



One Step at a Time

TC grad makes 3,600-mile run for veterans.

BY JEANNE THEISMANN
GAZETTE PACKET

When Brendan O'Toole was in high school, he and his friends repeatedly watched "Forrest Gump," with O'Toole joking that one day he was going to recreate the film character's run across the country. For most young men, the conversation would end there but for O'Toole, a 2007 graduate of T.C. Williams, it was just the beginning.

"It was always a joke between me and my friends," said O'Toole, who joined the Marines following graduation. He served from 2008-2012, when he founded the nonprofit Run for Veterans as a way to help returning veterans cope with health issues and the reintegration into civilian life. "It was during my last deployment to Afghanistan that I realized that this could be a way for me to help raise money and awareness for the support our veterans need. So I called my high school friends and said 'Let's do this.'"

O'Toole launched what will ultimately be a 3,600-mile journey on Veterans Day, 2012, in Oceanside, Calif. Eighteen pairs of running shoes later, the former Marine sergeant makes his return to Alexandria this weekend before continuing on his run, which will end in Portland, Maine later this fall.

"I'm excited to be coming through Alexandria," O'Toole said. "It's our hometown and there are many good friends here who have helped with this project."

One of those friends is John Taylor, O'Toole's childhood friend and son of Jack Taylor.

SEE TC GRAD, PAGE 28



PHOTO BY TIM DWYER

Alexandria resident Brendan O'Toole carries a U.S. flag during his run through West Texas in honor of the victims of the Boston Marathon bombing earlier this year. The former Marine sergeant is running across the country to raise awareness for veteran's issues and will be holding a fundraiser at Jack Taylor's Alexandria Toyota Oct. 4.



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Team O'Toole, with Tim Dwyer, Brendan O'Toole and Joey Dwyer, meet with former President George Bush during a stop in Dallas.

Full Disclosure?

Forms plagued by a lack of information, absence of oversight; redacted documents.

BY MICHAEL LEE POPE
GAZETTE PACKET

Republican Gov. Bob McDonnell is in hot water for taking gifts without disclosing them, and legislators are talking about increasing disclosure requirements for family members. But here in Northern Virginia, personal financial disclosure forms are often incomplete and inconsistent. Some elected officials choose to disclose a great deal of information while others disclose very little. Fairfax County officials have decided to redact information that's supposed to be part of the public record. And nobody is reviewing the forms to make sure they are accurate.

"During campaigns, the State Board of Elections reviews our campaign finance forms but the same thing does not happen when we file our annual forms of financial interest," said Fairfax County Board of Supervisors Chairman Sharon Bulova. "You would think that someone was taking a look, but that's not happening. And it probably should be happening."

A look at the personal financial disclosure forms across Northern Virginia reveals a hodgepodge of disclosure, some meticulous and others lacking. One of the biggest disparities is in the disclosure of gifts. Bulova's form includes three pages of gift disclosures, everything from symphony tickets to Chamber of Commerce dinners.

Some elected officials are meticulous in documenting events they have attended and noting the value while others simply leave the form blank.

"There's a lot of things we end up reporting that aren't gifts at all — things like when you are obliged to go to some dinner," said Arlington County Board member Chris Zimmerman. "So technically, that's a gift. But would these people be going to these events if they didn't have to? On the other hand, a Rolex watch is a gift."

THE FORMS are supposed to include information about everything from real estate and business

interests to gifts and liabilities. That includes employers of elected officials and their family members. But a request for the public disclosure forms from the Fairfax County School Board was returned with a stack of redacted documents. The employer of one member was concealed, and several telephone numbers and addresses were blacked out of others.

The names of immediate family members — required information to be disclosed to the public — was redacted from of all the documents.

"Personal information is exempt from disclosure obligations," wrote Brandynn Reaves, public information specialist with Fairfax County Public Schools, in an email response to questions about the SEE LOCAL ELECTED. PAGE 28

"Virginia's disclosure laws are basically a big joke."

— Kyle Kondik, analyst with the University of Virginia Center for Politics

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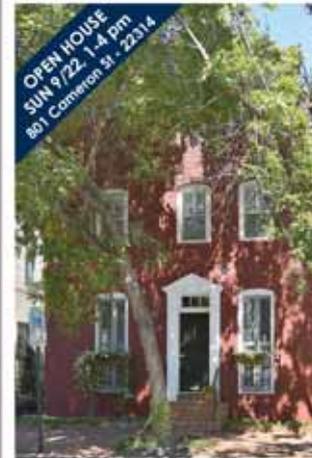


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TC Exits State's Priority Status

T.C. Williams High School is no longer among the lowest-performing 5 percent of Title I and Title I-eligible Virginia schools, according to the Virginia Department of Education in a news release identifying Priority and Focus Schools for the 2013-14 school year. T.C. Williams is one of 10 that exited Priority status.

VDOE designates the lowest-performing 5 percent of Title I schools as Priority schools, and another 10 percent of Title I schools are identified as Focus schools based on the achievement of historically low-performing subgroups. Jefferson-Houston School remains a Priority school for the second consecutive year.

John Adams and Patrick Henry Elementary schools are identified as Focus schools for the second consecutive year.

VDOE, under the two-year No Child Left Behind Act flexibility waivers granted in 2012 by the U.S. Department of Education, established annual measurable objectives (AMO) for reducing proficiency gaps between students in the commonwealth's lowest-performing and highest-performing schools. These objectives in reading and mathematics have replaced the Adequate Yearly Progress targets schools were previously required to meet under the federal education law. Eight Alexandria City Public Schools (ACPS) schools (George Washington 1 Middle School; Charles Barrett, Douglas MacArthur, James K. Polk, Matthew Maury and Samuel W. Tucker elementary schools; Lyles-Crouch Traditional Academy; and Cora Kelly School for Math, Science and Technology) met all 36 Federal AMOs in both English and mathematics. This represents an increase of two schools when compared with last year's results. ACPS as a division met all 18 Federal English AMOs and 17 out of 18 Federal Mathematics AMOs.

Attempted Abduction On King Street

Alexandria Police are investigating an attempted abduction that occurred on Monday, Sept. 9, at approximately 9:41 p.m., in the 2000 block of King Street. A 23-year-old female reported that a man attempted to abduct her as she was walking home from the King Street Metro station. The suspect approached her from behind, grabbed her, and attempted to pull her over a wall onto the grounds of the Masonic Memorial. The victim fought off the suspect. There were no injuries. The suspect is described as a black male, approximately 5-foot-5-inches tall. He was wearing a ball cap, a black and white striped shirt and tan shorts. He may be a smoker. The suspect was last seen fleeing on foot southbound towards Duke Street. Anyone with information about this incident or who might have been in the area is asked to call Detective Amy Santiago at 703-746-6289. Witnesses can remain anonymous.

Fatal Accident on I-495

According to Virginia State Police, at 10:13 p.m. Friday, Sept. 13, a 2005 Mercedes SUV stopped on the right shoulder on I-495 east at the 173 mile marker, just east of the Eisenhower Connector Exit. A passenger, Echo D. Davis, 27, of Benson, N.C., exited to presumably smoke a cigarette, and was seen by multiple witnesses wandering into and then running across the travel lanes. A 2007 Subaru SUV traveling east on I-495 was unable to avoid Davis and struck her.

Davis died at the scene. The crash remains under investigation at this time. The state police Accident Reconstruction Team also responded to the scene to assist with the investigation.

There was a second chain-reaction crash later that night at 11:23 p.m. involving four vehicles. Three vehicles were stopped in the eastbound lanes due the crash ahead when a fourth eastbound vehicle failed to stop in time for traffic and struck the third vehicle. That vehicle hit the second vehicle and that vehicle hit the first vehicle in line. The drivers of the second and third vehicles were transported to local hospitals for treatment of non-life threatening injuries. The driver and passenger of the fourth vehicle both fled the scene on foot into the woods. Fairfax City Police dispatched two tracking K9s and a helicopter to search for the two men. The driver, a 32-year-old Springfield man, was located, and charged with DUI and one felony count of hit-and-run.

All travel lanes re-opened by 3:15 a.m. Saturday.



Illustrations of four different options for the site along N. Pendleton.

Planners Explore Retail Options

Community makes suggestions on best use of Ken Moll property.

BY STEVE HIBBARD
GAZETTE PACKET

City of Alexandria urban planners are exploring options for building neighborhood retail space and a park on the half-acre Ken Moll property, which stretches along N. Pendleton behind the U.S. Post Office between N. Henry and N. Fayette streets in Alexandria.

About 40 people attended the Community Meeting on Neighborhood Retail sponsored by the Braddock Implementation Advisory Group on Monday night, Sept. 16, at the Charles Houston Recreation Center. They made suggestions on the best use for the property near the Braddock Road Metro Station. Two-thirds of the site is the post office; one-third is owned by the City of Alexandria with a developer working to create retail adjacent to a park called the Braddock Neighborhood Park. The plans have been brewing since 2008, with the outcome slated for 2016.

Should it be home to a new theater? Or a shopping center with restaurants? Or a coffee shop? Or a doctor's office? Or a daycare or Urgent Care Center?

Faroll Hamer, director of the Department of Planning and Zoning for the City of Alexandria, said the city did a market study and came up with three ideas on where to build the park and retail: 1) Position the retail building on N. Pendleton; 2) Put it on Wythe Street in an L-shape; 3) Put it on Wythe and N. Henry.

"The city staff is working with CBRE and the post office to come up with a scenario to redevelop that park to be a park and mixed-use building," said Hamer. She said they were trying to decide which configuration of park and building would be optimal.

The fact that N. Henry Street has huge visibility is a good thing, said Hamer, but the traffic that speeds by along Route 1 is not great for businesses that want customers to stop and shop.

"I think the community would like retail that attracts other retail," said Hamer, referring to the "cluster concept" where retail shares something in common with other retail. She said an Apple Store may attract other like-minded retail. Or a high-end restaurant may attract another similar restaurant.

Members of the Braddock Implementation Advisory Group asked for input from the community and invited two experts to speak — Melissa Webb, senior director of brokerage with The Rappaport Cos., and Andrew Rose, senior director with Next Realty Mid-Atlantic, LLC.

"I feel the building should be limited," said Webb, due to the lack of daytime foot traffic. "There's no one here during the day, but it's OK for evenings and weekends."

Rose warned that if there's no daytime foot traffic, businesses would have to rely on evenings and weekends for their business — in a finite period of time. But he said ideally, retailers want to be able to leverage costs and have people come in at all times.

Retailers want visibility and good parking, and 40,000-square-feet of space would be the right size for anchoring maybe two restaurants — one full-service and one fast-casual — which could make it a "destination center," said Webb. The space may also be suited for a pet store, an apparel store or a soft goods store.

Webb calls 10-year-old Slaters Lane a "retail model" because those shops feed off each other. "I think it's a wonderful example; it's more traditional of what retail is."

And how retail synergizes with other retail is vital to a center's success, according to Rose. Cars driving in just one direction on N. Henry may present a challenge for these retailers; and just one-half a block behind the store frontage there offers no store visibility from the street, which means shoppers would have to hunt for the stores.

A parking lot is crucial because shoppers want to know how to get from their cars to the store front, said Rose. A parking lot — similar to those at Pentagon Row and Reston Town Center — is included in the site plans. "What you really need is to have a lot of parking and good visibility," said Rose.

Dennis Whitestone, president of the Automotive Service Garage that sits on N. Fayette, agreed: "If you want retail to succeed, you've got to have public parking." His garage may be demolished in March 2014 so that the construction can begin.

Hamer said the next meeting of the Braddock Implementation Advisory Group is in late October. The group hopes to get more feedback from the community on what they would like for the park, retail and streetscape. For more details on this issue, contact Nathan Imm (Planning and Zoning) at 703-746-3845 and nathan.imm@alexandriava.gov & Brandi Collins (Planning and Zoning) at 703-746-3854 and brandi.collins@alexandriava.gov.

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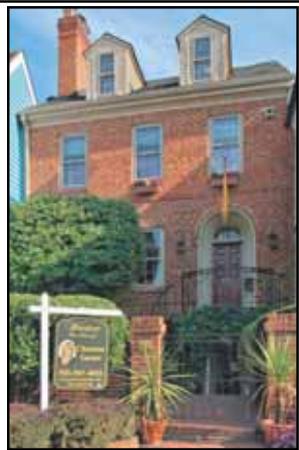


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PEOPLE



Jay Palermino wishes Vola Lawson a happy birthday.



Ferdinand Day and Vola Lawson listen to remarks from MetroStage Artistic Director Carolyn Griffin.

PHOTOS BY JEANNE THEISMANN/GAZETTE PACKET

Oh, What a Night Vola Lawson feted at MetroStage reception.

Former City Manager Vola Lawson celebrated her 79th birthday Sept. 14 at a Living Legends of Alexandria Theater Night reception at MetroStage.

“What a wonderful way to spend a birthday, with so many old friends and family,” said Lawson, who was named a Living Legend of Alexandria in 2007. “And ‘Gee’s Bend’ was magnificent. It’s an incredible play about strong black women of the south.”

Nearly 100 people gathered to celebrate Lawson’s birthday, including 17 of Alexandria’s Living Legends. Attendees enjoyed a pre-show reception before see-

ing a performance of “Gee’s Bend,” a play about an African American community in rural Alabama that gained prominence during the Civil Rights struggle of the ‘60s.

“This is a story that needs to be told,” said Lawson, who was a key player in Alexandria’s own Civil Rights movement. “I am thrilled that so many people turned out to see this play and share in celebrating my birthday. All in all it was a terrific night.”

— JEANNE THEISMANN

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Mayor William D. Euille welcomes everyone to the Sept. 11 Remembrance Ceremony, reminding everyone of the importance of the day. He subsequently introduced each guest speaker and part of the ceremony.



Sheriff Dana Lawhorne was the first speaker. He encouraged everyone to take the time to visit a memorial and to actively remember what happened, bearing witness to the past and honoring those lives that were lost.



Police Chief Earl Cook was the second guest speaker. He emphasized the selflessness and the sacrifice of those lost on September 11.

Remembering 9-11

After ringing the bell, Taps was played by Lt. Matt Craig of the Alexandria Fire Department. Bell ringers included City Manager Rashad M. Young, EMS Supervisor Bryan Meckes, Fire Lt. John Silverwood, Police Officer Gustavo Paulino and Deputy Sheriff Toyia Brown.

PHOTOS BY
RENÉE RUGGLES
GAZETTE PACKET



EMS Supervisor Bryan Meckes salutes after ringing the bell during the Return to Quarters Ceremony. To his right is City Manager Rashad M. Young.



Deputy Sheriff Toyia Brown quietly rings the bell five times as City Manager Rashad M. Young, the first bell ringer, watches.



The Alexandria Fire, Police, and Sheriff Joint Honor Guard prepares to present the colors.

Captain Don Hayes, of the Alexandria Police Department, delivers the invocation.



Members of the local Daughters of the American Revolution chapters attended the Constitution Week Proclamation ceremony on Sept. 10 in Council Chambers. Celebrating the Constitution dates back to 1956, when the DAR petitioned Congress to do so. The aim is to get people involved in understanding, sharing, and preserving the Constitution, as well as having events that draw in the community and encourage children to participate.



Mayor William Euille reads the proclamation declaring Sept. 17-23, 2013 as Constitution Week. He talked about pillars of character, the importance of the Constitution, and getting children involved. Euille noted that he once attended the Lyles-Crouch Traditional Academy, while he shared the stage with some of its current 5th grade students.

Celebrating Constitution Week



Acting ACPS Superintendent Dr. Margaret Walsh attended the Constitution Week Proclamation Signing. She stopped to greet the students and talked to Lyles-Crouch teacher Jedd Stein. Also in attendance was Alexandria School Board Chair Karen Graf.



Linda Greenberg, DAR Member (John Alexander Chapter), is the chairperson of the Constitution Week event, as well as serving as historian. She greeted the audience and gave them an overview of the ceremony.



Mayor William Euille posed for group photos with students from all of the schools that attended the ceremony.

PHOTOS BY RENÉE RUGGLES/
GAZETTE PACKET



Students from Lyles-Crouch Traditional Academy participated in the ceremony. Standing in their aisle seats, they sang a version of the Preamble, arranged by their Music Teacher, Debra Lindsay.



Students from Lyles-Crouch Traditional Academy take the stage and perform "The Bill of Rights Rap" led by Debra Lindsay, who also arranged the piece.

Determining How To Maintain City's Public Art

Condition of artworks assessed.

BY MICHAEL McMORROW
GAZETTE PACKET

Many of Alexandria's outdoor works of art have fallen into degrees of disrepair. During spring of this year, a specialized contractor was engaged to determine the condition of, and needed remedial work for, 27 such pieces.

Conservation Solutions, Inc. (CSI), Forestville, Md., was one of four firms provided a request for proposals.

Setting to work immediately, its "conservation assessment report," dated Aug. 19, 2013, has been delivered to the city's Department of Recreation, Parks & Cultural Activities' Office of the Arts and is being evaluated internally. The report has been shared with the city's Commission for the Arts for its internal review. In a month or two, the office will formally present the report to the commission at a

public meeting. By that time, arrangements will be in place inviting the public's input on the report, as well as on related comments and suggestions by both staffs.

CSI's report discusses 18 public and nine private art pieces, including sculptures, murals, plaques, fountains and gardens. The condition of each work is designated Excellent, Good, Fair, Poor, or Deteriorated. Separate rankings of priority are Low, Medium and High. According to Diane Ruggiero, director of the Office of the Arts, CSI's report offers underpinning for development of a "master plan" to include long-range maintenance plans and a schedule for conservation.

Ruggiero joined the Department of Recreation, Parks & Cultural Activities less than one year ago. Her experience involved work in private organizations and city government.

Ruggiero explains a basic difference. "When working for a nonprofit, the focus is on the artist, and often with only a single medium of art. With a municipality, the focus is on the community-at-large, and all forms of artistic ex-



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Dianne Ruggiero, Director, Office of the Arts

pression are considered." She is confident that both avenues have prepared her for the responsibilities found in Alexandria.

Asked about "long-range plans" for the office, Ruggiero said the first year — and likely several months more — is a period of "getting to know the local lay of the land." Artistic resources in the community and the desires of the whole community must be assayed before large-scale plans can be prepared. Meanwhile, many projects begun in the Office before her arrival must be com-

Diane Ruggiero

Director, Alexandria's Office of the Arts

Education: University of North Carolina Charlotte, undergraduate degree in art history and museum studies, graduate degree in art administration.

Experience: Administrator of several nonprofit art-oriented organizations in Asheville, N.C.; arts and culture staff, City of Asheville, N.C.

Alexandria: Assumed present position 10 months ago.

Goal: "I want everyone in Alexandria to participate in the public arts life of the city and to tell us how we can assist them in doing that."

An invitation: Unknown numbers of Alexandria's public art works, markers, plaques, monuments and the like have been lost, forgotten, or ill-maintained. Any resident knowing of such things should contact the Office to assure that every item is recorded on the inventory. Only then can appropriate action can be considered.

Contact: www.alexandriava.gov/arts



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Alexandria Gazette Packet



Living Legends of Alexandria
Call for Nominations
Deadline: October 15

Who do you know whose vision and energy has improved life in Alexandria? Living Legends of Alexandria is seeking nominations in order to recognize Alexandria's Living Legends through 2014.

There are two nomination categories:

- (1) Those who have contributed at least one tangible improvement to the quality of the city's life that would likely be missing without this person's vision and energy.
- (2) Those demonstrating exemplary service to the city over ten years or more, especially service on Boards, Commissions, Committees or Service Organizations that improve the quality of life in Alexandria.

Nominees must live or work in Alexandria. Those currently running for or holding political office are not eligible for consideration. The contributions of City employees must be beyond the responsibilities of their jobs.

See www.AlexandriaLegends.com or call 703-625-8191 for a nomination form. Send your nominations no later than October 15th to Legends@AlexandriaLegends.com (email preferred) or Living Legends, P.O. Box 10485, Alexandria, VA 22310.

Special thanks to

Alexandria Gazette Packet

Living Legends Founding Media Sponsor

OPINION

Addressing Virginia's Economy

Ending gridlock in Congress and supporting health care reform would be huge steps in supporting economic recovery in Virginia.

The strength of Virginia's economy, especially Northern Virginia's economy, comes significantly from federal spending.

So while the governor and other elected officials claim that Virginia's success is because Virginia is a low-tax state with fewer regulations, it's worth considering that the sequester and continuing gridlock in Congress threaten Virginia's most important resource, federal spending.

Virginia receives more federal money per capita than any other state except Alaska. Virginia received \$136 billion in federal funds in

2010, more than \$17,000 from the feds per capita, and paid \$2,807 per capita in federal income taxes. (Data from Consolidated Federal Funds Report for Fiscal Year 2010 by state and county from the Census Bureau.)

EDITORIAL

Two examples: \$1.3 billion in federal transportation money came to Virginia. Virginia was on the receiving end of more than \$5,000 per capita in defense spending.

Current Virginia elected officials have barricaded the doors against expansion of an industry that would add more than 30,000 quality jobs in Virginia at no cost to taxpayers. The

expansion of Medicaid, which would provide healthcare to as many as 400,000 Virginians who currently cannot afford health insurance, would give Virginia's economy a significant boost, and create more than 30,000 jobs. Virginia taxpayers will still pay the taxes that will fund the expansion of Medicaid in other states without reaping the benefits of a healthier population and economic stimulus.

Private sector growth in Virginia depends on its educated and sophisticated workforce, on top school systems and universities. It depends on reliable transportation systems and access to high-speed Internet. And it depends on continuing to attract federal contracting dollars.

Virginia's U.S. Senators Tim Kaine and Mark Warner both work in the best interests of the commonwealth when they work to promote a culture of moderation and compromise in Congress.

A Senior's Passion for Art and Aviation

BY DAVID PASS
SSA FRIENDLY VISITOR

In the fall of last year, I received an intriguing letter from AARP informing me of Senior Services of Alexandria's "Friendly Visitor Program" for seniors who are housebound, isolated with no local friends or family. Having observed how my own mother relished company when she was in an Assisted Living environment, I decided that volunteering my time to help a senior citizen would be a rewarding experience. What I didn't realize at the time was just how rewarding this experience would become for me personally.

The program assigned me to Dick Hurley who resides at an area Skilled Nursing Facility. Uncertain as to my role as a "Friendly Visitor," I soon discovered that my just showing interest was enough for Mr. Hurley, and I too fell easily into a conversation about

current events, his experience as a pilot in Vietnam, and his particular passion for planes. As I soon learned, Mr. Hurley's passion for and deep knowledge of airplanes was no accident. After serving in Vietnam, he spent 30 years as a pilot for American Airlines. What was most fascinating to me was that Mr. Hurley was also an accomplished self-taught artist who not only painted airplanes in meticulous detail, but also illustrated historic trains, buses and trolleys. His artwork had already been featured in several airline magazines and transportation journals. Being a native of Washington D.C., he could identify practically every type of bus, train and trolley that had wound its way through the District of Columbia dating back to the late 19th century.

This past month, Mr. Hurley, as well as other area seniors, were invited to participate in the "Young at Art" Art Exhibition, sponsored by Senior Services of Alexandria and the Goodwin House Foundation. Mr. Hurley submitted a wonderful illustration of President Harry Truman's plane, the "Independence," named



David Pass

after Truman's hometown in Independence, Mo. The bald eagle design painted on the nose of the "Independence" was chosen personally by President Truman. The "Independence" and its predecessor the "Sacred Cow" which Truman used for 2 years

after President Roosevelt died, were the first planes to be officially designated as "Air Force One." Both planes had distinctive histories. President Truman signed the National Security Act of 1947 creating the U.S. Air Force on the "Sacred Cow" and later flew to Wake Island on the "Independence" to discuss Phase II of the Korean War with Douglas MacArthur.

As I learned from Dick Hurley, every plane, trolley, train or bus has its own unique history and personality. The same is true of seniors. Everyone has a special story to tell and as you get older, it's more important than ever to share that story. By listening to Mr. Hurley's story and sharing common interests, I've had the good fortune of forming what I hope is a lasting friendship.

If you're young or old and interested in be-

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

More on Street Light Issue

To the Editor:

I thought I should add some information that I have discovered in my battle to get the street lights on in Alexandria. This has been a project of mine for at least the last five years so it is not a new problem, just a problem that is getting much worse.

This summer, a Dominion Virginia Electric employee mentioned to me that there are thousands of street lights out in Alexandria. Dominion Virginia Electric knows of the outages but these are not a priority.



President Harry Truman's airplane, named the "Independence."

coming a "Friendly Visitor," you too may contact Senior Services of Alexandria by calling 703-836-4414, ext. 20 or email friendlyvisitor@seniorservicesalex.org. And, if you're interested in viewing stimulating and refreshing art, visit the "Young at Art" Exhibit at the Durant Art Center on 1605 Cameron Street in Alexandria. This is a juried exhibition where judges will vote on the best paintings and illustrations. My vote is for Mr. Hurley and the "Independence," but I admit, I may be a little biased. The exhibition will remain at the Durant Center until January 22, 2014.

(Just an aside, they have hired contractors to install the new meters at each of our homes.)

City personnel also mentioned to me that they are unable to get action from Dominion Virginia Electric on this issue. So, I did just a little research and found the State Corporation Commission, which oversees utility companies in the state. I placed a request/complaint with this entity. This seems to have had some impact. During my last call to Dominion Virginia Electric the call taker mentioned she could see that I had contacted The State Corporation Commission. I assured her that I had. My request repair was handled in record time.

I am able to get the pole number/address if
SEE LETTERS, PAGE 11

Alexandria
Gazette Packet

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OPINION

Never Forget

Sept. 20 is POW/MIA Recognition Day

By JIM GLASSMAN
VIETNAM VETERAN AND COMMANDER, AMERICAN
LEGION POST 24

Those who have served and those currently serving in the armed forces of the United States are ever mindful that the sweetness of enduring peace has always been tainted by the bitterness of personal sacrifice. We are compelled to never forget that while we enjoy our daily pleasures, there are others who have endured and may still be enduring the agonies of pain, deprivation and imprisonment.

Friday, Sept. 20, is designated as POW/MIA Recognition Day, a day to remember the service and suffering of American prisoners of war, those still missing in action and their families from all wars and conflicts involving the United States. It is a day to honor them and to reaffirm our country's commitment for a full accounting of their fate.

According to statistics from the Department of Defense Prisoner of War-Missing in Action Office, there are over 83,000 Americans missing in action. This includes 73,681 from World War II; 7,947 from the Korean War; 126 during the Cold War; 1,657 from the Vietnam War; and six from Iraq and other conflicts.

The POW/MIA issue is of paramount concern to The American Legion. The American Legion is com-



Post 24 Commander Jim Glassman

mitted to achieving a full accounting of all POW/MIAs. This means returning living POWs, the repatriation of their remains, or finding convincing evidence why neither of these is possible.

The Alexandria Post 24 American Legion Family remembers the loss of our comrades by placing a POW/MIA table in our post home and by having a POW/MIA Empty Chair at all of our official meetings

as a physical symbol of our comrades who are not here with us. We do this to remember them and as a way of saying they will never be forgotten.

You will see many POW/MIA flags flying on this day in communities across America. America must remember and continue to seek closure for those listed as missing. America must never forget those who answered the call to fight for justice, freedom and democracy.

I hope that everyone who reads this will pause on Friday and say a prayer not only for those still unaccounted for, but also for their families, who live in hope of someday knowing the fate of their loved ones. We must always be mindful and, as a nation, we must never forget them.

Our missing comrades will never be forgotten as long as there are those who keep their memories alive.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

FROM PAGE 10

it is some place I walk and have a means to record the information. As I have explained to the Dominion Virginia Electric call taker, it is unreasonable to ask me to stop at every street light pole that is out to get a pole number/address, besides the fact that some of the poles are in front of empty lots without a visible address. They will take a general location.

For those who want to fight this battle, place a complaint at The State Corporation Commission website. I am hoping that with more complaints they will get Dominion Virginia Electric moving to get our street lights working. I hope our city government will also place a request/complaint with this entity.

Dominion Virginia Electric
Dominion Virginia Power & Dominion North Carolina Power
1-866-DOM-HELP (1-866-366-4357)

<https://www.dom.com/dominion-virginia-power/customer-service/power-outages/report-a-streetlight-outage.jsp>

and
The State Corporation Commission over sees the utilities in Virginia. Here is the link to its website where you can file complaints:

<http://www.scc.virginia.gov/pue/complaint.aspx>

Carolyn Griglione
Alexandria

Increase Security

To the Editor:

The latest shooting incident at the Navy Yard certainly bodes for some introspection on how to secure our numerous office buildings in Alexandria.

Some of our buildings are occupied by government agencies, thus they are reasonably secure and most likely have evacuation plans in place in the event a "shooter" comes into their space. However, the preponderance of our office buildings in Alexandria have no security or evacuation plans.

My office happens to be on the top floor (6th) of a large office building. I would like to know from my management how they would secure the building if a "shooter" decided to invade my turf. As a minimum I would like to know how the elevators could be shut down and the stairwells closed so that the chances of survival would be greatly increased.

The City Council should amend the building code ordinance to direct that all office buildings in the city have a security plan in place that insures that their tenants can be safe if they face the same situation as those individuals did at the Navy Yard.

Townsend A. Van Fleet
Alexandria

City Needs Ward System

To the Editor:

Thanks to the Gazette, it's now clear that one of my long held assumptions is backwards. Dutiful civic teachers etched it in my consciousness many years ago when I was a schoolboy. They taught me government employees are public servants.

Four separate articles in last week's Gazette revealed my neighbors and I are not being served; we are being ruled, and disdainfully too.

1. On page 1, city attorney James Banks defends using novel legal concepts to snatch private property owned by the Old Dominion Boat House. If he doesn't suc-

SEE LETTERS, PAGE 12

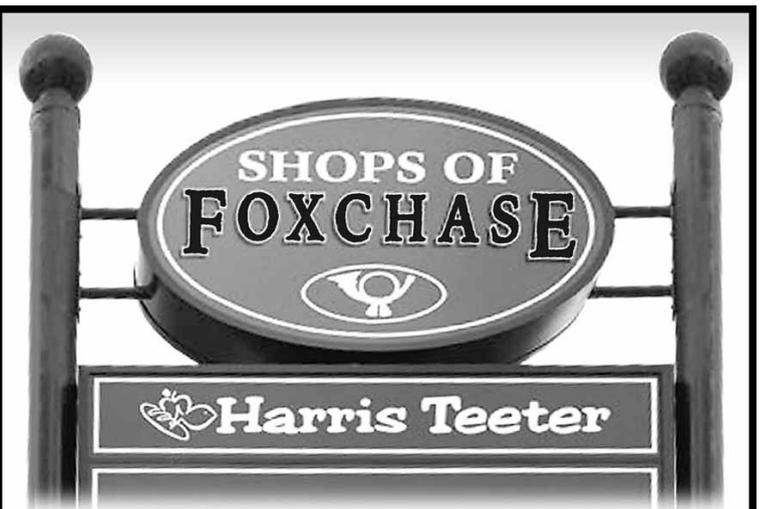
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Request for Proposals No. 00000375, Chinquapin Park Swim Center – Feasibility Study

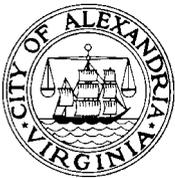
RFP Closing Date & Time: October 11, 2013 at 4 pm, prevailing local time.

Voluntary Site Visit: September 18, 2013 at 2 pm, prevailing local time at Chinquapin Park, 3210 King Street, Alexandria VA 22314.

For general inquiries contact Elaine Johnson, Admin. Support at 703-746-3925.

The City of Alexandria reserves the right to reject any and all proposals, cancel this solicitation, and to waive any informalities or irregularities in procedure.

THE CITY REQUIRES ITS CONTRACTORS TO BE EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYERS.



CITY OF ALEXANDRIA 2013 PERSONAL AND BUSINESS PROPERTY TAXES ARE DUE OCTOBER 7, 2013

Personal property taxes, decal fees and residential parking fees, if applicable, must be paid no later than October 7, 2013, to avoid late payment penalty and interest. Business property taxes must also be paid by October 7, 2013. Please see the City's website at alexandriava.gov/finance for more information.

A City license decal and residential parking decal, if applicable, were mailed with the personal property tax bills to most residents. The City license decal should be removed from the back of the bill and applied inside the front windshield next to the vehicle inspection decal. The residential parking decal should be applied to the driver's side rear bumper.

Pay by credit card or eCheck on the City's website at alexandriava.gov/payments, in person at City Hall or at any SunTrust Bank Branch located in the City. Personal property tax payments can also be mailed to City of Alexandria, PO Box 34710, Alexandria, VA 22334-0710. Business property tax payments can be mailed to City of Alexandria, PO Box 34901, Alexandria, VA 22334-0901. Payments can also be made with cash only at approximately 70 Global Express Cash Payment Centers conveniently located throughout Northern Virginia. For a complete list of the available cash payment centers, including Shoppers Food and Pharmacy Stores, please visit the City's website at alexandriava.gov/payments.

For vehicle assessment questions or to receive a tax bill, please email vehicletax@alexandriava.gov or call Personal Property at 703.746.3901, option 4. For business assessment questions or to receive a tax bill, please email businessstax@alexandriava.gov or call Business Tax at 703.746.3903, option 2. For payment questions, please email payments@alexandriava.gov or call the Treasury Division at 703.746.3902, option 8.

OPINION



PHOTO BY LASHAWN AVERY-SIMON/GAZETTE PACKET

'Fill the Boot'

Members of the Alexandria Fire Department collect donations to "fill the boot" on Union Street on Sept. 1, helping in the fight against muscular dystrophy. For the past 10 years, the city's firefighters have raised \$10,000-\$25,000 for the Greater Washington Muscular Dystrophy Association.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

FROM PAGE 11

ceed, then he'll use eminent domain to take this property.

2. On page 20, his deputy Chris Spera smugly proclaiming satisfaction that residents were justifiably denied service when they sought redress from the city planning staff. They stupidly failed to realize, regardless how extraordinary the circumstance, planning personnel work only during published business hours.

3. On page 3, the city transportation director Rich Baier making clear that residents were foolishly calling his office to report burned out lights illuminating city streets implying anyone in their right mind knows you're supposed to call the power company.

4. On page 3, our Forever Mayor extolling his recent trip to Taiwan saying he found the island nation so clean and charming he didn't want to come back to Alexandria.

To the foregoing, I add a personal experience. Several weeks ago, I asked a city council member (who shall remain nameless) what were the main cost drivers compelling higher fees and higher taxes to be imposed on people who work, visit or reside here. The council member had no clue.

My guess for this manifest disdain exhibited by our pretend-public servants for the hands that feed them: The Alexandria CCDP (Central Committee of the Democratic Party).

The CCDP picked our rulers in their primary that, in a town of mostly Democrats, makes the general election a waste of time. The CCDP selectees, once in office, in turn hired the pretend-public servants; the public can only pay and obey.

Time, say I, for a ward system allowing neighbors to elect neighbors to represent them. Power to the people.

Jimm Roberts
Alexandria

Politics Matters

To the Editor:

If 2013 is like the last Virginia gubernatorial election, there is a high risk that nearly two of three eligible voters will not vote. Yet elections matter, and they matter because politicians make decisions on issues that affect us all. In the interest of stronger voter turnout, here are five major issues on which our Commonwealth's gubernatorial candidates, Terry McAuliffe and Ken Cuccinelli, would lead Virginians down sharply divergent paths.

Gun control: McAuliffe supports universal background checks on all gun purchases. Cuccinelli opposes universal background checks.

Health care: McAuliffe supports

the Affordable Care Act, including Medicaid expansion that would provide health coverage for an estimated 400,000 Virginians, and jobs for 40,000 health care workers. Cuccinelli opposes the Affordable Care Act, and has fought to prevent its implementation in Virginia.

Women's rights: McAuliffe supports women's right to choose, and funding for Planned Parenthood and women's health care clinics. Cuccinelli seeks to ban abortion (including in cases of rape and incest), defund Planned Parenthood, and has co-sponsored legislation that would criminalize common forms of birth control.

LGBT rights: McAuliffe supports marriage equality while Cuccinelli opposes it. Cuccinelli has also advocated keeping laws criminalizing sodomy on the books.

Voting rights: McAuliffe seeks to protect the right to vote and encourage its practice.

Cuccinelli calls for requiring voters to show ID, knowing full well that such a rule would prevent more poor and young Virginians from voting.

Politics matters for these five reasons and so many more. Will you vote on Nov. 5?

Paul Lachelier

The writer is an educator, and lives in the Rosemont neighborhood. He can be reached at paul@letlearninglive.org.



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out to patio with waterfall and koi pond. Family room opens up to deck. 4 BD, 2 full and 2 half BA in cul-de-sac location. ~ \$685,000

1909 Sword Lane Alexandria, VA 22308

Open Sunday 2-4



New Construction only steps to Fort Hunt Park and Potomac River. 5/6 bedrooms, 5 full baths. BR/den/library on main



level. High ceilings, 2 fireplaces, copper shingles and arched roof. Backyard fenced w/deck. ~ \$1,195,000

8911 Charles Augustine Dr Alexandria, VA 22308

Open Sunday 2-4



Stunning waterfront home on the Potomac River on .86 acres in Hallowing Point. 2-level contemporary style with 4 bedrooms, 2.5



baths and 2-car garage with room to expand. Swimming pool and gardens overlook a two mile expanse of river views. ~ \$1,395,000

5813 River Drive Lorton, VA 22079

Open Sunday 2-4



Spacious, split foyer in sought after Riverside Gardens. Great location and ready for immediate move-in! New



carpet, new roof, updated kitchen and baths, with large deck just off the kitchen overlooking the large, lush backyard. ~ \$685,000

8417 Riverside Road Alexandria, VA 22308

Potomac River Views



This extraordinary French Country style home is the epitome of elegance and comfort. 8500 sq. ft. on .61 acres with



spectacular views of the Potomac River. Impeccable attention to detail. 6 BD, 4 full & 3 half BA, 3-car garage. ~ \$2,950,000

7715 Northdown Road Alexandria, VA 22308

Villa with a View



Beautiful villa with panoramic views of the Potomac River. Sited on a hill with idyllic privacy, this home features authentic Mediterranean architecture, terraced



gardens, patios, multiple French doors opening to expansive rear flagstone terrace, high ceilings, spacious rooms and incredible attention to detail. Three bedroom, four and a half baths with two car garage. ~ \$1,950,000

7608 Southdown Road Alexandria, VA 22308

Waterfront Lot in 22308



Gorgeous waterfront lot located in a premier neighborhood of luxurious, upscale homes. Stunning



views on .56 acres in a lush, serene environment. Please call for more information. ~ \$1,500,000

884 Andalusia Drive Alexandria, VA 22308

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Completely remodeled kitchen with gas range, SS appliances, tall cabinets & mineral jet countertops. New carpet, freshly



with attached bath and walk-in closet, 130 sq ft balcony. Fees include 2 parking spaces, storage unit, fitness center, water and gas. 3 BD /2BA. ~ \$309,000

51 Skyhill Road Alexandria, VA 22314

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boat access. Almost 100 feet of water frontage. Four bedrooms, 2.5 baths, 2-car garage with optional dock. Custom design to your specification and desires. ~ \$1,350,000

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Donnan C. Wintermute 703-518-6156



NEW LISTING

Arcturus On The Potomac \$1,950,000
7608 Southdown Road, Alexandria, VA 22308
A bit of the Med in Alexandria overlooking the Potomac. On a private rd of custom homes, offering European ambience, quality construction & a 64x14 stone veranda with breathtaking views.
Phyllis Patterson 703-518-6158



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River Bend Estates \$1,195,000
8911 Charles Augustine Drive, Alexandria, VA 22308
New Const only steps to Fort Hunt Pk & Potomac Rvr. End of summer complet. 5/6BR incl a main level BR w/ full BA, open kitchen with flpce, large fam rm w/ vaulted ceilings & 2CG.
Phyllis Patterson 703-518-6158



OPEN SUN 1-4PM

Rivergate in Old Town \$1,148,000
119 Montgomery Plc, Alexandria, VA 22314
Terrific Potomac Rvr lifestyle in Old Town! 3BR/4.5BA/2CG. Qual TH, open floor plan, fab kit & baths. Stroll, ride, bike, to all of Old Town, take metro bus or subway to DC.
Marie Louise Meyer 703-836-2080



Thompson House \$899,000
211 Fairfax Street A, Alexandria, VA 22314
Historic Thompson House c1780 townhouse style condo. 3BR/3.5BA, 3 levels, fin basement, 4515 sqft & brick terrace. 2 blocks from King St shops & restaurants.
The York Group 703-409-3377



Heywood Glen \$599,999
4315 Dahill Place, Alexandria, VA 22312
Lovely home, move-in condition. 4BR upper lvl, fam rm, FP, fresh paint & refin hardwoods, bsmt for expansion, deck, patio, gar, level lot, located on 2 quiet cul-de-sacs.
Lauren York - The York Group 703-409-3377



NEW LISTING

Mason Hill \$829,500
1722 Hollinwood Drive, Alexandria, VA 22307
Beautiful Center Hall Colonial in Mason Hill. This home has been updated inside & out. Chef's gourmet kitchen, 4BR/3.5 remodeled BA. Professionally landscaped yard.
Greg Doherty 703-408-5068



The Point At Twin Lakes \$699,000
219 Twin Lake Drive, Fredericksburg, VA 22401
This elegant, light-filled, 5BR/4BA home is an easy commute via Fredericksburg's VRE. Enjoy country living with conv access to DC, Alexandria & Ft. Belvoir.
Kevin Harold Posey 703-628-5823



Ridge View \$449,900
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Surprisingly quiet and convenient home less than a 2-mile drive from Huntington Metro's parking garage. Mature flowering cherry trees, fenced backyard, and hardwood floors.
Kevin Harold Posey 703-628-5823



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Stratford On The Potomac \$609,000
8410 Camden Street, Alexandria, VA 22308
4BR/3FBA house. Gorgeous, remodeled home in Stratford! Spectacular gourmet kitchen, open plan, luxurious BAs, flooring & more! See www.8410Camden.com for photos and more info.
Rachel Carter 703-851-4207



JUST REDUCED

Alexandria \$469,000
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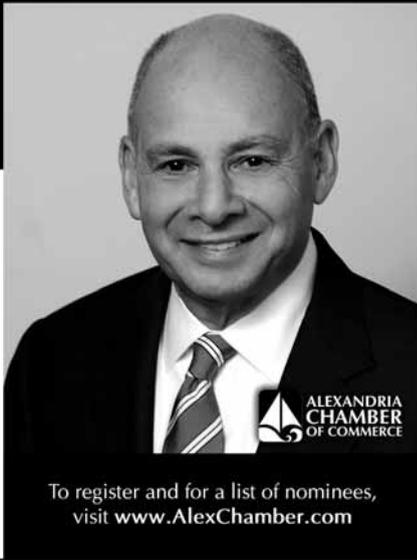
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OBITUARY

Catharine Delaney Garber

Catharine Delaney Garber, a native of Alexandria, died at home on Friday, Sept. 6, surrounded by her family. Mrs. Garber was born in her family's home across from Christ Church in Old Town in 1913. She was delivered by her father Dr. Martin D. Delaney, Sr., a prominent Alexandria doctor and surgeon for the railroads. Her mother was Catharine O'Donoghue Delaney, an Alexandria businesswoman.

Mrs. Garber loved telling stories about the Alexandria history she had witnessed in her 100 years. As a child, she and her brothers — Martin, Paul and Morgan Delaney — walked up Shooter's Hill to play before the Masonic Temple was built.

For over 60 years, she ran one of Alexandria's few woman-owned businesses, Delaney Realty. She was baptized in St Mary's Catholic Church and remained an active



Garber

member until her death. When her children attended St Mary's School, she painted murals for the teachers and was responsible for starting the first St. Mary's Fair.

Mrs. Garber was very proud of her strong connection to the U.S. fight for independence. Her

forebears included Commodore John Barry, father of the American Navy and a leading Irish-American officer in the American Revolution.

Mrs. Garber attended Georgetown Visitation Junior College and Corcoran School of Art and was a talented water colorist. An avid equestrian, she rode most of the Washington area's pre-automobile era trails, including in Rock Creek Park. She also loved golf and fishing.

Mrs. Garber is survived by her two daughters, Catherine Webster and Margaret Bourjaily, her seven grandchildren and 11 great grandchildren.

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2714 Kenwood Avenue.

Weichert Realtors

Dave Lloyd & Associates
703-593-3204
www.davelloyd.net



BULLETIN

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

SATURDAY/SEPT. 21

Training Session. 10-11:30 a.m. in the Alexandria Archaeology Museum, 105 N. Union St. #327. Transcribe pieces of a diary from the Civil War. Free, but reservations required, www.alexandriarchaeology.org or 703-746-4719.

YoKid Yoga Challenge. 2-5 p.m. at Mount Vernon Rec Center, 2701 Commonwealth Ave. Children and families can participate in yoga poses, healthy eating activities and more. No yoga experience necessary. Free, and the first 200 registrants will receive a free yoga mat. Visit www.yokid.org for more.

Tag Day. T.C. Williams High School students will go door-to-door seeking donations for the band program. Donations this year will help send the Marching Tigers to the Sugar Bowl in New Orleans in January. If no one is home, a tag will be left with information on how to donate to the program.

Bishop Ireton Varsity Cheerleading Clinic. Girls in grades 1st - 8th grades will learn cheerleading and perform in a real football game with Bishop Ireton varsity nationally ranked cheerleaders. 9 a.m.-3p.m. at Bishop Ireton High School gym, 201 Cambridge Road. Game starts at 2 p.m. \$50 registration fee includes t-shirt, pizza lunch and performance at game. For more information and to register contact bicheerclinic@hotmail.com.

Potomac Yard Development Update. 8-10 a.m. at Pulte Homes SEE BULLETIN BOARD, PAGE 32

FREE REMODELING & DESIGN SEMINARS!

Celebrate 25th Anniversary

Sat., Sept. 28th — 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:

- From Concept to Completion
- Apples to Apples – Thinking your project through? How do you compare?
- Universal Design: Planning Ahead

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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ALEXANDRIA GAZETTE PACKET ♦ SEPTEMBER 19-25, 2013 ♦ 17

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8520 Highland Ln
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 Must see to believe-brand new home by leading custom builder intended for family member but circumstances changed. Result-unique opportunity to acquire top quality new SFH for less than a townhouse or used home. Features include: dramatic open interior, luxury kitchen & baths, screen porch, two car garage. Stone and stucco exterior. Prime location on quiet street. **OPEN SUN 9/22, 1-4! Rte 1 South; R-Highland Ln.**

4300 Sheridans Point Ct
 \$875,000
Elegant Georgian Colonial!
 Abundant custom enhancements make this property a true showplace. 3 fin levels, open fr plan, updated kitchen and baths, sunroom, magnificent custom trim detail, luxury MBR, recently finished LL. Fab setting on private grounds. Huge deck and 2 car garage. Hard to find home with this size and luxurious appointments under \$1,000,000. **OPEN SUN 9/22, 1-4! GW Prky S, past Estate; R-Peartree; R-Sheridans Point.**

9412 Old Mount Vernon Rd
 \$1,295,000
Craftsman Masterpiece!
 Former model by Wakefield Homes loaded with options and upgrades. Many fabulous features include: open floor plan, high ceilings, three finished levels, 4 bedrooms, 4.5 baths, gourmet kitchen, 2 car garage. Gorgeous location on elevated lot with extensive landscaping and custom stonework. Priced thousands below current price list. **OPEN SUN 9/22, 1-4! GW Pky S, past Estate; L-Old Mt Vernon Rd.**

8412 Washington Ave
 \$469,900
True One Story - No Stairs!
 Expanded Rambler on level lot in prime Mt. Vernon location. Major updates include: thermal windows, kitchen, baths, furnace, electrical panel, siding, gutters and more—in short, almost everything! Family room with fireplace and private master suite. Large back covered deck. **OPEN SUN 9/22, 1-4! GW Pky S, past Estate; R-Old Mt Vernon Rd; L-Woodley Dr; R-Washington Ave.**

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!

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.

1503 River Farm Dr
 \$1,395,000
Grand Colonial Minutes from Old Town!
 Best price for Estate caliber residence in highly sought after GW Parkway area! Special home custom designed to capitalize on its park like setting and seasonal River views. Special features include 3 fin levels, w/o LL, 5BRs with dual master suites, expansive glass walls, multi-level deck and amazing four car garage. Combination of size, features & location add up to a truly unique value!

9124 Volunteer Dr
 \$649,900
Updated and Expanded with 3 Car Garage!
 Fabulous 5BR home in the heart of Mt. Vernon. Stately presence with columned Portico. Recent renovations include designer kit with "Lineadecor" cabinets, top of line appli, gas cooktop & custom granite. Brightness of kitchen enhanced by opening to glass walled sunroom. Other features: thermal windows, hdwd flrs, 2FP, updated baths.

Real Estate Scholarships for the Military

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Wes Foster, founder, chairman and chief executive officer of The Long & Foster Companies is no stranger to military service. A veteran himself, Wes has chosen to demonstrate his gratitude to those who serve in the US Military by providing active duty personnel, honorably discharged veterans and the spouses of both groups with scholarships for real estate licensing classes so they can transition to a career in real estate.

To learn more about the P. Wesley Foster Military Service Scholarship, contact your local Long & Foster office.

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Thanks to all of you who have served in the Military. Please feel free to give me a call if you have questions about the Military Scholarship Program. I am also available to meet with you to discuss a career in the Real Estate industry.

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125 CAMERON MEWS
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 \$1,199,500
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 \$554,000
1250 S WASHINGTON
 #404 - PRICE REDUCED-Exceptional value. Spacious 2BR/2BA... Over 1,400 sq. ft. overlooking Hunting Creek and golf course. Cherry cabinets, granite, stainless kitchen, very generous room sizes. Open balcony and glorious sunsets. Motivated Seller! ** Also 1BR/1BA for lease, #607, \$2,500/mo.

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Mary Taylor 703.785.5619

\$739,000
 Alex. / Cameron Sta
"SPACIOUS"
 Airy and open 4 level home with bump outs on each level. Beautiful updates feature granite, stone backsplash, SSA, custom island, Dacor cooktop, breakfast room in the kitchen with adjacent family room and deck access. The upper levels have 4BR/3BA including a grand owner's suite. Lots of windows. Wood floors on 2 levels. 2 gas fireplaces. Plantation shutters thru-out the home. Fenced yard with stone patio.

Mike Lekas 703.927.9895

\$539,900
 Springfield
"UPGRADED"
 4BR/2.5BA home on cul-de-sac with front porch and rear deck overlooking trees in landscaped backyard. Upgrades between 2013-2004 include: new roof, interior professionally painted, washer, family room carpet, appliances and HVAC. Family room off kitchen has wood fireplace and sliding glass doors to deck and patio. Hardwoods in kitchen. Lower level is 1,000 sq. ft. 2 car garage.

Sheryl Lambson 703.217.7012

OPEN SUNDAY 1 - 4!
 \$525,000
Alexandria
800 N JORDAN ST
 Gorgeously updated 2 level, 3BR/2BA rambler in Bellewood-Seminary Valley! New kitchen cabinets, appliances and granite; refinished hardwoods thru-out; updated baths; finished Lower level with 9ft ceilings and double paned replacement windows. New HE HVAC, 200 amp service. 1/3 acre fenced lot.

Sean Satkus 703.731.8086

OPEN SUNDAY 1 - 4!
 \$429,900
Fairfax
4226 FOX LAKE DR
 Charming 4BR/3.5BA brick front TH in sought after Fair Ridge includes eat-in kitchen with granite, spacious living/dining areas with lots of natural light, sizable den with gas fireplace, large master with adjoining bath, generous closet space and gorgeous views of outdoors. The exterior impresses with oversized deck on main level and cozy patio leading to a quaint fenced backyard on

Marc Foster 202.550.6042

\$679,000
Arlington
"LOCATION"
 Beautiful pristine townhome in prestigious enclave of deluxe townhomes with garages and elevators - 3 levels, with walkout LL and private secure patio garden - 2 master suites/baths - dramatic 12' ceiling in Living! Dining rooms - 2 fireplaces - fully finished LL with spacious Family room, wet bar - Sunfilled rooms, light and bright - many upgrades - ceiling fans - Ideal location to Pentagon and more!

Franki Roberts 703.898.0840

\$322,500
 Alexandria
"A GREAT PLACE TO START"
 3 level, 2BR/2FBA well cared for duplex with many updates and improvements throughout. Small family room on main level off the kitchen. Great rec room with separate den or hobby room on lower level. Room for addition on this nice level fenced yard. Convenient location and close to everything. Off-street parking. MUST SEE!

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Arl. / Falls Church
"SINGLE FAMILY HOME"
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Margaret Ruhe 703.599.7527

\$469,000
 Alexandria
"NEAR METRO"
 REDUCED! Lovely 3 level brick townhouse less than 1 mile to King St Metro, Whole Foods, PTO and Old Town's shops and eateries. 2BR/1BA upstairs plus walk-out LL with 1BR/1FBA or family room option. Beautiful hardwood floors, newer windows, fresh paint, attic space, covered porch off the dining room. Large backyard with driveway parking.

Call for more information:
Deborah Alea 703.447.1315

OPEN SUNDAY 1 - 4!
 \$579,000
Old Town / Westover
1141 COLONIAL AVE
 Must see this nicely remodeled and expanded TH in popular Westover! 3BR/2BA, large open kitchen with island, deck, screened porch, LL rec room with walk-out and more. Short, easy walk to Metro, bike path, and Old Town. 2 lights to DC!

Dayna Blumel / Kerry Adams 703.587.7841

*Source: Information based on data supplied by MRIS 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 MRIS or Long and Foster Real Estate Inc. ©2013 All rights reserved.

ENTERTAINMENT



PHOTOS BY CHRIS BANKS

Anthony Manough as Macon and Roz White as Sadie in the MetroStage production of "Gee's Bend."



Roz White (Sadie), Margo Moorer (Nella) and Duyen Washington (Alice).

A Stitch in Time

Powerful "Gee's Bend" debuts at MetroStage.

BY JEANNE THEISMANN
GAZETTE PACKET

It's officially known as Boykin, Ala., with a population of 275. But the former slave plantation on the banks of the Alabama River gained prominence as Gee's Bend, an isolated African American community known for the role its folk art quilts played in the struggle for Civil Rights.

Making its Washington area debut at MetroStage is the powerful "Gee's Bend," Elizabeth Gregory Wilder's story of the quilters of Gee's Bend and their determination to overcome crippling poverty and

racism.

Commissioned by the Alabama Shakespeare Festival in 2006, the story begins in 1939, when the families of Gee's Bend become landowners, and follows the central character of Sadie Pettway through the trials of marriage and racial indignities. Together with her mother Alice and sister Nella, Sadie perseveres, inspired by a visit from Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. in 1965 and the discovery of her quilts by a local minister.

"Dr. King gave the sermon of a lifetime in Gee's Bend," said Arlie Schardt, a Time Magazine reporter who traveled throughout the south with King and attended the

Sept. 15 performance at MetroStage. "It was a horribly stormy night and with the roads washed out, he knew the Klan was waiting for him. But he went anyway and infused everyone with courage, dignity and hope in what was the most inspiring talk we ever heard him give."

Also in attendance was Peggy Treadwell, cousin of Francis X. Walter, the Episcopalian priest who founded the quilting co-op to help foster economic independence for the women of Gee's Bend.

"Francis was the rector of a black church near Gee's Bend and saw these incredible quilts hanging on a line," Treadwell said. "But when he approached the house to ask about them, everyone scattered into the woods because they were so afraid of a white man. But Francis sat there and waited, literally for hours, he was so intent on learning more about the quilts."

Walters' discovery of the quilts transformed the lives of the women of Gee's Bend, as adeptly chronicled in Wilder's script, directed at MetroStage by Thomas Jones and starring Roz White as Sadie, Margo Moorer as Nella, and Duyen Washington in the dual role of Sadie's mother Alice and later as Sadie's daughter Asia. Rounding out the cast is Anthony Manough as Macon, Sadie's husband.

Betsy Muller's rustic setting reflects the artistry of the quilts and costumes by Janine Sunday define the ages of the characters over the years. But it's the hauntingly beautiful score of gospel melodies under the direction of William Hubbard and William Knowles that makes this production soar.

As Sadie, White anchors the incomparable cast and transitions beautifully from young naïf to long-suffering wife to bloodied participant in the March on Selma.

Moorer is sassy as sister Nella, reprising her dynamic performance from the original production. Washington and Manough complete the tour de force ensemble that pays homage to the resilience of the African American spirit in times of struggle.

"This is a magnificent play," Schardt said. "It captured a rare moment in the Civil Rights movement that got little coverage at the time. It was a thrill to see it."

Today, the quilts crafted in Gee's Bend command high prices and line the walls of museums. They can also be seen in the MetroStage production that brilliantly stitches together a powerful story of triumph.

"Gee's Bend" plays through Nov. 3 at MetroStage, 1201 N. Royal St., Alexandria. For tickets or more information, call 703-548-9044 or visit www.metrostage.org.

CALENDAR

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

ONGOING

Art Exhibit. Through Sunday, Sept. 29, see "In the Flesh 4" at the Target Gallery in the Torpedo Factory Art Center, 105 N. Union St. The exhibit examines contemporary figurative art. Free. Visit www.torpedofactory.org/target.

Art Exhibit. Through Sunday, Oct. 6, see "Voyage in Tangible Space" by Mei Mei Chang at the Schlesinger Center Margaret W. & Joseph L. Fisher Gallery, 3001 N. Beauregard St. It is a mixed media exhibit. Free. Visit www.nvcc.edu/schlesingercenter/gallery.html for more information.

Art Exhibit. See "Collaborations" through Oct. 20 at Potomac Fiber

Arts Gallery in Studio 18 of the Torpedo Factory Art Center, 105 N. Union St. Artists share inspirations to create pieces combining the input of two or more artists. It is open from 10 a.m.-6 p.m. everyday except on Thursdays when it is open from 10 a.m.-9 p.m. Visit www.potomacfiberartsgallery.com for more.

Art Exhibit. See "Deep, Full, and Not Quite Real" at The Athenaeum Gallery, 201 Prince St., through Oct. 20. Features four artists exploring concepts of depth and three-dimensionality. Visit <http://www.nvfaa.org/> for more.

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

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.

The Marshall House Incident Exhibition. Through 2013 at Fort Ward Museum, 4301 West Braddock Road. The museum is open Tuesday through Saturday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m., and Sunday, noon-5 p.m. Visit www.fortward.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 workshop held on the last Sunday of each month, except December. No reservations. Call 703-683-2205.

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.
African American Activists Exhibition. Through Saturday, Jan. 4, 2014, 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.

Occupied City: Life in Civil War Alexandria Exhibition. At The Lyceum, 201 South Washington St., through Sunday, March 23, 2014. 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

ENTERTAINMENT

admission is \$2. Visit www.alexandriahistory.org or call 703-746-4994.

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.

Art Exhibit. See the second Front Porch Installation by Ned Egan. "Leci n'est pas une Magrite" is on display at 18 W. Linden St.

CLASSES & WORKSHOPS

Fall Theater Classes. Children ages 6-7 can enjoy a theater class and pretend to be all sorts of characters on Mondays, starting Sept. 16, 4:30-5:30 p.m. at The Little Theatre of Alexandria. \$135 for the 8-week class. Register at www.thelittletheatre.com or 703-683-5778 ext. 2. Classes available for all ages and days.

Learn How to Make Pasta.

Saturday, Sept. 21 at 11 a.m. at Osteria Marzano, 6361 Walker Lane. Learn how to make the dishes with Chef Carmine Marzano and then dine on the food you've made. \$85/person. RSVP with name, number of participants, and contact info to info@osteriamarzano.com.

Learn How to Make Sicilian Food.

Saturday, Oct. 12 at 11 a.m. at Osteria Marzano, 6361 Walker Lane. Learn how to make the dishes with Chef Carmine Marzano and then dine on the food you've made. \$85/person. RSVP with name, number of participants, and contact info to info@osteriamarzano.com.

Registration Still Open. The Art League School has openings in more than 200 classes and 50 workshops, from painting, jewelry, photography and more. Visit www.theartleague.org to register.

THURSDAY/SEPT. 19

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.

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.

International Talk Like a Pirate Day Movie Feature. 1 p.m. at Beatley Library, 5005 Duke St. Enjoy two classic swashbuckling movies. Free. Call for titles. 703-746-1702 ext. 5.

Yappy Hour. 5:30 p.m. Artfully Chocolate, 506 John Carlye Street. Artfully Chocolate has teamed up with pet care company Paw'k Ave to create happy hours with a twist. Call 703-575-8686 or visit www.pawk-ave.com.

Paws to Read. 5:30 p.m. at Beatley Library, 5005 Duke St. Children in grades 1-6 can read to friendly dogs. Registration required, 703-746-1702 x5.

Film Series. 6 p.m. at Burke Branch Library, 4701 Seminary Road. Call for title. Free. 703-746-1704.

Pajama Party. 7 p.m. at Burke Branch Library, 4701 Seminary Road. Children ages 3-7 can come dressed in their favorite outfit/pajamas and

listen to stories. Free. 703-746-1704.

Great Books Discussion Group. 7 p.m. at Beatley Library, 5005 Duke St. Call for title. Free. 703-746-1702.

Brewing History: Beer Tasting & Dinner Menu. Enjoy dinner and a private Mansion tour at Mount Vernon Estate. There will be four courses paired with beer. \$95/person. Tickets available at mountvernon.org.

Film. 7:30 p.m. at Lloyd House, 220 N. Washington St. Watch an independent film about Captain John Singleton Mosby's combat operations in Fairfax County. Free. Call 703-746-4554 or visit www.historicalexandria.org.

FRIDAY/SEPT. 20

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.

Alexandria Poetry Slam. 7 p.m. at The Athenaeum, 201 Prince St. At 7 p.m., Tony Greenberg will perform with poetry at 8 p.m. with Shelly Bell. Free. Visit www.nvfaa.org or 703-548-0035.

Music Performance. 7:30 p.m. at Birchmere Music Hall, 3701 Mount Vernon Ave. Joe Sample & The Creole Joe Band will perform. Visit www.birchmere.com for tickets.

Community Dance and Music. 7:30-9:30 p.m. at Hollin Hall Senior Center, 1500 Shenandoah Road. Enjoy live music, dancing and refreshments. \$4/door. 703-765-4573.

FRIDAY-SUNDAY/SEPT. 20-22

Old Town Boutique District Scavenger Hunt. Visit all of the Old Town Boutique District stores and get your passport stamped to receive a swag bag and chance to win big prizes. Return the fully stamped card to Periwinkle. Visit oldtownboutiquedistrict.com to download the passport.

SATURDAY/SEPT. 21

Beatley Open House. All day at Beatley Library, 5005 Duke St. Enjoy music, face painting, book swaps and more. Free. 703-746-1702.

Lil' Pals Pet Photography. 10 a.m. at Beatley Library, 5005 Duke St. \$10/sitting fee will benefit the Friends of Beatley Library. Portrait session will take place in a climate controlled studio. 703-746-1702.

Art and Craft Fair. 10 a.m.-3 p.m. at St. James' Episcopal Church of Mount Vernon, 5614 Old Mill Road. Local artists will sell a variety of handcrafted items including musical instruments, jewelry, paintings and more. Lunch and baked goods will be sold.

Carlyle House Fashion Show. 10:30 a.m.-noon at Carlyle House Historic Park, 121 N. Fairfax St. A living-history interpreter will describe the various styles and types of clothing of the 18th and 19th centuries as they come down the runway. Enjoy a tour of the house after the show. \$10/adult; \$5/child age 5-12. Reservations recommended. Visit www.carlylehouse.org or 703-549-2297.

Vermicomposting at Home. 11 a.m. at Barrett Library, 717 Queen St. Learn about the benefits of vermicomposting and vermiculture at home. Free. 703-746-1703.

Saturday Stories. 11 a.m. at Beatley Library, 5005 Duke St. All ages can enjoy stories and songs. Free. 703-746-1702.

Opening Day Ceremony. 1 p.m. at Kelley Cares Miracle Field at Lee Center, 1108 Jefferson St. The ceremony will honor the Miracle

Baseball League players and volunteers. Registration is open for children and adults who want to play a less intense game and want to learn new skills and have fun. Visit www.miracleleagueofalexandria.com or 703-746-5402.

Theater Performance. 2 p.m. at Olde Towne Theatre, 815 King St. See a performance of "The Big Meow," adapted from the book by Elizabeth Spires. \$10-\$20/person. Visit www.oldtowntheater1914.com or 703-544-5315.

Sketching Skills Series. 2-3:30 p.m. at Huntley Meadows Park, 3701 Lockheed Blvd. Participants age 15 and older can learn how to add sketches to their nature journal. \$6/person. Register online at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/parktakes and search for keyword Sketches.

Princess Story Time Tea. 2-4 p.m. at The Grill at Morrison House, 116 S. Alfred St. Children can play dress up and enjoy an activity. Children can enjoy a pot of hot chocolate, sandwiches and more. There is an adult menu available, which includes scones, tea, smoked salmon and more. Reservations are required. \$38 for adults and \$28 for children. To book, guests can call 703-838-8000 or e-mail storytime@morrisonhouse.com.

Civil War 150th Anniversary Concert. 3 p.m. at Fort Ward Park, 4301 W. Braddock Road. There will be music by Federal City Brass Band, who will perform in period dress and play instruments of the period. Free. 703-746-4848.

Celebrate the Groveton Community. 4-6 p.m. at Historic Huntley, 6918 Harrison Lane. Meet neighbors, share memories and meet Charlotte Brown, author of "Groveton." Free. Visit www.historichuntley.org or 703-768-2525.

Music Performance. 7 p.m. at Empire, 6355 Rolling Road. Fuse Box, an Alexandria band will perform. All ages. \$10/advance; \$15/door. Visit <https://www.facebook.com/events/217029268462845/> for more.

SATURDAY-SUNDAY/SEPT. 21-22

Concert. 7:30 p.m. at the Birchmere Music Hall, 3701 Mount Vernon Ave. Richard Thompson performs. \$39.50. Call 703-549-7500 or visit www.birchmere.com.

SUNDAY/SEPT. 22

Beatley Open House. All day at Beatley Library, 5005 Duke St. Enjoy music, face painting, book swaps and more. Free. 703-746-1702.

American Doll Tea. 11 a.m. or 3 p.m. at Carlyle House, 121 N. Fairfax St. Bring doll and enjoy a tour of the museum and then food and tea. For the young and the young at heart. \$15/person. Reservations required, 703-549-2997.

Children Arts Workshop. 1-3 p.m. at The Athenaeum, 201 Prince St. Children age 6 and up can learn about 3-D drawing. Free. Visit www.nvfaa.org or 703-548-0035.

Sketching Skills Series. 2-3:30 p.m. at Huntley Meadows Park, 3701 Lockheed Blvd. Children ages 9-13 can learn how to add sketches to their nature journal. \$6/person. Register online at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/parktakes and search for keyword Sketches.

Rhythms and Roots W. African Festival. 2-5 p.m. at Mount Vernon Unitarian Church, 1909 Windmill Lane. Enjoy dancing, food, stories and more. \$15. 202-695-6651.

"Cherry Blossom" Party and Cruise. 5-8 p.m. Hosted by Old

SEE CALENDAR, PAGE 23

Le Refuge

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Mean Girls

“The Children’s Hour” at Port City Playhouse.

BY JEANNE THEISMANN
GAZETTE PACKET

In 1809, a girls’ boarding school opened in Edinburgh, Scotland, closing a few months later amid rumors involving two of its teachers. The decades-long lawsuit that followed was the inspiration for playwright Lillian Hellman, who more than a century later penned the critically acclaimed “The Children’s Hour,” now playing at Port City Playhouse.

Making its Broadway debut in 1934, Hellman’s play takes place in then present day Massachusetts, where two women, Karen Wright and Martha Dobie, run a boarding school for girls. Their lives are shattered and the school shuttered when a troublesome student, Mary Tilford, starts a rumor about the headmistresses as a way to avoid being disciplined.

Michelle McBeth as Karen and Chelsey Magli as Martha anchor a cast filled with some of the finest young high school thespians in the region. With a riveting emo-



PHOTO BY MICHAEL DEBLOIS

Classmates gather to confront Katelyn Wattendorf as Mary (center) in the Port City Playhouse production of “The Children’s Hour.”

tional intensity, the two skillfully navigate a script that highlights the extreme homophobia that was rampant in the early 20th century.

As Karen, McBeth is the more thoughtful of the two, with a poignant tenderness directed toward Martha and Joe, her fiancé. Magli is the determined but conflicted Martha, who ultimately confronts her own feelings for Karen with a bittersweet forbidden confession of love. Together, they are superb in their performance as friends facing unfounded and unrepentant harass-

ment. Carole Steele as Mrs. Amelia Tilford, Mary’s grandmother; Robin Ann Carter as Mrs. Lily Mortar, Martha’s aunt; and Ric Andersen as Karen’s fiancé Joe round out the capable and commanding adult cast.

But it’s the students that take center stage in this production, led by Hayfield High School junior Katelyn Wattendorf as the villainous Mary. Wattendorf is brilliant in her portrayal of the young student who will stop at nothing in her quest to manipulate everyone around her, including blackmail-

ing fellow classmate Rosalie, played by Jenni Patton.

Other area students appearing onstage include Burgundy Farm Country Day School eighth grader Cassie Cope as Helen, Robinson Secondary School freshman Cate Davis as Catherine, West Potomac High School freshman Paige Edwards as Leslie, Robert E. Lee High School sophomore Ellie Milewski as Evelyn, Washington-Lee junior Brandi Moore as Lois, West Potomac senior Cynthia Mullins as Peggy, and T.C. Williams’ Morgan Vaughn as Janet.

“This is an incredibly talented group of high schoolers,” said director Mark McCarver. “They absorb so much and have so much energy. And they are happy to come to work each day. They really are great to work with.”

With producer Carol Strachan at his side, McCarver has assembled an award-winning technical crew, including costume design by Kit Sibley and Jean Schlichting, sets by Raedum de Alba, lighting by Nancy Owens and sound by David Correia.

Superlatives are not enough: anyone fortunate enough to see the spellbinding Port City Playhouse production of “The Children’s Hour” will not easily forget the haunting performances of such a stellar cast.

“The Children’s Hour” plays through Sept. 28 at Port City Playhouse, 1819 N. Quaker Lane, Alexandria. For tickets or more information, visit www.PortCityPlayhouse.org.

« A Salute to the American Voice »

The Children’s Hour

written by Lillian Hellman
directed by Mark McCarver
produced by Carol Strachan

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ENTERTAINMENT

FROM PAGE 21

Town Civic Association. Board at Potomac Riverboat Company Dock behind the Torpedo Factory, 105 N. Union St. \$30/member; \$35/non-member, includes food and drink. Visit www.oldtowncivic.org or 703-489-4088.

Music Performance. 6:30 p.m. at Ireland's Own, 111 N. Pitt St. Seamus Kennedy will perform. \$15. 703-549-453.

MONDAY/SEPT. 23

Banned Book Read-Out. 4:30 p.m. at The Atheneum, 201 Prince St. Choose a passage from your favorite banned book and read aloud. Free. Visit www.nvfaa.org or 703-548-0035.

Little One-Ders. 10:30 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.

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.

Read, Sing & Play Baby. 4 p.m. at Barrett Branch Library, 717 Queen St. Children up to 11 months can enjoy stories and more. Free. 703-746-1703.

Film Series. 6 p.m. at Burke Branch Library, 4701 Seminary Road. Watch an Academy Award nominee film about a 6-year-old heroine named Hushpuppy. Free. 703-746-1704.

Author Talk. 7 p.m. at Duncan Library, 2501 Commonwealth Ave. Mary Louise Clifford will discuss her book "Drummer Boy of Company C: Coming of Age in the Civil War." Free. 703-746-1705.

TUESDAY/SEPT. 24

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.

Mother Goose Time. 10:15 a.m. at Barrett Branch Library, 717 Queen St. Children ages 12-24 months can enjoy games, rhymes and more. Free. 703-746-1703.

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.

Stories to Grow On. 11 a.m. at Barrett Branch Library, 717 Queen St. Children age 2 and up can enjoy stories and more. Free. 703-746-1703.

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.

Storytime in the Afternoon. 2 p.m. at Burke Branch Library, 4701 Seminary Road. Children ages 2-5 can enjoy stories, crafts and more. Free. 703-746-1704.

Banned Book Read Out. 2 p.m. at Beatley Library, 5005 Duke St. Staff will read aloud from their favorite banned books. Free. 703-746-1702.

Author. 7 p.m. at Beatley Library, 5005 Duke St. Alexandria author Tom Young will discuss his new book "The Warriors." Free. 703-746-1702.

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

Music Performance. 7:30 p.m. at The

Birchmere Music Hall, 3701 Mount Vernon Ave. Alejandro Escovedo performs. Visit www.birchmere.com or call 703-549-7500 for tickets.

DJ Swing Dance. 9-10:30 p.m. at Carlyle Club, 411 John Carlyle St. Free. Visit www.gottaswing.com.

WEDNESDAY/SEPT. 25

Mother Goose Time. 10:15 a.m. at Barrett Branch Library, 717 Queen St. Children ages 12-23 months can enjoy games, rhymes and more. Free. 703-746-1703.

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.

Laptime Rhythm and Rhyme. 11 a.m. at Burke Branch Library, 4701 Seminary Road. Children ages 0-18 months can enjoy movement and rhyme. Free. 703-746-1704.

Stories to Grow On. 11 a.m. at Barrett Branch Library, 717 Queen St. Children age 2 and up can enjoy stories and more. Free. 703-746-1703.

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.

Movie Matinee for Children. 4 p.m. at Burke Branch Library, 4701 Seminary Road. Children in grades K-8 can enjoy a movie with friends. Free. 703-746-1704.

Writing Triage. 6:30 p.m. at Beatley Library, 5005 Duke St. Get a resume or writing project reviewed and get suggestions on how to improve it. Free. 703-746-1742 to register.

Lego Family Night. 7 p.m. at Beatley Library, 5005 Duke St. The whole family can enjoy an evening of creative play. Free. 703-746-1702.

Concert. 7:30 p.m. at the Birchmere

Music Hall, 3701 Mount Vernon Ave. Aoife O'Donovan opens for Sarah Jarosz. \$20. Call 703-549-7500 or visit www.birchmere.com.

DJ Swing Dance. 9-11 p.m. at Nick's Nightclub, 642 S. Pickett St. \$6. Visit www.gottaswing.com

THURSDAY/SEPT. 26

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

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.

Yoga. Enjoy free outdoor yoga classes at 1900 Mt. Vernon Ave., from 6-7 p.m. Suitable for all levels. Contact Maureen at yoga@prasadayoga.com or 703-967-8884.

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

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

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

Music Performance. Tower of Power plays at the Birchmere, 3701 Mount Vernon Ave. Visit www.birchmere.com or call 703-549-7500.

FRIDAY/SEPT. 27

Banned Book Matinee. 2 p.m. at

Beatley Library, 5005 Duke St. Enjoy a screening of the film version of a banned book. Free. 703-746-1751 for film title.

Event. 7:30 p.m. at the Birchmere, 3701 Mount Vernon Ave. See "The Official Blues Brothers Revue." \$35. Visit www.birchmere.com for tickets.

Costume Symposium. At Gadsby's Tavern Museum, 134 N. Royal St. This year's symposium, "The Road to Regency Fashion," will explore the evolution of clothing from 1770 to 1820, culminating in a ball. Visit <http://alexandriava.gov/GadsbysTavern> to download brochure and register.

SATURDAY/SEPT. 28

Native Plant Sale in Parkfairfax. 9 a.m.-2 p.m. Largest native plant sale in DC Metro Area hosts 15 vendors from four states selling native perennials, shrubs, and trees for sun or shade in historic Parkfairfax, 3601 Valley Drive parking lot. 571-232-0375 or www.ParkfairfaxNativePlantSale.org.

Historic Alexandria Homes Tour. 10 a.m.-3 p.m. throughout Old Town. Proceeds benefit the Inova Alexandria TWIG Surgical Center. Admission is to be determined. Visit www.visitalexandriava.com/events/Historic-Alexandria-Homes-Tour/4930/ or 703-703-5337.

Saturday Stories. 11 a.m. at Beatley Library, 5005 Duke St. All ages can enjoy stories and songs. Free. 703-746-1702.

Author Talk. 2 p.m. at Beatley Central Library, 5005 Duke St. Martha Powers, whose pseudonym is M. Elizabeth Sweeney, will discuss "Losing Marmee: A Mother, A Daughter, and Six Years in Assisted Living." Free. 703-746-1702.



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Alexandria Gazette Packet

POTOMAC RIVERBOAT COMPANY

Canine Cruise

Sunday, September 29th
"DOGTOBERFEST"
10 AM & 11 AM

In honor of the Dogtoberfest theme, we will be serving Flying Dogs Dogtoberfest beer and handing out Potomac Riverboat koozies for free -- so come thirsty! We also encourage you to dress your pup up in their best Lederhosen because whoever has the best outfit wins a prize!

Saturday, October 26th
"BARK OR TREAT"
10 AM & 11 AM

Come out with your costumed canine and cruise to some Halloween tunes along the Potomac! We will have Halloween treats on board along with a photographer to capture how humiliated your pup feels in that ridiculous pumpkin costume on film!

All are invited, with or without a four legged friend. The dog rides free but the human must pay for their ride.

Note: Reservations are highly recommended. Please go to our website to reserve tickets. Dogs must be on a 6 ft. flat leash. Retractable leashes are not permitted.

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OCTOBER 26TH
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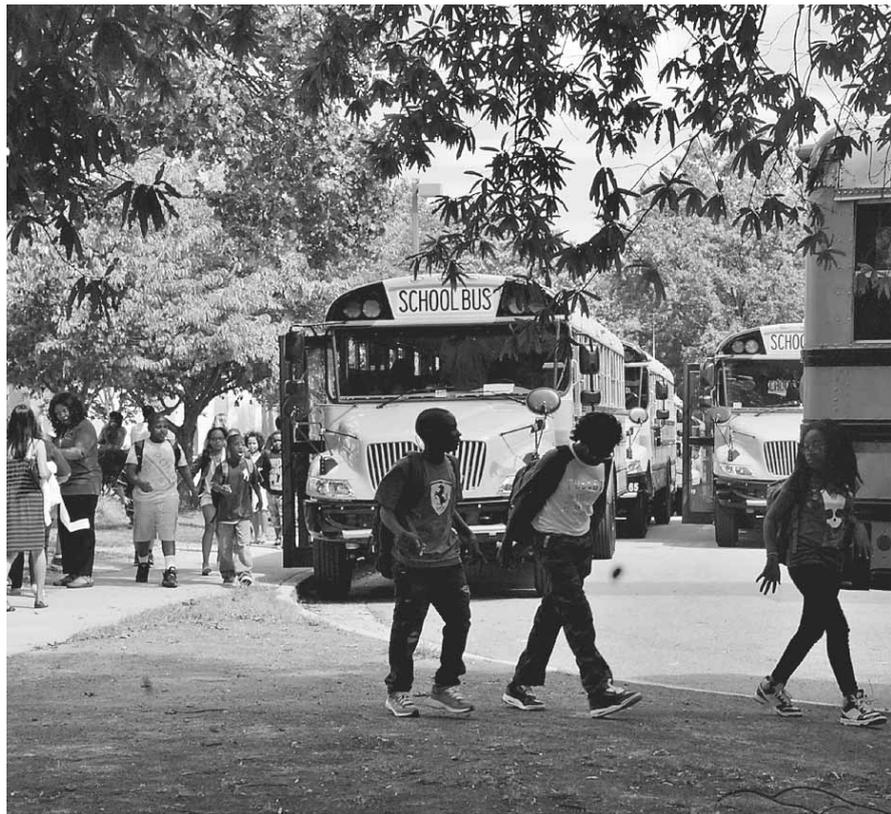


PHOTO BY LASHAWN AVERY-SIMON/GAZETTE PACKET

School's Back in Session

With the opening of the new school year, drivers need to be more cautious. Above, children walk to their buses as John Adams Elementary School lets out at 2:15 p.m. on Sept. 3.

Seminary Valley

Back-to-school means back-to-the-column. Sorry about the long silence ... got a little overwhelmed with a college graduation, a high school graduation, a 25th wedding anniversary ... cast parties ... you name it, the Jones family was in the middle of it. So, buckle your seat belts for the latest neighborhood news.

The 2013 Mile Long Yard Sale, sponsored by the Brookville-Seminary Valley Civic Association, will be held on Saturday, Sept. 21 from 8:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. rain or shine. Shop or sell up and down Taney Avenue from N. Pelham Street to N. Latham Street and on the Patrick Henry Elementary School grounds. Profits support the 2013 BSVCA Community Grants. Shop for housewares, books, DVDs, toys, clothing and your favorite collectibles. If you can't find it at the MLYS, you don't need it. Take note: this year, registration is required for all sellers/vendors. For more information: www.bsvca.net.

Where did the above-referenced grants go last year? Beth Richardson reports that they went to the Polk PTA's Reading is Fundamental Program (\$500), the Alexandria Tutoring Consortium (\$250 for supplies at Patrick Henry) and the St. Martin de Porres Center (\$250) for exercise equipment and art supplies.

If it's mid-September, it's time to think about who will serve on the Brookville-Seminary Valley Civic Association in the coming year. This year's candidates are: for President, Judy Cooper, for First Vice-President, Emily Brown; Second Vice-President, Ann Corro; Parliamentarian, Curtis Phillip; Treasurer, Jinnie Menafee and for Secretary, Liz Middough. At-large candidates include:

Linda Barrett, Tyson Schaedel and Richard Young. The Membership Secretary position is vacant at this time. The slate will be up for election at the Oct. 2 BSCVA meeting at 7 p.m. at the Beatley Library. After the election, there will be a discussion of transportation issues and also of the Landmark Re-development Plan.

Two more calendar items: On Sept. 21 (after you are done shopping at the Yard Sale), stop by Café Pizzaiolo at Ben Brenman Park to meet with School Board member Chris Lewis to talk about general ACPS issues. He will be there from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. And on Wednesday, Sept. 25 at 6 p.m., there will be an open forum at Patrick Henry Elementary School to discuss the school's upcoming remodeling. Contact Mr. Lewis at Christopher.lewis@acps.k12.va.us for more information.

Where have you been grocery shopping lately? With the absence of Magruder's and the Bradlee Shopping Center's Giant and Safeway, we have been retooling our once well-trod routes. Now that T.C. Williams is off our own route, we have a bit more flexibility. We can head to the Harris Teeter, the closest store, but those of us who are Giant and Safeway diehards now go West to Duke Street Commons or South on Van Dorn Street. Yours truly has even ventured towards Kingstowne ... the stores there are only a few years old and the parking is dreamy. One gentleman at the Van Dorn Safeway told me that he goes to the Giant store on South Glebe Road. Hard to shake up those routines.

Send news and announcements for Seminary Valley to me at mamamiajones@gmail.com.

— MIA JONES

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21 Announcements **21 Announcements**

OBITUARY
Ricky Mann Moon, 56, passed away in his sleep on Thursday September 12, while working in Columbus, Ga.

He was born December 7, 1956, and is the beloved son of Marion Moon of Alexandria, VA and Norman Moon and step-mother Joan of Manassas, VA. He is preceded in death by his brother Craig Moon and is survived by his Grandmother Myrtle Lebkicker of Leesburg and numerous aunts, uncles, cousins and devoted friends.

Rick was a native of Alexandria and graduated from Fairfax High School. He was a natural entrepreneur, and started his first company at age 17. He went on to be the founder of World Express that became Convention and Tradeshow Freight Specialists, where he served as Vice President until his death.

Rick loved the Freight and Tradeshow Industry, he enjoyed country music, boating, and being on the water. He had a big heart for people in need, especially children, and his generosity touched the lives of many.

Those who knew him will remember his wonderful sense of humor, his smile, laughter, and the authentic way in which he lived his life.

Friends may call at the Demaine Funeral Home, 520 S. Washington Street, Alexandria, VA 22314 where the family will be present on Friday, September 20, 2013 from 6-8:00pm and where the memorial service will be held on Saturday, September 21st at 11:00am.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations be made to the Alexandria Police Youth Camp, PO Box 25273 Alexandria, VA 22313.

21 Announcements **21 Announcements**

Richard (Rick) Preston Swigart, 69, passed away peacefully on Monday, September 9, 2013, after a long and courageous battle with complications from a liver transplant performed in June 2012. He was surrounded by family and friends. Loving husband of Laurel A. Bedig; beloved by father-in-law Robert G. Bedig; sister-in-law Cynthia (Rich) Meyers and their children Audrey and Robbie; sister-in-law Marcia (Ira) Bernstein and their children Rebecca and David; brother-in-law Ronald (Alexander) Bedig; cousins Debbie Burke, and her children Tim and Bryan and, Brian (Betty) Tracy, and their children Megan and Michael. He will also be greatly missed by countless friends, Beverley Hills' neighbors and colleagues.

Born in DC, Rick attended the Oakwood Friends School in Poughkeepsie, NY and went on to receive a B.A. from Earlham College. He studied Mandarin Chinese at Stanford, Taiwan Normal University and Nan Yang University, Singapore and was Director of International Marketing for China Consultants, International. From 1967-69 he was a refugee relief officer under USAID in Vietnam and Laos. Dean of Students at Oakwood from 1970-72, he served on Oakwood's board for many years culminating in receipt of a Distinguished Alumni Award. From 1975-1982, he was the Manager of the Washington Office for American Can Company. Thereafter, he worked in various senior capacities for the National Grocers Association, National Center on Occupational Readjustment, and the Grocery Manufacturers of America. He was Vice President of Public Relations at Seagram Company for several years. More recently he was part of a team that started the Transportation Security Administration and was a State Coordinator at the Department of Homeland Security. He retired on June 30, 2013.

Rick loved his country deeply and was a proud member of the Thailand-Laos-Cambodia Brotherhood. He loved nature and animals, especially his beloved dog Pal. Rick was kind, thoughtful and a loyal and wonderful friend with a great sense of humor. He was one of a kind and his passing is an enormous loss. Memorial services will be held on September 28, 2013 at 3 PM. For details and donation options please visit EverlyWheatleyFuneralHome.com.

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PHOTO COURTESY OF ART AT THE CENTER

Students in the Art Explorers class at Art at the Center in Mount Vernon explore mediums like clay, collage, painting and drawing. Experts say creating art helps children build relationships.

Art Matters for All Ages

Local experts say art classes help children develop new skills.

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL
GAZETTE PACKET

If you walk into Art at the Center in Mount Vernon on a Tuesday morning, you might find a group of preschool students and their parents or caretakers squishing potting clay with their fingers. In the same room, several other tots could be brushing an array of paint colors across art paper, making a mess but having fun. The children are part of the Center's Art Explorers class, designed for children ranging from 18 months to 5 years old.

"Parents say it is their happy place where they can explore with their child without worrying about a mess," said Kathryn Horn Coneway, director of Art at the Center. "It brings both parent and child into the present moment."

In addition to having fun, art educators say that art can help children develop a myriad of skills and abilities that range from self-expression to self-confidence.

"Creating art can help them work through their emotions," said Gioia Chilton, an art therapist who teaches art at Marymount University in Arlington. "It gives them a place where they can be confident, and where they can feel powerful and in control over something."

Creating art teaches patience, said Coneway. "When children are working with clay, for example, there is little instant gratification. You make a piece, it has to be fired and then glazed. It is a process. But at the end, they can tell the story of

how they made it."

Chris Haggerty, a professor of fine and applied arts at Marymount University, says research shows that art develops the right side of the brain, which affects perception rather than logic. "Creating art teaches problem-solving skills," she said. "They get to try things out, see if they work, change their minds and start over."

Coneway, who is also an art therapist, said she has seen first-hand how art can help children share feelings that are difficult to verbalize. "Making things is a wonderful way for kids to connect ideas, express emotions and share what is going on with them," she said. "Additionally, art is noncompetitive. Children progress at their own rate."

Art also helps establish a sense of community, she added. "Sometimes connections happen when children share their art," she said. "It is neat when kids ask questions of each other. The sharing of what they make is as important as what they make."

Carolyn Webber, an art teacher at St. Andrew's Episcopal School in Potomac, Md., said, "Art is a universal language. Art education enables students to make creative connections with art and the world around them. [It] provides life-long learning in areas of visual arts, art history, interdisciplinary connections, multiculturalism and job opportunities."

Haggerty said, "The most successful people are creative thinkers, people who don't just think linearly, but who think outside of the box."

Coneway hopes that both her classes and others establish a life-long appreciation for art. "One of

the things that I hope is happening is that parents and children are leaving my classes, going home and asking, 'Can we set up a corner our basement and have an art studio at home?'"

"Art is a universal language. Art education enables students to make creative connections with art and the world around them."

— Carolyn Webber, art teacher, St. Andrew's Episcopal School

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Local Elected Officials' Disclosure Forms Lack Oversight

FROM PAGE 1
redactions.

Unless the Fairfax County commonwealth's attorney is willing to prosecute the school system for failing to disclose required information, that information will not be available to the public. And because the law merely requires the School Board clerk to receive the documents without scrutinizing them, any mistakes or missing information will not be identified or fixed. That leaves the public in the dark about information that could explain conflicts of interest among their elected leaders.

"Virginia's disclosure laws are basically a big joke," said Kyle Kondik, analyst with the University of Virginia's Center for Politics. "It doesn't seem like there's any penalty at all for bad reporting."

THE ONGOING political scandal involving a Virginia businessman showering the governor and attorney general with gifts — many of which were initially unreported — has brought a spotlight to the issue of ethics reform that is expected to dominate the upcoming session of the General Assembly. Del. Rob Krupicka (D-45) is preparing legislation that would move the repository function from the local clerk to the State Board of Election in an effort to create one publicly available statewide database. That would allow elected officials to file their documents electronically, a change that

would remove some of the inconsistency in terms of how individuals choose to fill out the documents.

"I think there are going to be folks uncomfortable with this level of disclosure and this level of accessibility to their data," said Krupicka. "We've made the migration to use technology with campaign finance, and I think we need to make the migration to use technology with our ethics and conflicts disclosure forms."

Last month, Republican Lt. Gov. Bill Bolling outlined a series of ethics reform measures he would like to see the next General Assembly take up.

One of his recommendations would expand the gift disclosure requirements to spouses and dependent family members. Another one of his recommendations would lower the threshold of reporting sources of income from \$10,000 to \$1,000. A third recommendation would require elected officials disclose all memberships on boards or other committees of public or private companies that are held by themselves, their spouses or their dependent family members.

"Over the past few months, a series of unfortunate events have revealed to us several deficiencies in Virginia's current ethics laws," Bolling said in a written statement outlining his proposal. "As a result, the confidence of the people of Virginia in their state government has been eroded. In order to begin the process of restoring this confidence, we need to take immediate ac-

tion to strengthen Virginia's ethics laws and the proposals I am releasing today are designed to do just that."

DESPITE THEIR FLAWS, the forms reveal the broad financial outlines of elected officials in Northern Virginia and some of their economic interests. In Arlington County, for example, the forms show that none of the members of the Arlington County Board have full-time jobs. Two of the members listed the employment of spouses.

And although County Board member Jay Fissette once disclosed information about his partner, he has since decided that he will no longer provide that information until Virginia ends the constitutional prohibition against gay marriage.

"The symbolism of it was just not worth it," said Fissette.

"It was so hard because he makes a lot more money than I do and he had a lot of things to report. It was too much work, so I don't do that anymore."

Alexandria City Councilman Paul Smedberg, on the other hand, includes economic disclosure information for his partner. In an interview, he said he is probably not required to do so but he feels that it's best to err on the side of disclosing too much rather than not enough.

"It is a little unclear as to what you should put there," said Smedberg. "But I've always made the habit of including Mike on there."

Elected Confidential

❖ **Fairfax County Board of Supervisors:** John Foust lists the largest number of securities at \$1.7 million; Jeff McKay lists the lowest number of securities at \$70,000. Three members list no securities: John Cook, Michael Frey and Peggy Gross.

❖ **Fairfax County School Board:** Jane Strauss lists the largest number of securities at \$2.1 million; Pat Hunes lists the lowest number of securities at \$10,000; Two members list no securities: Ryan McElveen and Elizabeth Schultz.

❖ **Arlington County Board:** Libby Garvey lists the largest number of securities at \$500,000; Jay Fissette lists the lowest number of securities at \$80,000. One member, Mary Hynes, list no securities.

❖ **Arlington County School Board:** Abigail Raphael lists the largest number of securities at \$1.2 million; Noah Simon lists the lowest number of securities at \$400,000. Three members list no securities: Sally Baird, James Lander and Emma Violand-Sanchez.

❖ **Alexandria City Council:** Paul Smedberg lists the largest amount of securities at \$590,000; Allison Silberberg lists the lowest number of securities at \$20,000; One member, John Chapman, listed no securities.

❖ **Alexandria School Board:** Marc Williams lists the largest amount of securities at \$1.3 million; Kelly Carmichael Booz lists the lowest amount of securities at \$10,000; five members list no securities: Bill Campbell, Ronnie Campbell, Pat Hennig, Justin Keating and Christopher Lewis.

TC Grad Makes 3,600-Mile Run for Veterans

FROM PAGE 1

"John always said that if I ever did this, he would make sure I had a truck for the journey," said O'Toole, who expects to be running through the Old Town Farmer's Market Sept. 21. "I'm not sure his dad ever knew about that promise but Mr. Taylor didn't hesitate to help out once the plans were in

place.

Jack Taylor's Alexandria Toyota donated a truck to serve as part of the support team for O'Toole, who is traveling with a crew of four.

"We have a four-man team on the road, and we were donated trailers, so we have everything we need on site," said O'Toole, who averages 15 miles per day and hopes to raise \$2 million before completing his 21-state journey.

On the road with O'Toole is fellow classmate Joey Dwyer and his brother Tim Dwyer.

"Forrest Gump' really was a favorite of all of ours," said Joey Dwyer, a film director and founder of JWD Productions. "So when Brendan pitched his project, I saw an opportunity to chronicle something that would help educate the public on the issues confronting our returning veterans."

O'Toole, 25, has had a few setbacks during his run, including an ankle injury suffered in West Texas that left him on crutches for six weeks.

"That was a good opportunity for us to reorganize," said O'Toole, who was also bitten by a Rottweiler in Texas and in a car accident in South Carolina.

The son of Joan and Denis O'Toole, Brendan O'Toole and his crew will be the guests of honor at a Run for Veterans fundraiser to be held Oct. 4 at Jack Taylor's Alexandria Toyota showroom. All donations from the event as well as the run will be



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

In a truck donated by Jack Taylor's Toyota, Brendan O'Toole and fellow T.C. Williams classmates Tim and Joey Dwyer pose for a photo upon entering the state of Georgia.

disbursed to three nonprofit groups focused on providing mental, physical and social well-being programs for veterans and their families: Give an Hour (mental health), Team Red White and Blue (physical health) and the USO (social). "I am pretty tired right now and my body is getting a little beat up," said O'Toole, who has raised nearly

\$300,000. "But I've still got some fuel in the tank and it's just now hitting us what we have accomplished. I hope this helps gets people's attention and that they will spread the word. Every dollar helps."

To learn more about The Run For Veterans and the Oct. 4 fundraiser, visit www.therunforveterans.org.

Details

The Run For Veterans is a nonprofit, 501 (c) (3) organization operated solely by volunteers and dedicated to educating the public about key issues confronting veterans transitioning from military to civilian life. Some of these issues include:

❖ 16,000 Operation Iraqi Freedom (OIF) and Operation Enduring Freedom (OEF) veterans are severely wounded, including 1,653 limb amputations.

❖ The Veteran's Administration estimates that 18 veterans or service members take their own lives on a daily basis. Of those, five are receiving VA care at the time of their death.

❖ 43,299 veterans have been diagnosed with Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI).

❖ More than 4,000 new cases of Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD).

❖ 896,540 pending Disability Compensation Claims.

❖ Over 66 percent of Disability Compensation Claims are over 125 days.

❖ 6.7 percent of veterans are out of work. For OIF and OEF veterans, that figure is 9.7 percent

For more information or to donate online, visit www.therunforveterans.org.

PEOPLE

Chamber Champions

Wiygul Automotive repeats in annual Golf Classic.

BY JEANNE THEISMANN
GAZETTE PACKET

More than 100 players turned out Aug. 26 for the Alexandria Chamber of Commerce annual Golf Classic, where the team from Wiygul Automotive repeated as tournament champions.

Finishing with a score of 16 under par, Wiygul Automotive bested second place Virginia Commerce Bank by a mere two strokes on the Belle Haven Country Club course.

More than 20 teams participated in the tournament, including players from the Washington Nationals, former governor Jim Gilmore and leaders from the Alexandria business community.

"It was a great event," said Burke and Herbert Bank vice president Walter Clarke, whose team finished at two under par. "This is a great opportunity for the business community to come together and have some fun for a good cause."

Proceeds from the tournament benefitted the Alexandria Cham-

ber of Commerce Foundation, a nonprofit arm of the chamber.

At an awards reception following the tournament, longtime tournament chairman Roger Parks, of American Advertising Distributors of North America, formally relinquished the reins of the golf committee to Kay Tyler of Tyler Printing. Parks, who served as chair of the committee for over a decade, was given a rousing sendoff as he stepped down from his position.

Presented by Wiygul Automotive and the Washington Nationals, more than 40 businesses contributed to the event.

Kings Jewelry presented silver mint julep cups to the winning players, Eagle Bank and Speck Cauldron Advisors sponsored the hot dog and beverage carts, and BB&T Bank and Greenleaf Health hosted the reception and buffet dinner.

"I wish I had played better today," laughed Clarke. "But it's not about the score. Today is a day for people to come together and celebrate Alexandria's business community."

Former governor Jim Gilmore with volunteer Elle Taubner following the tournament.



Chamber president John Long, left, and tournament chair Roger Parks, right, celebrate with the team from Wiygul Automotive as they accept first place at the Alexandria Chamber of Commerce golf tournament Aug. 26 at Belle Haven Country Club.



Virginia Commerce Bank CEO Peter Converse tees off on the fourth hole of the course.



A shot by Virginia Commerce Bank CEO Peter Converse just misses being a hole-in-one that would have won him a Land Rover. Instead he settled for Closest to the Pin honors.

Donna Wilson and Margaret Gullen take a golf cart to check on players.



Burke and Herbert vice president Walter Clarke is joined by Dan Convery, Marilyn Patterson and Joe Posey at the tournament reception and awards ceremony.

PHOTOS BY JEANNE THEISMANN/GAZETTE PACKET

PHOTO BY GEORGINA PARKS

Beckford Carries Episcopal Football Past Flint Hill

Senior running back runs for 312 yards, 5 touchdowns.

BY JON ROETMAN
GAZETTE PACKET

Episcopal head football coach Panos Voulgaris stood on the field at Flint Hill School and described Maroon running back Nigel Beckford following the team's season opener on Sept. 13.

"He's a Division I running back," Voulgaris said. "Someone's going to get real lucky when they get him at the next level."

While Beckford's future appears bright, the senior from Bridgeport, Conn., showed on Friday the Episcopal football team is lucky to have him now.

Beckford rushed for 312 yards and five touchdowns on 33 carries during Episcopal's 48-28 victory over Flint Hill. Ripping through the Huskies as part of the Maroon's no-huddle offense, Beckford scored on runs of 1, 5, 18, 1 and 36 yards.

"He's the best running back I've coached," Voulgaris said, "and as long as he stays disciplined, he can have a great year."

Episcopal's potent, up-tempo offense was on display early, as the Maroon marched 70 yards in eight plays during the game's opening drive. Beckford punched it in from 1 yard, capping the 2-minute, 20-second drive and giving Episcopal a 7-0 lead.

After Flint Hill's ensuing drive stalled at the Episcopal 11-yard line, the Maroon drove 89 yards in five plays, taking just 66 seconds off the clock. Beckford's 5-yard touchdown gave Episcopal a 14-0 advan-



Episcopal running back Nigel Beckford rushed for 312 yards and five touchdowns against Flint Hill on Sept. 13.

tage.

"[This offense is] a new thing for me coming to Episcopal under Coach Voulgaris," Beckford said. "It's a fun offense. I'm new to the zone [scheme]. I'm a downhill-type runner, but ... [it has made me more] versatile."

Beckford's 18-yard touchdown run with less than 9 minutes left in the third quarter gave Episcopal its largest lead of the day at 28-6.

"I think he's a very good running back," Flint Hill head coach Tom Verbanic said. "I think he does a lot of things very well. ... To go along with that, we were out of position and against a back like that, when you put yourself out of position, you're in real trouble."

After falling behind by three scores, Flint Hill showed resiliency. A 28-yard pick-six by Jake Salewski and a two-point conversion cut the Episcopal lead to 28-14. Beckford scored on a 1-yard run to push the Maroon lead to 21 with 4:02 remaining in the third, but the Huskies quickly answered when Jonny Howard returned the ensuing kickoff 80 yards for a touchdown.

Flint Hill running back Christian Martey broke a 33-yard touchdown run with 10:17 left in the fourth quarter, pulling the Huskies within one score at 35-28, but Episcopal closed the contest with a pair of touchdowns, including a 68-yard interception return by defensive back Gary Williams, who picked off a pair of passes.

"We didn't do many things well today,"

Verbanic said. "... I just think that they came out and they outplayed us today. We fundamentally did not play very well. ... It was almost chaotic, to be very honest with you, which means that I didn't do a very good job, either."

Episcopal senior quarterback Will Hollister (Leesburg) completed 11 of 17 passes for 128 yards, one touchdown and one interception. He also rushed five times for 38 yards.

"He's the best running back I've coached, and as long as he stays disciplined, he can have a great year."

— Episcopal football coach Panos Voulgaris about Nigel Beckford

Maroon receiver Brian Chase (Baltimore) hauled in a 30-yard touchdown reception.

Flint Hill's Martey carried 24 times for 120 yards and a touchdown. Sophomore quarterback Justin Saleh completed 15 of 32 passes for 205 yards, one touchdown and two interceptions.

Episcopal will travel to face Bishop Ireton at 2 p.m. on Saturday, Sept. 21.

Flint Hill dropped to 1-1, including a 27-18 victory against Paul VI on Sept. 6. The Huskies will travel to face Collegiate at 4 p.m. on Friday, Sept. 20.

ODBC Select Crew Gears Up for Fall Rowing Season

Nearly 70 athletes from area high schools are competing in annual program.

The Old Dominion Boat Club's 2013 Select Fall Crew Team wrapped up its second week of practice this past Saturday morning at the Dee Campbell Boathouse in Old Town, where they continued their preparations for a rowing season that kicks off at the end of this month.

Nearly 70 athletes are competing on this year's select crew. The athletes, who are drawn from such area high schools as T.C. Williams, West Potomac, Georgetown Visitation, and McLean, have been practicing two hours a day, six days a week since Sept. 3. The practices follow-up on a preseason camp that was held over the last two weeks of August and was focused on conditioning and basic technique.

Practice this past Saturday morning saw the athletes competing in a 5K head race

similar to the races they will be competing in this fall. The race started by the airport at the point where Four Mile Run meets the Potomac, and ended down river by the dock in front of Fords Landing.

The ODBC athletes are guided by head girls' coach Patrick Marquardt, assistant girls' coach Jaime Rubini, head boys' coach Audrey Shankles, and head girls' sculling Coach Nick Johnson. The season begins at the Head of the Potomac Regatta in Georgetown on Sept. 29. Other races include: the Occoquan Challenge at Sandy Run Regional Park on October 6th; the Occoquan Chase on Oct. 13; the Head of the Charles Regatta in Boston (girls only) on Oct. 18; the Head of the Schuylkill Re-



With the sun rising over the Potomac, ODBC Select rowers carry oars to their racing shell before the start of practice this past Saturday, Sept. 14

SEE GEARING UP, PAGE 34

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BULLETIN BOARD

FROM PAGE 17

Sales Office, 2400 Main Line Blvd. Get updates on planned development, parks and open spaces and more. RSVP to 703-746-4146.

Coastal Cleanup. 10 a.m.-noon at Oronoco Bay Park, 100 Madison St. Help clean the waterways and collect data about trash and litter. Wear clothes and shoes that can get dirty. RSVP to jeremy.hassan@alexandriava.gov or register that morning.

THROUGH SATURDAY/SEPT. 21

Free Admission. The Old Town Pool will be free for City residents. Hours are Monday-Friday 6 a.m.-noon and 4-7:30 p.m.; Saturday-Sunday 8 a.m.-4 p.m.; visit www.alexandriava.gov/pools.

Doggie Day Swim. 3-7 p.m. at the Old Town Pool, 1609 Cameron St. Dogs must be current on vaccines and remain leashed on pool deck. Space is limited to 100 dogs in the pool area at one time. Contact Ralph Baird, Aquatics Supervisor, at 703-746-5435 or ralph.baird@alexandriava.gov.

SUNDAY/SEPT. 22

National Falls Prevention Awareness Day. Free fall risk assessments will be conducted by physical therapists and physical therapy assistants from 11 a.m.-3 p.m. at Kingstowne Center for Active Adults, 6488 Landsdowne Center. No registration required. 703-339-7676 TTY 711.

Open House. 1-4 p.m. at the Simpson Park Demonstration Gardens, located at East Monroe and Leslie Avenues. Master Gardeners will help you with your garden, browse flowers, trees and shrubs that thrive in the area.

MONDAY/SEPT. 23

Tennis Courts Information Meeting. 6:30-8 p.m. in the auditorium at T.C. Williams High School, 3330 King St. Give input on the design of the six lighted tennis courts to be constructed at the school. Free. If you cannot attend this meeting, but have questions regarding the

project, contact Monika Szczepanec of the ACPS Educational Facilities Planning, Design and Construction Office at 703-461-4168.

TUESDAY/SEPT. 24

Business Workshop. 8-10:30 a.m. at The Lyceum, 201 S. Washington St. New and prospective business owners can hear tips from representatives from Planning & Zoning, Code Administration, Department of Finance and more. After the panel, meet one-on-one with city staff about concerns, questions and more. Register at www.eventbrite.com/event/8088289291.

WEDNESDAY/SEPT. 25

Information Session. 6:30-7:30 p.m. at UMFS, 5400 Shawnee Road, Suite 101. Learn about becoming a foster parent, get questions answered and more. To RSVP, 703-941-9008. For more information, visit www.umfs.org/foster-careadoption

Workshop. 9 a.m.-3 p.m. at Department of Community and Human Services, 2525 Mt. Vernon Ave. The workshop is designed to help chart the course the future of the council and explore innovative ideas for addressing the needs of previously incarcerated individuals and developing a plan of action. Free.

Volunteer Orientation. 11 a.m. at Volunteer Alexandria, 123 N. Alfred St. RSVP is a program that invites those 55 and older to serve in meaningful and rewarding volunteer opportunities. Register for an upcoming orientation at www.VolunteerAlexandria.org and select the senior tab. Contact Courtney Kurzweil at CKurzweil@volunteerfairfax.org or 703-403-5360.

Addiction Recovery Month Community Celebration. 4-7 p.m. at Lee Center, 1108 Jefferson St. State Sen. George Barker will be the guest speaker. Learn about drug and alcohol abuse prevention and recovery and how to support someone entering into or continuing in recovery. The celebration will include a talent show, barbeque, live music, moon bounce and door prizes. Contact James Green at 703-746-5919 or james.green@alexandriava.gov.

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- Online at www.wmata.com/fares/smartrip.
- Visit www.dashbus.com/Fares for a list of participating retail locations.
- Register your SmarTrip Card online at www.wmata.com.



PEOPLE

Ring Them Bells

Mayor performs nuptials of Del Ray restaurateur.

Alexandria Mayor Bill Euille stepped into the role of wedding officiate Sept. 8, performing the nuptials of local restaurateur Bill Blackburn and fiancé Megan Rossmann aboard the Cherry Blossom literally hours after returning from an overseas trip to Taiwan.

"I'm feeling great," said Euille, who has performed more than 35 wedding ceremonies since taking office in 2003. "Most couples want something short and sweet, maybe 10 minutes or less, and pretty much leave it to me what to say."

Euille returned earlier that morning from a 10-day trip to Taipei, one of only 10 mayors from across the country to participate in a program sponsored by the Taiwan Economic Council.

"We did have a back-up plan in case he didn't make it back on time," said Blackburn, co-owner and partner with "Mango" Mike Anderson in Del Ray's Pork Barrel BBQ, Holy Cow and The Sushi Bar. "Sheriff [Dana] Lawhorne was ready to step in for us but thankfully Bill made it home



PHOTO BY JOHN BORNER

Alexandria Mayor Bill Euille, officiates at the Sept. 8 wedding of Pork Barrel BBQ co-owner Bill Blackburn and fiancé Megan Rossmann.

safely and on time."

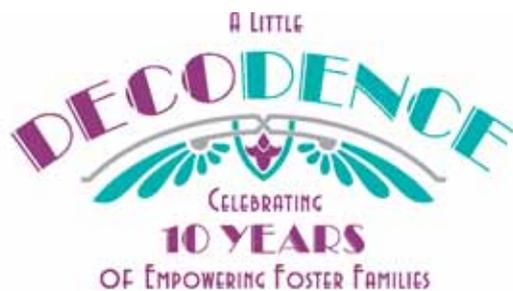
Euille has officiated at ceremonies throughout the city, including Gadsby's Tavern, the Lyceum and City Hall.

"The first ceremony I performed was actually at Theismann's Restaurant," Euille said. "The couple had met there and waited until I was elected so that I could perform the ceremony."

A regular at Pork Barrel BBQ, Euille has become a friend to Blackburn and Rossmann.

"Megan and I love Alexandria," Blackburn said. "This is our home now so we thought it would be an honor to have the leader of the city officiate at our wedding."

— JEANNE THEISMANN



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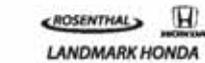
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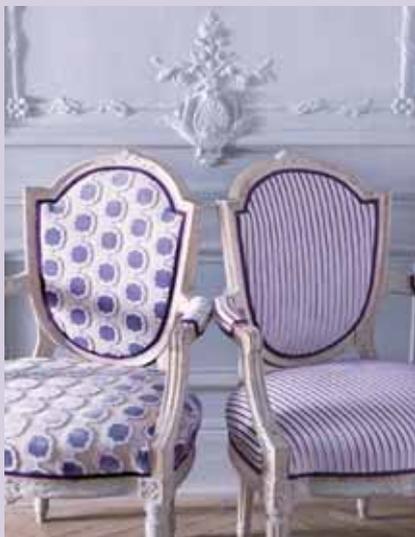
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SPORTS

ODBC Select Crew Gears Up for Fall Rowing Season

FROM PAGE 30

gatta in Philadelphia on Oct. 27; and, the Head of the Occoquan Regatta on Nov. 3.

The fall 2013 season continues a long rowing tradition for the Old Dominion Boat Club. Founded in 1880, ODBC is one of the oldest boat clubs in the United States. It's also the birthplace of scholastic rowing in Alexandria, and the place where, in 1947, ODBC members Julian Whitestone and Jack Franklin began teaching the sport to young men from George Washington and Francis Hammond High Schools.

As the sport's popularity began to grow, Franklin and Whitestone established the Alexandria Crew Boosters to help meet and

manage the growing demand. By 1960, the program had grown to the point that the Alexandria city public school system and the crew boosters took over prime responsibility from the Old Dominion Boat Club. This evolved into the T.C. Williams High School varsity rowing program.

In late 1998, then-ODBC President Steve Danzig and Rowing Committee chairman Jim Dooley (GWHS crew alumnus '67) approached Alexandria crew boosters with a proposal that ODBC once again sponsor youth crews. ODBC Select Rowing was the result. Starting in 1999, rowers wore the ODBC colors of orange and black for the first time in many years.

SCHOOL NOTES

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

The following high school seniors from T.C. Williams High School were named semifinalists in the National Merit Scholarship Program: **Carter Goodwin, Brendan Kerwin** and **Stephen Lockett**.

Bum Chul Kwon earned a doctor of philoso-

phy degree from the Graduate School at Purdue University.

Hailee Reeder of Alexandria has enrolled as a first-year member of the Class of 2017 at McMurry University in Abilene, Texas. Reeder is majoring in art education.

Amy Howard of Alexandria received a master of science degree in education from Wilkes University.

Recipe For a Warm Heart

Serving size: One
(But repeat as many times as you can!)

1. Check out the fall sales in stores and catalogs.



2. Pick up a NEW warm jacket for a child or teen in foster care or at-risk of abuse or neglect.

- Select any size from Infants' and Toddlers' to Boys'/Girls' and Juniors' to Men's /Women's or Plus.

3. Add a hat/gloves/scarf combo!



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Drop off or ship to Community Resources Coordinator, DCHS at 2525 Mt. Vernon Avenue. Attach your name, address and email as the donor. Call first (703.746.5663) to tell us you're on your way. We will acknowledge your gift for tax purposes.



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INTERNATIONAL OFFERING

OLD TOWN ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA

The Lord Fairfax House. 7,000 SF Federal style home built in the early 1800s on a 1/4 acre lot; restored and updated. 5 bedrooms, 5.5 baths. Landscaped lot and gazebo with gas fireplace. Garage + two-car parking. \$4,875,000
William F. X. Moody
Robert Hryniewicki

202-243-1620



INTERNATIONAL OFFERING

OLD TOWN ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA

Magnificent two and a half story detached 1782 federal townhouse with addition totaling over a quarter acre. Two car garage. Rear yard with exquisite gardens and mature plantings. Just steps from downtown, parks and the Potomac River! \$3,950,000

Mark McFadden

703-216-1333



INTERNATIONAL OFFERING

OLD TOWN ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA

Wonderful historic property on the market for the first time in over 50 years! This brick residence has been meticulously renovated and remodeled from top to bottom. Enclosed parking for 4+ cars. Magnificent double parlor, gourmet kitchen, library. Enormous yard with brick terrace. \$3,200,000

Mark McFadden

703-216-1333



INTERNATIONAL OFFERING

OLD TOWN ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA

Elegant family home, beautifully renovated. Circa 1880, with double lot and enchanting gardens. Offers four finished levels, five bedrooms, three full and one half baths, wine cellar and dramatic chef's kitchen. Off-street parking. \$2,875,000

Victoria Kilcullen

703-915-8845

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LLOYD ESTATE, ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA

Exquisite and elegant. Over 7,000 square feet on three luxurious levels! Features a gracious foyer, grand entertaining rooms and master suite with fireplace and balcony. 6 bedrooms, 5 full baths, 2 half baths and tiered patio. Three car garage. \$1,900,000

Mark McFadden

703-216-1333



OLD TOWN ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA

Renovated 1820 Federal with gracious living and dining rooms, a gourmet kitchen open to the family room, 4 bedrooms and 2.5 baths. Professionally landscaped yard with a heated pool. \$1,265,000

Linda Rogers
Matt McCormick

703-627-6776
202-243-1651



ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA

Handsome sun-filled Colonial perfectly situated on 1/2+ acre corner lot, just off Quaker Lane. Gracious living room with fireplace, renovated kitchen opens to terrace & magnificent gardens, as does the separate dining room. Near the many shops & restaurants of Old Town. \$999,000

Cecelia Leake

202-256-7804



GEORGE WASHINGTON PARK, ALEXANDRIA, VA

Charming colonial in desirable neighborhood on quiet cul-de-sac just blocks from the King Street Metro. 5BR, 4BA, master bedroom suite with vaulted ceilings, fireplace, garage, family room, finished basement, recreation room, den and office. 512 Putnam Pl. Open Sun 1-4. \$949,900

Sherry Nolan York

703-625-3377

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ALEXANDRIA \$699,900



Updates and Location
This charming home has been well maintained and updated. Eat-in kitchen with granite counter tops, new stainless appliances, and walkout access to the backyard. Three bedrooms on the main floor with updated bath. Recessed lighting, original wood floors and plush new carpet in the large basement also with updated full bath. Walk to King St Metro & more!

Sue Goodhart
703.362.3221

www.thegoodhartgroup.com



ARLINGTON \$524,900



Lovely Outdoor Space

Completely renovated three-bedroom, two-bath, single family home with beautiful gardens. Enjoy a spacious, window-filled living and dining room, large eat-in kitchen and beautiful hardwood floors. Conveniently located near major commuter routes; shopping and dining near Shirlington, Bailey's Crossroads.

Jen Walker
703.675.1566

www.JenWalker.com
MLS ID# AR8179452



ALEXANDRIA \$409,900



Closer is Better!

With new kitchen cabinets, granite countertops, tile floors, carpet and fresh paint, this close-in townhouse shines! Sunny kitchen, large living room opening onto private deck, two powder rooms, family room with fireplace, parking. Updated systems and Home Warranty promise easy living. So does proximity to Metro and the Beltway!

Susan Anthony
703.795.9536

www.susanbruceanthony.com
MLS ID# AX8173355



ALEXANDRIA \$380,000



Space and Value

With three bedrooms and three and a half baths, this townhome on a quiet cul-de-sac has tons of value. Bright and open, the main level has a spacious living/dining combo, eat-in kitchen and a deck that overlooks green space. Downstairs has a family room with patio, plus an additional bedroom and bath. Close to Kingstowne, Fort Belvoir, and more!

Elizabeth Lucchesi
703.868.5676

www.LizLuke.com
MLS ID# AX8182337



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SARA SMITH
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703.244.0929
ssmith@mceneaney.com

ALEXANDRIA \$577,500



Beautifully Updated

Extra-large end townhome with two-car garage, in prime location in this close-in neighborhood, near Del Ray and Beverley Hills. High ceilings with floor-to-ceiling windows and gleaming hardwood floors. Kitchen with granite counters and stainless steel appliances. Three bedrooms, two full and two half baths, two-car garage, two fireplaces, and private fenced patio.

Barbara Simon & Robin Cale
703.598.4662

www.BarbaraAndRobin.com
MLS ID# AX8171160



OLD TOWN ALEXANDRIA \$329,000



Top Floor Canal Place Condo!

Sun-drenched garden-style condo with sparkling wood floors. Freshly painted and spotlessly clean. Beautifully maintained courtyard gardens and outdoor pool. One assigned parking space and large storage unit. Wood-burning fireplace and eat-in kitchen with washer and dryer. Near bus, bike path and shopping.

Betty Thompson
703.927.3737

www.BettyThompson.com
MLS ID# AX8169688



OLD TOWN ALEXANDRIA \$1,080,000



19th Century Townhouse

This lovely old house in the heart of the historic district is spacious and filled with natural light. It is well maintained with many updated systems. Vintage baths. Fresh paint throughout. Move-in ready! You will love the pretty walled garden and unlimited possibilities.

Ginny Brzezinski 703.236.3405
Vici Boguess 703.447.2829

www.BBZgroup.com
MLS ID# AX8173418



ALEXANDRIA \$1,750,000



Stuartland

Built in 1856, this unique, historic home offers the elegance of its period with all the modern conveniences sought by that special someone who will make this their next home! Offering four bedrooms, gourmet kitchen, family room, den, library, breakfast room, and sitting room, as well as a two-car garage with bonus room above! Plus there is a garden oasis, too!

Kate Patterson
703.627.2166

www.katepattersonhomes.com
MLS ID# AX8173672



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