhibit at Del Ray Artisans gallery from Feb. 1-24. Getting back to the basics: dot and dash. Artists deconstruct their individualized art-making processes to interpret the theme in their unique styles, showcasing two- and three-dimensional work that is painterly, graphic, realistic, and abstract. Del Ray Artisans gallery, 2704 Mount Vernon Ave. www.TheDelRayArtisans.org.

MONDAY/FEB. 25

Performance. 10:30 a.m. at Downtown Baptist Church, 212 S. Washington St. See "The Young

SEE CALENDAR, PAGE 18

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The Drawer Boy
written by Michael Healey
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MetroStage Garners Seven Helen Hayes Nominations

BY JEANNE THEISMANN
GAZETTE PACKET

Theatre Washington has announced the nominations for the 2013 Helen Hayes Awards with Alexandria's MetroStage Theater among the 25 theatre companies nominated in 26 categories.

The acclaimed musical "Jacques Brel is Alive and Well and Living in Paris" received six nominations: Outstanding Director, Serge Seiden; Outstanding Music Director, Jenny Cartney; Outstanding Lead Actress, Natascia Diaz; Outstanding Lead Actor, Bobby Smith; Outstanding Ensemble; and Outstanding Musical.

"Josephine Tonight," the world premiere about the early life of Josephine Baker, received one nomination: Outstanding Ensemble for its New York cast directed and choreographed by Maurice Hines.

Eighty-four professional theatre companies produced eligible work in 2012, with 201 eligible productions, 1,572 eligible acting performances and 3,027 individual pieces of work judged.

At the helm of MetroStage is Artistic Director Carolyn Griffin, who along with Arena Stage Artistic Director Molly Smith and Imagination Stage founder Bonnie Fogel was presented with a Helen's Star award last fall. According to theater Washington, Helen's Star is presented to "daring visionaries who have shaped and redefined the landscape of Washington theatre; individuals whose dedication and unwavering spirit make the Washington area an example of theatre's transformative power."

The Helen Hayes Awards will be presented April 8 at the Warner Theatre. For a list of nominations, visit www.theatrewashington.org. Visit www.metrostage.org.



PHOTO BY COLIN HOVDE

The ensemble cast of Debra Walton, James Alexander, Zurin Villanueva, James T. Lane and Aisha DeHaas has been nominated for a Helen Hayes Award for "Josephine Tonight."



PHOTO BY CHRISTOPHER BANKS

Natascia Diaz, Sam Ludwig, Bobby Smith and Bayla Whitten are nominated in the Outstanding Ensemble category.



PHOTO BY JEANNE THEISMANN/GAZETTE PACKET

Carolyn Griffin, shown with theater legend Maurice Hines, received a Helen's Star award for her visionary work as Artistic Director of MetroStage.

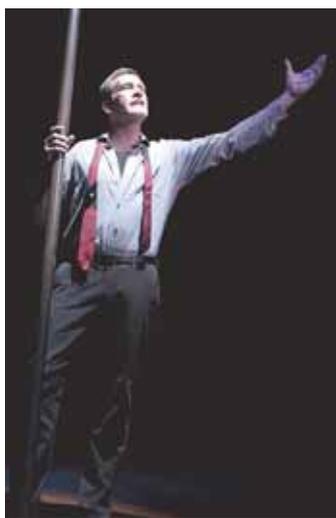


PHOTO BY CHRISTOPHER BANKS

Bobby Smith earned a Helen Hayes Award nomination for his work at MetroStage.



PHOTO BY CHRISTOPHER BANKS

Natascia Diaz's performance at MetroStage garnered an Outstanding Lead Actress nomination.

CALENDAR

FROM PAGE 17

Spectaculars and the Front Yard Adventure." \$8/person and can be purchased at www.artsonthehorizon.org or at the door.

FEB. 26 THROUGH APRIL 28

Exhibit. "Artistic Duo IV" will be on exhibit at Green Spring Horticultural Center Gallery, 4603 Green Spring Road. Works by watercolor artist Carolyn Grossé and photographer Stephen Gawarecki are featured in a joint show. Paintings range from realistic to abstract; photographs include his window series and moody landscapes. Free. Visit www.greenspring.org or 703-642-5173.

WEDNESDAY/FEB. 27

Black History Month Event. 7:30 p.m. at Rachel M. Schlesinger Concert Hall, 3001 N. Beauregard St. Features Kathy Harty Gray Dancers, poetry readings by students and faculty, music by the NOVA Jazz Band and more. Free, but donations requested. Parking is \$6. 703-845-6097.

THURSDAY/FEB. 28

Nitty Gritty Dirt Band. 7:30 p.m. \$45. Visit www.nittygritty.com. The Birchmere Music Hall is located at 3701 Mount Vernon Ave. Visit www.birchmere.com or call 703-549-7500.

Author Series. 7-8:30 p.m. at Charles Beatley Library, 5005 Duke St. In honor of Black History Month, Bob O'Connor will speak about his book "The U.S. Colored Troops at Andersonville Prison." Free. Visit www.alexandria.lib.va.us or call 703-746-1702.

Networking Fun. 6-9 p.m. at the Carlyle Club, 411 John Carlyle St. Hosted by New Hope Housing's Young Professionals Board and IMPACT Marketing & Events. Features cocktails, music and more. \$20 online or \$25 at the door. E-mail Michelle Jannazo at mjannazo@newhopehousing.org or 703-799-2292 ext. 11.

Information Talk. 6-7:30 p.m. at Sherwood Hall Library. Students and parents can gain insight into the importance of promoting financial literacy at an early age. Daryl Mackey, author of "Teamesteem is the Key to a Teen's Financial Dreams" will lead the forum. Copies of his book will be given out to the first 25 teens to arrive. 703-980-3510 for questions.

Gala Benefit. 7-10 p.m. at Virtue Feed and Grain, 106 S. Union St. The fourth annual CAC Gala benefits the Center for Alexandria's Children. Features a silent auction, mini raffle, buffet and more. Tickets start at \$150 and available at <http://2013cacgala.eventbrite.com> or by contacting the Center at 703-746-6008. For more information about the Center, go to www.centerforalexandriaschildren.org.

Performance. 10:30 a.m. at Downtown Baptist Church, 212 S. Washington St. See "The Young Spectaculars and the Front Yard Adventure." \$8/person and can be purchased at www.artsonthehorizon.org or at the door.

THROUGH FEB. 28

Highlights at Mount Vernon Estate. In observance of Black History Month, Mount Vernon highlights the lives and contributions of the slaves who built and operated the plantation home of George and

Martha Washington. Throughout the month, a daily Slave Life at Mount Vernon tour explores the lives and contributions of the slaves who lived at Mount Vernon. Black History Month activities are included in regular Estate admission: adults, \$17; children ages 6-11, \$8; and children under 5 are admitted free.

"Dance Your Heart Out"

Campaign. Metropolitan Fine Arts Center of Alexandria and Fairfax Station is offering unlimited adult dance and mind/body classes throughout February for a special price of \$110. And MFAC will donate 10 percent of all "Dance Your Heart Out" class fees to the American Heart Association. Schedules can be viewed at www.metrofinearts.com. 703-339-0444.

Art Exhibit. See "Shades of Gray" at Printmakers Inc., in the Torpedo Factory, 105 N. Union St. Free. Visit www.torpedofactory.org.

FEB. 28 THROUGH APRIL 7

Art Exhibit. See "Process: Photography" at The Athenaeum, 201 Prince St. Features established and emerging talent displaying a wide variety of picture taking devices ranging from large print to electron microscopy. Over 15 types of equipment are represented. Free. Visit www.nvfaa.org for more.

FRIDAY/MARCH 1

Theater Production. 8 p.m. at Port City Playhouse, 1819 N. Quaker Lane. See "The Drawer Boy." \$18/adult; \$16/student, senior; \$14/groups of 10 or more.

Performance. 10:30 a.m. at Downtown Baptist Church, 212 S. Washington St. See "The Young Spectaculars and the Front Yard Adventure." \$8/person and can be purchased at www.artsonthehorizon.org or at the door.

FRIDAY-SUNDAY/MAR. 1-3

The Bacon Brothers. 7:30 p.m. At the Music Hall, 3701 Mount Vernon Ave. \$39.50. Visit <http://baconbros.com>. The Birchmere Music Hall is located at 3701 Mount Vernon Ave. Visit www.birchmere.com or call 703-549-7500.

MARCH 1 THROUGH MARCH 6

Artwork Due. Target Gallery's March Fundraiser exhibition will accept artwork at the gallery at the Torpedo Factory Art Center, 105 N. Union St. Visit www.torpedofactory.org or 703-838-4565.

MARCH 1 THROUGH MARCH 31

Needlework Exhibit. Exhibit is at Historic Woodlawn Museum, 9000 Richmond Highway. There is a fee. Visit <http://woodlawn1805.org>.

SATURDAY/MARCH 2

Celebrate Alexandria: 25 Years with Music and the Maestro. 6 p.m. at Westin Hotel, 400 Courthouse Square. Kim Allen Kluge, musical director of the Alexandria Symphony Orchestra will be honored. There will be a reception, silent and live auction, dinner, dancing and more. Individual tickets are \$200. For reservations and information, contact Margherita Woods at 703-960-7994, marg.woods@cox.net, or Jane Ring at 703-548-745, jring10@comcast.net.

Virginia Grand Military Band. 7:30 p.m. Rachel M. Schlesinger Concert Hall, NVCC, Alexandria Campus,

SEE CALENDAR, PAGE 19

WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

ENTERTAINMENT



**Joyce
Garrett**



**Lisa
Edwards
Burrs**

Celebrate Black History

Black History Month Concert of dance, music, and poetry Wednesday, Feb. 27, 7:30 p.m. in the Rachel M. Schlesinger Concert Hall, at 3001 N. Beauregard. The event will feature the Kathy Harty Gray Dancers, poetry readings by students and faculty of the Northern Virginia Community College, and music performed by the NOVA Jazz Band and the NOVA Community Chorus. There will also be special guests — Joyce Garrett and the renowned Choir of Alfred Street Baptist Church, and soprano Lisa Edwards Burrs, an internationally recognized soprano, who will also present a Voice Master class on Tuesday, Feb. 27, at 2 p.m. No tick-



Alfred Street Baptist Church

ets are required, donations are requested. Parking is \$6. For more information email mwhitmire@nvcc.edu or call 703-845-6097. The concert is presented by the Division of Liberal Arts of Northern Virginia Community College, Alexandria campus.

CALENDAR

FROM PAGE 18

3001 N. Beauregard St. Hear works by Sousa, Grainger, Gilbert & Sullivan. Adults \$15; band directors and students free. Parking \$6-cash only, vehicles displaying handicapped tags park free. Visit www.vgmb.com or 703 426-4777.

Music. Focus Music presents Slaid Cleaves with special guest Ruut at 7 p.m. at St. Aidan's Episcopal Church. \$20/general; \$18/advance at www.focusmusic.org.

Theater Production. 2 p.m. or 8 p.m. at Port City Playhouse, 1819 N. Quaker Lane. See "The Drawer Boy." \$18/adult; \$16/student, senior; \$14/groups of 10 or more.

Performance. 10 a.m. or 11:30 a.m. at Downtown Baptist Church, 212 S. Washington St. See "The Young Spectaculars and the Front Yard Adventure." \$8/person and can be purchased at www.artsonthehorizon.org or at the door.

St. Patrick's Day Parade. Starts at 12:30 p.m. at the corner of King Street and Alfred St. Grand Marshal is Bryan "Bugsy" Watson, owner of Bugsy's Pizza Restaurant and Sports Bar. There will also be a Classic Car Show at 10 a.m. at Pitt Street. Visit www.ballyshanners.org for more.

SUNDAY/MARCH 3

Choral Evensong. 5 p.m. at Christ Church Episcopal, 118 N. Washington St. Listen to a service of evening prayer with choral music. All are welcome. Visit www.historicchristchurch.org or 703-549-1450.

Film Day. 2 p.m. at Beatley Library, 5005 Duke St. Watch "Remember the Titans," about T.C. Williams High School and its newly desegregated football team, in honor of African-American History Month. Free. Visit www.alexandria.lib.va.us or 703-746-1702.

Opening Reception. 4-6 p.m. at The Athenaeum, 201 Prince St. Meet some of the creators of the "Process: Photography." Features established and emerging talent displaying a wide variety of picture taking devices ranging from large print to electron microscopy. Over 15 types of equipment are represented. Free. Visit www.nvfaa.org for more.

Closing Reception. 2-4 p.m. meet the creators of "Student/Faculty Exhibit" at The Art League in the Torpedo

Factory Art Center, 105 N. Union St. Browse through paintings, drawings, ceramics, jewelry, and more. Visit www.theartleague.org or 703-683-1780.

Friends of Dyke Marsh. 2 p.m. at Huntley Meadows Park Visitor Center, 3701 Lockheed Blvd. Learn about snakes, skinks, salamanders, geckos, frogs, alligators and more. Free. Visit www.fodm.org or 703-768-2525.

THROUGH MARCH 3

Art Exhibit. See "Fabricated: An Exhibition of Wearable Art" at Target Galley in the Torpedo Factory Art Center, 105 N. Union St. Visit www.torpedofactory.org/target for more on the exhibit.

Student/Faculty Exhibit. The Art League in the Torpedo Factory Art Center, 105 N. Union St., presents paintings, drawings, ceramics, jewelry, and more. Visit www.theartleague.org or 703-683-1780.

MONDAY/MARCH 4

Performance. 10:30 a.m. at Downtown Baptist Church, 212 S. Washington St. See "The Young Spectaculars and the Front Yard Adventure." \$8/person and can be purchased at www.artsonthehorizon.org or at the door.

Dinner Meeting. 6:30 p.m. at American Legion Post 24 Hall, 400 Cameron St. \$25/person. William Connery will discuss his book "Civil War Northern Virginia 1861." Visit www.leecamp.org or RSVP 703-217-7871.

TUESDAY/MARCH 5

Theater Production. 8 p.m. at Port City Playhouse, 1819 N. Quaker Lane. See "The Drawer Boy." \$18/adult; \$16/student, senior; \$14/groups of 10 or more.

THURSDAY/MARCH 7

Art Focus Group. 7:30-9 p.m. Weaving and textile arts — we will look at ways to bring textile arts into the classroom or home studio with a specific focus on recycled fibers. Classes are \$25 each or \$200 for the 10 class series. A school or group of teachers can share the registration for the full series. At 2804 Sherwood Hall Lane. Call 703-201-1250.

Performance. 10:30 a.m. at Downtown Baptist Church, 212 S. Washington St. See "The Young Spectaculars and the Front Yard Adventure." \$8/person and can be purchased at www.artsonthehorizon.org or at the door.

FRIDAY/MARCH 8

Performance. Megan Mullally and Stephanie Hunt perform "Nancy & Beth" at 7:30 p.m. in the Music Hall at the Birchmere, 3701 Mount Vernon Ave. \$29.50. Visit www.birchmere.com.

Mardi Growl Gala. 7-10 p.m. at the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, 600 Dulany St. Enjoy music by a Nawlins jazz band, silent auction, raffle, beverages and more. \$85/single; \$150/pair of tickets. All proceeds benefit the Animal Welfare League of Alexandria. Visit www.alexandriaanimals.org/MardiGrowl for more.

Theater Production. 8 p.m. at Port City Playhouse, 1819 N. Quaker Lane. See "The Drawer Boy." \$18/adult; \$16/student, senior; \$14/groups of 10 or more.

Performance. 10:30 a.m. at Downtown Baptist Church, 212 S. Washington St. See "The Young Spectaculars and the Front Yard Adventure." \$8/person and can be purchased at www.artsonthehorizon.org or at the door.

Classical Potpourri. 7:30 p.m. at The Lyceum, 201 S. Washington St. Hear works by Mozart, Beethoven, Chopin and more. \$15/advance or \$20/door. Buy online at InstantSeats.com.

SATURDAY/MARCH 9

Music Performance. 8 p.m. at The Lyceum, 201 S. Washington St. The United States Air Force Band will play music for the woodwind quintet. Free. Visit www.usafbnd.af.mil.

Performance. 10 a.m. or 11:30 a.m. at Downtown Baptist Church, 212 S. Washington St. See "The Young Spectaculars and the Front Yard Adventure." \$8/person and can be purchased at www.artsonthehorizon.org or at the door.

Power Art. 3 p.m. at Del Ray Artisans, 2704 Mount Vernon Ave. Features nationally touring art quilts. Power Suits curator Cyndi Souder will speak and display additional pieces from the collection. Call 703-838-4827 or visit www.thedelrayartisans.org.

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Seniors Get Lesson on Heart Health

BY MARY ANNE BEATTY
ADMINISTRATOR, MEALS ON WHEELS

Senior Services of Alexandria teamed up with Inova Alexandria Hospital for their February speaker series on "Heart Health and Fitness for Seniors." More than 75 Alexandria seniors heard from local experts on how to choose healthier food options; how to maintain a heart healthy lifestyle in just 12 weeks; and got an introduction to the new Robust Walking Program designed by fitness guru, Dr. Dan Kulund. Christine Candio, CEO of the hospital welcomed the audience.



SENIOR SERVICES OF ALEXANDRIA

Jane Sparnon, a registered dietician with Inova Alexandria Hospital kicked off the session by helping attendees separate fact from fiction when deciding what foods are healthy. She emphasized the importance of eating a variety of colorful vegetables — fresh, frozen or canned. Other healthy food options include fruits, whole-grains, lean meats, reducing sodium, and dark chocolate! Attendees were treated to a heart-healthy breakfast casserole.

Dr. Maria Cristina Castillo-Catoni, a primary care physician board certified in internal medicine with the Inova Medical Group at Mark Center, discussed how in 12 weeks anyone can maintain a heart healthy lifestyle. The 12-week plan includes picking one goal

to achieve each week — reducing fat intake, limiting saturated fats, reducing cholesterol, staying active and eating breakfast every day.

The City of Alexandria's Department of Recreation, Parks and Cultural Activities led the group in stretching and previewed their new recreation programs for seniors 55 and up. The "Power 55 Plus" catalogue lists classes from jewelry making to square dancing to the latest craze, "Pickleball." What is really great is that seniors 55 and over get 20 percent off on the classes offered and some classes are free.

Another class offered is the new "Robust Walking" program designed by Dr. Dan Kulund who is a board certified orthopedic surgeon and a member of the City of Alexandria's Commission on Aging. A robust walker inserts exercises into a walk using environmental objects, such as benches, walls, poles and trees as props.

You won't want to miss the March 9 session at Cora Kelly Recreation Center that will get you on the road to becoming a robust walker. For more information, call Cora Kelly at 703-746-5554.

SSA's speaker series continues next month with a March event that will focus on "Maintaining Memory and Coping with its Loss." This free event will be held on Wednesday, March 13 at 9:30 a.m. at Westminster Presbyterian Church. You'll hear from experts about techniques to keep your memory sharp and programs to support families and caregivers who have loved ones dealing with memory loss. You can register by visiting SSA's website at www.seniorservicesalex.org or call 703-836-4414, ext. 10.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

FROM PAGE 12

will apply in every neighborhood.

Katy Cannady
Alexandria

Don't Disconnect Parents from Schools

To the Editor:

The Alexandria PTA Council, on behalf of its 3,000 members (parents, teachers and students) throughout the city, is writing to express our strong opposition to the "Opportunity Education Institution" legislation recently adopted by the state Senate (SB1324) and House of Delegates (HB 2096) and awaiting Governor McDonnell's signature. While we support the goal of improving the quality of education for all, this legislation would transfer local authority and local taxpayer funding for certain schools to a vaguely defined state entity that would not be accountable to the parents in the communities in which the schools reside.

The most alarming aspect of this

SEE LETTERS, PAGE 21

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Alexandria
Gazette Packet

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State Must Clarify Its Takeover of Schools

BY ROB KRUPICKA
DELEGATE (D-45)



that give a great deal of power to the bureaucracy, yet no accountability.

I have been vocally opposed to these bills and made numerous efforts to make changes to the language in the bills, both on the House floor

and behind the scenes with the goal of addressing local involvement, use of local funds, use of local facilities, how a school is identified for inclusion in a takeover program, metrics used to return the school to its community, and many other areas in which the bill is silent.

There are well over a hundred schools throughout Virginia that could be impacted by the Opportunity Educational Institute over the next few years. With more rigorous math and reading tests in Virginia — harder math SOL tests were rolled out last year and language arts SOL will be new this year, we can expect more schools to struggle with test scores as they adapt to these

harder tests. These harder tests will result in a large number of schools qualifying for a complete school take over under the Governor's proposal. One of the unintended consequences of the Opportunity Educational Institute is that it gives the Board of Education an incentive to think twice about harder tests and higher expectations because adapting to those tests would put so many schools at risk of a complete take-over.

I support Minority Leader Saslaw's proposal, SJ328, to have the state Joint Legislative Audit and Review Committee study the current status of struggling schools in Virginia to identify the most effective policies for turning these schools around. And I support SB 1374 from Senator Alexander which requires the Board of Education to designate for further corrective action any school that has been denied accreditation and that has failed, per the Board of Education's assessment, to demonstrate progress toward full accreditation. SB 1374 works with the local community and school board to implement proven practices that have been demonstrated to improve student

achievement.

It is imperative that we help all schools succeed in Virginia. We can do that by ensuring Virginia schools are implementing the proven programs that have been demonstrated to work throughout the country. Rushing magic wand policy solutions that have not been based in research is the surest way to further harm our schools. Virginia is one of the best states in the country for education precisely because we are deliberate and thoughtful in our approach to school policy.

The Opportunity Educational Institute is exactly the opposite. Senator Alexander's and Minority Leader Saslaw's approaches are much more consistent with the approach that has generated Virginia's reputation for school success. By expanding the range of interventions that the Board of Education can request of local school divisions, SB 1374 increases the chance for success and ensures strong community engagement in any school turn-around effort.

Please contact me this week to share your thoughts.

Virginia ranks third in the nation in the education we provide students. However, there are some schools that year after year cannot attain accreditation. I agree something needs to be done to address this issue, as all students deserve a quality education.

COMMENTARY

Governor McDonnell introduced a number of education bills this session. I supported some of those, but one initiative leaves me very concerned. Known as the Opportunity Educational Institute, or the school takeover bill, HB 2096 and its companion piece SB 1374, creates an unchecked bureaucracy to take over schools and commandeer local facilities and tax dollars, perhaps indefinitely. These bills would create an entity that would have the power to take over a school that does not reach accreditation for two successive years, yet it is silent on many important details

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

FROM PAGE 20

legislation to us as parents and PTA leaders is that it ignores and erases the crucial role that parents — and by extension, PTAs — play as advocates for children in their community. PTAs serve as an important conduit between parents, administrators and elected officials. One of the hallmarks of the National PTA organization is that local school PTAs provide a platform “for equitable participation among parents, students, community members, principals, teachers, and other staff and which promote an environment in which parents are valued as essential partners in their children's education and development.” (www.pta.org)

In Alexandria, PTAs work in partnership with teachers, school administrators and School Board members to improve struggling schools, and we are seeing the results. When T.C. Williams High School was designated a “persistently lowest-achieving” school by the state in 2010, the community was presented with a number of reform options, including shutting it down and reopening it as a charter school, and firing half of the staff. With active input from a strong citizen task force, the School Board and administration chose the transformation model of reform, and T.C., the state's largest high school, is now also one of the highest-performing high schools. The pending legislation does not allow for communities to make their own choices for reforming their schools.

Just as we are about to break ground on a badly-needed new facility for the Jefferson-Houston K-8 school, ACPS has brought in a team of outside consultants, at the request of state officials but at the expense of Alexandria taxpayers, that is working with both the school administration and the PTA. The most recent data on student achievement indicates that the

school is on a positive trajectory, and it would be foolish and wasteful for this new state entity to force us to abandon these efforts before they have had a chance to succeed fully.

Alexandria parents are more familiar than anyone with the challenges confronting our schools — challenges that are unique to our city, which simultaneously has the highest percentage of residents with PhDs in the nation, nearly 60 percent of its school students qualifying for free- and reduced-price lunch, and students representing 120 countries. The legislators from elsewhere in the Commonwealth who voted to pass these bills assume that a cookie-cutter remedy from an office in Richmond will produce better results than local parents and citizens advocating for change and holding their local school officials accountable.

We know there is much work to do to raise achievement for each and every student in Alexandria. But we, as parents, citizens and taxpayers, want to be the ones providing input on how best to invest our taxpayer funds in our children's futures. Alexandrians who want to protect local control of our schools — all of our schools — should contact Governor McDonnell at 804-786-2211 or <http://www.governor.virginia.gov/AboutTheGovernor/contactGovernor.cfm> and ask him to refrain from signing the “Opportunity Education Institution” legislation in its current form. No one cares more about Alexandria's children than Alexandrians.

P.J. Lepp, President, Alexandria PTA Council; **Kelly Dresen**, President, Jefferson-Houston K-8 School PTA; **Ramee Gentry**, President, Samuel W. Tucker Elementary School PTA; **Mary Catherine Gibbs**, President, Douglas MacArthur Elementary School PTA; **Marianne Hetzer**, President, T.C. Williams High School PTSA; **Keith Jabati**, President, Francis C. Hammond Middle School PTA; **Lonna James**, President, John

Adams Elementary School PTA; **Laurie Kahl**, President, Matthew Maury Elementary School PTA; **Linda Kelly**, Past President, Alexandria PTA Council; **Leslie Kruse**, President, James K. Polk Elementary School PTA; **Nicole Maaia**, President, Charles Barrett Elementary School PTA; **Karen McManis**, President, George Washington Middle School PTA; **Hector Reyes**, President, Mount Vernon Community School PTA; **Tom Tyler**, President, Cora Kelly Elementary School PTA; **Rosie Wiedemer**, President, George Mason Elementary School PTA; and **Melynda Wilcox**, Past President, Alexandria PTA Council

‘What Next, City Council?’

To the Editor:

The Feb. 15 letter from the city manager describing the city's plan to amend the zoning ordinance and re-vote the Waterfront Plan is an unfortunate example of things to come in city government. It's hard to see this action as anything other than an insider power play. City Council will demonstrate by either a super majority or unanimous vote that the zoning code, as amended, and consequently the waterfront plan is beyond citizen challenge. Sure they have the votes, but do they have to be so blatant in their disregard for the interests of citizens of all parties now excluded from the political process?

The fact that City Council decided to take this action in executive session and then explain the unexplainable with a city manager letter crafted to appear like an action on behalf of the citizens is insulting. There is no reason to rush this process since a decision on all legal matters is due in less than two months. In the seven working days before their planned vote, our Planning Commission, with three brand new members, is tasked to consider and act on an extremely contentious and significant amendment to the zoning ordinance. Ev-

ery neighborhood in the city will be impacted if property owners lose the right to protest changes to text amendments. As long as a text change slips through City Council on a 4-3 vote, any range of uses within the text can proceed without special consideration or protection for those most impacted.

Worse yet, our City Council, with a majority of new members, is asked to vote on the Waterfront Plan with no work sessions planned and no significant discussions with stakeholders. All council members expressed concerns with the plan during recent campaigns and nothing has changed in the plan. The haste strongly indicates this initiative is either a legal maneuver to make moot the Supreme Court case, a preemptive concession to developer concerns, or both.

The manager's letter itself is a tacit admission of all the procedural mistakes the city made that will likely lead to a loss at court. The citizen's protest petition was valid, submitted in a timely fashion, and applicable to zoning changes being considered in January 2012. The Board of Zoning Appeals (BZA) found their fellow citizens were correct and acted in good faith. The only delay to zoning decisions now is caused by the city itself. By dropping their appeal of the BZA's decision, all amendments to city zoning could proceed immediately through the approval process.

There is too much development in the approved pipeline with years of implementation ahead to allow a monopoly on power to proceed relatively unchecked due to permissive zoning procedures, executive session shenanigans, and a corrosive consensus in the political arena. This new council is off to a very poor start leading many citizens to ask “What Next, City Council?”

Bob Wood

TC Girls' Basketball Wins Patriot District Championship

Titans beat Woodson for first district title since 2009.

BY JON ROETMAN
GAZETTE PACKET

The T.C. Williams girls' basketball program reached the Patriot District championship game in 2011 and 2012, only to fall short each year against West Springfield.

This season, the Titans finally solved the Spartans, beating West Springfield twice during the regular season. However, TC lost twice to Lake Braddock and ended up sliding to the No. 3 seed in the district tournament.

On Feb. 13, TC finally figured out Lake Braddock, beating the Bruins in the semifinals. Two days later, all that stood between the Titans and their first district title since 2009 was the Woodson Cavaliers — and TC played like a team ready to seize its opportunity.

T.C. Williams defeated Woodson 58-35 to win the Patriot District championship on Feb. 15 at Lake Braddock Secondary School. The Titans outscored the Cavaliers 19-2 in the second quarter en route to a 22-point halftime lead. TC led by at least 12 for the remainder of the contest, ending West Springfield's three-year run atop the district.

"It's about time," TC junior Angie Schedler said.

Senior guard Christian Roberts spent four seasons on the TC varsity and said coming up short in the past made Friday's victory that much sweeter.

"We tried so hard [for] four years — we haven't won it since 2009," Roberts said, "so to win it my senior year is a great experience for me and my team because we worked hard to get here."



The T.C. Williams girls' basketball team won the Patriot District championship on Feb. 15.

One of the Titans' biggest concerns was Woodson guard Keara Finnerty. The senior scored 40 points and made 8 of 11 3-point attempts during a victory against West Springfield in the semifinals on Feb. 13. Schedler matched up against Finnerty and helped limit the sharpshooter to 10 points and just two field goals.

"After Finnerty's performance [against West Springfield] and playing her before, we know what type of player she is," TC head coach Kesha Walton said. "Our goal was for Angie not to even let her breathe, not even let her touch the ball at all. She did a phenomenal job."

Schedler's success wasn't limited to the defensive end. She also scored 14 points, all in the first half, including four 3-pointers. Schedler's second shot from behind the arc gave the Titans a 15-10 lead at the end

of the first quarter.

TC led 34-12 at halftime, but Woodson started to chip away and eventually pulled within 12 when Anna Walker converted a three-point play with less than a second remaining in the third quarter, cutting the

Titans' lead to 41-29. But the Cavaliers would get no closer as sophomore guard Rejoice Spivey led TC to victory. Spivey finished with a game-high 29 points, including 13 in the fourth

quarter.

"They went on their run, [so] we just had to go on a run ourselves," Spivey said. "We had to focus and get back to what we were doing in the first half and we did that."

Spivey was named tournament MVP. According to stats from the Washington Post's Web site, Spivey scored 30 points against Lake Braddock in the semifinals on Feb. 13 and 13 against West Potomac in the

quarterfinals on Feb. 12.

"She played amazing," Walton said. "She got after it, she really wanted it bad, you could tell. She's very aggressive; she basically [grew] into our leader, getting us through the tournament."

Roberts scored seven points for TC. Grace Patterson finished with four points and Baylee Simpson and Megan Laychak each had two.

"I feel so happy," Simpson said. "I want to cry, but the tears, they can't come out."

Roberts and Simpson were named to the all-tournament team, along with Finnerty, Woodson's Madeline Nguyen, West Springfield's Amy Berglund and Lake Braddock's Natalie Butler.

TC followed the district title by beating Washington-Lee, the No. 4 seed from the National District, in the Northern Region tournament on Feb. 18. The Titans' season came to an end with a loss to Oakton (C2) in the regional quarterfinals on Feb. 19.

"It's about time."

— T.C. Williams junior
Angie Schedler



T.C. Williams junior Angie Schedler scored 14 points against Woodson in the Patriot District championship game on Feb. 15.



T.C. Williams sophomore Rejoice Spivey scored 29 points against Woodson in the Patriot District championship game on Feb. 15 and earned tournament MVP honors.

TC'S Cathey Competes at State Gymnastics Meet

T.C. Williams gymnast Holland Cathey competed on bars and beam in the individual portion of the VHSL state meet on Feb. 16 at Centreville High School.

Cathey finished 11th on bars with a score of 9.425 and tied for 28th on beam (8.8).

Kellam won the team competition with a score of 148.3 on Feb. 15. Washington-Lee posted a score of 147.2 and finished runner-up for the second straight year.

T.C. Williams' Holland Cathey competes on bars at the VHSL state meet on Feb. 16 at Centreville High School.



PHOTO BY CRAIG STERBUTZEL/GAZETTE PACKET

PHOTO COURTESY OF ST. STEPHEN'S & ST. AGNES SCHOOL



Students show projects that they made during a physics camp at SummerTimes Camp at St. Stephen's & St. Agnes School last summer.

Choosing a Summer Camp

Region offers programs for children with interests from sports to drama to science.

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL
GAZETTE PACKET

While most of Washington is braving the winter weather, April Toman has been planning for summer. At the top of her list: choosing a camp for her two children, Claire, who is in fifth grade, and Will, who is a second grader.

"I start thinking about it in January," said Toman, who lives in Alexandria. "I talk to my kids about what they are interested in taking. There are so many options and the popular camps fill up quickly."

Education experts say summer camp is an important part of a childhood experience, and parents should start considering options well before the end of the school year.

"I think summer camps are wonderful for kids," said Tammy Davis, a doctor of education and a professor of psychology at Marymount University in Arlington. "Sometimes kids lose ground over the summer, especially with regard to their mental activity. Summer camp can continue brain development, especially with regard to creativity, mental activity, physical activity and social activity."

Davis, who is a former camp counselor, elementary school teacher and school counselor, said children who are not exposed to new social activities could become isolated during the summer months.

"If your kids are only playing video games or going to the pool every day, they run the risk of cocooning themselves," she said. "Choose a camp that expands your child's horizons, that will be stimulating and engaging and where they will develop new friendships without the pressure of an academic environment."

Toman, whose children will attend summer camp at St. Stephen's & St. Agnes School in Alexandria, says that from traditional day camps to specialty camps, the options for children are plentiful. "My chil-

dren have done junior veterinarian camp in the past, and this year we might try an eco-adventures camp."

FROM SPORTS TO SCIENCE, the Washington region is filled with camps that will suit almost every child.

For example, Annie Moyer, director of the Sun & Moon Yoga Studio in Arlington and Fairfax, says yoga camps are options even for children who have never practiced yoga. "No yoga experience is necessary," she said. "We do yoga games and poses, breathing, artistic expression and, weather permitting, outdoor playground time."

Jim Supple, director of summer programs at St. Stephen's & St. Agnes School, encourages parents to consider specialty camps as well as traditional day camps. "Specialty camps are great ways to try new things, to expand horizons, and to challenge yourself," he said.

"Children are naturally curious and specialty camps provide a way for children to learn more about their interests. If a child is not the most athletic and would rather learn about fashion or photography, acting or magic, specialty camps provide that outlet. They allow children to find things that they are good at and lets them be proud in that activity," said Supple.

Gabrielle Summers, who is planning to send her children to summer camp at the Norwood School in Bethesda, Md., says that she considers safety first. "Second, [I consider] the qualifications of counselors and leadership and their love of the children. [Then] I look at cost, early bird discounts, payment due dates and cancellation policies."

No matter which camp a child attends, however, Davis has one caution: "Be careful about over-scheduling camps, doing back-to-back camps and not giving children down time," she said. "Some people use camp as day care and that is not always a good thing."



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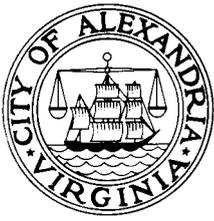
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Legal Notices



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, February 23, 2013, at 9:30 a.m., or as soon thereafter as may be heard on the hereinafter described items.

PUBLIC HEARING and consideration of program amendment and budget transfers to allocate \$500,000 in Home Investment Partnerships Program (HOME) and \$500,000 in Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) monies to Rebuilding Together Alexandria to establish an Alexandria Neighborhood Stabilization Program.

PUBLIC HEARING and consideration of a resolution to increase fees at the City Marina.

AN ORDINANCE to amend and reordain the Master Plan of the City of Alexandria, Virginia, by adopting and incorporating therein the amendment to the Potomac Yard/Potomac Greens Small Area Plan heretofore approved by city council to such master plan as Master Plan Amendment No. 2012-0004 and no other amendments, and to repeal all provisions of the said master plan as may be inconsistent with such amendment. (Landbay G, Block D)

The proposed ordinance accomplishes the final adoption of Master Plan Amendment No. 2012-0004 to amend the map of the Predominant Height Limits for the Coordinated Development District (CDD) for 701 East Glebe Road from a maximum 110 feet to a maximum of 135 feet.

AN ORDINANCE to amend and reordain Section 5-602 (COORDINATED DEVELOPMENT DISTRICTS CREATED, CONSISTENCY WITH MASTER PLAN, REQUIRED APPROVALS) of Article 5 (MIXED USE ZONES) of the City of Alexandria Zoning Ordinance, in accordance with the text amendment heretofore approved by city council as Text Amendment No. 2012-0006.

The proposed ordinance accomplishes the final adoption of Text Amendment No. 2012-0006 to amend Coordinated Development District #10 Potomac Yards/Greens to reflect the conversion of density within Landbay G.

AN ORDINANCE to amend and reordain the Master Plan of the City of Alexandria, Virginia, by adopting and incorporating therein the amendment to the Braddock Road Metro Small Area Plan Chapter of such Master Plan heretofore approved by city council as Master Plan Amendment No. 2012-0008 and no other amendments, and to repeal all provisions of the said master plan as may be inconsistent with such amendment.

The proposed ordinance accomplishes the final adoption of Master Plan Amendment No. 2012-0008 to amend the land use and zoning maps for the parcel located at 1501 Cameron Street to modify the land use designations on the parcel from P, Parks, and Open Space to Inst/Institutional to P, Parks, and Open Space and zone designations on the parcel from POS/Public Open Space, to RB/Townhouse Zone and RB/Townhouse Zone to POS/Public Open Space.

AN ORDINANCE to amend and reordain Sheet No. 064.03 of the "Official Zoning Map, Alexandria, Virginia," adopted by Section 1-300 (OFFICIAL ZONING MAP AND DISTRICT BOUNDARIES), of the City of Alexandria Zoning Ordinance, by rezoning the property at 1501 Cameron Street from POS/Public Open Space to RB/Townhouse on a portion of the property and from RB/Townhouse to POS/Public Open Space on a portion of the property in accordance with the said zoning map amendment heretofore approved by city council as Rezoning No. 2012-0008.

The proposed ordinance accomplishes the final adoption of Rezoning No. 2012-0008 to rezone the property at 1501 Cameron Street from POS/Public Open Space to RB/Townhouse on a portion of the property and from RB/Townhouse to POS/Public Open Space on a portion of the property.

AN ORDINANCE authorizing the owners of the property located at 2900 Main Line Boulevard to construct and maintain encroachments for roof overhangs and a canopy at that location.

The proposed ordinance accomplishes the final approval of the encroachment for roof overhangs and a canopy at the new building to be constructed at 2900 Main Line Boulevard on Block H of Landbay G in Potomac Yard.

Legal Notices

AN ORDINANCE to amend and reordain Section 4-1200 (INDUSTRIAL ZONE) of Article 4 (COMMERCIAL, OFFICE AND INDUSTRIAL ZONES) and Section 11-513 (ADMINISTRATIVE SPECIAL USE PERMIT) of Division B (DEVELOPMENT APPROVALS) of Title 11 (DEVELOPMENT APPROVALS AND PROCEDURES) of the City of Alexandria Zoning Ordinance, in accordance with the text amendment heretofore approved by city council as Text Amendment No. 2013-0001.

The proposed ordinance accomplishes the final adoption of Text Amendment No. 2013-0001 to add private school and daycare uses to the Industrial Zone.

AN ORDINANCE to amend and reordain Section 2-2-10 (ESTABLISHMENT OF ELECTION DISTRICTS AND VOTING PLACES) by establishing First Baptist Church as a temporary replacement for the Chinquapin Recreation Center polling place for the June 11 and November 5, 2013 elections.

This ordinance establishes a temporary polling place in the Chinquapin Recreation Center District.

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 Potomac West Small Area Plan Chapter of such master plan as Master Plan Amendment No. 2012-0006 and no other amendments, and to repeal all provisions of the said master plan may be inconsistent with such amendment.

The proposed ordinance accomplishes the final adoption of Master Plan Amendment No. 2012-0006 to amend the land use map from CDD/Coordinated Development District to CRMU/Commercial Residential Mixed Use and the zoning map from CDD#7/Coordinated Development District to CRMU-M/Commercial Residential Mixed Use medium zone and to amend the height map to increase the allowable height from 45 feet to 60 feet.

AN ORDINANCE to amend and reordain Sheet No. 16.01 of the "Official Zoning Map, Alexandria, Virginia," adopted by Section 1-300 (OFFICIAL ZONING MAP AND DISTRICT BOUNDARIES), of the City of Alexandria Zoning Ordinance, by rezoning the property at 114, 116, 116 1/2, 118, 118 1/2, 120 East Reed Avenue and 3600 Jefferson Davis Highway from CDD #7/Coordinated Development District to CRMU-M/Commercial Residential Mixed Use medium zone in accordance with the said zoning map amendment heretofore approved by city council as Rezoning No. 2012-0004.

The proposed ordinance accomplished the final adoption of Rezoning No. 2012-0004, to rezone the property at 114, 116, 116 1/2, 118, 118 1/2, 120 East Reed Avenue and 3600 Jefferson Davis Highway from CDD #7/Coordinated Development District to CRMU-M/Commercial Mixed Use medium zone.
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

Legal Notices

The Alexandria City School Board

will hold a Public Hearing on the FY 2014 Combined Funds Budget during the meeting scheduled for 7 p.m. on Thursday, March 7, 2013, in the School Board Meeting Room at 2000 N. Beauregard St., Alexandria. Budget information is available at <http://www.acps.k12.va.us/budgets/>. For more information or to register to speak at the public hearing, please contact the Clerk of the Board at 703-824-6614 or boardclerk@acps.k12.va.us

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Learning From the Past

What some area schools are doing to celebrate Black History Month.

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL
GAZETTE PACKET

The sound of steel drums vibrates through the air of a crowded auditorium in Potomac, Md. In McLean, elementary school girls share their understanding of the struggles of Rosa Parks. A group of second graders from Alexandria treks to downtown Washington to see the massive memorial statue of slain civil rights leader Martin Luther King Jr.

Area schools are celebrating Black History Month with activities like these. They range from student-led faculty meetings to music and food-filled festivals. In fact, some school officials say acquiring knowledge of the history of the African-American community is a significant part of a well-rounded education.

"I think acknowledging and celebrating Black History Month is important because we're not yet in a place where we can say that we're paying attention to the contributions, perspectives and experiences of African-Americans in this country on a consistent basis," said Rodney Glasgow, head of the Middle School at St. Andrew's Episcopal School in Potomac, Md.

A group of eighth-grade boys at St. Andrew's led a faculty meeting and told teachers and staff what it's like to be African-American teenagers. "The boys helped our faculty understand a little bit more about where they come from and some of their unique perspectives and challenges," said Glasgow. "It is different way to celebrate Black History Month, but we're hoping to do something meaningful and really address the state of African-Americans in our culture."

Also in Potomac, the multicultural festival at Wayside Elementary School earlier this month gave the school's families an opportunity to share their diverse histories. "We had food, activities, cultural dancing and background on specific countries," said Courtney Jones, Wayside's assistant principal. "It was in our gym and each country had a table set up with information. There were countries like Italy, Korea, Trinidad and Tobago, Jamaica, several African countries, Haiti and even the United States. Families within our community showed photos and artifacts and dressed in traditional clothing. People were able to circulate and learn about each country."

Ann Richardson Miller, director of admission for The Madeira School, in McLean, said students there shared a school tradition: "We had an all-school meeting in which a team of eight Madeira students who had attended the Student Diversity Leadership Conference [in Texas] ... discussed their experiences. Madeira has sent a team of students to that conference for the past 10 years."

Kindergarten through third grade students at the Potomac School in McLean researched, wrote and read essays about famous African-Americans. "Each homeroom teacher selects one black American each week whose achievements have had a positive impact on our nation," said David Grant, the school's director of diversity and inclusion. "The students

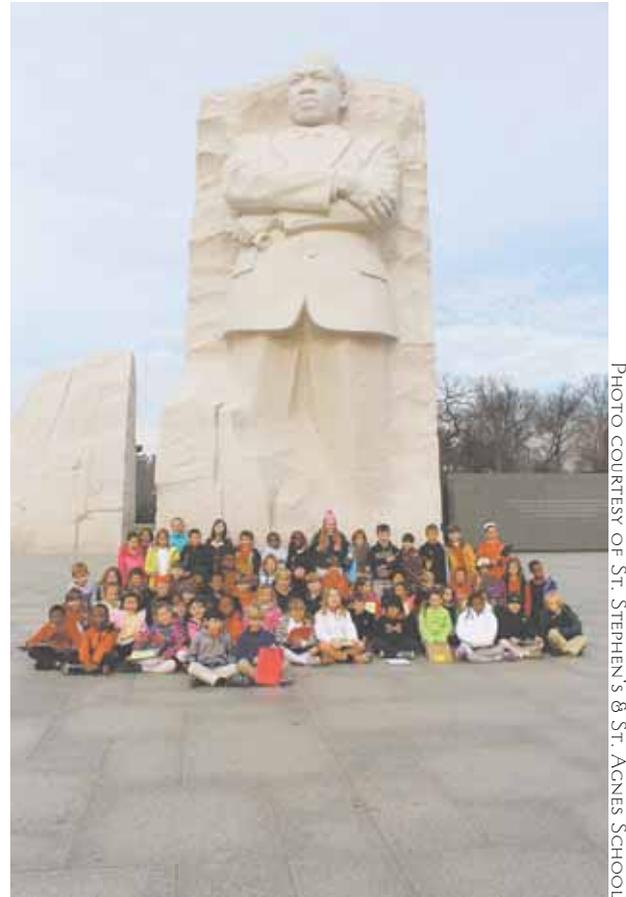


PHOTO COURTESY OF ST. STEPHEN'S & ST. AGNES SCHOOL

Second grade students from St. Stephen's & St. Agnes School in Alexandria visited the Martin Luther King Jr. National Memorial.

write a report about that person. Three or four students from each class will do a short presentation during a school assembly on each Friday during February. Students will have learned about 12 important African-Americans by the time the assembly is over."

In Alexandria, Linda Stratton, director of communications for St. Stephen's & St. Agnes School said that the school's second grade students wrote letters to the late Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and read them aloud during the school's annual "Letters to MLK" program, which included songs, poetry and photo presentations. They also visited the Martin Luther King Jr. National Memorial.

"In the lower school, our multicultural director meets with students in grades 3-5 regularly at lunchtime to watch short films and discuss various topics," said Stratton. "This month, they watched the film, 'The Children of Birmingham,' an animation that describes the powerful role young people had in changing the laws of segregation in Birmingham, Alabama. Then they discussed what they can do as children to contribute to our world today."

Stratton added, "In the middle school, a weekly chapel service focused on Black History Month. Students shared their own perspectives. Themes focused on honoring the unique value of each person, accepting and valuing yourself, and being courageous. The upper school is planning a student forum at lunchtime focused on topics related to Black History Month."

Educators say that while Black History Month activities are important, they hope the events spark a dialogue that extends beyond February. "It is important because many people may not understand how important the African-American experience is to our country's history," said Grant.

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21 Announcements

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Zone 3: The Alexandria Gazette Packet The Mount Vernon Gazette	Zone 6: The Arlington Connection The Vienna/Oakton Connection The McLean Connection The Great Falls Connection

21 Announcements

21 Announcements

CITY OF ALEXANDRIA VIRGINIA

TAKE NOTICE

NOTICE FOR TEMPORARY POLLING PLACE MOVE FROM CHINQUAPIN RECREATION CENTER TO FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF ALEXANDRIA

On February 23, 2013, at 9:30 a.m., the Alexandria City Council will hold a public hearing in the Council Chambers at City Hall, 301 King Street, to consider an ordinance to establish First Baptist Church of Alexandria (2932 King Street) as a temporary replacement for the Chinquapin Recreation Center (3210 King Street) as a polling place for the June 11 and November 5, 2013 Elections.

The proposed ordinance would temporarily change the polling location for the Chinquapin Precinct while the Chinquapin Recreation Center is under renovation.

A copy of the full text of the ordinance is on file in the City Clerk and Clerk of Council's office, Suite 2300, 301 King Street, Alexandria, VA 22314. The notice is advertised pursuant to the Virginia Code Sec. 24-2.306.

For information, please call (703) 746-4550.

Jacqueline M. Henderson
City Clerk and Clerk of Council

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-Thomas A. Edison

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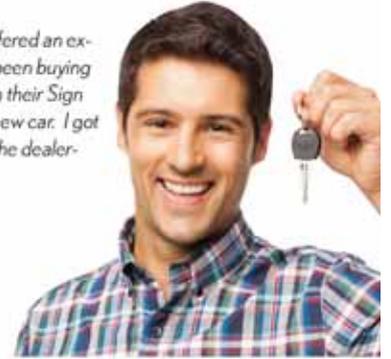
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Alexandria/Rosemont \$769,900



Attractive Home and Location!
This adorable Cape Cod is located in Rosemont. There are four bedrooms, with main level living option, and two and a half updated baths. Features granite counter tops, wood burning fireplace, crown molding, and hardwood floors. Large fully finished basement, picturesque front porch, and deck all great for entertaining. Off-street parking. Walk to Braddock Metro!

Sue Goodhart
703.362.3221
thegoodhartgroup.com



Alexandria \$869,000



Braddock Heights Classic
Spacious and sunny Cape Cod! Custom eat-in kitchen and beautiful patio surrounded by fresh landscaping. There are charming details like built-ins and exposed brick throughout. The master suite has stunning windows, an organized walk-in closet and luxurious bath with soaking tub. Rec room and large bedrooms provide room to roam and there's even a garage!

Elizabeth Lucchesi
703.868.5676
LizLuke.com
MLS# AX8012962



Alexandria \$929,000



Move-in Ready at Manors of Mt Vernon!
Large, elegant, center-hall colonial on a quiet cul-de-sac. Fresh color palette throughout, tasteful updates from top to bottom, stunning dark refinished hardwoods. Screened porch & deck off family room backs to natural peaceful setting. Floor plan offers spacious entertaining areas, four bedrooms & three and a half baths; finished walkout lower level. A Dream Home!

Suellen West
703.981.0984
SuellenWest.com



Alexandria \$589,000



Cameron Station
Three-bedroom, two-and-a-half-bath Jackson model townhouse. Filled with natural light and freshly painted. Hardwood floors. Custom built-ins surround gas fireplace in living room. Kitchen with gas cooking and room for a large table. Deck off rear for grilling. One-car garage plus carport for second car, close to shops, restaurants, I395, I495, shuttle to Metro.

Susan Leavitt
703.855.2267
SusanLeavitt.com



Alexandria \$510,000



Gardener's Delight!
Favorably sited on a private street and overlooking a lovely neighborhood park, this three-bedroom town home is just ten minutes from Old Town and fifteen minutes from the National Mall. Popular floor plan includes beautifully updated kitchen and refreshed baths, and inviting flagstone patio.

Michael Mayes
202.270.1110
mrmayes.com



Alexandria \$899,900



Extraordinary Wayne Wood home!
This beautiful, updated Colonial is warm and inviting! Popular floor plan, three full levels. Huge bedrooms, master bedroom with balcony, main level family room with gas fireplace, chef's kitchen, cafe area and dining room. Sparkling sunroom opens to multi-level party deck and gorgeous yard. Custom updates. Near school, pool, parks, river, GW trails...

Susan Dickerson
703.380.0153
suedickersonrealtor.com
MLS# FX8001049



Alexandria/Belle Haven \$1,850,000



Rich Details, Amazing Views!
Deemed the "prettiest house in Belle Haven," this vastly expanded, all-brick colonial treasure with amazing views of the BHCC 8th green, Potomac River, and beyond is blessed with a spectacular new kitchen, dramatic staircase, grand receiving halls and gracious room sizes throughout. The large tasteful addition seamlessly preserved the charm and added the glamour.

Ann Duff
703.965.8700
AnnDuff.com
MLS# FX7946091



Alexandria \$949,000



Delightful Home - Great Location
Welcoming in every way with its gorgeous foyer, handsome moldings, tall ceilings and wonderful spaces to dwell in and enjoy. There is room for all with five good-sized bedrooms upstairs, including an elegant master suite, a huge finished walk-out basement and a three-car garage. Owner access to private boat launch and picnic area on Little Hunting Creek!

Robin Arnold
703.966.5457
robinarnoldsells.com
MLS# FX7945602



Burke \$439,900



Quiet Location
Tucked away in a private cul de sac, this spacious townhome overlooks woods and open space! Three bedrooms with two full and two half baths. Master bedroom has loft, walk-in closet and bath with separate tub and shower. Updated kitchen with bay window is perfect for entertaining. Separate formal dining room, living room with walk out deck. Walk to shopping and restaurants.

Pam Cornelio
571.236.4398
PamCornelio.com
MLS# FX8011248



Alexandria \$370,000



Same Level Condo & 2-car Garage
5250 Valley Forge Dr, #108. Downsizer's delight. Unique, fully upgraded, 1,683 square foot, two (space for three) bedroom, two bath condo with attached 520 square foot, two-car garage and driveway wide enough for three additional parking spaces. Windows on three sides. Lots of storage. Two patios with surrounding gardens. Easily changeable layout. Outdoor pool.

Jud Burke & Barbara Cousens
703.966.8343
JudBurke.com
MLS# AX7967433



Alexandria \$280,000



Bearings South Condo
Awesome southeast quadrant location across from shops and restaurants. Updated with granite kitchen and new bath in 2005. Off-street parking. Less than \$300k in this location? Wow!

Gordon Wood
703.447.6138
glwbroker.com
MLS# AX8008932



Alexandria \$1,999,000



Breathtaking.
Seated on a 1/4-acre estate in the City of Alexandria, this breathtaking, 10,000 square foot home features five bedrooms, five and a half bathrooms. The awe-inspiring two-story foyer sets the tone for the countless amenities including a chef's kitchen, custom bar, theatre, au pair suite, pool and spa, all built with green technology.

Sue Goodhart
703.362.3221
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