



25 CENTS

AUGUST 22, 2013

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Yappy Hour

Artfully Chocolate and pet care company Paw'k Ave. team up together to host a pet-friendly Yappy Hour on Aug. 15. Guests enjoy wine and freshly tossed salad as their pets chew on gourmet doggy treats.

Elena Hughes laughs as she pets her dog Varya.

PHOTOS BY
LASHAWN AVERY-SIMON
GAZETTE PACKET



Jody Pettibone feeds her dog Chloe a treat.



Owner-professional care specialist Monica Budahelyi gives a treat to all attending animals as they arrive for Yappy Hour.

Opportunity To Change

City leaders hope to change school takeover before filing lawsuit challenging constitutionality.

BY MICHAEL LEE POPE
GAZETTE PACKET

Sitting face to face with Republican Gov. Bob McDonnell at T.C. Williams, Alexandria School Board Chairwoman Karen Graf challenged the sweeping education reform that threatens to remove Jefferson-Houston School from the city's public school system. McDonnell was in Alexandria as part of his "This Commonwealth of Opportunity" tour to celebrate what he sees as his administration's major accomplishment in education policy, the Opportunity Educational Institution effort designed to take over troubled schools.

"We feel this law, as written, does not collaborate with the local community to help these districts create sustainable solutions," said Graf toward the end of the summit. "Our main ask, is that we want the state to listen, collaborate and show flexibility with our School Board, our City Council and our local community."

To qualify as a troubled school, educational institutions must fail to meet accreditation standards

for three years in a row. Jefferson-Houston School is the only school in Northern Virginia that qualifies, a Kindergarten through eighth grade facility that has failed to meet accreditation standards for 10 out of the last 11 years. When asked about the School Board chairwoman's comments that Alexandria school leaders do not feel that the governor's takeover plan is collaborative, the governor disagreed.

"If my intern had written that statute, I would have thrown it back at him as being unacceptable."

— School Board Vice Chairman Justin Keating

"Well, I'm here collaborating," said McDonnell. "The debate over the law has passed, and the question now is how do we make this work?"

ALEXANDRIA LEADERS believe the debate might not be over quite yet. Last month, members of the City Council and School Board held a rare joint executive session to discuss the possibility of filing a lawsuit to challenge the constitutionality of the Opportunity

Educational Institution law. Critics of the law say the funding provision is unconstitutional because it commandeers local tax dollars for state use.

"To me, it's a first-year law exam of: Is this unconstitutional or not?" SEE AN OPPORTUNITY, PAGE 26

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Jumping the Gun

The **Fat Lady** has yet to sing for the waterfront plan, a controversial zoning change that would more than double density at three sites compared to what's there now. Ever since the Alexandria City Council approved the plan on a five-to-two vote last year, the effort has been caught up in a series of legal challenges. Most have been resolved, although two are still outstanding — one in the Alexandria Circuit Court and another matter before the Virginia Supreme Court. Both were filed by a group of Old Town homeowners who have come to be known as the Iron Ladies: **April Burke, Beth Gibney and Marie Kux.**

This week, city officials boasted that the fat lady was warming up a bit. On Monday afternoon, Alexandria communications director **Tony Castrilli** issued a "Waterfront Plan Litigation Update" announcing that Circuit Court Judge **James Clark** "upheld the city's motion to dismiss the most recent case brought against the city by the Iron Ladies."

Not so fast, warned critics.

On Tuesday, Friends of the Alexandria Waterfront issued a statement objecting to the city's characterization of Judge Clark's action. It's true that Judge Clark expressed support for the view that Planning Director **Faroll Hamer** has authority to block citizens' access to the Board of Zoning Appeals and the courts, the group acknowledged. But because the judge allowed an opportunity for the Iron Ladies to amend their complaint before issuing a final order, opponents of the waterfront plan say the city jumped the gun on declaring victory. "So far, Judge Clark has not yet issued an order and no transcript has been produced to date," the Friends shot back in a tersely worded rebuttal.

"It is therefore inappropriate for any party to comment upon what they think the order will say or how the court will view the amended complaint once it is filed."

Where Are They Now?

In its 264-year history, the city of Alexandria has seen a number of employees come and go. But few have achieved the level of success — and some would say infamy — as Republican Gov. **Bob McDonnell**. McDonnell graduated from Bishop Ireton High School in 1972 and retained strong ties to the city after that.

"During my time in college, I actually worked for the city of Alexandria for four years, 1972 to 1976," the governor recalled during an education summit at T.C. Williams High School last week. "So I helped to get your city ready for the bicentennial in 1976."

McDonnell was part of the Bishop Ireton football team featured in the movie "Remember the Titans," which celebrates the diversity of the Alexandria public school system during a time of racial strife. Alexandria Mayor **Bill Euille** is a 1968 graduate of T.C. Williams, so he wasn't about to miss an opportunity to stick it to the governor. "Well," the mayor responded, "we'll pull your evaluation report to see how well you did." The crowd of about 50 or so in the T.C. Williams High School rotunda erupted in laughter.

"Baseball fields and painting equipment," recalled the governor of his service to Alexandria. "I'm sure they've been redone a few times since then. But anyway, fond memories of this great city."

Virginia Exceptionalism

Virginia has a terrible record for open government. That's a track record that was thoroughly documented last year by the State Integrity Investigation, which gave the commonwealth a failing grade for accountability, transparency and corruption. And it's a reputation that was underscored with the U.S. Supreme Court case of *McBurney versus Young* earlier this year, when the court upheld a provision of the Virginia Freedom of Information Act allowing state and local governments to deny record requests from out-of-state residents.

This week, a panel of the Freedom of Information Advisory Council rejected an effort from Del. Mark Keam (D-35) to allow out-of-state requestors to receive information if they have some kind of connection to Virginia. "The majority view of our subcommittee was it ain't broke so don't try to fix it," said **Frosty Landon**, chairman of the Rights and Responsibilities subcommittee.

— MICHAEL LEE POPE

NEWS

ALEXANDRIA GAZETTE EDITOR STEVEN MAUREN
703-778-9415 OR GAZETTE@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

Tougher Tests Plunge Scores

BY MICHAEL LEE POPE
GAZETTE PACKET

Test scores are down across Alexandria. But school officials say that doesn't necessarily mean students are doing worse. It means that the tests have gotten harder.

"That's a trend across the state with the new more rigorous assessment," said Clinton Page, executive director of the Department of Accountability. "So a comparison of this year's past percents to years previous really is not a valid comparison."

Last year, the state released a new mathematics

standards of learning test that's more rigorous in an effort to align it with new national standards. That caused math scores to plummet.

Now the same thing has happened to reading, science and writing tests. As a result, school officials say, the falling test scores reflect a new testing regime rather than a decline in performance of Alexandria's students.

"This is the start of what will amount to a new trend line in reading, science and writing similar to mathematics," said Page. "So we're in year two of mathematics, but we are in the first year of the other new assessments."

ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

* Charles Barrett Elementary School

Grade 3 Reading: 77 percent (up)
Grade 3 Math: 70 percent (up)
Grade 3 History: 90 percent (up)
Grade 3 Science: 85 percent (up)
Grade 4 Reading: 80 percent (down)
Grade 4 Math: 65 percent (up)
Grade 5 Reading: 83 percent (down)
Grade 5 Writing: 84 percent (down)
Grade 5 Math: 85 percent (down)
Grade 5 Science: 89 percent (up)

* Cora Kelly Magnet Elementary School

Grade 3 Reading: 69 percent (down)
Grade 3 Math: 53 percent (down)
Grade 3 History: 82 percent (up)
Grade 3 Science: 72 percent (down)
Grade 4 Reading: 74 percent (down)
Grade 4 Math: 92 percent (up)
Grade 5 Reading: 69 percent (down)
Grade 5 Writing: 60 percent (down)
Grade 5 Math: 87 percent (down)
Grade 5 Science: 68 percent (down)

* Douglas MacArthur Elementary School

Grade 3 Reading: 81 percent (down)
Grade 3 Math: 72 percent (up)
Grade 3 History: 92 percent (up)
Grade 3 Science: 89 percent (down)
Grade 4 Reading: 82 percent (down)
Grade 4 Math: 76 percent (up)
Grade 5 Reading: 79 percent (down)
Grade 5 Writing: 78 percent (down)
Grade 5 Math: 68 percent (up)
Grade 5 Science: 76 percent (down)

* George Mason Elementary School

Grade 3 Reading: 80 percent (down)
Grade 3 Math: 74 percent (up)
Grade 3 History: 93 percent (up)
Grade 3 Science: 93 percent (up)
Grade 4 Reading: 80 percent (down)
Grade 4 Math: 72 percent (up)
Grade 5 Reading: 78 percent (down)
Grade 5 Writing: 89 percent (up)
Grade 5 Math: 66 percent (down)
Grade 5 Science: 84 percent (same)

* James K. Polk Elementary School

Grade 3 Reading: 68 percent (down)
Grade 3 Math: 62 percent (up)
Grade 3 History: 84 percent (up)
Grade 3 Science: 72 percent (down)
Grade 4 Reading: 61 percent (down)
Grade 4 Math: 73 percent (up)
Grade 5 Reading: 76 percent (down)
Grade 5 Writing: 68 percent (down)
Grade 5 Math: 74 percent (up)
Grade 5 Science: 80 percent (up)

* Jefferson-Houston School

Grade 3 Reading: 46 percent (up)
Grade 3 Math: 47 percent (up)
Grade 3 History: 58 percent (up)
Grade 3 Science: 53 percent (up)
Grade 4 Reading: 22 percent (down)
Grade 4 Math: 41 percent (up)
Grade 5 Reading: 50 percent (down)
Grade 5 Writing: 42 percent (down)
Grade 5 Math: 31 percent (up)
Grade 5 Science: 47 percent (up)
Grade 6 Reading: 35 percent (down)

Grade 6 Math: 79 percent (up)
Grade 7 Reading: 43 percent (down)
Grade 7 Math: 46 percent (up)
Grade 8 Reading: 50 percent (down)
Grade 8 Writing: 50 percent (down)
Grade 8 Science: 56 percent (down)

* John Adams Elementary School

Grade 3 Reading: 67 percent (down)
Grade 3 Math: 59 percent (up)
Grade 3 History: 81 percent (up)
Grade 3 Science: 82 percent (up)
Grade 4 Reading: 59 percent (down)
Grade 4 Math: 71 percent (up)
Grade 5 Reading: 65 percent (down)
Grade 5 Writing: 63 percent (down)
Grade 5 Math: 53 percent (up)
Grade 5 Science: 65 percent (up)

* Lyles-Crouch Elementary School

Grade 3 Reading: 76 percent (down)
Grade 3 Math: 77 percent (down)
Grade 3 History: 95 percent (up)
Grade 3 Science: 90 percent (down)
Grade 4 Reading: 86 percent (up)
Grade 4 Math: 81 percent (up)
Grade 5 Reading: 75 percent (down)
Grade 5 Writing: 81 percent (down)
Grade 5 Math: 65 percent (up)
Grade 5 Science: 79 percent (up)

* Maury Elementary School

Grade 3 Reading: 72 percent (down)
Grade 3 Math: 71 percent (up)
Grade 3 History: 85 percent (up)
Grade 3 Science: 87 percent (up)
Grade 4 Reading: 81 percent (down)
Grade 4 Math: 88 percent (up)
Grade 5 Reading: 85 percent (down)
Grade 5 Writing: 84 percent (same as previous year)
Grade 5 Math: 76 percent (down)
Grade 5 Science: 75 percent (down)

* Mount Vernon Elementary

Grade 3 Reading: 53 percent (down)
Grade 3 Math: 59 percent (down)
Grade 3 History: 78 percent (down)
Grade 3 Science: 63 percent (down)
Grade 4 Reading: 52 percent (down)
Grade 4 Math: 46 percent (up)
Grade 5 Reading: 55 percent (down)
Grade 5 Writing: 53 percent (down)
Grade 5 Math: 30 percent (down)
Grade 5 Science: 45 percent (down)

* Patrick Henry Elementary School

Grade 3 Reading: 59 percent (down)
Grade 3 Math: 53 percent (up)
Grade 3 History: 63 percent (up)
Grade 3 Science: 63 percent (down)
Grade 4 Reading: 39 percent (down)
Grade 4 Math: 48 percent (up)
Grade 5 Reading: 41 percent (down)
Grade 5 Writing: 48 percent (down)
Grade 5 Math: 48 percent (up)
Grade 5 Science: 44 percent

* Samuel Tucker Elementary School

Grade 3 Reading: 81 percent (up)
Grade 3 Math: 74 percent (up)
Grade 3 History: 88 percent (up)
Grade 3 Science: 81 percent (up)
Grade 4 Reading: 60 percent (down)
Grade 4 Math: 71 percent (up)
Grade 5 Reading: 68 percent (down)
Grade 5 Writing: 79 percent (down)
Grade 5 Math: 63 percent (up)
Grade 5 Science: 78 percent (down)

* William Ramsey Elementary School

Grade 3 Reading: 75 percent (down)
Grade 3 Math: 61 percent (up)
Grade 3 History: 74 percent (up)
Grade 3 Science: 64 percent (down)
Grade 4 Reading: 51 percent (down)
Grade 4 Math: 45 percent (up)
Grade 5 Reading: 52 percent (down)
Grade 5 Writing: 41 percent (down)
Grade 5 Math: 39 percent (down)
Grade 5 Science: 53 percent (down)

MIDDLE SCHOOLS

* Hammond 1

Grade 6 Reading: 53 percent (down)
Grade 6 Math: 59 percent (up)
Grade 7 Reading: 62 percent (down)
Grade 7 Math: 47 percent (up)
Grade 8 Reading: 56 percent (down)
Grade 8 Writing: 59 percent (down)
Grade 8 Math: 14 percent (down)
Grade 8 Science: 55 percent (down)

* Hammond 2

Grade 6 Reading: 68 percent (down)
Grade 6 Math: 63 percent (up)
Grade 7 Reading: 62 percent (down)
Grade 7 Math: 42 percent (down)
Grade 8 Reading: 60 percent (down)
Grade 8 Writing: 68 percent (down)
Grade 8 Math: 11 percent (down)
Grade 8 Science: 52 percent (down)

* Hammond 3

Grade 6 Reading: 59 percent (down)
Grade 7 Reading: 56 percent (down)
Grade 7 Math: 37 percent (up)
Grade 8 Reading: 55 percent (down)
Grade 8 Writing: 61 percent (up)
Grade 8 Math: n/a
Grade 8 Science: 52 percent (down)

* George Washington 1

Grade 6 Reading: 68 percent (down)
Grade 6 Math: 79 percent (up)
Grade 7 Reading: 70 percent (down)
Grade 7 Math: 63 percent (up)
Grade 8 Reading: 68 percent (down)
Grade 8 Writing: 71 percent (down)
Grade 8 Math: n/a
Grade 8 Science: 69 percent (down)

* George Washington 2

Grade 6 Reading: 62 percent (down)
Grade 6 Math: 70 percent (up)
Grade 7 Reading: 66 percent (down)
Grade 7 Math: 48 percent (down)
Grade 8 Reading: 62 percent (down)
Grade 8 Writing: 73 percent (down)
Grade 8 Math: n/a
Grade 8 Science: 67 percent (down)

HIGH SCHOOL

* T.C. Williams High School

Reading: 85 percent (down)
Writing: 82 percent (down)
Virginia and U.S. History: 77 percent (same)
World History I: 87 percent (up)
World History II: 70 percent (down)
Algebra I: 53 percent (up)
Algebra II: 73 percent (up)
Geometry: 70 percent (down)
Biology: 68 percent (down)
Chemistry: 72 percent (down)
Earth Science: 69 percent (down)
* Categories listed as "up" indicate test scores have increased compared to last year. Categories listed as "down" indicate scores have declined.

NEWS

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PHOTOS BY LASHAWN AVERY-SIMON/GAZETTE PACKET

Celebrating India's Independence Day

Visitors celebrate India's independence day at Ten Thousand Villages as they receive free henna tattoos and Indian food inside the store on Thursday, Aug. 15.

Guests receive free henna tattoos by volunteer Salonia Mehrotra.



Volunteer Zainab Smith applies a henna tattoo on a visitor's arm.

Alexandria Shelter Walk 1.5 miles

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Special thanks to **Alexandria Gazette Packet**

Power-On and Power-Up Registration Now Open

The Department of Recreation, Parks and Cultural Activities Power-On and Power-Up Out of School Time Programs are currently taking registration for the 2013-14 school year. The program is available at the Charles Barrett, Charles Houston, Cora Kelly, Nannie J. Lee, Patrick Henry, and William Ramsay Recreation Centers; the John Adams and MacArthur After School Centers; and the GW and Hammond Power-Up Programs. Registration at the Mt. Vernon Recreation Center

is currently closed, but a wait list is available.

The theme for this school year is "Let's Get Connected." The theme recognizes the many ways people are connected globally through both the diversity of the community and the worldwide web providing opportunities to share arts, culture and caring.

Registration forms are available at the Lee Center, 1108 Jefferson St., City Recreation Centers, or by visiting Power-On and Power-Up web page. The program fee is \$300 for the school year. To register

online, click the WebTrac button by visiting www.alexandriava.gov/Recreation. Online registration requires full payment.

Fee assistance is available to qualified families who can register at the recreation centers or Lee Center with documentation for free/reduced school lunch, SNAP, or TANF. For more information, call the Out of School Time Program office at 703-746-5429 or 703-746-5411 or - neighborhood recreation center.

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The Secret World of Regulation

Advisory panel rejects effort to open records of the State Corporation Commission.

BY MICHAEL LEE POPE
GAZETTE PACKET

Ever wonder what happens during deliberations that regulate your cell phone? How about the effort to oversee your health insurance? From your electric bill and your water bill to your sewer bill and your car insurance, the State Corporation Commission is probably one of the most consequential state agencies. And yet it operates in the dark, totally outside of the reach of the Virginia Freedom of Information Act.

“One of my favorite quotes is from Justice Louis Brandeis from back in the 1920s,” Del. Scott Surovell (D-44) told members of a Freedom of Information Advisory Council subcommittee this week. “He wrote that a streetlight is the best policeman and sunshine is the best disinfectant.”

In an effort to shine some sunshine into one of the darkest corners of Virginia government, Surovell wants to open the record of the State Corporation Commission. During the last General Assembly session, he introduced a bill to do just that. But legislators decided to table the effort and refer it to the advisory council, which sent it to the Rights and Responsibilities Subcommittee. It’s members convened this week in Richmond to hear Surovell make the case to make the commission subject to the Virginia Freedom of Information Act — with some exceptions.

“Personally, I would like to make the entire SCC subject to FOIA,” Surovell told members of the subcommittee. “However, I don’t have an interest right now in taking on a couple thousand businesses and about 50 lobbyists.”

BUSINESSES AND LOBBYISTS showed up to oppose the effort anyway, and members of the subcommittee decided against endorsing the legislative effort. Opposition was led by the gas utilities and the telecommunications industry, whose representatives said they didn’t see any reason for opening up the process to public scrutiny. Some parts of the commission’s business resembled a judicial body, they said, while other parts required secrecy to ensure that the captains of industry could take quick and decisive action without having to worry about the public looking over their shoulders.

“If the notes and the dialogue from those meetings were to be subject to FOIA, we feel like it would have a negative effect on



Del. Scott Surovell (D-44), left, presents his bill to members of the Rights and Responsibilities Subcommittee of the Freedom of Information Advisory Council.

the way that we operate our system and ultimately have a negative effect on the customers we serve,” said Brent Archer, director of business policy for Columbia Gas of Virginia. “There would be hesitancy and a reticence among the utilities to share that information to have that kind of dialogue.”

Leaders of the telecommunications industry agreed, adding that the State Corporation Commission is not subject to the Virginia Freedom of Information Act for a good reason — so industry leaders and their regulators can have open and frank conversations without fear that sensitive information will be revealed to the people or the press. “We enjoy that give and take with the commission, and we would hate to see that dialogue become a matter of public record,” said Duront Walton, who represents the Virginia Telecommunications Industry Association. “If it does, it will certainly change the combatants and people who represent us will be in a courtroom and not in an informal meeting.”

OPEN GOVERNMENT advocates say the State Corporation Commission is simply too big and too important to operate outside of the public sphere. Although the rulings of the commission are public, the deliberations that lead to the conclusions are not. That’s why Surovell and other supporters of government transparency are pressing to make the commission subject to public-records laws.

“It is not without precedent around the country,” said Megan Rhyne, executive director of the Virginia Coalition for Open Government. “Several other state equiva-

lents of this type of office, even ones that are constitutionally created, are nonetheless subject to, if not the entire public records and public meetings law, at least portions of it.”

Since last session, Surovell has included new exemptions to his bill in an effort to build consensus. For example, he added new language to the bill specifying that the commission will have no obligation to disclose public records detailing its regulatory activities. Another new provision exempts the commission from public meeting requirements.

“We believe that all agencies of government should be subject to FOIA with reasonable exceptions,” said Sue Lewis, vice president of the League of Women Voters of Virginia. “Certain sensitive areas can still be protected, but basic administrative records should be available to the public upon request.”

DURING THE SUBCOMMITTEE meeting, members heard from one woman who opposed an effort from Dominion Virginia Power to install power lines over the James River. She was part of a group that engaged in an extended effort to build a case against the company, but she said that the group’s efforts were thwarted by the broad exemption the regulatory agency enjoys. As a result, she said, much of the deliberations leading to regulation of Dominion happens in the dark.

“In our attempt as private citizens to fight this blight across the James, we learned how this game is played,” said Margaret Nelson Fowler of Williamsburg. “This game is

What is the State Corporation Commission?

Created to replace the old Board of Public Works in the early 20th century, the State Corporation Commission has authority that extends from utilities and insurance to state-chartered financial institutions, securities, retail franchising and railroads. It’s also the state’s central filing office for corporations, limited partnerships, limited liability companies and uniform commercial code liens. In 2011, the Virginia Supreme Court ruled that the State Corporation Commission is not subject to the Virginia Freedom of Information Act.

hardball and the weapon is cash.”

Back in 2011, the Virginia Supreme Court ruled that that State Corporation Commission is not subject to the Freedom of Information Act. Some believe it was a correct ruling, a valid interpretation of the General Assembly’s wishes. Others, including Surovell, feel the lack of transparency is a stretch. That’s why the current legislative battle is at the center of an ongoing debate about the nexus of money and power in the commonwealth. But members of the subcommittee did not feel that Surovell’s effort was worth supporting, in part, because the issue is so complicated.

“It would be very hard to apply this public meetings provision to the commission because they operate in part as a judicial body,” said Scott White, deputy general counsel to the State Corporation Commission. “Nobody has come to us and said that there is an actual practical problem with the way the General Assembly has created this separate statutory framework.”

LEADERS at the State Corporation Commission say they see no need for any legislation. But if legislators are going to take action, they would oppose efforts to make the commission subject to the Freedom of Information Act. Instead, they say, they would like new language added to the part of the code dealing with the commission. During the subcommittee meeting this week, Surovell rejected that idea.

“We have an existing construct that’s worked well with the rest of government, as far as I know, and it’s been amended and tweaked and messed with for the last 20 or 30 years now to deal with all the contingencies that pop up,” said Surovell. “And it’s not clear to me why the State Corporation Commission’s procurement or human relations matters are any different than anybody else’s.”

BULLETIN BOARD

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

THURSDAY/AUG. 22

Comment Deadline. The following request for administrative special use permit has been received. Special use permit #2013-0016 4746 Eisenhower Ave. (parking lot at 4740

Eisenhower Ave.) – Shared Parking Administrative Special Use Permit for approval of a request for shared parking arrangement for an existing church; zoned OCM (100) / office commercial medium. In accordance with section 11-500 of the zoning ordinance, the above listed request may be approved administratively by the Director of Planning and Zoning. If you have any comments regarding the proposal above, please

contact Planning and Zoning staff at 703 746-4666 no later than August 22, 2013.

SATURDAY/AUG. 24

Emergency Management and Safety Fair. 10 a.m.-3 p.m. at Inova Alexandria Hospital parking lot on Howard Street. Families can learn easy ways to be ready and safe in the case of

emergency. Browse information booths, enjoy a petting zoo, seeing emergency vehicles up-close and food provided by Firehouse Subs. Free, but registration required, at www.inova.org/safetyfair or 1-855-MY-INOVA.

MONDAY/AUG. 26

SEE BULLETIN BOARD. PAGE 8

WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

NEWS

Speck: Business Leader of Year Chamber to honor Speck, local businesses Oct. 23.

BY JEANNE THEISMANN
GAZETTE PACKET

David Speck, managing director of Speck Caudron Investment Group, has been named the 2013 Business Leader of the Year by the Alexandria Chamber of Commerce and will be honored Oct. 23 at the organization's annual Business Awards reception.

"I am very touched to be honored this way," said Speck in a statement. "My relationship with the Chamber goes back many decades. To me, the Chamber is the most visible symbol of business in the city."

This year's event will be held at the George Washington Masonic Memorial. Other awards will be presented for Large Business, Medium Business, Small Business, Association/Nonprofit and Overall Business of the Year.

A lifelong Alexandria resident, Speck was named as one of the top 1,000 advisors in the country by Barron's magazine. He has also been recognized as one of 10 outstanding brokers in the nation by Registered Representative, the trade journal of the brokerage industry. Earlier this year, Speck and his wife, Marcia Neuhaus Speck, were honored with the ACT



PHOTO BY JEANNE THEISMANN/GAZETTE PACKET

David Speck, honored earlier this year with his wife Marcia Neuhaus Speck, has been named the Chamber of Commerce 2013 Business Leader of the Year.

Legacy of Giving and Service Award and in 2010, the former City Councilman was named a Living Legend of Alexandria.

"If a Living Legend is one who has left a community not just a little, but very significantly better, then David's legacy is legendary," said former Alexandria City Attorney and Manager Philip Sunderland when Speck was selected as a Living Legend. "Councilman Speck was instrumental in bringing the Patent and Trademark Office to Alexandria and, more generally, imparting the view — often disparaged by some — that the growth of local business and the development of real estate are critical to the city's long term health."

Speck attended the University of Virginia and graduated from George Washington University, where he received a master's degree in counseling and a doctorate in higher education administration. He is also a graduate of the Securities Industry Institute at the Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania.

For ticket and sponsorship information for the Business Awards reception, call 703-549-1000 or visit www.alexchamber.com.

FREE REMODELING & DESIGN SEMINARS!

Alexandria 25th Anniversary

Sat., August 24th — 10am-2pm

Where: 5795 B Burke Centre Parkway, Burke, VA 22015

Thinking of remodeling? This event is the perfect opportunity to take advantage of free expert advice with no obligation. Learn about the hot topics you should consider when remodeling.

Saturday's Seminars:

- Kitchen and Bath Trends
- Paint Colors Made Easy
- 10 Tips for a Stress Free Remodel

Seminars run from 10am-Noon. Lunch to follow. Please arrive at 9:45am for check-in.

Seating is limited. Call Sabrina at 703.425.5588 to reserve your seats!

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Canine Cruise

This fun and unique Canine Cruise includes a 40 minute tour of Alexandria's Seaport. All are invited, with or without a four legged friend. The dog rides free but the human must pay for their ride.

Note: Dogs must be on a 6 ft. flat leash. Retractable leashes are not permitted.

SEPTEMBER 29TH

10 AM & 11 AM

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The Mane Attraction **Firefighters to hold Cuts for Kids Days.**

BY JEANNE THEISMANN
GAZETTE PACKET

Students from throughout the region will be treated to free back-to-school haircuts thanks to Alexandria and Fairfax County firefighters who are sponsoring the third Cuts for Kids Days Aug. 26-28 at area recreation centers.

“Our first Cuts for Kids Day will be held at the Charles Houston Rec Center on Aug. 26,” said Capt. Willie Bailey, an organizer of the event. “Barbers from the area will donate their time doing haircuts from 9 a.m. until 2 p.m. We will also be giving away new clothing and backpacks filled with school supplies. We want these kids to feel good about themselves when they head back to school.”

In addition to free haircuts, new clothing for toddler to elementary age children will be distributed along with backpacks and school supplies. Face painting and balloon animals will be provided by Modine the Clown and popcorn and snowcone machines will be set up to provide refreshments. A fire truck will be on display and fire safety activities will be held throughout the day.

In addition to the Alexandria Fire Department and the Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Department, other sponsors of Cuts for Kids Days include the Keith Burns Foundation, Charles Houston Advisory Board, Progressive Firefighters, Apple Federal Credit Union and the Neediest Kids Organization.

“We’re very thankful that these organizations have



PHOTO BY JEANNE THEISMANN/GAZETTE PACKET

Del Ray barber Gary Bailey gives Tim Wiggins a haircut during the first Cuts for Kids Day. This year’s back-to-school event will take place Aug. 26-28 at area recreation centers.

partnered with us to provide free haircuts, backpacks and school supplies to help prepare kids for the upcoming school year,” Bailey said. “This is always a fun day for everyone and we are looking forward to a good turnout.”

Additional Cuts for Kids Days will be held Aug. 27 at the Gum Springs Recreation Center and Aug. 28 at the Southgate Community Center in Reston. Both events will take place from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

OBITUARY

Rebecca Fones

Rebecca Lee Knight Fones, 74, of Covington, died on Wednesday, Aug. 14, 2013. She was dearly loved by her family and friends all of her life. She lived her life fully and independently until her last few years. Her unique and loving spirit will be greatly missed and always remain in family and friends’ hearts.

She was born Feb. 7, 1939 in Alexandria, the daughter of the late Frieda Hientz and Julian D.

Knight, Jr. She was a graduate of George Washington High School.

She is survived by her husband and true love of 48 years, David N. Fones; one child, William D. Fones of Covington; one brother, Donald G. Knight of Harpers Ferry, W.Va.; one sister, Joan Hastings of Virginia Beach, and one grandchild, Summer Rebecca Fones of Prince William County, Va. A private service will be held at a later date. Arrangements by Loving Funeral Home; www.lovingfuneralhome1913.com.

BULLETIN BOARD

FROM PAGE 6

D.C. Waterfront Boat Tour. 7:30 a.m. at City Marina, 0 Cameron St. This tour is put on by the Waterfront Commission. Contact Jack Browand at jack.browand@alexandria.gov or call 703-746-5504.

Children’s Haircuts. 9 a.m.-2 p.m. at Charles Houston Recreation Center, 901 Wythe St. Off-duty firefighters/barbers, the Progressive Firefighters of Fairfax County, Inc., WKYS 93.9 FM, Apple Federal Credit Union, Keith Burns Foundation, and local barbers throughout the community will provide free haircuts for local children on free or reduced lunch plans in anticipation of the new school year. Contact Captain Willie Bailey at 571-641-0036.

TUESDAY/AUG. 27

Rehearsals Start. 7:30 p.m. at Rachel M. Schlesinger Concert Hall, 3001 N. Beauregard St. Join the NOVA Community Chorus. Join by registering for this one-credit class, fee waived for seniors. E-mail mwhitmire@nvcc.edu or 703-845-6097.

TUESDAY/SEPT. 10

Alexandria Tea Party. 6-9:30 p.m. at The Lyceum, 201 South Washington St. The Alexandria Tea Party hosts their Survivors of Communism Summit. Attendees will receive a program booklet containing resources for understanding communism and joining with others to oppose it. Registration required, visit www.alexandriateaparty.com.

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The 2013-2014 officers and board members of the Rotary Club of Alexandria were sworn in during the installation ceremony July 9.

PHOTOS BY
LARRY ALBERSON

‘Service Above Self’

Peter Knetemann is 86th Rotary Club president.

BY JEANNE THEISMANN
GAZETTE PACKET

The Rotary Club of Alexandria formally installed Peter O. Knetemann as the 86th club president at the July 9 meeting at Belle Haven Country Club that also recognized the 2013-2014 slate of officers and board members.

“The Rotary Club of Alexandria is a very special club for a variety of reasons,” said Knetemann, who joined the club in 1994 after serving as a charter member of the now defunct Skyline club. “Rotary is a unique organization but Alexandria in particular seems to attract a neat kind of person — someone who is not here for their own benefit. Our members are looking beyond themselves and that’s what sets us apart.”

Born and raised in the Netherlands, Knetemann immigrated to the U.S. in 1980 to work for an international real estate development company serving Washington, D.C. and Alexandria. He eventually left to become an independent mortgage broker, spending the last 20 years with PMC Mortgage Corp. headquartered in Charleston, S.C. with a regional operation in Fairfax.

“I’m not one to get easily recruited by something but it is amazing what this organization accomplishes all over the world,” Knetemann said of Rotary. “This last year I have really gotten involved in programs on the local, district and international level and gained an understanding of how Rotary is different from other service clubs.”

Knetemann noted that Rotary Clubs function with

very little overhead so any resources collected go to serve the needs of the individual communities.

“Every year the Rotary Club of Alexandria raises \$80,000-100,000,” Knetemann said. “And every dollar of that is given back to local charities.”

Founded in 1928, the Rotary Club of Alexandria has approximately 150 active members.

“It’s not easy to summarize what this club does,” Knetemann said. “Through the tireless efforts of Joan Holden, we recognize young people with our Student of the Month awards and also raise funds for local charities with our annual Taste For Giving. But there are so many other things we do as well.”

Knetemann sees the Alexandria Rotary Club as a way for community leaders to get involved in Rotary’s worldwide mission.

“Rotary international doesn’t work along political lines,” Knetemann said. “Throughout the world, we all share the same ideals, the same outlook on life through our commitment to service above self.”

Knetemann did hesitate when asked about specific goals for the club.

“Every president has different goals but it’s a huge question if you can get them implemented,” he said. “This is a volunteer organization. I cannot demand things, I can only hope to promote and inspire our members.” A resident of the Mount Vernon area of Alexandria since 1980, Knetemann and his wife Joan have been married for 27 years and have three children, ages 20, 23 and 25.

“There are so many things we can and want to achieve,” Knetemann said. “I hope to continue to have a vibrant club where people are proud to be a member and want to get their friends involved. The fellowship that comes with being a Rotarian is important to me.”

For more information, visit www.rotaryclubofalexandria.net.



Peter O. Knetemann addresses club members after being sworn in as president of the Rotary Club of Alexandria.



Peter O. Knetemann, right, receives a pin from outgoing president Raymond Petniunas after being sworn in as president of the Rotary Club of Alexandria July 9 at Belle Haven Country Club.



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OPINION

Excerpts from King's 'I Have a Dream'

Martin Luther King Jr. spoke to the March on Washington 50 years ago next week, Aug. 28, 1963.

Listen to audio of the entire speech at <http://www.smithsonianmag.com/multimedia/audio/128077288.html>. To read the full speech, see: <http://www.archives.gov/press/exhibits/dream-speech.pdf>

"Five score years ago, a great American, in whose symbolic shadow we stand signed the Emancipation Proclamation. This momentous decree came as a great beacon light of hope to millions of Negro slaves who had been seared in the flames of withering injustice. It came as a joyous day-break to end the long night of captivity.

"But one hundred years later, we must face the tragic fact that the Negro is still not free. One hundred years later, the life of the Negro is still sadly crippled by the manacles of segregation and the chains of discrimination. One

hundred years later, the Negro lives on a lonely island of poverty in the midst of a vast ocean of material prosperity.

One hundred years later, the Negro is still languishing in the corners of American society and finds himself an exile in his own land. So we have come here today to dramatize an appalling condition. ...

"We have also come to this hallowed spot to remind America of the fierce urgency of now. This is no time to engage in the luxury of cooling off or to take the tranquilizing drug of gradualism. Now is the time to rise from the dark and desolate valley of segregation to the sunlit path of racial justice. Now is the time to open the doors of opportunity to all of God's children. Now is the time to lift our nation from the quicksands of racial injustice to the solid rock of brotherhood. ...

"We can never be satisfied as long as a Negro in Mississippi cannot vote and a Negro in New York believes he has nothing for which to vote. No, no, we are not satisfied, and we will not be satisfied until justice rolls down like waters and righteousness like a mighty stream. ...

"I say to you today, my friends, that in spite of the difficulties and frustrations of the moment, I still have a dream. It is a dream deeply rooted in the American dream.

EDITORIAL

Remembering the March for Jobs and Freedom

BY EUGENE THOMPSON
FORMER DIRECTOR, ALEXANDRIA BLACK HISTORY MUSEUM

Fifty years ago, in late May of 1963, I was a 17-year-old senior excited about graduating from Parker-Gray High School. I had to give one of the graduation speeches and was nervous as I tried to memorize that speech. There was also excitement, because this was going to be the first graduation in the new auditorium. The graduation ceremony went off without a hitch. What I remember most occurred after the program as the 55 graduates returned to the Home Economics classroom to return their caps and gowns and to say goodbye to their fellow graduates, many of whom had known each other for much longer than that 12-year march to graduation.

I remember saying to some of my friends, "Let's stay in touch," with that young naivety that actually thought we would. Could anything top graduation and the prospect of going off to college. I did not think so.

As a young African American man, and a native Alexandrian whose family has been in the city for more than 150 years, there was much more to 1963 than my graduation from high school. There was an uncertainty in the country that related to the rights of all Americans, especially African Americans. The Civil Rights Movement was growing in the nation, and there were many young people and African American leaders, in this city, who were not going to let that movement simply pass by Alexandria. Yes, the City of Alexandria was not always an "All American City." Racism and the



Eugene Thompson at the African American Hall of Fame induction.

PHOTO BY LILLIAN THOMPSON

lack of equality for all were pervasive in Alexandria. If others say otherwise, they slept through a dark period in Alexandria's history. Yes, Alexandria was in Northern Virginia, but Northern Virginia was still in the South.

At 17 years old I was not immune to the violence and hatred that was being encountered by the civil rights protesters in the South. Somehow I heard about a "March on Washington" that was being planned for later in the summer. I also heard that thousands of people were going to attend this peaceful march. I had read so much about many of the planners of the event, Randolph, Wilkins, King, Rustin and others that I wanted to attend. I turned 18 before "The March," but did not know very much about getting around in the big Nation's Capital. Most of my experience with the city was in attending presidential inaugurations and shopping with my mother. Despite the

"I have a dream that one day this nation will rise up and live out the true meaning of its creed: 'We hold these truths to be self-evident: that all men are created equal.'

"I have a dream today. ...
"This is our hope. This is the faith with which I return to the South. With this faith we will be able to hew out of the mountain of despair a stone of hope. With this faith we will be able to transform the jangling discords of our nation into a beautiful symphony of brotherhood. ...

"This will be the day when all of God's children will be able to sing with a new meaning, 'My country, 'tis of thee, sweet land of liberty, of thee I sing. Land where my fathers died, land of the pilgrim's pride, from every mountainside, let freedom ring.'

"And if America is to be a great nation this must become true. So let freedom ring ...

"And when this happens, when we allow freedom to ring, when we let it ring from every village and every hamlet, from every state and every city, we will be able to speed up that day when all of God's children, black men and white men, Jews and Gentiles, Protestants and Catholics, will be able to join hands and sing in the words of the old Negro spiritual, 'Free at last! Free at last! Thank God Almighty, we are free at last!'"

advertising of this "March" as peaceful, my mother did not want me to attend. Fortunately, we heard that the Alexandria Branch of the NAACP was going to sponsor a bus trip to the event. Trust in the NAACP, and members who my mother knew, lessened her fear of my attending.

I remember Aug. 28, 1963. Dressed in the same suit in which I gave my graduation speech, I was on that bus and on my way to "The March of Washington for Jobs and Freedom." Just the excitement of being there was enough for me. If my memory is correct, the bus was parked some distance from the Lincoln Memorial, but we could hear the speakers and see the people on the steps. Some of my time was spent talking with many of the attendees from out of town, but I never ventured too far from the bus. Somehow I obtained a printed program for the event. Because there were so many people the program looked like it might have been a copy of the original, but that program was original to me. My sense of history and what was taking place took over. Yes, I can say I knew the importance of this day for the entire country.

It was a very hot day and after a few hours someone made the decision that we should return to Alexandria. Unfortunately, we returned before Martin Luther King made his famous "I Have a Dream" speech. Fortunately, we returned to Alexandria before the speech was given, and I was able to watch the entire speech live on television. My Methodist ministers never took me to such soaring heights. On television I could finally see A. Philip Randolph. I could see Roy Wilkins, Mahalia Jackson and,

SEE AT THE MARCH, PAGE 21

Alexandria
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LETTERS



PHOTO BY JOHN BORDNER

Washington's Canal Park costs \$500,000 per year to operate. Its designers, Olin Studios, have been hired to lead Alexandria's Waterfront Design project.

Tour Provides Lessons on Costs

To the Editor:

The following open letter is addressed to the Mayor and City Council regarding the Waterfront Commission's review of Yards Park and Canal Park in Washington, D.C. on Aug. 13.

I had the privilege of participating in the Waterfront Commission's visit to Yards Park and Canal Park in D.C., where we met representatives of both parks. I would like to thank Nancy Williams and all of the members of the city agencies for organizing this

trip.

The representatives from the two parks were very informative. Some of the key points, from my perspective:

1. The representatives from both parks strongly recommended that funding for capital maintenance (repair, replacement) and for ongoing operations be identified and allocated in the design plans. Apparently, neither park had done so, and they are now struggling to find sources of funding. Each park is asking the D.C. city government for capital funds of \$1 million.

SEE LETTERS, PAGE 12

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Alexandria
Gazette Packet

LETTERS

FROM PAGE 11

They are also asking the city to allocate more tax revenues to the operations. Canal Park alone needs a half million dollars per year for operations.

2. We need to keep a close watch on the cost of maintaining and operating our parks. The representative from Yards Park commented that they had used some expensive materials in building the infrastructure that are not generally available. He suggested that we consider using more "off-the-shelf" materials that are readily available.

3. Olin Studios designed Canal Park and have been hired to lead our Waterfront Design Project. They are undoubtedly a world class design organization and are capable of designing award-winning parks. However, it is more important for a park to fit into its neighborhood and to be financially viable than to win awards. Canal Park costs \$500,000 a year to operate, and they don't know where the funding will come from. We should not let the natural desire to win awards overwhelm our good judgment.

4. Among other things, the Canal Park fact sheet states, "Canal Park's design evokes the history of

the area with a linear rain garden reminiscent of the Washington Canal and three pavilions which recall floating barges that were once common in the canal." Someone might have seen an evocation of a canal and barges, but I did not, and neither did other participants I spoke to. While the park is interesting, this is a useful reminder that we need to be wary of claims made by designers about the wonders of their designs.

Howard Bergman
President, Founders Park
Community Association

Pipes, not Plant Put Poop in River

To the Editor:

Mr. Pope's excellent headline article "When It Rains It Stinks" Aug. 15, 2013, has a factual misstatement in the opening lines, which while it doesn't diminish the importance of the article, needs to be corrected: it is the city's old pipes, not the sewage treatment plant that is the source of raw sewage being discharged into the Potomac. This is not a semantic distinction: sewer pipes are not treatment plants any more than a

garbage truck is a waste-to-energy facility. Pipes and trucks merely convey waste to processing sites.

On the one hand, Alexandria has an award-winning, fully-compliant, state-of-the-art sewage treatment plant, operated by Alexandria Renew Enterprise, formerly known as the Alexandria Sanitation Authority. At the same time, Alexandria also has vestiges of a 19th century collection system of pipes which carry both rain water and sewage, and these ancient pipes, not the treatment plant, are the problem.

The issue identified by the Gazette is an important one, both from the standpoint of maintaining a healthy environment and a healthy budget. Fixing Old Town's sewage overflow problem is an expensive proposition, as Mr. Pope correctly notes in his article, which is why one of the options being considered is "kicking the can down the road". Unfortunately, delaying is potentially an even more expensive proposition because of the potential fiscal burden of EPA-leveled fines for non-compliance in addition to the inevitable construction costs to effect environmental remedies.

Won't it be a great day when

SEE LETTERS, PAGE 20

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Bart Chamberlin - The York Group 703-682-5457

Alexandria | 703.518.8300

cbmove.com



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www.chrisandpeggywhite.com



9322 Mount Vernon Circle \$699,999
Super Value in Mt Vernon on the Potomac!
 * Rare opportunity in area's premier waterfront community!
 * Three finished levels!
 * Five bedrooms including main level master suite!
 * Best price for MVOP Colonial in years!
 Open Sun 8/25, 1-4! GW Pkwy S, past Estate; L-Ferry Landing; R-Mt Vernon Circle.



9124 Volunteer Dr \$649,900
Updated and Expanded with 3 Car Garage!
 * Stately presence with columned Portico!
 * Expanded designer kitchen and dining!
 * Five bedrooms, 3 full updated baths!
 * Oversize 3 car garage!
 OPEN SUN 8/25, 1-4. GW Pky S, past Estate; L-Old Mt Vernon Rd; R-Cherrytree to corner of Volunteer.



4408 Tarpon Ln \$575,000
Yacht Haven-Near River!
 Meticulously maintained home on absolutely gorgeous half acre lot within walking distance of clubhouse and river in this fabulous waterfront community. Significant upgrades and features include: Luxurious baths, hardwood floors, huge deck, 4 levels & more! Unique opportunity to be near water at reasonable price!



9409 Ludgate Dr \$2,000,000
Just Down River from Mount Vernon Estate!
 Stately Colonial Estate in the Virginia plantation tradition. Magnificent setting on high bluff overlooking Potomac. Views protected by conservation land. Home is truly spectacular with high ceilings, gourmet kitchen, 4 bedrooms, each with private bath, breathtaking river view master suite. Walls of windows capture magnificent views. App. 300 ft dock with lifts. A true VA Estate just minutes from Old Town.

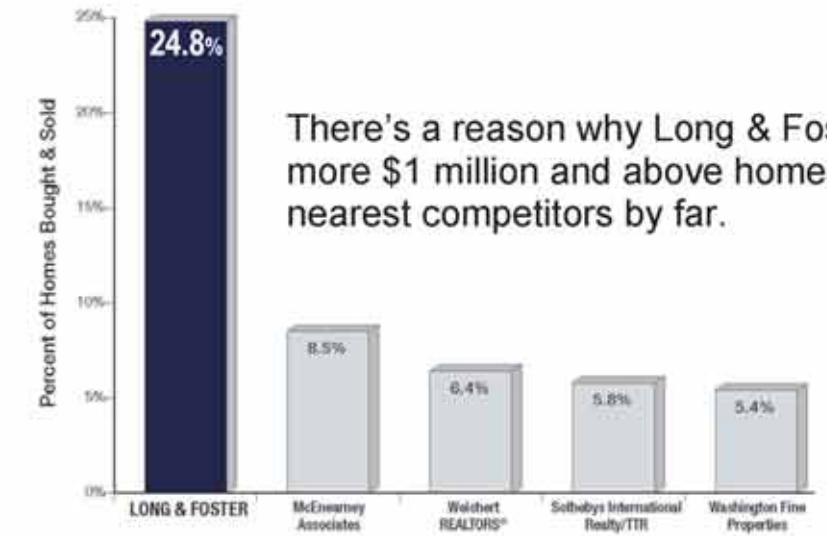


9127 Continental Dr \$598,500
Major Updates!
 Nothing like it for under \$600,000! Spacious home with numerous recent updates. Fabulous features include: large room sizes, bright open floor plan, brand new custom kitchen, updated baths, 4 bedrooms, gleaming hardwood floors, living room with fireplace, family room, and garage parking. Prime location on large lot—walk to neighborhood school!



3709 Carriage House Ct \$769,000
Stately Colonial!

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The Results Are Extraordinary.



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Alex. / Porto Vecchio "PREMIER WATER-FRONT RESIDENTIAL BUILDING"
 #404 - \$559,000 updated kitchen, cherry cabinets/granite, 1,439 sq ft, gracious room dimensions, in move-in condition. Pretty view.
 #324 - \$582,000 Full river view, 1,582 sq ft, 2 garage spaces, private corner unit, freshly painted. For an appointment call...
 Pat Tierney 703.850.5630
 Mary Taylor 703.785.5619

\$ 409,000 Alexandria "WALK TO METRO"
 Beautifully updated townhouse featuring 4 updated baths, wood floors, eat-in kitchen, finished LL with fireplace that walks-out to fenced yard with deck and flagstone patio backing to trees. Bonus room on LL could be 4th bedroom. Dead end street. Reserved parking right out front. 3BR/3.5BA
 Val Klotz 703.303.9744

\$ 259,900 Alexandria "NEW PRICE"
 Historic pied-a-terre 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

\$ 679,000 Alex. / Hollin Hills "WONDERFUL CONTEMPORARY"
 Spacious 1-level home with 3BR + den (could be 4th bedroom) and 3FBA. Walls of windows make for beautiful views and lots of light. Parquet floors, fireplace and great space for storage. Nearby community swimming pool. Easy commute to Old Town and DC. Please come see for yourself or call for an appointment to see.
 Annelise Smith 703.505.2533

OPEN SUNDAY 1 - 4!
\$ 629,900
Arlington
109 S FENWICK ST
 Charming Colonial 3BR/1BA single family home in Arlington's Penrose neighborhood features upgraded kitchen with cherry cabinets and SS appliances, hardwood floors on main and upper levels, wood-burning fireplace in living room and plenty of outdoor space with newer deck, screened porch and fenced backyard.
 Marc Foster 202.550.6042

\$ 509,900
Arlington / Crystal City "NEW LISTING"
 2BR/2BA corner unit with sunny river and courtyard views. Condo highlights include: hardwoods, SSA, granite kitchen, W/D, wrap around balcony, large closets. The complex offers pool, gym and party room. Harris Teeter to open in November. Minutes to Pentagon, airport, Potomac Yards shops, movies and restaurants. 1 parking space. FUTURE METRO STOP.
 Suzanne Briar 703.728.4999
 Bob Wood 703.244.0505

\$ 675,000
Alex. / Rosemont Park "WALK TO BRADDOCK METRO"
 NEW PRICE! Loads of character and charm in this 1930's farm house from the welcoming porch to the 2-level rear deck. Newly remodeled upstairs bath. Replacement windows. Warm hardwoods. Lower level boasts ceramic tiled rec room, laundry room and full bath. Bonus space of sun porch and sun room. Detached one car garage. Wood stove optional! 3BR/2BA.
 Martha Deal 703.622.6797

OPEN SATURDAY 12 - 2!
\$ 519,900
Alexandria
1212 WILKES ST
 Renovated 2BR/2BA sunny end unit townhouse with fresh paint thru-out and refinished hardwoods. Updated kitchen and baths with custom tile and top of the line fixtures. Beautiful yard with professional landscaping, flagstone patio, picket and privacy fencing. Off-street parking. Storage shed. Walk to King St Metro, Whole Foods, shops and restaurants.
 Kristy Matthai 703.786.6627

\$ 775,000
North Old Town "STYLISH CONTEMPORARY"
 4 level, 3BR/2.5BA, townhouse with 1 car garage plus tandem carport. Updated kitchen, open floor plan, freshly painted with modern color palette. Fireplace, hardwoods on ML and travertine on LL. 1 block to Potomac, and DC via the GW Pkwy.
 www.novapropertyshop.com
 Mindy Brubaker 571.242.9913
 Susan Haughton 703.470.4545

\$ 247,500
Alexandria "CHARMING & RENOVATED..."
 and with your own private courtyard entrance! Spacious open floor plan (765sqft) featuring hardwoods; kitchen with granite including breakfast bar, maple cabinets and black appliances. Master bedroom has large walk-in closet and double entry bath. Full size washer/dryer. Huge patio for entertaining and gardening. Close to 395, BRAC, Shirlington and Pentagon.
 Mike Lekas 703.927.9895

\$ 650,000
Alexandria "ABSOLUTE SERENITY!"
 Live in this super spacious, well-designed home and enjoy the most picturesque and tranquil setting from your fully screened porch overlooking White Oaks Park! Perfect flow and great bones make this 4BR/2.5BA home with main level family room, 2-car garage and a double cul-de-sac location are bonus features!
 Judy Pisciotta 703.405.4485

RENTALS

210 Stevenson Sq \$1,800
 Stevenson Sq Townhouse 3BR / 1.5BA
 Lauren Leggett 703.582.7354

2507 Fairhaven Ave \$2,300
 Fair Haven Cape Cod 4BR / 3BA
 Pat Wilson 703.598.7279

1250 S Washington St \$2,500
 Porto Vecchio Mid-Rise 1BR / 1.5BA w Den, Fireplace 1 Garage
 Mary Taylor & Pat Tierney 703.850.5630

700 Pitt St \$3,100
 Yates Gardens Townhouse 2BR / 1.5BA 1 Fireplace
 Suzanne Backus 703.338.3594

*Source: Information based on data supplied by MRS and its member Association (s) of REALTORS, who are not responsible for its accuracy. Does not reflect all activity in the marketplace. January 1, 2012 - December 31, 2012. Information contained in this report is deemed reliable but not guaranteed, should be independently verified, and does not constitute an opinion of MRS or Long and Foster Real Estate Inc. ©2013 All rights reserved.

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ENTERTAINMENT

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

ONGOING

Fall Classes. Art at the Center, 2804 Sherwood Hall Lane. Children ages 6-10 can participate. Early bird registration through Aug. 30. Register at www.artatthecenter.org or 703-201-1250.

Art Exhibit. Noon-4:30 p.m. at the Green Spring Garden Historic House, 4603 Green Spring Road. Grace Rooney's watercolor paintings on display through Aug. 25. Free. Call 703-642-5173 or visit www.greenspring.org.

Art Class. Running through Saturday, Aug. 31, classes meet 9:15 a.m. or 10:30 a.m. Bring toddlers or preschoolers for guided exploration of clay, paint, collage, drawing and building in a supported studio environment. Classes held at Art At The Center, 2804 Sherwood Hall Lane. Register online at www.artatthecenter.com.

Visiting Artists. Through Saturday, Aug. 31, the Visiting Artist Program is a professional development opportunity for emerging and experienced visual artists from all over the country and provides an opportunity for visitors to interact with a rotating group of visual artists. Torpedo Factory located at 105 N. Union St. Call 703-838-4565 or visit www.torpedofactory.org. Guests who visit George Washington's Mount Vernon and the International Spy Museum will be able to take advantage of **Operation: George Washington** and save 50 percent off the ticket purchase at their second destination. To redeem the offer, guests must present their receipt for admission or ticket stub from one site when purchasing their ticket to the second site. Both Mount Vernon and the International Spy Museum will honor receipts and tickets throughout August. Visit www.MountVernon.org.

Dog Days Dog Show. Through Sunday, Sept. 1 in the Athenaeum Gallery. The show includes a variety of photographs about dogdom, portraits are also included. Visit www.nvfaa.org or call 703-683-5058.

Art Exhibit. Through Sunday, Sept. 1 at The Target Gallery in the Torpedo Factory Art Center, 105 N. Union Street. The exhibit is "Radio Sebastian: You, Me, and the Void". An opening reception for the exhibit will be held Aug. 8, 6-8 p.m. in the gallery. Visit www.torpedofactory.org/target or call 703-838-4565.

Art Exhibit. Through Sunday, Sept. 1

"Shapes" and "scapes" at Torpedo Factory Art Center, 105 N. Union Street. An opening reception for both exhibits is planned for Aug. 8, 6:30-8 p.m.. Visit www.theartleague.org.

Paisano's Pizza is going to "Share the Pie" with the Boys and Girls Clubs of greater Washington. For all customers who mention "BGC" when placing an order, Paisano's will donate 10 percent of their purchase price to help support the organization. The fundraiser goes until Sept. 15. In Alexandria, Paisano's has locations at 269 S. Van Dorn St. and 6937A Telegraph Road. Visit www.pizzapaisanos.com.

Distillery Open. George Washington's Distillery and Gristmill open through Oct. 1. \$17/adult, \$8/child, 5 and under are free.

Occupied City: Life in Civil War Alexandria Exhibition. At The Lyceum, Alexandria's History Museum, 201 S. Washington St. 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 time, as well as period photographs and collections items. Open Monday through Saturday, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sunday, from 1-5 p.m. Admission \$2. Visit www.alexandriahistory.org or call 703-746-4994.

Life Drawing. Del Ray Artisans offers a range of open life drawing sessions to hone figure drawing skills. Drop-in with your supplies to draw our live models. Fee: \$8-12. View the calendar at www.TheDelRayArtisans.org.

The **West End Farmers Market** will run Sundays from 8:30 a.m.-1 p.m. through November. Located at Ben Brenman Park, browse food, crafts and more. Visit www.westendfarmersmarket.org.

This **exhibit at Fort Ward**, located at 4301 W. Braddock Road, features objects from the museum collection, to tell this story of the event that launched the Civil War in Alexandria. Free. The museum is open Tuesday through Saturday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m., and Sunday, 12-5 p.m. Visit www.fortwaRoad.org or call 703-746-4848.

Life in Civil War Alexandria Exhibition at The Lyceum, 201

Tango over to Lorton Art Center

QuinTango to perform Saturday.

BY BARBARA BOLAND
GAZETTE PACKET

QuinTango, a chamber tango music group with international acclaim, will play at Lorton Workhouse Art Center on 9601 Ox Road on Saturday, Aug. 24 at 7 p.m. The concert is free and concertgoers are invited to listen to the music sponsored by the Fairfax County Park Authority, with seating under a tent, and take in the sounds of Buenos Aires.

The QuinTango players are a quintet of two violins, cello, bass and piano and they will be accompanied by dancers Anton Gazenbeek and Mandi Messina.

Joan Singer, the founder of the group and Alexandria native, started QuinTango 15 years ago after playing tango music for fun for a long time. QuinTango is the only tango music group to give a Command Performance at The White House and the only Ameri-

can tango group to give a Command Performance at the U.S. Embassy in Buenos Aires.

A finalist in the 2004 International Tango Competition, QuinTango has been heard on NPR's Morning Edition, CNN, and network television in both the U.S. and Costa Rica. They have also won WAMMIE awards five times. The group is currently working on its sixth album.

In the same way that jazz represents African American culture, so also tango evokes a broad spectrum of the culture of Buenos Aires and the Rio de la Plata. "I love the international aspect of the music, the fact that people all over the world love tango music and have their own takes on it,"

Singer said. "There are tango communities everywhere you go in the world. Wherever you are, there are people that love tango and that dance to it, like an underground river which if you know about it, can sweep you away."

The QuinTango players tell stories about their music and their adventures in Argentina throughout the concert, between songs. They will be signing CDs afterwards. The concert is free, and those who feel so inclined are welcome to dance on the grass.



703-746-4994.

African American Activists Exhibition. Living Legends of Alexandria is an ongoing photo-documentary project created in 2006 by artist-photographer Nina Tisara to identify, honor and chronicle people making current history in Alexandria. This free exhibit is at the Alexandria Black History Museum, 601 Wythe St. The museum is open Tuesday through Saturday, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Visit www.alexblackhistory.org or call 703-746-4356.

The Marshall House Incident Exhibition at Fort Ward Museum, 4301 West Braddock Road. The museum is open Tuesday through Saturday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m., and

workshop held on the last Sunday of each month, except December. No reservations. Call 703-683-2205.

Book a Librarian. At the Charles E. Beatley, Jr. Central Library, 5005 Duke St, for help with research or to better understand the library's databases and resources. Make an appointment by calling 703-746-1751.

Computer Tutoring. At the Charles E. Beatley, Jr. Central Library, 5005 Duke St. Individual assistance from a librarian. Call 703-746-1751.

Mobile Market. Thursdays through October, 11 a.m.-1 p.m. in the Landmark Mall parking lot on the Duke Street side. The Arcadia Center for Sustainable Food and Agriculture Mobile Market is a refurbished school bus offering produce, meat, eggs and more from small farmers and food artisans within 100 miles of the area. EBT cards and WIC and Senior FMNP vouchers accepted. Visit arcadiafood.org.

Encore Chorale. Mondays 10:30 a.m.-noon at the George Washington Masonic National Memorial, 101 Callahan Dr. Register now for Encore Chorale's fall season. The group of singers, ages 55 and up, practice classical and holiday songs to prepare for December performances. \$150 tuition. Visit encorecreativity.org or call 301-261-5747.

Metro Club After-School Program. From Sept. 9-June 2014, the Metropolitan School of Arts presents an after-school program for grades 1-6. The program is located at both the Lorton studio at Workhouse Arts Center, 9517 Workhouse Way and in Alexandria at 5775 Barclay Drive. Programs will focus on the arts, including music, dance, theatre, yoga and academics, as well as designated homework time. The program will run Mondays, 1-6 p.m., and Tuesday-

Friday, 3-6 p.m. Tuition runs from \$130-150. Call 703-339-0444 or visit www.metropolitanarts.org.

THURSDAY/AUG. 22

Elephant Day. At Ten Thousand Villages, 915 King St. For the third annual Elephant Day, the store offers 20 percent off all elephant items, as well as elephant themed snacks. 15 percent of sales for the day will be donated to the International Elephant Foundation to help protect elephants in Africa and Asia. Call 703-684-1435 or visit www.alexandria.tenthousandvillages.com.

Blockbuster Thursday. 6:30 p.m. at Beatley Library, 5005 Duke St. Free. Call 703-746-1702 for title.

World Short Story Discussion. 7 p.m. at Burke Branch Library, 4701 Seminary Road Free. Call for title. 703-746-1704.

Evening Story Time. 7 p.m. at Martha Washington Library, 6614 Fort Hunt Road. Children ages 1-5 can enjoy stories. Free. 703-768-6700.

Night Time Tales. 7 p.m. at John Marshall Library, 6209 Rose Hill Drive. Stories and activities for children ages 3-5 with an adult. Registration required. Call 703-971-0010.

FRIDAY/AUG. 23

Concert. 7:30 p.m. at the Birchmere Music Hall, 3701 Mount Vernon Ave. CD Release Show for Olivia and the Mates. \$29.50. Visit www.birchmere.com or call 703-549-7500.

FRIDAY-SUNDAY/AUG. 23-SEPT. 1 Alexandria Summer Restaurant SEE ENTERTAINMENT, PAGE 17



Get Crafty

Del Ray Artisans' Craft Night Social provides time to work on a project in progress or start a new one and get to know other creative individuals. The evening is open to all who knit, crochet, sew, scrapbook, make cards or jewelry, or any other fiber, paper or general craft that does not involve wet media other than glue. Each crafter will receive 2-3 feet of table space.

Each four-hour session is \$8 for Del Ray Artisans members and \$10 for non-members. Space is limited; register at www.TheDelRayArtisans.org/craft. For questions about Craft Night Social, contact Lisa at artenuestra@yahoo.com.

Craft Night Socials are 5-9 p.m. on Aug. 27 and Oct. 22, at Del Ray Artisans gallery at the Nicholas A. Colasanto Center, 2704 Mount Vernon Ave.

at Del Ray Artisans Gallery, 2704 Mount Vernon Avenue. The exhibit features seven Del Ray Artisans following their own theme and inspirations to create their own artwork. The gallery is free and open to the public. Visit www.thedelrayartisans.org.

Art Exhibit. Through Sept. 2, see

South Washington Street. This exhibit traces life in Alexandria following Virginia's decision to secede from the Union in May 1861. The Lyceum is open Monday through Saturday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. and Sunday, 1-5 p.m. Suggested admission is \$2. Visit www.alexandriahistory.org or call

Sunday, noon-5 p.m. Visit www.fortwaRoad.org or call 703-746-4848.

Photography Workshop. 10:30 a.m.-noon at Multiple Exposures Gallery on 105 N. Union Street. Photographers and enthusiasts of all skill levels are invited to share work, ideas, and questions at this free

ENTERTAINMENT

FROM PAGE 16

Week. More than 50 restaurants throughout Alexandria offer a \$35 prix-fixe three-course dinner or \$35 dinner for two. To browse the list of restaurants participating, visit VisitAlexandriaVA.com or 703-746-3301.

FRIDAY-SUNDAY/AUG. 23-25

Theatre Performance. 7:30 p.m. Friday and Saturday; 3 p.m. Sunday at Workhouse Arts Center, 9601 Ox Rd. Metropolitan Performing Arts Theatre's ensemble presents "Fame: the Musical." \$20. Call 703-584-2900 or visit www.metro-theatre.org.

SATURDAY/AUG. 24

VietFest. 10 a.m.-9 p.m. at Landmark Mall, 5801 Duke St. Celebrate the Vietnamese culture through art, food, history and entertainment. \$5/advance; \$7/onsite; free to people wearing full Vietnamese dress. Visit www.VietFest.com or 540-497-1661.

Grave-Marking Ceremony. 10 a.m. at the Peake Family Cemetery in Martin Luther King, Jr. Park, 8115 Fordson Rd. Hosted by the George Washington Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution, the grave-marking ceremony will honor Revolutionary War patriots Humphrey Peake Sr. and Lieutenant William Peake. The ceremony includes the presentation of colors by the SAR Color Guard and brief discussion of the lives of the Peakes. Open to public attendance. Visit www.gwsar.org.

History Lecture. 10 a.m.-1:30 p.m. at Carlyle House, 121 N. Fairfax St. Learn about the burning of Washington and surrender of Alexandria in August of 1814. \$10/adult; \$5/child age 5-12. Reservations recommended as space is limited. 703-549-2997.

Art Material Market. 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. at the Torpedo Factory Art Center, 105 North Union Street. Artists from all over are invited to buy, sell, or trade their new or gently used art supplies, tools, materials, and ephemera. Admission is free. Visit www.torpedofactory.org or call 703-838-4565 ext. 5.

Wag A Tale. 10:30-11:30 a.m. at Kingstowne Library, 6500 Landsdowne Centre. Children ages 5-12 can register to read aloud to Chester, a reading therapy dog. Registration required, 703-339-4610.

Free Meditation Workshop. 11 a.m. at Beatley Library, 5005 Duke St. Learn breathing technique and more. Free. 703-746-1702.

Concert. Johnny Lappen at The Birchmere, 3701 Mount Vernon Ave. 7:30 p.m. \$35. Visit www.birchmere.com.

SATURDAY-SUNDAY/AUG. 24-25

Begonia Show and Sale Saturday, 9 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Sunday, 2-3:30 p.m. Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road. The Potomac Branch of the American Begonia Society sponsors the annual display and sale various begonia species. Free. Call 703-642-5173 or visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/greenspring.

Kitten Adoption Event. 11 a.m.-4:30 p.m. at King Street Cats, 25 Dove S. Cuddle some kittens and find a new best friend. This is a two day event, everyone is welcome. Visit www.kingstreetcats.org.

SUNDAY/AUG. 25

VietFest. 11 a.m.-6 p.m. at Landmark Mall, 5801 Duke St. Celebrate the Vietnamese culture through art, food, history and entertainment. \$5/advance; \$7/onsite; free to people wearing full Vietnamese dress. Visit



Art At the Center Celebrates 5th Annual Big Chalk Draw

The Big Chalk Draw will take place Friday, Aug. 30, 8-10 a.m. Meet in the Art at the Center parking lot for a morning of chalk drawing. This is a free community art event. New school supplies and backpacks for children in need in the community will be collected.

www.VietFest.com or 540-497-1661.

Pride and Prejudice Celebration 1-3 p.m. Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road. Jane Austen's "Pride and Prejudice" turns 200. Celebrate and discuss the novel. Reservations are \$29. Call 703-642-5173 or visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/greenspring.

Film. 2 p.m. at Beatley Library, 5005 Duke St. Call for title. Free. 703-746-1702.

Gospel Singers in Concert. 4 p.m. at Woodlawn Faith United Methodist Church, 7730 Fordson Road. Carter Gospel Singers will be celebrating 44 years of singing ministry. Original Carter Chorus Singers will also be featured at the service. Call 571-659-9165.

MONDAY/AUG. 26

Biography Book Club. 7 p.m. at Beatley Library, 1015 N. Quincy St. Free. Call for title. 703-746-1743.

Musical Play. 7:30 p.m. at Old Town Theater, 815 Q King St. See "1001 Black Inventions," written and directed by Alexandria's Greenfair Moses 111 and headlined by Alexandria's Andy Evans. Call 703-544-5315 or go to OldTownTheater1914.com for tickets.

TUESDAY/AUG. 27

Craft Night Social. 5-9 p.m. at Del Ray Artisans. Bring unfinished projects that are in progress and be social with other creative individuals. \$8 DRA members / \$10 non-members. Register: www.TheDelRayArtisans.org/craft.

Paws to Read. 5:30 p.m. at Duncan Library, 2501 Commonwealth Ave. Children in grades 1-6 can read to friendly dogs. Registration required, 703-746-1705.

Martha's Mystery Book Discussion. 7 p.m. at Martha Washington Library, 6614 Fort Hunt Road. Adults can discuss "Field Gray, a Bernie Gunther Novel" by Philip Kerr. Free. 703-768-6700.

Musical Play. 7:30 p.m. at Old Town Theater, 815 Q King St. See "1001 Black Inventions," written and directed by Alexandria's Greenfair Moses 111 and headlined by Alexandria's Andy Evans. Call 703-544-5315 or go to OldTownTheater1914.com for tickets.

WEDNESDAY/AUG. 28

Spanish Story Time. 1 p.m. at Beatley Library, 5005 Duke St. All abilities and all levels can join in for stories. Free. 703-746-1702.

Cool Yoga. 6:30-7:30 p.m. Maureen Clyne of Prasada Yoga offers, outdoor yoga classes at 1900 Mt. Vernon Avenue in Del Ray. Open to all skill levels. Free. Call 703-967-8884 or visit www.prasadayoga.com.

Book Signing. 7 p.m. at Beatley Central Library, 5005 Duke St. Jide Familoni discusses and signs his novel "Losing My Religion." Call 703-746-1751 or visit www.alexandria.lib.va.us.

THURSDAY/AUG. 29

Movie Matinee for Children. 4 p.m. at Burke Library, 4701 Seminary Road. Children in grades K-8 can watch a movie. Free. 703-746-1783.

Blockbuster Thursday. 6:30 p.m. at Beatley Library, 5005 Duke St. Free. Call 703-746-1702 for title.

Film Series. 6 p.m. at Burke Branch Library, 4701 Seminary Road. Watch "Moonrise Kingdom." Free. 703-746-1704.

Martha's Family Movie. 7 p.m. at Martha Washington Library, 6614 Fort Hunt Road. All ages can watch a film based on a children's classic book. Free. Registration required. 703-768-6700.

Concert. 8 p.m. at the Old Town Theater, 815 King St. Caravan of Thieves and the Funhouse perform. \$20. Call 703-544-5315 or visit www.oldtowntheater1914.com.

THURSDAY-SATURDAY/AUG. 29-31

Theatre Performance. 7:30 p.m. at Workhouse Arts Center, 9601 Ox Rd. Metropolitan Performing Arts Theatre's ensemble presents "Fame: the Musical." \$20. Call 703-584-2900 or visit www.metro-theatre.org.

FRIDAY/AUG. 30

Annual Big Chalk Draw. 8-10 a.m. at Art at the Center, 2804 Sherwood Hall Lane. Join in a morning of chalk drawing in the parking lot. Free, everyone welcome. Art at the Center will also be collecting new school supplies and backpacks for children in the community. Visit www.artatthecenter.org.

Three Dog Night. At The Birchmere 3701 Mt Vernon Ave. Tickets on sale now for \$69.50. Visit www.threedognight.com or www.birchmere.com for information.

SATURDAY/AUG. 31

Concert. 7:30 p.m. at the Birchmere Music Hall, 3701 Mount Vernon Ave. Come see The Outlaws perform. \$35. visit www.outlawsmusic.com. Robyn Ludwick will open.

SEE ENTERTAINMENT, PAGE 18



Dinner for Two Only \$35

Alexandria Restaurant Week
August 23 - September 1



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800-296-7304

MarylandRenaissanceFestival.com

CROWNSVILLE, MARYLAND

ENTERTAINMENT



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

BumpKin Pie will perform at the Friendship Firehouse Picnic Sunday, Aug. 25.

Friendship Firehouse Picnic

Come meet and show your appreciation for the personnel of the Alexandria Fire Department at the 2nd annual Friendship Firehouse Picnic Sunday, Aug. 25 from 1:30-4:30 p.m. at the Grove at the Virginia Theological Seminary. Musical performances include BumpKin Pie and The Kate Moran Band. Games and activities like face painting, obstacle courses and slides will be featured along with a display of fire and EMS apparatus giving those attending a chance to explore modern fire equipment. All tickets include a membership in the Friendship Veterans Fire Engine Association. For tickets or more information, visit www.friendshipfire.net.

FROM PAGE 17

SUNDAY/SEPT. 1

Music Performance. 3 p.m. at The Lyceum, 201 S. Washington St. Violinist Benjamin Scott will perform music by Beethoven, Ravel and more. Visit www.wmpamusic.org/free or 703-799-8229.

TUESDAY/SEPT. 3

Stories and Songs. 10 a.m. or 11 a.m. at Duncan Library, 2501 Commonwealth Ave. Children ages 1-4 can enjoy stories and more. Sign up half-hour before. Free. 703-746-1705.

Time For 2s. 10:30 a.m. at Beatley Library, 5005 Duke St. Children age 24-36 months can enjoy stories and more. Free. Registration required, 703-746-1702 ext. 5.

Tuesday Tots. 11 a.m. at Burke Branch Library, 4701 Seminary Road. Children ages 2-3 can enjoy stories and more. Free. 703-746-1704.

Baby Rhyme Time. 11:30 a.m. at Beatley Central Library, 5005 Duke St. Children up to 11 months with adult. Free. 703-746-1702.

Sherwood Poetry Read-Around. 6:45 p.m. at Sherwood Library, 2501 Sherwood Hall Lane. Adults can share favorite poems, either original or by a favorite poet. Free. 703-765-3645.

Evening Storytime. 7 p.m. at Kingstowne Library, 6500 Landsdowne Centre. Children of all ages can wear pajamas and enjoy stories and activities about bedtime. Free. Registration required, 703-339-6700.

Game Night. 7 p.m. at Beatley Library, 5005 Duke St. Children ages 8-12 can play with their friends. Free. 703-746-1702.

Author Talk. 7 p.m. at Beatley Central Library, 5005 Duke St. Mary Radnofsky will discuss "Escape from Romania to 9/11: Rebuilding the American Dream." Free. 703-746-1702.

WEDNESDAY/SEPT. 4

Time For 2s. 10:30 a.m. at Beatley Library, 5005 Duke St. Children age 24-36 months can enjoy stories and more. Free. Registration required, 703-746-1702 ext. 5.

Down on the Farm. 10:30 a.m. at Martha Washington Library, 6614 Fort Hunt Road. Children ages 4-5 can enjoy stories, songs and activities about farms and animals. Register at 703-768-6700.

Laptime Rhythm and Rhyme. 11 a.m. at Burke Library, 4701 Seminary Road. Children up to 18 months with adult. Free. 703-746-1704.

Daytime Book Discussion. 12:15 p.m. at Kingstowne Library, 6500 Landsdowne Centre. Call for title. 703-339-4610.

Hitchcock Film Series. 6:30 p.m. at Duncan Library, 2501 Commonwealth Ave. Watch a movie and then discuss it at St. Elmo's Coffee Pub. Free. 703-746-1705.

Family Story & Craft Night. 7 p.m. at Beatley Library, 5005 Duke St. All ages can enjoy crafts and stories. Free. 703-746-1702.

THURSDAY/SEPT. 5

Story Time. 10:30 a.m. or 3 p.m. at Beatley Library, 5005 Duke St. Children ages 3-5 can enjoy stories, activities and more. Free. Registration required, 703-746-1702 ext. 5.

Terrific Twos and Threes. 10:30 a.m. at Sherwood Library, 2501 Sherwood Hall Lane. Children ages 2-3 can enjoy stories, songs and fingerplays. Free. Registration required, 703-765-3645.

Story Time. 11 a.m. at Duncan Library, 2501 Commonwealth Ave. Children ages 3-5 can enjoy stories and more. Free. 703-746-1705.

Little One-Ders. 11:15 a.m. at Beatley Library, 5005 Duke St. Children ages 12-23 months can enjoy stories and more. Registration required, 703-746-1702 ext. 5.

Paws to Read. 5:30 p.m. at Beatley

Library, 5005 Duke St. Grades 1-6 can read to friendly dogs. Register at 703-746-1702 x5.

Pajama Party. 7 p.m. at Burke Branch Library, 4701 Seminary Road. Children ages 3-6 can come dressed in their favorite outfit/pajamas and listen to stories. Free. 703-746-1704.

Night Time Tales. 7 p.m. at John Marshall Library, 6209 Rose Hill Drive. Children ages 3-5 can listen to stories. Registration required. Call 703-971-0010.

Movies at Martha. 7 p.m. at Martha Washington Library, 6614 Fort Hunt Road. Adults and teens age 13 and up can enjoy a movie. Call for title. 703-768-6700.

THURSDAY/SEPT. 5-SUNDAY/OCT. 20

Art Exhibit. See "Deep, Full, And Not Quite Real" at Athenaeum Gallery, 201 Prince St. Free. Call 703-548-0035 or visit www.nvfaa.org.

FRIDAY/SEPT. 6

Friday Affair Market. Noon-4 p.m. at historic Hollin Hall, 1909 Windmill Lane. Purchase baked goods, treats, flowers and crafts from local vendors. Held the first and third Fridays of every month through December. Call 202-256-5332.

E-Reader Cover Craft Project. 2 p.m. at Beatley Library, 5005 Duke St. Librarians will show how to turn a hardback book into a cover for your e-reader. Participation is limited, 703-746-1745.

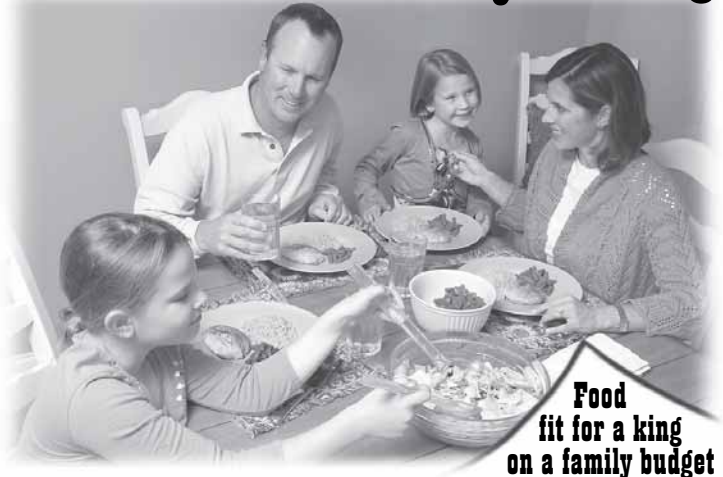
Theater Production. 8 p.m. at Old Town Theater, 815 W King St. Bible Stories Theatre will perform "Once Upon a Time Shop." 703-544-5315 or go to OldTownTheater1914.com for tickets.

SATURDAY/SEPT. 7

Alexandria King Street Art Festival. 10 a.m.-7 p.m. Old Town Alexandria, 480 King St. Free and open to the public. Also on Sunday, Sept. 8. Email Info@ArtFestival.com

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Legal Notices

LEGAL NOTICE

Pursuant to the provision of section 4-1-16 of the code of the City of Alexandria, the Alexandria Police Department located at 3600 Wheeler Avenue, Alexandria, VA 22304 is now in possession of unclaimed bicycles, mopeds, lawn equipment, money, scooters, and other items. All persons having valid claim to the property should file a claim to the property with reasonable proof of ownership or the items will be sold, destroyed, converted or donated. For a complete listing go to <http://alexandriava.gov/police/> and contact the Police Property Section at (703) 746-6709.

21 Announcements

Notice of intention to file a petition pursuant to Virginia State Code 8.01-324

Hear ye that Local Media Connection, acting for itself and on behalf of the newspapers it publishes, its successors or assigns, if any, publisher of the Fairfax Connection, Burke Connection, Fairfax Station/Laurel Hill Connection, Great Falls Connection, Oak Hill/Herndon Connection, Reston Connection, Springfield Connection, Vienna/Oakton Connection, McLean Connection, Centre View/Southern Edition, Centre View/Northern Edition and Mount Vernon Gazette newspapers, as these titles may be modified in the future, will petition the CIRCUIT COURT OF THE COUNTY OF FAIRFAX, VA to authorize the Fairfax Connection, Burke Connection, Fairfax Station/Laurel Hill Connection, Great Falls Connection, Oak Hill/Herndon Connection, Reston Connection, Springfield Connection, Vienna/Oakton Connection, McLean Connection, Centre View/Southern Edition, Centre View/Northern Edition and Mount Vernon Gazette newspapers, as newspapers of general circulation for Fairfax County whereas the Fairfax Connection, Burke Connection, Fairfax Station/Laurel Hill Connection, Great Falls Connection, Oak Hill/Herndon Connection, Reston Connection, Springfield Connection, Vienna/Oakton Connection, McLean Connection, Centre View/Southern Edition and Mount Vernon Gazette newspapers may be used for legal notices and publications pursuant to Virginia State Code 8.01-324.

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All sessions done in my home in the Wayneswood/Fort Hunt area.

26 Antiques

We pay top \$ for antique furniture and mid-century Danish/modern teak furniture, STERLING, MEN'S WATCHES, jewelry and costume jewelry, paintings/art glass/clocks.

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28 Yard Sales

Estate Sale Aug. 24, 8 am - 7
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Yard Sale Furniture, Tools Adult/Child Clothes, Shop Smith, Sat. Aug 24, 8AM-2PM
3611 Old Vernon Ct, Alex.

202 Domestic Auto

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21 Announcements

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Alexandria City Public Schools Annual Public Notice
Career and Technical Education

Alexandria City Public Schools' Department of Career and Technical Education offers a variety of career and technical programs to all students at the middle and high school levels. The program areas include the following:

- Business and Information Technology
- Family Consumer Sciences
- Health and Medical Sciences
- Trade and Industrial Education
- JROTC
- Marketing
- Technology Education

Dual enrollment credit for high school Career and Technical Education is available through an agreement with Northern Virginia Community College whether the student is pursuing a post-secondary education and/or entering the workforce. For more information about these programs call Sherri Chapman, Coordinator of Career and Technical Education, (703) 824-6680.

Alexandria City Public Schools does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, age, religion, sexual orientation, marital status, status as a parent, or pregnancy in its programs and activities. Please direct all inquiries regarding Alexandria City Public Schools non-discrimination policies to the Executive Director of Human Resources, 2000 North Beauregard Street, Alexandria, VA 22311, (703) 824-6657.

21 Announcements

LEGAL ADVERTISEMENT

The Board of Equalization and Assessment Review for the City of Alexandria will convene on the days hereafter listed for the purpose of hearing complaints of inequalities wherein the property owners allege a lack of uniformity in assessment, or errors in acreage in such real estate assessments. Upon hearing such complaints, the Board will give consideration AND INCREASE, DECREASE, OR AFFIRM such real estate assessments.

All meetings will be held at 301 King Street, City Hall, Room 3008, Alexandria, VA. The dates and times are:

- September 9, 2013 4:00 PM to 7:00 PM
- September 10, 2013 9:00 AM to 12:00 noon
- September 11, 2013 4:00 PM to 7:00 PM
- September 16, 2013 4:00 PM to 7:00 PM
- September 17, 2013 9:00 AM to 12:00 noon
- September 18, 2013 4:00 PM to 7:00 PM
- September 23, 2013 4:00 PM to 7:00 PM
- September 24, 2013 9:00 AM to 12:00 noon
- September 25, 2013 4:00 PM to 7:00 PM
- September 30, 2013 4:00 PM to 7:00 PM
- October 1, 2013 9:00 AM to 12:00 noon
- October 2, 2013 4:00 PM to 7:00 PM

Dockets for each hearing may be obtained by contacting the Department of Real Estate Assessments, 301 King Street, City Hall, Room 2600, Alexandria, VA 22314, between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday in person or by calling 703.746.4180.

The deadline for filing an appeal was June 1, 2013, however this appeal deadline is not applicable to appeals of assessments for real estate that was newly constructed pursuant to Virginia Code §58.1-3292.

21 Announcements

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FROM PAGE 12
rockfish outnumber scupper trout in Dyke's Marsh?

Tom Van Wagner
Alexandria

Reforming Education

To the Editor:

Alexandria has a problem with Jefferson-Houston Elementary School. It does not meet state standards. And, T.C. Williams is not a model of academic success either.

Ken Cuccinelli has a comprehensive, forward-looking and reasonable solution to one sort of school problem. He wants to expand digital learning.

Cuccinelli's educational reforms would focus on sharing successful teachers online. He would reward excellent teachers with a specialty by allowing them to teach in districts with unmet demands. In other words, Virginia's best teachers would be rewarded for their ability: their teaching and subject ability would be financially rewarded. And they would know that it wasn't just their years of service but their knowledge that mattered. Cuccinelli would also eliminate barriers to establishing a virtual school curriculum. Students who took part in online education would be graded on their mastery of the subject material rather than their "seat time" in the classroom. This innovation would help students with a variety of learning needs at both ends of the academic spectrum. Finally, someone is proposing educational changes that look to the future of our children. Thanks Ken.

Linda Greenberg
Alexandria

Bad Fit

To the Editor:

The proposal to use public open space at Hensley Fields as a private sports complex has come and gone. However, it raised some policy issues that are not well understood.

If one reads the editorials and listens to the statements from some City Council members, one gets the impression that this was a normal, business-as-usual application. Namely, if a developer wants to build on private land, he asks the city what he must proffer in return for that right. This case however, was quite different. The St. James Group's economic model was based on providing a limited and exclusive supply of services at relatively high prices. The question for the city was how much it was willing to subsidize in order to increase that supply or public access, not how much it would get out of it.

Hensley Fields would cost \$86 million to buy today, but it is valued at \$14 million. True, that estimate assumed the land had lost all development potential, because it is a park. However, the applicant did use it as a starting point. Besides, the St. James Group was not going to buy or lease the land, but requested that they be allowed to pay the city with in kind service for 40 years

SEE LETTERS, PAGE 21

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An Afternoon with Martin 50 Years Ago

BY HARRY M. COVERT

It's a warm June afternoon in 1962. At about 4 o'clock I was in the vestibule of the Hampton Institute chapel. A light breeze flowed through the windows raised about 12 inches.

Martin, as he was called by his colleagues that day, was waiting to speak to the annual Hampton Institute Ministers Conference. About 100 clergymen from across Virginia, dressed in dignified dark suits, chatted as they listened to the organ music of the Institute's music director, an internationally acclaimed musician.

I took advantage of the interlude and introduced myself to Martin as a reporter from the Newport News, Va., Daily Press. We shook hands and I thought it would be time-saving for me to get a quote or two from him in advance of his remarks. He was pleasant, commenting at how nice the Hampton weather was. He said it was his first time in Hampton, first time at the Institute, today Hampton University, and close by the famed Fort Monroe. Martin said that was the fortress that imprisoned Jefferson Davis, president of the Confederacy.



Well, he knew his history and I knew I could come up with a front-page story on the Georgian's visit to the preacher's conference.

After some 20 minutes, the conference leader brought Martin to the platform. I remained on the front row seat. Much to my surprise I was the only journalist in the building. I was also the lone Caucasian in the half-empty chapel. No other media figured it was an event to cover. No photographer came to record the event. In my mind I was a bit excited, not so much about the speaker and speakers but my front-page story coming up, exclusive mind you, a pleasant handshake and good talk. No other news seemed to be breaking that afternoon and I kept figuring and counting on a front-page byline.

These were the days before mobile telephones, the internet and cable television and radio. We had only three TV stations in Tidewater and one radio news station in those days. Both the morning and afternoon newspapers were owned by the same company. I was all alone today and I would have the jump on other Tidewater, Virginia news

hounds.

Excitedly I took notes on cheap yellowed copy paper, trimmed from newsprint for note-taking and folded three ways so as to fit in my suit coat. At 22 I knew I was enjoying what I thought may be a booming career.

Martin walked off the platform after 45 minutes of well-received remarks, greeted pastors with handshakes and came over and thanked me for attending.

There was no entourage with him that day, no security men around and no fire-brand remarks about the impending civil rights struggle. I had a few good quotes, I thought, and raced back to the newspaper office to write the news.

I called the city desk all excited. The city editor didn't fool around.

"You have one paragraph, Mrs. Bottom's orders." She was the owner.

Deflated, I appealed for him to reconsider and begged for more space. The Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. was an eloquent speaker, I pleaded. He said he knew "America was changing and the South was changing, too." Pretty good story I thought then and still think so today.

"I said, 'one graph?'" And so it was, one paragraph, no byline, no front page, and

but the states never did so.

Despite the bustle of celebrating Labor Day and resuming our regular fall activities, let's celebrate the formal recognition of our independence by flying the flag, giving thanks for the blessings of freedom and remembering those whose sacrifices have made it all possible.

Ellen Latane Tabb
Alexandria

Need To License All Bicycles

To the Editor:

It has been very frustrating reading the repetitive Dear Editors sent to the Packet by Jonathan Krall of the Alexandria Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee (BPAC).

First of all, the BPAC purports to represent the interests of both Alexandria bicyclists and pedestrians. However, it is a rare instance that the BPAC spends much time on pedestrian issues. That's a sad commentary because Alexandria, especially the Old Town area, is indeed a "pedestrian intensive territory" for the thousands of residents and tourists who walk our crowded streets on a daily basis.

The council's latest "faux-pas" of allowing bicyclists to ride on sidewalks is indeed a prescription for trouble. First of all a great number of our sidewalks are not wide enough to accommodate both pedestrians and bikes. Cyclists need to warn pedestrians in their path especially if the pedestrian is blind, elderly, infirm or crippled. It will be almost impossible for them to move out of the way. Sidewalks are appropriately

At the March

FROM PAGE 10

most importantly, Bayard Rustin. Little did I realize in June of 1963 that something more important than my high school graduation would happen to me. Over the past 50 years the "March" has remained one of the most important events in my life. I am reminded of that event every time I take out and read my program from 50 years ago. I am also reminded that after 50 years "The Dream" continues.

printed near the classified advertisements.

This ignorance of Dr. King's following didn't last long among the old-time media editors and publishers because civil rights protests were on the way. Dr. King's "Dream" has become a reality and I had a preview of what was to come.

A year later, Aug. 28, 1963, the March on Washington and the eloquent words of one of the most magnificent orators of perhaps the century changed the United States and the rest of the world. And, it was a spell-binding Baptist preacher from Georgia.

named with a heavy emphasis on the "walk" part of the word. Taken literally, sidewalks are meant for people to walk on not ride on.

Most of the traffic problems in our ninth most congested city in the country are problems between cars and pedestrians. In the dense urban areas they are constantly fighting each other. However the preponderance of cyclists, who typically do not obey the basic traffic laws, just adds another critical dimension in navigating our busy streets. They tend to think they should be at the head of the line at every stop sign or traffic signal, rather than awaiting their turn to cross an intersection like everyone. They zig and they zag in and out of traffic with reckless abandon causing automobile drivers unnecessary stress, anxiety and even confusion.

Cyclists on the streets of Old Town habitually fail to stop at stop signs. It's nothing for them to run through a stop sign going 35 miles per hour. Automobile drivers attempting to cross the same intersection have a major problem. Most likely they cannot see very far to their left or right and, as they enter the intersection, the cyclist is suddenly less than a few feet or inches from the driver's front bumper. This scenario repeats itself over and over and it won't be very long before a cyclist ends up hurt or dead. It's not if but when. It's really going to happen.

The police have to be more aggressive in ticketing the law-breaking cyclists. I have always been a believer that little things turn into big things. By not enforcing the traffic ordinance for cyclists, the automobile driv

SEE LETTERS, PAGE 22

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

FROM PAGE 20
instead.

Proponents argued that it was a good deal because the city could share in the profits while getting facilities that they cannot afford to build. Unfortunately, that missed the point, which was that the city was being asked to pay for these services through the subsidized arrangement. In return for the subsidy, the city would get a certain number of free activity passes, depending on how much the city was willing to kick in.

Herein lies the rub. The applicant based their model on two exclusive and expensive clubs, which by inference would make this a facility for the relatively well-off living within a 20-mile radius of the complex. The interest of the City of Alexandria, on the other hand, is to provide access to all its residents by increasing the supply. The city was offered instead a limited number of chits to distribute to the public. Notwithstanding the political and logistical nightmare for the city, which would need to devise a rationing scheme for the limited public access to the sports complex, a simple economics course would have flagged the incompatibility. Someone at City Hall should have seen that this proposal was a bad fit and stopped it instead of skirting behind "An Unsolicited Bid."

Poul Hertel
Alexandria

Celebrate Treaty of Paris

To the Editor:

Americans are justly proud of our Decla-

ration of Independence and celebrate its adoption on July 4, 1776, with appropriate fanfare, but it would have been just an interesting document if the patriots had not won the American Revolution. Sadly, we do not celebrate Sept. 3, the anniversary of the date in 1783 when the British formally recognized our independence in the Treaty of Paris. Our shrewd negotiators included Benjamin Franklin, John Jay and John Adams.

Gen. George Washington certainly observed the importance of that event because he was not able to resign his commission as commander-in-chief until after formal peace had been made. More than two years after he and our army, aided by the French fleet and troops, had defeated Gen. Cornwallis at Yorktown, Va. (Oct. 19, 1781), he was finally able to tender his resignation to the Confederation Congress on Dec. 23, 1783 at Annapolis, Md., where that body was meeting in the Old State House. He hastened to Mount Vernon to celebrate Christmas with his family and attended services at Christ Church.

The Treaty of Paris has some interesting elements. Its preface declares the treaty to be "in the name of the most holy and undivided Trinity." Important provisions gave the United States all lands west of the Mississippi (although they were also claimed by the Spanish and French), and both Britain and the U.S. would be free to use the river. The 45th parallel was established as the northern boundary between the U.S. and Canada. The U.S. was given fishing rights in the rich waters off Newfoundland and in the Gulf of the St. Lawrence. The U.S. government agreed to recommend to the states that lands taken from British Loyalists during the war be returned to them,

OPINION

Help Deliver Meals — and Smiles

BY MARYANNE BEATTY
MEALS ON WHEELS PROGRAM COORDINATOR, SENIOR SERVICES OF ALEXANDRIA

August is usually a slow-time in the Washington Metropolitan Area — Congress in on recess, families are taking vacations before school starts and it's a time of reflection before the summer ends. That is not the case with Alexandria's Meals on Wheels Program. There are approximately 5,000 Meals on Wheels programs across the country and the majority of them deliver meals Monday-Friday, but not in our city. Senior Services of Alexandria volunteers deliver meals 7 days a week, 365 days a year, and August has been a very busy volunteer month.

SENIOR SERVICES OF ALEXANDRIA

Volunteers can come in all shapes and sizes, young and old. A group of teenagers from St. Stephens and St. Agnes School have become regulars during the last couple of months, delivering meals to fulfill their required hours of community service before school starts. Our seniors love receiving their meals from this great group of young men and women. They add a certain energy and enthusiasm that is refreshing, and we hope that they will continue to volunteer throughout the year.

A few Saturdays ago, members of SSA's board of directors delivered meals and they did a great job. Dolores Viehman, SSA's volunteer coordinator, gave them some useful tips on navigating the routes. One of the volunteers was SSA's Board President Gregg Murphy, who delivered with his daughter Ana. As Gregg said, "It's a great way to spend a Saturday morning giving back and seeing how much these meals mean to the people who receive them."

For the fourth year, a group of middle school volunteers from the DreamDog Foundation took a day and not only delivered meals, but also delivered smiles by singing songs to the recipients and special homemade cards.

The Foundation's mission is "Empowering Children and Parents to Make a Difference!" Through programs like their "Do the Write Right Thing" Summer Camp where students participate in community service activities each day and then write about their experiences, they are making a difference in their community and the students' academic success. Each day has a different theme from helping seniors to cleaning up the environment to random acts of kindness.

"We are happy to be linked to this exciting experiential learning program again this year," said Lorraine Friedman, Dreamdog Foundation's executive director. This was a very special day for the meals on wheels recipients — one they will remember for a while.

SSA is always looking for volunteers, individuals or groups, to help deliver meals, especially on the weekends. If you would like to make a difference in a senior's life by ensuring that they receive two healthy



The DreamDog Foundation members brighten Meals on Wheels recipients with cards and songs.

meals delivered to their homes, please let us know! You can reach the Meals on Wheels program by emailing us at mealsonwheels@seniorservicesalex.org or calling 703-836-4414, ext. 12. Volunteer forms are also on the SSA website at <http://www.seniorservicesalex.org/meals.html>.

Graham Guidry (left) and Kyle Draim from St. Stephens and St. Agnes School.

PHOTOS CONTRIBUTED



SSA board members and volunteers deliver on a Saturday morning.

LETTERS

FROM PAGE 21

ers tend to adopt the same driving tactics as they float or roll through stop signs. Over the years cars have become less concerned with coming to a full stop at a traffic signal. There is no doubt that drivers feel that if the cyclists are getting away with not stopping then why must they stop? The police department, from the top down, needs to start paying attention to this matter. I am fully aware that chasing traffic violators is not as sexy as chasing crooks, but your police force needs to start paying attention to this matter before it becomes an uncontrollable and totally out of hand problem.

When I grew up and owned a bike in Northern California the first thing I had to do was get my bike licensed by my local government. If my bike was stolen or misplaced, this gave the local authorities a means of returning my bike to me. In addition it also served in identifying my bike, just like you do with a car, if I broke the law, which I never did. We need to start licensing all bikes that traverse our city. It is the best way to ensure that bikes, just like other motor vehicles, are obeying the law.

Townsend A. "Van" Van Fleet
Alexandria

Well Done

To The Editor:

Regarding the letter "A Helping Hand Not a Hand-out" [Aug. 15, Alexandria Gazette Packet], first I have to say congratulations to Nisa Harper on her many accomplishments and Sheryl Bell whom I admire with respect as an advocate for housing and for children with special needs.

The two are a powerful voice on the welfare and well-being of children and those in need of a home.

Well said, Nisa and Sheryl. I hope to read more such letters and one day I'd like to see Nisa Harper run for City Council.

Geri Baldwin
Alexandria

Write

The Gazette Packet welcomes views on any public issue. The deadline for all material is noon Friday. Letters must be signed. Include home address and home and business numbers. Letters are routinely edited for libel, grammar, good taste and factual errors.

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PHOTO BY JEANNE THEISMANN/GAZETTE PACKET

It's a Wrap

Former City Manager Vola Lawson, center, celebrates with director Frank Shutts II (front left), Rachel Alberts (right) and the cast of "Avenue Q" following the Aug. 11 performance at The Little Theatre of Alexandria. The three-week run of the production served as a fundraiser for local animal charities, with cast members collecting more than \$6,200 in audience donations for the Vola Lawson Animal Shelter, King Street Cats, D.C. Actors for Animals and Broadway Barks.

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COOKIE IS HOME!!!



Cookie went through the cat door at her home on Saturday August 3rd and did not return. Despite extensive search efforts, she seemingly had vanished into thin air. Miraculously however, on the 14th day Cookie was found!! As nearby neighbors were having coffee and reading the newspaper on their porch, they heard the faintest of meows. They began looking for its source and were surprised to discover it was coming from a 7-foot deep hole created when a previous owner installed a perimeter drain system. The hole was completely covered by the porch, which was only a few inches off the ground. Quickly, a rescue operation was launched and a 2-foot by 3-foot section of the porch was cut-out, exposing the hole. We could then see Cookie, but she was out of reach. A garden hoe with a triangular-shaped head and an 8-foot section of

quarter-round molding were taped together. The hoe was maneuvered in the bottom of the hole to get Cookie perfectly balanced, then gently raised to the surface. She was a beautiful sight, although very weak and covered with sawdust. Veterinarians at an emergency hospital found that she was severely dehydrated and had lost almost a quarter of her body weight, but otherwise in good shape. She is resting at home now and recovering from her ordeal. We deeply appreciate our friends and neighbors who helped sustain our hopes that we would find her and the many people who were keeping Cookie in their thoughts and prayers. Most of all, we appreciate the kindness and determined efforts of Cookie's rescue team—Julie, Neal, Willa, Alyssa, Anne, Walter, and Chris. Thank you, thank you, thank you!!! Susan and Ken



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Easing into Back to School

End-of-summer tips to make the first day of school less stressful.

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL
GAZETTE PACKET

For some children, the transition from laid-back summer days to intensely structured school hours can be jarring. Moving from an environment where one's greatest challenge is deciding whether to choose chocolate or vanilla ice cream, to a routine that calls for getting dressed before dawn, heading to school and paying attention in classes all day can be jolting.

One of the most challenging aspects of returning to school, say experts, is children's loss of some control over their schedules. "In the summer, children have more control over their lives," said Alice Young, Ph.D., a professor of education at Marymount University in Arlington. "They have greater ability to make decisions about what time they're going to wake up and what they will do next. When they get ready to back to go to school, they control nothing. Parents and teachers tell them what they have to do."

"Humans are innately routine-driven beings," said Len Annetta, Ph.D. professor in the College of Education and Human Development at George Mason University. "Whether or not it is hard wired or a learned behavior is often debated. Regardless, our bodies and minds often function better once in a routine. Parents would be wise to ... start their children with a breakfast that is ... consistent with what they will have during the school year [and] limit screen time to just educational activities or activities that get the brain thinking analytically."

THERE ARE SCHEDULE modifications that parents can implement now to make the first day of school less jolting, however, and local education experts offer tips that range from gradually modifying a sleep schedule to planning after-school activities.

"Start getting back into a school-year sleep schedule," said Ashley C. Lowry, the upper school academic coordinator and Advanced Placement U.S. history teacher at Connelly School of the Holy Child in Potomac, Md. "It's important that students hit the ground running. Continuing to stay awake until midnight or later will not provide students with the brainpower needed to start the year off right."

A sleep schedule adjustment is particularly important for middle and high school students. "Get them up earlier for those needed doctor and dentist appointments before school starts," said Lisa Turissini, Ed.D., chair of the Department of Education at Marymount University. "This age group loves to sleep in and some adjustment to an earlier schedule is really a good idea. You can also have them go to bed earlier to assist getting up earlier each morning."

Ann Richardson Miller, director of admis-

sion at The Madeira School in McLean, said, "Sufficient sleep is critical to academic success. While harder to enforce at home, we believe strongly that this one simple thing can ensure success for transition into high school."

Maintaining an element of joy is key, say experts. "Do some practice wake ups, but make it fun, not stressful," said Shannon Melideo, Ph.D., associate dean, School of Education and Human Services at Marymount University. "Give incentives for getting ready quickly and calmly."

For all students, getting organized is a critical part of the back-to-school process. "Review their school and class schedules with them," said Turissini. "When is lunch? Will they have healthy alternatives or bring lunch from home?"

"Do they have all their school supplies? Make a date to go shopping," Turissini continued. "This is a great time to have them organize their closets and drawers to see what clothes can be donated and what clothes they need."

Label and color-code notebooks and binders. This "will help students feel confident and start the year with a clear mind free of clutter," said Lowry.

Melideo said, "Get a weekly clothing organizer for clothes, hang a calendar, make a new chores schedule that is the most efficient for all members of the family."

In fact, calendars and planners are key, said Turissini, who suggests using them to plan and coordinate extracurricular activities. "Lay out after-school activities, school-related and nonschool-related," said Turissini. "Get a family calendar going."

DESIGNATE AN AREA for completing homework assignments. "Do they have a work area set to go at home to complete homework each evening?" asked Turissini. "Is there a set time each evening for this to happen? Will there be certain evenings when everyone is present for family dinner together?"

Setting goals, both academic and personal, is important when beginning a new school year. "All school divisions, private or public, have some sort of grade-level objectives," said Melideo. "Find the appropriate grade-level goals and spend a few minutes with your child reading over what they will learn and set some goals."

Such goals are helpful in creating a smooth back-to-school transition. "For example, ride a bike, read a chapter book, hit a double, [learn to] tie shoes, [make the] honors list," said Melideo. "Write those goals down and put them in a place that the student can see often."

Young says that parents should help children choose attainable goals. "Success breeds success. Early in the school year, set goals that are achievable," she said. "A bad goal is 'I'm going to make straight As this semester' if the child made Ds and Cs last semester. A better goal, for example, would be, 'I am going to turn in all my homework and not having any missing assignments during the first session.'"



The Bishop Ireton football team finished 1-9 last season.



Bishop Ireton linebacker Hudson Sullivan, crouched, is seen during a recent practice.

PHOTOS BY JON ROETMAN/GAZETTE PACKET

Bishop Ireton Football Looking To Bounce Back

Cardinals will play first four games at home.

BY JON ROETMAN
GAZETTE PACKET

The 2011 season was a memorable one for the Bishop Ireton football team.

There were highs — achieving the first 7-0 start in school history and eventually reaching the playoffs. And there were lows — surrendering a 99-yard hook-and-lateral touchdown on fourth-and-16 with less than a minute remaining, which led to a playoff loss to St. Christopher's. In the end, the Cardinals finished 8-3, posting the second-best single-season win total of head coach Tony Verducci's tenure.

After the season, Verducci informed his players of a trend. After each successful season during his time with the Cardinals, next year's team followed with a sub-.500 record. The 2012 Car-



Bishop Ireton linebacker Hudson Sullivan makes a tackle during practice.

dinals entered the season with hopes of breaking the pattern.

The result was nine straight losses to open the season and a 1-9 overall record.

If history repeats itself, Ireton is in line for a strong 2013 campaign. But if the Cardinals are to return to the sunny side of .500, they'll have to do so despite the loss of a three-year starting quarterback and a new defensive scheme.

"I think it's a group capable of having a winning season," Verducci said. "I think your first goal is to have a winning season and your second goal is to hope that you've won enough games that you qualify for the independent school playoffs."

Senior linebacker Hudson Sullivan is one of a small group of Cardinals who were significant varsity contributors during the good times of 2011 and the rough 2012 season. Sullivan said this year's group is off to a promising start.

"After sophomore year, because we lost [a] really close [game] in the playoffs, I wanted to come right back and take it to them as a team, but the whole team focus and everything last year wasn't there," Sullivan said. "We had a bunch of kids that joined just to play seniors season and they were more thinking about the parties after and not really thinking about the season. ... The whole team focus this year is totally different."

Sullivan (6 feet 2, 220 pounds) is the leader of an Ireton defense that has switched from a 3-4 scheme to a 3-5-3 in hopes of being more physical against the

run. Sullivan, who has received scholarship offers from Delaware, James Madison, New Hampshire and Richmond, moves from outside linebacker to "Mike" linebacker.

"Hudson's a guy who from Day 1 distinguished himself as a very physically gifted football player," Verducci said. "Throughout the course of our spring and our summer workouts, his presence raises the level of intensity and it gives everybody else to aspire to."

Senior linebacker Dylan Espinoza (5-11, 210) and junior linebacker Josh Ammon (6-0, 200), a transfer from John Champe High School in Loudoun County, will also be significant contributors in the Cardinals' 3-5-3 scheme, which is coached by new defensive coordinator Jerton Evans, a former standout safety at the University of Virginia who spent time with the San Diego Chargers and Buffalo Bills.

"Coach Evans," Ammon said, "has made the transition real easy."

Senior Taylor Dean (6-6, 245) and junior Andre Robinson (6-0, 225) will see time on the defensive line.

On offense, juniors Andrew Latrash (5-11, 190) and Michael McGregor (6-1, 170), a transfer from John Champe, are competing for the quarterback position vacated by former three-year starter PJ Zingler. At running back, Sullivan, sophomore Alex Duke (5-11, 170) and junior Nigel Bullard (5-10, 190), who transferred from Hayfield, will likely see carries. Junior Drew Smith (6-2, 165) and senior Max Sanasack (6-3, 180) are receiving threats.

Dean is an O-line standout at right tackle.

Ireton will play its first four games of the season at home, starting with its opener against Park View at 4 p.m. on Friday, Aug. 30. The Cardinals will follow with games against Bishop O'Connell (Sept. 7), St. Stephen's & St. Agnes (Sept. 14) and Episcopal (Sept. 21).

"Hudson's a guy who from Day 1 distinguished himself as a very physically gifted football player. Throughout the course of our spring and our summer workouts, his presence raises the level of intensity and it gives everybody else to aspire to."

— Bishop Ireton football coach Tony Verducci




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PHOTO BY MICHAEL LEE POPE/GAZETTE PACKET

Republican Gov. Bob McDonnell, center, meets with Alexandria school officials during an educational summit at T.C. Williams High School as part of his "This Commonwealth of Opportunity" tour.

An Opportunity To Change

FROM PAGE 1

said School Board Vice Chairman Justin Keating. "If my intern had written that statute, I would have thrown it back at him as being unacceptable."

Supporters of the takeover effort point to a section of the Virginia Constitution directing the Board of Education to divide the commonwealth into "geographical" areas "subject to such criteria and conditions as the General Assembly may prescribe." Now that legislators have approved the bill and the governor has signed it, supporters say, the constitutional threshold has already been met.

"The General Assembly set criteria that says they can take over a school if it's failing," said Del. Dave Albo (R-42). "I think they would automatically lose the case before it starts."

NO LAWSUIT has been filed, and in comments after the governor's legislative summit last week, city leaders and school officials were clear that they are willing to wait until after the next General Assembly session before they would consider asking the courts to stop the takeover of Jefferson-Houston. Graf said she hoped the coming session might see legislators repeal the Opportunity Educational Institution or at least add more local control to the takeover.

"I intend to look at changes or a repeal of the OEI in the next legislative session," said Del. Rob Krupicka (D-45), "with the goal of creating a system that focuses on struggling schools but does it in a way that makes local governments more of a part-

ner as opposed to confrontational the way the current system is."

City Council and School Board members are sensitive to how a lawsuit might be perceived during a time when Jefferson-Houston has failed to make any progress.

Recent years have seen an increasing decline. In the most recent set of test scores, for example, only 29 percent of black students showed basic proficiency in math. And only 46 percent of students with disabilities at Jefferson-Houston could demonstrate basic English skills.

"The situation at Jefferson-Houston has been a grave concern to all of us for many years," said Virginia Board of Education president David Foster during a March meeting.

JEFFERSON-HOUSTON has been in tailspin since 1999, when the Alexandria School Board adopted a redistricting plan that created a racial imbalance at the school. In one year, the school went from having 50 percent of its students eligible for free and reduced lunch to 77 percent. Since that time, the school's enrollment had plummeted from 486 in 2000 to 361 students today — and that's after adding sixth, seventh and eighth grade classes to the school.

"I think they need to let the takeover happen," said Bea Porter, who will have two grandchildren attending the school this fall. "There's no need to stall because they have done so poorly for so long that it's time for somebody else to come in and take over."



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\$139 PER MO.
FOR 36 MONTHS¹
\$1,999 due at signing



The Best New Cars Make The Best Used Cars

- 7YR/100K MILE ROADSIDE ASSISTANCE PLAN[†]
- 160 POINT QUALITY ASSURANCE INSPECTION^{††}
- CARFAX VEHICLE HISTORY REPORT
- 1.9% APR FINANCING AVAILABLE^{†††}
- 12 MO./12K MI COMPREHENSIVE WARRANTY
- 7 YR./100K MI LIMITED POWERTRAIN WARRANTY

BRAND NEW 2013 TOYOTA CAMRY LE 4 DR. SEDAN, 6-SPD. AUTO

LEASE FOR **\$199 PER MO.**

24 MOS. \$2,699 DUE AT SIGNING

OR 0% APR FINANCING FOR UP TO 60 MO.²

OR GET \$1,000 CASH BACK³

25 CITY
35 HWY⁷



0% APR FINANCING AVAILABLE²



PRIUS FAMILY IN-STOCK NOW
plus goes plural



UP TO
95 MPG⁷

\$750
REBATE FOR RECENT COLLEGE GRADS⁶

\$1,000
MILITARY REBATE INCENTIVE FOR ACTIVE MILITARY PERSONNEL⁶

BRAND NEW 2013 TOYOTA RAV4 LE 2WD 4 CYLINDER AUTO.

LEASE FOR **\$219 PER MO.**

36 MOS. \$2,999 DUE AT SIGNING.

PLUS \$500 LEASE LOYALTY CASH⁸

24 CITY
31 HWY⁷



ToyotaCare

Complimentary maintenance plan with roadside assistance.
• Covers 2 years or 25k miles. Oil and Filter - Tire Rotation - Multi-Point Inspection[†]



ALEXANDRIA TOYOTA/SCION
3750 JEFFERSON DAVIS HWY. | ALEXANDRIA, VA 22305
1-866-616-8420 | ALEXANDRIATOYOTA.COM
JUST MINUTES FROM REAGAN NATIONAL AIRPORT!



Let's Go Places

(1) DUE AT SIGNING INCLUDES DOWN PAYMENT (COROLLA: \$1,999, CAMRY: \$2,499, RAV4: \$2,999), FIRST MONTH'S PAYMENT, \$499 PROCESSING FEE AND NO SECURITY DEPOSIT. NOT ALL CUSTOMERS WILL QUALIFY. TAX, REGISTRATION AND INSURANCES ARE EXTRA. CUSTOMER IS RESPONSIBLE FOR EXCESSIVE WEAR AND EXCESS MILEAGE CHARGES OF \$0.15 PER MILE IN EXCESS OF AGREEMENT'S MILES (COROLLA/RAV4: 36,000 MILES, CAMRY: 24,000 MILES). OFFER AVAILABLE ON APPROVED CREDIT TO QUALIFIED CUSTOMERS FROM TOYOTA FINANCIAL SERVICES. (2) 0% APR FINANCING AVAILABLE FOR UP TO 60 MONTHS ON SELECT MODELS. OFFERS FOR WELL-QUALIFIED BUYERS WITH APPROVED TIER1+ CREDIT THROUGH TFS. 60 MONTHLY PAYMENTS OF \$16.67 PER \$1,000 BORROWED. (3) PURCHASERS CAN RECEIVE UP TO \$2,750 CASH BACK FROM TOYOTA OR CAN APPLY CASH BACK TO DOWN PAYMENT. AMOUNT VARIES PER MODEL. (4) BASED ON BLACK BOOK TRADE VALUE MINUS EXCESS MILEAGE AND RECONDITIONING. (5) COVERS NORMAL FACTORY SCHEDULED SERVICE FOR 2 YEARS OR 25K MILES, WHICHEVER COMES FIRST. THE NEW VEHICLE CANNOT BE PART OF A RENTAL OR COMMERCIAL FLEET. SEE PARTICIPATING DEALER FOR COMPLETE PLAN DETAILS. VALID ONLY IN THE CONTINENTAL UNITED STATES AND ALASKA. (6) COLLEGE GRAD AND MILITARY REBATE AVAILABLE ON APPROVED CREDIT THRU TFS. ELIGIBLE CUSTOMERS MUST BE IN ACTIVE DUTY STATUS IN U.S. MILITARY TO RECEIVE REBATE. (7) 2012 OR 2013 EPA-ESTIMATED MILEAGE. ACTUAL MILEAGE MAY VARY. (8) CUSTOMERS CAN RECEIVE A \$500 INCENTIVE FROM TOYOTA UPON LEASING A NEW 2013 RAV4 AND TRADING IN A TOYOTA VEHICLE. (†) WHICHEVER COMES FIRST FROM DATE OF TCUV PURCHASE. (††) FROM DATE OF TCUV PURCHASE. (†††) 1.9% APR FINANCING ON ALL CPO VEHICLES FOR UP TO 60 MONTHS WITH APPROVED CREDIT ON SELECT MODELS THROUGH TFS. 60 MONTHLY PAYMENTS OF \$17.05 PER \$1,000 BORROWED. ONE INCENTIVE PER TRANSACTION. ALL OFFERS EXPIRE 9/3/13.



~ Established 1980 ~

McENEARNEY

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ALEXANDRIA \$959,000



Stunning City Views!

Timeless detailing is found throughout this wonderful, four-bedroom, two-and-one-half-bath home with grand archways, deep dentil moldings, chair rails, and hardwood floors. Chef's kitchen with granite counters, professional stainless appliances and tile flooring. Large lot that is ideal for entertaining outdoors. Walkable to King Street Metro and Old Town.

Sue Goodhart
703.362.3221

www.thegoodhartgroup.com
MLS ID# AX8162042



ALEXANDRIA \$489,900



Popular Warwick Village

Charm abounds in this lovely three-bedroom, two-bath townhome. Enjoy three finished levels, hardwood flooring, and an updated kitchen. Lower level boasts a cozy family room and full bath and walk-out to a private patio and the beautifully landscaped back yard. Steps to "The Avenue" in Del Ray, close to Metro.

Jen Walker
703.675.1566

www.JenWalker.com



ALEXANDRIA \$937,500



Just Listed

Original owner has updated and immaculately maintained this four-bedroom, three-bath, two-car garage home on Maple Hill. With a large back yard backing to parkland and convenient to King Street Metro and 395, this home is a peaceful oasis in the metropolitan area.

Ann Dozier Michael
703.608.5218

www.anndoziermichael.com
MLS ID# AX8160784



ALEXANDRIA \$314,900



Picture Perfect Cottage!

Why settle for a condo when you can have almost a quarter of an acre? Come see the complete and professional renovation of this cute bungalow with a lovely front porch! Two-car garage and a spacious backyard! No condo or HOA fees! Great location near Old Town and Fort Belvoir make this a commuter's dream.

George Myers
703.585.8301

www.McEneaney.com
MLS ID# FX8159369



ALEXANDRIA \$614,900



One of Colecroft's Finest & Largest

From the nostalgic front porch, to multiple updates, pride of ownership is reflected throughout this move-in ready townhouse located a little more than a block from Metro. Two bedrooms, three full baths, updated kitchen with quartz counters, stainless steel appliances, and maple cabinets. Lower level recreation room with built-ins. Lovely deck for outside living. A very spacious home with lots of closets, hardwood floors, two fireplaces, and off-street floor.

Pat Smith
703.728.4728

www.pat4pat.com
MLS ID# AX8155683



ARLINGTON NORTH \$1,299,000



Oh My Gracious, It's So Spacious!

Attractive five-bedroom, four-and-a-half-bath Craftsman home was designed for comfortable living and lively entertaining. Large open family room with adjoining gourmet kitchen opens to large deck and fenced yard. Fully-finished rec room perfect for home theatre. Hardwood floors and tall ceilings. Two-car garage. Prime location - walk to Metro!

Ann Duff
703.965.8700

www.AnnDuff.com



ALEXANDRIA CITY \$547,000



Make Your Dream a Reality!

Light-filled, remodeled three-bedroom, two-bath home with a gorgeous open kitchen/living/dining area. Large family room addition with gas fireplace and French doors to patio and fenced yard. Additional family/multi-purpose room with adjacent full bath. Quiet, lightly traveled street. One of the city's last great neighborhoods with affordable detached homes.

Betty Mallon
703.989.8548

www.BettyMallon.com



ALEXANDRIA \$369,000



Opportunity Awaits!

Fantastic opportunity to own a two-story condo in heart of Old Town at the sought-after Torpedo Factory. Steps to all that King Street and the Alexandria waterfront have to offer. Cute loft condo with endless possibilities. Spacious and bright main level with cathedral ceilings and balcony. Loft master suite is fun and roomy!

Sue Goodhart
703.362.3221

www.thegoodhartgroup.com
MLS ID# AX8132309



ALEXANDRIA \$329,950



Lives Like a Townhouse

Beautiful end-unit two-level condo overlooking woods. Two bedrooms with two and a half baths. Open updated kitchen with granite counters and stainless steel appliances. New carpet. Master bath updated with granite counter, ceramic tile floor, and two sinks. Easy commuting access and close to shopping and restaurants. Approximately one mile to Metro.

Chris Hayes
703.944.7737

www.HomesByHayes.com
MLS ID# FX8155930



703.549.9292

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