

PHOTO BY LOUISE KRAFFT/GAZETTE PACKET

The Old Dominion Boat Club will gain the Beachcomber property at the foot of Prince Street.

Boat Club, City Strike Deal

Land-swap concludes decades of feuding between the two organizations.

BY MICHAEL LEE POPE
GAZETTE PACKET

The feud between the Boat Club and the city dates back for decades, a conflict that involved the city threatening the use of eminent domain and the Boat Club winning a case against the city at the Virginia Supreme Court. Now the two have finally come to a resolution, one in which both parties get most of what they wanted all along. This week, members of the Boat Club voted to finalize the deal and end the long-running feud.

"With this vote, we look forward to the Boat Club's bright future and a new opportunity for a community waterfront accessible to all," said Mayor Bill Euille in a written statement. "We thank the members for their overwhelming support of steps to help preserve Alexandria's legacy as a historic maritime city."

City officials will get the boat club's property at the foot of King Street, which they want to transform into a public plaza known as Fitzgerald Square. Former Alexandria Planning Director Faroll Hamer once called Fitzgerald Square the

"soul" of the waterfront plan. Meanwhile Boat Club members will get \$5 million from the city and a new home at the foot of Prince Street, a building that was originally built as the Beachcomber Restaurant that was a firearms retailer for many years. Boat Club members will also get part of the parking lot next to the Beachcomber building, which will include a boat launch. Despite the 80 percent approval, some Boat Club members remain deeply skeptical.

"It's not over. It's never over," said Townsend Van Fleet, a member of the Boat Club who opposed the deal. "The next City Council could try to use eminent domain again just like this one did."

THE CONFLICT dates back to the Nixon administration, when the Justice Department filed a series of lawsuits against waterfront property owners in an effort to open up the waterfront to the public. Unlike most of the property owners, members of the Boat Club resisted the federal government and refused to settle. They would eventually win in court, decades after the lawsuit was filed. But by then, city officials had already started eyeing their land to be the centerpiece of the waterfront plan.

"I think a lot of the members of the club, myself included, thought that after 90 years we'd like to stay there," said Boat Club member Richard Banchoff earlier this year. "But I think everybody

SEE BOAT CLUB, PAGE 5

The Safeway Four

Three defendants sentenced to 35 years each; another sentenced to 12 years.

BY MICHAEL LEE POPE
GAZETTE PACKET

It was a crime that shocked Old Town, an armed robbery that rattled a neighborhood where most of the illicit activity is limited to petty theft from unlocked vehicles. Three masked men walked into the Old Town Safeway one November evening heavily armed and demanding cash, shooting one of the patrons before jumping into a getaway car driven by a fourth man. Neighbors here became fearful for their own safety and concerned about the staff of a grocery store that many people consider an extension of their own family.

"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 in the frenzied days after the robbery. "You will see a uniform presence in the area to help alleviate the perception that it is unsafe to come out after dark."

The big break in the case came when investigators realized that one of the men used his own personal Safeway Clubcard at the register a few days before the heist, a blunder that led to his cell phone records tracking his whereabouts and a search warrant uncovering a weapon used in the robbery. Now the Safeway Four have been sentenced in federal court for conducting a crime spree that stretched from Woodbridge to Old Town.

"It's a complicated case," said



Ray Allen Dicks

Louis Anthony Jackson



Calvin Leon Lewis

Artemus Lamarr Riley

Crystal Nosal, spokeswoman for the Alexandria Police Department. "They were arrested back in December, but the U.S. Attorney's Office wouldn't let us put out any information about this for varying reasons."

COURT RECORDS show three of the men had extensive criminal backgrounds. They were sentenced to 35 years each. Another one of the men, a 26-year-old from Capital Heights, was given only 12 years after friends and family members pleaded with the court to issue a reduced sentence. They say Ray Allen Dicks got caught up with a bad crowd though his cousin, Calvin Leon Lewis.

"Ray just needs more people to believe in him so he can become

SEE SAFEWAY, PAGE 24

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Trial of the Century

Federal prosecutors are about to pull back the curtain on the lives of former Republican Gov. Bob McDonnell and his wife, Maureen, in a case that could become the trial of the century. Federal prosecutors accuse the couple of being at the center of a sweeping corruption case that involved them selling their power and influence to a wealthy Virginia businessman.

“My guess is that we will know more about the financial aspects of the McDonnells than of any governor and first lady in the history of Virginia,” said Toni-Michelle Travis, a professor at George Mason University.

For weeks, prosecutors and defense attorneys have engaged in a flurry of motions to determine what could be admitted into evidence and who could testify. Prosecutors won most of those fights, which means that most of the evidence that prosecutors want to enter will be part of the case. That’s not necessarily a good thing for prosecutors, though, because it could mean that the judge wants to close all potential avenues for an appeal.

“We’re going to know if they were late on their credit cards. We are going to know if they missed payments on mortgages,” said University of Mary Washington professor Stephen Farnsworth. “Every minuscule aspect of their personal and financial life potentially can be fair game in this trial.”

The Last Campaign

Financial disclosure documents show the embattled former governor’s legal defense is funded by an outfit known as Restoration Fund, a group that has raised a quarter of a million dollars this year. Top donors include coal industry executive Richard Baxter Gilliam, former Secretary of Commerce Jim Cheng and former Massachusetts Gov. Mitt Romney.

“They need money to fight McDonnell’s case,” said Geoff Skelley, analyst with the University of Virginia Center for Politics. “So they are appealing to the people who have supported the governor and would generally support Republicans.”

So far, the Restoration Fund has raised about \$250,000 and spent about \$162,000 in legal services. Contributions from Northern Virginia include \$1,500 from Stephan Quinn Casaday of Great Falls, \$1,000 from Douglas Domenech of Arlington, \$500 from Gary Baise of Falls Church and \$500 from David Norcross of Alexandria.

“There is a campaign element to all this,” said Skelley. “During hearings, they tried to make this look like a partisan attack on the governor to perhaps influence the jury along political lines.”

New Academic Chief

New School Superintendent Alvin Crawley is slowly building his own team of administrators to take over Alexandria City Public Schools after the controversial reign of former Superintendent Morton Sherman. This week, Crawley announce that he is hiring Terri Mozingo to fill the role of academic advisor, a job previously held by GwenCarol Holmes, who left Alexandria to serve as superintendent for the Blaine County School District in Hailey, Idaho.

Mozingo come to Alexandria from Durham, N.C., where she has worked since 2004. Most recently, she served as assistant superintendent for research and accountability. Before that, she served as the division’s area superintendent for middle school curriculum, instruction, school improvement and academic services. She has worked in Durham since 2004.

“We welcome Dr. Mozingo’s rich leadership skills and proven knowledge regarding so many crucial education topics, from strategic plan design and implementation to school improvement initiatives,” Crawley said in a written statement announcing the hire.

Mozingo has a doctorate in education from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, a master’s degree from North Carolina State University and a bachelor’s degree from Fayetteville State University.

“I pledge to listen, learn, lead and roll up my sleeves and work so that every student achieves success,” Mozingo said.

— MICHAEL LEE POPE



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Student members of Global Citizens in Action, a club at George Washington Middle School in Alexandria.

Communicating with Afghan Peers

George Washington Middle school program reaches across the world through video chatting and social networking.

BY ALEXIS HOSTICKA
GAZETTE PACKET

For the last three years, a classroom of middle school girls in Alexandria has been connecting with peers in Afghanistan through social networking and video chatting.

Seventh grade social studies teacher Kelly Mayer has been working with students at George Washington Middle School and through Global Nomads Group (GNG) to make this possible. The mission of GNG is to “foster dialogue and understanding among the world’s youth.”

At George Washington Middle School, Mayer runs an extracurricular program to help fulfill that mission. The club, global citizens in action, meets every week and gets to Skype, using an interpreter, with a classroom in Afghanistan about five to six times during the year.

“The girls will discuss topics that they’re learning about in the curriculum, cultural issues, sometimes the girls in Afghanistan will share stories about how the war in Afghanistan is impacting them personally, how the educational system affects women in Afghanistan,” Mayer said. “They’re also 12 and 13-year-old girls so they talk about the latest pop song or the sport that they play, personal experiences and typical teenage

conversation.”

With Mayer, only girls participate in the program because classes in Afghanistan are single-gender. However, the conversations that stuck with some of the girls at George Washington Middle School were not those that one would consider “typical teenage conversation.”

“I really liked when we did the windows activities,” Alexandria student Grace Salmons said. “We talked about the how we look at the same thing or event and look at it through different perspectives.”

Salmons’ classmate Caroline Simmons said she has also gained insight and understanding about Afghan culture and people through the program.

“There was one video conference where we had to create timelines of our lives, then share an event,” Simmons said. “I loved this part because some really powerful perspectives on life were shared and I got to know more about the girls in my partner school.”

During weeks when they are not Skyping, the girls have the opportunity to interact using a social networking site and learn about Afghan culture and social issues through curriculum.

After three years of participating in GNG, Mayer has increasing appreciation for the program and the effort the class in Afghanistan puts in.

“Over the years communicating I’ve realized there’s such a thirst and hunger for education in Afghanistan,” Mayer said. “The girls are willing to go through such great lengths to get to school. There have been times that, due to the time difference, they’ve been willing to stay at school until 10 or 11 o’clock at night just to talk to us.”

“Over the years communicating I’ve realized there’s such a thirst and hunger for education in Afghanistan.”

— Kelly Mayer, GWMS social studies teacher

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ALEXANDRIA GAZETTE PACKET ♦ JULY 24-30, 2014 ♦ 3

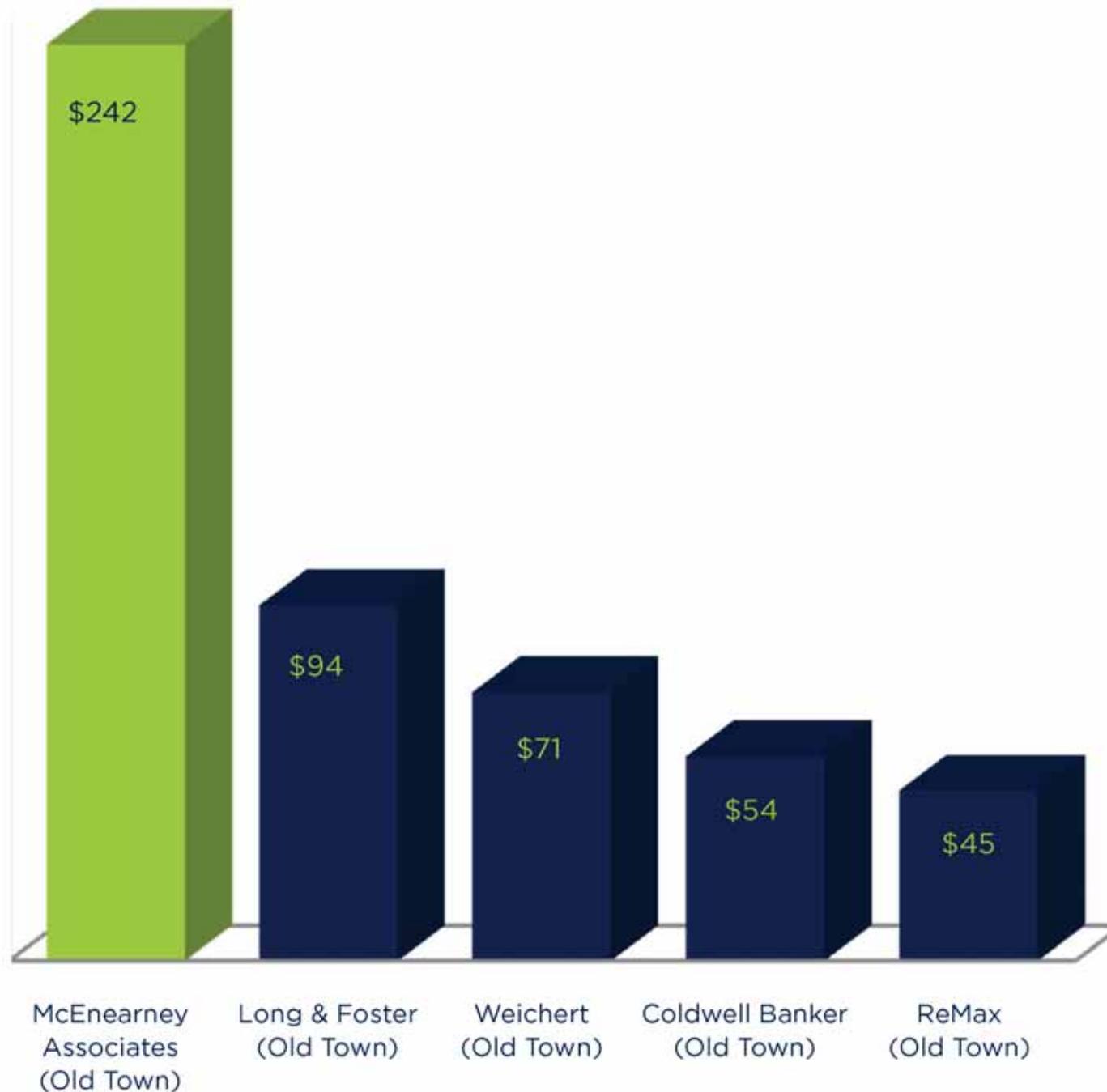
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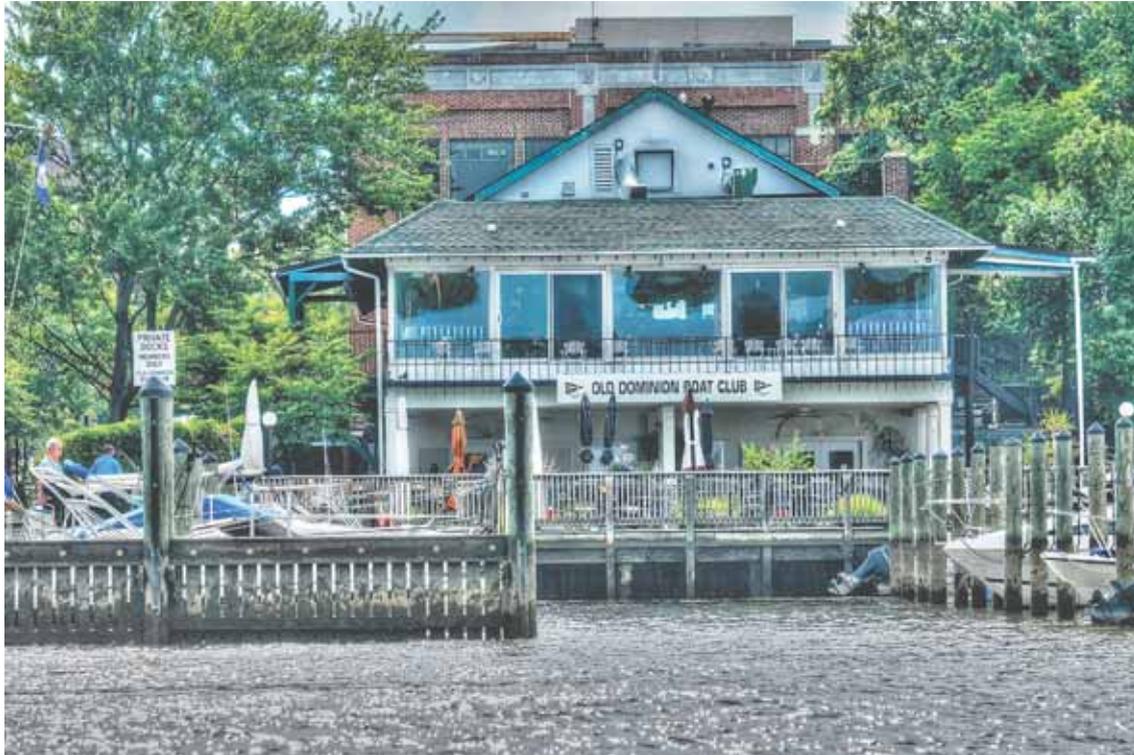


PHOTO BY LOUISE KRAFT/GAZETTE PACKET

The current location of the Old Dominion Boat Club at the foot of King Street.

Boat Club and City Strike Deal

FROM PAGE 1

realizes that we wouldn't be making this move if the city didn't want to put a park where our parking lot is."

When city leaders unveiled their grand plans for revitalizing the waterfront at the end of 2010, members of the Old Dominion Boat Club were surprised to see a public plaza where their parking lot and boat launch is currently located. Drawings included with the draft version of the waterfront plan included a plaza known as Fitzgerald Square, complete with a large water feature that could be used for ice skating in the winter. Boat Club members could see the writing on the wall.

"The elimination of the parking lot creates the opportunity for a major new public space between the Fitzgerald warehouses and the water," the waterfront plan explained. "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."

THERE WAS ONLY one problem — the Boat Club was not about to give up its spot at the foot of King Street. So city leaders convened a press conference

to formally threaten the use of eminent domain. Euille officially changed his position on the issue, reversing course on his longstanding pledge not to use the power of eminent domain as long as he was mayor. Members of the City Council conducted a long and contentious public hearing on their threat of using eminent domain, eventually issuing an ultimatum to the organization.

"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 prominent businessman and frequent critic of the city. "Now you are creating a new one, 'I Want Your Property.'"

Behind the scenes, the city was offering a carrot with the stick — a prominent spot at the foot of Duke Street. When members started assembling for a vote over the weekend, it was apparently a deal that was too good to pass up.

Now both sides can call a truce and move forward with envisioning a new waterfront, one where the properties have been shuffled — even if feathers remain ruffled.

"This is not the keystone to the waterfront plan," said former Vice Mayor Andrew Macdonald. "This is just an extension of a plan built by developers, not the community."

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Early Morning Bread-making

Baker Sean Donahue's routine adapts to specials of the day.

BY SHIRLEY L. RUHE

The smell of fresh bread floated through the air outside the bakery. Sean Donahue had been at Great Harvest in Centre Plaza since 3:30 a.m. where he had been making white and honey wheat bread which are staples each day and then adding the ingredients for the challah, cinnamon swirl, mile-high rye and banana bread that are the specials for Friday.

PEOPLE AT WORK

"My favorite is lemon-blueberry but we only make that on Thursdays. But the most popular is apple scrapple bread on Monday, Wednesday and Friday. We slice the apples right here," he said.

In addition to the breads, there are other daily specials such as oatmeal cookies, cranberry orange scones, oatbran blackberry muffins, cinnamon chip scones, molasses cookies and biscotti. He points out each customer who comes in gets a choice of one or more of the homemade breads cut into a big slab and handed over to be slathered with butter.

"I came here from Colorado about a year ago where I had worked in a lumber mill," Donahue said. "My parents live here. I hadn't ever been a baker but I saw a 'Help Wanted' sign on the window at Great Harvest. This is my first job with food; I got trained here, but they told

me I picked it up fast. It takes a while to get 'the feel' of the bread; each bread gets a different shape. You have to get the hang of each one. You have to put the right amount of pressure, and temperature is important. If temperature is high, the bread rises faster but if too fast, it will flatten out."

The number of loaves per day depends on the season. Summer is slower and holidays are big. He makes about 40 each of six breads a day with honey wheat and white standard each day and then different specialty breads for each day.

"Over there," he pointed to a large, stacked metal rack of bread, "is an order for the Farmer's Market."

As metal trays clanged in the background several other staff were scattered around a huge wooden board spreading tomato sauce on today's special, spinach-feta focaccia. Donahue disappears at the sound of the timer to take out a large metal tray of bread.



PHOTOS BY SHIRLEY RUHE/GAZETTE PACKET
Sean Donahue adjusts the paddle for the bread machine at a low speed to mix the flour with the liquid for loaves of the white bread offered daily.

He says when he arrives in the early morning, the first step is to get out the ingredients for all the different breads that day and line them up. All of the breads are made at about the same time.

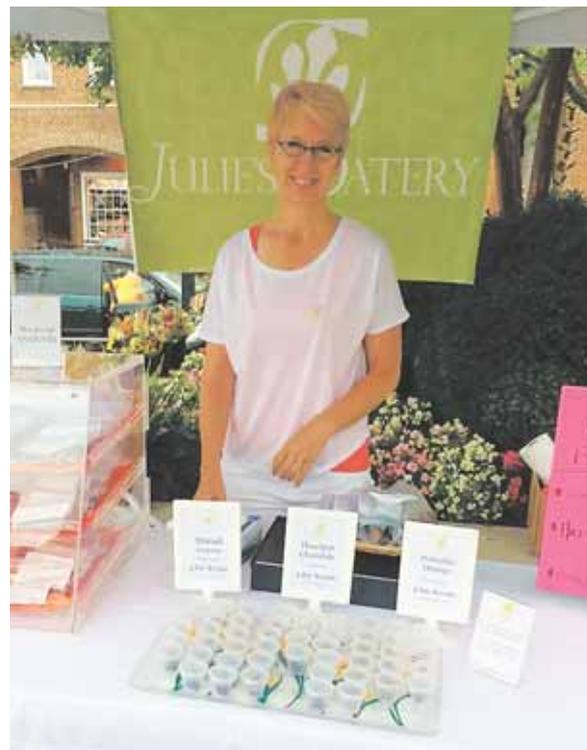
"Every once in a while I throw an ingredient into the wrong bread dough," but he smiles, "not very often." The first step is the soft dough with wet ingredients including water, yeast and a little flour. Then the bread rests. Next step is to add a bit of flour and salt, and the other ingredients for that particular bread such as raisins, nuts, seeds, or cheese and mix with the paddle in a large metal bowl for about a minute until the flour is absorbed into the liquid. Then it rests again for 15-20 minutes and gets thrown up on the table where they weigh it out and cut it. Most of the breads bake for 50 minutes at about 315 degrees.

Sometimes people place special orders. He remembers the huge 20-pound challah for a wedding "took two people to put it in the oven and pull it out." Sometimes people come in and order a large number of cupcakes. "Usually I leave about now at 10 a.m. and then go to bed about 9 p.m. Then I get up and do it all over again. In the beginning I got tired but now I'm used to it. I like baking bread," he said.



Sean Donahue pulls out trays filed with loaves of cinnamon-swirl bread, a Friday special, at Great Harvest Bakery in Alexandria.

PHOTO CONTRIBUTED



Julie Reynes of Julie's Datery at the Old Town Farmers' Market.

Julie's Datery Debuts At Del Ray Farmers' Market

After selling more than 600 dates on its first day of business at the Old Town Farmers' Market in June, Julie's Datery began selling the dates at the Del Ray Farmers' Market on Saturday, July 12.

Owner Julie Reynes uses Medjool dates from California, a variety known for its large size and sweetness for their three varieties of stuffed dates: Almond lemon, hazelnut chocolate, and pistachio orange. The recipes use all-natural ingredients and feature a balance of nuts, fruits

and spices. The company assembles all of its stuffed dates by hand in rented commercial kitchen space in Alexandria.

Julie's Datery will offer samples and sell stuffed dates at the Del Ray Farmers' Market from 8 a.m.-noon on July 26. It will also be at the Old Town Farmers' Market on Saturdays from 7 a.m.-noon on Aug. 2, Aug. 16, Sept. 13, Sept. 20 and Sept. 27. Future opportunities to sample or buy dates will be posted on the company website: juliesdatery.com.



In Del Ray Kira Prin ran in a marathon to raise funds for breast cancer research in May. She said the event was highly emotional, generating a strong community connection among all those involved.

PHOTO BY SALLY B. MACKLIN GAZETTE PACKET



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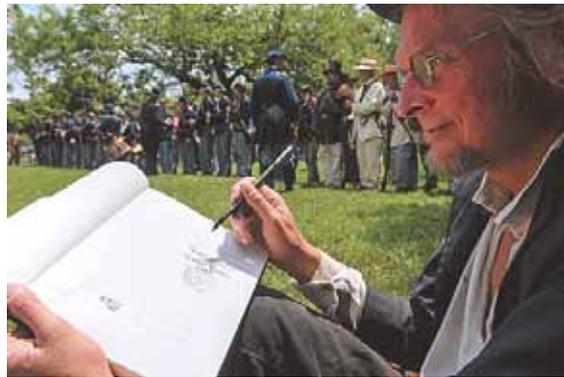
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Commemorating 150th Anniversary of Battle of Fort Stevens

Tents dotted the landscape as the Union and Confederate troops set up camp at Fort Ward Park for a re-enactment of the Battle of Fort Stevens on Saturday afternoon, July 12.

The actual Battle of Fort Stevens occurred on July 11 and 12, 1864 as General Jubal Early led his troops into battle against the Union camp at Fort Stevens in Washington, D.C.

President and Mrs. Lincoln visited the troops at Fort Stevens while it was under siege.



Winslow Homer (Markus Nechay), an illustrator for Harper's Weekly, sketches the formation and muster of troops on the green at Fort Ward.



President Abraham Lincoln (Ted Ballard) walks through the line of troops preparing for battle at Fort Ward Park talking with the soldiers prepared to go into battle.

PHOTOS BY LOUISE KRAFT/GAZETTE PACKET



Members of Greene's Battalion pass civilians on their way to the field to hinder the advance of the Confederate forces in the re-enactment. Greene's Battalion was a partially civilian force made up of government clerks and the reserve corps that held the fort until the Union troops arrived to take control in 1864.



President Abraham Lincoln (Ted Ballard) walks to the fort with a reporter for Harper's Weekly, Paul Ballard.



The Confederate troops move in to attack the fort in the re-enactment.



Greene's Battalion members work their way beneath the northwest bastion of the fort.



Joanna Jourdan, Mary Quinn Eakins and Lori Hall watch the inspection of the troops in the shade of the green at Fort Ward Park.

BULLETIN

Email announcements to gazette@connectionnewspapers.com

PUBLIC INPUT

West End Transitway Survey.

Closes Thursday, July 31. Take a survey about the West End Transitway. Visit www.alexandriava.gov/WestEndTransitway to take the survey and for more.

THURSDAY/JULY 24

Waterfront Commission. 6 p.m. at City Hall, Room 2000, 301 King St. Special Meeting. Call Jack Browand, 703-746-5504.

FRIDAY/JULY 25

Renaming of Pocket Park. 1 & 7 East Del Ray Avenue Pocket Park, located at the intersection of E. The Del Ray Citizens Association has proposed to rename the Pocket Park the "Judy Lowe Pocket Park." The public is invited to provide comment on the proposal through July 25. Those interested in providing comments will be able to record their comments by email to jack.browand@alexandriava.gov, subject line: "Judy Lowe Pocket Park," or may be mailed to RPCA, Attn: Jack Browand, 1108 Jefferson St. All comments received or postmarked by Friday, July 25 will be reviewed by the City Council Naming Committee. Contact Jack Browand, Division Chief, at 703-746-5504.

SUNDAY-TUESDAY/JULY 27-29

Vacation Bible School. 5 p.m. on Sunday and 6 p.m. on Monday and Tuesday. His Kingdom Ministries Church, 2707 Dewitt Ave. Enjoy free dinner and VBS activities. No pre-registration required. Contact Rose Alston at ralston45@gmail.com.

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OPINION

Tragic Consequences

Money lost by refusal to expand health coverage, but also life, health and livelihood.

The Virginia General Assembly's refusal to expand Medicaid, extending health coverage to as many as 400,000 Virginians has resulted in the loss of about \$1 billion in direct payments.

But that understates the loss, failing to calculate the cost of the lost health

EDITORIAL

of thousands of Virginians. Consider one relatively young man, treated by the Health Wagon, who is losing his vision to untreated diabetes because he has no health coverage, his diabetes went undetected for years and can't afford monitoring or medicine. Once diabetes begins to take its toll, it cannot be reversed. Once the man is blind and unable to work, he will likely be covered by Medicaid because he is permanently disabled.

The Centers for Disease Control says chronic illnesses are "the nation's leading causes of death and disability, leav[ing] in their wake deaths that could have been prevented, lifelong disability, compromised quality of life, and burgeoning health care costs. ... Heart disease, stroke, cancer, diabetes, obesity, and arthritis are among the most common, costly, and preventable of all health problems."

Consider the hundreds or thousands of Virginians who are not receiving routine care or screenings of any kind, whose cancer or high blood pressure or heart disease or diabetes, or even mental illness, rob them over time of their ability to work, to care for themselves or their families. Many will die of illnesses that could have been prevented or treated. The human toll is incalculable, unbearable and unnecessary.

It is unfair that health coverage depends on what state you happen to live in, that an ideologically driven General Assembly can determine your fate. If you are poor and live in a state that has chosen to accept expansion of health care with Medicaid, you have health insurance, for example in the bordering states of West Virginia, Kentucky and Maryland. But if you are poor and live in Virginia, or one of the other states that has refused to expand Medicaid, you are out of luck, out of health and possibly out of life.

Business groups and chambers of commerce around Virginia, including the Fairfax County Chamber of Commerce, support the expansion of Medicaid in Virginia under the Affordable

Care Act. One persuasive factor for the business community is that expansion would create an estimated 30,000 jobs and pump hundreds of millions of dollars into Virginia's economy. Hospitals support expanding Medicaid which would offset many of the costs of caring for uninsured populations.

In Virginia, Medicaid eligibility for adults without disability is almost nonexistent, limited to parents with incomes below 51 percent of poverty, or about \$11,900 a year for a family of four, according to the Kaiser Family Foundation. Adults without dependent children remain ineligible regardless of their income.

Under the Affordable Care Act, people with incomes 100 - 400 percent of poverty qualify for subsidies on their health insurance premiums when they purchase coverage through a Marketplace. Because the Affordable Care Act envisioned low-income people receiving coverage through Medicaid, people below poverty are not eligible for Marketplace subsidies. As many as 400,000 adults in Virginia fall into the coverage gap because they don't qualify for Medicaid under Virginia's rules, among the most stringent in the nation, but earn less than the poverty rate, so not enough to qualify for subsidies.

— MARY KIMM,

MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Find a Home For Foundation

To the Editor:

There has been a great deal of discussion regarding the city's plan for the future of the Alexandria

Waterfront. There would seem to be, however, little attention paid to the future location of the Alexandria Seaport Foundation. It is my fervent hope that the needs of this outstanding organization will be given serious attention since it represents not only Alexandria's

continuing maritime history it also makes a positive difference in the lives of our young people.

Partnering with Alexandria City Public Schools and Arlington Middle Schools, ASF is teaching technical, reading and math skills through hands on, project-based

learning. ASF also supports The Hammerheads, an after-school carpentry club. Improving math skills and confidence in our young students is an important, modern day application. I hope that a satisfactory future location can be found for their continued success.

Phyllis G. Sidorsky
Alexandria

Example of City Hall Disdain

To The Editor:

The May 21 article about your reporter asking to copy the table of contents of the city regulations and the city manager's staff response was truly appalling. It was rude, condescending and arrogant, a thesaurus worth of negative words. All that was asked was to copy an index. This is not exactly a national security issue with sensitive information. It may surprise the manager's staff to know many city residents are familiar with real classified information, where a Freedom of Information request would be appropriate. An index of any city's rules is not such an item.

STEVE ARTLEY/GAZETTE PACKET



SEE LETTERS, PAGE 11

Alexandria
Gazette Packet

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LETTERS

FROM PAGE 11

However, what can we the citizens of Alexandria expect? These are the same people who need lessons in civic engagement. In basic management training the staff reflects the attitude of the mayor and City Council. That disdain flows down from the top and is transmitted to and practiced by the staff. The city government's culture is reflected by the article's example. The money spent on civic engagement training was wasted

and we the citizens deserve a refund.

This incident shows the city manager's talents and aptitude for those who pay their salaries are not fully utilized in Alexandria. Their contempt and disdain needs a larger platform. I suggest the airlines or maybe the Windows 8 developers, industries that does not like their customers and also condescending. In both cases they can practice their contempt on much larger numbers than just the

148,000 citizens of Alexandria.

Really what is the staff afraid of? It's just an index.

William L. Blumberg MBA
Alexandria

Waste of City Resources

To the Editor:

Along with all Alexandria residents, I recently received in the mail a brochure from the Alexan-

dria Department of Transportation and Environmental Services, Resource Recovery Division. The purpose of the brochure was to provide information about the city's trash collection and recycling.

The brochure was 9 inches by 9 inches square, four-color, and 16 pages in length. The publication was filled with colored pictures of city staff, pictures of examples of items to recycle and not to recycle, and helpful photos of a man standing by two trash containers, a child

with a recycling container, and two different garbage trucks.

Surely this brochure was expensive to produce, and it is large and unwieldy. It is difficult to imagine that many residents will keep it for reference. Thus, it will be tossed in the trash by the thousands, adding to the volume of Alexandria's recycling material or landfill waste.

The publication strikes me as ludicrous. The information in the

SEE LETTERS, PAGE 21

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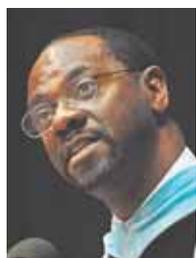
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Come to School with Us

BY DR. ALVIN CRAWLEY
SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS
ALEXANDRIA CITY PUBLIC SCHOOLS



The beginning of a new school year is a little over a month away and I am looking forward to my first school opening as the superintendent of Alexandria City Public Schools. This is a time of purpose and growth for our schools. It is a time for new beginnings in ACPS. Now is the time to prepare our school division and our students to claim the success that is theirs. Now is the time to work together to build a division of high-performing schools — not just a few of our schools, but each one of our schools.

Our main priorities are to raise achievement at all levels by concentrating on classroom instruction and to become a consistently high-performing school division.

The summer was put to good use by our faculty and staff as they prepared for the new year. Teachers and administrators engaged in professional learning activities that will make our school division stronger and even better equipped to meet the needs of each and every student. The maintenance and facilities staffs were busy readying the school buildings to welcome students and staff for another great year.

School leaders and central office support worked to ensure that the foundation is in place to help our educators succeed in challenging and inspiring our students.

A major focus this summer has been completing consolidation of our middle schools. New principals and staffs have been selected and have joined our team. A new set of professional learning activities will begin in August. These activities will better prepare staff for the consistent implementation of the ACPS middle school curriculum. Facilities have been modified and enhanced to improve learning environments for our students. I want to thank all of those on our staff who have worked hard to get ready for this new chapter in our middle schools.

We also put the finishing touches on a new Jefferson-Houston School that we expect to be part

of a reinvigorated instructional program. An addition to George Mason Elementary School has been completed to welcome that school's students and staff.

We are excited to welcome four new principals and a new chief academic officer to the ACPS family.

We hope that you will support them in their efforts to motivate and engage students and staff. The support and feedback from parents and the community will prove vital to their success. We challenge our skeptics to walk into a classroom, take a tour, or volunteer in our schools.

You are guaranteed to find interested, hardworking educators who are inspiring and challenging our students to

ward superior achievement. We will build on the strengths of these educators and our diverse community as we move forward in achieving our quest to meet the needs of each student.

Our goals in the year ahead are to enhance reading and mathematics instruction, bridge the achievement gap between racially and economically diverse students, provide targeted early intervention, and strengthen student support in honors and Advanced Placement classes. We look forward to developing a new strategic plan for the division, reviewing the honors curriculum, and supporting the City of Alexandria's Youth Master Plan. Although we face many challenges, we have no doubt that we will succeed in meeting the aspirations of all Alexandrians.

We hold ourselves accountable for success in meeting our community's vision for its schools. We have meticulously addressed leadership transitions and the restructuring of our middle schools over the past few months, and we will continue to address these issues as we seek to ensure consistency in delivery of a rich and rigorous instructional program across all schools.

We need an engaged, supportive community to help us on this journey. All parents, business leaders, and community members are invited to join us. Our doors are always open. Come to school with us!

COMMENTARY

Rockets Red Glare

BY HARRY M. COVERT



COVERT
MATTERS

For the past week, I've been inundated with instant rocket reports slamming into Israel. The iPhone rings every few seconds that another town has been hit.

No, these attacks haven't been here in Alexandria, Fairfax, Arlington, McLean and Mount Vernon. Thankfully, political opponents pro and con in these parts haven't resorted to sneaky spasms, I mean sending destructive munitions into City Hall or other sections where partisanship is bubbling.

Sure is good that campaigners haven't resorted to such murderous actions to gain control of Mayor Bill Euille's government or Chief Judge Lisa Kemler's courthouse.

The ability of handheld computers to report each time a rocket is instantly fired is quite an attention getter. Oh yes, these rockets are being fired from Gaza into the towns and cities in the State of Israel.

What relevance does the war — the constant fighting — have to do with Alexandria? Plenty. Almost every resident has a friend or family member in the Middle East and around the world.

The rocket alert continues to blast every three or four seconds. It's difficult to ignore them. I sincerely hope that some truce can be made immediately. Unfortunately centuries-old hatred still reigns. Beep, beep and more beeps. More landings.

The deadly bombs coming from guerillas make no sense. No one likes to admit it but American Christians, primarily Evangelicals, support Israel and its right to their homeland, surrounded by enemies who want to destroy it. The land was mandated to Israel in 1948.

Most Christians and people of faith believe the words from Genesis where God said, "I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse." I am one of the believers.

Following the Nazi crimes of World War II, Jews from all over the world flooded to Israel to build their homeland. They have certainly done that and under extreme conditions, always looking over their shoulders.

Within the last three minutes of this writing, attacks have landed in Rishon LeZion, Ashdod, Shaar Hanegev, Eshkol, Ashkelon.

Imagine if similar actions occurred in Alexandria at the Masonic Memorial, the Boat Club, Oronoco Park, T. C. Williams High

School, Old Town? A terrible thought indeed.

My admiration for Israel's secret services, Mossad, has always been high. After such devastation in human

misery of the concentration camps, the world should never forget and never allow such killings to reoccur. Israel won't and should not.

For years I have tried to figure a way to recall this story. I began in the newspaper business in my hometown. On Wednesday afternoons once the sports pages had gone to press, I helped a veteran editor collect all of the church news for Thursday.

One afternoon a man, dressed in short-sleeve shirt and khaki pants brought in the neatly typed news of the local orthodox synagogue. As an 18-year-old rookie trying to grow up, I noticed blue numbers on the man's left arm. In ignorance, I asked what the tattoo meant.

Instantly, my older colleagues were startled. Several yelled "shut up" and "sit down."

The man from Adath Jeshurun Synagogue merely smiled and shook hands with this boy. In seconds, my education increased. I became heavily interested in history. It has sunk in, too.

Ignorance is not bliss. It can be most embarrassing. The learning process is usually rapid, particularly in an old-time newsroom.

One of the most troubling things about politics in Alexandria and throughout the nation today is simply that hatefulness has become so welcomed and prevalent.

Look at events in Israel, Palestine and throughout that area of the world. Tragic. We can only cry.

Alexandria and the nation have a blessed spot in the world.

Alexis de Tocqueville put it this way, "America is great because she is good. If America ceases to be good, America will cease to be great."

I trust the latter is still taught in schools, beginning in kindergarten and continuing through high schools.

WRITE

Letters must include full name, home address and home and business numbers. Letters are routinely edited for libel, grammar, good taste and factual errors. Email gazette@connectionnewspapers.com

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

FROM PAGE 11

brochure could easily have been conveyed on a couple of pages of paper, printed two-sided, in black ink. That would have been environmentally responsible.

Which Eco-City Alexandria manager approved this brochure project?

The brochure brought back memories of all residents receiving a new blue recycling bin several years ago. They appeared without warning all over the city. They were more attractive than the yellow bins were that most of us had been using, but they met a need that did not exist. We already had recycling bins.

In my neighborhood, there are

few garages and little or no outdoor storage, and so these new bins created a huge problem. What to do? Why were they delivered without a request? Was yellow out of fashion?

One of my neighbors called the city to say that she had no need for another bin and no room to store it. She was told that the bins could "nest together," thus solving her problem. The next trash collection day saw an assortment of new blue bins and yellow bins by the curb — with notes attached, asking the garbage collectors to haul them away.

What a shameful waste.

As a homeowner in Alexandria, I am tired of hearing about the

city's budget problems when I see this kind of wasteful spending and poor decisions.

Susan Loyd
Alexandria

Planners, Please Rescue Us

To the Editor:

Appearing before the Board of Architectural Review (BAR) of the Old and Historic District is sometimes a frustrating experience. If you are a citizen presenter you have the feeling that no one is really listening to you. I experienced that frustrating feeling at the BAR's

SEE LETTERS, PAGE 21

OPINION

Reaching Seniors in New Ways

By DAVID P. BAKER
CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS,
SENIOR SERVICES OF ALEXANDRIA

I am honored to begin my term as board chair for Senior Services of Alexandria. This 46-year-old organization was founded by a group of dedicated and visionary people who saw a need and acted to create an association committed to improving the lives of seniors in our community.

Long known for delivering Meals on Wheels, responding to information requests, and dispatching transportation for the disabled, SSA has expanded its programs to meet the needs of today's seniors, their families and caregivers. SSA now matches Friendly Visitors with seniors for weekly visits; and stocks Senior Information Corners at City libraries, recreation and community centers. It also presents Senior Law Day and a monthly Speaker Series about issues important to Alexandria's senior community. SSA now produces Senior Living in Alexandria, a



Baker

cable television show broadcast on the city's Comcast Channel 70 and Youtube.

SSA's cadre of over 300 volunteers and its strong ties to other local non-profits have led to creating several new joint programs such as "Library on the Go" with the City's Library system, and the "AniMeals on Wheels" pet food delivery program.

Alexandria is clearly a dog lover's city. Research has shown that animals can play a large part in a senior's life to ease loneliness and enhance the quality of daily living.

SSA is co-sponsoring AniMeals with the Animal Welfare League of Alexandria. It is a natural extension of what we do already – deliver food and provide companionship to seniors. SSA's AniMeals volunteers deliver cat and/or dog food once a month to lower-income seniors who enroll in the program.

The Animal Welfare League also sponsors a senior-to-senior pet adoption program in which any resident at least 65 can adopt a dog or cat 8 years or older for free. This is a win-win program for Alexandria's seniors and its "senior" dogs and cats. For more information about this and other senior service programs, please call Senior Services at 703-836-4414 or the Animal Welfare League at 703-838-4774.

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Nancy Perkins 703-402-5599



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Kimberly Ricci 703-966-4647



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Fred Marcellus 703-629-0297



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OPEN SUN 7/27, 1-4! GW Pky S, past Estate; L-Forest Haven Rd; R-Dolphin Lane.



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8903 McNair Ct
\$749,500
Magnificent Grounds - Country Club Views!
Resort living at home! Classic Colonial in truly magnificent setting on gorgeous large lot backing to verdant grounds of Mt. Vernon Country Club. Spacious homes features 3 finished levels, bright, open floor plan, updated kitchen, family room with custom stone fireplace, first floor study, four large bedrooms including luxurious master suite and oversize two car garage. Expansive deck and in-ground pool capitalize on fabulous grounds and views!



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3704 Carriage House Ct
\$759,500
Luxurious Large Rambler - Borders Mt. Vernon Estate!
Rare opportunity-spacious one level, 4 bedroom home-the model in highest demand and shortest supply! Truly spectacular property featuring substantial updates and pristine condition. Gorgeous hardwood floors, thermal windows, finished lower level and oversize 2 car garage. Magnificent landscaped grounds with extensive brick walks and patio. Backs to Mt Vernon Estate grounds. Ultimate Privacy!



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\$535,000
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Mike Manuel 703.615.6317
ALEXANDRIA / Old Town \$ 384,900

2 level condo with private entrance feels like an in-town row home. Warm wood floors, grand living room with fireplace, galley kitchen with brand new SS. UL features large bedroom plus full bath with laundry. Storage and more. Centrally located between King St Metro and river.



Norma Stratton 703.966.0756
ALEXANDRIA / Fairfax \$ 585,000

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Michael Lekas 703.927.9895
ALEXANDRIA / Cameron Station \$ 899,900

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Christine Vanderhyde 703.309.2829
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Debra Bell 703.350.9750
ALEXANDRIA \$ 750,000

Great Location. Great Price. Well-maintained 5BR/3BA home with fenced backyard, attached garage. Hardwoods on 2 levels. Living room has built-ins and fireplace. LL family room with fireplace and bedroom could convert to au-pair or in-law suite.



Catherine Foltz 703.626.6914
ALEXANDRIA \$ 995,000

Beautiful classic center hall Colonial in the Mason Hill neighborhood on cul-de-sac - 4BR/3.5BA - 2 car garage - level backyard - 5th bedroom or mother-in-law suite or family room - study - PLUS very large game room addition and much more!



Peggy Cresent 703.244.2138
ALEXANDRIA / Parkfairfax \$315,000

Convenient 2-level, 2BR Madison model just a few minutes to DC, I-395, plus all the restaurants/shops of Shirlington Village! Updated with fresh paint, remodeled kitchen/bath, and gleaming hardwood floors! Short walk to pool/tennis courts and beautiful parks.



Val Klotz 703.303.9744
STAFFORD / Somerset Landing \$ 435,000

Over 4,500 sq ft, 5BR/3.5BA, cul-de-sac, 2-car garage, open kitchen, family room walks out to deck. Sun roof off Kitchen. Finished lower level walks out to patio. Formal living and dining room.



Anya Macklin 703.518.8720
ALEXANDRIA \$ 465,000

Spectacular 3 level, 3BR/2.5BA home with 2-car garage. New stainless steel kitchen, new carpeting and painted thru-out. Renovated community center and pool. Great location, serene neighborhood - close to I-395, BRAC, Pentagon & Old Town.



Mary Bourke 703.906.5825
FALLS CHURCH \$ 998,000

Traditional Colonial featuring 4BR plus bonus room, 3.5BA and 2-car garage. 9 ft ceilings on first floor and cathedral ceiling in foyer. Main level bedroom. Handicapped accessible bath. Large eat-in kitchen and much more.



D'Antonio-Kohler Realty Group 202.460.1809 or 703.967.7633
ALEXANDRIA \$ 714,900 OPEN SUNDAY 2 - 4

1006 DEWOLFE DR Renovated "Mayfield" model across from Wayneswood park/pool. Open kitchen with island granite, new appliances, + is sunroom/family room addition off dining room. 4th floor loft, walk-up attic, LL rec room. Pool membership available.



Anya Macklin 703.518.8720
ALEXANDRIA \$ 255,000 OPEN SUNDAY 1 - 4

2702 DARTMOUTH RD #3 Features of this 2BR home include beautiful hardwoods thru-out, new blinds, updated heating and appliances + new appliances. Delightful deck. Pet-friendly community with renovated gym. Low condo fees. Extra storage. Near Metro.



Katherine Ward 703.627.8782
ALEXANDRIA / Commercial Space \$ 3,350/month

Updated condo office suite in professional building near Potomac River, Old Town Alexandria, I-495, Woodrow Wilson Bridge and Metro. 4 exam rooms/offices, kitchen, bath, storage + large reception area with station. Plenty of parking. Full Service rental terms.

RENTALS

- 6001 Arlington Blvd #320 \$1,225**
Woodlake Towers Hi-Rise 1BA/1BA
Elfie Biankini 703.593.2634
- 2994 Columbus St S #B2 \$1,500**
Fairlington Village Garden 1BR / 1BA
Steve Kindick 703.683.0400
- 2806 Lee Oaks Pl #201 \$1,775**
Lee Oaks Garden 2BR / 2BA 1 Frpl
Ben Grouby@longandfoster.com
- 400 Madison St #1009 \$3,150**
Alexandria House Hi-Rise 2BR / 2BA 1 Garage
Ann Kavajian 703.626.9171
- 1810 Hollindale Dr \$3,600**
Hollindale Detached 4BR / 3BA 2 Frpl 2 Garage
Ginger Webre 703.595.8776



Follow us on:
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400 King Street, Alexandria, Virginia 22314 • Fax 703.683.1303



OldTownAlexandria.com



ENTERTAINMENT



It's an office party with dogs. Dogs are allowed in the offices at IMGE on King Street. After work, they head to Jackson 20. Yappy Hour regulars and IMGE employees Megan Fitzpatrick with "Richard the Dog" (dachshund), Bubba Atkinson with Charley (short for Charliqua) the lab, India Moorhouse with Rosie, and Colin Chocola with a drink (no dog). In the background are Anton Fuljaj and Gabe Egan. "Richard the Dog" is also listed as an "employee" on the IMGE website.



Big Charley, medium Charlie, and little Charlie hang out together and survey the crowd before deciding to step out.

Dogs' Night Out

The dogs took over the courtyard of Hotel Monaco in Old Town last Thursday night, July 17. As part of the hotel's pet-friendly policy, patrons are allowed to bring their dogs to Jackson 20 for a huge "play date" while their owners enjoy the beautiful weather with food and drink.

Yappy Hour has been taking place since the hotel opened seven years ago. While there, you might be greeted by 8-year-old Charlie Gillett, the "Director of Pet Relations" who makes the rounds and says hi to everyone. All seem to know him and he makes friends easily.

Dogs of all sizes and ages are welcome. Yappy Hour happens every Thursday, 5-8 p.m., weather permitting. Just follow the barking sounds to the courtyard behind the Hotel Monaco. Call 703-549-6080 or email Charlie the Dog at charlie.gillett@hotelmonaco.com — don't be surprised if he asks you to bring him a treat.

— VERONICA BRUNO



Charlie, the host, gets treats from Nelson, who happily doles out indulgences for many of the "regulars." The dogs eagerly seek him out because they know what he carries in his pockets.



George and Martha, two Brussels Griffon dogs, sit on Ron Zells' lap and take in the activity.



Ginger stays cool and collected while the social event goes on. She is a patient 11-year-old goldendoodle.



Bella, with Sonja Johnson, sits pretty on her owner's lap, with a blue bow just for the social occasion.



Charlie Bunga Gillett, the "Director of Pet Relations" for Hotel Monaco's "Yappy Hour," greets guests at the front desk with Stefani Glavin and Logan Lowther.

PHOTOS BY
VERONICA BRUNO
GAZETTE PACKET

CALENDAR

Email announcements to gazette@connectionnewspapers.com. Include date, time, location, description and contact for event: phone, email and/or website. Photos and artwork welcome. Deadline is Thursday at noon, at least two weeks before event.

ONGOING

Civil War Sundays. Sundays through July 27, 1-5 p.m. at Alexandria Archaeology Museum, 105 N. Union St., #327. Explore the Civil War in Alexandria through exhibits and artifacts. Free. Visit www.alexandriarchaeology.org or call 703-746-4388 for more.

Photography Exhibit. Daily 11 a.m.-5 p.m., Thursdays 2-9 p.m. through Aug. 3. Multiple Exposures Gallery, Torpedo Factory Art Center #312, 105 N. Union St. "Frozen Music," a photography exhibit featuring new works by Alan Sisen. Call 703-838-4565 for more.

"Water." Through Aug. 3., 10 a.m.-5 p.m. at Studio 18 of the Torpedo

Factory Art Center, 105 North Union St. Artists derive inspiration from water, the sea, lakes, rivers, taps, clouds, rain, snow, ice, the elemental liquids of life. Free. Call 703-838-4565 or visit www.torpedofactory.org for more.

Francie Hester: Symbolic Spaces.

Through Aug. 3. Thursdays, Fridays and Sundays, 4-6 p.m. Saturdays, noon-4 p.m. Athenaeum, 201 Prince St. Art exhibition, Symbolic Spaces, shifts from a linear, mathematical piecing together of sequences to examine time as infinite, fluid, without discrete beginning or end. Free. Visit nvfaa.org for more.

The Adventure.

Through Monday, Aug. 4. Monday-Saturday, 10 a.m.-6 p.m.; Sunday, noon-6 p.m. Torpedo Factory Art Center, 105 N. Union St., Studio 21. David Alfuth constructs intimate dreamlike worlds and architectural structures with his paper relief and 3D works. Free. Visit www.theaterleague.org, or call 703-683-1780.

Historical Exhibit.

Through August at

the Alexandria Black History Museum, 902 Wythe St. "Sit Down and Take a Stand" commemorates the 1939 library sit-in of five African American men and its mastermind, Samuel Tucker. One of the earliest occasions of individuals using the sit-in as an act of civil disobedience in the modern civil rights movement. Tuesdays-Saturdays, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Call 703-746-4356.

Ice Cream Making. Saturdays in August. 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. at 3200 Mt. Vernon highway, Mount Vernon. Cool down with 18th century ice cream making demonstrations. Admission: Adults, \$18; Children, \$9; Under 5, free. Visit www.mountvernon.org/ for more.

Blue Star Museums. More than 2,000 museums across America offer free admission to military personnel and their families this summer through Sept. 1. A complete list of museums is available at <http://arts.gov/national/blue-star-museums>. The museums in Alexandria participating in the program are Gadsby's Tavern

Museum, the Lee-Fendall House Museum and Garden and Stabler-Leadbeater Apothecary Museum.

Doggy Happy Hours. 5-8 p.m. at Jackson 20 and Hotel Monaco Alexandria, 480 King St. Thursdays during the summer. Free, drinks sold separately. Treats and water for dogs, with pet boutique and service vendors. Portions of proceeds benefit People. Animals. Love. Visit www.Monaco-Alexandria.com/alexandria-hotel/doggy-happy-hour.html.

New Exhibit. Mount Vernon invites visitors to explore George Washington's design for the grounds of his estate, through a new exhibition, "Gardens & Groves: George Washington's Landscape" at Mount Vernon through Jan. 12, 2016. Gardens & Groves is the first museum exhibition to focus specifically on Washington's landmark achievements as a landscape designer combining rarely-seen original documents, artwork, and books with period garden tools,

and a scale model of the Mount Vernon estate. Included in admission \$18/adult; \$17/senior citizen; \$9/child age 6-11; children under 5 are free. Visit www.mountvernon.org for more.

Alexandria Cars & Coffee invites car enthusiasts to meet for coffee at Hollin Hall Shopping Center in front of Roseina's, 1307 Shenandoah Road. Enthusiasts of classic cars, hot rods, exotic cars, motorcycles and more meet to share car stories and drink coffee. Group meets the first Sunday of every month. 8:30-11 a.m.

Songwriter's Showcase. Every Tuesday at 8 p.m. at The Old Town Theater, 815 1/2 King St. Features a different Songwriter's Association of Washington artist each week. Visit www.theoldtowntheater.com for tickets.

George Washington's Mount Vernon has joined Thomas Jefferson's Monticello and James Madison's Montpelier to expand the "Presidents Passport," Virginia's premier presidential trail. As an

ENTERTAINMENT

added bonus to this year's program, visitors to the Alexandria Visitors Center at 221 King St. showing or purchasing a ticket to any of the three presidential estates will, upon request, receive for free Alexandria's "Key to the City" pass, which grants access into nine historic sites and museums in Alexandria - a \$26 added value. Visit www.PresPassport.Monticello.org.

Fifty Years of Collecting. Tuesday-Saturday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Sundays noon to 5 p.m. Fort Ward Museum 4301 West Braddock Road. An anniversary exhibit of objects from the Fort Ward collection. Free. Visit www.fortward.org or call 703-746-4848.

Art Exhibit. Tuesday-Sunday, noon-5 p.m.; Saturday, 11 a.m.-5 p.m. at Old Town Gallery, 109 N. Fairfax St. Art by Paul McGehee. Visit www.paulmcgeheeart.com for more.

CAMPS, CLASSES & WORKSHOPS

Photography Workshop. 10:30 a.m.-noon at Multiple Exposures Gallery on 105 N. Union St. Photographers and enthusiasts of all skill levels are invited to share work, ideas, and questions at this free workshop held on the last Sunday of each month, except December. No reservations. Call 703-683-2205.

Life Drawing. Del Ray Artisans offers a range of open life drawing sessions for anyone to develop life-drawing skills further. Just drop-in for the session and bring your supplies to draw or paint our live models. Fee ranges from \$8-\$12. All skill levels are welcome. Del Ray Artisans is located at 2704 Mount Vernon Ave. Visit www.TheDelRayArtisans.org for a schedule.

Summer Aquatics Classes. For youth and adults, including swimming lessons, aqua aerobics, Lifeguard Training, Swim Team Fundamentals and 2013 Gold Division Champions Wahoos Youth Swim Team. Register online at www.alexandriava.gov/Recreation or in person at the Registration and Reservations Office, 1108 Jefferson St. Contact Claudia Spencer at 703-74605414 or claudia.spencer@alexandriava.gov.

Art and Mindfulness. July 30. 7:30-9 p.m. Art at the Center, 2804 Sherwood Hall Lane. Meditation for adults. \$50 for two meetings. Visit www.artatthecenter.org/labyrinth.htm for more.

Puppet Studio. 10-11:30 a.m., July 29-31 at Art at the Center, 2804 Sherwood Hall Lane. Students will explore a variety of puppetry techniques to create their own unique characters. Call 703-201-1250 or visit www.artatthecenter.org to register or find other art classes.

Etiquette Camp. July 28-Aug. 1. 1-3 p.m. at Tiny Dancers, 621 S. Washington St. A camp that will add a twist to etiquette training. \$250. Visit www.tinydancers.com or call 703-358-5580 for more.

History Camp. The Lyceum, Alexandria's History Museum, is now registering for a camp for children ages 5-7. The camp runs Tuesday, July 29-Thursday, July 31, 9 a.m.-noon at the Lyceum, 201 S. Washington St. Clio's Kids Mini-Camp engages children in American history and life in historic Alexandria through artifacts, storytelling, singing, crafts, old-fashioned games and visits to nearby historic places. Cost is \$105, which includes snacks and souvenirs. Advance registration is required. Call 703-746-4994 or visit www.alexandriahistory.org.

Stop Motion Animation and Cartooning. Aug. 18-21. 10 a.m.-noon and 1-3 p.m. for ages 8-12. Art at the Center, 2804 Sherwood Hall Lane. \$140 for cartooning and \$150 for stop-motion animation taught by Christine Stoddard. Visit

www.artatthecenter.org/classsummer14.htm for more.

Theater Camp. Mount Vernon Community Children's Theatre will hold sessions through Aug. 22. There are two-week sessions with morning, afternoon or all day sessions, and one-week sessions that go all day. Visit www.mvct.org to register.

Cool Yoga. Wednesdays, through Aug. 27, 6:30-7:30 p.m. at 1900 Mt. Vernon Ave., Del Ray. Outdoor yoga classes. Free. Call Maureen Clyne at 703-967-8884 or visit www.prasadayoga.com for more.

Metropolitan School of the Arts Classes. 5775 Barclay Drive, Suite 4. The Metropolitan School of the Arts will begin classes on Monday, Sept. 8. The studios offer beginner and advanced instruction in a variety of different dance forms, including tap, jazz, ballet, Pointe, Irish dance, contemporary, acting, combination classes, hip-hop or theatre as well as piano and guitar lessons. Registration is available online at www.metropolitanarts.org.

SATURDAY/JULY 19-SUNDAY/AUG. 31

Art Exhibition. Torpedo Factory Art Center, 105 North Union St. Artist Steven Walls will show "Transient States," a solo exhibition, at the Torpedo Factory Art Center. On Thursday, Aug. 14 there will be a reception from 6-8 p.m. and an artist talk at 7 p.m. Call 703-838-4565 or visit www.torpedofactory.org/partners/target-gallery/ for more.

THURSDAY/JULY 24

Drum Circle. 2:30 p.m. at Spring Hills, 3709 Shannons Green Way. A debut interactive performance by Mark Levine. Space is limited. Free. Call 703-650-0779 to RSVP.

Theater. 7-9:30 p.m. at the Carlyle Club, 411 John Carlyle St. "A Midsummer's Night Swing." Reservations required. \$15. Visit www.thecarlyleclub.com for more.

Live Music. 7:30 p.m. at the Birchmere, 3701 Mount Vernon Ave. Time for Three performs. \$29.50. Visit www.tf3.com, www.birchmere.com or call 703-549-7500.

FRIDAY/JULY 25

Happy Hour. 5:30-8:30 p.m. Gadsby's Tavern Museum, 134 N. Royal St. Historical celebration of John Gadsby's 1808 move from The City Tavern to Baltimore. \$10 for two drink tickets, food available for purchase. Visit www.gadsbys-tavern.org or call 703-746-4242.

Live Music. 7:30 p.m. in the Music Hall at the Birchmere, 3701 Mount Vernon Ave. Sonny Landreth with special guest Jimmy Thackery. \$29.50. Visit www.sonnylandreth.com, www.jimmythackery.com or www.Birchmere.com for more.

Acoustic Treasures. 8-10 p.m. at St. Elmo's Coffee Pub, 2300 Mt. Vernon Ave. Performance by Stan Hamrick. Visit www.stanhamrick.com.

FRIDAY-SUNDAY/JULY 25-27

Muster the Militia Weekend. Alexandria Gadsby's Tavern Museum, Stabler-Leadbeater Apothecary Museum, the Lyceum and the Carlyle House. Includes museum tours, War of 1812 exhibits and a special one-day only Alexandria War of 1812 walking tour. Tours leave from Market Square, corner of King and Fairfax streets, every half hour. Visit www.dwarof1812.org or www.visitalexandriava.com/1812.

SATURDAY/JULY 26

Christmas in July. 10 a.m.-3 p.m. at The Christmas Attic, 125 S. Union

St., and Union Street Public House, 121 S. Union St. Santa and Mrs. Claus are coming to Union Street for Christmas in July. There will be storytelling, cookies, photos, facepainting, sales at The Christmas Attic and drink specials at Union Street Public House. Free. Visit www.unionstreetpublichouse.com or contact Dina Ramstedt at info@unionstreetpublichouse.com or 703-548-1785.

Unity Day. 1-7 p.m. George Washington Middle School cafeteria and plaza, 1005 Mount Vernon Ave. Live music and performances, food, face painting, a moon bounce and more. Free. Visit www.facebook.com/AlexandriaUnityDay2014 for more.

SUNDAY/JULY 27

Lyceum Summer Chamber Series. 3 p.m. The Lyceum, 201 S. Washington St. Pianists Sylvia Hong and Michael Rector perform Chopin piano concertos. Free, donations accepted at the door. Visit www.wmpmusic.org or call 703-799-8229 for more.

Live Music. 7:30 p.m. at the Birchmere, 3701 Mount Vernon Ave. HAPA performs. \$29.50. Visit www.hapa.com, www.birchmere.com or call 703-549-7500.

FRIDAY/JULY 28

Live Music. 7:30-8:30 p.m. Grist Mill Park, 4710 Mt. Vernon Memorial Highway. Bluegrass band Lindsay Lou & the Flatbellys. Free. Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/performances/ for more.

THURSDAY/JULY 31

Harry Potter's Birthday. 5-9 p.m. at The Apothecary Museum, 107 Fairfax St. A tour of the museum as if it was part of the "Harry Potter" universe. \$6. Advanced purchase recommended. Visit <https://shop.alexandriava.gov/EventPurchase.aspx> to purchase tickets.

Live Music. 7:30 p.m. at The Birchmere, 3701 Mount Vernon Ave. Big Smo, opened by Denum Jones. \$20. Visit www.birchmere.com or call 703-549-7500.

FRIDAY/AUG. 1

Monty Python. Pre-reception, 7 p.m., show, 8 p.m., post-reception after, at The Little Theater, 600 Wolfe St. A fundraiser for the Pentagon Visitor Education Center, showing "Monty Python and the Holy Grail." Suggested \$40 donation to The Pentagon Memorial Fund. Contact Tina McCrea at Tina@thelittletheatre.com 703-683-5778 x1.

Kenny G. 7:30 p.m. at The Birchmere, 3701 Mount Vernon Ave. \$65. Visit www.birchmere.com for more.

Artisan Gallery Reception. 7-9 p.m. at the Nicholas A. Colasanto Center, 2704 Mount Vernon Ave. Seven artists present "Board and Beyond" art exhibit. Gallery is open through Aug. 31 after opening reception. Free. Visit www.TheDelRayArtisans.org for more.

SATURDAY/AUG. 2

Dance. 7-9:30 pm. Lesson, 6:30-7 p.m. at Lincolnia Senior Center, 4701 N. Chambliss St. BYO refreshments. Couples, singles welcome; smoke-and alcohol-free. \$12 general admission, \$5 age 17 and under with paying adult. Call 703-860-4941 or visit www.nvcwda.org for more.

SUNDAY/AUG. 3

Lyceum Summer Chamber Series. 3 p.m. at The Lyceum, 201 S. Washington St. A violinist, violist,



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A new musical...tripped off from the motion picture
MONTY PYTHON and the Holy Grail

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ENTERTAINMENT

cellist, clarinetist and pianist perform music by Darius Milhaud. Free, donations accepted at the door. Visit www.wmpamusic.org or call 703-799-8229 for more.

Live Music. 7:30 p.m. at The Birchmere, 3701 Mount Vernon Ave. Marc Cohn opened by Amber Aubarth. \$45. Visit www.birchmere.com or call 703-549-7500.

TUESDAY/AUG. 5

Steve Prince. 8 p.m. at Morrison House, 116 S. Alfred St. A presentation of Steve's work and illustrations of his techniques. Free. Call 703-629-3620 or email tatyana.ss@verizon.net for more.

TUESDAY-SATURDAY/AUG. 5-31

Multiple Exposures Gallery. 11 a.m.-5 p.m., Thursdays 2-8 p.m. at Torpedo Factory Art Center, 105 N. Union St. Fine art photography exhibition. Free. Visit www.multipleexposuresgallery.com.

THURSDAY/AUG. 7

Purple Heart Ceremony. 1 p.m. at George Washington's Mount Vernon, 3200 Mount Vernon Ave. Join Chapter 353 of the Military Order of the Purple Heart to commemorate the anniversary of the oldest military decoration in the world. \$8 for children, \$16 for seniors, \$17 for adults. Visit www.mountvernon.org for more.

Live Music. 6-9 p.m. Mount Vernon Inn restaurant, 3200 Mount Vernon Memorial Highway. The Kevin Kline Band performs covers of many familiar Billy Joel, Elton John and Bruce Hornsby tunes. Free. Visit

www.mountvernon.org/Inn for more.

Live Music. 7:30 p.m. at the Birchmere, 3701 Mount Vernon Ave. An evening with Jay Hayden and V. Rich. \$25. Visit www.jworldrecords.com, <http://vrichmusic.com>, or www.birchmere.com or call 703-549-7500.

AUG. 5 THROUGH SEPT. 7

"Fire." Through Sept. 7. 10 a.m.-5 p.m. at Studio 18 of the Torpedo Factory Art Center at 105 North Union St. The artists' imagination is "fired" by heat, flames, burning, passion, fiery tempers, anger, explosive situations, camp fires, BBQs, and fireflies to name just a few possible interpretations. Free. Call 703-838-4565 or visit www.torpedofactory.org.

FRIDAY/AUG. 8

Live Music. 7:30 p.m. in the Music Hall at the Birchmere, 3701 Mount Vernon Ave. Buster Poindexter (aka David Johansen). \$29.50. Visit www.facebook.com/officialBusterPoindexter/ or www.Birchmere.com for more.

Cirque du Soleil. 8 p.m. at National Harbor. Cirque du Soleil performs "Amaluna." All proceeds from ticket sales go to support The Campagna Center. \$120. Visit www.campagnacenter.org/amaluna for more.

SATURDAY/AUG. 9

Alexandria Art Market. 10 a.m.-4 p.m. in Colasanto Park, 2704 Mount Vernon Ave. Local artists will perform. Browse artwork by local artists and more. Visit

FOOD & DRINK

Mount Vernon Farmers Market. 8 a.m.-noon, Wednesdays, May 7-Dec. 17. Fresh local food, artisan crafts. Sherwood Library, 2501 Sherwood Hall Lane. Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/farmersmarkets/mtvernonmkt.htm for more.

Kingstowne Farmers Market. 4-7 p.m., Fridays, May 2-Oct. 31. Giant parking lot, 5955 Kingstowne Towne Center. Products include fresh organic honey, pies and rolls. Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/farmersmarkets/kingstownemkt.htm for more.

Old Town Farmers Market. 7 a.m.-noon, Saturdays year round. Local farmers and artists have been selling products there since 1753. Located at Market Square, 301 King St. Call 703-746-3200 or email oldtownfarmersmarket@alexandriava.gov.

Del Ray Farmers Market. 8 a.m.-noon, Saturdays year round. Features fresh vegetables and fruits in season, meats, eggs, fresh pasta and sauces, Amish cheese, yogurt, bakery goods and more. Located at the corner of East Oxford and Mount Vernon avenues. Contact pmiller1806@comcast.net for more.

Four Mile Run Farmers & Artisans Market. 9 a.m.-1 p.m., Sundays through November. Brings fresh nutritious foods to people of all income levels. Located at the entrance to Four Mile Run Park at 4109 Mount Vernon Ave. Visit www.4mrmrmarket.org/ for more.

West End Farmers Market. 8:30 a.m.-1 p.m. Sundays from May-November. Fresh, locally grown, in-season vegetables as well as sweet juicy berries, apples, pears, and seasonal peaches. Vendors also sell fresh-squeezed orange juice, fresh-baked pastries, gourmet cheeses and more. Located at Ben Brenman Park, 4800 Brenman Park Drive. Visit www.westendfarmersmarket.org/#FarmersMarket for more.

www.TheDelRayArtisans.org/ArtMarket for more.

Hometown History Bus Tour. 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Franconia Museum, 6121 Franconia Road, Franconia. The Franconia Museum will be holding a bus tour traveling from the museum and ending with refreshments at Nalls Produce. \$25. Call Carl Sell at 703-971-4716 or Don Hakenson at 703-971-4294 for more.

Jane Austen Ball. 8-11 p.m. at Gadsby's Tavern Museum, 134 N. Royal St. This 1790s era ball will include English country dancing, live

music, a period-inspired dessert collation and "iced refreshments." Period attire is optional, "after-five" attire is encouraged. Tickets are \$45 per person and reservations are required. Visit <http://apps.alexandriava.gov/Calendar/Detail.aspx?si=3455> for more.

SATURDAY-SUNDAY/AUG. 9-10

Summer Sidewalk Sale. Hours vary by retailer at Old Town and Del Ray. Moved inside in case of inclement weather. Free. Visit

www.VisitAlexVA.com/SidewalkSale.

SUNDAY/AUG. 10

Family Day. 1-4 p.m. at Gadsby's Tavern, 138 N. Royal St. Explore the magic of history with a tour of the tavern. Adults: \$5; Children: \$3. Visit www.gadsbystavern.org for more.

Lyceum Summer Chamber Series. 3 p.m. at The Lyceum, 201 S. Washington St. Celloist Philip Wolf and pianist Stephen Bertino perform Grieg and other short pieces. Free, donations accepted. Call 703-799-8229 or visit www.wmpamusic.org.

TUESDAY/AUG. 12

Live Music. 7:30 p.m. at the Birchmere, 3701 Mount Vernon Ave. Dick Dale. \$29.50. Visit www.dickdale.com or www.birchmere.com or call 703-549-7500.

WEDNESDAY/AUG. 13

Live Music. 7:30 at the Birchmere, 3701 Mount Vernon Ave. Victor Wooten Band performs. \$35. Visit www.victorwooten.com or www.Birchmere.com for more.

THURSDAY/AUG. 14

Live Music. 7:30 p.m. in the Music Hall at the Birchmere, 3701 Mount Vernon Ave. The Zombies. \$45. Visit www.thezombies.net or www.Birchmere.com for more.

SATURDAY/AUG. 16

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

SUNDAY/AUG. 17



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Profiles of Courage

Private Eugene Yoakum, 1964

Eugene Yoakum was born on December 18, 1932. He served in the Marine Corps and in 1954 joined the Alexandria Police Department and in 1960, Private Yoakum and his German shepherd partner Mucho, became one of the first police dog teams in Alexandria.

On September 27, 1964, just before 2 a.m., police went to the 2900 block of Seay Street for an assault call. The suspect, Fred Stull, had struck a man who lived at the same apartment complex. Private David Largent arrived and discovered that Stull had a gun and had been drinking. He called for back-up, and Private Yoakum and Mucho arrived.

Stull emerged from the apartment building with a knife in one hand, and the other behind his back. Private Yoakum tried to talk to the man, but suddenly Stull brought his hidden hand, which held a gun, forward and fired at Private Yoakum, hitting him in the chest. Private Yoakum drew his own weapon but could not return fire. Stull began shooting at the other officers who had sought cover behind a car. Both officers fired several shots and Stull was killed.

Private Yoakum was taken to Alexandria Hospital and pronounced dead at 2:20 a.m. Mucho was later given to the Yoakum family. Private Yoakum, 34, was survived by his wife Elizabeth, and their children, Marion, Tyrone and Sharon.

Help the Alexandria Police Foundation honor Private Harris and other officers killed in the line of duty by supporting the **Alexandria Police Fallen Officers Memorial**. To donate, mail a check to:

Alexandria Police Foundation
3600 Wheeler Avenue, Suite 118
Alexandria, VA 22304.

Donate online at www.AlexandriaPoliceFoundation.org/Memorial.





Special thanks to:
Alexandria Gazette Packet

ENTERTAINMENT

Lyceum Summer Chamber Series.

3 p.m. at The Lyceum, 201 S. Washington St. Clarinetist Kristen Sheridan performs with piano accompaniment. Free, donations accepted at the door. Visit www.wmpamusic.org or call 703-799-8229 for more.

MONDAY/AUG. 18

Call for Participants. 6:30 p.m. at Charles Beatley Central Library, 5005 Duke St. A practice and performance project with dogs and owners. Rehearsals Mondays, Aug. 18, 25 and Sept. 8; performance is Wednesday, Sept. 10. Free. Email janefranklindance@gmail.com for more.

TUESDAY-THURSDAY/AUG. 19-21

Sculpture Madness. 10-11:30 a.m. at Art at the Center, 2804 Sherwood Hall Lane. Choose to work with connecting pipes, wire and sculpey or build a base to cover in paper mache. \$90. Visit www.artatthecenter.org/classsummer14.htm#smad2 for more.

SATURDAY/AUG. 23

Live Music. 7:30 p.m. at The Birchmere, 3701 Mount Vernon Ave. Performance by Mary Bridget Davies. \$25. Visit www.birchmere.com or call 703-549-7500.

Live music. 7 p.m. at St. Aidan's Episcopal Church, 8531 Riverside Road. Focus Music in Mount Vernon presents folk singer/songwriters Al Petteway and Amy White. Tickets \$15-\$18. Discounts available for Focus members. Visit www.focusmusic.org, or contact Herb Cooper-Levy at 703-380-3151 or

herb@focusmusic.org.

SUNDAY/AUG. 24

Lyceum Summer Chamber Series. 3 p.m. at The Lyceum, 201 S. Washington St. Bassoonist Aaron Goler and pianist Stephen Bertino perform. Free, donations accepted at the door. Visit www.wmpamusic.org or call 703-799-8229 for more.

MONDAY/AUG. 25-FRIDAY/NOV. 21

Young at Art. Opening Reception, Aug. 27. 5:30-7:30 p.m. at Durant Arts Center, 1605 Cameron St. An exhibit for artists who are 55 or older. Free. Call 703-836-4414 or 703-824-1345 for more.

THURSDAY/AUG. 28

Live Music. 7:30 p.m. at the Birchmere, 3701 Mount Vernon Ave. Chris Hillman & Herb Pedersen and Carlene Carter perform. \$29.50. Visit www.chrishillman.com, <http://herbpedersen.com>, www.carlenecarter.net or www.Birchmere.com for more.

WEDNESDAY/AUG. 27

Live Music. 7:30 p.m. in the Music Hall at the Birchmere, 3701 Mount Vernon Ave. Larry Graham and Graham Central Station. \$69.50. Visit www.larrygraham.com or www.Birchmere.com for more.

SATURDAY/AUG. 30

Wreath Laying at the Grave of Robert Allison, Jr. 10 a.m. at Old Presbyterian Meeting House Cemetery & Columbarium, 600

Hamilton Lane. As part of the official British Challenge, help honor the Veterans of the War of 1812 by marking the graves of those who fought throughout the cemetery. Visit www.visitalexandriava.com/1812 for more.

Cricket Match. Noon-6 p.m. at Jefferson Cricket Field, Potomac Park, Washington, D.C. Team Alexandria will be taking on Team Britain as part of the British Challenge and memorial of the War of 1812. Visit www.visitalexandriava.com/1812 for more.

U.S. Navy Band Concert. 3-4 p.m. at Market Square, 300 King St. The US Navy Band will be holding a concert as part of the British Challenge and memorial of the War of 1812. Visit www.visitalexandriava.com/1812 for more.

Honors Ceremony. 4:30-5 p.m. at Alexandria National Cemetery, 1450 Wilkes St. There will be an honors ceremony as part of the official British Challenge featuring the Continental Color Guard with Fife and Drum. Seating opens at 4:15 p.m. Visit www.visitalexandriava.com/1812 for more.

Bill Kirchen. 7:30 p.m. The Birchmere, 3701 Mount Vernon Ave. \$29.50. Visit www.birchmere.com for more.

SUNDAY/AUG. 31

Yacht Race. 11 a.m. at Old Dominion Boat Club, 1 King St. As part of the official British Challenge Team Alexandria (Old Dominion Boat Club) will take on Team Britain (British Defence Staff, UK Embassy) in a Yacht Race. Visit www.visitalexandriava.com/1812 for more.

Signature Event. Noon-5 p.m. at Waterfront Park, 1A Prince St. Waterfront Park will be transformed into a festival to commemorate the events of the War of 1812. Meet townspeople of 1814, enjoy boat tours of the river, listen to the U.S. Navy Sea Chanters, Old Guard Fife and Drum Corps and learn more about the War of 1812 through a variety of hands-on activities and information booths. Visit www.visitalexandriava.com/1812 for more.

Lyceum Summer Chamber Series. 3 p.m. at The Lyceum, 201 S. Washington St. Pianist Thomas Pandolfi performs music by Chopin and Gershwin. Free, donations accepted at the door. Visit www.wmpamusic.org or call 703-799-8229 for more.

Tug of War. 3:30 p.m. at Waterfront Park, 1A Prince St. Watch as Team Alexandria (City of Alexandria Fire Fighters) takes on Team Britain (British Defence Staff, UK Embassy) in a tug of war. Visit www.visitalexandriava.com/1812 for more.

Presentation and Recognition of British Challenge Winners. 4:15 p.m. at Waterfront Park, 1A Prince St. There will be presentations and recognition of the Cricket, Yacht Race and Tug of War winners from the British Challenge. Visit www.visitalexandriava.com/1812 for more.

TUESDAY/SEPT 2-SUNDAY/OCT. 12

Photography Exhibit. Opening Reception on Sunday, Sept. 7, 2-4 p.m. Gallery Hours 11 a.m.-5 p.m. daily and 2-9 p.m. on Thursdays at Multiple Exposures Gallery, Torpedo Factory Art Center #312, 105 N.

Union St. E.E. McCollum will be showing images from his "Shadow Series" and Danny Conant will be showing "French Impressions." Visit www.dannyconant.com or www.eemccollum.com for more.

THURSDAY/SEPT. 4

Live Music. 6-9 p.m. Mount Vernon Inn restaurant, 3200 Mount Vernon Memorial Highway. The Kevin Kline Band performs covers of many familiar Billy Joel, Elton John and Bruce Hornsby tunes. Free. Visit www.mountvernon.org/Inn for more.

FRIDAY/SEPT. 5

Live Music. 7:30 p.m. at the Birchmere, 3701 Mount Vernon Ave. Euge Groove performs live. \$39.50. Visit www.birchmere.com or www.eugegroove.com.

SATURDAY/SEPT. 6

Sculpture Workshop. 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Del Ray Artisans, 2704 Mount Ave. Artist Laura Hummel teaches a mixed-media sculpture workshop about how to repurpose new or vintage metals and more. \$55-\$65. Visit www.thedelrayartisans.org/birdworkshop for more.

SUNDAY/SEPT. 7

Lyceum Summer Chamber Series. 3 p.m. The Lyceum, 201 S. Washington St. Pianist Haskell Small performs. Free, donations accepted at the door. Visit www.wmpamusic.org or call 703-799-8229 for more.

Live Music. 7:30 p.m. in the Music Hall at the Birchmere, 3701 Mount Vernon Ave. Asleep at the Wheel. \$35. Visit www.asleepatthewheel.com

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Alexandria Police Fallen Officers Memorial

Help the Alexandria Police Foundation honor the 18 officers killed in the line of duty by supporting the **Alexandria Police Fallen Officers Memorial**. Join the growing list of more than 150 individuals and organizations who have already supported the memorial including:

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Remodeling with Pets in Mind

Keep pets safe during construction projects created for man's best friend.

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL
GAZETTE PACKET

Home remodeling projects often come after considerable planning and expense. One factor that can be overlooked is the family pet. While the end result of a remodel is often a new, updated or enlarged living space, the road to that improvement is often filled with dust, debris and inconvenience — which can be upsetting and even dangerous to dogs and cats.

Homeowners should be aware of the added traffic that comes with a construction project. “The biggest risk during a construction project could be that the pet could escape because workers might not be aware of doors or gates or windows being left open,” said Carol Petit, hospital manager at VCA Old Town Animal Hospital in Alexandria.

“There are many more cars and trucks going back and forth,” said Josh Baker, founder and co-chairman, BOWA in McLean. “The driveway should be off limits to pets.”

Actually, the entire construction zone should be off limits. “Pets, especially dogs, will eat anything,” said Petit. “There are construction materials. They could eat leftover food from construction workers, which could be toxic or contribute to weight issues, depending on the pet.”

Additionally, “dust can affect eyes and lungs just as it can in humans,” said Petit. “Home improvement project materials like paint and glue can be toxic. It can be the fumes, or if the dog or cat licks paint, it

could be lethal.”

“If any pet owners feel that their pet is acting oddly or like they might have consumed something that they shouldn't have, the best solution is to take them to the vet to make sure that everything is OK,” she said.

Petit added that pets could become fearful because strangers are in the home. That fright, she said, could either increase separation anxiety or trigger a pet's basic protection instinct, leading him to become aggressive.

“There are a lot of things to consider,” said Baker. “It's not unlike thinking about small children.”

AND WHILE THINKING about pets, some builders incorporate features into a home project designed specifically for a pet.

One set of clients “wanted to be able to cordon off the tiled area off the side entrance, to contain the dog when he comes in wet or dirty,” said Danielle Frye of Anthony Wilder Design/Build, Inc. in Cabin John, Md., referring to a recent kitchen and mudroom renovation. “It also provides a dedicated place where he can eat without damaging the new hardwood floors in the kitchen.”

Architect George R. Bott was able to create a nook for the dog's food and water bowls, as well as storage space for his supplies and accessories. In fact, say builders, pet feeding stations can incorporate modern conveniences and high-end materials.

“We can add custom cabinetry,” said Baker. “We can bring in a waterline to supply instead of having to refill the water bowl in the kitchen. There is also potential automation where the bowl is kept full.”

Mudrooms and garages can be designed to include pet bathing spaces as well. “In terms of showers, they're custom built with a hand held sprayer so you can control the temperature,” said Baker. “We can also choose a height so you can reach it without hurting your back while you're bathing the dog.”

— Carol Petit, hospital manager at VCA Old Town Animal Hospital



PHOTO BY MORGAN HOWARTH

Architect George R. Bott of Anthony Wilder Design/Build, Inc. was able to create a nook for the dog's food and water bowls, as well as storage space for his supplies and accessories in an Arlington home.



PHOTO COURTESY OF BOWA

During a construction project, homeowners should keep pets away from the construction site.

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Alexandria Gazette Packet

HISTORY

Blockade and Raids — 1813

BY TED PULLIAM

This is the third of a series of articles telling how Alexandrians were affected 200 years ago by the War of 1812. For earlier articles in this series, go to alexandriagazette.com.

During the eight months following the United States' declaration of war on Great Britain, the war had little effect on Alexandria.

Then on Feb. 12, 1813, the Alexandria Gazette reported from Norfolk that a heavily armed British navy squadron had just entered the Chesapeake Bay, and that its commander had proclaimed “the Chesapeake and all its ports, harbors and waters [are] in a state of strict and rigorous blockade.” This was not an idle threat, and for the first time, war would be felt in Alexandria. Moreover, a blockade of shipping would be only part of the mission of the British navy. The blockading squadron contained at least eight ships: two 74-gun ships of the line, three frigates, a sloop of war, a brig of war, and a small schooner. It was clear to Alexandrians, particularly Alexandrian shippers and merchants, that its strength was more than adequate to enforce the blockade. The British navy easily outnumbered and outgunned the warships available to the Americans to keep the channel to the sea open. In fact, the only reasonably large ship available to the Americans was the frigate *Constellation*, which carried only about half the guns of one of the 74s alone. The blockaders quickly rendered her useless by chasing her into Norfolk harbor.

A reader predicted in the Gazette of Feb. 13 that the blockade would result in a “fall of the price of our flour and grain,” key elements of Alexandria’s trade. The reader continued: “At length the war is brought home to us. Yeah it is brought home to us!”

In April, Alexandria gentlemen in top hats, tail coats, and boots eagerly gathered around the Gazette office on the west side of the 100 block of South Royal Street to pick up the latest edition of the paper. Possibly some gentlemen or their wives instead

sent servants to the office. Regardless of how they got their papers, they read the upsetting news that British warships actually were now at the mouth of the Potomac River and had turned back a schooner from Alexandria bound for the West Indies. The schooner’s captain related that the British told him they had captured several privateers from Baltimore and “taken about 3,000 barrels of flour out of small vessels, and burnt the vessels” in their recent voyage in the Chesapeake Bay.

All this information dampened the mood of Alexandrians. The Gazette reported observing about town “silent streets, deserted warehouses, dismantled ships, long faces, and various other symptoms of public calamity and private grief.”

Then on May 6, the Gazette contained an ominous report headed “Havre-de-Grace Destroyed.” According to the report, the British had bombarded the small Maryland port, located where the Susquehanna River enters the Bay, “with shot, shells and rockets,” and “the destruction was general.” Washington’s Daily National Intelligencer, probably brought to Alexandria on the ferry from Washington, contained a more complete, eyewitness description of Havre de Grace’s destruction: “The force of the enemy consisted of 600 men, 400 of whom were landed in the town . . . They burnt 24 of the best houses in the town, and plundered all the rest.”

The Intelligencer also reported that the soldiers were led by Rear Admiral George Cockburn (pronounced “Coe-burn”). Later the Gazette reported that a British navy deserter who had been at Havre de Grace related that Cockburn “not only led on the forces in person, but took the most active and conspicuous part in the disgraceful scenes which were acted on that occasion.”

This attack deeply impressed Alexandrians, and it and similar later raids would affect profoundly their behavior in the future. The immediate effect, however, was that the Alexandria militia (then part of the District of Columbia militia) was quickly activated.



HAND COLORED ETCHING BY WILLIAM CHARLES HAMBLETON PRINT COLLECTION. COURTESY OF THE MARYLAND HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

Hand colored etching by William Charles Hambleton Print Collection: Admiral Cockburn burning and plundering Havre de Grace. The date on the image indicates that the attack took place on June 1 which is incorrect. According to reports in the Gazette and National Intelligencer, it took place in early May.

Earlier, the U.S. War Department had reorganized the District militia into two brigades.

The Second Brigade consisted of an infantry regiment of Alexandria companies, including the privately outfitted Alexandria Blues, and a cavalry regiment composed of units from three jurisdictions: Alexandria (the Alexandria Dragoons), Washington, and Georgetown. President Madison had appointed Alexandria merchant, ship owner, and former council member Robert Young to lead this Second Brigade as a brigadier general.

In addition, Alexandrians over the age of 45, some of whom were veterans of the Revolutionary War, were moved by the “wanton destruction of Havre de Grace” to form the Company of Silver Grays to help defend the town.

In the days following the Havre-de-Grace incident, the militia units began to train seriously. Two months later, their training was put to some use when on July 15, General Young learned that the British navy had

entered the Potomac and was proceeding upriver. He immediately ordered his brigade under arms and into camp just south of town. The Gazette defiantly proclaimed: “Let them [the British navy] come here when they may, they will meet with a reception not very courteous.”

However, after raiding farms and settlements in the lower part of the Potomac, the British ships were stopped from proceeding farther by the Kettle Bottoms, numerous shifting shoals of mud, sand, and oyster shells roughly 90 miles downriver from Alexandria. By July 29, they were reported leaving the Potomac, and by the beginning of September 1813, most of the British ships had left the Chesapeake Bay.

Alexandrians could breathe easier. The British blockade had been relaxed, and the threat of attack on Alexandria had receded. The Alexandria militia, however, had not been tested. That soon would change.

Main Sources: Alexandria Gazette; “The Naval War of 1812: A Documentary History,” Volume II, edited by Williams S. Dudley; “Six Frigates” by Ian W. Toll.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

FROM PAGE 12

meeting on July 16 when the new Northern Robinson Terminal development was discussed during its work session.

This new development is just across the street from the boundary of the Old and Historic District, therefore the BAR does not have oversight authority. However, they were asked to address the development strictly in an advisory role because of its proximity to the Old and Historic District. In a nutshell, “City Interests,” the lead builder in this case, presented a large scale development that had no historic representation south or west of Union Street, which is absolutely contra to the guidelines of the Small Area Plan and the Potomac

River Vicinity Height District. It totally lacks a sense of place in Alexandria, as it is ultra-modern and something you would expect to see on the beaches of Miami or in Singapore. More importantly the new buildings do not relate to anything on our historic waterfront. The city calling this an “iconic development” doesn’t make any sense either as that term is really nothing more than a synonym for contemporary or ultra-modern.

The building on the west side of Union Street building is 14 feet over the zoned height of 66 feet, making this building a monstrous 80-foot tower lurking over every other building in this part of Old Town. It will house a hotel and

condos. In addition, the west building does not follow a Cartesian street grid as laid out by our founders in 1749 which is totally unacceptable. The larger of the two buildings on the east side of Union Street is 45 feet in height, 15 feet over the zoned height of 30 feet. All of these unapproved heights need to be reduced to the mandated zoning heights.

Glass, glass, glass that is what these buildings are all about. Tourists coming down the river looking at all this crystal would never guess that this is the home of one of the most historic districts in the U.S. As a side note, environmentally glass is a big step backwards because it is energy inefficient. Someone needs to sprinkle some

“historic preservation holy water” on this entire project to get it right. My direct ancestor George Mason, one of the original trustees (council members today) of this city along with George Washington, Lord Fairfax and John Carlyle and several others are all rolling over in their graves at this outlandish submission. This is like Urban Renewal all over again . . .

The BAR should have jumped all over this submission like a preying mantis. In all fairness they got it half right when they criticized the east building on the waterfront, however they liked the west building (hotel plus condos) with all its glass windows. The design guidelines of the Waterfront Plan are very specific. “Encourage mod-

ern design inspired by historic precedent (such as 18th century Alexandria warehouse architecture) while maintaining compatibility with nearby residential neighborhoods and ensuring compliance with the Potomac River Vicinity Height District regulations. Reflect historic east-west orientation of buildings, alleys and wharves.”

What we have now is most likely a development submission that will become the anchor for future discussions wherein only the peripherals of the project will be discussed. Unfortunately, the real shortcomings will probably never be addressed. This is not the way good government should operate.

Townsend A. “Van” Van Fleet, Alexandria

HOME SALES

In June 2014, 268 Alexandria homes sold between \$2,200,000-\$116,000. This week's list represents those homes sold in the \$2,200,000-\$580,000 range. For the complete list, visit www.ConnectionNewspapers.com

BUSINESS NOTES

Address	BR	FB	HB	Postal City	Sold Price	Type	Lot AC	Postal Code	Subdivision
711 PRINCESS ST	9	1	2	ALEXANDRIA	\$2,200,000	Detached	0.19	22314	OLD TOWN
4103 SEMINARY RD	6	4	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$1,881,948	Detached	0.96	22304	SEMINARY
613 ROYAL ST S	5	4	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$1,750,000	Townhouse	0.07	22314	OLD TOWN
505 QUAKER LN N	6	4	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$1,730,000	Detached	0.46	22304	MAIDVERN HILL
713 UNION ST S	3	4	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$1,650,000	Townhouse	0.03	22314	BACKYARD BOATS
1404 COVENTRY LN	6	4	2	ALEXANDRIA	\$1,620,000	Detached	0.74	22304	BRAE MAR
12 ALEXANDER ST	3	3	2	ALEXANDRIA	\$1,575,000	Townhouse	0.03	22314	FORDS LANDING
205 MASON AVE W	4	3	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$1,525,000	Detached	0.26	22301	LLOYDS OF BRADDOCK
810 QUEEN ST	4	4	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$1,389,000	Detached	0.08	22314	OLD TOWN
109 POMMANDER WALK ST	4	4	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$1,310,000	Townhouse	0.03	22314	POMMANDER
16 WHARF ST	3	3	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$1,282,500	Townhouse	0.04	22314	FORDS LANDING
4201 ORMOND AVE	5	4	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$1,225,000	Detached	0.43	22304	VAUXCLEUSE
511 FAIRFAX ST S	3	3	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$1,175,000	Townhouse	0.04	22314	OLD TOWN
615 OAKLEY PL	7	5	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$1,150,000	Detached	0.31	22302	EDDINGTON TERRACE
4005 MOSS PL	5	3	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$1,125,000	Detached	0.28	22304	SEMINARY RIDGE
803 BEVERLY DR	3	2	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$1,013,000	Detached	0.17	22302	BEVERLY HILLS
225 ROYAL ST N	3	2	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$1,000,000	Townhouse	0.04	22314	OLD TOWN
734 East Howell	3	3	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$986,427	Townhouse	0.02	22301	POTOMAC YARDS
1103 COMMONWEALTH AVE	4	3	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$985,000	Detached	0.24	22301	ROSEMONT
403 SAINT ASAPH ST N	3	3	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$970,000	Townhouse	0.03	22314	BULFINCH SQUARE
17 MAPLE ST E	4	3	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$955,000	Detached	0.12	22301	ROSEMONT
403 PITT ST S	3	2	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$955,000	Townhouse	0.05	22314	OLD TOWN
1744 POTOMAC GREENS DR	4	3	2	ALEXANDRIA	\$950,000	Townhouse	0.03	22314	POTOMAC GREENS
610 QUEEN ST	4	2	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$950,000	Detached	0.04	22314	OLD TOWN
119 QUAY ST	3	3	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$940,000	Townhouse	0.03	22314	BRANDT TOWNHOUSE
444 ARGYLE DR	3	3	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$935,000	Detached	0.16	22305	MONTICELLO PARK
332 N COLUMBUS ST	3	2	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$935,000	Semi-Detached	0.05	22314	OLD TOWN
1115 N. ROYAL ST	3	2	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$930,000	Townhouse	0.22	22302	PRINTERS ROW
615 CRESTWOOD DR	5	3	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$920,000	Detached	0.22	22302	MONTICELLO PARK
401 E. CUSTIS AVE	4	3	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$910,000	Detached	0.13	22301	DEL RAY
1741 POTOMAC GREENS DR	3	2	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$900,000	Townhouse	0.04	22314	POTOMAC GREENS
804 PENDELTON ST	3	2	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$895,000	Townhouse	0.05	22314	CARRIAGE WORKS
1669 HUNTING CREEK DR	4	3	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$893,000	Townhouse	0.05	22314	OLD TOWN GREENS
510 WYTHE ST	3	3	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$893,000	Townhouse	0.03	22314	PORTNERS LANDING
20 DEL RAY AVE W	3	2	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$875,000	Detached	0.11	22301	ROSECREST
209 PRINCESS ST	2	2	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$875,000	Townhouse	0.03	22314	PRINCESS
529 COLUMBUS ST N	3	2	2	ALEXANDRIA	\$868,000	Townhouse	0.06	22314	CARRIAGE WORKS
501 DUKE ST	3	1	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$861,010	Detached	0.03	22314	OLD TOWN
6 WALNUT ST W	3	2	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$850,000	Detached	0.14	22301	ROSEMONT
203 MASON AVE	3	2	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$850,000	Detached	0.23	22301	DEL RAY
313 HENRY ST S	3	3	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$850,000	Townhouse	0.02	22314	OLD TOWN VILLAGE
1212 TRINITY DR	4	3	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$850,000	Detached	0.42	22314	ALEXANDRIA
2900 DARTMOUTH RD	4	3	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$845,000	Detached	0.21	22314	CLOVER
670 TIMBER BRANCH PKWY W	4	2	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$830,000	Detached	0.22	22302	BRADDOCK HEIGHTS
3409 ALABAMA AVE	4	4	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$825,000	Detached	0.21	22305	BEVERLY HILLS
406 JACKSON PL	2	2	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$815,000	Detached	0.14	22302	JEFFERSON PARK
4600 NEWCOMB PL	4	3	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$807,500	Detached	0.36	22304	BELLE WOOD
1200 KEY DR	5	3	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$800,000	Detached	0.42	22302	BALLANTRAE
312 ROYAL ST N	3	1	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$792,500	Semi-Detached	0.06	22314	OLD TOWN
2916 CAMERON MILLS RD	3	2	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$790,000	Detached	0.14	22302	BRADDOCK HEIGHTS
1717 POTOMAC GREENS DR	3	3	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$790,000	Townhouse	0.02	22314	POTOMAC GREENS
317 HEARTHSTONE MEWS	3	3	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$790,000	Townhouse	0.03	22314	HEARTHSTONE
107 MASON AVE W	3	2	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$784,000	Detached	0.17	22301	DEL RAY
608 TAYLOR RUN PKWY	4	3	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$780,000	Detached	0.25	22314	CLOVER
21 WALNUT ST E	3	3	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$775,000	Detached	0.10	22301	ROSEMONT PARK
1630 HOWARD ST	4	4	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$775,000	Detached	0.25	22304	VARSITY
15 MAPLE ST W	3	1	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$769,900	Detached	0.14	22301	ROSEMONT
300 BELLEFONTE AVE E	2	2	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$765,000	Detached	0.13	22301	DEL RAY
969 POWHATAN ST	3	3	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$764,900	Townhouse	0.04	22314	OLD TOWN GATEWAY
3217 OLD DOMINION BLVD	3	3	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$751,000	Detached	0.46	22305	BEVERLY HILLS
963 POWHATAN ST	3	3	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$750,000	Townhouse	0.03	22314	OLD TOWN GATEWAY
29 ROSECREST AVE	3	1	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$740,000	Detached	0.14	22301	DEL RAY
3511 OLD DOMINION BLVD	3	2	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$735,000	Detached	0.16	22305	BEVERLY HILLS
2121 JAMIESON AVE #604/605	3	2	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$734,900	Hi-Rise 9+ Floors	0.22	22314	CARLYLE TOWERS
274 MURTHA ST	3	2	2	ALEXANDRIA	\$730,000	Townhouse	0.03	22304	CAMERON STATION
275 MURTHA ST	4	3	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$725,000	Townhouse	0.03	22304	CAMERON STATION
2609 DAVIS AVE	3	2	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$724,500	Detached	0.13	22302	BRADDOCK HEIGHTS
303 WINDSOR AVE E	2	1	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$722,000	Detached	0.13	22301	DEL RAY
2417 GORGAS PL	3	3	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$715,000	Townhouse	0.07	22311	STONEGATE
808 MONTGOMERY ST	3	2	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$710,000	Townhouse	0.02	22314	OLD TOWN COMMONS
1409 ARGALL PL	3	2	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$703,000	Townhouse	0.03	22314	POWHATAN PLACE
607 MELROSE ST	3	2	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$700,000	Detached	0.18	22302	IVY HILL
1008 WYTHE ST	3	2	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$690,000	Townhouse	0.05	22314	OLD TOWN
1301 BAYLISS DR	3	2	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$689,000	Detached	0.19	22302	OVERLOOK TERRACE
185 CAMERON STATION BLVD	3	3	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$685,000	Townhouse	0.03	22304	CAMERON STATION
407 WILKES ST	3	1	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$671,000	Townhouse	0.02	22314	OLD TOWN
917 LEE ST S	2	2	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$669,900	Townhouse	0.04	22314	YATES GARDENS
2406 PAGE TER	3	1	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$665,000	Detached	0.14	22302	BRADDOCK HEIGHTS
517 PATRICK ST N	2	2	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$662,500	Townhouse	0.03	22314	PARKER GRAY
1108 CROSS DR	3	2	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$662,000	Detached	0.17	22302	OVERLOOK TERRACE
1803 HARE CT	3	2	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$660,000	Detached	0.20	22304	KINGS HUNDRED
320 WEST ST S #405	2	2	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$660,000	Garden 1-4 Floors	0.22	22314	DUKE CONDOMINIUM
1002 COLUMBUS ST N	3	1	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$656,000	Duplex	0.05	22314	WESTOVER
302 CAMERON STATION BLVD	3	3	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$649,000	Townhouse	0.02	22304	CAMERON STATION
326 PAYNE ST N	3	2	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$649,000	Townhouse	0.04	22314	OLD TOWN
2412 SANFORD ST	2	2	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$638,000	Detached	0.13	22301	GROVES
418 COLUMBUS ST N	2	1	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$635,000	Townhouse	0.04	22314	CARRIAGE WORKS
5082 GRIMM DR	3	2	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$630,000	Townhouse	0.04	22304	CAMERON STATION
1021 DUKE ST	2	1	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$628,000	Attach/Row Hse	0.03	22314	OLD TOWN
1241 PORTNER RD	2	2	2	ALEXANDRIA	\$627,200	Townhouse	0.02	22314	NETHERGATE
207 ADAMS AVE	2	2	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$625,000	Semi-Detached	0.05	22301	TEMPLE PARK
1608 CRESTWOOD DR	3	3	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$625,000	Detached	0.14	22302	DYES OAKCREST
2509 HUNTON PL	3	2	2	ALEXANDRIA	\$624,500	Townhouse	0.03	22311	STONEGATE
212 GLEBE RD E	3	3	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$608,000	Detached	0.09	22305	WILMAR PARK
811 GREEN ST	2	2	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$605,000	Attach/Row Hse	0.03	22314	HUNTING CREEK
1111 MICHIGAN CT	2	3	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$605,000	Townhouse	0.02	22314	VIRGINIA VILLAGE
1202 ABINGDON DR W	2	3	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$604,500	Townhouse	0.02	22314	NETHERGATE
391/2 BELLEFONTE AVE	3	2	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$601,500	Duplex	0.11	22301	DEL RAY
309 HOLLAND LN #226	2	2	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$600,000	Garden 1-4 Floors	0.22	22314	THE ROYALTON
5123 GARDNER DR	3	2	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$599,900	Townhouse	0.02	22304	CAMERON STATION
1203 PORTNER RD	2	2	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$595,000	Townhouse	0.02	22314	VIRGINIA VILLAGE
211 PAYNE ST N	2	1	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$592,500	Attach/Row Hse	0.02	22314	OLD TOWN
5918 LOWELL AVE	4	3	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$591,050	Detached	0.35	22312	LINCOLNIA HILLS
4921 WAPLE LN	3	2	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$585,000	Townhouse	0.04	22304	CAMERON STATION
4664 KINSEY LN	3	3	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$585,000	Townhouse	0.06	22311	STONEGATE
1320 IVANHOE ST	4	3	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$580,000	Detached	0.23	22304	SEMINARY HILL ESTATES

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

Sixteen Alexandria employers, with a combined workforce of 7,643 employees, participated in the city's annual commuter challenge, a competition that promotes alternative transportation options. **The City of Alexandria and Carney, Inc.** received Gold Grand Prizes for the highest percentage of improved vehicle miles traveled using alternative transportation. **Reingold, Inc.** received the Silver Grand Prize for the highest percentage improved number of trips using alternative transportation and **Rust | Orling Architecture** received the Bronze Grand Prize for highest percentage of employee participation. During the two week challenge, there were 17,686 fewer single occupancy vehicle miles traveled, 13.27 tons less pollution, 1,050 gallons of fuel saved and more than \$14,977 in transportation costs saved.

The Retina Group of Washington, a retinal and macular care practice in the Washington metropolitan area, is introducing new diagnostic equipment to its Alexandria office. The electrophysiology lab is the first of its kind in Northern Virginia.

The **Alexandria Chamber of Commerce** was awarded the Award for Communication Excellence by The American Chamber of Commerce Executives.

Karl W. Moritz has been appointed acting director of Planning and Zoning for the City of Alexandria, effective July 7. Moritz joined the city in 2008 as deputy director for Long Range and Strategic Planning. In 2013, he became deputy director for Current Planning, as well as staff support for the Planning Commission, the Boards of Architectural Review, and the Board of Zoning Appeals. He holds a bachelor's degree in geography from Johns Hopkins University and a master's degree in urban and environmental planning from the University of Virginia.

Artfully Chocolate Bistro Wine Bar in Old Town has finished remodeling, and is now reopened.

The Alexandria Convention & Visitors Association has launched its new blog "Extra Alex," found at Blog.VisitAlexandriaVA.com.

Deputy City Manager Michele R. Evans is retiring after three decades of service to the City of Alexandria, effective Aug. 1.

Richard J. Baier, director of Transportation and Environmental Services, will resign effective Aug. 31 to become the director of public works for Sumter County, Fla.

Dental Associates of Northern Virginia has partnered with Give Kids The World in a joint initiative called "Smiles for Hope." Throughout the month of August, Dental Associates of Northern Virginia will be donating a portion of the proceeds from all children's sealant and adult oral cancer screening procedures to Give Kids The World. Call 703-768-4777.

The Department of Recreation, Parks and Cultural Activities has opened a Registration & Reservation Office to provide customers with a one-stop-shop to get information about recreation programs and services; regis-

ter for programs and make facility room and picnic reservations. The department's registration management system will update on Aug. 1. Visit alexandria.gov/recreation or call 703-746-5427 for more.

The **Alexandria Library** now offers free MP3 music file downloads on its website through Freegal Music. There is no software to download, and there are no digital rights management restrictions. The music files are compatible with PCs, Macs, Apple, Android and other MP3-compatible mobile and portable devices. Registered cardholders are eligible for five free permanent downloads per week using their library card number and can stream music for three hours per day.

Inova Alexandria Hospital announced the establishment of the **Teh-chang Shih Memorial Fund**. This fund was created by the family of Shih in his memory and will provide annual scholarship awards to nursing and medical technician staff at Inova Alexandria Hospital. Shih served the Alexandria community for More than 30 years as a staff internist for the hospital from 1970 until 2002. He dedicated his career to the care of the community's indigent population and volunteered his time one day a week at the Casey Clinic. In his role as a hospitalist, Shih was instrumental in starting one of the first Code Blue Teams in the country. Board certified in internal medicine, endocrinology and geriatrics, Shih was an asset to Inova Alexandria Hospital and the community. A prominent meeting space and classroom within the Hospital has been named in his honor. Scholarships will be given during nursing week every May.

Long & Foster Real Estate's Tom & Cindy and Associates, Alexandria, ranked 63 out of 250 for real estate teams nationwide, based on transaction volume in 2013, as ranked by REAL Trends, Inc. The team also ranked 154 in the nation based on the number of closed sides in 2013.

Chris Thiel has been appointed director of programs for Rebuilding Together Alexandria. He will be responsible for overall execution and management of programs that support Rebuilding Together Alexandria clients.

The Applications Division of the city's Information Technology Services Department is updating its online system of interactive maps. Early phases involve conducting usability testing. Visit www.alexandriava.gov/GIS for more.

Diane Webster has joined Cardinal Bank as vice president, manager of Cardinal's Old Town North Banking Office.

Employees at **Vacation.com**, with headquarters in Alexandria, recently donated more than 500 pounds of food to support the Capital Area Food Bank in Lorton.

Leslie Anderson, reference librarian at Alexandria Library, Special Collections Branch won the 2014 National Genealogical Society Family History Writing Contest with her entry, "Tabitha's Story: Survival, Struggle, and Success." "Tabitha's Story" followed four generations of her mother's family which originated in Mecklenburg County and eventually settled in Norfolk, Va. The article will be published this December in the field's leading peer-reviewed journal, National Genealogical Society Quarterly.

Schedler To Join Sister at Susquehanna University

Former Titans guard is a fan of Beyoncé and the Wizards.

Angie Schedler, a 2014 T.C. Williams High School graduate, was a four-year member of the school's varsity girls' basketball team. For two of those seasons, Schedler was teammates with her older sister, Sofie.

In 2011 and 2012, the Schedler sisters helped the Titans reach the Patriot District championship game, only to lose to West Springfield each time. In 2013, with Sofie Schedler having graduated and playing for Susquehanna University, Angie Schedler, then a junior, and the Titans finally got over the hump, winning the district title.

Angie Schedler, one of T.C. Williams' top perimeter shooters, knocked down four 3-pointers in the 2013 district final against Woodson. The following season, Schedler and the Titans returned to the district/conference championship game for the fourth straight season, but fell short against West Springfield.

With her high school career having ended, Angie Schedler, an all-district and all-region performer as a T.C. Williams guard, will join Sofie as a member of the Susquehanna women's basketball team. Angie Schedler recently participated in a Q&A via email.

Q: What made Susquehanna University the right fit for you?

Schedler: At first when I thought about

SCHOOL NOTES

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

Reese Paul Frerichs was named to the dean's list at Washington University in St. Louis.

Justin A. Borrison, Thomas C. Ponikowski, Matthew J. Teets, Catherine J. Vermillion, Quinn T. Caslow, D'Elia M. Chandler, Matthew T. Czechanski, Samuel J. Ferrara, Catherine M. Hadeed, Andrew K. Kicinski, Carmen C. Lodato, Renee C. Von Guggenberg, Eileen Cheng, Catherine A. Doulis, Olivia N. Foroughi, Xavier E. Gomez, Marines Tarabillo, Sanjeev K. Thiyagarajan, Zhiyuan Yang, Zach VeShancey, Khoki N. Bernier, Teresa-Camthao D. Dang, Christina L. Devine, Edward B. Harmon, Laura A. Jacobs, Michael C. Pourchot, Michael L. Robertson, Lindsay M. Rosenfeld, Claudia S. Siles, Anthony Q. Tran, Jeval S. Walters, Kathleen E. Brady, Alexander W. Cheng, Kevin H. Corcoran, Kathleen H. Driscoll, Alexandra K. Dunn, Anna M. Gehring, Gabrielle N. Gonzalez, Mark C. Micklem, Ian S. Philips, Joseph F. Taylor, Karina S. Bakhshi-Azar, Lindsey M. Baumann, Julianne D. Bigler, Rebecca Y. Campbell, Catherine S. Canary, Todd P. Ferri, Miles H. Ghesling, Casey P. Jenkins, Justine S. Joo, Dylan M. Keightley, Saskia R. Kroesen, Corinne C. Mayer, Daniel J. Morris, Leo T. Naegele, Owen T. Nugent, Catherine B. Royka, Brian T. Smith, Emma P. Swaney, Madison K. Tindle, Sean M. Trenchard, Matthew J. Watson, Trevor R. Woods,



GAZETTE PACKET FILE PHOTO

Former T.C. Williams guard Angie Schedler attempts a shot against Annandale during her senior season.

where I wanted to be in college, Susquehanna was the exact opposite of almost everything I wanted. The more I visited my older sister, the more I loved the school and its atmosphere.

Q: How much did getting the chance to play with your sister influence your decision?

Schedler: Playing with Sofie had a minimal influence on my decision. It was more like a bonus. I love playing with her and it just makes my choice of Susquehanna even more perfect for me.

Q: At what age did you start play-

ing basketball? When did you realize playing college basketball was a possibility for you?

Schedler: I started playing when I was 5. I realized college basketball was a possibility for me once I started to receive Division I letters my freshman year.

Q: What is your favorite memory of playing high school basketball?

Schedler: Winning districts my junior year will always be my favorite memory while playing for TC.

Q: If you could change one thing about your high school athletic

career, what would it be?

Schedler: If I could change one thing about my high school athletic career it would be for me to have stepped out of my comfort zone more. To push myself a little bit harder every day.

Q: What is your career-high for 3-pointers in a game at any age?

Schedler: My career-high for 3-pointers is 9 3's in a game.

Q: What kind of traits, physical or mental, does it take to be a good perimeter shooter?

Schedler: You can't give up. You have to be mentally strong because not every game will your shot be on from the jump. You have to remember to keep shooting because you know that's one of your biggest roles as a teammate when it comes down to it.

Q: Who is your favorite music artist?

Schedler: Beyoncé, definitely.

Q: What is your favorite movie?

Schedler: 'Pitch Perfect' is my favorite because of the music in it.

Q: What location is the farthest you have traveled from the Washington, D.C. metro area?

Schedler: I was born in Vienna, Austria, so that's the farthest I've been from home.

Q: Are you a pro sports fan? If so, who are your favorite teams?

Schedler: Yes, I love the Wizards.

— JON ROETMAN

Part of National 'Dream Team'

Lindsay Stuart of Alexandria Public Schools was one of four Virginia teachers who spent June 4-7 in New Orleans participating in TeachFest, a professional development event focused on creating high-quality Common Core curricular resources. The educators attended the event as part of LearnZillion's national Dream Team of 200 talented math and English language arts (ELA) teachers.

At TeachFest, the Dream Team kicked-off a summer-long collaboration with educators from around the country – gathering best practices as input for their work with LearnZillion. Dream Team members have now returned to their respective districts to continue their work as part of a LearnZillion-facilitated digital professional



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

From left are Michelle Schmidt Moore; Lindsay Stuart; Eric Westendorf, LearnZillion CEO; Christine Gault, and Sara Equi.

learning community.

Participants from Virginia also included: Michelle Schmidt Moore, Loudoun County Public Schools; Christine Gault, Prince William County Schools, and Sara Equi, Roanoke City Public Schools.

The 2014 Dream Team members were selected from a competitive pool of 4,000 applicants. Visit www.LearnZillion.com.



Upcoming Events

- **Saturday July 26th**
Alexandria Yellow Cab
Sponsor Night 7pm



Upcoming Home Games

Tuesday July 22nd 7pm
Saturday July 26th 7pm
Playoffs July 28th-Aug 2nd

Aces home games are played at Frank Mann Field at Four Mile Run Park, located at 3700 Commonwealth Avenue in Alexandria, behind Cora Kelly School

Check us out on Social Media

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Instagram: Alexandria_Aces

www.alexandriaaces.org

NEWS

Safeway Robbers Sentenced

FROM PAGE 1

the person I know he can be," wrote family friend Tracy Aukward in a letter to the court. "I can tell you without a doubt he is incredibly remorseful."

The story begins last summer, when Dicks and Lewis met Artemus Riley — a man with an extensive criminal background and plans for the future. By November, Riley's friend Louis Jackson joined the conspiracy. Their crime spree began on Nov. 14, when the group organized a heist at U.S. 1 Tobacco on Jefferson Davis Highway in Woodbridge.

During that armed robbery, an employee of the store was shot in the head. The men made off with about \$5,000 in cash and cigarettes. And because the men were wearing masks, investigators didn't have much to go on.

That's when the conspiracy moved to Old Town.

Riley worked at the Old Town Safeway back in the 1980s, and he knew the area well. Two days after the Woodbridge robbery, the four men met in the District and travelled to Alexandria to conduct a surveillance operation. Riley gave directions to the store, and Lewis drove. Surveillance footage from the grocery store shows Dicks and Jackson entered the store together, followed by Lewis and Riley.

"They walked up and down the aisles, noting exits, the location of cameras, how many individuals were in the store, and where the manager's office that contained the vault was located," wrote U.S. Attorney Dana Boente. "After they returned to the car, the men agreed that the Safeway was a good target and decided to commit the robbery the next day."

THE NEXT DAY, the four men returned to Old Town to conduct the heist. Lewis, Dicks and Jackson entered the store masked and armed while Riley waited outside in the getaway car. Dicks and Jackson had handguns, and Lewis was carrying a sawed-off long gun. Jackson stayed by the door while Dicks and Lewis headed for the cash registers.

That's when the shooting started.

Dicks fired a shot into the ceiling, alerting the customers that an armed robbery was taking place. One of the customers was packing a Glock 9 millimeter handgun, so he pulled it out of its holster. When Lewis saw this, he pointed the long gun at the customer and took the gun. Then he barreled his way into the manager's office and took about \$8,000 from the vault and cash drawer.

But he wasn't finished yet.

On his way out the door, Lewis stopped at the customer who threatened him with the Glock. The disarmed customer was now kneeling on the ground with his arms raised. For Lewis, it was time for revenge. He fired at the man, grazing the customer along the side of his torso underneath his left arm.

"The bullet only grazed the customer's left arm-pit," the prosecutor wrote. "But it was centimeters away from being lethal."

Then they fled into the November night.

INVESTIGATORS BEGAN questioning Safeway

employees and customers, trying to find clues that might lead them to figure out who these masked men were. Following a tip from a customer who had been in the store the day before the robbery, they discovered surveillance footage of the man casing the joint. That's when they got their first big break in the case — when Lewis and Dicks made purchases they used their Safeway Clubcard at the register.

Detectives were able to obtain cell phone records that tracked the location of Lewis cell phone, a tactic increasingly used by law-enforcement agencies

during investigations. The records showed he was at the Safeway before and during the robbery, so investigators were able to get a search warrant for his home in the District. There, they found a long gun, latex gloves, a black ski mask and a black backpack.

Lewis was arrested on Dec. 13 and taken to the Alexandria Police Department. After waiving his

Miranda rights, he identified one of the men in the surveillance video as his cousin, Ray Allen Dicks. After he was taken to the city jail, he made a telephone call to his girlfriend, a call that was monitored.

"During the conversation, Lewis stated that he was locked up in Virginia for a robbery of a Safeway," prosecutors wrote in one document. "Lewis told his girlfriend that if she spoke to his 'Cuz' to tell him to 'stay the (expletive) out of the way because they got him."

"Ray who?" the girlfriend asked, according to a transcript of the call.

"Yea," he responded.

Later in the conversation, he asked her to get "Cuz" on the phone. Once again, she asked, "Ray who?" Once again, he responded, "Yea." That's when she made a three-way call to Dicks. During the conversation, which was monitored by authorities, Lewis warned Dicks that investigators were closing in.

"Hey, just stay low, son. That's all I can say," Lewis told Dicks. "Just remember this: Crack."

"All right," Dicks responded. "I'm already hip."

Court records show that "Crack" was the nickname of a man who was later found to be in possession of the Glock that Lewis took from the Safeway customer. According a court records, the man stole the firearm from Lewis.

MANY PEOPLE who live in Old Town consider the Safeway more than a grocery store. It's a town center in a way, a place where neighbors gather and catch up on what's happening in Alexandria.

Some jokingly call it the "Soviet Safeway" because of its diminutive size and selection. So when a U.S. Park Police helicopter began circling overhead that night, shining a spotlight in the alleyways of Old Town looking for the group of armed men who robbed the grocery store, the neighborhood went into a frenzy. Many were in disbelief that such a crime could happen in Old Town.

"All four conspirators — Dicks, Lewis, Riley and Jackson — embarked on a reckless and dangerous mission when they conspired to commit this armed robbery," the prosecutor wrote. "This discharge of two loaded firearms made this Safeway robbery even more dangerous than the typical robbery."

"All four conspirators — Dicks, Lewis, Riley and Jackson — embarked on a reckless and dangerous mission when they conspired to commit this armed robbery."

— U.S. Attorney Dana Boente

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**THE CONNECTION
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21 Announcements



MARY IDA CAMMISA (age 96)
Of Alexandria, Virginia; passed away peacefully on July 17, 2014, at Goodwin House Bailey's Crossroads. Loving wife of the late Guido F. Cammisa; devoted mother of James E. Cammisa, Anne Marie Cammisa (Paul Christopher Manuel), and Michael X. Cammisa; cherished grandmother of Maria Teresa Manuel and Rosa Caterina Manuel.

Mary Ida Hitchman was born on January 16, 1918, in Mount Pleasant PA, the youngest child of John J. and Anne Clancy Hitchman. On the morning of December 7, 1941, she took a train to Washington and soon began a career in the federal government. She was followed in early 1942 by her mother, her brothers J. Joseph Hitchman and Edward R. Hitchman, and her sister Katharine H. Thomas. (Her brother Paul L. Hitchman remained in Pennsylvania to raise a large extended family in greater Pittsburgh.) Mary Ida worked as a secretary for the Navy, Army, and Defense departments and the Bureau of the Budget, but her longest tenure was as an executive secretary in the Department of State. A fond memory was meeting General Dwight D. Eisenhower and receiving a personal autograph in his book "Crusade in Europe."

On June 11, 1955, she married Guido F. Cammisa, owner and director of the Alexandria Clinical Laboratory, and they settled in Old Town to raise their family. Over the years she volunteered at St. Mary's Catholic Church, St. Mary's Parochial School, St. Mary's Academy, Bishop Ireton High School, Meals on Wheels, and the White House Greetings Office. In the 1970s, with the encouragement of a friend, she began taking classes in oil painting at the YWCA and became an accomplished artist. Guido retired in 1984, and in 1989 they moved to the Montebello condominium community in Fairfax County. Guido passed away in 1998 and Mary Ida moved to Goodwin House Bailey's Crossroads in 2000, where she continued her artistry with ceramics, and concluded a long and happy life surrounded by family and friends.

The family will be present at the Demaine Funeral Home, 520 South Washington Street, Alexandria VA 22314, on Friday, August 1, 2014, from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. A Mass of Christian Burial will take place on Saturday, August 2, 2014, at 10:30 a.m. at St. Mary's Catholic Church, 310 South Royal Street, Alexandria VA 22314. Interment to follow at St. Mary's Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the Sisters of the Holy Cross, Development Office - St. Mary's, 407 Bertrand Hall, Notre Dame IN 46556-5000 (www.cscsisters.org).

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Light tomorrow with today!
-Elizabeth Barret Browning

21 Announcements

PUBLIC NOTICE

The Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation is recommending the Simpson Park Playground and Passive Use Lawn renovation project ("Project") to the National Park Service for partial funding made possible by assistance from the Land and Water Conservation Fund. The Department of Recreation, Parks and Cultural Activities (RPCA) is soliciting public comment on the Project. In 2013, RPCA developed a Simpson Park Improvement Plan (as part of the Citywide Parks Improvement Plan), which included a recommendation to renovate the playground and adjacent lawn, based on community feedback. The plan proposes restoring open space to accommodate multiple passive uses and help to balance the type of activities in Simpson Park. An adjacent playground renovation will include areas with rubberized surface, areas for different age groups, and more tree canopy for shade. The design will also improve the connection to passive use areas.

RPCA is accepting comments for 30 days from initial announcement with a deadline of August 31. A concept plan for the project is available online at <http://alexandriava.gov/recreation/info/default.aspx?id=65170#Citywide> and the RPCA offices at 1108 Jefferson Street, Alexandria, VA 22314.

Prior to the grant award, comments must be provided in writing and may be submitted where the plans are available, by mail or email. Contact information: Dana Wedeles, dana.wedeles@alexandriava.gov or 703-746-5491. If awarded, RPCA will hold community meetings to discuss and review design concepts.

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Legal Notices

OLEGAL 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.

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-Thomas A. Edison

When spider webs unite, they can tie up a lion.
-Ethiopian Proverb

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Give me where to stand,
and I will move the earth.
-Archimedes



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Leslie Lytle and Bridget Williams, members of Global Citizens in Action, work on making a documentary about media bias.

Alexandria Girls Talk With Afghan Peers

FROM PAGE 3

Hannah Weitzer is a program manager for Global Nomads Group and has worked with the organization for about three years. She helps schools in the states and overseas to connect and has a background working with youth and conflict resolution.

"I don't see everything that happens, I see them more in the live virtual exchange whether that's face to face or social networking," Weitzer said. "They talk about tough and sensitive issues. They talk about issues such as 9/11 and gay marriage and they learn about what is relevant to their peers in Afghanistan and the U.S., and what these issues mean to them

as individuals. The moments when you see them really connect on an emotional level are what stick with me. When something bad happens: an attack in Kabul or a shooting in the U.S., which has unfortunately happened too many times in the last few years, you can see they've really formed a relationship."

GNG offers programs to middle and high school students and reaches through North and South America; Central, South and Southeast Asia; the Middle East; and North and Sub-Saharan Africa. GNG is accepting applications from educators for new classrooms until Aug. 1. Visit www.gng.org for more information and the official application.

Giant Foods Honors Friends of Guest House

Friends of Guest House, an Alexandria-based charity that helps Northern Virginia women make transitions from incarceration into the community, is one of 11 mid-Atlantic area nonprofits to be promoted in conjunction with Oprah Winfrey's upcoming eight-city tour, "Oprah's The Life You Want Weekend."

Guest House's "Week of Empowerment" is July 18-24. It was selected by the tour's local sponsor, Giant Food, for its embodiment of

"Oprah's message of courage and empowerment."

Giant Food is promoting Guest House and 10 other mid-Atlantic area nonprofits in the 11 weeks leading up to Oprah's D.C. show at the Verizon Center Sept. 19-20. Giant Food is donating \$1,000 to each featured organization.

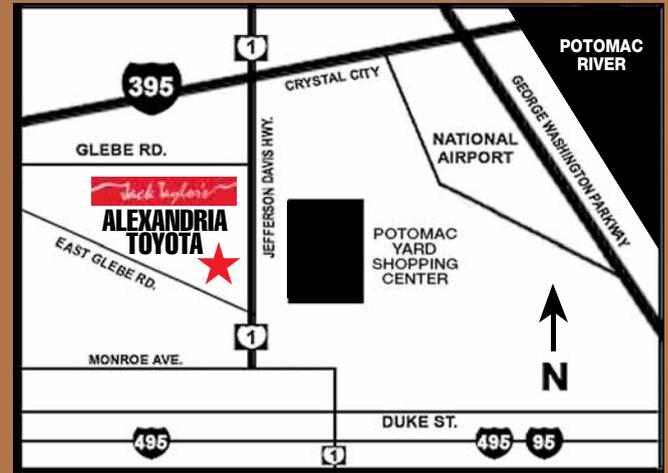
Learn more about "Oprah's The Life You Want Weekend" at <http://www.oprah.com/app/oprahstour.htm>

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AWLA Connects Animals With Prospective Adopters

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Molly Edwards
and friends



PET GAZETTE

SUMMER 2014

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Alexandria
Gazette Market 

PHOTO BY LAURA SUDDER

PET GAZETTE

'They Need One-On-One Attention'

AWLA connects animals with prospective adopters.

BY KARA COLEMAN
GAZETTE PACKET

When the Animal Welfare League of Alexandria received a report that a lion was running loose in the community, its staff went to find it. But what they found wasn't a lion; it was a Husky with a shaved body.

"I could kind of see how it looked like a lion, from far away," said Megan Webb, executive director of AWLA. "It's funny that that's what people's minds jumped to, though."

If it had been a lion, though, AWLA would be the group to call. AWLA is responsible for animal services in the City of Alexandria, and also trains dogs, operates an animal shelter, and provides humane education classes for children.

"We want to be the place that people come to if they need care for animals," Webb said.

AWLA has 27 full- and part-time staffers and more than 150 volunteers. Volunteers are now able to be actively involved in the adoption process. Previously, potential adopters had to wait to meet with staff members to go through the adoption process. Webb is hoping to adopt more animals out more quickly by having the extra help. She said that in 2013, AWLA placed 1,041 animals in homes. As of last month, the group has adopted out 600 animals to families so far in 2014.

AWLA takes animals that have been rescued as well as animals that have to be given up due to their owners dying, moving to a nursing home, or being deployed. According to Webb, the group has also been working with Potomac Highlands Animal Res-



Not a lion: It's a Husky with a shaved body.

cue in Cabins, W. Va., for more than 17 years.

"They have a hard time finding adopters in West Virginia," said Webb. "Almost every Saturday they bring us animals for adoption."

AWLA deals with wild as well as domestic animals.

"We get a lot of service calls for wild animals, anything from deer that have been injured to raccoons in attics," Webb said. "We just got a group of baby possums. Sometimes, when a mother possum gets hit by a car and her babies are in her pouch, the mom dies and the babies get left behind. So our officers go and rescue them."

The AWLA works with local veterinary clinics that provide medical services at discounted rates to the animals who need care before they are ready for adoption. Webb said that while some animals need medical care before they can be placed with a fam-

ily, some animals need a different kind of care.

"Our foster program is very important," Webb said. "We get a lot of animals that have special needs and are not quite ready for adoption: puppies and kittens who are not old enough to be adopted, senior animals who don't do well in the shelter, scared and frightened animals, they need one-on-one attention."

Broc (formally Bruce), an AWLA alum, had a great day with his buddy Jack and his mom Elizabeth Ramsay at Pups in the Park at a Nationals game.



Willow

Animal Welfare League of Alexandria has a number of business partners in the community to help provide care to its shelter animals. For example, here is Willow. She was injured and extremely fearful when she was transferred into the shelter. AWLA treated her injury but she was terrified of people. She would sit in the back of the kennel and hide when people came by — making it difficult for her to get adopted. Dogtopia, a local dog daycare and boarding facility, agreed to take her in for a few weeks since she seemed to be more comfortable with other dogs than people. Willow quickly met friends at Dogtopia which helped reveal her real personality, build her confidence and ultimately get adopted.



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PETS IN ALEXANDRIA

This is our cat Cinco, and he came from the Arlington County Animal Shelter



five years ago. I have lived in Alexandria for 49 years. My husband Max Rotermund and I have lived in the Beverly Hills area for over 29 years. Cinco is very helpful. When I lie on the floor and do my yoga stretches every morning, he "helps" me by doing them with me.

— Susan D. Dawson



Country Cat

PHOTO BY LAURA SUDDER



PHOTO BY NATASHA EDWARDS

This is Tina Edwards.



The new love of my life: Paisley the Puggle! We got Paisley three months ago from a breeder in Tennessee and our lives are just changed forever. She is a ball full of fun. She is totally adjusting to life as an Old Town dog and loves cruising down the parkway to my parents. Here Paisley is waiting with me in the car at the Braddock Road Metro; this is the moment she sees her Aunt Paige. She is just smiling, happy.

— **Brittany Patterson**



PHOTO BY LAURA SUDDER

Surie and Anya in the St. Pat's Parade.



Luna is like a second child to us. She is a Braque due Bourbonnais, a French breed of gun dog, and one of the first dogs that Kevin, my husband, trained at the Olde Towne School for Dogs. When obedience school ended, we saw Luna every once in a while, but we missed having her around. Now, four years later, we are so excited that Luna will be joining us on our new venture as the honorary first member of our new dog gym in Alexandria, Frolick Dogs. Needless to say, Luna has a great time romping around the agility course when she visits our gym and we couldn't be happier to have her back in our family.

— **Kara Batt**



PHOTO BY LAURA SUDDER

Belly Cat



PHOTO BY LAURA SUDDER

Bobbie Jo



PHOTO BY LAURA SUDDER

Sophie, just a drop!



PHOTO BY NATASHA EDWARDS

Bocephus



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CELEBRATING **10** Years

A New Approach to Adoptions at AWLA

BY AMANDA HEINCER
ANIMAL WELFARE LEAGUE OF ALEXANDRIA

People seeking to adopt animals from the Animal Welfare League of Alexandria may notice some changes in the shelter's approach to adoptions. By partnering with the American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals to evaluate its adoption process, AWLA discovered that some of its previous policies and procedures were likely screening out people who could have been great adopters.

The new adoption process is designed to make it more welcoming and more educational for potential adopters. AWLA staff members are now trained to ask potential adopters open-ended questions that initiate conversations rather than depending on questions that have a defined "right" or "wrong" answer.

AWLA's Pet Calendar Contest

Make your pet a superstar by entering the 2015 Alexandria Animals Pet Photo Calendar Contest. For \$25, your animal will be guaranteed a place in the calendar, plus you will receive a free copy. Get your friends and family to vote for your pet to be the 2015 cover model. All funds raised will benefit the Animal Welfare League of Alexandria. Contest runs July 15 – Sept. 15. Enter online at www.AlexandriaAnimals.org/calendar. For more information or to become a sponsor, call 703-746-4774.

Katie Faxon, adoptions and community outreach manager, said, "Our focus is on good conversations and customer service. It's about having mutual respect for each other." Volunteers are now assisting with the adoption process by showing animals to the public; this decreases waiting time to visit animals and volunteers can share their personal experience with the animals with potential adopters.

The open-adoptions approach also emphasizes working with people to solve problems and match them with the right animals for their individual situation. "I have been excited to see the many more adoption matches we can make when we eliminated the automatic list of reasons to deny an adoption," said Faxon.

For example, a man who did not have a permanent residence came to the shelter seeking to adopt a cat. In the past, the shelter would have automatically denied his adoption because he was technically homeless.

However, the staff talked to him at length and discovered that he drove a large truck across country and wanted a cat as companion. Based on the information the man provided, the staff introduced him to a cat

who absolutely loves human attention and the two immediately bonded. He now has a riding companion — and the cat has human attention all day and night.

Studies have shown that people who are denied an adoption at a shelter generally become frustrated with the entire adoption process and turn to a breeder or a pet store instead.

AWLA's goal is to build a mutually respectful relationship with people and help them to think through what it means to be responsible for a pet rather than simply denying their adoption.

Since making the changes in approach to adoptions in early May 2014, the adoptions numbers are trending up. The AWLA adopted out 224 dogs and cats to loving homes from May 1, 2014, to June 30, 2014, nearly twice as many as in the same period last year.

PETS IN ALEXANDRIA



Growing up on the streets of West Virginia, nice people sent Boulder to the Animal Welfare League of Alexandria to find a forever home. The Forbes Family of Alexandria (Ripley/Diana/Meredith/Jonathan) adopted him last February and the action hasn't stopped. He is a very special breed — American Shorthair Brown Dog. He is one of a kind and has his own Instagram account (boulder3504) to chronicle his new life and love of every activity. Paddleboarding with his favorite bud Jonathan is his latest hobby and a perfect summer excuse to get out on the water. Here Boulder is encouraging his captain for one more ride.

— Ripley Forbes

Meet Mollie Bear, a 5-year old lab/chow mix we found on the side of a highway in rural Virginia eating a watermelon rind when she was about three months old. Her tail had just been cut off and it was still bleeding. A local animal rescuer said that this adorable puppy may have escaped people using her to train pit bulls to fight. We intended to bring her to the Alexandria animal shelter for adoption, but we found her at the beginning of a five-day weekend over Thanksgiving, and by the time we got back to Alexandria, we couldn't let her go. After a lifetime of owning great dogs we have say she is the best dog we have ever had. She is charming, smart, funny, totally engaged, very trusting in spite of her rough start in life, and goes almost everywhere with my husband Michael Seith. As an aside, a week later another puppy from the same litter was turned in with his tail also cut off, and he was adopted by my sister. Jack has also turned out to be a very special dog and they are lucky to have him.

— Mary Hurlbut



Coco Chanel looking tres chic in her "Doggles." Coco is a 14-year-old senior Yorkie with vision problems and sensitivity to sunlight. So in order to continue Coco's strolls through Old Town, you will see her sporting her blue "Doggles" as a necessity and fashion statement. The Hope Eye center in Vienna, where Coco is being treated, loved this photo so much that they made it their screen saver.

— Renee Reymond



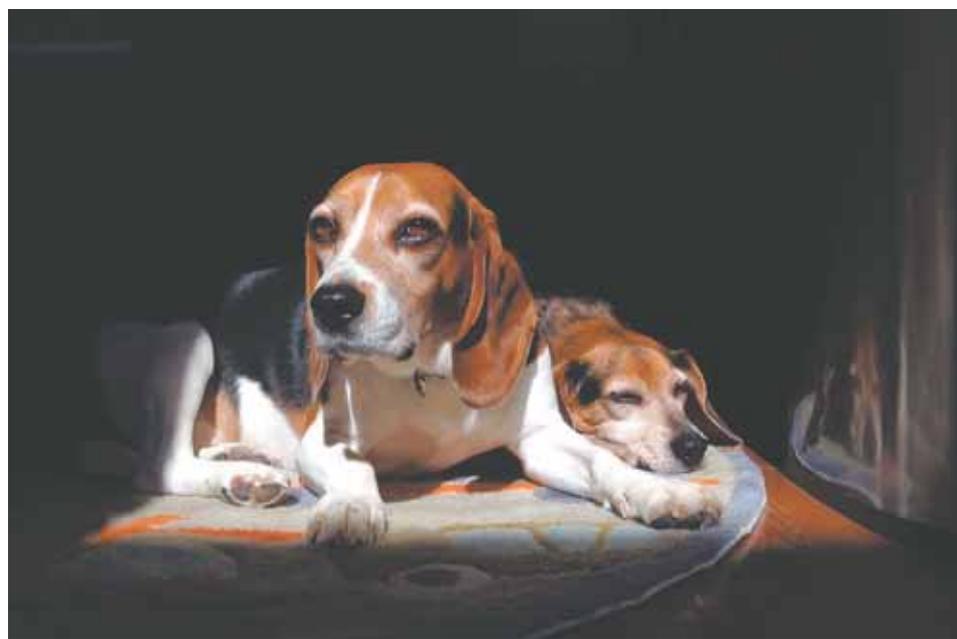
George, wearing Doggles, loves to hang his head out the window. Here are George and Paisley, cruising around town checking out the latest real estate.

— Phyllis Patterson,
The Patterson Group



PHOTO BY LAURA SUDDER

Richard Weber at the Athenaeum
with HC.



Oscar and Riley, beagle companions to Kara, Nathan, and Simon Macek of Alexandria, find a comfortable spot to bask in the sun.

— Nathan M. Macek