



PHOTOS CONTRIBUTED

Shannon Brady checks the row before heading down the hill to join her troop members.

Wreaths Across America

They started arriving before noon. Dozens and dozens of Northern Virginia scouts and their families joined active and retired service members and members of the Mount Vernon and John Alexander Chapters of the Daughters of the American Revolution to place wreaths upon the graves at the Alexandria National Cemetery. This is the 12th year of the annual wreath laying at the cemetery.

VFW Post 609 Commander Bill Jones remembered the first year: "We raised enough money to decorate 40 graves with six volunteers." This year more than 1,700 graves were decorated and more than 300 volunteers helped.

The American Heritage Girls of St. Rita Troop VA1381 raised funds to sponsor 896 wreaths for the Alexandria cemetery this year.

At the conclusion of the opening ceremony, the volunteers moved out into the garden and placed a wreath on every third grave, the graves of the past post commanders and all of the graves of unknown soldiers.



PHOTO BY LOUISE KRAFFT/GAZETTE PACKET

VFW Post 609 Commander William M. Jones places a wreath in honor of the United States Marine Corp.



The American Heritage Girls of St. Rita Troop VA1381 raised funds to sponsor 896 wreaths for the Alexandria National Cemetery this year.

Sharing Struggle Against Addiction

Inmates and alumni of Sober Living Unit celebrate its anniversary.

BY VERNON MILES
GAZETTE PACKET

A recurring theme of loss and hope for recovery weaved through the songs, poems, and presentations at the Sober Living Unit's 26th anniversary. Inmates and alumni of the program shared their stories of addiction and the long road to recovery.

The unit, a department of the Alexandria Detention Center, specializes in treating inmates dealing with substance abuse problems. The inmates of the the unit performed a series of sketches, songs, and poems expressing the difficulty of staying clean. One poem, written and read by an inmate in the women's unit, described the loss of her family and her self-respect as she fell deeper into addiction.

Members of the Sheriff's department expressed their pride in the recovery the inmates have made.

"In times of fiscal belt tightening, and with many discussions of what to keep and what to cut, this program has endured," said Jon Teumer, mental health supervisor at the Sober Living Unit. "I think that alone shows the value of this program."

"You've made a decision that you're going to try to do something about your situation," said Sheriff Dana Lawhorne to the inmates. "The fact that you're willing to make a difference, and how important that is for your family...is commendable."

Lawhorne shared a story of a



PHOTO BY VERNON MILES/GAZETTE PACKET

Walston Barbour, a former inmate and graduate of the Sober Living Unit, shared his story with inmates.

young man applying to work in the Sheriff's Department whom he had interviewed earlier that day. The man revealed that he was inspired by his parents, who had both been in jail and had dealt with substance abuse issues. When Lawhorne asked the applicant how he'd overcome a childhood in a household with drug abuse, the man replied that he'd seen what drugs did to a person and didn't want that in his life as an adult. But with both of his parents recovered, Lawhorne said the young man reported that he'd begun having a healthy and positive relationship with them.

"The doors don't have to be closed to your relationships and your family," said Lawhorne.

A few graduates of the program

SEE SOBER LIVING, PAGE 12

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED
 TO: 1604 KING ST.
 ALEXANDRIA, VA 22314
 POSTMASTER: TIME-SENSITIVE MATERIAL
 ATTENTION
 VERIFICATION COUNCIL
 U.S. POSTAGE PAID ALEXANDRIA, VA PERMIT #482
 CIRCULATION VERIFICATION COUNCIL



*Merry Christmas from the LizLuke Team
Elizabeth, Jillian, Kristina, Holli, Karen and Jennifer
If your 2015 plans involve a move, please give us a call.
We'd be honored to assist you!*

LIZLUKE.COM *LizLuke will get you home!*



3306 Elmwood Drive
3 bedrooms, 1 bath
\$365,000



613 Tennessee Avenue
3 bedrooms, 2 baths
\$699,000



3502 Holly Street
6 bedrooms, 3 full/2 half baths
\$1,299,000



305 Columbia Road
4 bedrooms, 4.5 baths
\$1,499,000



Elizabeth Lucchesi
The LizLuke Team

More than \$54 million and 89 homes sold in 2013!

703.868.5676
Elizabeth@lizluke.com
www.lizluke.com

Stay Connected...



McEneaney
ASSOCIATES

REALTORS®

109 S. Pitt Street
Alexandria, VA 22314

Two Banks Robbed Last Week

The Alexandria Police Department is investigating two bank robberies last week.

The robbery of a Burke and Herbert Bank located at 155 North Paxton Street occurred on Friday, Dec. 12, at 12:53 p.m. A man entered the bank and displayed a handgun. He demanded money, the teller complied, and the suspect fled with an undisclosed amount of cash. There were no injuries.

The suspect is described as a black male, approximately 5-foot-10-inches, with a medium build. He was last seen wearing a dark color knit hat and red, puffy winter jacket. The Federal Bureau of Investigation is offering a reward of up to \$5,000 for information that leads to the identification, arrest and conviction of this bank robbery. Anyone with additional information about this incident is asked to call Detective Thomas Buckley at 703-746-6837.

On Wednesday, Dec. 10, the Wells Fargo Bank located in the 300 block of N. Washington Street was robbed around 4:30 p.m. A man entered the bank and passed a teller a note demanding money. The teller complied and the suspect fled on foot. No one in the bank was injured. The suspect is described as a black male with a light complexion, between 20 and 30 years old, approximately 6' with an average build. He was last seen wearing a black "peacoat" style jacket and a navy knit hat with a pattern on it.

The Federal Bureau of Investigation has linked this suspect to two other recent bank robberies. One occurred in Arlington County on Nov. 10, and the other in Washington D.C. on Dec. 4. Both bank robberies were similar in nature to this incident. Anyone with additional information about this suspect is asked to call Detective Brad Cecchetti at 703-746-6858. The FBI is offering a reward of up to \$5,000 for information that leads to the identification, arrest and conviction of this bank robber.

Suspect Arrested for Burglaries

The Alexandria Police Department has arrested a suspect in connection with a series of burglaries of local residences.

Police arrested a 20-year-old Maryland man on Wednesday, Dec. 10. During the course of investigation, detectives determined the suspect was responsible for at least three of the residential burglaries in the city dating back through November of this year.

- ❖ Nov. 20: 4000 block of Taney Avenue
- ❖ Nov. 21: 3800 block of Taft Avenue
- ❖ Dec. 4: 600 block of Putnam Place

The suspect was charged with three counts of larceny with the intent to distribute and three counts of burglary. More charges may be pending as the investigation continues.

Anyone with information about these burglaries is asked to call Detective Christopher Perry of the Criminal Investigations Section at 703-746-6191.

Prison for Sex Trafficking

Tayron Tyree Weeks, 24, of Alexandria, was sentenced Friday, Dec. 12, to 132 months in prison, followed by 10 years of supervised release for sex trafficking of a child.

Weeks pleaded guilty on Sept. 18. According to court documents, Weeks met the victim at the Braddock Road Metro Station and then took her to a friend's apartment in Alexandria, where Weeks engaged in sexual acts with the victim. Weeks then asked the victim if she was interested in earning money by selling her body, and Weeks encouraged her to do so. The victim eventually contacted police and an undercover detective, posing as a teenage girl, started conversing with Weeks about Weeks' desire to prostitute the undercover detective.

Weeks informed a friend that he intended to prostitute some girls, and this man told Weeks that that would be "sex trafficking," that sex trafficking was unlawful and immoral, and that this conduct would likely result in Weeks being imprisoned. Weeks responded that he did not think that the police would catch him.

This case was investigated by the FBI's Washington Field Office, the Fairfax County Police Department, and the Alexandria Police Department. Assistant U.S. Attorney Michael J. Frank prosecuted the case on behalf of the United States.



Arlington-Alexandria Coalition for Homelessness Director Michael O'Rourke and one of the program's play rooms.

PHOTO BY
VERNON MILES/
GAZETTE PACKET

Moving Forward

Arlington-Alexandria Coalition for Homelessness transforms into "Bridges to Independence."

BY VERNON MILES
GAZETTE PACKET

At the end of 2014, the Arlington-Alexandria Coalition for the Homeless (AACH) will cease to exist. The organization, with its nearly 30 years of work transitioning homeless families into apartments and houses across Northern Virginia, will be going through a transition itself when it becomes "Bridges to Independence." According to leadership at the AACH, the change is a long time coming and better reflects the work the organization does.

"When we became the Arlington-Alexandria Coalition for the Homeless in 1985, it was a great name," said Michael O'Rourke, director of the AACH, "but it doesn't say what we do now and it provides some challenges to us."

While the AACH started out as a homeless shelter, O'Rourke says their aims over the years have moved more towards educating their clients and working with them towards being able to live on their own. As Bridges to Independence, the organization hopes to expand its programs with clients who are at risk of losing their home to keep them housed and reform their budget before they enter homelessness.

Like many of its clients, the AACH will be finding a new home in the spring. As part of its transition, the AACH is losing one of its sites that currently houses its offices, a children's play room, and a tech classroom. The classroom is complete with a smartboard and teleconferencing capabilities, part of a \$25,000 tech grant from NBC. The servers and much of the office equipment came from Hillary Clinton's campaign for Presidency six years ago, when her Arlington headquartered campaign sold off the equipment at a cheap price. O'Rourke says he's looking forward to Hillary Clinton running again, if only because it will mean they get upgraded equipment. These facilities will be replaced by a new headquarters that operates out of the first floor of new building going up on their headquarters at the corner of

North Highland Street and 10th Street North.

The organization operates on an annual budget of \$1.7 million. Eighty-five percent of its funding goes to program services and 15 percent goes into staff management. The majority of their budget comes from its contract with Arlington County to operate the shelter, a grant from Housing and Urban Development in Alexandria, and government contracts from the state.

"It's not just a donation, they come with things we're supposed to accomplish," said O'Rourke. "For the most part, [our funding is] either a contract or a grant."

O'Rourke treats each case as a professional project, calling residents in AACH programs clients. Currently the AACH offers two main programs for its clients.

"One is the shelter, transitional for families, expected to live independently," said O'Rourke. "The second program is much bigger but not as visible, we call it 'Adopt a Family.' It's a rent subsidy program funded by HUD and some by Arlington County."

The shelter just celebrated its largest "graduating class," with 26 families moving into independence this year. The second program helps roughly 20 families find their own apartments, sign their own leases and live with subsidized rent in their own apartment. While the AACH initially pays most of the bill, their support is gradually reduced as they help the resident manage their finances. Some people in this second program are graduates of the first.

"We work with them," said O'Rourke. "We subsidize their rental payment every month with a gradually declining basis and provide intense case management so that when we feel they're ready to move out on their own independently, they are ready."

Clients come to the AACH through Arlington and Alexandria Department of Human Services. Every week, there are a couple of shelters in the area, and they divide up those who have been listed as need

SEE COALITION. PAGE 25

Weichert®

Visit us at Weichert.com for a full Listing of Properties



Alexandria/Quaker Ridge **\$1,195,000**
89 Arell Ct. Elegant 4 bedroom, 3.5 bath brick colonial with attached 2-car garage and over 3,500 sq. ft. of finished living space. Ideal for entertaining as well as casual living with spacious rooms, designer finishes and a fabulous Great Room with Chef's kitchen. Professionally landscaped yard with patio backs to wooded area.
Christine Garner 703-587-4855



JUST SOLD

OLD TOWN

Old Town
\$775,000
823 South Fairfax. Sensational circa 1950 home on sought-after Fairfax Street. 3 Bedrooms, 2.5 Baths and 2 fireplaces.
Diann Hicks Carlson 703-628-2440



Alexandria/Potomac Greens
\$949,000
1847 Potomac Greens Dr. Fantastic 3 bedroom, 3.5+ bath town house with a 2-car garage. Over 3,400 sq. ft. of luxury living on 4 finished levels. Quality finishes throughout, including hardwood floors on main and lower levels, chef's kitchen, 2-sided gas fireplace, Master suite with luxury bath and 2 walk-in closets. Spacious top level family room with access to a rooftop deck! Convenient to shops, restaurants, park and playground.
Christine Garner 703-587-4855



JUST LISTED

Old Town Greens
\$549,000
719B Massey Ln #B. RARE TIDEWATER MODEL! Dramatic 2-story Vaulted Ceilings with Multiple Skylights, Wood Floors, Attached Sun Deck for grilling. OVER 1,500 SQ FT, 2 Master Bedrooms, each with beautiful private full Baths. Garage. Huge Pool and Lighted Tennis Courts. Close to Shops and Restaurants, 2 lights to Washington, D.C.! Less than 1 mile away from Braddock Road Metro.
Gary Chute 703-371-9926



Alexandria/Governors Hill **\$885,000**
5852 Governors Hill Dr. Dramatic & spacious (4,300+ SF) home minutes from Old Town, I-495 & Metro. 4 bedrooms, 3 full baths on top level; family rm w/gas fireplace, French doors & open to large kitchen w/granite; office; finished lower level w/full bath, space for 5th bedroom & huge storage room. Built in 2002 and shows like new!
Cindy 703-593-1418 & Leslie 703-400-3010



Alexandria **\$748,800**
3617 Orlando Pl. Entertaining delights abound w/interior & exterior spaces integrated in this spacious home nestled in the trees of Beverly Forest. Inviting kit. leads to large attached outdoor gazebo with glass roof & screened sides. Multiple decks, built-in gas grill, & wooded views. Inside, 5 BRs & 3 full BAs ensure plenty of room. Gleaming hardwood floors could only be enhanced by your elegant rugs & furnishings. Virtual tour: <http://tour.TruPlace.com/property/57/34550/>
Barbara Rosen 703-407-6481



GREAT LOCATION!

Alexandria **\$650,000**
6516 Princeton Dr. Fantastic value in wonderful Belle Haven Terrace! Spacious colonial with 3 fin. lvls. 4/5 BR's, 3.5 BA's & 2-car gar. Steps to Shops, Restaurants, Rec. Center, Grocery, School, Bike Path, River & G.W. Pkwy! Charming Front porch, Great Fir. Plan & Lrg. Rooms. Lower Lvl. w/Rec. Rm., Den & Full BA. Peaceful lot backs to trees. Mins. to OLD TOWN, Metro, I-495, D.C., Ft. Belvoir & The Pentagon!
Lisa McCaskill 703-615-6036



Alexandria/Sherwood Forest **\$539,000**
7818 Friars Ct. Spacious 4 bedroom, 2.5 bath home with attached garage on quiet cul-de-sac. Great home for entertaining with plenty of space for all! Large walk-out lower level with family room & wet bar. Large fenced yard with patio, deck, garden and CUSTOM STUDIO with wood-burning fireplace!
Christine Garner 703-587-4855



OPEN SUNDAY 1-4

Alexandria/Island Creek
\$469,000
6537 Parish Glebe. 3 Bedrooms, 2.5 baths, bright & light with completely renovated kitchen: granite, stainless, cabinets to the ceiling! Gorgeous new hardwoods on the main & upper levels. Move-in ready! Great community amenities and access to Belvoir, Kingstowne, Metro & I-95.
Nadine Wren 703-403-4410



Alexandria **\$469,000**
8605 Cherry Valley Ln. Wonderful home & community. Large 4 BR, 2 1/2 BA well-maintained colonial with hardwood floors, spacious finished basement, 2-car garage. Near Potomac River and scenic G.W. Parkway with bike, jogging, walking trail.
Mike Downie 703-780-2727



Alexandria
\$344,900
6534 Brick Hearth Ct. Must see amazing town home in great community of South Kings Station. 2 Bed, 2 1/2 Bath, 3 Level Town home, updated Eat-in Kit w/granite, oak cabinets, wood-burring FP, fenced back patio, 2 Master Suites w/lots of closet space & attached baths. Lower level, partially finished. W/D lower level, and tons of storage. New paint & carpet throughout!
Maren Seubert 703-835-2580



Alexandria/Montebello **\$310,000**
5902 Mt Eagle Dr #715. Spacious (1,305 SF + enclosed balcony) condo in No Va's best-kept secret: the resort-like, gated Montebello community. Just 2 lights from Old Town! Upgrades thru-out w/contemporary styling; tiled enclosed balcony w/sunset, treed views; renovated kitchen w/granite & backsplash; new lighting & paint; wood floors; HVAC replaced 2014.
Cindy 703-593-1418 & Leslie 703-400-3010

Interested in a Career in Real Estate? Pre-licensing courses are available starting soon. Call 800-544-3000 to enroll.

Alexandria/Old Town Office
 703-549-8700 • 121 N. Pitt Street

Weichert Realtors®



Study Abroad Beyer shares lessons learned from ambassadorship.

BY JEANNE THEISMANN
GAZETTE PACKET

After serving as Virginia's Lieutenant Governor for eight years, Don Beyer lost his bid for governor in 1997. But what turned out to be "Plan B" for the Alexandria resident was even better than the governorship.

"Being ambassador turned out to be better than being governor," joked Beyer as he spoke to the Alexandria Rotary Club Dec. 9 at Belle Haven Country Club. "There was no General Assembly to deal with."

Beyer, who will take the oath of office Jan. 3, 2015 to replace U.S. Rep. Jim Moran (D-8), shared stories from his time as the U.S. Ambassador to Switzerland and Liechtenstein from 2009 to 2013.

"The bulk of my work was on bank secrecy," said Beyer, who spoke briefly of the Swiss government's controversial decision in 2010 not to extradite U.S. fugitive Roman Polanski. "That was a disappointment for me."

Beyer contrasted the U.S. and Switzerland in areas such as federal budgets (Switzerland has a surplus), education (no dropout rate and no college debt) and military service (mandatory).

"Pharmaceuticals are the number one export in Switzerland," Beyer said. "There is no poverty and minimum wage is about \$53,000 per year. It's amazing this little country with 8.1 million people is such an economic powerhouse."

Joined by his wife Megan, a former journalist and



PHOTO BY JEANNE THEISMANN/GAZETTE PACKET

U.S. Rep.-elect Don Beyer addresses members of the Alexandria Rotary Club Dec. 9 at Belle Haven Country Club as his wife Megan looks on.

lifelong Alexandrian, Beyer did note the one area he felt that Switzerland lags behind.

"The Swiss are worse at integrating women and minorities into their culture," he said. "Rotary clubs in Switzerland still don't allow women as members."

After returning to Alexandria in 2013, Beyer made the decision to re-enter public service, easily winning election to Congress in November.

"Megan and I had a wonderful four years in Switzerland," Beyer said. "Being ambassador was a wonderful job but it's good to be home and I am excited for the opportunity to again serve the people of Virginia."

Holiday Shopping Made Easy...

You can be certain it's a gift they will love!

GIFT CERTIFICATE

No. _____ Date _____

King's Jewelry

609 King Street
Alexandria, VA 22314
703-549-0011
www.kingsjewelry.net

Mon.-Sat. 10AM-6PM * Closed Sundays

Special Holiday Hours

10am-8pm Mon-Fri 10am-6pm Sat

OPEN one Special Sunday

December 21st 12pm-5pm

609 King Street
Old Town Alexandria

703-549-0011
KingsJewelry.NET

Tasteful Gifts

The Spice & Tea Exchange® of Alexandria

320 King Street • Alexandria, VA 22314

facebook.com/SpiceAndTeaAlexandria • spiceandtea.com

TCHOUPITOULAS

Fine Furnishings and Interior Design

Tradition with a Twist

✦

Make your list, check it twice. A design package available...naughty or nice!

210 N. Lee Street, Alexandria ~ 703-299-0145

www.TchoupitoulasFurnishings.com

Mon-Fri: 10-6 • Sat: 10-5 • Sun: 12-5

Active Duty and Retired US Military Always receive an additional 10% off every sale

PEOPLE

Almost Heavenly Trees

Working in a seasonal family business.

BY SHIRLEY RUHE
GAZETTE PACKET

“Here, let me give you a fresh cut; what kind of Christmas tree stand do you have?” Matthew Gallery pulls out a 24-inch bow saw and begins cutting back and forth through the trunk of the Fraser fir before loading it on top of the SUV parked in the lot.

Gallery has been working in his family’s seasonal business for almost 25 years since he was 8 years old. “Back then,” he said, “I did odd jobs like sweeping needles or carrying branches to a pile, things a kid could do. I guess I always thought I would still be doing this as my second job at 31. I like to work outside and I always wanted to try to keep this family business going.”

His sister, Emily, is making wreaths on a small stand, having just returned two days earlier from teaching English in Azerbaijan. She is dressed in layers, “so I don’t remember how cold it is.” Her twin sister lives in West Virginia but comes back to help for a while every year as does their middle brother. “Wherever you may be, you come for a week or so to help.”

A family steps over the curb and points at a large tree lying on the ground. “Is that one taken?” Unfortunately it had been sold, but Gallery says, “let’s walk around and I’ll help you find another one just like this one. About six or seven feet tall — how tall are you,” he asks the customer. “This one should be about right.” Gallery pulls it out and the three customers stand back and move branches back and forth several times to be sure it is perfect.

The season begins on Black Friday with the delivery of about 1,300 trees the first day and ends 2-3 days before Christmas when the trees run out. Most of the trees come from his father’s family farm in West Virginia. The sales are pretty steady throughout the season although weekdays are a lot slower. Another couple walks by looking for a smaller tree.

“I’ll take this one,” she says to her husband. “No, I don’t want to look around. I like this one. Oh, I’m so cold.”



Matthew Gallery helps a family search for a tall tree, about the same height as the son, at Almost Heavenly Trees and Greenery in Alexandria.



PHOTOS BY SHIRLEY RUHE/GAZETTE PACKET

Matthew Gallery makes a fresh cut in a Christmas tree at Almost Heavenly Trees and Greenery on Seminary Road in Alexandria.

It gets a fresh cut and is quickly hauled away. Since the business has been in this location in the parking lot at 5031 Seminary Road for 19 years, Gallery has noticed some trends away from pines and toward more Douglas firs and then Fraser firs. “They are easier to handle,” and he pulls apart the branches “with a lot of space for ornaments. Also the look of the blue-green coloring.” In addition, he thinks out loud “we’ve seen people go to larger trees. It reflects the local population change where there were a lot of immigrants, but now there are more condos.

He says sometimes people buy several trees. “I had a family come in last weekend with three cars and they each got a similar tree.”

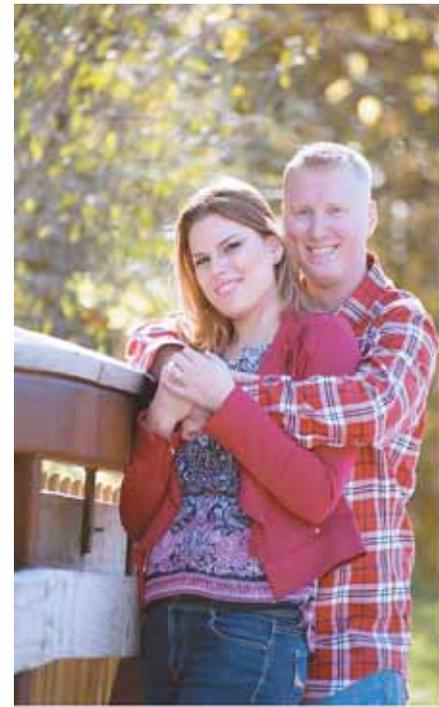
Gallery said the Christmas tree stand opens at 9 a.m. on the weekends but is scheduled to open later during the week. “But usually there are people waiting here at 8:30 a.m. so we just start selling.”

Last weekend they sold 650 trees. Almost Heavenly Trees and Greenery closes at 9 p.m. on the weekends but, “Someone almost always sleeps here for security purposes,” he says pointing to the large white RV with a long string of red and gold bulbs draped across the hood.

When he isn’t helping customers with trees or unwrapping new trees, restocking or cleaning up, Gallery spends his day coordinating workers and deliveries, answering the phone, and working with their suppliers who come from varying distances and have different ways of operating. He says a number of the workers are youths whose families have bought trees through the years and when they get old enough they get hired to help for the seasonal work on the weekends.

In July, Gallery graduated from business school in England after attending the Naval Academy and spending eight years as a Naval officer. But he couldn’t find the right job in Europe so is back here. The business degree has come in handy as he helps manage the Christmas tree lot. Currently he is working with one of his former classmates to find a small size business to buy. It is late afternoon and he is ready to turn on the lights.

Tertell, Harrell Engaged



Mr. and Mrs. Paul and Madeleine Tertell of McLean are happy to announce the engagement of their daughter, Trish Tertell, to Tom Harrell, son of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas and Robin Harrell of Alexandria. A May wedding is planned.

Trish studied environmental sciences at the University of Virginia and is a systems integration consultant for Deloitte Consulting. Tom studied psychology and aquatic entomology at Virginia Tech and is an organized retail crimes specialist.



PHOTO BY LOUISE KRAFFT/GAZETTE PACKET

Santa Lucho presents a bag of gifts to Brandon at the annual Chart House Holiday Brunch.

Spreading Holiday Cheer

Each year for the past 19 years, the Chart House has hosted a foster family holiday brunch for children in the Alexandria Department of Community and Human Services foster care and their resource families. The Chart House sponsors the annual event and donates the meals.

Chart House staff and servers volunteer their time to manage the buffet stations. The holiday brunch was on Saturday, Dec. 13, and Santa Lucho arrived at 10 a.m. laden with gifts that he presented to all of the children attending.

NEWS

Former commander of U.S. forces in Afghanistan Gen. Stanley McChrystal, right, joins veterans Mona Espinosa, Emily McMahan, Edwin Jiman, former Virginia governor Jim Gilmore, Brian Hawthorne and Sandra Perez Hawthorne Dec. 10 at King Street Blues for a fundraiser for the Yellow Ribbon Fund.



PHOTO BY JEANNE THEISMANN/GAZETTE PACKET

Leading the Charge

McChrystal, King Street Blues raise funds for injured veterans.

Retired four-star general Stanley McChrystal, former Commander of U.S. Forces in Afghanistan, hosted a fundraiser Dec. 10 for the Yellow Ribbon Fund, a nonprofit dedicated to assisting service members and their families returning for rehabilitation at Bethesda Naval Medical Center and DeWitt Community Hospital at Fort Belvoir.

Held at King Street Blues in Old Town, the event raised thousands of dollars for the fund through a

percentage of the evening's sales and tips donated by guest bartenders.

"What a great night," said King Street Blues organizer Rick Fowler. "We had a terrific turnout in the effort to support our service men and women."

McChrystal, founder of the Alexandria-based McChrystal Group, serves on the board of directors of the Yellow Ribbon Fund along with his wife Annie.

"Thank you to Gen. McChrystal and his wife Annie for all their support for our returning service members," said Yellow Ribbon Fund executive director Mark Robbins. "And thank you to Lisa Capobianco and King Street Blues for donating a portion of tonight's sales to the fund. The monies raised tonight will help us expand our work helping the injured and their families."

— JEANNE THEISMANN

Bring this ad to your appointment & receive a 90-minute Traditional Thai (reg \$120) or Malee Signature Deluxe (reg \$130) for \$90!

3 locations to serve you:

Falls Church, Fairfax and our newest location in Old Town Alexandria.

Call 703-237-0105 to make your appointment now!

Thai Massage...Like No Other



www.malee-thaimassage.com

Christmas Eve at Aldersgate

Five Worship Services on December 24, 2014

3 & 5 p.m. Child-Friendly Services with Communion

Live nativity animals (including a camel!) outside before & after services at 3, 5, and 7 p.m.

**7, 9 & 11 p.m. Candlelight Services with Communion
Celtic Music by Skylark**

— Nursery available at 3, 5, and 7 p.m. —

Aldersgate United Methodist Church

1301 Collingwood Rd, 22308 | 703-765-6555 | www.aldersgate.net

THE EASY AS 1-2-3 SALES EVENT

EXTENDED UNTIL 12/31!



Van Metre Homes offers **EXCLUSIVE** programs that make it **EASY** to get you into a new home today! No matter what your situation, we will work with you to see how we can make your new home **DREAM** come true. Visit any of our communities and buy before December 31st to take advantage of all the tax savings that **HOME OWNERSHIP** can provide!

- Single Family Homes from the Upper \$500's
- Villas from the Low \$400's
- Townhomes from the Low \$300's
- Condominiums from the Low \$300's
- Last Chance! 50+ Active Adult Living from the Mid \$300's

Communities Open 11-6 Daily.

For community information and directions, visit us online today!



www.VanMetreHomes.com/Easy



*Offer valid on contracts written between November 3 and December 31, 2014. No adjustments on previous contracts. Some restrictions apply. All lender allowable closing costs paid. 100% financing available for qualified buyers. This offer is not redeemable for cash or cash equivalent. Cannot be combined with other offers or discounts. Offer and prices subject to change at any time without notice. See Sales Manager for details. 12/2014.

HAPPY HOLIDAYS

WISHING YOU AND YOUR FAMILY A HAPPY AND HEALTHY 2015!

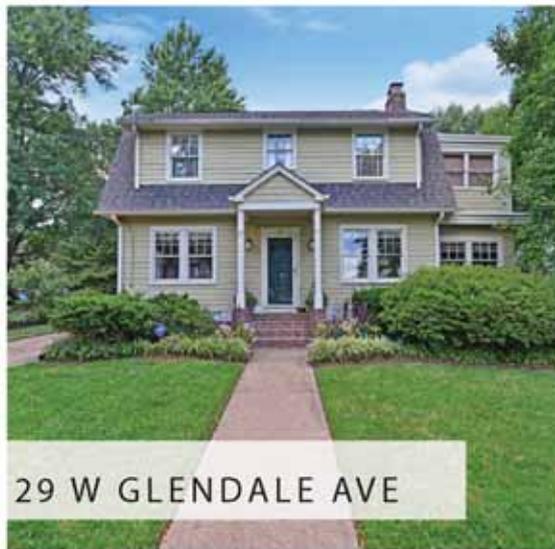


7608 SOUTHDOWN RD

2014 SIGNIFICANT SALES



9326 OLD MANSION RD



29 W GLENDALE AVE



3181 WOODLAND LN



7629 ESSEX MANOR PL



804 PENDLETON ST



1014 POTOMAC LN

THE PATTERSON GROUP

Phyllis Patterson | Brittany Patterson
Tracy Dunn | Joanne Sawczuk | Maria Bowman
ppatterson@ttrsir.com | PhyllisPatterson.com

TTR | Sotheby's International Realty
400 South Washington Street | Alexandria, VA 22314 | 703 310 6201



TTR | Sotheby's
INTERNATIONAL REALTY



OLD TOWN 414 Franklin Street | \$3,495,000
 George Washington dined here! Built in 1790 and first used as a tavern, our first President was honored at a dinner here in 1798. Today it is steeped in history, totally updated, offering spacious rooms, heart pine floors, lovely moldings, four bedrooms four and one half baths, and a large brick patio overlooking a beautifully landscaped lot and a swimming pool.
JEANNE WARNER +1 703 980 9106



ALEXANDRIA 1001 Janneys Lane | \$2,995,000
 Rare city estate. Sited on 1.25 acres, this updated and expanded Pre-Civil War residence and guest house offer the ultimate in privacy and luxury. Highlights include 6 bedrooms, 6 full bath-rooms, 2 half bathrooms heated pool, and 3-car garage.
KERRY ADAMS +1 703 587 7841
DAYNA BLUMEL +1 703 597 2252



OLD TOWN 700 South Pitt Street | \$2,935,000
 Modern magnificence with historic significance. One-of-a-kind freestanding townhouse on a corner lot features: open floor plan, custom kitchen, modern amenities, walled garden with outdoor living room, 4 bedrooms, 3.5 baths and 5 fireplaces throughout. 7-9 reserved off-street parking spaces.
CINDY GOLUBIN +1 202 437 3861
COURTNEY GOLUBIN +1 703 989 1873



ALEXANDRIA 210 North View Terrace | \$2,375,000
 The jewel of Rosemont, circa 1917, luxuriously expanded and renovated. This stunning home, with 10 foot ceilings, is comprised of 6 bedrooms and 7 full baths, inviting family spaces and sophisticated formal rooms with beautiful detail and craftsmanship. Walk to King St. metro and enjoy suburban living in the city.
VICTORIA KILCULLEN +1 703 915 8845



FORT HUNT 1508 Dade Lane | \$1,195,000
 Exquisite custom home boasts over 5,000 sq ft on private cul-de-sac. High-end craftsmanship and luxury amenities including grand 2-story foyer, back-lit, tray ceilings, built-in cabinetry, custom moldings, hardwood floors, 3 gas fireplaces, chef's kitchen, elegant, open dining and living spaces, private master retreat with sitting room, gorgeous yard with expansive deck and flagstone patio.
ANDREA COURDUVELIS +1 703 307 3170
DONNA DORSEY +1 540 538 4118



ALEXANDRIA 4205 Kimbrelee Court | \$1,149,000
 Estate-like living with breathtaking views in this special Oxford property. The grand, covered rear veranda spans the entire home and offers unparalleled vistas of professionally landscaped gardens and, in the distance, the Potomac River. 3 finished levels, all with lovely views, 5 bedrooms, 4.5 baths.
HEATHER COREY +1 703 989 1183

OPINION

Holidays Are for Giving

In the scramble to finish Christmas shopping, remember tens of thousands of local children are short of food as well as presents.

The holidays are for giving. Christmas and Hanukkah are about children and family, about sharing, about joy, about being thankful and about faith and appreciation.

Here in Northern Virginia, many of us see few signs of families in need as we go about our daily lives and holiday shopping. Our neighborhoods are largely segregated economically; we mostly see the people who are most like ourselves economically.

But in Fairfax County, about 65,000 people live below the poverty line, about 6 percent. In Arlington and Alexandria, more than 8 percent of the population lives in poverty, about 18,000 people in Arlington and more than 12,000 people in Alexandria.

To be clear, the poverty line is \$19,780 for a family of three; it's \$11,670 for a single person household. Imagine for a minute how far \$20,000 a year would go in your family. To live in Northern Virginia, a family needs to earn about twice the rate of poverty to get by. The median household income in Fairfax County and Arlington is well over \$100,000.

In Fairfax County Public Schools, more than 52,000 students, or more than 28 percent, are poor enough to receive free or subsidized meals, a significant measure of poverty.

In Arlington more than 32 percent of the students are poor enough to receive free or subsidized meals; that's 7,452 students at last count.

In Alexandria, more than 8,500 students are poor enough to receive free or subsidized meals. That's 60 percent of the 14,222 students

enrolled.

These are children who may not be sure that they will have a meal between the meals they get in school. School holidays can bring uncertainty and hunger, a far cry from the celebrations, gifts and plenty that we associate with Christmas, Hanukkah and winter holiday vacations.

Many of these are children are living in families who must choose between medical bills, car repair, heat and food. Almost all are families where at least one adult is employed full time, but still many are one unexpected expense away from disaster. Many of these families live on the brink of homelessness.

There are literally hundreds, probably thousands, of ways to give locally this season. Also mark your calendar to help again in a month or two. The needs don't go away after the holidays. Here are a few ideas.

— MARY KIMM

MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

Alexandria: Where to Give Locally

- ♦ ALIVE! 703-837-9300 www.alive-inc.org, Emergency food assistance, emergency financial assistance, shelter, year-round preschool, furniture and housewares.
- ♦ St. Mary's Church St. Vincent de Paul Society, 309 South Royal Street, Alexandria, VA 22314, can be reached by the needy, those who would like to donate support, or anyone with a question, at the hotline number: 703-836-1724. Email svdpstmaryalexva@aol.com
- ♦ Tahirih Justice Center, 703-575-0070, www.tahirih.org, Legal services, public policy advocacy, and education for immigrant women and girls.
- ♦ Literacy Council of Northern Virginia, 703-237-0866, www.lcnv.org, Teaches adults the basic skills of reading, writing, speaking and understanding English. Offers one-to-one tutoring programs for adult learners as well as beginning-level ESOL and Family Learning adult programs.
- ♦ Senior Services of Alexandria, 703-836-4414, www.seniorservicesalex.org, Support services for elders enabling them to age with dignity.
- ♦ Animal Welfare League of Alexandria, 703-746-4774, www.alexandrianimals.org, Pet adoptions, spay and neuter assistance, education and community service and outreach.
- ♦ Stop Child Abuse Now (SCAN) of Northern Virginia, 703-820-9001, www.scanva.org, Parent education, public education-re: child abuse and court advocacy for abused and neglected children.
- ♦ Rebuilding Together Alexandria, 703-836-1021, www.RebuildingTogetherAlex.org, Home repair and maintenance for vulnerable veterans, elderly, disabled and families with children.
- ♦ ACT for Alexandria, 703-739-7778, www.actforalexandria.org, Nonprofit and donor services.
- ♦ Alexandria Community Services Board, www.alexandriava.gov/mhmrsa, Crisis intervention services, elderly needs, mental health, substance abuse, mental retardation and developmental disabilities.
- ♦ Arlington-Alexandria Coalition for the Homeless, Email jmazarr@aachhomeless.org now to help with holiday giving. New name in 2015, Bridges to Independence. 703-525-7177, www.aachhomeless.org
- ♦ Carpenter's Shelter, 703 548-7500, www.carpentersshelter.org, Homeless services and programs including education and case management.
- ♦ The Campagna Center, 703-549-0111, www.campagnacenter.org
- ♦ Center for Alexandria's Children, 703-838-4381, www.centerforalexandriaschildren.org, Child abuse & neglect and parent support.
- ♦ Child and Family Network Centers, 703-836-0214, www.cfnc-online.org
- ♦ Community Lodgings, Inc., 703-549-4407 Transitional and affordable housing, youth education, adult education, bilingual staff assistance.
- ♦ Computer C.O.R.E. 703-931-7346, www.computercore.org, Adult education, computer training and career development.
- ♦ Hopkins House, 703-549-8072, www.hopkinshouse.org, Preschool academy, family budgeting and literacy, family education and youth summer enrichment camp, Early Childhood Learning Institute.
- ♦ Northern Virginia Family Services, 703-385-3267, www.nvfs.org, Employment and job training, healthcare, housing, mental health, foster care and Healthy Families.
- ♦ Volunteer Alexandria, 703-836-2176, <http://volunteerallexandria.org>, Volunteer recruitment and placement, court-referred community service placement, community awareness events, and volunteer management training. See www.achsova.org.
- ♦ Habitat for Humanity of Northern Virginia, <http://habitatnova.org/> 703-521-9890 ReStore, 869 S. Pickett St., Alexandria
- ♦ Bethany House provides emergency shelter and supportive services to victims of domestic violence throughout Northern Virginia. www.bhmv.org, 6121 Lincolnia Road, Suite 303 Alexandria, VA 22312 703-658-9500 See <http://www.bhmv.org/getinvolved1/> for a list of needed items.
- ♦ St. Vincent de Paul Society of St. Mary's Church on Royal Street offers person-to-person service to those who are needy and suffering. Volunteers assist in serving the homebound elderly, the poor, the hungry, and the homeless who need financial assistance, those who cannot afford emergency medical or dental care, or those who are simply in need of the comfort of prayer and God's word. Its hotline number is 703-836-1724.



STEVE ARTLEY/GAZETTE PACKET

Alexandria Gazette Packet

www.AlexandriaGazette.com

@AlexGazette

An independent, locally owned weekly newspaper delivered to homes and businesses.

Published by
Local Media Connection LLC

1606 King Street
Alexandria, Virginia 22314

Free digital edition delivered to your email box. Go to connectionnewspapers.com/subscribe

NEWS DEPARTMENT:
gazette@connectionnewspapers.com

Steven Mauren
Editor, 703-778-9415
smauren@connectionnewspapers.com

Vernon Miles
Reporter, 703-615-0960
vmiles@connectionnewspapers.com

Jeanne Theismann
703-778-9436
jtheismann@connectionnewspapers.com
@TheismannMedia

Jon Roetman
Sports Editor, 703-752-4013
jroetman@connectionnewspapers.com
@jonroetman

Steve Artley
Cartoonist
artley@connectionnewspapers.com

ADVERTISING:
For advertising information
sales@connectionnewspapers.com
703-778-9431

Debbie Funk
Display Advertising/National Sales
703-778-9444
debfunk@connectionnewspapers.com

Julie Ferrill
Display Advertising, 703-778-9446
jferrill@connectionnewspapers.com

Tara Lloyd
Display Advertising, 703-778-9447
tlloyd@connectionnewspapers.com

Andrea Smith
Classified Advertising, 703-778-9411
asmith@connectionnewspapers.com

David Griffin
Marketing Assistant
703-778-9431
dgriffin@connectionnewspapers.com

Publisher
Jerry Vernon
jvernon@connectionnewspapers.com

Editor & Publisher
Mary Kimm
mkimm@connectionnewspapers.com
@MaryKimm

Editor in Chief
Steven Mauren
Photography:
John Bordner, Deb Cobb,
Louise Kraft, Craig Sterbutzel
Art/Design:
Laurence Foong, John Heiny
Production Manager:
Geovani Flores

Editor Emeritus:
Mary Anne Weber

CIRCULATION: 703-778-9426
Circulation Manager:
Ann Oliver
circulation@connectionnewspapers.com

A Connection Newspaper

The Alexandria Gazette Packet is distributed weekly to selected homes in the City of Alexandria. Any owners or occupants of premises that do not wish to receive the paper can notify the publisher by telephone at 703-778-9426 or by email to circulation@connectionnewspapers.com, and the distributor will be notified to discontinue service.



LETTERS

In the Middle About Guns

To the Editor:

“Guns save lives.”

It's an attention grabber. What first got my attention though, were all the guns.

“Guns save lives” — that's what I saw written on a round sticker with a hunter's orange background on a group at the market in Old Town this morning, many of them very prominently donning guns and rifles. They were gathered in the area by the stage where toddlers generally run and dance or some folks put on a performance. They were huddled with the American flag and I didn't know initially if they were trying to make a point or preparing to do something tragic.

And when I drove past the market a while later after completing some errands, they were still roaming about, with their guns very visible. It put a grey damper on what is usually a cheerful place.

I don't like what I saw this morning. Maybe that isn't fair, but I also felt that my desire to feel safe was being compromised. Statements and protests are one thing. Introducing dangerous objects into the experience changes the dynamic considerably.

Somewhere between the belief that guns save lives and the other extreme is where the real conversation is. That's where it gets hard — diving down into the details and connections and the laws that are right for our times and circumstances. There is a place for guns in the U.S. and there are people who should not have them. There are guns that are reasonable for people to want to own and there are weapons that exist for no other reason than to annihilate members of the human race. And there are environments where they just do not have a place at all.

Often when something bad happens and a gun is involved, there are other contributing factors as well. In one of the too many massacres we seem to have had in this country this century, I lost someone. Of all the things that fell through the cracks leading up to the catastrophe, one very important factor was that the killer never should have those guns in his hands. A different weapon could have done damage, but not in such a short amount of time where perhaps police could have better responded and not to the horrific degree that resulted.

Guns don't save lives.

I respect the spirit of what I suspect this group was trying to do, as much as I disagree with their stance. I don't appreciate the way they were doing it.

I do hope these people come back to the market. It's a good place. It has a culture of community and trust and goodwill. I just hope when they return they leave their guns in a safe place elsewhere.

Laurie Lieberman
Alexandria

Who Are City's Constituents?

To the Editor:

Webster defines a constituent as a per-

son who authorizes another to act in his or her behalf. It is the City Council who is the elected body that represents the needs and wants of their constituents. Who are the constituents of the City Council? Who have they been representing?

The parents of school children and teachers are most assuredly constituents of the city. Well, no, the city cannot be the constituents of this group. Alexandria schools are in disarray — no instruments — no suitable classrooms with windows, insufficient classrooms to take test — tests taken in hallways, unproductive and unsafe playgrounds like Maury and Mt. Vernon, there is overcrowding in schools like John Adam, over enrollment at T.C. Williams and the school is but 7 years old and the 2nd worst SAT scores in the area only D.C is worse. So clearly the schools and teachers are not constituents of the City Council even though they are our most important group. There are just too many areas unfulfilled.

What about the retirees? I am sure this is where the city excels. Well, no, not really. These individuals with fixed incomes are abandoning the city in droves. Debt as a percentage of per capita income is up 60 percent in 10 years. The amount owed per individual is up 125 percent, the city debt has increased 150 percent and the cost to finance the debt is up 150 percent. It is just too expensive to live here; the taxes are too onerous. So the city is no friend of the retirees.

What about the neighborhoods? I am sure that there are many constituents from the neighborhoods. Well, no, there is no constituency in the neighborhoods either. Rather there is dissension and lack of representation.

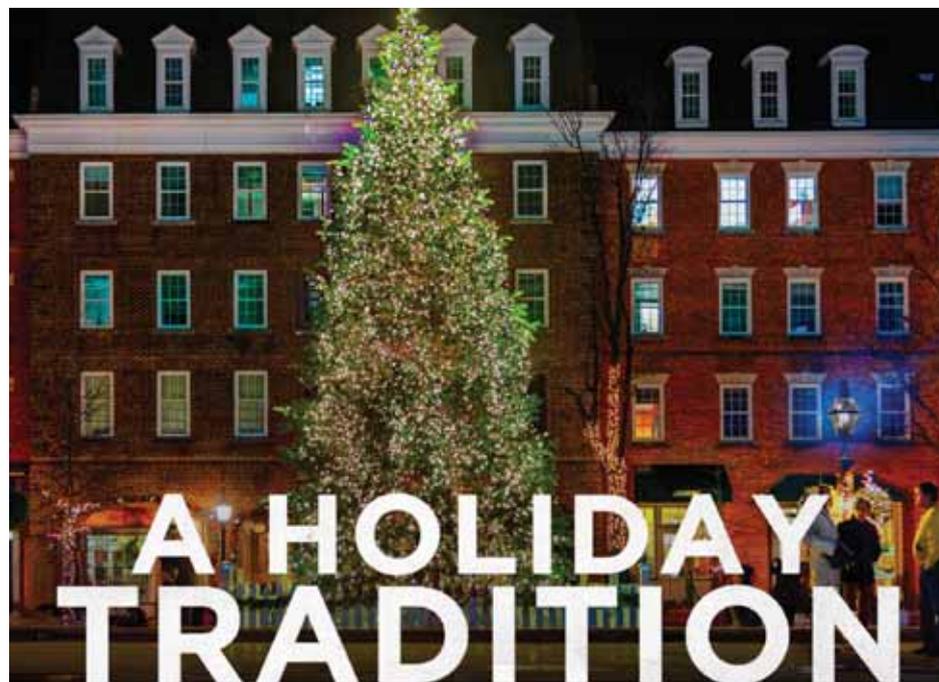
We bought the Boat Club site for \$5 million which was not wanted.

The waterfront was not wanted by the neighborhood but we got it anyway because the city thought it was best for the area. Now in litigation the city spends hundreds of thousands of dollars for something the city wants but the neighborhood does not.

What about the Woods neighborhood? Should promises be made to be broken? The city stole their land and homes or the Chapel Hill neighborhood who agreed to locate the school in its current location under a DSUP-85 agreement that there would be no lights — until the mayor decided that times have changed — things are different now so “promises are made to be broken.”

The city's greatest and largest constituency is the developers. Yes, look at the record: We build at the waterfront, at Robinson Terminal, the BRACC, \$145 million for TC high school (but budgeted at \$89 million), \$80 million for police station (while our police force is the lowest paid of any area), Jefferson Houston Elementary School at \$43 million with no accreditation and half-full. It is the developers the city represents — no one else. The city has failed to represent the citizens of Alexandria. The city is pro business and pro development. Breaking promises and eminent domain are the modus operandi. I support a city-wide audit of finances and I wish to challenge the electorate of Alexandria in this election to vote for change to usher in an era of clar-

SEE LETTERS, PAGE 13



UPCOMING EVENTS

- ▶ **“A BROADWAY CHRISTMAS CAROL”
AT METROSTAGE
NOVEMBER 26 - DECEMBER 28**
- ▶ **THE LITTLE THEATRE OF ALEXANDRIA'S
“A CHRISTMAS CAROL”
DECEMBER 5 - 20**
- ▶ **DEL RAY ARTISANS
19TH ANNUAL HOLIDAY MARKET
DECEMBER 5 - 21**
- ▶ **ALEXANDRIA'S HOLIDAY MARKET
AT CARLYLE
DECEMBER 5 - 24**
- ▶ **CHRISTMAS ILLUMINATIONS
AT MOUNT VERNON
DECEMBER 20**
- ▶ **WATERSKIING SANTA
COMES TO OLD TOWN ALEXANDRIA
DECEMBER 24**
- ▶ **20TH ANNIVERSARY OF
FIRST NIGHT ALEXANDRIA
DECEMBER 31**

EXTRAORDINARY

Alexandria

VisitAlexandriaVA.com/Holidays



Sober Living Unit Celebrates 26th Anniversary

FROM PAGE 1

returned as guest speakers and shared their experiences both in the facility and after graduating. Walston Barbour graduated from the program in 1992 after years of addiction. While on probation, he'd gotten high with a woman he was living with and immediately regretted it. He failed his drug test the next day and appeared back in court where he was sent back into jail.

"I was 41, I had used for as long as some of them had been in the world," said Barbour. "I had children their age. It started to dawn on me that I needed to do something with my life or I was going to die. I had been caught up in the disease of addiction for 25 years by then. I wanted to stop but couldn't stop."

Even in the Sober Living Unit, Barbour said he was in denial of his addiction, until one day he struck up a conversation with a man he met in the program who told him: "You're no father, you're a dooper."

"I know what pain is, but that was an emotional shock," said Barbour. "He had just replaced a thing that needed to be touched. I was a scared little boy, I wasn't right with myself. It was always a spiritual warfare. I was a kid with real low self-esteem that grew up into an ego-maniac. I was a walking contradiction, a ball of confusion."

After that, Barbour says he opened up to healing. A major part of the program is giving the addicts a chance to tell their story, which Barbour said surprised him as one of the hardest parts of the program.

"I had never grieved my father's death," said Barbour. "I had anesthetized myself to everything. I couldn't be cool, and when I started breaking down, someone in the back said, 'Son, it's all right. Free yourself.'"

After 23 years of addiction, Barbour completed the program and left prison for the last time as an inmate. He started to speak again, but struggled with the words for a moment and wiped away a tear. The room was filled with calls from the inmates and guests of "it's all right" and "free yourself".

"I don't take any credit," said Barbour. "There's a part of me... that still wants to



Sheriff Dana Lawhorne speaks to inmates of the Alexandria Detention Center.

PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

use. The disease doesn't go anywhere, but I've bought myself enough time that there seems to be just enough soul to keep doing this."

Barbour went back to school when he was 50, got his master's degree, and is currently a licensed therapist, but says he's still haunted by his old addictions.

"I can't explain to you the miracles that have occurred to me in my life as a result of just not using," said Barbour, including reconnecting with a daughter he abandoned when she was young, "but I'm not going to be able to stay stopped if I keep going around Queen Street or if I keep going around 14th Street. So I implore you, give yourself a chance. If you're here, it isn't by coincidence. We don't get here because we're doing swell. Nothing's changed out there. There's two truths: what got you here is still out there, and there's a way out. The way out is to get with people, find a foundation, of folks trying to do what you want to do. Find something you're passionate about, something you could do with no pay."

After the ceremony, inmates and guests mingled and shared their experiences with addiction and life. Renee Jones, an inmate currently living in the unit, said that she needed to get clean for her children, her family, and for herself.

"I needed a better way of life," said Jones, "I found that at the sober living unit here. They're teaching us really great things; how to deal with our feelings and our emotions, how to put things into perspective."

Tiwana Brown has been clean since 1989, but the 53-year-old woman was incarcerated for selling drugs years after she stopped taking them.

"I was feeding my addiction because I was hanging around people who were still using," said Brown, whose preparing to leave the facility and return home in two weeks. "I got a thrill off of that, from what I used to do. I don't want to sell drugs any more. I will lose the rest of my life because I will not see the outside again. I was a PCP user and a cocaine user, I don't want to do that anymore. I'm tired, and I don't like living

in jail."

Brandon Wilson, who entered the unit on a court order and initially fought against treatment, was the master of ceremonies during the presentation and shook his head at those earlier memories.

"I hated it down here at first, but as I went through the program and progressed, I learned responsibility," said Wilson. "I accepted it. It's a hard unit to stay in. You don't get to do everything you want to do. You have to go to three groups a day; there are a lot of responsibilities. But the best part is my recovery, and it's worth it."

William Anderson came to the program willingly but said it was still a difficult transition from life even in other parts of the prison. "I came into the sober living because I wanted a change, so I came down and got in," said Anderson. "Hardest part is the structure, but in order to change I need that structure in my life. I didn't want it at first, I have this pride, but then I saw these young guys and I realized 'these young guys need my help.'"

Anderson said that listening to the speakers at the presentation gave him more perspective on his time at the unit and inspired him to apply his skills as an ironworker once he leaves the program.

"I realized that I want what they've got," said Anderson. "I want that living, I want that job. I've got the skills, I just need to prove to myself that I can stay away from drugs and alcohol."

For many of the inmates in the program, recovery inside the facility is just training for what they'll experience once they return to their homes and neighborhoods. One of the sketches performed by the men of the unit highlighted how easy it is to get drawn back into substance abuse by returning to the places where their addictions began. Barbour encouraged the inmates to find a life and to surround themselves with healthy friendships, but acknowledged that the process is difficult and never ends.

"[Recovery] helped me become a man, and I'm still struggling with that," said Barbour. "The road to recovery is always under construction."

Regarding the Future of the Alexandria Waterfront

Bert Ely, co-chair of Friends of the Alexandria Waterfront, delivered the following statement to the Alexandria City Council on Saturday, Dec. 13, during the public discussion or "open mike" portion of the council meeting:

Mr. Mayor and members of council, I am Bert Ely and I am here today to speak on behalf of Friends of the Alexandria Waterfront regarding the future of the Alexandria waterfront – architecturally and developmentally.

I hope all of you, as well as everyone else in this council chamber, saw the

WETA documentary, *Discovering Alexandria*, which was shown three times earlier this month. If you missed it, you can see it again on Tuesday, Dec. 30, at 8 p.m.

This 90-minute documentary traced Alexandria's history from before its founding through the 19th century. In doing so, it tapped numerous historical experts and city officials, including Mayor Euille as well as Al Cox and Pam Cressey, and residents commending the city's character and livability.

A second WETA production, slated for

next year, will pick up the story of Alexandria from the early part of the 20th century and up to the present. Quite likely, that documentary will focus on how Alexandria's nearly unique historical character has evolved and yet been lovingly preserved by the city and its citizens, with one tragic exception — the blight along and near King Street caused by the misguided urban renewal philosophy of the 1960s and 1970s.

But what will a future documentary say and show, 30 or 50 years from now, about the Alexandria waterfront as it evolves from today forward. Will it be an area of the city

that the Alexandrians of 2044 or 2064 — our children and grandchildren — will speak fondly and proudly of, or will the waterfront be a monument to misguided planning, yet another failure by the city to preserve and enhance its unique historic character while maintaining the wonderful livability of the Old and Historic District?

I fear the latter, if the present development plans for the Alexandria waterfront, and specifically on the two

SEE REGARDING, PAGE 14

LETTERS

FROM PAGE 11

ity responsible fiscal policy and a willingness for city officials to listen to their constituents and to forgo their own self interests starting with our most valuable assets: our children our schools and our neighborhoods.

William A. Goff
Alexandria

Traffic's Path of Least Resistance

To the Editor:

Although the new housing developments in Potomac Yard appear to be part of some "grand design," the \$64,000 question is this: "how many cars will exit from those developments onto Route 1?" The answers are two: "several thousand," and "all of them." Traffic on Route 1 has already become unbearable and unwieldy — in addition to automobile traffic, there is the new Bus Rapid Transit System (BRT) lane, with behemoth, modern, snazzy buses that regularly carry few to no riders. The BRT (or "Begging Riders to Travel" — have you seen the glossy ads targeted to executives?) occupies at least half the lanes on most of Alexandria's portion of Route 1. All we need now are a Bike Share station on the BRT Corridor, and a corresponding bike lane. That would complete the Route 1 Hodge Podge/Free for All. So what's the alternative route to circumvent this mess to get to Crystal City or Del Ray from Old Town? Currently, there appears to be only one rational route, and that is to use a Commonwealth Avenue Bypass (CAB). Although there might be other routes, the CAB circumvents the heavy traffic on

Route 1 just past Four Mile Run at the Alexandria-Arlington boundary. It might be a circuitous route, but the CAB gets you there without running into the BRT bottleneck, or sitting in traffic for an ungodly amount of time. What do the residents on Commonwealth Avenue think about having their essentially quiet street being invaded by several thousand additional cars each day? The CAB shouldn't come as a complete surprise to anyone, as this exact scenario has been discussed and predicted in many quarters over the years. Unfortunately, the unique charm and character of the neighborhoods will become egregiously affected, and will likely lead to more "development" due to the increased traffic. Traffic seems to attract development in Alexandria.

It is obvious that the city's intent is to fast and furiously develop as much as possible in order to maximize their tax base — so they are able to decrease their more than half billion dollar debt. However, although the City Council has been elected by [some of] the people, they should aim to be good stewards of all of the people's dollars. It is time to end this profligate spending and ill thought out transit solutions. Is this likely to happen? Not so much. Since the city has shifted the planned housing stock to appeal to wealthy, younger short timers (2-5 years) who do not generally engage in civic matters, only a small minority of residents will vote, thereby assuring the City Council of a continuation of the current spendthrift incumbents. Therefore, traffic will continue to seek the path of least resistance, which includes the CAB for starters.

Townsend A. "Van" Van Fleet
Alexandria

SEE LETTERS, PAGE 14

GOOD SHEPHERD CATHOLIC CHURCH
Christmas Mass Schedule

Christmas Eve
*4:00pm, 6:00pm
8:00pm, 10:00pm
Midnight (español)
* overflow parking & shuttle to Mt. Vernon HS

Christmas Day
9:00am
10:30am
2:00pm (español)

8710 Mt. Vernon Hwy Alexandria, VA 22309 www.gs-cc.org

SHILLELAGHS
THE TRAVEL CLUB

Celebrating our 50th Anniversary

SOUTH DAKOTA, July 14-20,.....\$2119
Includes air from Washington 6-Nights Hotel in Rapid City, So. Dakota, Daily Breakfast, 3 Dinners, Sightseeing Transfers, Portage, Taxes.

MOTORCOACH DAY TRIP TO ALLENBERRY PLAYHOUSE Sat., June 20 to see "Damn Yankees",..... \$99
Includes Motorcoach from Vienna or Rockville, Buffet Luncheon, Performance, Taxes & Gratuities.

CUBA, April 5-13,\$4949
Includes Air from Washington, 8-Nights Hotel, All meals but one, Transfers, Sightseeing, VISA Fee, Portage, Health Insurance.

SHILLELAGHS TRAVEL CLUB
100 East Street SE, Suite 202 • Vienna, Virginia 22180
703-242-2204 1-800-556-8646
Please visit our Web site at: www.shillelaghtravelclub.com
for a listing of all our upcoming trips and socials.

St. Paul's Church
warmly welcomes you to join us in celebrating the birth of Christ at one of our many Christmas service offerings:

Wednesday, December 24
Christmas Eve

12:00 p.m. Holy Eucharist
4:00 p.m. Holy Eucharist Family Service with Angel Choir and Jazz Ensemble
5:30 p.m. Choral Prelude
6:00 p.m. Holy Eucharist with St. Cecilia & Women's Choirs and Brass
10:30 p.m. Choral Prelude
11:00 p.m. Holy Eucharist with Adult Choir & Brass

Thursday, December 25
Christmas Day

10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist

Sunday, December 28
10:00 a.m. Christmas Lessons and Carols

St. Paul's Episcopal Church
228 South Pitt Street, Alexandria, Virginia 22314
The Rev. Oran E. Warder, Rector
703.549.3312
www.stpaulsalexandria.com

B&C Jewelers
Since 1953

Even a merry maid doesn't want this for Christmas



We have what every woman wants!

B&C Jewelers 3652 King Street, Alexandria, Virginia 22302 703-379-6010

B&C Jewelers Old Town 1010 King Street, Alexandria, Virginia 22314 703-272-5222

B&C Jewelry Boutique 2729 Wilson Boulevard, Arlington, Virginia 22201 571-970-5853

Featuring PANDORA
bcjewelers.net

LETTERS

FROM PAGE 13

Development Doesn't Lower Taxes

To the Editor:

Residents should be alarmed by the article in last week's Gazette graphically projecting for the next five years our city government's runaway spending. And the projections do not include the \$17 million T. C. Williams aquatic center, the \$250 million subway station, the \$3 million for football field and tennis court lights, the \$120 million waterfront, and who knows what else our City Council has up their sleeve.

This we do know: Our City Council delights in spending your money. Worse: They delight in spending money that does not exist but that they anticipate will materialize in the future.

How can this be, you ask? They borrowed money, a lot of money which has to be repaid in the years to come by you and your neighbors.

How much is this collective debt? The Gazette article revealed that it's now \$530 million, an increase of 500 percent in the last decade. A great majority of it is attributable to new public buildings.

Most council members come and go, but several have been present throughout this public building spree. Del Pepper is one, but

foremost is Mayor Bill Euille. By his own admission, and again drawing from the Gazette article, he proudly declared our debt "has grown a lot because we have done a lot." He said, "We built the police public safety facility, built two elementary schools and the high school. We've improved infrastructure ..."

What neither he or Ms. Pepper or, for that matter, any other Democrat on City Council appreciates is that pretty buildings provide no service; it's the people within them, the teachers and police, who are doing the educating and protecting; not bricks and mortar expensively arranged to be eye fetching. And guess who are underpaid compared to their colleagues in neighboring cities?

More alarming is the spending versus revenue trend. The city budget staff made clear in its five-year financial plan that Alexandria has a "structural deficit" that will get worse unless the city acquires more revenue (meaning more tax from thee and me), or City Council reduces its spending. If nothing is done, the projected deficit will be nearly \$50 million in 60 months, a hefty gap for a small city to close.

My guess is our City Council will seek more revenue; not spend less. For sure they will pump up our property taxes but, primarily, they will seek more revenue by broadening the tax base from cramming more structures to house more people and

their cars into the finite space called Alexandria.

But here's the flaw: creating a denser city does not result in lower taxes. Just the opposite. More people means the city must provide more costly services; not less. Plus, there's another cost: The concomitant, hard-

to-tabulate but easy to see and feel effect on our quality of life thanks to more human, vehicular and structural density. Surely it provokes you to at least wonder when enough is enough.

Jimm Roberts
Alexandria

COMMENTARY

Regarding the Future

FROM PAGE 12

Robinson Terminal properties as well as the site of the proposed Carr hotel, proceed as approved.

The city will reach a critical juncture in 2015, for that is when development plans for the terminal sites are likely to be finalized and presented to council for its approval. In particular, that is when council — the seven of you — will approve the design and street grid of these two developments that will be locked into steel, concrete, and glass, building materials that will be there decades from now, a monument to either farsightedness or political folly.

The same holds true for the atrocious design of the proposed Carr hotel — hopefully that project will still not be

built, which would give the city a second shot at getting a much more fitting development of that property. If, sadly, the hotel is built, we hope the construction impacts will not irreparably damage nearby homes as well as the streets that construction vehicles will travel over. That is why the city must insist, even at this late date, that demolition debris and excavated dirt from that site be removed by barge and not by heavily laden trucks rumbling over aging streets.

How do you want Alexandria, and specifically its waterfront, to be portrayed in a 2064 documentary, as a badly dated collection of glass buildings that detract from Alexandria's historic character, or as a further enhancement of Alexandria's wonderful character?

- Gift Cards
- Pies
- Holiday Cookies
- Stollen
- Pfefferneusse
- Lebkuchen
- Gingerbread Château
- Chocolate Truffles
- Gingerbread
- Holiday Catering



Alexandria
PASTRY SHOP

Complete Catering - Gourmet To Go

Bradlee Shopping Center, King St. 703-578-4144

www.alexandriapastry.com

Follow us on Facebook



"The Hermitage is where I've finally found my family."
—Helena Scott

Call 703-797-3814 to schedule a tour of our beautifully appointed apartments.

Enjoy the Carefree Lifestyle You Deserve

Discover why many people like you have come to call the Hermitage home—the chance to experience a new lifestyle with an array of services and amenities.

The residents at the Hermitage stay busy. Just ask Helena Scott, who was confined to wheelchair for 30 years because of Multiple Sclerosis and with regular physical therapy at the Hermitage, can now walk a mile a day when the weather permits. In her spare time, Helena knits scarves for fellow residents, volunteers in the beauty salon, sits on the Health Center Committee and delivers mail. Our residents also rave about our superb dining service, our courteous and helpful staff, and an overall feeling of caring and security that comes with living at the Hermitage.

You'll also gain peace of mind knowing that health care and supportive services are available right here, if you ever need them.

For more information, call 703-797-3814.

HERMITAGE
Senior Living in the Heart of Northern Virginia
Celebrating 50 Years of Service to Area Seniors

Alexandria, VA
www.Hermitage-Nova.com





Carol Campo and Jennifer

PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Co-Creating a Space of Her Own

BY HALEY BADER
AMERICORPS VISTA
MENTOR COORDINATOR

Carol Campo, who has been working at the Court Services Unit for just over a year as an administrative assistant, was recently paired with her mentee, Jennifer, at the mentoring program, Space of Her Own. The duo will work together every week on an art project that will be used to decorate the child's bedroom in an end-of-the-year room renovation.

MENTOR OF THE MONTH

Currently studying to become a social worker, Carol finds that her relationship with Jennifer is helping her prepare for a career working with youth and families. The relationship has already been incredibly fulfilling: Carol is able to simply "be there for someone. It doesn't necessarily have to be someone who needs something. I just enjoy being a friend to a child."

Carol says they "hit it off from the beginning." The two connected on a bus ride back from the SOHO camping trip at Camp Kilmarnock, where mentors and mentees bond over crafting, kayaking, and campfire activities. The pair played games and chatted the whole ride home. Though the ride was four hours, Carol recounts that "it just

didn't seem like it was a long trip, sitting next to her."

Once the pairs are matched, they work on a new craft every week. Jennifer leads the art projects, but also loves working as part of a team. Carol makes suggestions for design and technique and Jennifer chooses the course of action. Their first project together was creating a lamp base from clay. For Jennifer, "the lamp making has been my favorite because we both did one part and put it together. We decided to do it [lamp base] separate, to do it faster, and to see how we both have different ideas."

The pair never wants for a conversation, but sometimes this can be a challenge. Laughing, Carol says, "We get to talking so much that we kind of have to rush at the very end to finish [the art project] off!" Though it may sometimes result in a hurried finish, the pair's conversations indicate a process that runs deep. Jennifer recognizes that she and Carol, who is "like a big sister," are "bonding. If Carol tells a story, I have something to relate with it, and if I tell a story, she has something to relate with it."

Carol and Jennifer are both excited to begin one-on-one excursions together, and see how their relationship develops. In a thank-you note to Carol, Jennifer wrote, "I can't wait to go see places with you."

Happiness is having a large, loving, caring, close-knit family in another city.

—George Burns

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, ELCA
100 W. Luray Ave., Alexandria, VA 22301 * 703-548-8608
www.gslutheran.net

Come join us for our Christmas Activities This Week! All are welcome!

- **Traditional services at 8:30 and 11:00 am.**
- **Contemporary service and Sunday School at 9:45**
- **Blue Christmas Service - December 21st at 7:00 pm.** Christmas can be a difficult time for some. You may have recently lost someone close to you, or it may be a time that has always been difficult. Come and join with us in sharing and hearing prayers, scripture, music, and Holy Communion as we acknowledge that God's presence is for all, and God's Word comes to shine light into our darkness.



Old Town | 7 Wilkes Street, Alexandria, VA
This beautifully maintained 3BR/3.5BA Harborside townhome with bright & sunny Southern exposure boasts a gourmet kitchen, 2 fpa, custom cabinetry, elevator + 2 garage spaces! **\$1,449,000**
Donnan C. Wintermute 703-608-6868 | CBmove.com/AX8321001



Old Town SE Quadrant | 600 Lee Street South, Alexandria, VA
\$50,000 price reduction and ready to move in! Federal End brick home w/river views on 3 levels, includes 4BR/3.5BA, open gourmet kit., hws, 4 levels. **\$1,249,000**
Bonnie Rivkin 703-598-7788 | CBmove.com/AX8496964



Del Ray | 313 E. Monroe Ave., Alexandria, VA
Charming multi-family 4 unit building in the heart of Del Ray. Many recent upgrades, walk to restaurants & shops. Ample off street parking in rear. Fully leased grossing \$80k+. **\$1,175,000**
The York Group 703-409-3377 | CBmove.com/AX8507567



Ivy Hill | 502 Ivy Circle, Alexandria, VA
Imagine the holidays in this spacious 3BR+3.5BA cul-de-sac home w/gorgeous newer kitchen & master bath, cozy fireplace, rec rm, fenced yard & driveway. Walk to Metro. Mins to D.C. **\$1,045,000**
Nancy Perkins 703-402-5599 | CBmove.com/AX8510452



Open Sun 2-4PM Sandy Run | 11200 Henderson Rd, Fairfax Station, VA
Impressive 3CG Colonial on .99 acre lot. Fresh paint & new carpet. Granite kitchen w/island open to breakfast area, family rm & cozy FP. Fin bsmt w/BR & kitchenette. **\$719,900**
The York Group 703-409-3377 | CBmove.com/FX8479212



Open Sun 2-4PM The Prescott | 1115 Cameron St. 115, Alexandria, VA
Perfection in the heart of Old Town. 2BR/2BA luxury condo. Private street level entrance, 2 patios, 2 garage spaces, gleaming hardwoods, open concept, community roof top deck! **\$587,000**
Lyssa Seward 703-298-0562 | CBmove.com/AX8496334



Huntington Commons | 5953 Edgehill Court, Alexandria, VA
Walking distance to Metro! Garage TH in great shape and ready for you. Gorgeous master w/vaulted ceilings & walk-in closet. Main lvl 9 ft ceilings. Nice yard & deck. Call to see. **\$430,000**
Tom Rickert 703-447-7901 | CBmove.com/FX8455245



Templeton | 250 Reynolds Street 1411, Alexandria, VA
14th floor condo with dramatic views from balcony. Completely renovated with large sq. ft. Easy commute to Metro. Garage parking. **\$200,000**
Fred Marcellus 703-629-0297 | CBmove.com/AX8486778

Alexandria | 703.518.8300
CBmove.com

Nothing contained herein is intended to create an employment relationship. Any affiliation by you with the Company is intended to be that of an independent contractor licensed real estate sales associate. The property information herein is derived from various sources that may include, but not be limited to, county records and the Multiple Listing Service and it may include approximations. Although the information is believed to be accurate, it is not warranted and you should not rely upon it without personal verification. ©2014 Goldwell Banker Real Estate LLC. All Rights Reserved. Goldwell Banker Real Estate LLC fully supports the principles of the Fair Housing Act and the Equal Opportunity Act. Operated by a subsidiary of NRT LLC. Goldwell Banker, the Goldwell Banker logo, Goldwell Banker Previews International and the Previews logo are registered and unregistered service marks owned by Goldwell Banker Real Estate LLC.



#1 Long and Foster Agent in Alexandria!
CHRIS WHITE ~ 703.283.9028
www.chrisandpeggywhite.com
chris.white@longandfoster.com



4720 Dolphin Lane
\$829,900 Southern Charm Abounds!
Stately Virginia Colonial in gorgeous setting near river and Yacht Club. Distinctive two level Columned Veranda. Fabulous floor plan and exceptionally large room sizes. Features include 3 finished levels, 4BR, 3.5BA, 2 FP, custom master suite, gorgeous hwdw flrs on two levels and side load 2 car garage. Beautiful half acre landscaped grounds. Home is in exceptionally pristine condition-a uniquely attractive property! **OPEN SUN 12/21, 1-4!**



8720 Plymouth Rd
\$1,719,000 Spectacular Wakefield Home!
Brand new home in fabulous Plymouth Haven-buy now & be in by end of year! Spectacular Wakefield home loaded with virtually every custom upgrade & amenity. 3 levels of luxury! Fabulous features include striking open floor plan, high ceilings, designer kitchen, luxury baths, hwdw flrs, sumptuous master suite, fabulous screen porch & 3 car gar. Prime location on large lot-walk to Wayneswood School!



8826 Black Alder Dr
\$598,500 Stunning Value-Seems Too Good To Be True!
Spacious three level Colonial in beautiful neighborhood for under \$600,000! Features inc: 3 fin levels, 5BR including main level master suite, 3.5 baths, 2FP. Open kitchen to family room and oversized 2 car garage. Large deck overlooks. Gorgeous yard. Thousands below comps-move quickly!



3810 Westgate Drive
\$689,900 Top Quality Renovation!
Remarkably attractive price for totally updated spacious Colonial in wonderful Westgate, one of area's premier communities. Features: open floor plan, sun room, amazing custom kitchen, 4 BRs, 3.5 updated baths, 4FP, finished LL & 2 car garage. Magnificent grounds with patio & large level open spaces. Impossible to duplicate this incredible property!



8704 Plymouth Rd \$1,700,000



4713 Dolphin Ln \$995,000



3801 Riverwood Rd \$695,000

YOUR TOY WILL BRING JOY TO A NEEDY TOT!

Long & Foster® Real Estate, Inc. is an Official Sponsor and Drop-Off Point for New, Unwrapped Toys Going to...



DROP OFF POINT:
Beginning Friday, November 21st thru
December 19th --- 9am to 5:30pm - Lobby
400 King Street, Alexandria, VA 22314



Gail Schneider 703.405.9050
RESTON \$ 253,000

3BR/2FBA, end unit condo. 1,264 sq ft. Hardwood floors, 2 patios, wood-burning fireplace. Modern stacking LG washer/dryer. Elfa closet systems. Move-in ready, freshly painted. Immaculate! Home Warranty. Quiet, wooded neighborhood. Pool, tennis, tot lot.



Cindy Nelson 703.965.7562
ALEXANDRIA / Rose Hill Farm \$ 695,950

BRAND NEW HOME! No expense spared with this deceptively large, 4,268 sq ft. 5BR/4.5BA home. 1st floor and upper MBRs with full baths. 3 separate living spaces include an au-pair suite. Gas furnace and cooking. Main level laundry. Huge lush backyard/deck. Metro.



Irene Stefanski 703.887.2847 or Shaista Qureshi 703.473.8655
ALEXANDRIA \$ 460,000

Updated, spacious 3-level brick townhouse minutes to DC. 3BR, 2FB+2HB, eat-in kitchen with exposed brick / beams, granite counters, formal dining area, 2 fireplaces, hardwood floors, finished basement and fenced backyard.



Michael Manuel 703.615.6317
ARLINGTON \$ 799,000

An inviting front porch, a quiet street, direct foot access to W&OD Trail, Bon Air & Bluemont Parks, Ballston Metro and shopping, what more could you want! 4BR/2.5BA with wood floors, fresh paint, updated baths, rear deck and more. Great schools. Quick commutes.



Michael Lekas 703.927.9895
ALEXANDRIA / Cameron Station \$ 885,900

Fall in love with this beautifully appointed, architecturally detailed, and expertly crafted TH overlooking a gorgeous park. Palladian windows, French doors, brick patio with custom fountain, + one of the largest yards in the community. 4BR/3.5BA+ - 3,500sqft. www.mikelekas.com



Susan Haughton & Mindy Brubaker 571.242.9913
ALEX. / Del Ray \$ 465,000

3 level townhouse in a garden oasis just 2 blocks to the Avenue, with off-street parking. Gleaming hardwood floors, updated kitchen, fenced patio. www.novapropertyshop.com



Catherine Foltz 703.626.6914
ALEX. / Wilton Woods \$ 620,000 OPEN SUNDAY 1-4

Move-in Ready! Sited on a cul-de-sac, this 4BR/2.5BA home has a side-loading 2 car garage. Professional landscape, hardscape and in-ground sprinkler system create a beautiful setting. Family room with gas fireplace off the updated kitchen, hardwoods, ceramic and more.



Martha Deal 703.622.6797
ALEXANDRIA / Porto Vecchio \$ 459,000

Investors Special Large 1BR with sunny exposure, eat-in kitchen and marble foyer. Open balcony with sunset views overlooking river, tennis courts and golf course. Hardwoods. Large walk-in closets/extra storage. 1 garage space. Sale subject to lease.



Mary Taylor 703.785.5619
ALEXANDRIA / Old Town \$ 565,000

Charming 2BR townhome with original pine hardwoods, beautiful architectural detailed moldings thru-out. Gas fireplace in living room, spacious dining room and kitchen, with granite, opens to brick patio. Short walk to Metro and Whole Foods.



Michael Manuel 703.615.6317
ALEXANDRIA / Rivergate \$ 949,900

Semi-detached townhouse backing to 2 parks, bike path and the Potomac River. Wood floors thru-out, gas fireplace, private patio and open floor plan for entertaining. Master and loft have cathedral ceilings. 3BR/2.5BA 2-car garage. The Best!

LIVING LEGENDS

Spotlight on 2015 Nominees

The Living Legends of 2015 will be selected in January from among the following 24 nominees. They

will be introduced at the Meet the Legend Reception on March 19 at the Patent & Trademark Madison Building.

Living Legends of Alexandria is an ongoing 501(c)(3) photo-documentary project to identify, honor and chronicle the people

making current history in Alexandria. The project was conceived in 2006 to create an enduring artistic record of the people whose



Betsy Anderson, advocate for Alexandria Visual Arts, has contributed to the development, mentorship, and success of many others by serving on numerous boards, committees and community groups to help nurture and broaden the aim of supporting, educating and elevating Alexandria's flourishing status as a vibrant visual arts community.



Performing artist and educator **Kathleen Baker** created the role of "Mistress Kathleen, Humble Servant" to interpret Alexandria's early history at Gadsby's Tavern and soon became a Museum docent, a performer at the Restaurant's Publick Table and Artist-in-Residence for the Office of Historic Alexandria. She inspired creation of the 18th Century Fair, a major historical interpretation and founded "Opera Americana," a nonprofit professional performing company to revive the ballad opera and concert scene popular in Alexandria's Federal Era.



Sharon Colbert, Founder/President of Village Resource Foundation Corporation, is a busy, compassionate volunteer. She partnered with Oakland Baptist Church and ARHA to promote childhood literacy and early learning; fellowships at Alexandria Police Department; provides food for homeless cats here; developed an exercise program for at-risk children; and organized Girl Scout Troops at First Mt. Zion and Oakland Baptist Churches.



A problem-solver who recognizes urgent need, **Brooke Sydnor Curran** takes action and inspires others to help Alexandria's at-risk kids. RunningBrooke devotes its work to ensuring that all young children in Alexandria, no matter their background or circumstances, come to school healthy and ready to succeed.



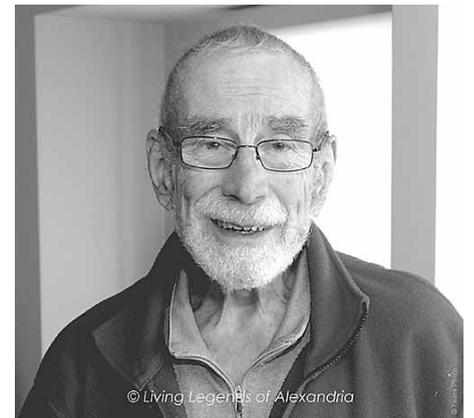
Linda Ferguson Rosevear Greenberg has a love of history and an appreciation for this country's governing documents that inspired her to work with Alexandria's mayor and City Council to bring in young students to the council's chambers for the annual commemoration of Constitution Week, inspiring the next generation of leaders.



Ulysses S. James has been an iconic influence on the arts in Alexandria for nearly 30 years. With vision and perseverance, he has shepherded the success of three orchestras based in the city, engaged youth in nurturing lifelong arts experiences, led the Arts Forum, and fostered unique programs that make classical music accessible to the Alexandria community.



For almost 30 years **Judy Miller** has used her organizational skills to make the 4th of July Celebration in the Rosemont neighborhood and the Alexandria Federation of Civic Associations important institutions in the community.



Richard Moose is cofounder and the first chairman of the board of At Home Alexandria, a nonprofit for Alexandrians ages 55 and older who want to remain in their homes. AHA coordinates access to services and provides interactions to enhance members' quality of life, enabling them to age successfully in the community.



Curiosity about local place and street names set **Ted Pulliam** on a decades-long fact finding mission that has turned the former attorney into a historical researcher, volunteer public servant and prolific author. Pulliam has traveled back in time to chronicle and offer authoritative insight into Alexandria's history.



Joyce Rawlings' service to Alexandria connects children, youth and parents with schools and services, with a particular emphasis on assisting minority and immigrant families. Often among those who started Alexandria programs, Rawlings advocated for and helped create Family Resource Learning Centers – precursors of Alexandria's Family and Community Engagement (FACE) centers.



Gayle Reuter was instrumental in turning the Del Ray neighborhood into the place "Where Main Street Still Exists." Today she continues to be a driving force in the Del Ray Halloween Parade, Art on the Avenue, Turkey Trot and all of the other Del Ray events she helped create and the neighborhood is now known for.



A passionate love of the tango led violinist **Joan Daggy Singer** to create five afterschool bilingual classes and storytelling sessions for young immigrants settling in Alexandria. Music appreciation and lessons, social engagement, and even soccer moves have brought together a diverse community and the opportunity for children to perform with an internationally known professional tango ensemble.

LIVING LEGENDS

for Living Legends of Alexandria

vision and dedication make a positive, tangible difference to the quality of life in Alexandria.

Visit www.AlexandriaLegends.org for information about the project.

ALL PHOTOS BY STEVEN HALPERSON/TISARA PHOTO



Loti Dunn's determined and continued support of the Scholarship Fund of Alexandria (SFA) for over 25 years helped to grow the fledgling effort into the effective organization it is today. Because of her constant nurturing, to date, the SFA has awarded \$11 million in scholarships to 4,000 students.



Donna Fossum has been a trailblazer, activist and champion for Alexandria's West End Community being a major voice getting what's best for the West End. Her role over the years has often been working behind the scenes, doing the heavy lifting, regardless of the issue faced. She knows how to proceed productively to continue to transform West End into one of the more desirable places to live.



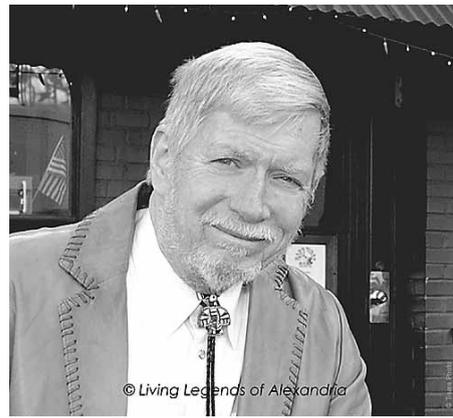
Lorraine Friedman, a lawyer by training, has spent more than 10 years helping to empower children, young parents and adults alike through her DreamDog Foundation and its multiple programs aimed at spreading literacy, encouraging access to services and supporting those in the community who might otherwise struggle to be represented.



Marga Fripp, founder and "Chief Visionary" behind Alexandria-based Empowered Women International, marks thirteen years of service to over 3,000 immigrant, low-income, and minority women. This unique, full-service nonprofit has empowered many with the tools and support to become successful entrepreneurs and contributing citizens on the road to The American Dream.



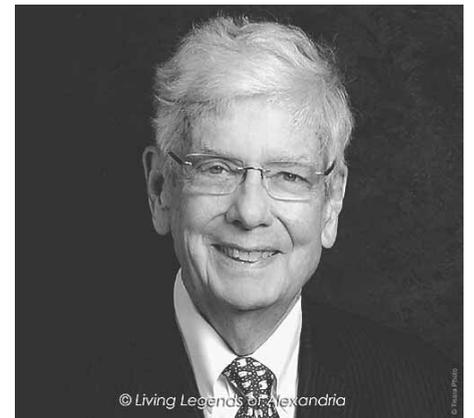
Alice Morgan initiated and chaired Alexandria's Martin Luther King Memorial Service, received the Alexandria Commission on Women's Marguerite Payez Lifetime Achievement Award, was the first woman and first African American woman to be appointed to the Planning Commission, and was the first African American woman to run for City Council.



Fred Parker and his late brother Jim took a risk on a dilapidated building on upper King Street for their first Hard Times Café chili parlor. The pioneering chili slinger paved the way for an array of restaurants, shops and hotels near the King Street Station that have revitalized the neighborhood and made it a thriving destination.



Karen Paul has served the U.S. Senate as an archivist (since 1982) and the Alexandria Association as president for over 20 years. Karen makes it possible for others to appreciate the historical relevance of Alexandria and has played a vital role in grant matching programs dedicated to restoration and preservation of many landmarks in the city.



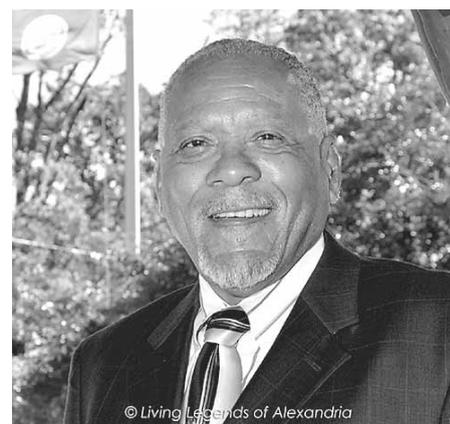
For over 40 years, **Gordon Peyton** has fully devoted his time and energy to serving both his community and his law clients of Alexandria to improve their lives and carry out legal, financial guardianship and probate matters. His passion for helping the underserved extends to both the young and the elderly.



Sammy, Mitzi and Jerry Terlitzky are pioneers who played a critical role in the economic development of Upper King Street by opening Terlitzky's Delicatessen when the 1300 block was initially known as a "bad area." They built a clientele quickly by offering groundbreaking New York Kosher style items and bigger menu selections and with this initial success, motivated other entrepreneurs to invest too.



Jen Walker embraces her Del Ray as the idyllic home town, where neighbors wave from their front porches, lend a hand to neighbors and patronize local merchants. Thanks to Walker, Del Ray citizens of all generations gather under the stars on summer evenings to munch popcorn and watch family-friendly movies together.



George Wanzer always wanted to be a firefighter but in order to achieve his dream, he had to help break barriers. He served the city for more than 10 years, helping to integrate the fire department and paving the way for the women and other minorities to follow in his footsteps.



When **Adrienne Terrell Washington** and **Frances Colbert Terrell** trace their ancestry, they only have to look at the ground they stand on to envision former homesteads, a school, a church and gravesites. Generations of the Terrell family and others once resided in the Fort Ward neighborhood, and today, adjacent to T.C. Williams High School and the Oaklawn Baptist Church. They've honored their displaced, but once tight-knit community with a walking tour, signage and continuing studies about where post-civil War freed African Americans lived and died.

ENTERTAINMENT

Persistence of Time

The concept of time is reflected in Little Theatre of Alexandria's new set design for "A Christmas Carol."

BY VERONICA BRUNO
GAZETTE PACKET

Little Theatre of Alexandria's production of "A Christmas Carol" brings time center stage.

"I really liked the concept of time," said Andrea D'Amato, set designer for The Little Theatre of Alexandria's A Christmas Carol. It's a brand-new set design and time plays a key element throughout the play. The new model incorporates a familiar backdrop of London behind the frame of an ornate and interactive clock conceived especially for this production.

"The producers liked the backdrop of London from 2012. They've had a clock somewhere in past productions. This year they wanted it more integrated," said D'Amato. She noticed the clock diagram while reading "A Christmas Carol" and was inspired by the picture of a large clock on a scrim. She also viewed sketches from the musical "Wicked."

"I liked what they came up with," D'Amato said while describing the "Wicked" inspiration. She also wanted to keep with the traditional elements in the story. "I wanted to keep it simple. I thought maybe the clock could be dropped behind [the action]. The clock makes a nice silhouette."

The show has certainly kept D'Amato busy. Juggling her full-time work at the National Gallery of Art during the day, she has been spending her nights at Little Theatre of Alexandria. An interior design architecture graduate student from Rhode Island School of Design, she recently moved to Old Town along with her fiancé, Alan Carniol.

She volunteered as part of the set crew for a previous LTA production, "Boeing, Boeing" and was hooked. Andrea became a member of the organization and met one of the "Carol" producers, Eddie Parker at an LTA meet-and-greet event.

"I've always been interested in exhibition design." She got her wish when Parker called her about the holiday show. Being the first play set she's designed, D'Amato brought a fresh perspective to the process.

She designed a computer drawing of the scenery with a giant clock set against the backdrop of London in AutoCAD.

"I was thinking we could do two layers so it wasn't just a curtain," D'Amato said.

With all the angles and dimensions included in the AutoCAD blueprint, it was translated into code so that it could be milled by a CNC shopbot production tool into seven sections. The parts were cut and assembled in about 20 hours in the shop. The finished product was brought in seven pieces and built in the theater.



The full set design in silhouette at Little Theatre of Alexandria.



Cast members of Little Theatre's production of "A Christmas Carol" await their cue during a production run-through.



The full production cast of this year's show poses in front of the newly created set.

PHOTOS CONTRIBUTED BY
ANDREA D'AMATO

D'Amato's conceptual notes for the set design, including the large, complicated clock that forms the theme for the show.



"It's new and interesting," Andrea said of her concept. "We had a short build time. I lucked out with the volunteers who showed up."

One of those volunteers was also her fiancée, Carniol, who worked as assistant head carpenter throughout the process.

The clock is also a part of the action. Several of the actors move the hands throughout the play and it helps progress the story. "Time is a backdrop within the script for Scrooge. It's moving fast, it's moving slow, it's hard to grasp."

Time will tell if audiences like the new design. D'Amato is pretty enthusiastic about the concept and hopes they will. "I'm excited to see how people react to it."

Little Theatre of Alexandria rings in the holiday season with a return of the classic by Charles Dickens. The show runs through the Dec. 20 with performances Thursday and throughout the weekend at 3, 5, and 8 P.M. Tickets are \$15 each. Call LTA at 703-683-0496 or visit www.thelittletheatre.com.



Andrea D'Amato, set designer and head carpenter for the show, handling one of the clock's pieces.

ENTERTAINMENT

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

Middle School Artists. Art display by George Washington Middle School students, at St.Elmo's Coffee Pub, 2300 Mount Vernon Ave., Alexandria. Working in peer groups, the students created a written explanation of their intent to accompany the display. Visit www.stelmoscoffee.pub.com.

Tavern Toddlers. Weekly open playtime continues every Monday throughout holiday season. 10:30-11:30 a.m. Gadsby's Tavern Museum, North Royal Street, Alexandria. Caregivers, toddlers (walkers through 3 years) and visiting relatives are welcome to play, read, dance and color in the historic ballroom. No reservations required. Each week costs \$7 for a group of three, which must include one adult, and additional people are \$3. A three-visit pass costs \$18. On Monday, Feb. 16 Tavern Toddlers will be closed due to President's Day. www.gadsbystavern.org or 703-746-4242

Broadway Christmas Carol. Runs through Dec. 28 at MetroStage, 1201 N. Royal St. Enjoy the show Wednesday-Thursday, 8 p.m., Fridays, 8 p.m., Saturdays, 3 p.m. and 8 p.m., and Sundays, 3 p.m. and 7 p.m. Tickets are \$50. Visit www.metrostage.org for more.

Art Exhibit. Through Jan. 2 at 1717 King St. and 300 S. Washington St.

BB&T Bank hosts an exhibition of portraits of African American and women Living Legends of Alexandria at its Old Town branches. Monday-Thursday 9 a.m.-5 p.m. and Fridays 9 a.m.-6 p.m. Visit www.AlexandriaLegends.com for more.

"Friend Me" Exhibit. Through Monday, Jan. 5. Opening reception Thursday Dec. 11, 6:30-8 p.m. The Art League Gallery, Studio 21, 105 North Union St., Alexandria. Jeweler Whitney Staiger melds together her friends' public avatar with an aspect of their private selves on her handmade brass cameos in a solo exhibit. www.theartleague.org 703-683-1780.

Christmas in Mount Vernon. Through Tuesday, Jan. 6, 9 a.m.-4 p.m. at 3200 Mount Vernon Memorial Highway, Mount Vernon. Mount Vernon decks the halls with themed Christmas trees on the estate and festive greenery in the Mansion. Visit www.mountvernon.org/christmas for more.

Painting by John Trumbull. 9 a.m.-4 p.m. through Jan. 7. at Mount Vernon, 3200 Mount Vernon Memorial Highway. On loan from the Winterthur Museum, this portrait was painted by Washington's former aide-de-camp as a gift to Martha Washington in 1790. Regular admission rates: adults, \$18; senior citizens, \$16; children age 6-11, when accompanied by an adult, \$9; and children under age 5, free. Visit MountVernon.org for more.

"Beyond the Board" Art Exhibit. Through Feb. 22. Prudential PenFed Realty, 4900 Seminary Road, Alexandria. Del Ray Artisans' presents "Beyond the Board." A portion of artists' sales go to the PenFed Foundation, supporting

FOOD & DRINK

"Reveillon de Noel" Christmas Eve Dinner. At Bastille, 1201 N. Royal St., Alexandria. Chefs Christophe and Michelle Poteaux will serve a four-course prix fixe feast, with wine pairings upon request. Menu highlights include lobster bisque with poached oysters; pan-roasted foie gras; tartare of Skuna Bay salmon; grass-fed Angus beef filet roasted whole in salt crust; Hudson Valley Moullard duck breast; and a chocolate hazelnut "Buche de Noel" with cranberry ice cream. \$85 per person, exclusive of taxes and gratuities. Call 703-519-3776 for more.

"Reveillon de la Saint Sylvestre" New Year's Eve Dinner. At Bastille, 1201 N. Royal St., Alexandria. The first seating from 5-6:30 p.m. is a three-course prix fixe for \$79, exclusive of taxes and gratuities, with wine pairings upon request. After the market surprise amuse bouche, guests will enjoy menu highlights including butternut squash risotto and parmesan broth; braised lobster in a curried coconut emulsion; bacon-wrapped rabbit loin; and coconut cake with caramelized pumpkin butter and curry ice cream. Taking things to the next level with the second seating from 8-10 p.m., guests will enjoy a four-course prix fixe for \$99, or \$139 with wine pairings, exclusive of taxes and gratuities. After the market surprise amuse bouche, guests may choose from dishes including steak tartare; seared foie gras; sautéed Wild Turbot filet; and roasted spiced pineapple marmalade almond cake. Call 703-519-3776 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.

active military families, veterans and their families. Visit www.thedelrayartisans.org/shows/gww/ for more.

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, landscape photography, 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. Owners 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.

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 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 for more.

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.

Dinner for the Washingtons. Noon at George Washington's Mount Vernon, 3200 Mount Vernon Memorial Highway. A walking tour that goes behind the scenes to find out how food was prepared and served before the era of microwaves and TV dinners. \$5 in addition to estate admission. Visit www.mountvernon.org for more.

Second Thursday Music. Athenaeum, 201 Prince St. 7 pm. Second Thursday of every month.

SEE ENTERTAINMENT, PAGE 24

Le Refuge

Restaurant

Please make reservations early for
Christmas Eve and New Year's Eve

Winter Specials

- Split Pea Soup
- Venison Medallions
- Beef Wellington
- Dover Sole
- Coq au Vin
- Cassoulet
- Frog Legs

Find us on
 Facebook

127 N. Washington St., Alexandria • 703-548-4661
Smoke-Free Restaurant
www.lerefugealexandria.com

"Simply Gorgeous!" *~The Washington Post*

thewashingtonballet

SEPTIME WEBRE'S

THE NUTCRACKER

10TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

NOW THRU DECEMBER 28
Warner Theatre

Tickets start at \$32, available at
washingtonballet.org
or 202.397.SEAT

Maki Onuki by Dean Alexander

RING IN THE NEW YEAR

Enjoy the Romance of Music by Mike Blaney with Bob Smith on the Piano and a few arias by Franco, too!



Franco & his staff wish you a Joyful 2015!

Celebrate the New Year Italian Trattoria Style

Three-course Dinner with Champagne or House Wine includes balloons, noisemakers, hats, etc.

Special Menu Includes:

- Fillet of Salmon with Caviar
- Linguine with Mixed Seafood
- Roast Leg of Lamb with Rosemary
- Veal with Cream Brandy Sauce

Live Opera... Every Month

Next Opera Night is Dec. 28

- Daily Special: 3-Course Dinner includes a Glass of Wine **\$29.95**
- Mondays: Italian Class
- Fridays: Bob Smith & Mike Blaney Open Mic.
- Saturdays: Daryl Ott on the Piano with Franco
- **Daily Lunch Special \$9.95**

• Special Three-Course dinner menu only after 7:30 p.m.

• Early seating available 5:00-7:00 p.m. featuring our regular & special menu



305 S. Washington Street, Old Town • 703-548-9338 • www.trattoria-dafranco.com

John Strongbow's Tavern

The only place to be for the holidays!

The finest food, beer, wine, live music, and comedy.

The ultimate New Year's Eve party featuring amazing cuisine, live music and more! Special feasts for parties of 12 or more.

Call 703-329-3075 for details or reservations.
www.johnstrongbows.com



710 King Street Alexandria, Virginia 22314

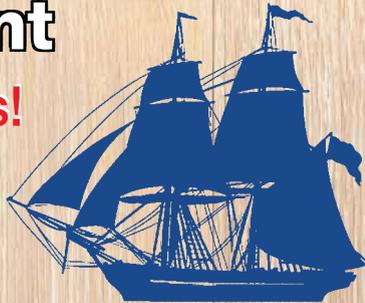
Chadwicks *est. 1967* "...casual dining at its very best"

Your Friendly Neighborhood Restaurant

Spend Your Holidays with Us!

203 The Strand, Alexandria, VA
703-836-4442

www.chadwicksrestaurants.com



FONTAINE
Caffe & Crêperie

Sweet and Savory Crêpes, Steak Frites, Mussels, Boutique Wines and Craft Beers, French Movie Night

RSVP: New Year's Eve Dinner

119 South Royal Street, Alexandria VA 22314
703.535.8151 • www.fontainecaffe.com

Join La Bergerie as we celebrate featuring a Strolling Violinist.

Christmas Eve 3-Course Dinner for \$69
New Year's Eve 4-Course Dinner for \$99
Reserve now. Both evenings 5-10 p.m.



218 N. Lee Street
703-683-1007
www.labergerie.com



Dishes OF INDIA
Innovative Indian Cuisine

1510-A Belle View Blvd.
703-660-6085 • www.dishesofindia.com
Belle View Shopping Center

Chef's Special Menu for New Year's Eve
New Year's Day Dinner open 4-9 pm

Call us for details

Closed Christmas Day for the Holiday
Closed New Year's Day for Lunch

Party Trays and Gift Certificates for the Holidays
Luncheon Buffet Every Day * A La Carte Dinner Every Night

Innovative Indian Cuisine

CELEBRATE 2015!

New Year's Eve



THE GRILLE
restaurant / piano bar
AT MORRISON HOUSE

**Seven-Course
Prix Fixe \$95.00**

Supplemental Sparkling Wine Pairing
\$40.00. Make reservations early.

116 South Alfred Street - Alexandria, VA
703-838-8000 • thegrillealexandria.com

Happy Holidays



**HOLIDAY
CATERING &
EVENT
LOCATIONS!**



Food fit for a king on a family budget

The Best in Family Dining

An Alexandria community fixture for more than 100 years, the Royal Restaurant offers the best in Greek, Italian and American cuisine. Enjoy burgers, steaks, prime rib, chicken, seafood, pasta and full salad bar complete with special children's menu items.

Reservations Suggested

734 North Saint Asaph Street, Alexandria, Virginia 22314
703-548-1616 • www.RoyalRestaurantVA.com

Award-winning wine menu • Major credit cards accepted

Shine N Swine New Year's Eve Party

Ring in the New Year with live bluegrass music, moonshine, and all things pork! Offering our Whole Hog Menu w/\$13.00 dishes in addition to our dinner menu

Tim Finch and the Eastman String Band will have you tapping your toes till the ball drops!
~ Advance reservations recommended ~



NEW AMERICAN TAVERN

Adjacent to Hotel Monaco Alexandria
480 King Street • Alexandria, VA
703.842.2790 • jackson20.com

For a free digital subscription to one or all of the 15 Connection Newspapers, go to www.connectionnewspapers.com/subscribe

Be the first to know – get your paper before it hits the press.

Complete digital replica of the print edition, including photos and ads, delivered weekly to your e-mail box.

Questions? E-mail: goinggreen@connectionnewspapers.com



Alexandria
Gazette Packet

ENTERTAINMENT

FROM PAGE 21

Visit nvfaa.org to view concert calendar and listen to upcoming Second Thursday Music artists.

The Monday Morning Birdwalk has been a weekly event at Huntley Meadows since 1985. It takes place every week, rain or shine (except during electrical storms, strong winds, or icy trails), at 7 a.m. (8 a.m. November through March), is free of charge, requires no reservation, and is open to all. Birders meet in the parking lot at the park's entrance at 3701 Lockheed Blvd. Direct questions to Park staff during normal business hours at 703-768-2525.

CAMPS, CLASSES & WORKSHOPS

Tavern Toddlers. Every Monday (except Federal Holidays) 10:30-11:30 a.m. Gadsby's Tavern Museum, 134 North Royal Street, Alexandria. Join other families with toddlers (walkers through 36 months) to have fun in Gadsby's historic ballroom. Playtime features a craft table, book corner, toys and group dancing. \$7 for a group of three. Visit www.alexandria.gov/gadsbystavern or call 703-746-4242.

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.

DECEMBER

Tree Sale. Weekends through December, 9 a.m.-6 p.m. at St. Aidan's Episcopal Church, 8531 Riverside Road, Alexandria. Enjoy music, warm drinks and cookies by the fire, while surrounded by frasier fir trees. Sales benefit of community outreach programs and local schools. Choose to have 10 percent of the sale amount go to St. Aidan's Day School or a local, public elementary school. St Aidan's Episcopal Church, 8531 Riverside Road, Alexandria. Visit www.staidansepiscopal.com.

Alexandria's Holiday Market. At 300 John Carlyle St., Alexandria. Vendors will sell traditional European food, sweets and drinks combined with art and craft vendors to create a European holiday market shopping experience. The event also features the Holiday Sharing - Toy Drive program to support families in need, as well as the Hunger Free Alexandria initiative. Visit www.alexandriaholidaymarket.com.
 ♦ Dec. 19, 20, 21, 22 and 23 —11 a.m.-8 p.m.
 ♦ Dec. 24, Christmas Eve —11 a.m.-2 p.m.

THURSDAY/DEC. 18

Annual Santa's Winter Wonderland. 5-8 p.m. at the Charles Houston Recreation Center, 901 Wythe St., Alexandria. Gift distribution. Santa and the Grinch arrive at the event on an Alexandria Fire Department fire truck. Gifts will be distributed to ticket holders. Children ranging in age from infant to 17 years old are welcome. For donation information, contact Ian Hawkins at ihawkins@arha.us or call 703-549-7913.

TORPEDO FACTORY ASSOCIATE ARTIST GALLERY

Studio 12. 11 a.m.-5 p.m. daily. About 20 artists will be showing their work in two-week exhibitions through the end of 2014. This dynamic pop-up gallery provides an opportunity for many of the associates to have their work on view. Visit torpedofactory.org/events/ for more.

♦ **Dec. 15-28:** Fritz Des Roches, paintings; Barbara Muth, paintings; Norma Hintze, ceramics; and Marilyn Spindler, paintings

THURSDAY/DEC. 19

Carbon Leaf. 7:30 p.m. at The Birchmere, 3701 Mount Vernon Ave. Tickets \$35. Visit birchmere.com or call 703-549-7500.

SATURDAY/DEC. 20

Kwanzaa Celebration. 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m. at The Alexandria Black History Museum, 902 Wythe St. The museum's annual program explores the history and significance of Kwanzaa. Learn about the principles of Kwanzaa, a seven-day cultural celebration. Tickets are \$5. Visit www.alexblackhistory.org for more.

Art at the Center. 5-7 p.m. at 2804 Sherwood Hall Lane, Alexandria. Enjoy light painting. Bring a book or toy to donate to Rising Hope. Call 703-201-1250 or visit www.artatthecenter.org for more.

Christmas Illuminations. 5:30-9 p.m. Sip hot chocolate while watching fireworks over the Potomac. This is a limited capacity event. Advance ticket purchase is suggested. Tickets are \$30 adults, \$20 youth (6-11), children five and under are free. Visit MountVernon.org for more.

Light the Night. 5-7 p.m., Art at the Center, 2804 Sherwood Hall Lane, Alexandria. Light painting along with an opportunity to celebrate and close out the center's time on Sherwood Hall Lane. Bring a flashlight, bring a book or toy to donate to Rising Hope and bring your memories of Art at the Center. Call 703-201-1250 or visit www.artatthecenter.org for more.

Vian Shamounki Borchert Art Exhibit Opening Reception. 5-8 p.m. at Local Colour Old Town, LLC Art Gallery, 218 N Lee St., Suite 107, Alexandria. Gallery Hours: Monday - Saturday, 12-8 pm. Closed Sundays. Free. The exhibition will showcase 15 of Vian's latest works. Visit www.vianborchert.com for more.

Orchestra. 7 p.m. at The George Washington Masonic Memorial Theatre, 611 King St. The Symphony Orchestra of Northern Virginia presents "Holidays in Paris." Visit www.sonovamusical.com for more.

SUNDAY/DEC. 21

Skincare Treatments from Garden and Kitchen. 1-2 p.m. Athenaeum, 201 Prince Street, Alexandria. Mellenie Runion of Truly-Life Eco Gifts explains how to use simple ingredients for a healthy skincare regimen. Visit www.nvfaa.org.

The T.C. Williams Choir. 8 p.m. The T.C. Williams Choir has been selected to participate in the annual Christmas Concert with the First Family, broadcast from the National Building Museum on TNT Channel 36 and Dish Channel 138.

MONDAY/DEC. 22

A John Waters Christmas. 7:30 p.m. The Birchmere, 3701 Mount Vernon Ave. \$49.50. Visit www.birchmere.com for more.

MONDAY-WEDNESDAY/DEC. 22-24

Breakfast with Santa. 8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Union Street Public House, 121 South Union St., Alexandria. Have breakfast with Santa and Mrs. Claus before they take off for the big night. \$10 per

child (age 0-12) and \$15 per person (age 13+) includes a continental breakfast, visit with Santa and Mrs. Claus and tax. Tickets required. Limited amount for every seating. Reservations www.unionstreetpublichouse.com/breakfast.

WEDNESDAY/DEC. 24

Water-skiing Santa and his Kneebarding Reindeer. 1-1:30 p.m. at Old Town Waterfront, between King and Oronoco streets, Alexandria. This is the 29th Anniversary of this one of a kind Washington, D.C. tradition and includes the Flying Elves, the Jetskiing Grinch, and Frosty the Snowman in a dinghy. Email waterski.santa@gmail.com for more.

SATURDAY/DEC. 27

Live Music. 7:30 p.m. at the Birchmere, 3701 Mount Vernon Ave. Performance by Southside Johnny and The Asbury Jukes. \$39.50. Visit www.birchmere.com for more.

SUNDAY/DEC. 28

Hank Williams Tribute Show. 7:30 p.m. at The Birchmere, 3701 Mount Vernon Ave. Tickets \$29.50. Visit www.birchmere.com or call 703-549-7500.

WEDNESDAY/DEC. 31

First Night Alexandria. Events take place throughout the day at numerous venues around the City of Alexandria. Visit www.firstnightalexandria.org for more.

Live Music. 8 p.m. at The Birchmere, 3701 Mount Vernon Ave. Watch Seldom Scene, Bumper Jackson and The Hello Strangers perform. Tickets \$39.50. Visit www.birchmere.com or call 703-549-7500.

SATURDAY/JAN. 3

Hal Ketchum. 7:30 p.m. at The Birchmere, 3701 Mount Vernon Ave. Tickets \$35. Visit birchmere.com or call 703-549-7500.

SUNDAY/JAN. 4

Evening of Musical Comedy. 7:30 p.m. at The Birchmere, 3701 Mount Vernon Ave. Tickets \$49.50. Visit www.birchmere.com or call 703-549-7500.

TUESDAY/JAN. 6

"Self Portraits: How Our Artists View Themselves." 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Through Feb. 8 at Potomac Fiber Arts Gallery, Torpedo Factory Art Center, 105 North Union St., Studio 18, Alexandria. A self portrait can be what our face/body looks like or it can be what we stand for, what we believe, what we love. Visit www.Potomacfiberartsgallery.com.

Choral Evensong on the Feast of the Epiphany 7:30 p.m. at St. Paul's Episcopal Church, 228 South Pitt St., Alexandria. Grant Hellmers, organist and choirmaster of St. Paul's Episcopal Church, will direct the adult choir in a Choral Evensong on the Feast of the Epiphany. Donations and non-perishable foods will be accepted for St. Paul's Lazarus Ministry. Contact Grant Hellmers at 703-549-3312 or grant@stpaulsalexandria.com.

Free Estimates Patios, Walkways, Retaining Walls, Landscaping & so much more! **OFF-SEASON PRICING**

Now's A Great Time for Your Landscape Project!

Tree Clearance Sale

30% OFF

All Trees 2013 & Prior

Rare, Hardy Bonsai

Kingsville Boxwood

25% OFF

Christmas Trees, Greens and Poinsettias

60-75% Off Pottery

Lowest Prices Since 2008!

Fragrant, blooming Citrus Plants 10% Off

FREE Fill Playground Chips & Organic Compost

\$29.99 cu. yd.

Bagged, Shredded Hardwood Mulch

\$3.49

Bulk Mulch

\$24.99 cu. yd.

9023 Arlington Blvd., Fairfax, Virginia

2 miles west of I-495 on Rt. 50.
1 mile from I-66 (Vienna Metro)

Cravens Nursery & Pottery

703-573-5025

Open 7 days a week

Visit our new Web site: www.cravensnursery.com

Happy Holidays

Serving Alexandria

The Best in Burgers, Steaks, Chicken, Seafood, Full Salad Bar & Sunday Brunch

Since 1904

Royal Restaurant

ALEXANDRIA'S NEIGHBORHOOD RESTAURANT • SINCE 1904

734 North Asaph Street, Alexandria VA 22314

703-548-1616 **FREE WiFi**

www.RoyalRestaurantVA.com

10% OFF

BRING THIS AD and RECEIVE 10% OFF Your Entree (Min. 1. Limited to parties of 4 or less. One coupon per party. Offer excludes alcohol, tax & gratuity. Present coupon when ordering. Exp. 12/31/14

Coalition Undergoes Transformation

FROM PAGE 3
ing shelter.

"It's one thing to get them in a house, it's another thing to keep them," said O'Rourke. "They work on everything from life skills, job readiness, education ... things that support them remaining in their own house We don't want them to be here too long. This is a transitional facility, we want them to come here, stabilize, and normalize. If they don't have a job, get a job. If they have a job, stabilize the job."

O'Rourke, whose worked at AACH for nine years, is still the considered the new guy by the other staff. He has a military background, having worked in the Pentagon and contracting before transitioning into charity. O'Rourke emphasized that residents who don't follow the organization's rules are kicked out. There's a curfew, there's no alcohol, no drugs, and all of the income residents earn is given over to the organization to pay for food or other necessities for the client.

"It's training, it's not punitive," said O'Rourke. "We're helping them learn how to live within a budget. If they get a check from work or social security, they turn that over and it's kept in an account for them. It is [difficult], but they agree to abide by our rules when they come in and if they don't want to abide by that rule, they don't have to, and they don't have to live here."

Much of the focus of the program is on treating the psychological trauma that occurs when a person first becomes homeless.

"We want to be part of a normalization and stabilization process," said O'Rourke. "What caused them to become homeless? Help them resolve that, help them get the kids on point in school and help them get a job. Get ready to move forward. That's what the case managers do. They might be here five or six weeks and say they're ready to move on."

Homelessness can be particularly traumatic for children in a family. Sam Kelly, deputy director of programs, was a children's case manager before his promotion and still spends most of his time working with children of homeless families.

"It's challenging," said Kelly, "not only dealing with the problems of the kids, but have to have some level of understanding of the parents and their levels of parenting and how all of that comes together to form the child's values."

Kelly says working with children is the easy part of the job. Working with parents, some of whom are unable to provide the structure or guidance the children need, is much more challenging.

One of the newest programs AACH provides for

children in their care is a Youth Leadership Academy that began last year. It started with six students and emphasized work in education, health nutrition, career exploration and community service. This year, the program has grown to 25 students and has partnered with the Smithsonian Institute to offer internships and job shadowing opportunities for high school students.

"We were really fortunate to land that one," said Kelly. "All six of our kids last year were able to do two-week internships at the museums. Two applied for a specialized internship for a youth engagement through science program, and both were accepted. Out of 250 applicants, they chose 10. Two of those 10 were our kids."

For youth in the AACH currently in high school, Kelly has been in talks with Arlington County Public Schools to make sure that any of the youths who have a desire to attend Northern Virginia Community College will at least be able to go through the application process. If the child doesn't want to attend college, Kelly helps set them up with a vocational or trade school to be able to transition from the AACH into a career.

The Youth Leadership Academy offers several programs to teach residents skills to help them learn financial independence, an education Kelly hopes can help break the cycle of poverty many homeless families face.

"We operate a lemonade stand in the summer as part of our financial literacy initiative and small business initiative for our kids," said Kelly. "These are the younger, elementary kids, and our youth leadership academy kids supervise the process. We do everything from purchase limits, cut the lemons, look at gain and profit losses, it's really cool. This year, we're expanding that a little bit, Wells Fargo is coming in to do a series of financial literacy training for all of our kids. Not everyone can get an internship they want or desire, but everything, as little as watching a lemonade stand, can provide leadership experience."

The focus on education and fiscal responsibility extends to parents as well as the children. Of AACH graduates, 85 percent do not go back into homelessness. In the last four years, five clients have bought homes in Northern Virginia.

"They're not living in the poshest neighborhood, but they developed good habits and bought homes," said O'Rourke. "We have clients that have served on the board of directors, are employees here, or come back and work as volunteers. From homelessness to home owner, what a quantum leap."

BULLETIN BOARD

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

HOLIDAY SAFETY

Free Cab Rides. 10 p.m.-6 a.m. daily, Friday, Dec. 12-Thursday, Jan. 1. Washington-metropolitan area residents celebrating with alcohol may call the toll-free SoberRide phone number 1-800-200-TAXI and be afforded a no-cost (up to \$ 30 fare), safe way home. Visit www.soberride.com.

REFUSE COLLECTION

Residential trash and recycling will be collected on the regularly

scheduled day during the week of Monday, Dec. 22-Wednesday, Dec. 24. There is no trash collection Christmas Day, Dec. 25 and New Year's Day, Jan. 1. Collections that would normally happen on Thursday, Dec. 25 will take place Friday, Dec. 26. Collections that would normally happen on Thursday, Jan. 1 will take place Friday, Jan. 2.

THURSDAY/DEC. 18

Waterfront Commission Marina Committee. 5 p.m. City Hall, Sister Cities Room 1101, 301 King St. Contact Jack Browand, jack.browand@alexandriava.gov, 703-746-5504.

Public Health Advisory

Commission. 5:30 p.m. Alexandria Health Department, 4480 King St. Contact 703-746-4956.

SATURDAY/DEC. 20

Homeownership Training Class. 10 a.m.-4 p.m. at Charles Houston Recreation Center, 905 Wythe St., Alexandria. The class also is a requirement for households purchasing a home using City of Alexandria home purchase assistance loans. Visit www.vhda.com/Homebuyers. Call 202-667-7006, ext. 230 for more.

MONDAY/DEC. 22

City Council-School Board Subcommittee. 5 p.m. City Hall, Council Work Room, 301 King St. Contact Ron Frazier, 703-746-5967.

MONDAY/DEC. 22-FRIDAY/JAN. 2

Winter Break. Alexandria City Public Schools are closed.



★ **Mount Vernon Antique Center** ★

8101 Richmond Hwy., Alexandria
703-619-5100
www.mvantiques.com

Follow us on Facebook & Twitter

Discover the secret source of many collectors, dealers, decorators and shoppers with "good eyes" and great taste.

Good Shepherd Catholic Church

Mass Schedule

Monday 6:30 pm Mass (Español)	(en Español); 6:30 pm
Saturday Evening 5:00 pm Vigil Mass 6:30 pm Vigil Mass (en Español)	Weekday & Saturday Mornings: 9:00 am Mass, preceded by Rosary (on First Friday, Mass followed by Eucharistic Adoration)
Sunday 7:30 am; 9:00 am (with Sign Language Interpreter & Children's Liturgy of the Word); 10:30 am; 12:00 Noon; 2:00 pm	Thursday & First Friday of the Month: 7:30 pm Mass (Español) preceded by 7:00 pm Eucharistic Adoration

8710 Mount Vernon Highway, Alexandria VA, 22309
Tel: 703-780-4055 Fax: 703-360-5385 www.gs-cc.org
Loving as Christ loves, serving as Christ serves

To Advertise Your Faith Community, call Karen at 703-917-6468

Celebrating 20 YEARS

FIRST NIGHT ALEXANDRIA

DECEMBER 31, 2014

An Old Town New Year's Eve Party

23 indoor venues with live music, dancing, and family entertainment

FIREWORKS ON THE POTOMAC

PLUS afternoon adventures with the **SIXTH ANNUAL FUN HUNT** and new creative and culinary activities all around town

Don't miss the area's largest, safest, family-friendly, budget-friendly New Year's Eve celebration!

Children 12 and under, and active military are **FREE**

PRESENTING SPONSORS

Badge and schedule information at FIRSTNIGHTALEXANDRIA.ORG
#FNA20th

Titans Lose Early-Season Matchup of Conference 7 Powers

West Springfield overcomes scoring drought to beat T.C. Williams.

By JON ROETMAN
GAZETTE PACKET

The T.C. Williams girls' basketball team took a 37-36 lead against West Springfield on Friday when sophomore guard Bhrandi Crenshaw converted a three-point play with less than two minutes remaining in the contest.

The Titans had held the Spartans without a field goal for more than seven minutes and had momentum on their side. But 12 seconds later, West Springfield senior Alanna Backus ended the drought with a clutch 3-pointer and the Spartans held on to take Round 1 between Conference 7 heavyweights.

Backus added a pair of free throws in the final minute and scored a team-high 14 points as the Spartans defeated the Titans 42-38 on Dec. 12 at T.C. Williams High School.

Prior to Backus' 3-pointer with 1:40 remaining, West Springfield had managed just a single free throw during the fourth quarter.

"It was kind of crushing because we had the momentum," T.C. Williams guard Rejoice Spivey said. "We were coming back."

West Springfield improved to 5-0.

The game was ugly at the offensive end for both teams. West Springfield held a 25-20 advantage at halftime and took a 35-30 lead when Backus scored with 1:10 left in the third quarter. But it took the Spartans more than six minutes to score another point, and more than seven minutes to come up with a field goal.

T.C. Williams failed to pull away, however, and once the Titans took the lead, Backus snatched it right back.

"That was huge," T.C. Williams head coach Kesha Walton said. "I think we had the momentum and we kind of got relaxed, instead of biting down and doing what we were doing early."

Spivey led all scorers with 17 points. Senior forward Grace Peterson scored 12 points and grabbed 10 rebounds.

"I think we're the better team," Spivey said, "so we've just got to prove that."

West Springfield entered the game averaging 65 points per contest, but was limited to its lowest offensive output of the season.

"We've had problems playing here before," West Springfield head coach Bill Gibson said. "It's just a hard place for us to play in. ... You play bad and come away with a win, that's a good thing."

West Springfield's Maura D'Anna, a 6-foot junior, finished with 12 points and 10 rebounds, but fouled out during the fourth



T.C. Williams guard Rejoice Spivey scored a game-high 17 points against West Springfield on Dec. 12.



T.C. Williams forward Grace Peterson (25) battles for a rebound during the Titans' game against West Springfield on Dec. 12.

quarter.

"She played hard, but she's got to be smarter," Gibson said. "She can't foul out of the game. [She needs to] understand she needs to be a more integral part of our offense."

Shelby Haynes, a 5-foot-10 junior point guard, scored five points, grabbed nine rebounds and came up with a clutch steal in the final 20 seconds for the Spartans.

West Springfield and T.C. Williams for years battled for Patriot District supremacy, meeting in six of the final eight Patriot District championship games. The Titans beat the Spartans in four straight district finals from 2006-09. West Springfield won the next three titles, beating T.C. Williams in the 2011 and 2012 finals. The Titans won the final Patriot District title in 2013, beating a Woodson team that knocked off West Springfield in the semifinals.

The VHSL went to a six-class realignment prior to the 2013-14 season. West Springfield went on to beat T.C. Williams 70-58 in the inaugural Conference 7 championship game in February of last season.

The Spartans are off to a strong start this season, winning their first five games. After graduating standouts like Logan Battle (Georgetown), April Robinson (Duquesne) and Amy Berglund (Northwestern-St. Paul) in recent seasons, the Spartans' offensive output is more evenly distributed.



T.C. Williams girls' basketball coach Kesha Walton instructs the Titans during a Dec. 12 contest.

"We're working really good as a team, recently," D'Anna said. "Our connection is really good. We know each other's strengths and weaknesses."

T.C. Williams graduated standout guards Tykera Carter and Angie Schedler.

West Springfield faced Herndon on Tuesday, after The Connection's deadline. The Spartans will host Lake Braddock at 7:30 p.m. on Friday, Dec. 19.

T.C. Williams improved to 3-2 with a victory on Saturday.

The Titans will host South County at 5:45 p.m. on Friday, Dec. 19.

"I think we'll learn from [our mistakes] and get better and keep going," Walton said. "We'll definitely see [West Springfield] again. We'll probably see them at least two more times — regular season and hopefully in the championship."

PHOTOS BY LOUISE KRAFT/GAZETTE PACKET

NEWS

Long & Foster Launches Veterans Training Program

Foster commits \$25,000 to AVBEC.

By JEANNE THEISMANN
GAZETTE PACKET

Long & Foster Real Estate launched its new Veterans Training Program Nov. 20 with a \$25,000 check presentation from founder and CEO P. Wesley Foster to the Alexandria Veterans Business Enterprise Center.

"As a company, we have nearly half a century of demonstrated commitment to the communities across the Mid-Atlantic and Northeast regions where we live and work," said Foster, a veteran U.S. Army field artillery officer. "Our dedication to giving back and operating our business with the utmost integrity and honesty are a natural fit for our partnership with AVBEC."

Foster led the company's drive to partner with AVBEC, where it will establish a training program to recruit and train military veterans for a career in residential real estate. The Long & Foster program with AVBEC will supplement traditional residential real estate licensing classes with a mentoring program and additional training focused on principles of business, customer service and finance led by veteran entrepreneurs and area business leaders.

"It's our veterans and military servicemen and women that secure our nation's future," said Forrest Odend'hal, branch manager at

Long & Foster founder and CEO Wes Foster, center, presents a check for \$25,000 to Emily McMahan of the Alexandria Veterans Business Enterprise Center Nov. 20 in Old Town. Joining them are AEDP president Val Hawkins, SBDC director Bill Reagan and Long & Foster agents and staff.



PHOTO BY JEANNE THEISMANN

Long & Foster's Alexandria/Old Town Historic District office. "Partnering with AVBEC is just one way that we can give back to them — whether it's helping them to enter the field of real estate or sharing with them our knowledge of buying, selling and owning a home."

Long & Foster is a veteran-owned business and the largest privately held residential real estate company in the country. The commitment by Long & Foster to AVBEC represents the largest corporate partnership to date for the year-old AVBEC program.

The Long & Foster AVBEC veteran recruitment and training program will begin in 2015. The partnership significantly expands the scope of the company's current veteran-focused initiative, the P. Wesley Foster Military Service Scholarship, which covers real estate licensing tuition for U.S. military veterans, active

duty personnel and their spouses and children.

The partnership is a key initiative of the Alexandria/Old Town Long & Foster office's overall philanthropy program to support veterans and active duty military. In addition, the office joined the U.S. Vietnam War Commemoration as a Commemorative Partner earlier this year. It is also part of the Veterans History Project with the American Folklife Center of the Library of Congress, conducting personal interviews with veterans to share their stories.

"Long & Foster has been a noteworthy partner of AVBEC since our inception and we are exceptionally pleased to launch this partnership," said AVBEC director Emily McMahan. "Veterans are a natural fit for the goal-oriented sales process and fiduciary responsibilities essential to success as a real estate professional."

Visit www.alexandriaveterans.org.



WATER! WATER! EVERYWHERE!

Unbelievable prices starting from \$250,000 for waterfront homes in the Northern Neck of VA near the Chesapeake Bay! Now is the time to buy that dream property. Truly a buyer's market!



Contact
Amy Jo Southard,
Licensed VA Realtor

703-447-6497
804-436-2962

amyjosouthard@gmail.com
www.northernneckwaterfronthomes.com

Bathroom Remodel Special \$6,850

Celebrating 15 Years in Business!

TWO POOR TEACHERS

Kitchen and Bathroom Remodeling



Free Estimates
703-999-2928



Visit our website: www.twopoorteachers.com

Select your products from our Mobile Showroom and Design Center

Fully Insured & Class A Licensed
Est. 1999



Winter brings us indoors...



Are you ready for a fresh look in your home? Call us!

703-684-7702

Tech Painting Co.

www.techpainting.com



Join us as we welcome in our 2015 Chairman and Board of Directors.

January 22nd, 2015
6:00 - 9:00pm
Reagan National Airport
Historic Terminal A

Tickets:
Members: \$99
Non-Members: \$150
For more information and to register, visit www.alexchamber.com

Alexandria Chamber of Commerce
2015 Chairman's Community Reception and Annual Meeting

Presented by **Burke & Herbert Bank**

ALEXANDRIA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
801 N. Fairfax Street, Suite 207
Alexandria, VA 22314
(703) 549-1000 • www.AlexChamber.com

ADVOCATE • EDUCATE • NETWORK

Alexandria Handyman Services No Job Too Big or Too Small

Free Estimates Local References

- Electrical
- Gutter Repair & Cleaning
- Yard Work
- Landscaping
- Minor Roof Repairs
- Painting
- Plumbing
- Interior Renovation
- Moving Services
- Tree Trimming, Cutting, Removal
- Snow Shoveling & Much More



Mark Carlson and Associates • Alexandria, VA
Office 703-660-6212 • Mobile 703-863-1758
markcarlson1950@gmail.com

Students at Episcopal High School in Alexandria collaborate on a school project. Essays and interviews help admissions teams determine how an applicant would fit into the school community.



PHOTO COURTESY OF AUDRA WRISLEY

24th Annual Toy Drive

Please donate new toys, infant/toddler items, and grocery store gift cards to support Alexandria families.

Items to give, 0-13 years
Early Baby items, Legos, educational toys, dolls, stuffed animals, board games, dolls, figurines, anything Disney, Power Rangers, Batman, Sports items

Items to give, 14-18 years
Puzzles, Board Games, Watches, Jewelry, Craft/Bead Kits, Purses, Diaries, Movies, Store Gift Cards, Baby Items, Onesies, Sleepers, Musical Crib Mobiles, Interactive Crib Toys, Rattles

Toys are accepted every Friday-Sunday at the first Alexandria's Holiday Market starting Dec. 5 at 300 John Carlyle Street and at many locations within Alexandria THROUGH December 19. For a complete list of participating partners visit www.VolunteerAlexandria.org and click on Holiday Sharing. **THANK YOU** very much for your support!

Volunteer Alexandria, Your Community Resource for Volunteerism
Contact us at mail@volunteeralexandria.org or 703-836-2176
www.VolunteerAlexandria.org

Volunteer Alexandria
HANDS ON NETWORK

SUGGESTED ITEMS AGES 1-13
Toddler Toys, Legos®, LeapFrog®, Books, Educational Toys, Building Blocks, Musical Toys, Stuffed Animals, Dolls, Dolls of Color, My Little Pony, Dora the Explorer, Anything Disney, Power Rangers, Batman, Sports items

Trucks, Cars, Action Figures

Special thanks to
Alexandria Gazette Packet

An Essay To Remember

Local educators offer advice on acing school admission essays and interviews.

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL
GAZETTE PACKET

While many are knee-deep in wrapping paper and eggnog, some students are holed up with computer keyboards and books of quotations. In addition to driving to the mall for holiday shopping, some parents are throwing rapid-fire questions at their children to make sure they are fast on their feet.

For students and parents who hope for slots at the area's top independent schools next year, 'tis admissions season.

"As a school we want to know what the relationship will be between what a student brings to the table and what we will need to bring to the table," said Tim Simpson, assistant head of school and director of admission and financial aid at Bullis School in Potomac, Md.

Interviews are opportunities for admissions teams to get to know applicants and their parents, and share information about their schools.

"We try to encourage students to view the interview as a conversation," said Julie Jameson, director of admissions at St. Andrew's Episcopal School in Potomac. "They should feel comfortable ... be themselves ... and feel free to ask any questions they might have."

In fact, the interview is really a two-way street, says Ann Richardson Miller, director of admission and financial aid at The Madeira School in McLean. "The girl and her parents should be asking as many questions of me as I am asking of her," she said. "After all, this will be her school for the next four years, and fit is critical, both for us, but also for the girl and her parents."

"Learn as much as you can about the school before your visit and be prepared to ask questions," said Scott Conklin, director of admissions, Episcopal High School in Alexandria. "This is also an opportunity to brag about your interests, talents and accomplishments. ... Be humble, but make sure you let us know all about you."

That doesn't mean you should ignore your flaws, however. "We look for genuine conversations that convey the student's real interests and passions," said Simpson. "We also want students and parents to be open to talking about strengths and weaknesses."

THE ADMISSION ESSAY is another opportunity for students to reveal facets of their personalities that might not be obvious through test scores, transcripts and even letters of recommendation, said Patricia Harden, director of admissions and financial aid at Connelly School of the Holy Child in Potomac.

"It should be a well-written snapshot of how an applicant thinks and how she understands some aspect of her world," Harden said.

Some schools even require the admission essay to be completed in person.

"We want to see a student's true, natural writing ability, and we are interested in assessing their ability to develop and present a cohesive, thoughtful essay on the spot," said Michael Cresson, director of admissions, Bishop O'Connell High School in Arlington. "A polished essay prepared at home with lots of edits really doesn't tell us what

we want to know to best evaluate an applicant."

No matter where the essay is written however, the same basic writing advice applies.

"We are looking for students to express themselves and give us an insight into what kind of person he or she is," Cresson said. "My suggestions for students ... would be ... to proofread their essay, allow for enough time, do some research on the school and include that in the essay."

"These are simple suggestions, but it is disappointing as a director to read through essays and find simple mistakes and see that it was rushed."

"When interviewing, I think it is also helpful to learn as much as you can about the school before your visit and be prepared to ask questions."

— Scott Conklin,
director of admissions,
Episcopal High School

Debi Smith & National Men's Chorus

Thomas Beveridge, Artistic Director
Thomas Pandolfi, pianist

"If I Were an Angel" Holiday Concert

Please join us at ...
The Birchmere

Sunday, Dec 21, 2014 • 7:30 P.M.
~ Box Office Opens 5 P.M. ~
Food and Beverages Also Available

3701 Mount Vernon Avenue, Alexandria, VA 22305
Parking Is Free • Tickets available at ticketmaster.com or 1-800-745-3000 or at Birchmere box office, 3701 Mt Vernon Avenue, day of performance.

Special thanks to Gazette and Connection Newspapers

ZONE 3 • ALEXANDRIA
• MOUNT VERNON

CLASSIFIED

703-778-9411
ZONE 3 AD DEADLINE:
TUESDAY NOON

HOME & GARDEN

ZONE 3 • ALEXANDRIA
• MOUNT VERNON

CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM CONTRACTORS.com

703-778-9411
ZONE 3 AD DEADLINE:
TUESDAY NOON

The biggest things are always the easiest to do because there is no competition.
-William Van Horne

21 Announcements

ABC LICENSE
Stomping Ground, LLC trading as Stomping Ground, 2309 Mt Vernon Ave, Alexandria, VA 22301. The above establishment is applying to the VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL (ABC) for a Wine and Beer on Premises license to sell or manufacture alcoholic beverages.
Erik Dorn Member
NOTE: Objections to the issuance of this license must be submitted to ABC no later than 30 days from the publishing date of the first of two required newspaper legal notices. objections should be registered at www.abc.virginia.gov or 800-552-3200.

26 Antiques
We pay top \$ for antique furniture and mid-century Danish/modern teak furniture, STERLING, MEN'S WATCHES, jewelry and costume jewelry, paintings/art glass/clocks. Schefer Antiques @ 703-241-0790. Email: theschefer@cox.net

21 Announcements

ABC LICENSE
La Tasca Inc trading as La Tasca, 607 King St. Alexandria, VA 22314. The above establishment is applying to the VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL (ABC) for a Wine and Beer On and Off Premises license to sell or manufacture alcoholic beverages. Francis McDonald, Vice President
NOTE: Objections to the issuance of this license must be submitted to ABC no later than 30 days from the publishing date of the first of two required newspaper legal notices. objections should be registered at www.abc.virginia.gov or 800-552-3200.

101 Computers

HDI COMPUTER SOLUTIONS
JENNIFER SMITH ♦ Serving the Area Since 1995

- Speed up Slow Computers
- Troubleshooting
- Virus Removal
- Computer Setup

(571) 265-2038
jennifer@HDIComputerSolutions.com

101 Computers

ALEXANDRIA
Gazette Packet CLASSIFIED

Classified or Home • Lawn • Garden:
703-917-6400

Employment: 703-917-6464

CONNECTION
to your community

E-mail: classified@connectionnewspapers.com

21 Announcements

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

21 Announcements

LIFETIME METAL ROOFING
by Va Carolina Buildings, INC

100% Financing
Free Estimate
Free Roof Inspection

1.800.893.1242
metalroofover.com

26 Antiques
FALLS CHURCH ANTIQUES
Best Kept Secret of The Metro Area!
Unique collection of antiques and collectibles, including furniture, jewelry, glassware, pottery, sterling silver, paintings, prints and more!
Fun home and gift ideas!
Christmas Shop Now Open!
Falls Church Antique Co.
250W. Broad St. Falls Church, Va • 703-2419642

26 Antiques
102 Instruction
William A. Banks
2601 Londonderry Road
Alexandria, VA 22308
(703) 989-1616

Guitar, Tenor Banjo, and Mandolin Instruction

- Master of Arts in Music
- Studied with NBC/CBS staff musician
- Member of American Federation of Musicians & Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia

21 Announcements
101 Computers

21 Announcements
101 Computers

CITY OF ALEXANDRIA VIRGINIA

Sealed proposals for the City of Alexandria per specifications will be received in the office of the Purchasing Division until the date and time designated as follows:

Title: RFP No. 00000494, Architectural Design Services, Engineering Services and Construction Administration Services for Fire Station 203
RFP Closing Date and Time: January 26, 2015, 4 p.m., prevailing local time
Pre-Proposal Conference: January 6, 2015

For general inquiries contact Michel F. Hauer, CPPO-CPPB, Acting Purchasing Agent at 703.746.4295.

The City of Alexandria reserves the right to reject any and all proposals, cancel this solicitation, and to waive any informalities or irregularities in procedure. THE CITY REQUIRES ITS CONTRACTORS TO BE EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYERS.

21 Announcements

21 Announcements

ELECTRICAL
K & D ELECTRIC
COMMERCIAL / RESIDENTIAL SERVICE
Family Owned & Operated

Recessed Lighting
Ceiling Fans
Phone/CATV
Computer Network Cabling
Service Upgrades
Hot Tubs, etc...

Licensed/Bonded/Insured
Office 703-335-0654
Mobile 703-499-0522
lektrkman28@gmail.com

GUTTER
GUTTER CLEANING
Gutters and Downspouts Cleaned
Small Repairs • Gutter Guards

PINNACLE SERVICES
lic/ins 703-802-0483 free est.
email jamie@lawnsandgutters.com
web: lawnsandgutters.com
Friendly Service with a Friendly Price!

IMPROVEMENTS
R.N. CONTRACTORS, INC.

Remodeling Homes, Flooring, Kitchen & Bath, Windows, Siding, Roofing, Additions & Patios, Custom Deck, Painting

We Accept All Major Credit Cards
Licensed, Insured, Bonded • Free Estimates • Class A Lic
Phone: 703-887-3827 Fax: 703-830-3849
E-mail: rncontractorsinc@gmail.com
www.rncontractors.com

The HANDYMAN
A DIVISION OF NURSE CONSTRUCTION

BATHROOM REMODELING, DRYWALL, PAINTING, CERAMIC TILE, CARPENTRY, POWER WASHING & MUCH MORE

You have tried the rest - NOW CALL THE BEST!!
Proudly serving Northern VA - 46 yrs. exp.
We Accept VISA/MC
Licensed Insured
703-441-8811

R&N Carpentry

♦ BASEMENTS ♦ BATHS ♦ KITCHENS
Foreclosure specialist/Power washing
♦ Exterior Wood Rot More!
Deck & Fence repair, Screen Porches
No jobs too large or small
Free est. 37 yrs exp. Licensed, Insured
703-987-5096

Picture Perfect Home Improvements

(703) 590-3137

Remodeling Bathrooms, Kitchens & Basements

Exterior & Interior Repair, Painting, Carpentry, Wood Rot, Drywall, All Flooring, Decks

- FREE Estimates
- EASY To schedule
- FAST & Reliable Service
- NO \$\$\$ DOWN!

Handyman Services Available
www.pphionfine.com
"If it can be done, we can do it"
Licensed - Bonded - Insured

HANDYMAN
DON'T FIX IT!

I BUY HOUSES in ANY CONDITION
Save Commission ~ Fair Price ~ No Hassles
Not An Agent ~ Female Owned
703-969-5847
www.ibuyfairfaxhouses.com
ibuyfairfaxhouses@gmail.com

LAWN SERVICE
PINNACLE SERVICES, INC.
LAWN SERVICE

MOWING, TRIMMING, EDGING, MULCHING & TRIM HEDGES
Friendly Service for a Friendly Price
703-802-0483

MASONRY
BRICK AND STONE
Custom Masonry
703-768-3900
www.custommasonry.info

Patios, Walkways, Stoops, Steps, Driveways
Repairs & New Installs • All Work Guaranteed

PAVING
GOLDY BRICK CONSTRUCTION
Walkways, Patios, Driveways, Flagstone, Concrete
FREE ESTIMATES
Licensed, Insured, Bonded
703-250-6231

TREE SERVICE
Quality Tree Service & Landscaping

Reasonable prices. Licensed & insured.

Fall Cleanup...
Tree removal, topping & pruning, shrubbery trimming, mulching, leaf removal, planting, hauling, gutter cleaning, retaining walls, drainage problems, etc.

25 years of experience - Free estimates
703-868-5358

24 Hour Emergency Tree Service

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

PEOPLE

HOME & GARDEN

CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM CONTRACTORS.com

HAULING	LANDSCAPING
ANGEL'S HAULING Junk Trash Removal, Yard/Construction Debris, Garage/Base- ment Clean Out, Furniture & Appl. 703-863-1086 703-582-3709 240-603-6182	WALKWAYS STONEWORK, PATIOS, DECKS, EROSION CONTROL FRENCH DRAINS A&S LANDSCAPING 703-863-7465 LIC. & INS.

LANDSCAPING	ANGEL'S TREE REMOVAL Brush & Yard Debris Trimming & Topping Gutters & Hauling Angelstreeslandscaping-hauling.com 703-863-1086 703-582-3709 240-603-6182
JUNK HAULING Junk, Rubbish, Homes, Offices, Commerical, Yard/Construction Debris, Lot Clear out, 24 hrs day, General Hom Work. 703-520-3205 N-VA	Light tomorrow with today! -Elizabeth Barret Browing

TREE SERVICE **TREE SERVICE**

Quality Tree Service & Landscaping
Reasonable prices. Licensed & insured



**Leaf Removal
Gutter Cleaning**

25 years of experience
Free estimates
703-868-5358
24 Hour Emergency Tree Service

EMPLOYMENT

BUSINESS OPP	BUSINESS OPP
TELEPHONE A great opportunity to WORK AT HOME! NATIONAL CHILDRENS CENTER No sell! Salary + Bonus + Benefits! 301-333-1900 Weekdays 9-4	TELEPHONE A great opportunity to WORK AT HOME! NATIONAL CHILDRENS CENTER No sell! Salary + Bonus + Benefits! 301-333-1900 Weekdays 9-4

Associate,
Electrical Patent Prosecution
Oblon Spivak McClelland Maier &
Neustadt has opening in Alexandria, VA
for Associate, Electrical Patent Prosecu-
tion. Utilizing undergraduate
preparation in a STEM program,
prepare and prosecute U.S. patent
applications covering a wide range of
areas including: consumer
electronics, computer hardware/soft-
ware, communication/broadcasting
technologies, display technologies, data
storage technologies, imaging
technologies, medical devices and semi-
conductor devices. LLM or JD in
Law or equiv + 1yr exp. Experience must
include: patent preparation,
both domestic and foreign. Send re-
sumes to Oblon Spivak McClelland
Maier & Neustadt, Attn:HR, 1940 Duke
Street, Alexandria, VA 22314.
Must ref job title & code: AEPP-MY.

Honoring Athletes in New Hall of Fame

Twenty former Alexandria City Public School students were inducted into the inaugural class of the athletic hall of fame on Dec. 5. The ceremony was held before the annual Parker-Gray (T.C. Williams) vs Hoffman-Boston (Wakefield) varsity basketball game at T.C. Williams.

The 2014 ACPS hall of fame inductees include: Gerry Bertier (football, TCW '72), Rodney Bridges (track & field TCW '89), Keith Burns (TCW '90), Tynita Butts (track & field TCW '09), Ed Doran (basketball FCH '59), Steve Douglas (baseball TCW '75), Michelle Griglione (swimming TCW '86), Cathy Grimes (basketball TCW '81), Charlotte Hollings (Crew TCW '82), William "Red" Jackson (football P-G '48), Sori Kanu (football TCW '95), Earl Lloyd (basketball P-G '49), Walter "Chip" Lubsen (crew TCW '73), Mike Mansy (track & field TCW '79), John O'Connor (baseball FCH '70), LaChina Robinson (basketball TCW '98), Tierra Ruffin-Pratt (basketball TCW '09), Martin Smith (track & field TCW '70), Harley "Skeeter" Swift (basketball GW '65) and Craig Talley (track & field TCW '71) The hall of fame is located on the wall inside door 14 at TC Williams High School.



Twenty ACPS athletes were inducted into the Hall of Fame.

Harley "Skeeter" Swift is congratulated by ACPS school board chair Karen Graf at the inaugural athletic hall of fame induction ceremony.



Former TC football coaches Herman Boone and Bill Yoast greet hall of fame inductee LaChina Robinson at the ceremony in the gym.

LaChina Robinson and Earl Lloyd Jr. take photos of the hall of fame plaques in the hallway after the unveiling.



Martin Smith, TCW '70 and hall of fame inductee, is greeted by friends at a pre-ceremony reception.



Surrounded by family and friends, LaChina Robinson, TCW '98, poses for photos in the rotunda at the high school.

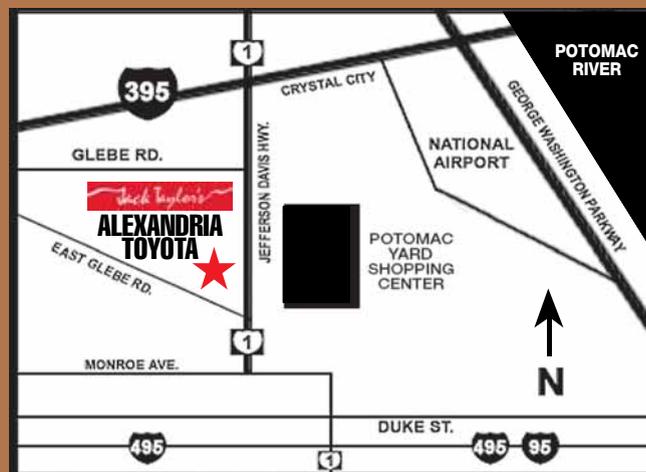
PHOTOS BY
LOUISE KRAFFT
GAZETTE PACKET

Jack Taylor's
ALEXANDRIA TOYOTA

3750 Jefferson Davis Hwy.
Alexandria, VA 22305

703-684-0710

www.alexandriatoyota.com



NEW! Extended Service Department Hours:

Monday – Friday, 7 am to 9 pm

Saturday, 7:30 am to 4:30 pm

Sunday, 10 am to 4 pm

Sunday by appointment only.

Make your next service appointment at:
alexandriatoyota.com

You Have Saturdays Off

That's Exactly Why We Don't!



TOYOTA
ServiceCenters
Keep Your Toyota
a Toyota



27 YEARS OF
RECEIVING THIS
HONOR



TOYOTA
Owners
ToyotaOwnersOnline.com

TOYOTA
LIFETIME GUARANTEE

Mufflers • Exhaust Pipes • Shocks • Struts
Toyota mufflers, exhaust pipes, shocks, struts and strut cartridges are guaranteed to the original purchaser for the life of the vehicle when installed by an authorized Toyota dealer. See us for full details.



TOYOTA
Let's Go Places



<p style="text-align: center;"><small>TOYOTA GENUINE SERVICE</small></p> <p style="text-align: center;">BUY 3 TIRES AND GET 4TH FOR</p> <p style="text-align: center;">\$1⁰⁰</p> <p style="text-align: center;">& GET A 4 WHEEL ALIGNMENT FOR \$39⁹⁵</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><small>GOT TIRES? NO CHARGE ROAD HAZARD PROTECTION, TIRE WARRANTY, AND FREE COURTESY MULTI-POINT INSPECTION. SEE SERVICE ADVISOR FOR DETAILS. NOT VALID WITH ANY OTHER OFFER OR COUPON. TOYOTA VEHICLES ONLY. OFFER EXPIRES 12/31/14. COUPON MUST BE PRESENTED AT TIME OF WRITE-UP. VALID ONLY AT ALEXANDRIA TOYOTA. TAX AND SHOP SUPPLIES ADDITIONAL.</small></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><small>TOYOTA GENUINE SERVICE</small></p> <p style="text-align: center;">4 WHEEL ALIGNMENT</p> <p style="text-align: center;">\$89⁹⁵</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><small>PREVENT UNEVEN WEAR</small></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><small>Your car's alignment suffers, and can cause uneven tire wear, steering problems and decreased fuel economy.</small></p> <p style="text-align: center;">INCLUDES: inspect suspension, ball joints, struts & shocks, tire condition and set tire pressure.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><small>NOT VALID WITH ANY OTHER OFFER OR COUPON. TOYOTA VEHICLES ONLY. OFFER EXPIRES 12/31/14. COUPON MUST BE PRESENTED AT TIME OF WRITE-UP. VALID ONLY AT ALEXANDRIA TOYOTA. TAX AND SHOP SUPPLIES ADDITIONAL.</small></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><small>TOYOTA GENUINE SERVICE</small></p> <p style="text-align: center;">TRUE START BATTERY SPECIAL</p> <p style="text-align: center;">\$139⁹⁵</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><small>INCLUDES BATTERY INSTALLATION</small></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><small>Includes: 84 month warranty, 24 month FREE replacement, 24 month FREE roadside assistance, 60 month prorated, PLUS we'll check all battery cables & connectors.</small></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><small>Does not apply to hybrid batteries. NOT VALID WITH ANY OTHER OFFER OR COUPON. TOYOTA VEHICLES ONLY. OFFER EXPIRES 12/31/14. COUPON MUST BE PRESENTED AT TIME OF WRITE-UP. VALID ONLY AT ALEXANDRIA TOYOTA. TAX AND SHOP SUPPLIES ADDITIONAL.</small></p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><small>TOYOTA GENUINE SERVICE</small></p> <p style="text-align: center;">WINTER DETAIL SPECIAL</p> <p style="text-align: center;">\$119⁹⁵</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><small>Prepare your car's paint for the harsh winter road conditions. A full exterior buffing, paint sealant and wax, along with a vacuuming of the interior. Vans & SUVs add \$20.00.</small></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><small>NOT VALID WITH ANY OTHER OFFER OR COUPON. TOYOTA VEHICLES ONLY. OFFER EXPIRES 12/31/14. COUPON MUST BE PRESENTED AT TIME OF WRITE-UP. VALID ONLY AT ALEXANDRIA TOYOTA.</small></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><small>TOYOTA GENUINE SERVICE</small></p> <p style="text-align: center;">5K, 10K, 20K, 25K, 35K MILE MINOR FACTORY RECOMMENDED MAINTENANCE SERVICE</p> <p style="text-align: center;">\$54⁹⁵</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><small>SYNTHETIC OIL ADDITIONAL \$10.</small></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><small>NOT VALID WITH ANY OTHER OFFER OR COUPON. TOYOTA VEHICLES ONLY. OFFER EXPIRES 12/31/14. COUPON MUST BE PRESENTED AT TIME OF WRITE-UP. VALID ONLY AT ALEXANDRIA TOYOTA. TAX AND SHOP SUPPLIES ADDITIONAL.</small></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><small>TOYOTA GENUINE SERVICE</small></p> <p style="text-align: center;">BRAKE SPECIAL</p> <p style="text-align: center;">\$79⁹⁵</p> <p style="text-align: center;">PADS</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><small>Includes: Install Genuine Toyota front brake pads, inspect front & rear rotors & drums, check tire condition and inspect all hardware. TCMC pads only.</small></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><small>MACHINE ROTORS AN ADDITIONAL \$199.95. DOES NOT APPLY TO ALL VEHICLES PLEASE SEE SERVICE ADVISOR FOR DETAILS. NOT VALID WITH ANY OTHER OFFER OR COUPON. TOYOTA VEHICLES ONLY. OFFER EXPIRES 12/31/14. COUPON MUST BE PRESENTED AT TIME OF WRITE-UP. VALID ONLY AT ALEXANDRIA TOYOTA. TAX AND SHOP SUPPLIES ADDITIONAL.</small></p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><small>TOYOTA GENUINE SERVICE</small></p> <p style="text-align: center;">OIL & FILTER SERVICE SPECIAL</p> <p style="text-align: center;">\$5⁰⁰ OFF</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><small>Includes: Change oil, install Genuine Toyota oil filter, inspect & adjust all fluid levels and complimentary multi-point inspection with print out.</small></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><small>NOT VALID WITH ANY OTHER OFFER OR COUPON. TOYOTA VEHICLES ONLY. OFFER EXPIRES 12/31/14. COUPON MUST BE PRESENTED AT TIME OF WRITE-UP. VALID ONLY AT ALEXANDRIA TOYOTA.</small></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><small>TOYOTA GENUINE SERVICE</small></p> <p style="text-align: center;">WINTERIZATION SPECIAL</p> <p style="text-align: center;">\$59⁹⁵</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><small>Includes: Drain and fill radiator with genuine Toyota anti-freeze inspect belts hoses and water pump. Lifetime anti-freeze \$10 more.</small></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><small>SOME MODELS HIGHER. NOT VALID WITH ANY OTHER OFFER. TOYOTA VEHICLES ONLY. GOOD THRU 12/31/14. COUPON MUST BE PRESENTED AT TIME OF PURCHASE. VALID ONLY AT ALEXANDRIA TOYOTA PARTS CENTER ONLY.</small></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><small>TOYOTA GENUINE SERVICE</small></p> <p style="text-align: center;">DETAIL SPECIALS</p> <p style="text-align: center;">\$39⁹⁵ Wash & Vacuum</p> <p style="text-align: center;">\$139⁹⁵ Hand wash, wax & interior cleaning</p> <p style="text-align: center;">\$295⁹⁵ Full premium detail</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><small>NOT VALID WITH ANY OTHER OFFER OR COUPON. TOYOTA VEHICLES ONLY. OFFER EXPIRES 12/31/14. COUPON MUST BE PRESENTED AT TIME OF WRITE-UP. VALID ONLY AT ALEXANDRIA TOYOTA.</small></p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><small>GENUINE TOYOTA</small></p> <p style="text-align: center;">15% OFF</p> <p style="text-align: center;">WIPER INSERTS & WIPER BLADES</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><small>SOME MODELS HIGHER. NOT VALID WITH ANY OTHER OFFER. TOYOTA VEHICLES ONLY. GOOD THRU 12/31/14. COUPON MUST BE PRESENTED AT TIME OF PURCHASE. VALID ONLY AT ALEXANDRIA TOYOTA PARTS CENTER ONLY.</small></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><small>TOYOTA GENUINE SERVICE</small></p> <p style="text-align: center;">NITROFILL SPECIAL</p> <p style="text-align: center;">\$39⁹⁵</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><small>We will purge the tires of air and refill them with nitrogen.</small></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><small>NOT VALID WITH ANY OTHER OFFER OR COUPON. TOYOTA VEHICLES ONLY. OFFER EXPIRES 12/31/14. COUPON MUST BE PRESENTED AT TIME OF WRITE-UP. VALID ONLY AT ALEXANDRIA TOYOTA. TAX AND SHOP SUPPLIES ADDITIONAL.</small></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><small>TOYOTA GENUINE SERVICE</small></p> <p style="text-align: center;">EXTEND THE LIFE OF YOUR VEHICLE!</p> <p style="text-align: center;">BG FLUID EXCHANGE SPECIAL</p> <p style="text-align: center;">TRANSMISSION FLUSH \$189⁹⁵</p> <p style="text-align: center;">POWER STEERING FLUSH \$139⁹⁵</p> <p style="text-align: center;">BRAKE FLUSH \$139⁹⁵</p> <p style="text-align: center;">FUEL INDUCTION FLUSH \$139⁹⁵</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><small>FOR TRANSMISSION FLUSH, TYPE T OR WS FLUID ADD \$50.00 NOT VALID WITH ANY OTHER OFFER OR COUPON. TOYOTA VEHICLES ONLY. OFFER EXPIRES 12/31/14. COUPON MUST BE PRESENTED AT TIME OF WRITE-UP. VALID ONLY AT ALEXANDRIA TOYOTA.</small></p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><small>TOYOTA GENUINE SERVICE</small></p> <p style="text-align: center;">WE WILL MEET OR BEAT ANY LOCAL TOYOTA DEALERSHIP'S CURRENT ADVERTISED SERVICE SPECIALS</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><small>NOT VALID WITH ANY OTHER OFFER OR COUPON. TOYOTA VEHICLES ONLY. OFFER EXPIRES 12/31/14. COUPON MUST BE PRESENTED AT TIME OF WRITE-UP. VALID ONLY AT ALEXANDRIA TOYOTA.</small></p>		

Jack Taylor's
ALEXANDRIA TOYOTA / SCION

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



Let's Go Places



Alexandria **\$409,900**

Move-in ready two-bedroom, two-bath condo in West Village of Shirlington. High ceilings, open floor plan, great sunroom that overlooks large courtyard. Located within walking distance to shops, dining and more.
www.4177fourmilerun202.mceneaney.com

Sue Goodhart

703.362.3221
www.TheGoodhartGroup.com



Old Town Alexandria **\$569,000**

Historic Residential or Commercial Sale! Two to four office spaces or convert this property back to a sweet residence with minimal effort. Two bedrooms. Classic well-maintained hardwood floors. Two charismatic fireplaces. Third level attic storage or extra work space. Walk to Metro.

Jud Burke

703.966.8343
www.JudBurke.com



Old Town Alexandria **\$1,349,000**

Completed new construction! Downsize to Old Town without really downsizing. Spectacular and stunning with 3,500-SF of designer living space. Enjoy the walkable lifestyle Old Town offers. Large fenced patio and garden. Two parking spaces. 403A N Alfred St.

Susan Craft

703.216.4501
www.SusanCraft.com



Alexandria **\$849,000**

Lovely and spacious center-hall colonial close to everything - schools, shopping, transportation, bus to Metro and bike! Full walkout basement with room for exercise, recreation, workshop and hobbies. There is a garden storage room under the garage with a rear entrance.

Julie Lineberry

703.489.2823
www.McEneaney.com



Alexandria **\$950,000**

Fabulous private location, yet minutes to all major roadways. Sited on a half acre of lushly landscaped land at the end of a quiet cul-de-sac, this four-bedroom, two-and-a-half-bath home is a commuter's dream. Two-car garage, family room, updated kitchen and more!

Betty Mallon

703.989.8548
www.BettyMallon.com



Old Town Alexandria **\$1,224,900**

Zoned CD (Commercial Downtown) this stunning brick townhouse was built in the late 1800s and pristinely restored throughout. With 2,352 square feet this timeless building could be home to any number of commercial and business endeavors - OR perhaps an elegant residence.

Janet Price & Diane Sappenfield

703.960.5858 | 703.683.2700
www.JanetPriceHomes.com



Alexandria **\$735,000**

Sited on a large private lot with lovely winter river views, this charming Tudor has hardwood floors throughout, elegant dining and living rooms, sun room, eat-in kitchen and fixed stairs to the attic. A gem as it is but prime for expansion!

Robin Arnold

703.966.5457
www.RobinArnoldSells.com



Old Town Alexandria **\$405,000**

Luxury hi-rise on the Potomac! Lovely 2-bedroom, 2-bath end-unit with garage space and parkland views. Sun-drenched, open floor plan, new HVAC, renovated kitchen & baths, balcony, lots of closets, parking, 24-hr front desk, fitness center, pool, bike path. Near shopping, restaurants, Metro and buses.

Nada Seide

703.350.3803
www.CallNada.com



Alexandria **\$275,000**

First-floor unit in Beverley Hills. Living-dining combo, kitchen with tons of cabinet space. Maple engineered hardwood floors throughout. Master with walk-in closet and full bath. Second bedroom and full hall bath. Separate laundry/storage room. Fenced-in outdoor patio.

Kristie Zimmerman

703.786.6155
www.KristielsMyAgent.com