

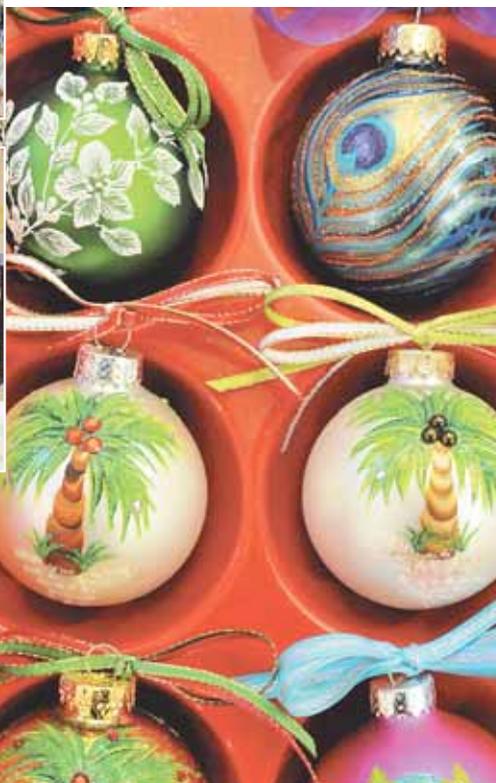


One For The Bunny designer Stacey Kenkeremath holds up one of her many knitted and crocheted fashions.

Yakitoko designer Frange Abaraka displays a selection of his t-shirt art at the holiday fair. For more information visit www.yakitoko.com



Laura Stubbs offers a colorful variety of yarn, bead and paper designs at Hooked & Threaded.



Ducky Cakes Designs artist Stephanie Steinmetz offered hand-made knitted and crochet items and more at her booth.



A sampling of handpainted ornaments by Alexandria artist Cindy Steele. More of Steele's work may be viewed at www.etsy.com/shop/2birdsinparadise

Holiday Craft Fair At TC Williams

More than 40 artists and designers filled the tables in the T.C. Williams High School cafeteria on Saturday, Nov. 16, for the annual Holiday Craft Fair.



Two fairies are featured on one of Dawn Steere's Kahlan's Fairy Lotion bars.

Talking Designs artist Karen Schwarz twists and knots strands of cashmere for holding a pendant.



A crocheted jumper and beret at Stacey Kenkeremath's One For The Bunny booth.

PHOTOS BY
 LOUISE KRAFFT
 GAZETTE PACKET

LaVerne Edwards of Edwards Exclusives crochets a hat at the afternoon bazaar.



90-Day Ultimatum

Six-to-one vote threatens to use eminent domain against Old Dominion Boat Club.

BY MICHAEL LEE POPE
 GAZETTE PACKET

In the clearest threat yet that members of the Alexandria City Council are willing to use the power of eminent domain to take land owned by the Old Dominion Boat Club, elected officials adopted a motion that sets a 90-day deadline for a resolution of a long-running conflict between the two. Boat club leaders have offered a compromise, although they have yet to hear any response from city officials. Meanwhile, the motion to begin eminent domain proceedings in February passed on a six-to-one vote.

"I'm hopeful we'll reach a compromise," said Mayor Bill Euille. "But whether we use eminent domain or not, it's a tool that's always available to local governments. Hopefully we won't have to go down that road."

Councilman Paul Smedberg offered the motion threatening eminent domain,

"Hopefully we won't have to go down that road."

— Mayor Bill Euille

which was supported by Councilman Justin Wilson. Vice Mayor Allison Silberberg was the only council member who voted against it,

explaining that she could not support the use of eminent domain against the Boat Club. Silberberg also tried to split Smedberg's motion into two parts, one advocat-

SEE COUNCIL, PAGE 16

'TJ' Fannon Dies at 83

A Living Legend and 'Mr. Alexandria.'

BY JEANNE THEISMANN
 GAZETTE PACKET

Lifelong Alexandrian Thomas Julian "T.J." Fannon died peacefully at his home Nov. 19 after being diagnosed with brain cancer earlier this year.

Born June 17, 1930, he was raised in Alexandria where he attended Saint Mary's Catholic School and Georgetown Prep. He was an All-Metropolitan selection



TJ Fannon with daughter Susan at the Senior Services of Alexandria gala earlier this year.

PHOTO BY JEANNE THEISMANN/GAZETTE PACKET

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Another Brick in the Wall

"We don't need no education," cry the children in the Pink Floyd classic "Another Brick in the Wall Part Two. "We don't need no thought control."

These lyrics were on the tip of the tongue among several West End citizens who arrived at City Hall last weekend to protest a massive wall under consideration by the Virginia Department of Transportation. Officials at the state agency are considering the possibility of constructing a giant wall to keep road noise out of the area around Seminary Road and the Shirley Memorial Highway. Many neighbors arrived at City Hall, imploring elected officials to leave the neighbors alone.

"If VDOT was an orchestra, we could accuse it of being tone deaf," said West End resident Kathy Burns. "Several cocky VDOT officials have told us at these hearings over and over that these changes are done deals and we should basically shut up and fall into line."

All in all, neighbors came to City Hall and urged council members to tear down the wall. Speaker after speaker opposed the idea, largely because it would require the clear-cutting of many trees and would be an unattractive feature of the neighborhood that might reduce property values. Many spoke out against the survey being conducted, which allows some residents closest to the project to participate but not others who are within the line of sight. Perhaps most galling is the VDOT policy of considering ballots unreturned as being in favor of the project.

"I do not believe VDOT would spend money on a sound wall for a community that does not want it," said Bill Skrabak, deputy director of the Department of Transportation and Environmental Quality. "I'm sure VDOT would be happy to save the millions of dollars it would cost to build it."

New School

Although it's one of the newest schools in Alexandria, this year will be the last year for the 1970 version of Jefferson-Houston School. A 130,000-square-foot new facility is currently being constructed at a cost of \$45 million on the field next to the school, allowing the final year of classes to continue before demolition this summer. Classes at the new Jefferson-Houston School, which offers classes from Kindergarten throughout eighth grade, will begin just in time for a state takeover of the school. Jefferson-Houston is the only school in Northern Virginia where test scores are so low it qualifies for a takeover under Republican Gov. Bob McDonnell's Educational Opportunities Institution.

"Startlingly, there was greater poverty at the school in 2008, when the school was fully accredited," said Leslie Zupan, president of the West Old Town Civic Association. "May we now conclude that the children and their socioeconomic status are not the cause of the academic failure?"

According to school records, 81 percent of students at Jefferson-Houston qualify for free or reduced-price lunch, an indication of high rates of poverty at the school. Speaking to City Council members Saturday morning during a public hearing, Zupan pointed out that the school was constructed for 800 students even though it currently has far fewer. Current enrollment at the school is 356 students, and Zupan says she doubts it will be anywhere near 800 students when it opens. "If the school is not occupied at that time, then the last shred of the notion that the building was the cause of the problem and that the new building is the solution will be utterly discredited," she told council members. "In the last analysis, in 2015 — before the election — people will remember that you wrote the check."

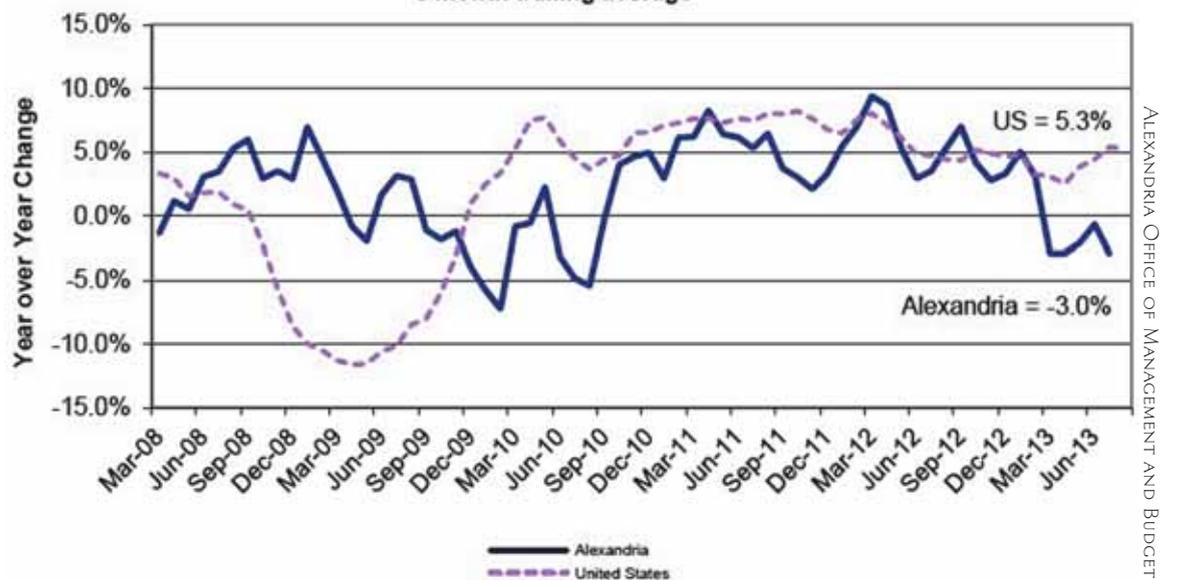
Election Hangover

During upcoming General Assembly session, members of the City Council will be considering a charter change that will clear up some lingering conflicts surrounding the city's controversial decision to abandon the longheld practice of holding spring elections in favor of moving them to November. Republican Sharon Annear spoke during Saturday's public hearing that council members should be wary of other potential changes, including changing the traditional three-year terms in favor of four-year terms.

"It's like a ghost leftover from Halloween," said Annear, adding she opposed the change.

— MICHAEL LEE POPE

Annual Change in U.S. Retail Sales & Alexandria Sales Tax Collections 3 month trailing average



Sales Tax Dip Hits Home

Sales tax decline threatens ability of governments to balance books.

BY MICHAEL LEE POPE
GAZETTE PACKET

Sales tax revenues are down across Northern Virginia, leading to concerns that balancing the books for the coming fiscal year could be even

more of a challenge for budget officials and elected officials in the coming months. The decline ranges from 5.3 percent in Alexandria to 8.5 percent in Arlington for the month of October, when local governments collect taxes from transactions that happened in August. Regional analysts say the numbers reflect the influence of the sequester, which means that next month's financial report will show the damage of the partial government shutdown.

"The federal government has a bigger impact on Virginia than any of the 50 states," said Frank

SEE DECLINE, PAGE 8



USAF Major Jeanette Skow and her daughter Savannah share a moment with a seal while on a vacation to Australia. This image is one of the many photos sewn into the Operation Kid Comfort quilt that was given to Savannah Skow.



Operation Kid Comfort director of programs Giselle Schneider presents a personalized quilt to Savannah Skow. With Savannah is her father Brian.

Operation Kid Comfort at Tucker

Savannah Skow was sitting with her classmates in Sarah Anthony's first grade class when surprise guests arrived at Samuel W. Tucker Elementary School on Tuesday afternoon, Nov. 19. First in the room was Savannah's father Brian along with Operation Kid Comfort director of programs Giselle Schneider and volunteer quiltmaker Stephanie Franke. Schneider presented Savannah with a handmade quilt that was personalized with family photos and memories. Savannah's mother, USAF Major Jeanette Skow, is currently deployed in Afghanistan.

The Armed Services YMCA's Operation Kid Comfort is a free program that offers a military child a connection to his or her deployed parent. It also affords the quilting volunteers the opportunity to get know each family that they are trying to help through their treasured photos and activities. Each quilt costs \$45 of materials and eight hours of volunteer time. SAIC and the Fort Belvoir Catholic Community provide support of this local Virginia-based and nationally run program.

See asymca.org to learn more.

— LOUISE KRAFFT

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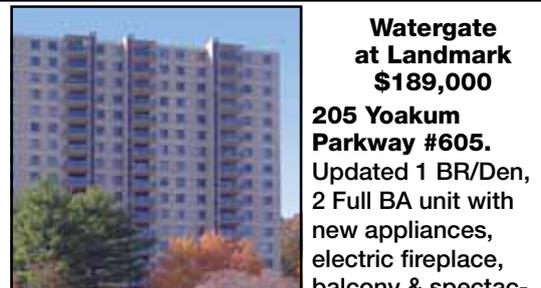
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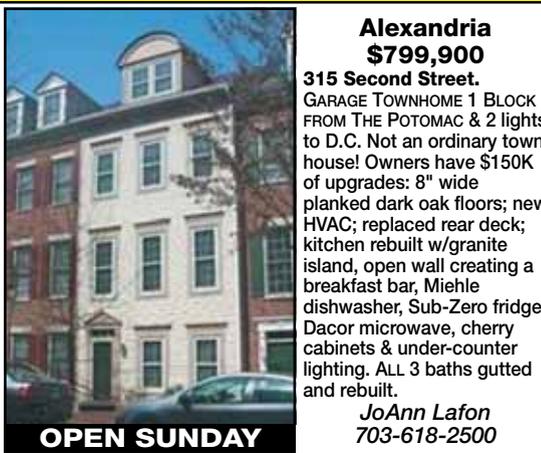
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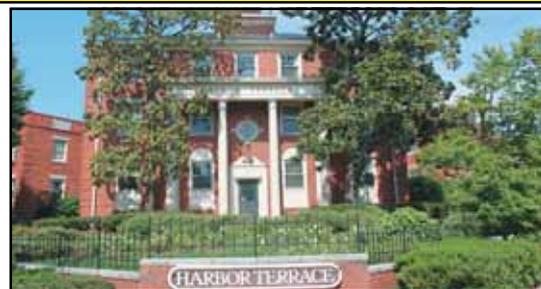
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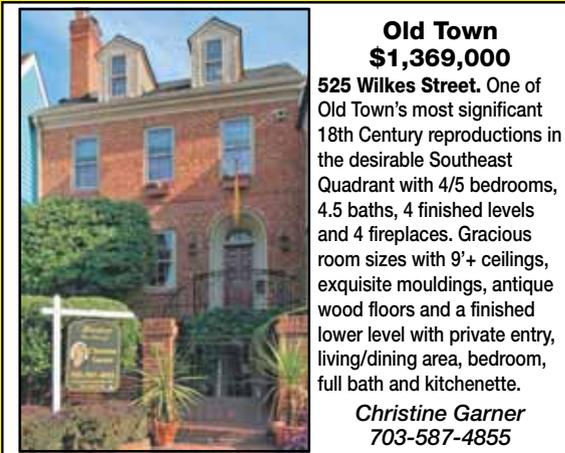
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Old Town Safeway Robbed at Gunpoint

Three men were masked and armed; one customer was grazed by bullet; no arrests.

BY MICHAEL LEE POPE
GAZETTE PACKET

Half an hour before the Old Town Safeway was set to close Sunday night, three masked men entered the building and robbed the grocery store of an undisclosed sum of money. Alexandria police officials say two of the men had a handgun and one of the men had a long-gun.

During the holdup, one of the robbers fired his handgun, grazing a customer in the process. He was taken to a hospital that night, where he was treated and released. A U.S. Park Police helicopter was deployed to help search for the suspects that night, but no arrests have been made in the case.

"Everybody was complying with the suspects during the robbery," said Alexandria



PHOTO BY MICHAEL LEE POPE/GAZETTE PACKET

The Old Town Safeway was robbed by three armed men Sunday night. Alexandria police have made no arrests in the case yet.

Police Department spokeswoman Crystal Nosal. "That's good. That's what you should do."

Nosal said the men were wearing knit ski-masks, although the department has not

released security camera images of the incident. The crime caused alarm in the neighborhood, where the Safeway serves as a sort of community center for south Old Town. The store, known as the "Soviet Safeway"

to some because of its diminutive size and limited selection, has seen an increased security presence since the armed robbery.

"We have officers checking the business frequently and completing paperwork in the parking lot when able," wrote Lieutenant Don Hayes in an email to neighbors. "You will see a uniform presence in the area to help alleviate the perception that it is unsafe to come out after dark."

Some neighbors expressed concern that they did not know what was happening during the chase Sunday night, when the Park Service helicopter was shining a spotlight into the streets and alleys of Old Town. Many were tempted to wander out onto the sidewalk to find out what all the commotion was about. Some say that could have caused a dangerous situation in which armed suspects on the loose could have encountered innocent bystanders simply trying to find out what was happening in their neighborhood.

"If any citizen was wandering into an area that we felt was unsafe, there would be a police officer there to tell them that they should go back into their house," said Nosal. "These guys robbed the Safeway and were high-tailing it out of there, so we had no reason to believe that the immediate public were in any danger."

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Goodman-designed Hollin Hills house
Photo: Virginia Dept. of Historic Resources



Nov. 23rd, Sat. 3:30pm
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Oscar Fitzgerald, professor and author of *Four Centuries of American Furniture*, will lead a discussion on the Danish Modern furniture collection of Charles M. Goodman.

Pair of Finn Juhl for Bovirke Teak Chairs
From Charles M. Goodman's Office



Six Harry Bertoia Diamond Chairs with Pads



Original Washington National Airport
Photo: Virginia Dept. of Historic Resources

NEWS

Chief To Update Kirby's Neighbors

Police to meet Rosemont residents on unsolved murder.

BY HARRY M. COVERT
GAZETTE PACKET

Who killed Ronald Kirby? The case hasn't been solved despite on-going investigations by Alexandria detectives and Virginia State Police.

Kirby, 69, was found dead in his Elm Street home in the Rosemont section of the city about 12:30 p.m. on Monday, Nov. 11.

The body of the longtime transportation planning director for the Metropolitan Council of Governments was found with multiple gunshot wounds by a relative.

Police are still baffled at the city's fifth murder of the year. At deadline there are still no suspects.

Police Chief Earl Cook has scheduled a public meeting for 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 21, at Maury Elementary School, 600 Russell Road. He will speak about progress of the case and will answer questions.

Kirby was a well-respected Alexandria resident and prominent Council of Governments official where he served for 26 years. He was considered an expert in transportation and regional planning.

When his body was found, he had been shot several times in the torso, according to the state medical examiner.

The purpose of Thursday's meeting with Rosemont residents is to calm any fears they may have for their neighborhood.

"There's no reason for neighbors or citizens to be overly concerned about violence," Cook said.

Deputy Chief Eddie Reyes said because of the ongoing investigation details can not be released at present. Sean Casey, a veteran homicide detective, is leading the investigation.

Cook did say, "We don't think we have a crazed killer."

Police have been combing the neighborhood for any possible witnesses to the daylight killing.

Kirby's death is a reminder of the Dec. 5, 2003 unsolved murder of Nancy Dunning, wife of then sheriff Jim Dunning. She was known as the "Queen of Del Ray" and a successful real estate businesswoman. After 10 years, the Dunning murder is a cold case. Police investigators remain stymied by lack of evidence.

Officials from the city, the D.C. government and the Congress all have praised Kirby. U.S. Rep. Jim Moran described Kirby as a transportation visionary and an expert who gave confidence to elected officials.

Kirby's funeral was held Sunday, Nov. 17 in Alexandria.

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Special thanks to Alexandria Gazette Packet



Mark Simmons, a UVA classmate of Jody Manor, celebrates with Manor's mother Alice.



PHOTOS BY JOHN BORDNER

Owner Jody Manor, right, listens as Alexandria Town Crier Ben Fiore-Walker greets visitors to the Waterfront Market reception Nov. 17 at the City Dock. The new restaurant by the owner of Bittersweet Café officially opens Nov. 26 at 11 a.m.

Bon Appetite

New Waterfront Market opens at City Dock.

BY JEANNE THEISMANN
GAZETTE PACKET

When Alexandria native Jody Manor graduated from the University of Virginia, he returned home to look for work. Armed with a degree in Russian Studies, the ambitious young businessman promptly went out and answered an ad — to be a cook.

“So much for that degree,” joked Manor’s mother Alice. “Jody’s first job was working for Bittersweet Catering on King Street. He ended up buying the business, asked me to help him out for two weeks and 30 years later here we are.”

“Here” is the new Waterfront Market, located at 7 King St., which held a private community reception and food tasting Nov. 19 at the City Dock.

“There are few things in life more rewarding than having a big dream and fulfilling it,” Manor told the

crowd of more than 500. “It is overwhelming to see so many people from the community here tonight.”

Located at 7 King St., the 4000-square-foot combination market and cafe will offer custom sandwiches, flatbreads, sushi, weekend brunch and other quick service items. The retail market will sell gourmet grocery items, fresh produce, roasted chickens, salads and side dishes as well as a comprehensive selection of craft beers and local and international wines.

Meg Samonds, a former manager of Kincaid’s in D.C., will serve as general manager.

“It’s a real honor to work with Jody,” Samonds said. “He hires locally, buys locally and promotes from within. With him I get to see my own city through Jody’s eyes and it’s a wonderful vision.”

The café will seat 76 inside, 20 on the sidewalk on King Street and another 54 on a city-owned, waterfront boardwalk behind the building overlooking the marina.

Rich Markus Architects designed the interior layout of the new space and general contractor Patner Construction completed the build out.

The market, the first paying tenant at the location in 10 years, will officially open to the public Nov. 26 at 11 a.m.

For hours and more information, visit www.thewaterfrontmarket.com.



PHOTOS BY LOUISE KRAFT/GAZETTE PACKET

At Holiday Bazaar

Holly Hartell, Kathy Brown and Torrance Delawie volunteered at the Emmanuel Episcopal Church bake sale booth.



Katie Kelly and Suji Brown with their recycled art, “Wine Links.” The links are made from bicycle chains.



Moina and Lee Ratliff of Yesteryears' Treasures filled their table at the Holiday Bazaar at Emmanuel Episcopal Church on Saturday, Nov. 16, with linen and laces.



PHOTO BY JEANNE THEISMANN/GAZETTE PACKET

T.C. Williams junior Chanyia Hughes, center, helps Lt. Deborah Vaughan, AFD spokesman Shawn Gore, Deputy Sheriff Valerie Wright and Deputy Felicia Mensah distribute coats at the Charles Houston recreation Center Nov. 16 as part of the Firefighters and Friends annual coat drive. The Sheriff's Association donated \$250 to help purchase new winter coats for Alexandria children.

To the Rescue

Firefighters and Friends distribute 400 coats.

BY JEANNE THEISMANN
GAZETTE PACKET

He may have been in Philadelphia preparing for what turned out to be a loss to the Eagles, but Washington Redskins Special Teams Coordinator and Alexandria native Keith Burns’ spirit filled the Charles Houston Recreation Center Nov. 16 as his family helped distribute more than 400 new coats and 100 Thanksgiving turkey dinners as part of the Firefighters and Friends to the Rescue annual coat drive.

“I like being able to come here and help with my family,” said 13-year-old Keith Burns Jr. “My mom and dad both make sure we do what we can to help out people here in Alexandria.”

Volunteers managed by Volunteer Alexandria joined Alexandria firefighters and Sheriff’s Department deputies in distributing coats to chil-

dren in need. Michelle Burns, wife of Keith Burns, helped distribute Thanksgiving dinner baskets provided by the Keith Burns Foundation.

“We also gave away new sweat suits to area children,” said Capt. Willie Bailey, founder of the nonprofit Firefighters and Friends to the Rescue. “And because of the generosity of the Keith Burns Foundation, we gave away more than 100 Thanksgiving dinners complete with a turkey.”

Other organizations participating in the coat distribution include: Charles Houston Advisory Council, Alexandria Sheriff’s Association, Alexandria Fire Department, ACT for Alexandria, Volunteer Alexandria, Rotary Club of Alexandria, Promax Realtors, Springfield, Alexandria Pest Services, Friendship Firehouse Association, Simpson Development Company, Fairfax County Fire Department and Apple Federal Credit Union.

“Today we are bringing numerous businesses and organizations in Alexandria together to make sure we provide new coats for kids and Thanksgiving Dinners for those who otherwise would go without this holiday season,” Bailey said. “A new coat for a child provides self-esteem and it allows them to go to school on the coldest days so they can receive a good education.”

Judicial Review

Long-awaited report rejects consolidation of circuits, lays out need for judges.

BY MICHAEL LEE POPE
GAZETTE PACKET

Virginia needs more judges, according to a long-awaited report released last week by the National Center for State Courts. Alexandria needs an additional Circuit Court judge, and the Arlington Circuit Court currently has the right amount, even if it's currently authorized for more judges than the court currently has. Fairfax is right on target, although the report calls for more judges in several other jurisdictions — most notably in Rockingham County, Fredericksburg and Bland County.

"This was not at all what I expected the report would say," said Del. Dave Albo (R-42), chairman of the House Courts of Justice. "But it's science, so what are you gonna do?"

Perhaps the most surprising aspect of the report is what was missing from it. Many people, including Albo, were expecting that the report might have some kind of recommendation about consolidating some of the commonwealth's jurisdictions. One of the reasons the report was commissioned in the first place was the perception among some in Richmond that some jurisdictions are overworked while others knock off early to go play golf. The report belies that perception.

"This will be our guide and our blueprint going forward for every jurisdiction," said Del. Patrick Hope (D-47). "So we won't have to argue or try to prove a need or try to find money at the last minutes to fill these judgeships."

THE REPORT, titled "Virginia Judicial Workload Assessment Report," is a major victory for judges in Arlington and Alexandria. These were the two jurisdictions that were the target of an effort to consolidate

"Additional judges are needed to enable Virginia's trial court judiciary to manage and resolve court business effectively and without delay."

— Virginia Judicial Workload Assessment Report

smaller court systems, with many in Richmond believing that judges in here did not handle the kind of caseloads routinely managed in other larger jurisdictions. Some believed the report might even recommend consolidation of some of the smaller courts. But that did not happen.

"It may be suggested that efficiencies can be gained by consolidating circuits and districts with fractional need, or where excess capacity in one circuit or district would cancel out a need for additional judges in another circuit or district," according to the report. "Examining the weighted caseload output across all three court levels, how-

ever, reveals that redrawing existing judicial boundaries carries little potential for such savings in practice."

Two years ago, the General Assembly asked the National Center for State Courts to develop a "weighted caseload system" to measure how much work judges were doing in various courtrooms across the commonwealth. Because each court system has a different system for keeping records, legislators in Richmond had a difficult time determining how much work was going on.

When rulings are made, some courts close out the case while others keep them open. That means if future action happens, which is often the case, some courts would show a higher caseload. That's why it was important to determine a scientific way of determining caseload.

"Additional judges are needed to enable Virginia's trial court judiciary to manage and resolve court business effectively and without delay," the report concludes. "NCSC strongly recommends that the General Assembly begin to fill judicial vacancies, and in some instances create new authorized judicial positions."

THE STUDY finds that circuit courts across the commonwealth need 171 judges. The weighted caseload model shows a need to

fill nearly all current vacancies as well as create 13 judgeships to add to the current total of 158 authorized judgeships. The study also concluded that general district courts need to fill at least six vacancies and family courts need 17 more judges.

"With the conclusion of the study, there will be consideration given to the recommendations," said state Sen. Adam Ebbin (D-30). "But one of the biggest issues will be funding the judgeships, and what the leaders on the courts and finance committees recommend."

Albo says that any jurisdiction that requests new judges will have to find money to finance them, an indication that report is not the final say in the long-running battle over the courts.

For years, state legislators have clashed over filling judicial vacancies. In the past, they have been controversial because of the feeling that some courts are not as busy as others. Now that the study has created a scientific way to measure caseload, some judges may feel more inclined to step down. One is Circuit Court Judge William Newman, who is married to Shelia Johnson, co-founder of Black Entertainment Television and part owner of the Washington Capitals, the Washington Wizards and the Washington Mystics.

"If Judge Newman decides he wants to retire, we would have no problem appointing his successor without some sort of ability to prove that we needed a third judge," said Hope.

Decline in Sales Tax Affects Local Government Budgets

FROM PAGE 3

Shafroth, director of the Center for State and Local Government Leadership. "And that means people here are making decisions about what they are going to buy without knowing when or if they are going to get paid."

For local governments trying to put together budgets for fiscal year 2015, the numbers pose a serious challenge. Should they revise their revenue estimates for the future, which would indicate a belief of similar uncertainty in the future? Or should they revise the revenue estimates in the current fiscal year because sales tax revenues are expected to take another dip when the December collections of August revenues take a dive related to the shutdown.

"The expectation was that September would be positive but sales were negative," said Steve Fuller, director of the Center for Regional Analysis at George Mason University. "The explanation was the threat of the shutdown and the concerns among consumers about the debt ceiling battle. Consumer confidence dropped in September and again in October."

IN FAIRFAX COUNTY, sales tax revenues were down 6.6 percent in October, which

reflected collections that took place in August. County officials received \$13.3 million, which was significantly smaller than October 2012. It's the third consecutive month that sales taxes were down, although not as dramatically. August numbers showed a 0.7 percent decline compared to 2012, and the September economic reports logged a 0.5 percent decline compared to last year. Overall, sales tax receipts are down 2.6 percent for the first three months of fiscal year 2014.

"We are definitely looking at the budget implications," said Alben Assenova, budget analyst with the Fairfax County government. "But we have not revised our estimates yet."

Fairfax County officials, who oversee the largest budget in Virginia, expected the summer months to be bad because of furloughs related to the sequester. By the end of the year, budget officials will have a better idea of how much the shutdown hurt the sales tax revenue. In the meantime, they have already started reviewing what kind of revenue estimates they want to make next year for fiscal year 2015.

"We are definitely monitoring our receipts," said Assenova. "And we might need to revise our estimates downward."

ARLINGTON COUNTY has experienced

sales tax revenues decline 8.5 percent in October, which reflects collections from August. Arlington officials collected about \$3 million, which was significantly lower than October 2012. Budget officials say a number of factors could be behind the dip, including a particularly strong October 2012 that would be difficult to top.

"What we are seeing is more variability," said Arlington Budget Director Richard Stephenson. "In the past, we might have had 10 months of positive month-over-month growth from the prior fiscal year. Now we're seeing more variation, where it might be six months up and six months down."

Stephenson said Arlington budget officials are in the process of examining the expected revenues for sales taxes as part of the proposed fiscal year 2015 budget, which will be released in the next few months.

As far as the current fiscal year, budget officials are not sure they are going to hit the expected revenue for the fiscal year. That number may be revised when budget officials issue a mid-year analysis in the spring.

"It's a contributing factor to the gap between revenue and expenses that we are forecasting for fiscal year 2015," said Stephenson. "Commercial real estate and BRAC are affecting the region as well."

ALEXANDRIA SALES TAX revenues are down 5.3 percent compared to last year. The most recent monthly financial report shows this is the lowest drop in sales tax collections in three years.

Compared to the national average of sales tax collections, which is up about 5 percent, Alexandria and other Northern Virginia jurisdictions are taking a hit.

"It's something that we are monitoring very closely," said Laura Triggs, director of finance for the city of Alexandria. "We think one of the contributing factors might be grocery store closings."

Statewide, sales tax revenue is down 5.4 percent compared to October of last year. On a year-to-date basis, total revenue collections rose 0.6 percent through October. Adjusting for the accelerated sales tax program and the 0.125 percent sales tax transfer required by the transportation agreement, total revenues grew 1.6 percent through October, trailing the adjusted forecast of 2.7 percent growth.

"The federal government continues to fail at the most basic of functions, including most recently failing at just the simple act of remaining open," said Gov. Robert McDonnell in a written statement. "This is having a direct impact on the finances of Virginia's residents and our state government."



PHOTOS BY JEANNE THEISMANN/GAZETTE PACKET

Runners take to the start of the inaugural USATF 12K Championships in Alexandria Nov. 19.



Burke & Herbert mascot Runyon smiles for the camera with Kamla Rodriguez and Jane Lichter.

Thrill of Victory City hosts USATF championships.

By JEANNE THEISMANN
AND ISABEL AMEND
GAZETTE PACKET

Five Olympians were among the 1,500 runners who took to the streets of Alexandria Nov. 17, setting a world best and two American records at the USA Track & Field National Road Racing Championships.

In the women's 12-kilometer race, Olympian Molly Huddle set a new world best and American record time of 37 minutes and 50 seconds to edge out fellow Olympian Shalane Flanagan, who came in second at 37:58. The previous world record time was 38:26 set by Deena Kastor, the 2004 Olympic bronze medal marathon winner, who held the finish-line tape as Huddle set the new 12-km record.

"That's pretty crazy," Huddle said. "I never thought I'd be saying I'd have a world best. [The] 12k is one of those distances that's not run too often, so I'll take it. I have a world record I can add to my name."

Flanagan was not entirely pleased, nor entirely disappointed, with her performance. "In hindsight, I probably should've thrown in a little bit of a surge," she said. "My fitness is coming along but by no means

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PHOTO BY JOHN BORDNER

Aaron Braun crosses the finish line in 34:28 to win the USATF 12K race in Alexandria.



PHOTO BY JOHN BORDNER

Marcia Speck congratulates husband David at the finish line of the 12K race.

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OPINION

Shop Locally, Shop in Alexandria

Small business

Saturday isn't enough; don't wait, and don't stop after that.

An effort to support locally owned businesses has resulted in the recognition of Small Business Saturday, the Saturday after Thanksgiving. This year that is Nov. 30. Black Friday, the day after Thanksgiving, is known as a dedicated day of national zeal for shopping. Presumably the next day shoppers can focus on local shopping.

EDITORIAL

It sounds like an obligation, and it is. But there is a joy to shopping in local stores at the holidays, to walking along a sidewalk with the streets decked out for the holidays, to being greeted by someone likely to be the owner of the store, to finding gifts that are not mass-produced.

We all benefit when local stores thrive, when local business districts beckon.

Locally owned retail shops, services, restaurants depend on vibrant local communities to thrive. Most small, locally owned businesses invest in community, helping to transform our towns and communities with a sense of place.

The economy continues to improve slowly without inspiring. Local families will shop and exchange gifts during the next month, spending tens of millions of dollars in a variety of places.

Holiday Fun

A small sample of local holiday events — for more, see the holiday or entertainment calendar. Email holiday event information to alexcore@connectionnews.com at least one week before the event. Include date and time; venue and address where it will take place; a brief description; cost, if any; and contact phone, email and/or website. Events must be free or minimal expense and open to the public.

FRIDAY/NOV. 29

Black Friday. More than 50 independent boutiques will open early with shopping deals. Participating stores will offer discounts starting at 6 a.m. Also enjoy free parking during the day and restaurants opening early with discounts and more. Visit www.blackfridayalexandria.com for a list of participating businesses.

Tree Lighting Ceremony. 6 p.m. at Market Square in front of City Hall, 301 King St. The Mayor and Santa Claus will light the city tree. Enjoy music, caroling and more. Free. Visit www.visitalexandriava.com for more.

One way to be sure holiday shopping comes with some holiday spirit is to do a portion of your shopping in some of the area's locally owned stores. There is special holiday ambience available by shopping in the heart of a town that is decked out for the season. Small retail shops are part of defining any community. Their livelihood depends on the livability and quality of the neighborhoods around them. A small business owner pays attention to every detail in his or her business in a way that no chain can.

Frequently, it is the small retail person who is active in fundraising for local charities, for fire and rescue service, for local schools and

THURSDAY-SUNDAY/DEC. 12-15

Living Christmas Tree. First Baptist Church of Alexandria, 2932 King St., presents the Living Christmas Tree. Showtimes are Thursday and Friday at 7:30 p.m.; Saturday at 2:30 p.m., 5 p.m. and 7:30 p.m., and Sunday at 2:30 p.m. and 5 p.m. \$7/person. No children under 4. Childcare is available upon request. Visit www.fbcalexandria.org/LCT for tickets.

TUESDAY/DEC. 31

First Night Alexandria. Afternoon activities from 1-5 p.m., performances from 7 p.m.-midnight and fireworks at midnight from the Potomac River at the foot of King Street. There will be more than 100 performances at 22 indoor venues, dancing, children's games and more. \$15/before Dec. 15; \$20/after; children under 12 and active military are free. Visit www.firstnightalexandria.org for a full list of activities, performances and locations.

in organizing holiday events.

Local retail stores, mom-and-pop stores, face tough challenges right now. Competition from big box stores and online sellers makes the holiday shopping season all the more important to locally owned retailers.

Everyone will do some of their shopping at the mall. Everyone will do some shopping online. Many will answer the call of the big box. But local shoppers should be sure to save some shopping time and dollars for local stores. Spend some time shopping in your own community, and also plan an excursion to a nearby town to check out the local businesses and holiday spirit there.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Reckless Haste

To the Editor:

The issue of eminent domain is

set to rip asunder fragile community goodwill behind the Waterfront Plan for reasons that are deeply flawed and deceptively described.

We are at a critical stage of com-

munity progress. A planning framework without a design soul is set to benefit from world-class assistance. A willingness of new developers to engage the community portends constructive commu-

nication. A flood mitigation plan is moving toward practical engineering specifics. Most importantly, Old Dominion Boat Club, the legally affirmed, hometown landowner at the foot of King Street has placed substantial concessions on the bargaining table. But, a stalled process that readies to move forward after years of legal uncertainty is threatened by the petty overreach of city bureaucrats unchecked by impatient city politicians. We are too close to ruin or remedy to act in reckless haste.

We hear that the Waterfront Plan requires this and requires that. It does no such thing. This planning framework was sold to the public as a concept not an edict. If it were an edict, the footprint of every building depicted in the plan would be cast in stone as apparently immutable as the proposed ice skating rink. Every property, including Carr property's massive, overbuilt design would conform to the orientation, sightlines, and setbacks we repeatedly saw in the model.

Fitzgerald Square does not exist in the plan in anything other

SEE LETTERS, PAGE 12



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

A 'Bountiful Tom Turkey'

The students of Grace Episcopal School helped feed the homeless of Alexandria by creating a gigantic, canned-food "Bountiful Tom Turkey" on Nov. 14. Measuring 28 feet by 32 feet this turkey-shaped structure was entirely made of boxed and canned foods contributed by Grace Episcopal School students and their families.

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OPINION

November 22, 1963

BY CHUCK HAGEE

It is now a few minutes before midnight on the day John F. Kennedy, 35th President of the United States, was assassinated in Dallas, Texas. I feel that I must record my feelings on this occasion because I believe that this most tragic act is a horrible example of a most disturbing attitude which has been growing in this Republic.

It is at a time such as this that I am truly aware of the complete inadequacy of words. My feelings at the time of the President's death are nearly indescribable. At first they were of disbelief. I was in Philadelphia at the time attending a meeting at the Widener building in the offices of the Federal Housing and Home Financing Agency. The first word came over the car radio as I headed toward the Pennsylvania Turnpike for the return trip to Harrisburg.

As the situation became more and more ominous and finally at the announcement of the President's death I felt as though I was consumed by utter frustration. After all, this was supposed to be a government of rational men, not of force or radicalism. Yet here, in a nation where we enjoy all the pleasures of a free society emotion had somehow become so twisted and warped that our head of state had been cut down as if we were an uncivilized, tyrannical mob.

Have we drifted so far from the ideals which have built this nation into the most desired spot on earth that we are not capable or fit to enjoy those freedoms for which so many have so much. A constitutional government must stand on the rational, and I emphasize rational, disagreement of men. It can not be founded on emotionalism. We have preached to the world that disagreements must and should be argued out and not shot out. Yet, here today our youngest President was shot and killed.

We must hope that this act was not only committed by but planned by a deranged mind. For if it was even remotely tied to any form of established internal political disagreement then this government will not withstand the responsibilities of free world leadership which it must bear.

I can't remember ever feeling so deeply a loss as that of President Kennedy today. Since I never had the honor of meeting him personally I do not believe that my feeling was primarily for him alone but rather for the way in which he died.

For sometime now I have been deeply concerned with the growing attitude of many in this land to run the government by emotional appeal to various pressure groups rather than by sound statesmanship. This, I firmly believe, can lead no where but to disaster and tragedy as we have witnessed today. Above all separate interests lays the American dream of a free people settling their differences by debate in the halls of legislature and not by violence. For too long each side of the political aisle has sought to further their own ends by making accommodations to what is commonly called political reality rather than by an honest appraisal of the national interest.

Perhaps the death of President Kennedy in such a barbaric manner will snap the leaders and the people of this nation back to true reality — the

fact that if this dream and if this system of government dies under the heel of emotionalism then the only victor will not be Democrats or Republicans or internationalists or isolationists or labor or management or any particular race, but rather the winner will be anarchy, distrust, and totalitarianism.

Many did not agree with the political philosophy of President Kennedy in many respects. I was one of them. But the resort to violence in order to settle those disagreements is no way to preserve constitutional government.

President Kennedy, in most of his programs, displayed a dedication to ideals that has rarely been equalled on the world stage. He was not the most politically agile chief executive we have had. And, in many ways, I was disappointed in his administration. But, I believe, he did present to the world the image of a young and dedicated nation committed to the ideals of constitutional freedom.

Tonight I watched the unfolding of today's tragic events on television and heard the leaders of both parties ban together to support new President Lyndon B. Johnson. I only hope that this national approach will last.

It is not that we should abandon our political differences. But these differences should be fought out on the floors of our legislatures and not with overt violence. And the solutions to these differences should be reached by an honest and objective appraisal of the common good and not an accommodation to the strongest pressure groups.

The events of this tragic day have also impressed upon me the dire need to keep the office of the Presidency in the hands of those that adhere to the so-called middle of the political road and to remain constantly aware that the tactics often used to shape public opinion on given issues may be food for the unbalanced mind to dash the ideals of freedom on the rocks of emotionalism. To be sure, there is a very real and necessary place in our legislative halls for those of all political philosophies who seek to perpetuate constitutional government. But, the office of the chief executive cannot and must not become the launch pad of either political extreme.

Also the forces that are given the task of shaping political opinion must be acutely aware of the solemn trust they hold. One must always be prepared to reap the consequences of the seeds which are sown. All too often it is quite easy to become engrossed in personal success and fail to give proper perspective to higher and more far reaching ideals.

This is not to say that self interest must or will be denied in the performance of government. But, if that interest is truly intelligent and sincere it will operate in the context of enlightened self interest and not in the pure context of vested self interest. For if it does follow the latter path it shall be its own undoing.

Perhaps, and I truly pray for my family and the world's sake, that this horrible shooting of President Kennedy today was the act of a madman and not one of design and that subsequent developments will bear this out. Yet, no one in this nation can truly excuse him or her self from

SEE NOVEMBER 22, 1963, PAGE 13

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OPINION

Much Available for Seniors Looking To Work or Volunteer

BY MARY LEE ANDERSON
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
SENIOR SERVICES OF ALEXANDRIA

Senior Services of Alexandria, Volunteer Alexandria and JobLink teamed up for a very informative Senior Speaker Series event at Beatley Central Library last week. More than 90 people heard about help available for those seeking employment, as well as several great local volunteer opportunities.

SENIOR SERVICES OF ALEXANDRIA

Representatives from AARP, JobLink and the National Council on Aging gave valuable information for those interested in getting back into the job market. One important tip is that using social media, such as LinkedIn, is an effective way to expand your job search network. Consider internships and volunteer positions as ways to build your resume and paths to paid employment. Joblink of-



fers special counseling for seniors as part of their Experience Workers Program, AARP's website has a wide range of on-line tools for job-seekers, and NCOA administers the Senior Community Ser-

vice Employment Program, matching unemployed seniors with non-profits. More information is available at the following websites: www.lifereimagined.org/work, www.alexandriava.gov/joblink and www.ncoa.org.

Seniors looking for volunteer opportunities don't have to go far. Volunteer Alexandria serves as a link between individual and business volunteers and area non-profit organizations. Its website, www.volunteeralexandria.org, features the latest needs, as well as ongoing programs such as Meals on Wheels and SSA's Friendly Visitor Program. The audience also heard

about three local agencies that serve Alexandria's youth: the Alexandria Tutoring Consortium trains volunteers tutors to help children in kindergarten and first grade, (www.alexandriatutors.org); Alexandria's Mentoring Partnership manages 11 youth-mentoring programs (www.alexandriava.gov/mentoring), and T.C. Williams High School's International Network, whose volunteers support students in the classroom with their reading, writing and English oral language. (lisa.haskins@acps.k12.va.us).

The audience was able to meet directly with all the panelists after the program to get ideas on how to take advantage of the many ways to put their years of experience and knowledge to work. Alexandria is definitely a great place to be a senior.

Mike Mackey with Alexandria Mentoring Partnership.



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

FROM PAGE 10

than a conceptual suggestion. In fact, the Waterfront Workgroup Report, adopted in whole by the City Council, specifically and unanimously deleted this recommendation and called instead for simply "a significant public space on King Street between Union Street and the river that acts as the gateway to the City." Check your geography ... the parking lot is neither on King Street nor between Union and the park.

The solution is obvious here. Make the foot of King, from Union to the water one contiguous public space, paved in pervious surface, devoid of motor traffic, from wall to wall, street to river. Park the trolleys at City Hall Square where the terminus belongs. Build the arch and celebrate our unity here. A final caution to this council: To cite public good as reason to seize private property to accomplish mere concepts is extremely weak rationale. The Waterfront Work Group report, in its very first summary recommendation stated, "The WPWG strongly discourages the use of eminent domain to accomplish the recommendations of the Waterfront Small Area Plan. Nothing in the WPWG report should offer rationale for eminent domain action." This public review body repeated this unanimous conclusion later, specifically as it related to city actions at the foot of King Street.

Former councilman David Speck cited the obvious compromise at a meeting last week where the boat club was actually allowed to speak and describe its willingness to settle this issue. "Split the difference on the parking lot footprint proposals," he suggested. I would go further. Accept the boat club's concession of a public walkway along the river; globally settle all issues; be done with this wrestling that benefits only lawyers and not the taxpayers; move on in partnership.

Bob Wood
Alexandria

Waterfront Wants vs. Needs

To the Editor:

As a resident of Old Town (but not a member of the Old Dominion Boat Club), I recently attended the forum organized by the Waterfront Commission where representatives of the city and Old Dominion Boat Club could exchange perspectives.

Let me begin by thanking Charlotte Hall and the Waterfront Commission for organizing that forum. Ms. Hall was an outstanding moderator, giving everyone an opportunity to speak while maintaining the civility of the dialog.

I would also like to thank the participants, Faroll Hamer, Mark Jinks and Eric DeSoto for their clear and concise presentations.

There are obviously a number of issues that remain open in the negotiations between the city and ODBC.

The primary issue, however, seems to be a decision that the city must make on its own. Is the city willing to reach an amicable settlement with ODBC, in which each party gets what they need? Or is the city so committed to occupying the entire site of the ODBC parking lot that it is willing to risk losing everything in an eminent domain proceeding?

I hope you will choose to resolve the various land use issues with ODBC through negotiations. Neither side will get everything they want, but each will get what they need. This will require the city to give up its grand plans for "Fitzgerald Square," but it will allow the city to connect King Street Park and Waterfront Park along the river, and it will avoid costly litigation that could result in the city failing to obtain any of the land.

If the city and ODBC each agree to make additional compromises, a reasonable settlement can be reached. You are not that far apart.

The city should focus on adding as much land as possible on the waterfront and giving the ODBC more space close to the Strand. Parkland on the waterfront connecting King Street Park with Waterfront Park is a critical part of the plan of making the river accessible. The land along the Strand would be desirable, but not critical. It seems unlikely that the backs of the buildings facing the Strand will ever create a "welcoming" center. Moreover, "Fitzgerald Square" will never replace Marketplace at City Hall as the center of civic activity.

I encourage the city to accept ODBC's proposal to share King Street Park. Their anchor and flag poles seem to be appropriate "public art" for the space. Their use of King Street Park should not interfere with the ability of the public to enjoy it as well.

The suggestion that the city use eminent domain to achieve its goals raises a number of concerns. First, it sends a poor message to the citizens of Alexandria: Our city government does not respect the interests of long-time residents. ODBC has been a part of the Alexandria waterfront for over 100 years and their interests should not be dismissed. Second, the litigation needed to assert eminent domain will be costly.

And third, there is a possibility that ODBC will prevail in that proceeding, just as it did in Wales Alley. Virginians voted overwhelmingly in 2012 to amend the state constitution to restrict the use of eminent domain. The constitution permits the city to take land for public use but prohibits it from taking the land if the primary purpose is for economic development or commercial interests. Moreover, the city may only take the land that is necessary to achieve the public use. While the city might prevail on both issues, it is easy to imagine plausible arguments that could prevail against the city's position.

In conclusion, the citizens of Alexandria will be better served if the city negotiates a compromise settlement with ODBC than if

the city takes an adversarial position against them. The city will get what it needs — park land along the river connecting King Street Park to Waterfront Park.

Howard Bergman
President, Founders
Park Community Association

Following Through On City Policies

To the Editor:

City Council updated the Transportation Master Plan in January 2013. This plan sets policies such as: "Public spaces, including streets and off-street paths [will] offer a level of convenience, safety, and attractiveness that encourages and rewards the choice to walk regardless of age or ability."

City staff proposes to narrow travel lanes, remove some on-street residential parking and install bike facilities on King Street between W. Cedar Street and Janneys Lane as steps to implement City Council-approved policies such as the Transportation Master Plan. These steps also directly address residents' concerns for pedestrian safety that result from excessive traffic speeds and the immediate proximity of the sidewalk to vehicle travel lanes along this section of King Street.

The benefits are clear. Narrowing the main travel lanes will reduce speeds about 3 mph; bike lanes will provide a much-needed buffer from motor vehicles; and bike lanes are a proven safety measure to reduce conflicts between cars and bicycles.

Staff is also working very hard to address concerns cited by some residents in the area. For example, the city is proposing a wider bicycle lane on the north side of King Street to provide additional space for drop-offs and pickups in front of residences. The original plan included bike lanes from W. Cedar

SEE LETTERS, PAGE 14

Dancing into the Sunset

After 35 years, Kathy Harty Gray and her dance company are taking a bow.

BY AMBER HEALY
GAZETTE PACKET

Kathy Harty Gray's career may have started as a student at Julliard, but she and her students will celebrate her legacy in Alexandria.

After 35 years as a teacher and choreographer of modern dance in the tradition of Martha Graham, Jose Limon and Doris Humphrey, Gray has decided it's time to explore other adventures.

"I'd like to sing in a choir, maybe teach Spanish," Gray said of her post-dance projects. She's certainly earned some time off if she chooses — since 1995 she's taught class two nights a week, from 7-10 p.m. Even before, she was a tenured professor at Mary Washington University and a graduate adjunct at the University of Virginia.

Her whole life has been dance, and choreography in particular has been a special passion in her life, she said. "It brings a different aspect to classes you teach," allowing a teacher to tell a story or, as in the case of the women's history performance she and her company toured around Virginia for students, highlight the struggles of brave pioneers whose actions made life better for

Say Farewell

The final performance of the Kathy Harty Gray Dance Theater is scheduled for this Saturday, Nov. 23 from 7:30-8:30 p.m. in the Tyler Building Auditorium #203 at Northern Virginia Community College Alexandria Campus, 3001 North Beauregard Street, Alexandria. Admission is free, but parking at the Schlesinger Center is \$6.

others.

"She even made lessons plans for the schools we visited," said Iantha Parker, a dancer with Gray since 1987, who was part of the special presentation, "Stories to Remember about Women in Virginia," which was seen by 9,000 people between 2006 and 2008.

Gray counts more than 200 performances in her company's past, including one in 2011 that was inspired by her three brothers, New York City firefighters. After the attacks in New York City, Pennsylvania and the Pentagon, one of her brothers called her and suggested she create a performance in honor of those who died. For the 10th anniversary of the attacks, the company performed the piece, "Grant Us Courage ... Grant Us Peace," which helped to raise \$20,000 for the Pentagon Memorial Fund, Gray said. The music for that piece was written by Tim Janis of Alexandria.

Giving back to her community has always inspired Gray. She's inspired by the multicultural, diverse population of the college where she teaches and uses that to influence her choreography.

But her teaching and choreography are

SEE DANCING, PAGE 27

COMMENTARY

November 22, 1963

FROM PAGE 11

its occurrence. For as long as each of us does not act in the best interests of free government by our actions, thoughts, and words — whether it be on the local, state, national, or international level — then we are all contributing to the dismantling of this nation as surely as if we had pulled the trigger of the assassin's rifle which spoke out for anarchy today in Dallas. There is no acceptable excuse for apathy.

If President Kennedy's shocking murder can serve as a national shock to awaken us from this lack of political dedication and awareness then perhaps he will not have sacrificed his life in vain. It is a sad day, however, that we must sacrifice a dedicated statesman in order to become reawakened to the ideals which should never have slipped from us in the first place. We have the ballot and we have reason. There is no need for the rifle to express our political displeasure.

Partisanship expressed in the form of legislative debate and sound political application can and has given us one of the most well balanced governments in the world. If we lose this dream we have only to look to our selves.

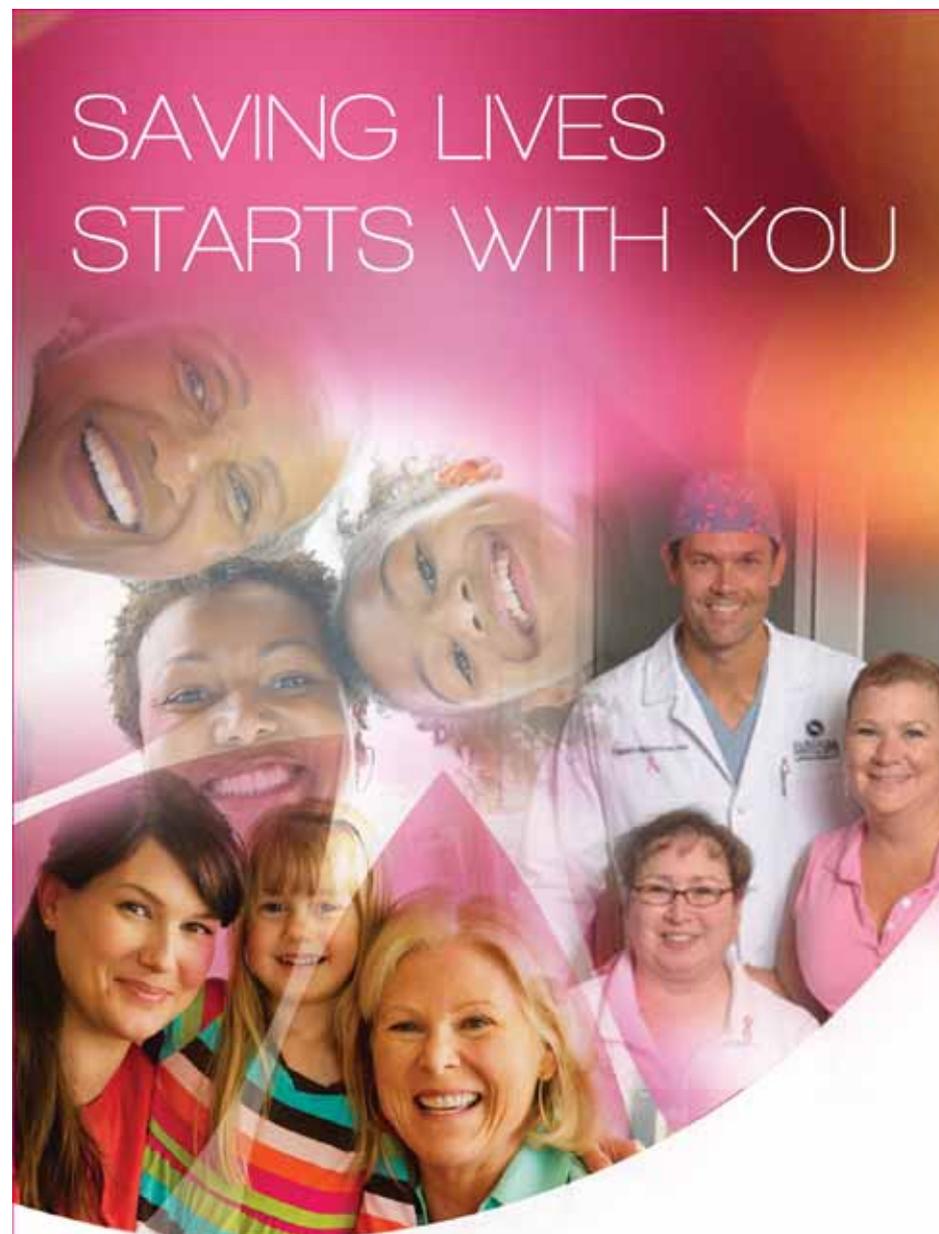
All too often man views his own time as

that singled out by history as the most trying and one which requires extreme methods overshadowing the rights of the individual. However, we have only to read history and reflect upon times past to discover that trials and anxiety have been equally dispersed throughout time and if we approach them not with unbridled emotion but with perspective, prudence, and true humility for our human limitations we will further the dream of constitutional freedom and the sanctity of the individual.

One point in history that I have used many times to reassure myself is during the struggle for American independence when fear and emotionalism were running quite high. One of our great patriots of that time, and a man noted for his emotional appeal, struck a lasting note for sanity in a most trying time. He was Patrick Henry and in one of oration he paraphrased Voltaire by stating, "I may not believe in what you say but I would give my life for your right to say it."

Those words were uttered not in a calm, rational, soothing time. They were uttered during a time of revolution. Are we no longer capable of such objectivity? Today this nation and the world lost a dedicated man. God grant us that he was not the last.

The writer resides in Alexandria.



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David C. Weintritt, MD, FACS

Founder, National Breast Center and Director, Inova Mt. Vernon Breast Care Institute

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OPINION



PHOTO BY MAC DICKSON

Snapshot

T.C. Williams High School junior Mac Dickson took this photo from the Masonic Temple at 8:15 p.m. on Tuesday, Nov. 19 of the NASA Minotaur rocket launch from Wallops Island, Va. The rocket carried a satellite designed and built by students from Thomas Jefferson High School in Fairfax County.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

FROM PAGE 12

Street to West View Terrace.

The revised plan retains parking spaces west of Highland Place. While the original plan provides the greatest safety benefits for all users, it is understandable that city staff would work to implement the council's guidance and policies while minimizing impacts cited by residents.

The King Street Traffic Calming, pedestrian safety and bike lanes project demonstrates Alexandria's commitment to its policies, as well as the commitment to work with residents. Both are important.

Jim Durham, Vice Chair,
Alexandria Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee

Who Receives Medicaid?

To the Editor:

In last week's Gazette Packet, Dino Drudi discussed the perceived disadvantages of taking the Medicaid expansion option of the Affordable Care Act (ACA) and concluded that it would be best for Virginia to opt out of the expansion because it would result in a disproportionate amount of "needy" people who would come to the state to get these benefits. This is consistent with the general philosophy of the Republican Party, who have made it their hallmark to try and cut every social program we have to help others while at the same time preserving

their own personal perks (like farm subsidies for members of Congress who are millionaires).

Mr. Drudi failed to consider why people are on Medicaid in the first place. He might assume that they don't work, but most of the people who get Medicaid assistance are working, mostly at jobs that pay the minimum wage. As a matter of fact, it has been well documented that in state after state, the largest group of individuals who receive that assistance work at Walmart. Using data obtained from Wisconsin, a recent report released by Congress concluded that a single superstore costs taxpayers over \$900,000 (and could cost as much as \$1.7 million) per year to subsidize employee

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Council Votes To Formalize Eminent Domain Threat

FROM PAGE 1
ing for ongoing negotiation and another threatening the use of eminent domain. Smedberg disagreed. So the vice mayor tried to offer a substitute motion that included language deleting the reference to eminent domain. That failed because no other member of council was willing to support it.

“Eminent domain should be rarely exercised,” said Silberberg. “A classic example is when President Eisenhower used it to create the Interstate, and this is not an Interstate.”

THE WATERFRONT PLAN has long been a source of frustration and disagreement in Alexandria, where development pressures are calling for density while neighbors are urging restraint. The zoning change adopted by City Council members includes a plan to transform the parking lot and boat launch at the foot of King Street into a public plaza city leaders are calling Fitzgerald Park after former Alexandria Mayor John Fitzgerald. Recommendation 3.72 of the waterfront plan calls for the city to “pursue eliminating the ODBC parking lot along The Strand, preferably through negotiation with the ODBC.”

“The elimination of the parking lot creates the opportunity for a major new public space between the Fitzgerald warehouse and the water,” according to the plan. “This would open up continuous public access along the waterfront and increase the amount of public space at one of the most important locations on the waterfront.”

Over the summer, city leaders offered an ultimatum to the Boat Club. If boat club members agree to reduce the size of the parking lot to 11,500 square feet, the Alexandria city government would be willing to construct a public plaza along the Strand side of the lot. Boat Club members countered with their own offer. If the city would agree to lease a portion of the club’s property along the Potomac River, the club would agree to create public access to the waterfront. Boat Club members brought a



PHOTO BY MICHAEL LEE POPE/GAZETTE PACKET

City Hall was packed with speakers to oppose the use of eminent domain against the Old Dominion Boat Club. Mayor Bill Euille said he heard from people who supported the idea, although he did not name them.

large illustration of what their compromise would look like if city officials agreed to it — or even considered it.

“We have asked for a response, but we have heard no response” said Eric DeSoto, chairman of the Old Dominion Boat Club. “We have asked repeatedly, but the only response we have received is that meeting with the ODBC is not warranted.”

THE OVERWHELMING majority of speakers objected to the use of eminent domain — many very strongly. During more than three hours of testimony, only one speaker supported the idea of the city using the power of eminent domain to take land owned by the Old Dominion Boat Club. Mayor Euille said he heard from other people who did not testify in favor of using eminent domain, but he did not name them. Speaker after speaker said using eminent domain would make the city a national laughingstock while ensuring a decade of litigation and bitter division.

“This is not the keystone to the waterfront plan,” said former Vice Mayor Andrew Macdonald, who ran an unsuccessful campaign for mayor based largely on his opposition to the waterfront plan. “This is just an extension of a plan built by developers,

not the community.”

Many of the speakers raised the issue of a new constitutional amendment, which was overwhelmingly adopted by Virginia voters last year. More than 70 percent of voters across Virginia approved of the amendment, which received 58 percent support in Alexandria. The language of the new amendment forbids governments from taking land for economic revitalization if the primary purpose is private gain, job creation or increasing tax revenues. Because the waterfront plan was sold as a way to increase tax revenue, critics say, the use of eminent domain to obtain land for a park as part of the plan clearly falls afoul of the Virginia Constitution.

“You cannot untangle that from what you are trying to do,” said Yvonne Weight Callahan, president of the Old Town Civic Association. “So you should be looking forward to perhaps another million dollars of expenses and another decade of litigation.”

THE POLITICS of eminent domain could pose a serious challenge for council members, whose term ends in 2015. Now that Mayor Euille and five of the six City Council members are on record supporting eminent domain, the issue is likely to come up

during the next election. Republicans are eager to make a case against Democrats for seizing private property, an issue they say is likely to resonate with voters considering the overwhelming margins of the constitutional amendment.

“There’s an old poster some of you may be familiar with that has Uncle Sam pointing a finger out saying, ‘I Want You,’” said Pat Troy, a Republican who waged two unsuccessful campaigns for City Council. “Now you are creating a new one, ‘I Want Your Property.’” Troy threatened he might even run for City Council again, an announcement that brought thunderous applause from the crowd assembled at City Hall Tuesday night. A more likely candidate was also on the docket, though, former Republican Councilman Frank Fannon. He was ousted when Democrats moved the city election from May to November, when a record number of Democrats turned out to support the reelection of Barack Obama. But the next election is scheduled for 2015, an odd-year election when the Virginia state Senate will be at the top of the ballot.

“This City Council is around for 24 months, and I know you want to figure out something now,” said Fannon, who voted against the waterfront plan when he was on council last year. “But no elected official wants to vote on eminent domain. That would be the legacy of this City Council, and no one wants to have that.”

THREE OPTIONS are on the table. One would be the city leasing a walkway along the waterfront, the compromise offer from the Boat Club. Another would be a land swap that would trade the Boat Club’s land at the foot of King Street for the city’s land at the foot of Prince Street. A third option would be using eminent domain to take the land, which would inevitably end up in court. Many of the speakers who participated in Tuesday’s public hearing urged compromise.

“It’s not going to be perfect, and it’s not going to be what each party wants,” said Waterfront Commission Chairwoman Charlotte Hall, vice president of the Potomac Riverboat Company. “Everybody is going to have to give a little and put a little skin the game.”



OLD DOMINION BOAT CLUB

An artist’s rendering shows the Old Dominion Boat Club’s compromise offer to lease part of their land to the city so a public walkway can be constructed on the waterfront.



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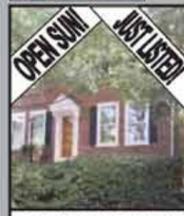
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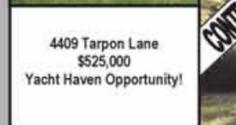
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 Nothing like it for under \$600,000! Spacious home with numerous recent updates. Fabulous features include: large room sizes, bright open floor plan, brand new custom kitchen, updated baths, 4 bedrooms, gleaming hardwood floors, living room with fireplace,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



4209 Pickering Place
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www.maryloupage.com
Mary Lou Sage 703.851.5441



\$ 840,000
Alex / Liberty Row
"NEW PRICE"
 This 2BR/2BA top floor condo has style and comfort. Elegant entry, light filled living room, separate dining room opening to gourmet kitchen with island, Viking SSA, custom back splash and granite counters. Plantation shutters, hard wood flooring, custom molding, custom bookcases, wet bar and balcony.



Klanci Vanderhyde 703.919.4460



\$ 387,500
Triangle, VA
"GOOD LOCATION"
 Beautifully appointed 4BR/3.5BA, 2-car garage home on .36 acre lot. Hardwood floors, high-end custom paint, updated master bath, roof, HWH and much more... Eat-in kitchen open to family room with fireplace, library, deck, walk-out basement, fenced-in wooded back yard, plenty of storage. Close to Quantico, I-95, VRE, shopping and state parks.



Inderjeet Jumani 703.472.8804



\$ 849,900
Arlington
"PRIVATE SETTING"
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 Virtual Tour: www.bobskinnerhomes.org
Bob Skinner 703.585.6683



\$ 425,000
Alexandria
"BRICK TOWNHOUSE"
 Well constructed 3 level interior TH with 3BR/3.5BA plus the option of a 4th bedroom on the LL (with full bath). Tall ceilings. Open plan. Granite kitchen has breakfast room. Hardwoods thru-out the home including the finished basement. Walk out basement to fenced yard with garden beds. 200 sq ft deck off main level bump out with view. 1-car garage parking. Quiet alcove of newer homes with plenty of extra parking.
Margaret Ruhe 703.599.7527



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 • 3BR / 2.5BA
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 • Formal living and dining rooms
 • Family room off amazing kitchen with island
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 • Few blocks to Metro
Martine Imer & Alexander Imer
703.346.7283 or 703.403.2465



\$ 539,900
Alex / Old Town
"NEW LISTING"
 Bright and spacious describes this 2BR/2BA condo on upper floor. Great views of the US Capitol and the Potomac River. Garage parking conveys. Loads of closets and large walk-in closet. Updated marble BAs and kitchen with light wood floors. Some amenities include rooftop pool, sundeck, EZ access to shops and open space.
 For details: Ann.Kavalljian@longandfoster.com
Ann Kavalljian 703.626.9171



\$ 725,000
Alexandria
"LUXURY LIVING"
 3 level Colonial with hardwoods and tile thru-out main level, oak staircase every level. Large gourmet kitchen with granite, GE stainless steel, upgraded cherry cabinets. Deluxe master BA with jetted tub and double vanities. 2nd level family room with fireplace and wired for home theater. Deck for grilling, 2-car garage and built in 2006. Kingstowns amenities. Quick access to I-395/495 and Van Dorn Metro nearby. 4BR/3.5BA
Margaret Ruhe 703.599.7527



\$ 559,900
Alex / Del Ray
"PRICED TO SELL"
 Charming and meticulously maintained, this 3BR/3.5BA townhouse includes 9 foot ceilings, decorator crown molding, hardwood floors, new carpet and appliances in 2012, granite counters, fireplace, garage parking, large deck and landscaped patio. Walk to shops and restaurants from your front door. Minutes to Braddock Metro.



Joy Khalil 703.862.8016



\$ 220,000
Alexandria
"INCREDIBLE VALUE"
 Sophisticated and spacious 1BR/1BA first floor condo in highly desirable Exchange at Van Dorn. Walk or shuttle to Metro and enjoy exercise and party rooms, pool and more! Large gourmet kitchen with breakfast bar and pantry, updated full bath, laundry room with full size W/D and patio overlooking private courtyard. New HWH, HVAC, carpet and tons of storage! Hurry to this one!



Kim Muffler 703.282.7739

RENTALS

- 6641 Wakefield Dr #318 \$1,260
River Towers Condo 1BR / 1BA
Pat Wilson 703.598.7279
- 2936 Sycamore St \$2,100
Warwick Village Townhouse 3BR / 1.5BA
John Randolph 703.307.4182
- 110 E Linden St \$2,995
Rosemont Detached 3BR / 1.5BA
Bob Skinner 703.585.6683
- 2418 Taylor Ave \$4,100
Jefferson Park Detached 4BR / 2.5BA 1 Fireplace
Dianna Campagna 703.447.0849

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HOLIDAY FUN

ONGOING

Theater Performance. Through Sunday, Dec. 22, see "A Broadway Christmas Carol" at MetroStage, 1201 N. Royal St. Wednesday, Nov. 27 at 7 p.m.; Thursday-Friday at 8 p.m.; Saturdays at 3 p.m. and 8 p.m. and Sundays at 3 p.m. and 7 p.m. This show is a cross between the classic Dickens' tale and song parodies of more than 30 Broadway show tune favorites. \$50/adult; \$25/student or child. Visit www.metrostage.org for tickets.

Theater Performance. See The Little Theatre of Alexandria's "A Christmas Carol" from Dec. 5-22 at the theatre, 600 Wolfe St. Performances are Thursdays-Fridays at 8 p.m. and Saturdays-Sundays at 3 p.m. and 5 p.m. \$15. Visit www.thelittletheatre.com or 703-683-0496.

Tickets Now on Sale. Buy tickets for the Alexandria Candlelight Tour with special early-bird pricing. \$15/adult; \$12/senior if purchased before Dec. 1. Tour Gadsby's Tavern Museum, Carlyle House Historic Park, Lee-Fendall House and Lloyd House by candlelight and enjoy decorations, entertainment and more on Saturday, Dec. 14 from 6-9 p.m. or Sunday, Dec. 15 from 3-6 p.m. Tickets purchased after Dec. 1 are \$20/adult; \$15/senior and \$5/child. Tickets can be purchased at shop.alexandria.gov or 703-746-4242. Visit www.historicalexandria.org for more.

FRIDAY/NOV. 22

Artfête. The Art League, 305 Madison St., will have ceramics and jewelry for sale made by The Art League students and associates. There will also be exhibits, demonstrations and more. Ceramics will be on sale from noon-9 p.m., jewelry from 6-9 p.m. and an open house and party from 6-9 p.m. Free. Visit www.theartleague.org for more.

Holiday Book Signing. 2-4 p.m. at Hooray for Books, 1555 King St. Laura Blake Murphy of Fairfax Station, will be signing copies of her book "My Little Messenger." Free.

Preview Party. 7-9 p.m. at St. Mary's School, 400 Green St. Features more than 60 vendors specialising in arts, clothing and more. There will also be a bake sale, Christmas cafe, games, prizes, book sale and more. \$30/advance; \$35/door. Visit www.facebook.com/StMarysSchoolChristmasBazaar for more.

SATURDAY/NOV. 23

Christmas Bazaar. 11 a.m.-4 p.m. at St. Mary's School, 400 Green St. Features more than 60 vendors specialising in arts, clothing and more. There will also be a bake sale, Christmas cafe, games, prizes, book sale and more. Free. Visit www.facebook.com/StMarysSchoolChristmasBazaar for more.

Artfête. The Art League, 305 Madison St., will have ceramics and jewelry for sale made by The Art League students and associates. There will also be exhibits, demonstrations and more. Ceramics will be on sale from noon-6 p.m., jewelry from noon-6 p.m. Free. Visit www.theartleague.org for more.

Goody Gobblers. 1-2:30 p.m. at Sugar Cube, 1218 King St. Children age 4 and up can make turkeys out of snack cakes and candies. Take home what they create. \$35/child. Registration required. Visit <http://www.sugarcubesweets.com/> for more.

SUNDAY/NOV. 24



Lights sparkle throughout Market Square as the City's 2012 holiday tree is lit.

FILE PHOTO

Alexandria Tree Lighting

The City of Alexandria's Annual Tree Lighting Ceremony is scheduled for Friday, Nov. 29 at 6 p.m. in Market Square, 301 King St. At this official kickoff to the holiday season, Mayor Euille and Santa Claus will light the City tree in Market Square. Entertainment features a visit from Santa and Mrs. Claus, performances by the Alexandria Harmonizers and the Alexandria Choral Society, caroling and a community sing-along. Admission is free, rain or shine. Call the City's Special Events Hotline at 703-746-5592 or visit www.alexandriava.gov/Recreation.

Artfête. The Art League, 305 Madison St., will have ceramics and jewelry for sale made by The Art League students and associates. There will also be exhibits, demonstrations and more. Ceramics will be on sale from noon-6 p.m. Free. Visit www.theartleague.org for more.

FRIDAY/NOV. 29

Shop Local. More than 50 independent boutiques will open early with shopping deals. Participating stores will offer discounts starting at 6 a.m. Also enjoy free parking during the day and restaurants opening early with discounts and more. Visit www.blackfridayalexandria.com for a list of participating businesses.

Tree Lighting Ceremony. 6 p.m. at Market Square in front of City Hall, 301 King St. The Mayor and Santa Claus will light the city tree. Enjoy music, caroling and more. Free. Visit www.visitalexandriava.com for more.

FRIDAY-SUNDAY/NOV. 29-DEC. 22

Pictures with Santa and Mrs. Claus.

Children can take pictures at Rashmi Pappu Photography Studio, 210 N. Lee St., on Saturdays from 9 a.m.-4 p.m., except for Dec. 7 when hours are 1-5 p.m. and Sundays from noon-5 p.m. \$15/5x7 photo print. Visit www.oldtownsanta.com or 571-331-0702.

FRIDAY-MONDAY/NOV. 29-JAN. 6

Christmas at Mount Vernon. Daily from 9 a.m.-4 p.m. at George Washington's Mount Vernon, 3200 Mount Vernon Memorial Highway. Enjoy themed decorations, chocolate-making decorations, tour the third floor of the mansion and meet Aladdin the camel. \$17/adult; \$8/child; 5 and under free. Visit www.mountvernon.org or 703-780-2000.

SATURDAY-SUNDAY/NOV.30-DEC. 22

Mount Vernon by Candlelight.

Saturdays and Sundays from 5-8 p.m. at George Washington's Mount Vernon, 3200 Mount Vernon Memorial Highway. Take candlelight tours, enjoy fireside caroling and festive treats. Tickets are \$22/adult; \$15/child. Visit www.mountvernon.org or 703-780-2000.

SUNDAY-WEDNESDAY/DEC. 1-25

Holiday Advent Calendar Art Celebration. Each day at sundown the store will reveal "advent art" featuring holiday creations by local artists and organizations. These canvases will be available for auction, visitors can place bids inside the store. Proceeds will benefit The Reading Connection. Visit www.christmasattic.com or 703-548-2829.

TUESDAY/DEC. 3

Theater Performance. 10:30 a.m. at W-3 Theatre at the Workhouse Arts Center, 9601 Ox Road, Lorton. Arts on the Horizon presents "Drumming with Dishes: The Holiday Edition." \$8/child and adults. Visit www.artsonthehorizon.org for tickets.

WEDNESDAY/DEC. 4

Theater Performance. 10 a.m. or 11:30 a.m. at W-3 Theatre at the Workhouse Arts Center, 9601 Ox Road, Lorton. Arts on the Horizon presents "Drumming with Dishes: The Holiday Edition." \$8/child and adults. Visit www.artsonthehorizon.org for tickets.

THURSDAY/DEC. 5

Theater Performance. 10:30 a.m. at W-3 Theatre at the Workhouse Arts Center, 9601 Ox Road, Lorton. Arts on the Horizon presents "Drumming with Dishes: The Holiday Edition." \$8/child and adults. Visit www.artsonthehorizon.org for tickets.

tickets.

Ballet Performance. 5:30 p.m. Alexandria Community Dance and West Potomac Academy present "The Nutcracker" at West Potomac High School theater, 6500 Quander Road. More than 100 students from local schools and performers ranging from age 4 to adult will perform. \$12/adult; \$10/student in advance or \$15/adult; \$12/student at the door. Visit www.alexandriadance.com for tickets.

A Peter White Christmas. 7:30 p.m. at Birchmere Music Hall, 3701 Mount Vernon Ave. Features Mindi Abair & Rick Braun. \$49.50. Visit www.birchmere.com or 703-549-7500 for tickets.

FRIDAY/DEC. 6

Theater Performance. 10 a.m. or 11:30 a.m. at W-3 Theatre at the Workhouse Arts Center, 9601 Ox Road, Lorton. Arts on the Horizon presents "Drumming with Dishes: The Holiday Edition." \$8/child and adults. Visit www.artsonthehorizon.org for tickets.

Holiday on the Avenue. 6-9 p.m. at the Del Ray Farmer's Market at Mount Vernon Avenue and E. Oxford Ave. Watch as the Del Ray Christmas tree is lit up, enjoy a visit from Santa Claus and a stroll down Mount Vernon Avenue which is illuminated by thousands of candles. Free. Visit www.visitdelray.com or 703-683-2570 for more.

Ballet Performance. 6:30 p.m. Alexandria Community Dance and West Potomac Academy present "The Nutcracker" at West Potomac High School theater, 6500 Quander Road. More than 100 students from local schools and performers ranging from age 4 to adult will perform. \$12/adult; \$10/student in advance or \$15/adult; \$12/student at the door. Half-price tickets for all Boy and Girl Scouts. Visit www.alexandriadance.com for tickets.

Holiday Open House. 6:30-9 p.m. at

the Torpedo Factory Art Center, 105 N. Union St. Enjoy food, refreshments and music while browsing items for purchase. Door prizes will be given. Visit www.torpedofactory.org for more.

FRIDAY-SATURDAY/DEC. 6-7

Scottish Christmas Walk Weekend.

Celebrate Alexandria's Scottish heritage with the 43rd Annual Campagna Center Scottish Christmas Walk Weekend. Start the weekend with the Christmas Marketplace and Heather and Greens sale from 9 a.m.-5 p.m. on Dec. 6 at the George Washington Masonic Memorial. Deck the Hall with Santa from 1-3 p.m. on Dec. 6 at the George Washington Masonic Memorial. The Taste of Scotland is from 8-11 p.m. on Dec. 6 at the George Washington Masonic Memorial. On Dec. 7, enjoy the Scottish Christmas Walk at 11 a.m. and the Tour of Homes from 11 a.m.-4 p.m. Visit www.scottishchristmaswalk.com for tickets and more information.

FRIDAY/DEC. 6, 13, 20

Holiday Market. 6-9 p.m. in the Colasanto Center, 2704 Mount Vernon Ave. The Del Ray Artisans will offer handmade work from local artists, handmade ornaments and bake sale items to benefit the Animal Welfare League of Alexandria. Free. Visit www.TheDelRayArtisans.org for more.

SATURDAY/DEC. 7

Father Christmas Photos. 10 a.m.-3 p.m. at Gadsby's Arcade, 320 King St. Children and dogs can take photos with Father Christmas. \$10 for polaroid-like photos and \$5 donation for your own photos. Proceeds benefit Gadsby's Tavern. 703-746-4242.

Kwanzaa Family Fun Workshop. 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m. at Alexandria

SEE HOLIDAY FUN, PAGE 25

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3:00 pm, Sun., Nov. 24
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Arlington, Virginia
Tickets online at www.balalaika.org
or check to WBS, 4910 Gadsden
Drive, Fairfax VA 22032

Adults \$25, seniors \$20, students \$15,
children 12 and under free. Free parking.
Information and group sales: 703-536-5785

www.balalaika.org

HOLIDAY FUN



PHOTO BY CHRISTOPHER BANKS

Russell Sunday,
Peter Boyer and
Tracey Stephens

'A Broadway Christmas Carol'

Holiday tradition returns
to MetroStage.

BY CAROLYN GRIFFIN
METROSTAGE, PRODUCING ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

Holidays mean tradition. Families see the same shows at the theatre and on television, read the same stories and have the same dinner menus. There is a comfort zone attached to all this familiar territory, and it can define the holidays well into adulthood. For the past four holiday seasons MetroStage has broken the mold and created a new holiday tradition. Our production of "A Broadway Christmas Carol" is a riotous theatrical holiday experience which has been attracting theatre patrons and their families, friends, office colleagues, and others. Whether you recognize all 31 Broadway show tunes or not, there is fun to be had, and the holiday spirit rules.

Imagine a piano accompanist who at times is the Phantom

(from the Opera of course) or is horrified when Mrs. Fezziwig sings off key. The Crachits are present in good form and Tiny Tim is not quite as "tiny" as one might expect. And when have you ever seen Scrooge as a "song and dance" man? Or Marley as Mae West or Scrooge's sister Fan as Shirley Temple? And to keep it current Want and Ignorance are puppets from Avenue Q.

Music is by Stephen Sondheim, Andrew Lloyd Webber, Rodgers and Hammerstein and others. Songs are from Oklahoma, Carousel, Sweeney Todd, Pajama Game, Cats, Music Man, Godspell, Secret Garden and dozens more. There is even a cheat sheet in the box office to check on any you don't recognize after the show.

It is grand fun and promises to usher in the holiday season in the most festive, musical way possible.

Bring your friends and family. It also makes a perfect holiday gift to an office colleague — one that is so unique and memorable that they will never forget it's zaniness and will return next year and bring their friends and family. Happy holidays and look forward to seeing you at the theatre.

Details

"A Broadway Christmas Carol" runs Thursdays and Fridays at 8 p.m., Saturdays at 3 and 8 p.m., Sundays at 3 and 7 p.m., Nov. 21-Dec. 22 with all tickets \$50. No performance on Thanksgiving and a special added performance on Wednesday, Nov. 27 at 7 p.m., \$35. Thursday Nov. 21 is "pay what you can." Call 800-494-8497 or visit www.metrostage.org for tickets. MetroStage is located at 1201 North Royal Street. There is a free parking lot and fine dining nearby. The theatre is handicap accessible.

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ENTERTAINMENT

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

ONGOING

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

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

Metro Club After-School Program. From Sept. 9-June 2014, the Metropolitan School of Arts presents an after-school program for grades 1-6. The program is located at both the Lorton studio at Workhouse Arts Center, 9517 Workhouse Way and in Alexandria at 5775 Barclay Drive. Programs will focus on the arts, including music, dance, theatre, yoga and academics, as well as designated homework time. The program will run Mondays, 1-6 p.m., and Tuesday-Friday, 3-6 p.m. Tuition runs from \$130-150. Call 703-339-0444 or visit www.metropolitanarts.org.

Art Exhibit. "Sacred Earth, Healing Water" by Anne Bouie at Schlesinger Center Margaret W. & Joseph L. Fisher Gallery, 3001 N. Beauregard St. Runs through Nov. 11. Gallery hours are 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Monday-Friday and during performances. Visit www.nvcc.edu/schlesingercenter/ for more.

Art Exhibit. Potomac Fiber Arts Gallery presents "Colors of Autumn" in Studio 18 at Torpedo Factory Art Center, 105 N. Union St. Exhibit runs Oct. 22-Nov. 17. Free. Visit www.potomacfiberartsgallery.com or 703-548-0935.

Art Exhibit. See never-before-seen hats from Dr. Seuss's private collection along with prints and sculpture from the art of Dr. Seuss Collection. Runs Nov. 2-17 at P&C Art Gallery, 212 King St. Visit www.pcart.com for more.

Theater Performance. See "Shiloh Rules" by Doris Baizley, the second part of "A Salute to the American Voice." Performances are Friday-Saturday, Nov. 8-9, 15-16, 22-23 and Tuesday, Nov. 19 at 8 p.m.; Saturday matinees Nov. 16, 23 at 2 p.m. All performances are at Port City Playhouse, 1819 N. Quaker Lane. \$18/adult; \$16/senior, military and student; \$14/groups of 10 or more. Visit www.portcityplayhouse.org/ for more.

Theater Performance. See "High School Musical" by Mount Vernon Community Children's Theatre at Bryant Alternative High School, 2709 Popkins Lane. \$12/person or \$11 for groups of 10 or more. Visit mvct.org for more. Features over 40 members from local schools.

Art Exhibit. See "Concrete, Glass and Color," mosaic art by Jane Pettit at Crossroads Gallery at Goodwin House Bailey's Crossroads, 3440 S. Jefferson St., Falls Church. Free. The exhibit runs Oct. 16 through Nov. 24. 703-578-7201.

Art Exhibit. See "Pursuit of Beauty" at Multiple Exposures Gallery in the Torpedo Factory Art Center, 105 N. Union St. Juried by Tom Beck, the exhibit showcases fine art photography and will run through Nov. 24. Visit www.torpedofactory.org for more.

Art Exhibit. Through November, see Jenna Fournel's work at Huntley Meadows Park. Hours are Monday, Wednesday-Friday from 9 a.m.-5 p.m. and Saturday-Sunday from noon-5 p.m. Visit www.jenna4nel.com for more.

Art Exhibit. See "Del Ray Dozen Invitational Photography Show" at Del Ray Artisans, 2704 Mount Vernon Ave. Subject matter ranges from landscapes to portraits and a little bit of everything in between and the select photographers approach their craft in different ways—as traditional film shooters, digital image-makers, darkroom junkies, print makers, and experimentalists. Exhibit runs Nov. 1 through Dec. 1. For more information, visit www.TheDelRayArtisans.org.

Art Exhibit. Photographer Everitt Clark presents "Cities in the Air" from Nov. 7 through Dec. 2 in the Art League at Torpedo Factory, 105 N. Union St. The exhibit will reveal how Richmond, Va., past and present intertwine. Free. Hours are Monday-Wednesday and Friday-Saturday from 10 a.m.-6 p.m.; Thursdays from 10 a.m.-9 p.m.; and Sundays from noon-6 p.m. Visit www.theartleague.org or 703-683-1780.

Art Exhibit. See "Portent" in the Athenaeum Gallery, 201 Prince St., from Oct. 24 through

Dec. 8. The works attempt to visually come to terms with, reflect or represent the magnitude of natural events. Free. Visit www.nvfaa.org for more.

Art Exhibit. See "Photographers at the Factory" Nov. 1 through Dec. 31 at Torpedo Factory, 105 N. Union St. The exhibit celebrates FotoWeekDC. Hours are Thursdays 10 a.m.-9 p.m.; all other days from 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Photographs will line the hall walls and in multiple studios. Free. Visit www.torpedofactory.org for more.

Art Exhibit. Potomac Fiber Arts Gallery presents "Holiday Sizzle" in Studio 18 at Torpedo Factory Art Center, 105 N. Union St. Exhibit starts on Nov. 19, additional items will be added Dec. 9 and the exhibit closes Jan. 5. Free. Some items will be for sale. Visit www.potomacfiberartsgallery.com or 703-548-0935.

Art Exhibit. Artist John Gascot of Studio 4, 218 N. Lee St., suite 101, creates an art exhibit to honor the life journeys of transgender individuals. It will be on display through January. Gallery hours are Thursday-Saturday, noon-7 p.m. and Sunday from noon-5 p.m. or by appointment. Visit www.studio4oldtown.com for more.

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.

Art Exhibit. "Small Works," juried by Irene Owsley will run Nov. 26-Jan. 5, at the Multiple Exposures Gallery in the Torpedo Factory Art Center, 105 N. Union St. Visit www.torpedofactory.org for more.

CLASSES

Introduction to Machine Sewing for Children. 4:15-6:15 p.m. on Tuesday, Dec. 3 at Art at the Center, 2804 Sherwood Hall Lane. Learn how to operate a sewing machine and beginning sewing skills while turning a t-shirt into a tote bag. For children ages 8 and up. \$35/child. Visit www.artatthecenter.org or 703-201-1250.

Introduction to Quilting: Parent/Child Class. 9 a.m.-noon on Saturday, Nov. 23 and Saturday, Dec. 7. Parents and children ages 7 and up can learn how to use a sewing machine and then learn how to quilt. Bring a yard of cotton fabric and smaller pieces of cotton fabric (at least 6-inch squares) to create patches. \$120. With registration, if you have a sewing machine, say so. Visit www.artatthecenter.org or 703-201-1250.

THURSDAY/NOV. 21

Concert. 7:30 p.m. at the Birchmere Music Hall, 3701 Mount Vernon Ave. Joe Ely and Paul Thorn perform. \$35. Visit www.birchmere.com or call 703-549-7500.

Story Telling. 7 p.m. at The Athenaeum, 201 Prince St. Ellouise Schoettler will tell the story of "Finding Gus." \$10/person. Visit www.nvfaa.org for more.

Illustrated Lecture. 7:30 p.m. at Lloyd House, 220 N. Washington St. "Volusia: Civilian, Slave and Soldier Experiences in the Civil War" presented by Amy Bertsch, former Office of Historic Alexandria public information office. The presentation involves research into a rare photograph of enslaved people taken in Alexandria, and reveals how the Civil War impacted three groups of people on a large Duke Street property, then known as Volusia, and today known as Foxchase in Alexandria's West End. Free. Visit www.historicalexandria.org or 703-746-4554.

Theater Performance. 7:30 p.m. at Burgundy Farm Country Day School, 3700 Burgundy Road. Watch the seventh-graders put on "The Princess Bride." \$5/adult; \$1/child.

FRIDAY/NOV. 22

Theater Performance. 7:30 p.m. at Burgundy Farm Country Day School, 3700 Burgundy Road. Watch the seventh-graders put on "The Princess Bride." \$5/adult; \$1/child.

Theater Performance. 7:30 p.m. at Bishop Ireton Garwood Whaley Auditorium, 201 Cambridge Road. See William Shakespeare's "A Midsummer Night's Dream." \$10/adult; \$8/child. SEE ENTERTAINMENT, PAGE 24



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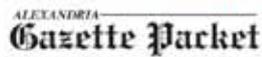
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ENTERTAINMENT

senior, student. Tickets sold at the door. Visit www.bishopireton.org or 703-751-7606.

SATURDAY/NOV. 23

Theater Performance. 7:30 p.m. at Bishop Ireton Garwood Whaley Auditorium, 201 Cambridge Road. See William Shakespeare's "A Midsummer Night's Dream." \$10/adult; \$8/senior, student. Tickets sold at the door. Visit www.bishopireton.org or 703-751-7606.

Anniversary. Why Not? at 200 King St. will celebrate its 50th year. The first 50 customers will receive a gift bag and everyone will be entered in a raffle. Hours are 10 a.m.-6 p.m. The toy drive will also kick off at this event, so bring an unwrapped, new toy for donation. Visit <https://www.facebook.com/pages/The-Why-Not-Shop/159764110715051>.

Music Performance. 7:30 p.m. at St. Luke's Episcopal Church, 8009 Fort Hunt Road. The Sunrise String Quartet will perform music from Mozart, Turina and Shostakovich. \$20/adult; \$15/senior; \$10/student and teachers. 703-765-4342.

Special Presentation. 2 p.m. at the Potomack Company, 1120 N. Fairfax St. John Burns, National Park Service, will discuss Charles M. Goodman's life and work and his impact on the Washington, D.C. area, including Reagan National Airport. There will be a presentation at 3:30 p.m. at the same location about Charles Goodman's furniture collection. Free. Visit www.potomackcompany.com or 703-684-4550.

Farewell Performance. 7:30-8:30 p.m. at Northern Virginia Community College Alexandria Campus, 3001 N. Beauregard St. Watch the final dance of the Kathy Harty Gray Dance Company. Free.

SUNDAY/NOV. 24

Story Telling Workshop. 1 p.m. at The Athenaeum, 201 Prince St. Ellouise Schoettler will show how to combine genealogy and storytelling to create family stories everyone will want to listen to. \$10/person. Visit www.nvfaa.org for more.

FRIDAY-SATURDAY/NOV. 29-30

Music Performance. 7:30 p.m. at The Birchmere Music Hall, 3701 Mount Vernon Ave. The Seldom Scene & Dry Branch Fire Squad will perform. \$35. Visit www.birchmere.com or call 703-549-7500.

SATURDAY/NOV. 30

Author Book Signing. 2-4 pm. at St. Elmo's Coffee Pub, 2300 Mount Vernon Ave. Alexandria resident Kathie Truitt will discuss and sign copies of her book "The Hillbilly Debutante Cafe." Free.

TUESDAY/DEC. 3

Library Tour. 1:30 p.m. at Mount Vernon Estate. Tour the new Fred W. Smith National Library for the study of George Washington. Led by Mount Vernon tour guides and Library staff members, this new tour will offer access to the main floor of the center for scholarship about George Washington, Colonial America, and the Revolutionary Era. Tours are included in admission to the Estate, but are limited in capacity and are on a first-come, first-served basis. Visit www.MountVernon.org or 703-780-2000.

WEDNESDAY/DEC. 4

Magic Show. 7 p.m. at Bishop Ireton High School, 201 Cambridge Road. See a performance by International Brotherhood of Magicians Ring 50. Bring a canned food item or toy that will be donated to the Alexandria Citadel of the Salvation Army. Visit www.ibmring50.blogspot.com.

FRIDAY/DEC. 6

Music Performance. At Birchmere Music Hall, 3701 Mount Vernon Ave. Bo Bice will perform as a special guest vocalist with Blood Sweat & Tears. Visit www.birchmere.com or 703-549-7500.

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HOLIDAY FUN

FROM PAGE 20

Black History Museum, 902 Wythe St. Learn about Kwanzaa through games, songs and more. \$5/person. Visit oha.alexandriava.gov/bhrc/ or 703-746-4356.

Christmas at Carlyle House. Noon-4 p.m. at Carlyle House, 121 N. Fairfax St. Tour a holiday-decorated house, talk to soldiers from the 1st Virginia Regiment during 1761, enjoy demonstrations, samples and more. \$5/person. 703-549-2997.

Winter Wreath Workshop. 1-3 p.m. at Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road. Create a beautiful winter wreath to take home for your front door after Green Spring staff demonstrate the dazzling possibilities. Greens, forms, ribbons and cones included with additional \$20 supply fee. Code: 290 484 6901, \$35/person. Register on-line at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/greenspring or call Green Spring Gardens 703-642-5173.

Ornament Decorating Workshop. 1-4 p.m. at Alexandria Archaeology in the Torpedo Factory, 105 N. Union St. Families can decorate an artifact-shaped dough ornament. Free. 703-746-4399.

Home for the Holidays Pops Concert. 2 p.m. or 7:30 p.m. at Alexandria Singers, 1801 N. Quaker Lane. The Alexandria Singers will perform. \$25/reserved seats; \$20/general; \$15/group, senior or military; \$5/child age 6 and under. Visit <http://www.alexandriasingers.com/> or 703-941-7464.

Ballet Performance. 2:30 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. Alexandria Community Dance and West Potomac Academy present "The Nutcracker" at West Potomac High School theater, 6500 Quander Road. More than 100 students from local schools and performers ranging from age 4 to adult will perform. \$12/adult; \$10/student in advance or \$15/adult; \$12/student at the door. Military members can get tickets for \$10 with proper ID for the 6:30 p.m. show. Visit www.alexandriadance.com for tickets.

Holiday Boat Parade of Lights. Festivities start at 3 p.m. with the parade at 5:30 p.m. at the waterfront at Cameron Street. More than 50 boats will illuminate the Potomac. Special appearance by Santa. Free. Visit www.visitalexandriava.com or 703-746-3301.

SATURDAY/DEC. 7, 14, 21

Holiday Market. 10 a.m.-4 p.m. in the Colasanto Center, 2704 Mount Vernon Ave. The Del Ray Artisans will offer handmade work from local artists, handmade ornaments and bake sale items to benefit the Animal Welfare League of Alexandria. Free. Visit www.TheDelRayArtisans.org for more.

SUNDAY/DEC. 8

Breakfast with Santa. 10:30 a.m. or 1 p.m. at the Hotel Monaco, 480 King St. Metropolitan School of the Arts will host the breakfast. Tickets range in price from \$35-\$45/person. Visit www.metropolitanarts.org for tickets.

Theater Performance. 11 a.m. at W-3 Theatre at the Workhouse Arts Center, 9601 Ox Road, Lorton. Arts on the Horizon presents "Drumming with Dishes: The Holiday Edition." \$8/child and adults. Visit www.artsonthehorizon.org for tickets.

Gardeners' Holiday Open House. Noon-4 p.m. at Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road. This festive day is for gardeners of all ages, individuals and families. Admission is free. There will be a Holiday Puppet Show by Bob Brown



Advent at Christmas Attic

The Christmas Attic has teamed up once again with area schools, churches, businesses and community groups to produce a temporary exhibition featuring illuminated canvases of art to be revealed on their building for its 3rd Annual Holiday Advent Calendar Art Celebration.

From Dec. 1-25 the store will reveal "advent art" featuring a variety of holiday creations by local organizations and artists. All art will be placed on the exterior of the building facing Union Street. There will be holiday entertainment, family activities, crafts for children and a visit from Santa for all shoppers and families to enjoy.

During the month of December, the canvases of advent art will be available for auction. Bids can be made inside the store. Proceeds from the auction will go to local non-profit The Reading Connection, dedicated to improving the lives of at-risk children and families by helping them create and sustain literacy-rich environments and motivation for reading.

A new work of art will be revealed each day at sundown, Dec. 1-25. Each Saturday in December at sundown, there will be holiday entertainment, activities, kid crafts and a visit from Santa for all shoppers and families to enjoy.

The Christmas Attic is located at 125 S. Union Street. Call 703-548-2829 or visit www.christmasattic.com.

(tickets for the 2 p.m. show are \$3/ person and can be purchased in advance using Code: 290 489 4301), festive greens and tree ornaments for sale, a vintage train display, seasonal breads for sale, and complimentary refreshments. There will be a whimsical gingerbread house contest. Get your Gingerbread House contest entry form at www.greenspring.org on the Special Events page. Call 703-642-5173 for more information.

"Christmas in Cape Breton." 7:30 p.m. at Birchmere Music Hall, 3701 Mount Vernon Ave. Natalie MacMaster is an award-winning fiddler. \$39.50. Visit www.birchmere.com or 703-549-7500 for tickets.

SUNDAY/DEC. 8, 15, 22

Holiday Market. Noon-4 p.m. in the Colasanto Center, 2704 Mount Vernon Ave. The Del Ray Artisans will offer handmade work from local artists, handmade ornaments and bake sale items to benefit the Animal Welfare League of Alexandria. Free. Visit www.TheDelRayArtisans.org for more.

MONDAY/DEC. 9

Garden Sprouts: Welcome Winter. 11 a.m.-noon at Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road. Preschool children ages 3-5 with accompanying adult. Tour the garden to see the changes that winter brings. Learn why some animals stay and others migrate or hibernate. Make a winter landscape to take home and a pinecone feeder for the birds that remain. Code: 290 481 4401, \$6/child. Register on-line at

www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/greenspring or call Green Spring Gardens 703-642-5173.

THURSDAY/DEC. 12

2nd Thursday Art Night: Decadent December. 6-9 p.m. at Torpedo Factory Art Center, 105 N. Union St. Do some holiday shopping while tasting chocolate and wine. There will be handcrafted ornaments, a DIY craft station and a musical performance by chamber choir Pro Coro Alexandria. Free. Visit www.torpedofactory.org or 703-838-4565.

THURSDAY-SUNDAY/DEC. 12-15

Living Christmas Tree. First Baptist Church of Alexandria, 2932 King St., presents the Living Christmas Tree. Showtimes are Thursday and Friday at 7:30 p.m.; Saturday at 2:30 p.m., 5 p.m. and 7:30 p.m., and Sunday at 2:30 p.m. and 5 p.m. \$7/person. No children under 4. Childcare is available upon request. Visit www.fbcalexandria.org/LCT for tickets.

FRIDAY/DEC. 13

A Christmas Medley. 7 p.m. at The Athenaeum, 201 Prince St. Readings of holiday poems, stories and remembrances by Frederick Douglass, Frank O'Connor, William Shakespeare and others. \$10. Visit www.visitalexandriava.com for more.

SATURDAY/DEC. 14

Garden Sprouts: Welcome Winter. 11 a.m.-noon at Green Spring

Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road. Preschool children ages 3-5 with accompanying adult. Tour the garden to see the changes that winter brings. Learn why some animals stay and others migrate or hibernate. Make a winter landscape to take home and a pinecone feeder for the birds that remain. Code: 290 481 4402, \$6/child. Register on-line at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/greenspring or call Green Spring Gardens 703-642-5173.

Civil War Christmas in Camp.

Noon-4 p.m. at Fort Ward Museum, 4301 W. Braddock Road. Meet a patriotic Civil War Santa Claus, visit an officer's hut decorated for the season, talk with soldiers and tour the museum. \$2/person. Will also feature stories, activities and more. Visit www.fortward.org or 703-746-4848.

Family Fun: Winter Solstice Workshop.

2-3:30 p.m. at Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road. Learn how people in the past celebrated the winter solstice. Then create an evergreen centerpiece, complete with beeswax candle, to warm and welcome friends and family to your table. Family-friendly programs for ages 5 and up; children must be accompanied by registered adult. Code: 290 481 5001, \$10/person. Register on-line at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/greenspring or call Green Spring Gardens 703-642-5173.

SUNDAY/DEC. 15

Holiday Music. 2 p.m. at The Athenaeum, 201 Prince St. The Mount Vernon Flutes will perform holiday classics. Free. Visit www.visitalexandriava.com for more.

Handbell Performance. 2 p.m. at Central Library, 5005 Duke St. The Brown Academy chorus will perform. Free. Visit www.alexandria.lib.va.us or 703-746-1702.

Colonial Handbell Ringers. 2 p.m. or 4 p.m. at The Lyceum, 201 S. Washington St. Listen to and sing along with the Colonial Handbell Ringers as they perform holiday

classics. Free, but reservations required. Visit www.alexandriahistory.org or 703-746-4994.

TUESDAY/DEC. 17

Holiday Music Performance. See Big Bad Voodoo Daddy at The Birchmere Music Hall, 3701 Mount Vernon Ave. 7:30 p.m. \$39.50. Visit www.birchmere.com or 703-549-7500 for tickets.

WEDNESDAY/DEC. 18

A John Waters Christmas. 7:30 p.m. at Birchmere Music Hall, 3701 Mount Vernon Ave. Hear a compilation of Christmas music selected by director John Waters. \$49.50. Visit www.birchmere.com or 703-549-7500.

MONDAY/DEC. 23

Breakfast With Santa. 8:30 a.m.-11 a.m. at Union Street Public House, 121 S. Union St. Visit with Santa and Mrs. Claus while enjoying breakfast. \$13.50/child; \$22/adult. Must purchase time slot in advance at <https://usph.webconnex.com/santa>.

TUESDAY/DEC. 24

Breakfast With Santa. 8:30 a.m.-11 a.m. at Union Street Public House, 121 S. Union St. Visit with Santa and Mrs. Claus while enjoying breakfast. \$13.50/child; \$22/adult. Must purchase time slot in advance at <https://usph.webconnex.com/santa>.

TUESDAY/DEC. 31

First Night Alexandria. Afternoon activities from 1-5 p.m., performances from 7 p.m.-midnight and fireworks at midnight from the Potomac River at the foot of King Street. There will be more than 100 performances at 22 indoor venues, dancing, children's games and more. \$15/before Dec. 15; \$20/after; children under 12 and active military are free. Visit www.firstnightalexandria.org for a full list of activities, performances and locations.



Breakfast with Santa and Mrs. Claus

Santa and Mrs. Claus will be visiting Old Town before leaving for the big night. Join them for breakfast Monday, Dec. 23 and Tuesday, Dec. 24. Breakfast is table-service and the menu will include some all-time favorites like eggs Benedict and Belgian malted waffles. Six seatings starting at 8:30 a.m. and every half-hour through 11 a.m. \$13.50 per child (age 3-12) and \$22 per adult. Cost includes breakfast, milk, soda, coffee, tea, tax, gratuity, and a visit with Santa and the Missus. Purchase tickets at <https://usph.webconnex.com/santa>.

LETTERS

FROM PAGE 14

healthcare. With all their billions of profit, they cannot afford to pay their workers a living wage or provide them with good benefits. So taxpayers in every state pay when they are ill rather than focusing on prevention. I totally reject the notion expressed in the letter that there are some people in our society that are not worthy to receive government assistance. The ACA Medicaid expansion would provide healthcare in such a way that we would be saving money (as compared to what we are doing now). Funding for this effort could come from commonsense budget cuts (including the military) rather than the mindless sequester that is currently in place. This would result in a decrease in our deficit/debt over the long term.

The ACA is a monumental shift in the way healthcare is delivered and people need to get over their fear of change. The fact of the matter is that everyone will benefit from the lower cost of healthcare once these changes have been fully implemented.

Micheline Eyraud
Alexandria

Value Private Property Rights

To the Editor:

I am a member of the Old Dominion Boat Club. I am speaking as a boater and as a riverfront enthusiast. I'm aware that The City of Alexandria is considering taking The Old Dominion Boat Club's parking lot and boat storage facilities by the process of eminent domain. I would like to register my strong objections to the taking of private waterfront property by the city.

It would seem that the city would be better served letting the Old Dominion Boat Club spend the Boat Club's private money (as the Boat Club has repeatedly offered to do) improving its property and integrating into the waterfront plan — just like any new-to-the-city private developers plan to. Instead, the city is considering spending huge sums of Alexandria taxpayer dollars to condemn and purchase the property, then spend more taxpayer dollars to improve the property and spend even more taxpayer dollars to maintain the property in perpetuity. And, just as disturbing, private property will be removed from the city tax rolls, decreasing city revenue. Adding expense and shrinking revenue doesn't seem like a sound fiscal strategy to me.

Finally, I live in Virginia because I admire the state's respect for individual rights and private property rights. I lived in Old Town Alexandria for 10 years and plan to move back to Old Town to live out my remaining years. It sure would be nice if my boat club, the Old Dominion Boat Club, was still here, a vibrant part of the city and the waterfront.

Bill Gard

Costly and Unnecessary

To the Editor:

I would like to add my name to the list of



A "floating art project" for the Alexandria waterfront?

Waterfront Identity Crisis

To the Editor:

On Nov. 4, there was a presentation by Olin Studios to the Waterfront Commission. Will someone at City Council please enlighten me as to the historical and cultural value of a skating rink at the end of King Street?

The idea of providing "a variety of Waterfront experiences" (Olin, p. 22) is excellent in the framework of the thematic areas proposed by the Art and History Waterfront Plans Implementation Committee, which have become the basis for Olin's proposal, and which stress the Alexandria Waterfront identity as a historic town.

As the Alexandria Commission for the Arts rightly asks: "Every place has stories to tell. What are Alexandria's? Which belong in the Waterfront?" (Olin, p. 161). Answering what belongs in the Waterfront and what does not belong, what expresses the Waterfront identity as a historic town and what muddles this identity, provides guidance in making choices "to enrich the waterfront experience for Alexandrians and visitors alike."

Thematic areas, a path along the shoreline, interpretive signage, art and sculptures are all good ways to strengthen the Waterfront's identity as a historic town to the extent that they showcase the history of the area.

the many people who strongly oppose the costly and unnecessary step being considered by the City of Alexandria to attempt to seize land owned by the Old Dominion Boat Club by means of eminent domain. Initially, the cost of pursuing such an attempt, which will undoubtedly be opposed by the boat club, will be huge and only add to the already enormous amount of money that the city has already spent over many decades in their thus far unsuccessful fights with the club over their land. Secondly, even if the city were to prevail in yet another lengthy litigation that surely will result, the cost of purchasing such valuable waterfront property is an expense that the taxpayers of Alexandria can ill afford. Finally, such an attempt to take the property by eminent domain flies in the face of the very strict Virginia eminent domain amendment that

Unfortunately, some elements in Olin's proposal do not belong, do not tell a story of Alexandria, straying at times from the Waterfront's true identity into the realm of the grotesque, attempting to pack the Rockefeller Center/Central Park/Bangkok/Hong Kong/Taiwan into the small area of the Alexandria Waterfront. The result is a tacky hodgepodge: An identity crisis.

The most egregious example is the skating rink at Fitzgerald Square. "What is the historical or cultural connection to Alexandria?" I have asked experts on the history of Alexandria. So far, the answer I have received is that there is no connection. The skating rink will also have high maintenance costs that we, the people, would have to pay.

Other items that do not belong are the assorted floating structures (p. 93 "floating classroom", p. 94 "floating swimming pool", p. 95 "floating art projects", p. 97-99 "floating stages", p. 100-102 "floating light installations") and the "trapeze school" (p. 145). Not only are these floating structures massive (which is inappropriate for a small area), but they would also entail astronomical maintenance costs. Once again, we, the people would have to foot the bill.

So, to answer Olin's question, "How do we get there?": "We will not get there" with an ice skating rink in the Alexandria waterfront!

Stella Covre
Alexandria

was passed overwhelmingly by the voting public last year.

Frank J. Bove
Arlington

How City Spends Its Resources

To the Editor:

Seems like the mayor and City Council would be better off to worry about maintaining the streets and other priorities versus paying millions of the taxpayers' dollars to procure the ODBC's property.

I have never understood how that small piece of property got so high on the priority list with our current mayor and council and budget challenges. The ODBC has been

helping Alexandria charities for over 100 years ... give them a break and re-prioritize where the city needs to spend the resources.

Keith Hudkins
14-year ODBC member

Join Together On Same Team

To the Editor:

The following letter was addressed to Mayor Euille and members of the City Council.

I love the City of Alexandria. And yes, I think it is extraordinary.

When I was 13, I saw the movie "Poltergeist" in the theater here on King Street and then just two months ago, I saw a comedian in the same theater. I graduated from St. Mary's Academy on Russell Road. I buy my running shoes at Pacers and my holiday gifts at Hooray for Books. I could not stop smiling when I walked into the new H&M and saw they had brought back the center staircase of the GC Murphy's. I loved that place. I am on the listserv for the boutique district and crave sushi from MoMo's. I have taught summer classes for middle school students and used the Lyceum's Inside Old Town outreach kit with pieces of cotton and primary documents. I have sung karaoke at Flying Fish in order to raise money for multiple sclerosis and I drive a car I bought from a dealership here in the city. I have even had can koozies (with permission from the city's communications department) made for my friends and family that have the seal of the city on them. I love the City of Alexandria. You could say I am a bit of cheerleader for this area I call home. Like you, the members of the council, I want what is best for my stomping grounds and yes, I am excited about the development of the waterfront. We are on the same team! We are all cheering for the same thing.

Therefore, I am disappointed, that members of what I consider my own team, have proposed to use eminent domain to achieve the wonderful goal of opening up access to the waterfront. I understand the council needs to keep the momentum for development moving forward. However, eminent domain is not the answer. What does that say about our great historical city, in the land we call the Mother of Presidents, that force, rather than negotiation between city leaders, business owners, and neighbors was the chosen path? It's embarrassing to think that when the new, beautiful waterfront is finally complete, it could all be overshadowed by the constant reminder of eminent domain — a decision that will remain in history books forever.

There is a saying that fits for many of life's situations and it goes like this: "If you can't change something, change the way you think about it." I know that city leaders consider the ODBC and its parking lot as the "missing link" to the development of the waterfront. I am convinced creative planning can come up with a solution, rather than the use of eminent domain. Instead of viewing this land as just the "missing link" I encourage the members of the council to think about it as the key to the success of

SEE LETTERS, PAGE 33

HOLIDAY GUIDE

Getting Ready for Guests at Thanksgiving and Beyond

Ideas for prepping your home so that visitors feel welcome.

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL
THE CONNECTION

When Thanksgiving kicks off the holiday season next week, it will mean an onslaught of house guests for some. Local style gurus offer simple ideas for getting your home ready for visits from friends and family.

"There's nothing like leaving someone's house after a stay and feeling as though you were staying at a special place," said Ann O'Shields, of The Next Egg in Fairfax. "Easy touches can make a house guest feel as though you've really prepared for their arrival, are pleased they've chosen to visit and stay with you and help them enjoy their visit."

In addition to towels, washclothes, lin-

ens and blankets, toiletries can make guests feel welcome. Fragrant lotions and soaps should not be overlooked. Angela Phelps, owner of Le Village Marché in Arlington, recommends "big blocks of Savon de Marseille. French soaps made in the Marseille region of France are a nice touch," she said. "They come in scents such as lavender, rose and verbena."

Courtney Thomas, of the Picket Fence in Burke, also suggests "stock[ing] the bathroom with luxurious soaps and lotions in holiday fragrances. Foaming soaps are very popular as are the bar soaps with matching dishes. They come in beautiful packaging, which adds a touch of the holidays."

Even though many guests expect to live out of a suitcase during short holiday vis-



Decorative, fragrant soaps in a guest bathroom could make an unexpected surprise for family and friends.

its, experts say clearing out closet space and providing extra hangers will not only make guests feel welcome, it will keep the guest room looking neat.

"It is very important is to make sure your drawers and closets have adequate space for your guests to unpack and put their clothes," said O'Shields. "Make sure you have at least one open drawer and a set of five to ten hangers available."

Clear out nonessential items so that guests have an adequate area in which to relax. "If your space has toys and other items that make them feel

as if they are intruding on someone else's space, remove them and place in the garage or storage for the duration of the visit," said Sallie Kjos, of GreyHunt Interiors in

Chantilly.

In addition to gift baskets, visitors might find books, magazines and maps useful: "Put together a little goodie basket with holiday treats," said Thomas. "Some cocoa with peppermint stirrers along with some festively wrapped candies make a great welcome basket for guests."

Candles or diffusers placed on a bedside table are a chic way to welcome guests as well. "One of my favorite scents is Roland Pine," said Phelps. "It is really fresh and clean and not too overpowering. Another nice touch is a carafe and a glass for water on a nightstand."

Amy Rutherford, of Red Barn Mercantile in Alexandria, also suggests a scented candle by the bedside as well as wine glasses and a bottle of wine or carafe of water. "Turkish towels stacked on a chair with some nice soap would be really nice, too," she said. "A bouquet of flowers in the room would also be a nice touch."

"For an added bonus, stick a treat on their pillow," said Kjos. "This will make them feel very welcomed and comfortable in your makeshift guest room."

VIEWPOINTS

What was the best gift you ever received?



PHOTOS BY RENÉE RUGGLES/GAZETTE PACKET

Tangela Powell (with daughter Zola Clark): "Last year, my parents gave me a car."

David Cabrera: "My life has been saved five times." One he thinks of most often: He was a passenger in a van and one of the wheels came off. The van rolled, multiple times, and stopped, teetering on an edge. A man appeared, grabbed the side mirror, and pulled the van back to safety.



Siobhan Delgado: "One of my best friends gave me big, fuzzy dinosaur slippers. I love dinosaurs."



Jerry Foley: "I'm from Georgia. For my high school graduation, my parents gave me a (family) trip to DC."

Dancing into the Sunset

FROM PAGE 13

deeply rooted in American Modern Dance, she said. "It has a wonderful background and a richness that in this day and age it's quite hard to compare," she said.

Her students appreciate her dedication as well. "She does beautiful work," said Carrie Wilcox of Centreville, who has danced in the Kathy Harty Gray Dance Theater for 20 years. "She's kept all of us on our toes. She uses beautiful music and creates beautiful dance. I really have enjoyed performing her choreography."

"I've always enjoyed her style and her choreography," Parker said.

Their enjoyment of working with Gray is appar-

ent, spending two nights per week dancing with her after putting in full days at work.

Gray appreciates their dedication and lists it as one of the things she'll miss most.

"Modern dance is usually a gypsy's life," moving from place to place and working with numerous fellow dancers, Gray said. Having a company with so many long-term members, some of whom will be coming back for the farewell performance this weekend, is a treat and a rarity.

Dancers that stay with a company "isn't around now," she said. "I have so many dancers that worked very hard for me. They have a passion."

The company is like a family, Wilcox said. It'll be difficult to see Gray off into retirement.

"We all owe her so much," she said.



PHOTO BY LOUISE KRAFFT/GAZETTE PACKET

Special Service During the 11 a.m. services on Nov. 24 and Dec. 22, Milton I. Nelson will play the organ in the Roberts Memorial United Methodist Church at 606A S. Washington St. in Alexandria. The pipe organ was built by Wilson S. Riley of Washington D.C. and built in the church on March 15, 1889. All are welcome.

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Legal Notices

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

21 Announcements

ABC LICENSE
AMR Wines Plus, LLC trading as AMR Wines Plus, 5401 Port Royal Rd, Springfield, VA 22151 and 6461 Autumn Glen Ct, Alexandria, VA 22312. The above establishment is applying to the VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL (ABC) for a Wholesale wine and wine importer-in-state license to sell or manufacture alcoholic beverages, Anna Ryzik, Manager/member
NOTE: Objections to the issuance of this license must be submitted to ABC no later than 30 days from the publishing date of the first of two required legal notices. Objections should be registered at www.abc.virginia.gov or 800-552-3200.

ABC LICENSE
Brown Bag Vino, LLC trading as Altura Wines, 108 N. Patrick St, Alexandria, VA 22314. The above establishment is applying to the VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL (ABC) for a Wine and Beer off premises license to sell or manufacture alcoholic beverages. Edgar Salinas/Partner
NOTE: Objections to the issuance of this license must be submitted to ABC no later than 30 days from the publishing date of the first of two required legal notices. Objections should be registered at www.abc.virginia.gov or 800-552-3200.

An expert is someone who knows some of the worst mistakes that can be made in his subject and how to avoid them.
-Werner Heisenberg

21 Announcements

OBITUARY
Richard "Rick" William Moore, 66
Father of Michael, Kevin, Erin and Kristen Moore; son of Sally Moore and the late Norman R. Moore. Also survived by one brother Dennis Moore (Linda) and one niece Val Moore. He was an Alexandria Police Officer, (Ret.) and an active member of Moose Lodge #2165, Dale City, VA. Burial will be at Quantico National Cemetery at a later date. In lieu of flowers donations may be made to the Alexandria Police Foundation, 3600 Wheeler Avenue, Suite 118, Alexandria, VA 22304 <http://alexandriapolicefoundation.org/>. A guest register may be found at www.everlyfuneralhomes.com.

21 Announcements

LEGAL NOTICE
Notice is hereby given to members of the NY, nonprofit, American Society of Clinical Oncology, Inc., that eligible ASCO members may vote by proxy ballot from Oct. 29 to Nov. 26, 2012 to elect the President Elect, four seats on the Board of Directors, and two seats on the Nominating Committee for service beginning on June 2, 2014. Information about proxy ballots is available at www.asco.org. Completed proxy ballots will be delivered to the ASCO President or his designee for casting at a meeting held on Dec. 3, 2013, 8:30-9:00 AM at ASCO Headquarters, 2318 Mill Road, Suite 800, Alexandria, VA 22314. Members with questions can email ASCOelection@asco.org or call 571-483-1316.

26 Antiques

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21 Announcements



Kay W. Duda, 73 of Ocean passed away Thursday November 7 at Jersey Shore University Medical Center, Neptune with her family by her side. She was born in Washington D.C. and raised in Arlington, VA. Kay and her husband of 52 years, Peter "Eddie" raised a beautiful family in Virginia before moving to New Jersey in 2005 to be near their daughters. Kay was very active in the school system, her church and community. She worked for American Home Funding, Annandale, VA and then for Alliance Business Center in Washington, D.C. Kay was a vibrant and caring person. She would visit and care for the sick in her community and worked at the food bank. In keeping with Kay's caring spirit it was her decision to donate her eyes to the Sharing Network so others may have a better quality of life. Kay thoroughly enjoyed spending time with her family, especially her grandchildren. She was a wonderful woman who will be greatly missed by all who knew her.

Kay is survived by her husband Peter "Eddie" Duda of Ocean; three daughters and two sons-in-law, Aleece and Ernie Marino of Wall, Melanie Jablonski of Wall and Nicol and John Sheehan of Brick; six grandchildren, Andrew and Katie Jo Marino, Gavin and Jillian Jablonski and Declan and Vivian Sheehan. She is also survived by her sister and brother-in-law Patsy and Paul Fair of Eatontown; many nieces and nephews in New Jersey. Kay was predeceased by her parents Mary and Don Womack.

Arrangements were entrusted to Orender Family Home for Funerals, Manassquan. Services were private. Memorial donations may be made to the Food Bank of Monmouth and Ocean 3300 State Hwy 66 Neptune, NJ 07753. To send condolences to the family please visit www.orenderfamilyhome.com

21 Announcements

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21 Announcements



Betty Jo Rosenberg
October 27, 1923 - September 27, 2013
Resident of Alexandria, VA
Betty Jo Rosenberg passed away peacefully near her home in Alexandria, VA on September 27, 2013 at the age of 89. She will be greatly missed by her friends and surviving 4 children, William Rosenberg of Gainesville, GA, Carolyn Cipriani of Woodbridge, VA, James Rosenberg of Santa Cruz CA, and Stephen Rosenberg of Alexandria, VA. Her beloved husband, LTC Kermit H. Rosenberg preceded Betty Jo in death.

Betty Jo Tate was born Oct. 27, 1923 in Mineola, Missouri to a Banker, Joseph Burton Tate and his wife Judith Walker Covington. Betty Jo was the youngest of 5 children, and grew up in the small Missouri town. Her older sister Ruby just turned 100 in April, and they have always remained very close throughout the years. After graduation from HS, Betty Jo moved to St. Louis where she met Kermit. They were married in 1947, and celebrated their 60th Anniversary with the entire family. Kermit passed away on Christmas Day, 2008.

As a military family, Betty Jo was able to make homes in Germany, Hawaii, Utah, Virginia, & New Jersey. She enjoyed travel, entertaining, music, shopping for and collecting antiques and spending time in Ocean City, MD. She received her Real Estate license when she was in her 50's and worked for several RE Companies in the Alexandria area over the course of her 30+ year career. She loved real estate and property management and was still working a year before she died. She also served as Treasurer of the Vantage Point Homeowners Association in Ocean City, MD for over 30 years. She was a Daughter of the American Revolution, Montgomery City, Missouri Chapter. She and Kermit were members of Messiah Lutheran Church for over 50 years. Betty Jo is proud of her 10 grandchildren and 5 great grandchildren.

Friends and family are invited to attend her Memorial Service at Messiah Lutheran Church, 6510 Fort Hunt Rd, Alexandria, VA. The Service will begin at 10:30am on Tuesday, November 26th followed by a Reception and Lunch from 11:30am-1:30pm. After the service, Betty Jo will be laid to rest beside Kermit in Arlington National Cemetery at 3:00pm.

Results! Why, man, I have gotten a lot of results. I know several thousand things that won't work.
-Thomas A. Edison

21 Announcements

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21 Announcements

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Fairfax Water
NOTICE OF WATER RATE PUBLIC HEARING
At 6:30 p.m. on Thursday, December 12, 2013, Fairfax Water will conduct a public hearing on its proposed Schedule of Rates, Fees and Charges. The hearing will be held in Fairfax Water's offices at 8570 Executive Park Avenue, Fairfax, VA.
The proposed changes, to be effective April 1, 2014, include the following:
1. An increase in the Availability Charge from \$3,850 to \$3,950.
2. An increase in the Local Facilities Charge from \$9,500 to \$9,750.
3. An increase in the Service Connection Charge from \$1,050 to \$1,090.
4. An increase in the Account Charge from \$35 to \$36.
5. An increase in the Quarterly Billing Service Charge from \$9.20 to \$9.80.
6. An increase in the base Commodity Charge from \$2.29 to \$2.42 per 1,000 gallons of water.
7. An increase in the Peak Use Charge from \$3.45 to \$3.55 per 1,000 gallons of water.
8. An increase in the Fees for Use of Fairfax Water Fire Hydrants to include the increase in the Commodity Charge and Peak Use Charge.
9. An increase in the Installation of Sewer Use Meter Charge from \$44 to \$45.
10. An increase in the Returned Payment Charge from \$17 to \$20.
A copy of the proposed changes can be viewed on our Web site at <http://www.fairfaxwater.org/rates/index.htm>. Those wishing to speak at this hearing or desiring a copy of the proposed changes should call Ms. Eva Catlin at 703-289-6017. Interested parties also may submit written comments to PublicHearingComments@fairfaxwater.org or mail written comments to:
Fairfax Water
Public Hearing Comments
8570 Executive Park Avenue
Fairfax, VA 22031
All written comments must be received by close of business on Wednesday, December 11, 2013 to be included in the record of the public hearing.
†Charges reflect fees associated with a standard 5/8" residential meter. Changes in charges for larger residential and commercial meters are reflected in the Proposed Schedule of Rates, Fees, and Charges.

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RECREATION



Champions: The Ticket Oaks, standing in front of the entrance to the Miracle Field



Runners-up: The Bat Boys, standing in front of the entrance to the Miracle Field

PHOTOS CONTRIBUTED

Department Hosts Fall Adult Wiffle Ball Tournament

The Alexandria Department of Recreation, Parks and Cultural Activities and DC Social Sports Club co-sponsored their First Annual Coed Fall Adult Wiffle Ball Tournament on Saturday, Nov. 16. The tournament was held at the Kelley Cares Miracle Field at the Lee Center which just celebrated its first anniversary since its dedication in November of 2012.

The field is a rubberized surface field in a stadium style setting specifically geared towards athletic programs for youth and adult with disabilities.

The tournament featured six teams and more than 70 participants from Alexandria and Arlington in the all-day tournament. The teams played a two game round robin format followed by the single elimination seeded tournament.

The tournament started with an official welcome from Bill Rivers, president of the Miracle League of Alexandria; Lindsay Swanson, president of the Kelley Cares Foundation, and Mac Slover, director of Sports for the Alexandria Department of Recreation, Parks and Cultural Activities. Before the game, Brad Marshall, program director for DC Social presented Slover with a check for \$500 to go towards equipment for the Miracle Baseball League.

Teams competing in the tournament included the Bat Boys, Brad's Bunch of Misfits, Major League Dropouts, Miller Sillies, Plastic Balls and The Ticket Oaks. In the finals, The Ticket Oaks team defeated the Bat Boys 5-4 in extra innings to win the championship. Each team received a team trophy and medals.

Sponsors for the tournament included Recreation Department, DC Social Sports Club, Miracle League of Alexandria, CCI Screenprinting, Inc., Vitacoco and Award Winning Awards. Concessions were sold by the Alexandria Titans Youth Football Booster Club.



From left: Brad Marshall, Lindsay Swanson and Bill Rivers.

seasons will begin the week of Jan. 6, 2014.

For more information, call the Recreation Services Division Office at 703-746-5409 or visit www.alexandriava.gov/recreation.

'Rock Your Park'

The City of Alexandria Department of Recreation, Parks and Cultural Activities is celebrating "Rock Your Park" by offering free Community Open Play Days and Nights throughout this winter at the Ben Brenman Park and Witter Recreation Park synthetic turf fields.

Beginning Dec. 3, through Feb. 23, 2014, families, friends and neighbors of all ages are encouraged to visit our fields to exercise, play soccer, lacrosse, touch football, rugby, Frisbee and more.

Ben Brenman Park Turf Field, 4800 Brenman Park Drive

Witter Recreation Park Turf Fields, 2600 Witter Drive

- ❖ Tuesday and Thursday from 6 to 9 p.m.
- ❖ Saturday 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.
- ❖ Sunday 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Guidelines to consider as you go to "Rock Your Park":

- ❖ Show courtesy to all other field users.
- ❖ No permits or registration will be required and use will be on a first come, first served basis.
- ❖ No uniformed teams or structured games allowed.
- ❖ Participants must provide their own equipment /balls.
- ❖ Tennis shoes or turf shoes only.
- ❖ Pick-up game time limits enforced.
- ❖ No pets, smoking, alcohol, or music allowed at the fields.
- ❖ Youth must be accompanied by a parent or adult chaperone.

For additional information, call Mac Slover at 703-746-5402 or e-mail at mac.slover@alexandriava.gov.

Adult Sports Fall Program

The Alexandria Department of Recreation, Parks and Cultural Activities Sports Office is winding down its adult fall seasons. The Coed Softball League has completed its season, while the Men's Competitive and Recreation Softball Leagues, Three Ball Softball League, Coed Volleyball and Coed Soccer Leagues will completing their seasons this week.

The Hairballs won their second consecutive Championship with an 18 - 15 win Happy Hour at Joseph Hensley Park.

Youth Cheerleading Invitational

The public is invited to attend the Alexandria Spring Invitational Cheerleading Competition, scheduled for 11 a.m. on Saturday, Dec. 14 at T.C. Williams High School, 3330 King Street. The competition features

preteen and teen cheerleading teams from neighborhood recreation centers and other teams from the metropolitan area.

Tickets are available for purchase at the door the day of the event. Tickets can be purchased for \$10 for ages 13 and older, \$5 for ages 6-12 and ages 5 and under are admitted free.

For information on the competition, additional recreation programs and activities, or to volunteer as a coach, call the Recreation Services Division Office at 703-746-5402 or visit www.alexandriava.gov/recreation.

Adult Sports Winter Registration

The Alexandria Department of Recreation, Parks and Cultural Activities Sports Office is now accepting online, mail in and walk in team registrations for the winter programs through Dec. 13. This winter the Sports Office is offering men and women's basketball leagues and coed volleyball. The



T.C. Williams receiver Tyrice Henry finished with 102 receiving yards against South County on Nov. 15.



T.C. Williams quarterback Darius Holland, right, threw two touchdown passes and ran for two scores against South County on Nov. 15.

PHOTOS BY CRAIG STERBUTZEL/GAZETTE PACKET

Titans Hope Playoff Berth a Program Changer

TC snaps 22-year playoff drought, loses to South County.

BY JON ROETMAN
GAZETTE PACKET

Members of the T.C. Williams football team shed tears as the closing seconds ticked off the clock at South County High School.

The Titans weren't ready for their historical playoff run to end, but the Stallions' had taken control of the game in the third quarter and left T.C. to face the painful arrival of the offseason — and for some, the end of their football careers.

No. 8-seed South County defeated No. 9 T.C. Williams 51-27 on Nov. 15 in the opening round of the 6A North regional playoffs. The Titans came out ready to play, taking leads of 14-7 and 21-14 in the second quarter, but South County's up-tempo offense eventually exposed T.C. Williams' lack of depth. The Stallions outscored the Titans 37-6 in the final two-plus quarters.

"I feel bad for our seniors," T.C. Williams

head coach Dennis Randolph said. "They had a great run."

The Titans finished the season with a 7-4 record and ended the program's 22-year playoff drought. Prior to Friday's contest, T.C. Williams had not played in a postseason contest since 1990.

"It was a great season," senior lineman Jeremiah Clarke said. "We did accomplish one of our goals, which was to make it to the playoffs and break the streak of not going. ... For the season, we did what we were supposed to do have a winning record."

The Titans had come close to snapping the streak in recent seasons but failed to reach the playoffs. In 2009, T.C. needed a win against Lee in the final game of the regular season to punch its ticket to the playoffs. The Titans had won back-to-back games after starting quarterback Joe Hargrove returned from injury, but Lee jumped out to a 20-0 lead and beat the Titans 27-13.

In 2010, T.C. posted its first winning record since 1995, winning five of its final six regular-season games to reach 6-4, but the Titans didn't have enough power points to reach the postseason.

After a 3-7 record in 2011, the 2012 Titans won their final four regular-season

games, but a 5-5 record wasn't enough to get in.

The 2013 Titans started the regular season with a 38-2 thrashing of defending re-

"The winning part helps with us getting more players to come out for next season. They're not just playing to put a jersey on. They're playing for a chance to do something special."

— T.C. Williams junior quarterback Darius Holland

gion champion Oakton and ended with a 7-3 record and a postseason berth.

"It means a lot as far as breaking the streak goes and hope for the future and generations to come after us," junior quarterback Darius Holland said. "I wish we would have gone further. ... I wish we would have performed better when it counted."

T.C. Williams is known nationally for Disney's "Remember the Titans," a 2000

movie starring Denzel Washington that tells the story of the 1971 Titans overcoming racial issues to win a state championship. The last two decades of T.C. Williams football have been void of football gory, however, as the program has struggled with losing. Holland said reaching the playoffs this season can help the future of the program, starting with the 2014 season.

"The winning part helps with us getting more players to come out for next season," Holland said. "They're not just playing to put a jersey on. They're playing for a chance to do something special."

Holland, in his first season as a varsity starter, showed off his playmaking abilities against South County. He completed 9 of 21 passes for 161 yards with two touchdowns and an interception. His 77-yard scoring strike to Tyrice Henry gave the Titans a 21-14 lead with 6:11 left in the second quarter.

Holland also scored twice on the ground, including a 77-yard touchdown run in the third quarter.

"I just hope my receivers and DBs come out next year more focused and more dedicated," Holland said, "... and the 7-on-7 success continues."



Molly Huddle and Shalane Flanagan compete on King Street during Sunday's 12K event.

PHOTO BY ISABEL AMEND

City Hosts USATF Championships

FROM PAGE 9
am I in the best fitness I've ever been."

Laura Thweatt finished third in 39:15 and local runner Kristin Swisher of Alexandria came in 12th place with a time of 40:40.

"This was the best organized race I have ever run," said former City Councilman David Speck. "This was a great course and for runners who don't know Alexandria, it was a great way to see the city."

In the men's championship race, Aaron Braun cruised to an easy win, finishing in 34:28 to take his first U.S. title and set a new American record. He was followed by Shadrack Biwott (34:35) and Tyler

Pennel (34:37). T. C. Williams High School track standout John Colucci, an eighth-grader at George Washington Middle School, finished in 48:09 to take first place in his age group.

The inaugural U.S. National Road Racing Championship was the 11th and final stop on the 2013 USA Running Circuit with a total prize purse of \$100,000. Braun said, "[Winning] will go a long way towards taking care of my little girl Mackenzie, hopefully getting a house for her and my wife."

The championship race also offered local runners a chance to participate in the national event in an open 12K and 5K race.

Be a Part of CHILDREN'S GAZETTE PACKET

During the last week of each year, the Alexandria Gazette Packet devotes its entire issue to the creativity of local students. The results are always remarkable, and the editions have won many awards. It is a keepsake edition for many families.

We publish artwork, poetry, essays, creative writing, opinion pieces, short stories, photography, photos of sculpture or gardens or other creative efforts.

We ask that all submissions be digital so they can be sent through e-mail or delivered on CD or flash drive. Writing should be submitted in rich text format (.rtf). Artwork should be provided in .jpg format. Identify each piece of writing or art, including the student's full name, age, grade and town of residence, plus the name of the school, name of teacher and town of school location. Please provide the submissions by Friday, Dec. 6 for publication the week of Dec. 26.

E-mail submissions to:

smauren@connectionnewspapers.com

To send CDs or flash drives containing artwork and typed, electronic submissions, mark them clearly by school and hometown and mail the CD to Children's Gazette, 1606 King Street, Alexandria, VA 22314.

Alexandria
Gazette Packet



Teaching Children To Make Gifts

Local art experts offer crafty gift ideas.

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL
GAZETTE PACKET

Gifts your child's teacher, grandparents or other family members with holiday cheer doesn't have to add another line item to your budget. Homemade gifts from children are among the most cherished, say experts, and creating them can be as memorable for the child as the recipient.

"I think that making gifts is a very important thing to teach children because they've created it themselves rather than just buying it," said Alexandria resident Chris Tucker Haggerty, a professor of fine and applied arts at Marymount University in Arlington. "They're giving you part of themselves and saying 'this is the best that I can give you because I made it myself.'"

Alexandria resident Maria Cuzzocrea Burke, an art teacher at Oakridge Elementary School in Arlington said that although "holi-



PHOTO COURTESY OF ART AT THE CENTER

Glass jars can be recycled into candle-holders with a stained glass effect.

day crafts are not done in the art classroom anymore, as they don't meet to the standards of learning in Virginia and out of respect to [the] multicultural [and] multidenominational community that we live in, there is nothing better than [giving] a homemade gift during the holiday season and spending quality time with your child."

Kathryn Horn Coneway, of Art at the Center in Mount Vernon,

notes that a variety of holiday traditions focus on light during the months of November and December.

"For school-aged children, glass jars can be recycled into beautiful candle holders with a stained glass effect," said Coneway. "Soak glass jars to remove labels. Cut or tear tissue paper

into one to two pieces. Mix white school glue with equal parts water until it will flow and paint easily with a brush. Brush watered down glue on the glass and place tissue paper over the glue. Cover with another coat to seal. Colors will overlap and mix. When dry, place a tea light inside the glass jar and enjoy the colorful glow."

Framing a painting or drawing by your child can make a sentimental gift for a loved one. You can also "encourage your children to make homemade cards and thank you notes for relatives who live far away; a great way to use art and writing skills," said Coneway.

For younger children, Coneway said, "This is a great opportunity to work big on large paper. Purchase blank white or brown wrapping paper and let kids paint, draw or stamp on the large surface. They can work on a tabletop, wall or hard-surface floor. Big, colorful designs are fun to create and make great wrapping paper. Very young toddlers can even get in on the action by ... making hand and footprints. Washable paints make clean up easy."

Burke says that while making artistic gifts with your child can be an enjoyable experience, there are certain safety precautions to take. "[Ensure] the art materials you are using are nontoxic and safe for children's use," said Burke. "For example, when sewing, make sure the needle has a blunt nose so that they won't hurt themselves. Choose scissors that are appropriate for their age levels. Stay away from toxic glues. Please read the labels."

Haggerty said having children make gifts for others reinforces a sense of generosity and strengthens a parent-child bond. "I think anytime that you can spend actually participating in an activity with a child is golden to the child."

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LETTERS

FROM PAGE 26
the new development. Opening up access to the waterfront is great, but being able to tell a small part of our city's history while doing it is even better. It's a win-win. We encourage visitors to the city to learn more about Gadsby's Tavern, Freedom House, Christ Church, the Masonic Temple and the Torpedo Factory; we highlight the accomplishments of those that lived here before us like George Washington and John Carlyle, so why not celebrate another great part of the city's history — the service and commitment of the members, both past and present, of the Old Dominion Boat Club?

Established in 1880, it's been here longer than the Campagna Center, T.C. Williams High School

and yes, even our beloved Christmas Store. The Old Dominion Boat Club is part of our team, they are and have been a part of the city of Alexandria for 133 years. In another 133 years, I hope the City of Alexandria's history does not include a chapter on the many long, costly years that could ensue with the use of eminent domain.

Instead, how great would it be to instead find in our history books a photo of the members of the council and the members of the Boat Club, together, cutting the ribbon for long awaited developed waterfront. I am convinced it can happen and, please know, I am cheering you on.

Christine Mica
Alexandria



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

New Police PIO

Crystal Nosal has been named the Alexandria Police Department's new senior public information officer. Nosal was a police officer in Arlington for 12 years. She served as Arlington Police's PIO for four of those years. Nosal moved on to NCIS and most recently worked as a background investigator before coming to APD.

Correction

In "Playfest Sold-out" (Gazette Packet, Nov. 14), an editing error mistakenly identified Dr. Mayde Henson as an Alexandria City Public Schools' deputy superintendent.

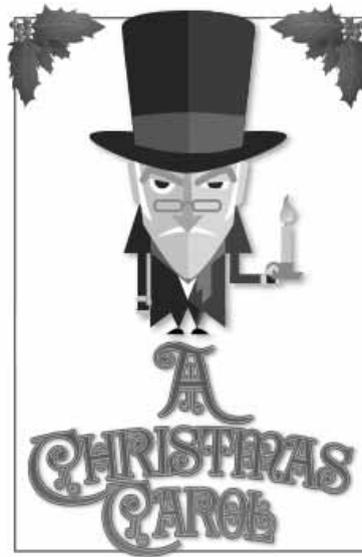
Hawkinson of Alexandria. His wife, Jennie, is the daughter of Andrew and Cindy Packett of Warsaw. Hawkinson graduated in 2004 from West Potomac High School and received a bachelor of science in 2008 from the University of Virginia, Charlottesville.

Army Reserve Pfc. **Tamba T.S. Sam-Manimoi** has graduated from basic combat training at Fort Jackson, Columbia, S.C. Sam-Manimoi is the son of Samuel Sam-Manimoi of Alexandria.

MILITARY NOTES

Email announcements to gazette@connectionnewspapers.com. Photos are welcome.

Army 2nd Lt. **Michael P. Hawkinson** has graduated from the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences (USUHS) in Bethesda, Md. The graduate received a medical degree and was commissioned to the rank of captain, with a minimum seven-year active duty service commitment. He is the son of Brian and Deb



Ring in the holiday season with this Charles Dickens classic. A must see for the entire family.

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OBITUARIES

Thomas Julian 'TJ' Fannon

FROM PAGE 4

in basketball and football at St. John's High School in D.C. After graduating from the University of Notre Dame in 1952, he served in the Air Force before returning to Alexandria to join the family business, T.J. Fannon & Sons, where he worked for more than 60 years.

"T.J. spent his whole life civically involved and giving back to the community," said nephew and former City Councilman Frank

Fannon IV. "His whole life was Alexandria. He loved going to work every day, just like his father and grandfather before him."

He was the third generation to work in the business founded by his grandfather, a former vice mayor of Alexandria, in 1885 at the corner of Duke and Henry streets in Old Town. His son Jack and a grandson carry on that tradition, giving T.J. Fannon & Sons the distinction of being the third

oldest family owned business in the Commonwealth of Virginia.

T.J. Fannon was selected as a Living Legend of Alexandria in 2008 and received the At Home in Alexandria Community spirit Award in October of this year.

"My prayers and sympathies go out to T.J. and his beloved family," said Mayor Bill Euille. "T.J. was not only a Living Legend, but also, 'Mr. Alexandria,' an honor I recently bestowed on him for his

dedicated service to our city, our youth and the Inova Alexandria Hospital. He leaves a long legacy to our city and he will always be remembered in our hearts."

T.J. Fannon was dedicated to many local charities and organizations, serving on the board of Alexandria Hospital and as a past president of the Alexandria Rotary Club.

"Right at the onset, T.J. became a staunch supporter of Rotary International's worldwide humanitarian programs as well as the club's outreach within the City of Alexandria," said current club president Peter Knetemann. "He leaves behind a huge void and will be greatly missed by all who had the privilege of being associated with him and who assisted him in making his community and the world beyond a better place."

When not involved in his business or philanthropic work, he enjoyed sailing, bicycling and hiking in various destinations around the world. He is survived by four children: Thomas Jenson Fannon of Springfield, and Susan Burroughs, Jack Fannon and Sarah Revers of Alexandria. He was predeceased by his wife Susan in January of 2012. He is also survived by sisters Mary Ellen Feeney and Dorothy Markham and brother Francis H. Fannon III.

T.J. spent his last three months at home surrounded by his four



PHOTO BY NINA TISARA/LIVING LEGENDS

Thomas Julian "TJ" Fannon

children and 16 grandchildren at the family home he built in 1952 on Trinity Drive.

"My uncle's whole life was dedicated to his family and his community," Frank Fannon said. "He was a great man and a great leader. Not only our family but the entire community will miss him."

A visitation will be held at Everly-Wheatley Funeral Home, 1500 W. Braddock Road, on Friday, Nov. 22, from 2-4 p.m. and 6-8 p.m. A Mass of Christian burial will be held Nov. 23 at 10 a.m. at Saint Mary's Catholic Church, 310 S. Royal St. in Old Town. Memorial contributions may be made to the Rotary Club of Alexandria Foundation, Senior Services of Alexandria and Inova Alexandria Hospital.

Alma Sampson Gibson

Alma Sampson Gibson, 99, died peacefully on Nov. 16, 2013, in Alexandria. Alma was the beloved wife of the late Wallace E. Gibson and loving mother to two sons, Scott Emmet Gibson and Steven Phillip Gibson, both of whom survive her.



nurses at the time of her death. Alma was known for her generosity and caring spirit. She was an optimist who always managed to find the best in people. She will be sorely missed.

Alma served in the Armed Forces during World War II as a Registered Nurse and achieved the rank of First Lieutenant. She was one of the army's oldest surviving

A gathering of family and friends will be held at the Demaine Funeral Home, 5308 Backlick Road, Springfield, 703-941-9428 on Saturday, Nov. 23, from 5-7 p.m. Inurnment will be private. See www.demainefunerals.com.

Ulaala F. Kinzer

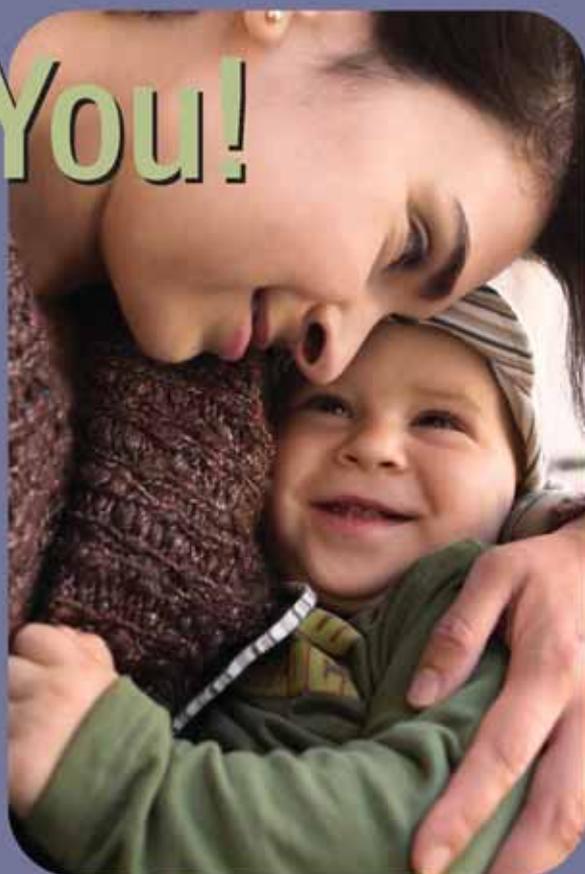
Ulaala F. Kinzer of Alexandria, died on Nov. 12, 2013, at the age of 63. Beloved wife of four years of Fred S. Kinzer; caring mother of Marvin L. Stohs Jr., Martin L. Stohs, Melvin L. Stohs, and Dennis Pavao; dear sister of Iite Shafer, Margerita Arakaki, Siake Logoai, Makuisa Peapealalo, Nusipepa Hulshoff, Aimeavela Peapealalo, Carson Peapealalo, Fagupo Peapealalo, Jolene Peapealalo, Daisy Tangaro, Wanda Williams, and Ruth Spencer; also survived by several grandchildren and many nieces and nephews. Ulaala proudly worked for Alexandria Transit for 26 years, and was well-known throughout Alexandria as one of their best drivers.

Friends are welcome on Friday, Nov. 22 from 10 a.m.-12 p.m. at the Demaine Funeral Home, Backlick and Edsall roads, Springfield where a service to celebrate Ulaala's life will immediately follow. Interment at Fairfax Memorial Park. In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations in Ulaala's memory to the Salvation Army of Alexandria. View and sign the guestbook at www.demainefunerals.com.

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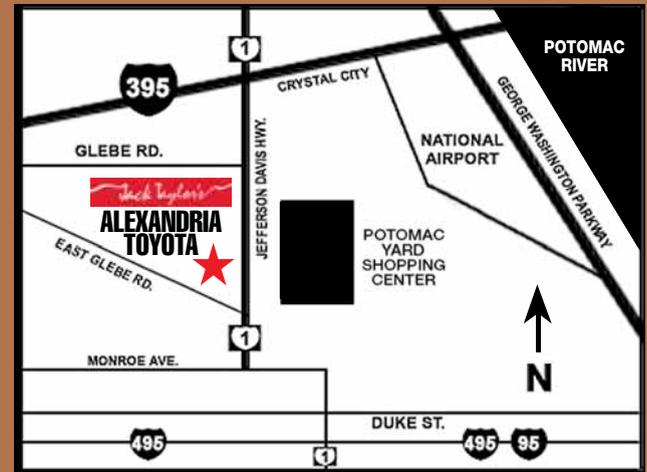


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ALEXANDRIA \$839,900



Seminary Ridge Awaits

Opportunity in Seminary Ridge! This four-bedroom, two-and-a-half-bath home offers space & functionality. Main level has eat-in kitchen, large living and dining rooms, granite, hardwood, and bright windows. On the finished lower level space continues through the family room, rec room, half bath, and huge bonus room to use for gym or office. Two-car garage.

Sue Goodhart
703.362.3221
www.thegoodhartgroup.com
MLS ID# AX8179210



ALEXANDRIA \$2,999,900



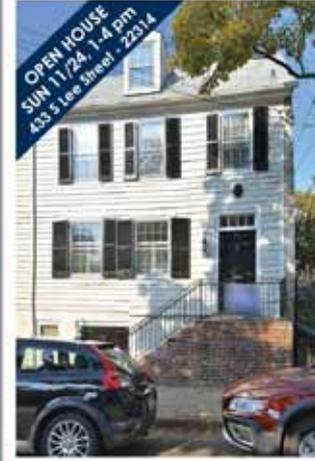
Splendor on the Waterfront

Vacation Year Round! 10 minutes south of Old Town - this incomparable 7,000 square feet of luxury home features six bedrooms, four and a half baths on 3/4 acre; 400-foot dock with slips and lift on 125 feet of waterfront. Available Now!

Janet Catterson Price
703.960.5858
www.janetpricehomes.com
MLS ID# FX8094985



OLD TOWN ALEXANDRIA \$1,090,000



Sensational Renovation

Circa 1776 charmer with four bedrooms and two and a half baths has been meticulously updated and expanded. Original random-width plank flooring, exquisite formal spaces, top-of-the-line chef's kitchen, sparkling baths of marble and granite, ensuite au pair or guest quarters. Private walled garden. In the heart of the southeast quadrant on one of the most sought-after blocks. Overlooking Lee Street park and river views too!

Jeffery McGlothlin
703.798.0137
433lee1.mceneaney.com
MLS ID# AX8193964

ALEXANDRIA \$679,000



Be George Washington's Neighbor!

Located on a spacious corner lot & beautifully landscaped with mature trees. Largest model with five bedrooms & three full baths. Dining room walks out to private deck. Living room includes fireplace, huge rec room with fireplace, custom mantel & built-in bookcases. Freshly painted & beautiful hardwoods gleam! Over-sized two-car garage with workshop.



Vicki Binkley 703.994.0778
Bob Martini 703.798.7400
www.VickyBinkley.com
MLS ID# FX8221016



ALEXANDRIA CITY \$835,000



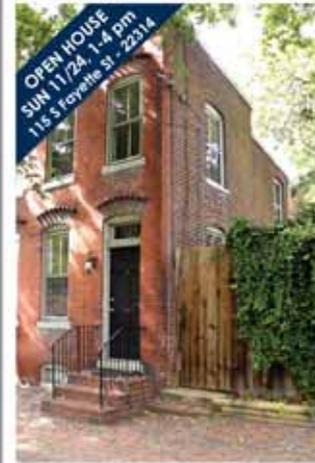
Enjoy Your Holidays...

...in your brand new three/four-bedroom, three-and-a-half-bath brick Colonial in sought-after, close-in neighborhood. Remodeled top to bottom with quality materials and craftsmanship. Warm wood floors, detail moldings, custom paint colors, sunny breakfast room/den, finished on all three levels. Nothing to do here, but move in and enjoy!

Betty Mallon
703.989.8548
www.BettyMallon.com



OLD TOWN ALEXANDRIA \$479,900



Home or Business?

It is your choice in this all-brick, three-level, semi-detached gem including one bedroom with sitting and work area on second floor, hardwood floors throughout, and a large fenced side yard/deck. Short walk to King Street Metro.

Waldi Crawford
703.629.5655
www.WaldiCrawford.com
MLS ID# AX9004275



ALEXANDRIA \$895,000



Not Your Boxy Colonial

Come home to secluded neighborhood backing to parkland. Enjoy open spaced living room. Dining room open to vaulted ceiling all season room with wet bar and deck to patio. Large entry foyer leads to family room, bedroom, office, two-car garage. Four bedrooms, three full baths, two fireplaces. Seeing is believing.

Ann Dozier Michael
703.608.5218
www.anndozermichael.com
MLS ID# AX8160784



ALEXANDRIA \$340,000



Terrific Fixer-Upper

3632 Valley Dr, Parkfairfax Condominiums: Three-bedroom, one-bath, 1,170-SF Harrison model. Move-in ready. Fix up at your own pace, or before you move in. Clean, freshly painted, floors refinished, sun-filled. Upgrade with a contractor, it's a deal; do it yourself, it's a steal. Washers/dryers, parking for residents, 5 tennis courts, 3 pools, exercise rooms.

Jud Burke
703.966.8343
www.JudBurke.com



ALEXANDRIA/BRADDOCK HEIGHTS \$999,000



Custom Home Feels Like Italian Villa!

1103 Quiney Street - 3,500 square feet of living space. Three bedrooms, three and a half baths. Garage with pedestrian door. Easement in the back for easy access to lovely landscaped backyard and divine screened-in porch. HUGE master bedroom with walk-in closet and marble master bath. Built-ins in library with French doors and balcony.

Pam Cornelio
571.236.4398
www.PamCornelio.com
MLS ID# AX8227892



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