



PHOTO BY LOUISE KRAFFT/GAZETTE PACKET

Pet Gazette

Opie relaxes in Torpedo Factory Studio #16 after a walk on the City Dock. More pet photos, pages 4-5.

Of Two Minds

Zoning amendment for memory care center draws crowd of supporters and opponents.

BY VERNON MILES
GAZETTE PACKET

After seven hours of debate in Alexandria's City Council meeting, the room was still deeply divided between those in favor of rezoning a property on King Street to create a memory care facility and neighbors to the property entrenched against it. Snow piled up outside City Hall at the Feb. 21 public hearing as the discussion ran from breakfast, over lunch, and straight on through dinner. Ultimately, after more than one council member expressed hopes that the weather would allow them to delay a decision, the council voted in favor of the rezoning.

The plan for the facility involved a special use permit to rezone the property from its current R-8 single family residential to a RB zone with certain limitations, called proffers, which among other restrictions limit the property's usage to a memory care facility.



PHOTO BY VERNON MILES/GAZETTE PACKET

The parcel of land in question.

The memory care facility would be built on the empty lot between the current Woodbine Rehabilitation and Healthcare Center on King Street and the neighboring Ivy Hill Cemetery. Immediately across King Street is the Taylor Run neighborhood, which is where the

SEE COUNCIL, PAGE 23

Collaboration Over Competition

Alexandria non-profit organizations unite for city budgeting.

BY VERNON MILES
GAZETTE PACKET

As Alexandria's nonprofits prepare for the March 3 release of the County Manager's proposed budget,

things are going a little differently this year. While in the past Alexandria's non-profits have lobbied separately for their share of the City Council funding, this year the major non-profit organizations

SEE NON-PROFIT, PAGE 22

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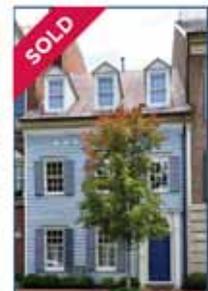
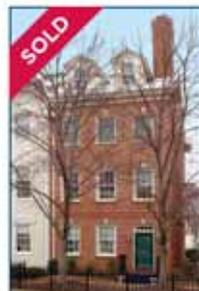
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BY JEANNE THEISMANN
GAZETTE PACKET

'T was the night before Christmas, literally, when a man walked into the Senior Services of Alexandria office and handed an envelope to then-executive director Janet Barnett. The year was 2007 and the man was Ron Bradley.



Ron Bradley

"Ron asked how he could help the seniors of Alexandria," Barnett said. "When I explained that the city did not provide meals to seniors on holidays, Ron stepped in with \$10,000 to fund a holiday meals program. But he had a condition — that they could not be ordinary meals. He wanted our seniors to enjoy a festive meal just like we do at home."

The Holiday Meals on Wheels program continues today and on Feb 28, Bradley will become the first recipient of the Senior Services of Alexandria Philanthropist Award at the annual SSA Generation to Generation Gala. The event will also honor June Geoffray and her son Christopher Campagna and John and Bea Taylor and their daughters Karen Taylor Chandler and Rhonda Taylor.

"This year's Generation to Generation honorees represent what is best in Alexandria," said SSA executive director Mary Lee Anderson. "Both families have very deep roots in our community and each generation has built on the legacy of their parents and grandparents through dedication to improving the lives of others and making our city a better place to live for everyone."

Bradley, through the Ronald M. Bradley Foundation, continues to fully fund the SSA holiday meals program. "The first recipient of the SSA Philanthropist award, Ronald M. Bradley, exemplifies the spirit of selfless giving," Anderson said. "The Holiday Meals on Wheels program is a result of his vision and personal commitment to make sure that our seniors are not forgotten on days of community celebration. They can count on a special meal, the

smiling face of a volunteer and the knowledge that one person can make a real difference in so many lives."

THE CAMPAGNA name is synonymous with service in the city of Alexandria, but that service extends beyond the walls of the building on S. Washington Street that bears the family name.

June Geoffray is a fifth-generation Alexandrian who started volunteering at the age of 10. In the 1960s, she was heavily involved with several local organizations including the Alexandria Community Y and served with Alexandria's first Head Start Program. From there, Geoffray volunteered to establish Interim House, as well as assisting the city's Christmas for Children in Foster Care. In the 1980s, she was a board member of both the Northern Virginia AIDS Ministry and the Alexandria Boys & Girls Club of Greater Washington.



Christopher Campagna and June Geoffrey

Christopher Campagna's volunteer work was inspired by his mother as well as his grandmother, Elizabeth Ann Campagna, whose dedication to social work led to the Campagna Center being named in her memory.

Campagna's commitment to the Alexandria community is evident in his many years of dedication to the activities of the Campagna Center, where he serves on the board of directors. He is also involved with St. Paul's Lazarus Ministry and has served as a board member and chair of St. Anthony's School Scholarship Fund. A long-time volunteer with Senior Services of



John and Bea Taylor, right, with daughters Karen Taylor Chandler and Rhonda Taylor.

Alexandria's Meals on Wheels program, Campagna can be counted on to deliver meals in his four-wheel-drive vehicle whenever there is a snowstorm. He is also a personal and corporate supporter of many local nonprofits, including Carpenter's Shelter, the Men's Home and the Alexandria Seaport Foundation.

JOHN TAYLOR'S family dates back five generations in Alexandria and Bea Taylor's dates back three. They met in high school and celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary this year. For decades, giving back has always been an anchor in both their families — a value that they passed on to their two daughters, Karen Taylor Chandler and Rhonda Taylor.

Much of the Taylor families' involvement in giving back includes the areas of community, church and school service. John Taylor has worked extensively with Alexandria Elks Lodge #48, including serving as its Exalted Ruler.

Bea, Karen and Rhonda Taylor's service includes multiple projects with the Roberts Memorial United Methodist Church and Elks Club Israel Temple #138, including coordinating a "Baby Shower" that includes baby items for teenage mothers and overseeing the Elks' annual pre-Thanksgiving dinner to which all seniors in the city are invited. In addition, Bea Taylor has played an active role in the Beautification Program of the City of Alexandria, worked at the polls during elections and held many PTA offices. For over 11 years, Bea Taylor was a dedi-

cated worker at Senior Services.

BRADLEY is co-founder and former CEO and President of Bradson Corporation, a professional services company providing accounting, financial and business management services to federal government organizations. From 1983 through Sept. 30, 2006, Bradley directed the growth of Bradson from its first contract award in 1983 to provide financial and program management support to the MK 46

Torpedo Program at the Naval Underwater Systems Center in Newport, R.I., to numerous long-term contracts with the Department of Defense, Department of Homeland Security and other federal government organizations. On Oct. 1, 2006, Bradley sold Bradsob Corporation to a public company trading on the NASDAQ.

While Bradley has resided in Alexandria for over 16 years, he hails from the town of Dundee, Mich. (pop. 2,500), where his mother still resides. He attended Michigan State University with the help of a four-year ROTC scholarship and graduated with a B.S. degree. He then served as a commissioned officer in the U.S. Army for six years. While in the service, he pursued and received an M.B.A. from Mount Saint Mary's College.

Currently, Bradley manages a private investment portfolio and is the President of the Ronald M. Bradley Foundation, Inc., a private foundation focused on supporting various charitable and educational activities. In addition to the SSA Holiday Meals program, Bradley and his wife Danielle support a number of nonprofit organizations, including Foundation Fighting Blindness, Leukemia & Lymphoma Society, National Sporting Library and Museum, Great Meadow Foundation and the Blue Ridge Wildlife Center.

The Senior Services Generation to Generation Gala will be held Feb. 28 from 6-11 p.m. at the Hilton Mark Center. The evening will feature a silent auction and entertainment by Bruthers Plus One. For tickets or more information, call 703-836-4414 or visit www.seniorservicesalex.org.

Interstellar

BY VERNON MILES
GAZETTE PACKET

For many children, "astronaut" is one of the quickest answers when asked what they want to be when they grow up. A visit to Jefferson-Houston School on Feb. 13 from NASA Administrator Charles Bolden aimed to encourage those students to hold onto that answer. Bolden and other NASA leadership spoke to adults on how to cultivate an interest in math and science, and showed how by fielding questions from Jefferson-Houston students on life in space.

"The big thing is to expose them to the available opportunities," said Bolden to

parents. "Kids know the name, but they don't know we're so spread around the country. We try to show them those opportunities."

For Donald James, NASA's associate administrator for education, that job is a lot easier for NASA than it is for many school teachers. "All it takes is for NASA to show up," said James. "We have great brand recognition. When astronauts show up, that gets kids inspired. Hands-on education helps them understand what it means to be an engineer. It gets them asking the right questions: What does space feel like? Is there life out there?"

Bolden told the students in the packed

SEE NASA, PAGE 22



NASA Administrator Charles Bolden aiming to inspire Jefferson-Houston students.

PHOTO BY VERNON MILES/GAZETTE PACKET

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PET GAZETTE



KD Soriano, age 10, and English Chocolate Labrador Sir Dexter, at Fire Station 209, Alexandria.

— MARIAH SORIANO



PHOTO TAKEN BY HIS GODMOTHER, TINA JONES

Cobi Boggs-Roys



PHOTO FROM CHARLES E. (MICKEY) SIMPSON JR.

This Australian terrier demonstrates behaviors equal to a Westminster show dog. He has perfect pearly white teeth, walks or jumps on a leash, keeps pace with his handler, does 360-degree body wheelies before each meal, and smiles on command. He is a real gentleman and loves to kiss all women he meets. He was originally given up for adoption due to a diagnosis of diabetes. As a result of the diabetes he has limited vision. He also developed a knee injury not uncommon to his breed, similar to a football injury. A great rescue organization called "Forever Homes" placed him in a loving foster home with four other dogs. A gas explosion set the entire home on fire, Mickey, another dog, and his foster mom, Terre, made it out alive. While the foster mom struggled to put her life back in order, a couple from Alexandria came, took one look, and it was forever love. His new family spoils him with spa trips and treats, but Mick-Mick really just enjoys simple car rides. By the way, his new mom and dad's names are Terrie and Mickey.

Percy has had enough of winter. He can't wait for the birds to return this spring.

— CLARE WILLIAMS



Picco, who lives at Canal Place with Renee and Andy DiPilato, brings back a souvenir from his daily walk.



Beware, The Glove Thieves!



Beware of Glove Thieves

Max Rotermund and Susan D. Dawson, long time residents of Alexandria, are putting the citizens of Alexandria on notice:

Apparently, unbeknownst to Max and Susan, certain articles of clothing, namely gloves, worn especially during the cold winter season, contain real fur. The smell of this fur, unfortunately, is irresistible to certain feline residents of Alexandria. Max and Susan have found out the hard way that any glove containing this smell is

subject to feline theft, especially in the paws of cats Esne and Cinco.

Just because gloves are put in usual places, like table tops, purses, and closets, does not keep these very clever thieves from stalking and killing them.

This may be a contagious condition, and other feline residents of Alexandria may "catch" this illness of glove thievery. Please be on the lookout for possible articles that may be subject to this heinous act and the perpetrators thereof.

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CELEBRATING 10 Years



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Dougie, a rescue puppy, prepared for the "Puppy Bowl" at the Frolick Dogs Canine Sports Club in Alexandria this past January. The tunnel helps promotes concentration during play.



PHOTO BY LINDA WOLF

Samantha and her mother Sabrina wait on the field for their next command. Both poodles are Champion Ascot dogs.



We adopted Annie when she was nine and were blessed with her company, love and exuberance for four years. She was smart, affectionate, goofy, protective and silly. Above, taken in Annapolis, is of Annie, myself and my other rescued dog, Nora (left to right).

— GEORGANN MEADOWS



Annie is with her "doggie daddy," Dennis White, taken along the Delaware coast when we camped near Cape Henlopen State Park. Annie passed away last October. We miss her tremendously, but are so grateful for the many fun times we shared with her. She was always up for a ride in the car and an adventure.

— GEORGANN MEADOWS

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Dog Walker in Winter

Human work schedules create demand.

BY SHIRLEY RUHE
GAZETTE PACKET

Leisha Heyde flashed a rainbow of jackets as she prepared to start her first dog walk of the day in 14-degree weather. “This green jacket is my seventh layer — I call myself the seven-layer dip. This is my husband’s jacket because all of these layers won’t fit under mine.” It is 10:30 a.m. and she heads to the car with her wad of keys after checking the folder that has a detailed profile of each dog on today’s schedule.

This is her first of 10 dog walks on Thursday. “I start with Lono, a honey-colored, frisky Labradoodle who moved here from Hawaii over a year ago. His owners are a married couple — a military doctor and lawyer so I walk Lono five days a week. Wait until you see him. He is very excitable and a jumper — he is so glad to see me.” She said the schedule can vary. “I walk one dog just on Wednesday for a woman who works very late once a week.”

Heyde says she started dog walking for DoggyWalker.com on Pendleton Street in Alexandria over two years ago. Her 19-year old daughter has also worked there part-time. DoggyWalker.com specializes in mid-day dogwalking since many of the owners work 10-12 hour days. They also take care of some cats.

Dean DeGood of DoggyWalker.com guesses about two-thirds of the clients work for the Federal government. He employs 40 dogwalkers on a regular basis. DeGood said he started as a client and then bought the business with his wife, Amy, in 2004 as a way to leave the corporate world.

Heyde says after getting a degree in elementary education and getting married, she had been home raising children and dabbling in things like catering, home chef services and elderly home care before moving to dog walking. But, she continued, “we don’t have a dog at home, and I needed a dog. And when is the last time that a bunch of people ran over and jumped up to say hello and licked your face because they were so glad to see you?”

Heyde unlocks the door and looks around. “Oh there you are.” Lono runs over wagging his tail and sniffing around Heyde’s purple Asics. He looks up at her face as he waits for his leash. “Lono is a happy dog and a nice walker; you can tell he has been trained well by the owners. But he can get overly



PHOTOS BY SHIRLEY RUHE/GAZETTE PACKET

Leisha Heyde is bundled up in the 14-degree weather to take Lono for his regular walk through DoggyWalker.com.

excited around other dogs.”

They head out the door and the screen bangs behind them. Lono is a fast walker. As they speed by a corner townhouse, Heyde said, “His friend Henry lives there,” but he’s not out today. Heyde explains she tries to teach all of her dogs about ice. “When I say the word, they slow down.” Lono has rounded the corner and stops to shake his paw. “Oh you have ice on it.” Heyde bends down to brush off the tiny crystals with her padded gloves. “Since Lono moved here from Hawaii, you should have seen him last year when he encountered his first snow. He refused to go out the door.” She says dogs are just like people. They get cold and they shiver, and they all have different ways of walking.

“I had an Australian shepherd, a natural herder, and that dog could trap a fast-moving soccer ball better than most players I’ve seen,” she said.

They come to a corner stoplight. Lono obediently sits and looks to her for directions. Heyde bends down to give him a hug: “He is such a good dog.” Heyde says dogs usually listen to the dogwalker better than their owners because they know who they can play. As they proceed down the sidewalk, Lono pokes around bushes and trees, then moves on.

“He is very particular where he goes. Oh, he has found the magic spot,” she said.

They head down the alley and back up the steps to the door of Lono’s house. Lono scurries inside the kitchen and looks at Heyde hopefully, waiting for his treat.

“We always leave a note,” Heyde said. “Sometimes a funny story; people have told me they really look forward to reading them.” She returns to the office with a sign on the wall: “A Dog Wags His Tail with His Heart.”



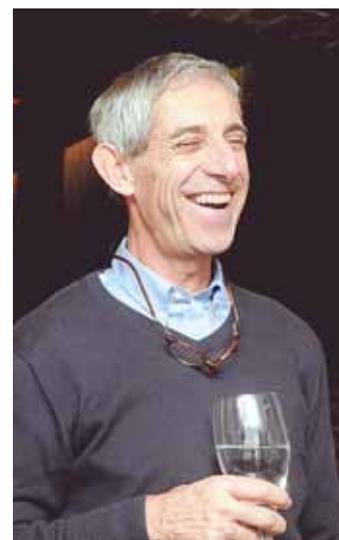
Leisha Heyde stops to brush off ice crystals from the feet of Lono during their dog walk. Lono moved here from Hawaii last year and is getting used to the ice of Alexandria.



Lono obediently sits at a stoplight waiting for a command from his dogwalker Leisha Heyde, and receives a hug in return.



Lono grabs his rawhide treat and takes it to the rug to chew on it after completing his cold doggy walk along Washington Street.



Retiring winemaker Sylvain Pitiot enjoys a glass of champagne before a dinner in his honor at La Bergerie.



Jacques Devauges, newly appointed technical director of Clos de Tart, samples the wine before it is served to the guests at dinner last Thursday.

Salute to Sylvain Pitiot

An evening with a master winemaker from Burgundy.

After a career that has spanned decades, Clos de Tart winemaker and technical director Sylvain Pitiot officially retired in January. In a farewell visit to the United States, a special dinner was held at La Bergerie for Sylvain Pitiot and his successor Jacques Devauges on Thursday, Feb. 5. Guests were treated to a vertical of seven vintages of Clos de Tart together with a five-course dinner featuring Duck Terrine on Ginger Bread Toast, Burgundy Snails on Phyllo with Porcini Sauce, Poached Spike Mousse, Meurette Eggs, and Veal Chop with Dijonnaise sauce, Epoisses Cheese and Café gourmand. As each flight

was served both Pitiot and Devauges shared details of crafting their fine wines and discussed the nuances of each vintage.

Founded in 1141 by the Tart Abbey Bernardine sisters, the Clos de Tart has only changed hands three times. The current proprietor, the Mommessin family purchased the vineyard and estate in 1932 and remains presently the largest Grand Cru classified property in Burgundy. Laurent Lala, D.C. sales manager for Elite Wine and a guest at dinner said, “Even if I get to attend many wine dinners throughout the year, this event has become a lifetime experience.”



Laurent Janowsky, owner of La Bergerie, consults with guest of honor Sylvain Pitiot before the first course is served.

A flight of the 2011 Clos de Tart Premier Cru.

PHOTOS BY
LOUISE KRAFFT
GAZETTE PACKET





“Butterfly Kisses” by Rebecca Barnes

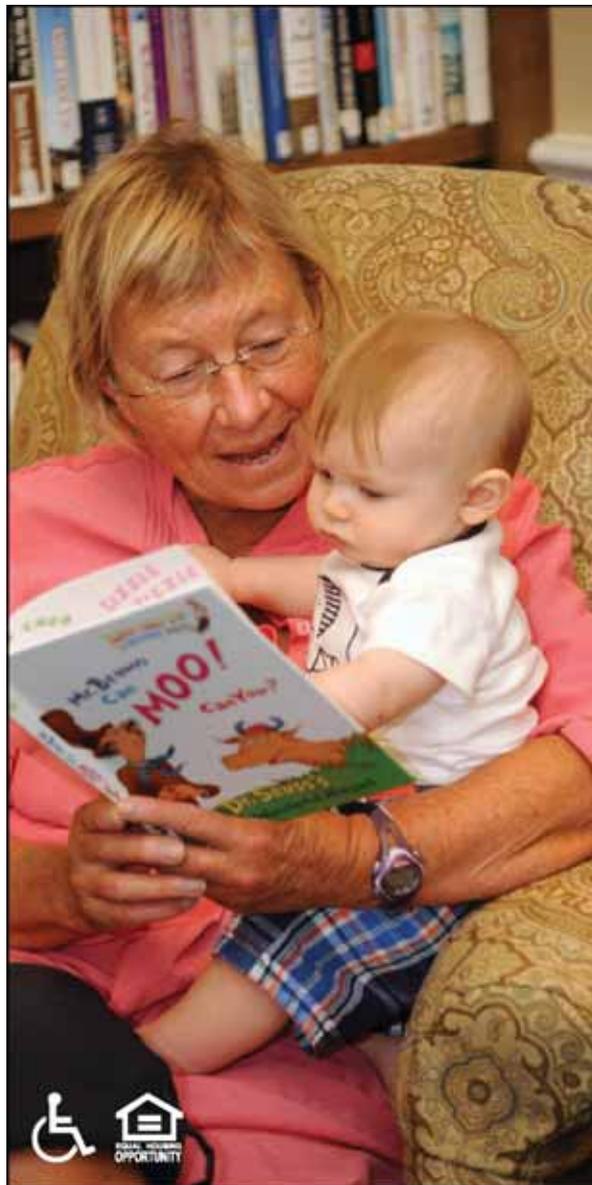


“Pleased to Meet You” by Cathy Messina

Paws ‘N Claws

“Paws ‘n Claws for Art” exhibit opened on Feb. 21 at the Vola Lawson Animal Shelter, as a part of Del Ray Artisans’ Gallery Without Walls program, in partnership with the Animal Welfare League of Alexandria. Opening reception is Friday, Feb. 27 from 7-9 p.m. at the animal shelter at 4101 Eisenhower Av. As a fundraising effort, a percentage of each sale goes directly to the Animal Welfare League of Alexandria and Del Ray Artisans — both 501(c)(3) nonprofit organizations. An added benefit is patrons may immediately take possession of purchased artwork at

the time of purchase. Animal Welfare League staff will be available to conduct tours of shelter facilities and introduce guests to current residents. The Vola Lawson Shelter is open to the public for adoptions and viewings during the following hours: Monday-Thursday 12-7 p.m., Friday closed, Saturday and Sunday 12-5 p.m. It is handicapped-accessible. For more information, visit TheDelRayArtisans.org/GWW or contact Gallery Without Walls curator Eileen O’Brien at GWW@TheDelRayArtisans.org or exhibit coordinator Linda Goetz Mierk at Lgmierke@gmail.com.



Family Matters

It’s a good feeling to know that help is there when you need it—the assurance that loved ones are cared for by skilled professionals who feel like family—the warm feeling of a neighborhood environment with good friends, brings with it an indescribable peace of mind.

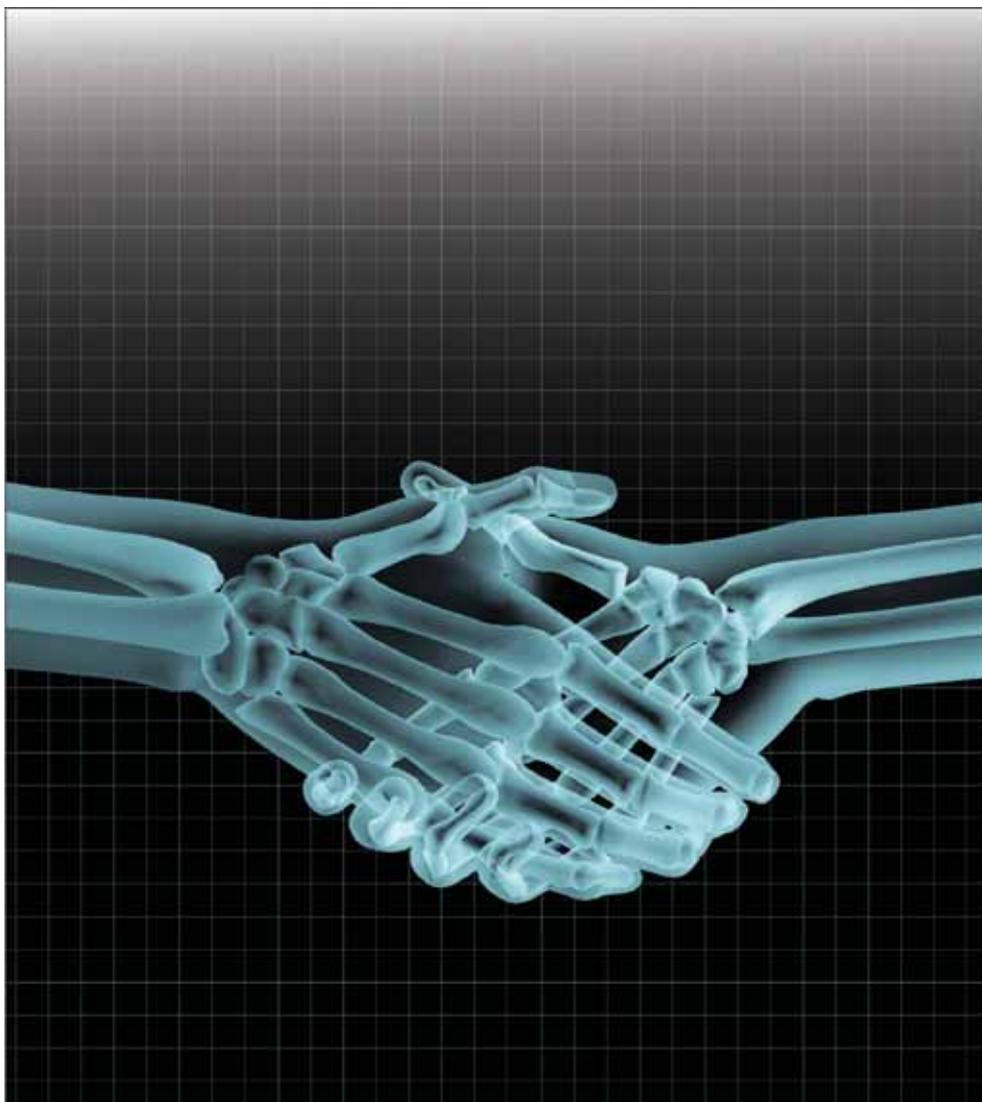
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LIVING LEGENDS

Gayle Reuter: Fostering That Small Town Feel

Helping to celebrate Del Ray.

BY KEVIN JAHNS

You won't go far in Alexandria's Del Ray neighborhood before seeing signs of Gayle Reuter. If it's a rare quiet day, you might see her on her front porch just off "The Avenue" or at a local restaurant or business — always with a smile and a friendly greeting. More likely you will see her working, always managing to make a difference in the wonderful neighborhood she helped create. If it's one of the many great events in Del Ray, it's guaranteed that Reuter is one of the volunteers at the helm. With a walkie talkie in hand or in (friend, neighbor and local Realtor) Jen Walker's electric car, she manages volunteers, sets up tables and tents, hangs signs, wrangles dignitaries, hauls trash and whatever else needs to be done. She's involved in all the advance work, one of the first to arrive for set up and the last to leave.

Born in Montgomery, Ala. as the daughter of an Air Force officer, Reuter had the opportunity to experience many geographic areas. After living in Montgomery, Chicago and Paris to name a few, her father eventually ended up stationed at Andrew's Air Force base in Prince George's County, Md. where she received most of her schooling. With the exception of Kirksville, Mo. where she earned a B.S. in law enforcement at Truman State University, Reuter has been living in the Washington, D.C. area ever since.

Block Party became today's Art on the Avenue — a regional, multicultural arts and music festival attracting over 50,000 people to Del Ray each year. Now in its 20th year, Reuter is still a huge part of the event, one of the principal organizers, recruiting sponsors and volunteers and helping manage the event from start to finish. Only a few years after Art on the Avenue began, a neighbor suggested a children's Halloween parade, Reuter asked what he had in mind and immediately started to plan the event. Since its inception in 1997, Reuter has been the chairperson or co-chairperson for every Del Ray Halloween Parade. A neighborhood favorite for children and adults alike, the annual event draws over 10,000 people from all over the area.

Reuter has served on the board of the Del Ray Business Association (DRBA — formerly Potomac West Business Alliance) since 1991, chairing their events committee. Under her leadership the DRBA produces numerous events each year including the Taste of Del Ray (highlighting local restaurants and benefitting a different charity each year) and the Turkey Trot (five-mile run on Thanksgiving morning with over 5000 participants). She is also instrumental in the themed First Thursday festivals each summer month which support local businesses and charities. Reuter manages to get Santa to the Del Ray Christmas tree lighting ceremony and helps line Mount Vernon Avenue with luminaries in honor of Nancy Dunning, a lost friend. Through these events she has created wonderful experiences and memories for the residents and families of Del Ray, including her own.



Gayle Reuter's vision and dedication helped create the kind of neighborhood Del Ray has become.

PHOTO BY STEVEN HALPERSON /TISARA PHOTOGRAPHY

© Living Legends 2015

Reuter's own adult daughters, remembering back to its beginning, still consider Art on the Avenue one of their favorite days and participate with the next generation of volunteers, Gayle's granddaughter Kali.

Where there is a need, you will find Reuter. That constant willingness to help others is a major contributing factor to why she is so well known throughout Del Ray and so extremely well thought of. In 2002 when her landlord wanted to sell the house she rented, Reuter needed to take classes through the City of Alexandria to qualify to purchase it. When the classes weren't going to be done before the landlord wanted to sell, Reuter's friend and neighbor Jack Taylor purchased the home so she and her daughters could stay in it while she finished the class and was then able to buy it from Taylor. Shortly after she bought the house, knowing it needed a new roof, her local friends, neighbors and businesses collected funds and arranged to surprise her with a new roof. Everyone is willing to help the woman who always finds time to help everyone else. Even today, the front porch of that home is the epicenter of Del Ray — the place where donations are dropped off for the latest cause, flyers picked up for the next event or supplies are stashed for celebrations on Mount Vernon Avenue. Reuter's relationships in the neighborhood exemplify the small town atmosphere she was looking for and helped foster in Del Ray.

Reaching even beyond Del Ray, Reuter's generosity seems to have no limits. She has volunteered with Community Partners for Children for several years, collecting and distributing school supplies and holiday toys to needy families and with ALIVE!, distributing food and furniture to those in need. In the early 1990s, she served as the executive director of Christmas in April (Now Rebuilding Alexandria) assisting Alexandrians in need of help with the upkeep on their homes. She has served on the boards of the King Street Metro Enterprise Team (KSMET), Alexandria Convention and

Living Legends: The 2015 Project

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

The Legends and nominees will be introduced at the "Meet the Legends" reception on March 19 at the Patent & Trademark Madison Building.

This is one of a series of profiles that will appear this year. For information, to volunteer, become a sponsor or nominate a future Legend, visit <http://www.AlexandriaLegends.org> or or contact Info@AlexandriaLegends.com.

Visitors Association, the Del Ray Citizens Association and Alexandria's Therapeutic Recreation Advisory Board.

Not venturing far from serving her community in her professional career, Reuter worked for Alexandria City Council member David Speck from 1991 – 1993 and U.S. Rep. Jim Moran from 1996 to his retirement in 2014. On Saturday mornings you'll find her selling produce for one of the local farmers at Del Ray's Farmer's Market and as the market closes each week, she loads produce donated by the farmers into her car and delivers it to Alexandria's Battered Women's Shelter.

Beyond Reuter's endless commitment and contributions to the community, she does it all with grace. No matter how many hours, days or weeks she puts into an event, she manages to make every volunteer feel it was their contribution that was key to the event's success.

A pillar of Del Ray, Reuter's vision and dedication helped create the wonderful neighborhood Del Ray has become. Webster's Dictionary defines a legend as a person who is known for doing something extremely well. Reuter does it all not only extremely well but with kindness and a caring attitude — truly making her a Living Legend of Alexandria.

Chamber Promotes from Within

The Alexandria Chamber of Commerce announced the promotion of Shari Simmans-Bolouri and Maria Ciarrocchi to the offices of vice president. Simmans-Bolouri will assume the vice president, marketing and events position and Ciarrocchi will become vice president, public policy and programing.

"Maria and Shari have performed exceptionally during their tenure at the chamber," said chamber president and CEO John Long. "Both have excelled in their positions and in leading the organization in their respective fields."

Simmans-Bolouri joined the chamber in June of 2012 as the director of events and communications and led the team through a successful re-branding campaign, earning an Award of Excellence from the Association of Chamber of Commerce Executives.

"I am grateful for this opportunity to continue to serve our members," said Simmans-Bolouri, who has a background in events and program management. "We have a terrific team here at the chamber and I am proud to work alongside each of my co-workers and board members as we continue to make Alexandria a great



Shari Simmans-Bolouri



Maria Ciarrocchi

place for business."

As the government and promotion director, Ciarrocchi has been instrumental in refocusing the chamber's advocacy arm and recently led its data conversion and new website implementation. She has a background in national political campaigns and fundraising, along with event management and sponsorships.

"I'm thrilled to take on this new role at the chamber," said Ciarrocchi, who joined the chamber in September of 2013. "In my opinion there is no better job than working to promote and strengthen the businesses that make up the fabric of our amazing city."

— JEANNE THEISMANN

BULLETIN BOARD

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.

SUNDAY/FEB. 28

Application Deadline. The 10-week Alexandria Citizens' Police Academy provides an opportunity for residents to learn about various aspects of the Police Department. Wednesdays, 6:30-10 p.m., March 11-May 20. Free, with commitment to volunteer a minimum of 10 hours each year.

Participants must commit to attending all 10 sessions, be at least 21 years of age and live or work in the City of Alexandria. Class is limited to 20 participants. Visit www.alexandriava.gov/police or e-mail the Volunteer Office at Virginia.obranovich@alexandriava.gov.

Historical Lecture. 2-3 p.m. in the Edith Sprouse Rare Book Room at the Special Collections Branch, Alexandria Library, 717 Queen St. Yvonne Carignan, former director of Special Collections at the Lloyd House, will speak about social libraries in Virginia before the Civil War using The Alexandria Library Company as the premier example in Virginia. Visit www.alexandria.lib.va.us or call 703-746-1703.

SUNDAY/MARCH 1

Auditions. At Metropolitan School of the Arts, 9601 Ox Road, Lorton. Students interested in attending the Metropolitan School of the Arts of Alexandria and Lorton, Va. can audition. Auditions are required as part of the 2015-2016 academy registration. The MSA Academy audition is for performing arts students in grades 6-12. Students should call 703-339-0444 ext.3 or visit www.metropolitanarts.org to register for an audition time.

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OPINION

Managing Mental Illness in Jails

Natasha McKenna's death provides window on national concern.

A national report released on Feb. 11 highlighted the prevalence of people with mental illness incarcerated in local jails.

"Serious mental illness, which includes bipolar disorder, schizophrenia, and major depression, affects an estimated 14.5 percent of men and 31 percent of women in jails — rates that are four to six times higher than in the general population. ... While most people with serious mental illness in jails, both men and women, enter jail charged with minor, nonviolent crimes, they end up staying in jail for longer periods of time." See vera.org.

Natasha McKenna, a woman with a long history of severe mental illness, died on Feb. 8, five days after being repeatedly shocked with a taser, restrained, hooded and forcibly removed from her cell by six deputy sheriffs "pursuant to its protocols for managing combative inmates."

McKenna, a small woman according to press

reports, had been held in the Fairfax County Detention Center since Jan. 26, on a warrant from the City of Alexandria. Fairfax deputies were forcibly extracting her from her cell so she could be transported to the Alexandria jail.

Here is part of the police release on the incident:

"During the struggle to restrain McKenna, a member of the Sheriff's Emergency Response Team deployed a conducted energy weapon (Taser) on McKenna. While being restrained, deputies placed a spit net (which is designed to restrict and prevent spitting) on McKenna.

A nurse from the ADC medical staff was present at that time to check on her prior to transport and cleared her for transport. Deputies attempted to put her in a medical transport chair, but McKenna continued to be combative and was moved to a restraint chair for transport."

To understand a little of what was happening, search for images of "spit net" and "prisoner restraint chair."

When the emergency response team was getting ready to load McKenna into a vehicle, "medical personnel from the Fairfax County Sheriff's Office checked McKenna and determined she was experiencing a medical emergency."

McKenna never regained consciousness.

EDITORIAL

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Council Failed Its Neighborhoods

To the Editor:

What's happening on a 1.3 acre parcel of land at 2811 King Street is not supposed to happen. The owner of the adjacent Woodbine nursing center convinced the City Council to vote to change the long-standing zoning of the property, currently zoned R8, or "single family homes" to RB townhouse with special use permits.

The casual observer will recognize the current stretch of King Street from T.C. Williams

High School to the King Street Metro station as a residential neighborhood of single family homes, many of which have driveways that connect directly to King Street. That stretch of King Street serves as the gateway to Old Town's historic district. It's the precursor to what visitors and daily travelers will experience as they continue east on King Street. However, one thing you won't find on that stretch of King Street are "townhomes" because the zoning didn't allow for it.

Zoning has a purpose. Zoning is supposed to create stability in real estate markets, so that people can reasonably anticipate maintaining or even increasing the value of their proper-

The incident was recorded on video, but "the video is currently retained as evidence by detectives from the Fairfax County Police Department and will not be released at this time."

Less than two weeks after McKenna's death, the public knows a lot more about the details of this incident than previous cases involving the Fairfax County Police, but questions of what happened, how and why, greatly outnumber answers.

It is standard operating procedure in the United States to warehouse disruptive people with mental illness in jails. A 2006 Special Report by the Bureau of Justice Statistics estimated that 705,600 mentally ill adults were incarcerated in state prisons, 78,800 in Federal prisons and 479,900 in local jails, according to the National Institute for Corrections.

We have to ask what constitutes humane, effective treatment for people with mental illness, and often substance use disorders, who end up in jails. Are the brutal images of Natasha McKenna's handling a common experience for people with severe mental illness in jails? While deaths resulting from such incidents are rare, they do occur. What can be done to provide treatment?

— MARY KIMM

MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

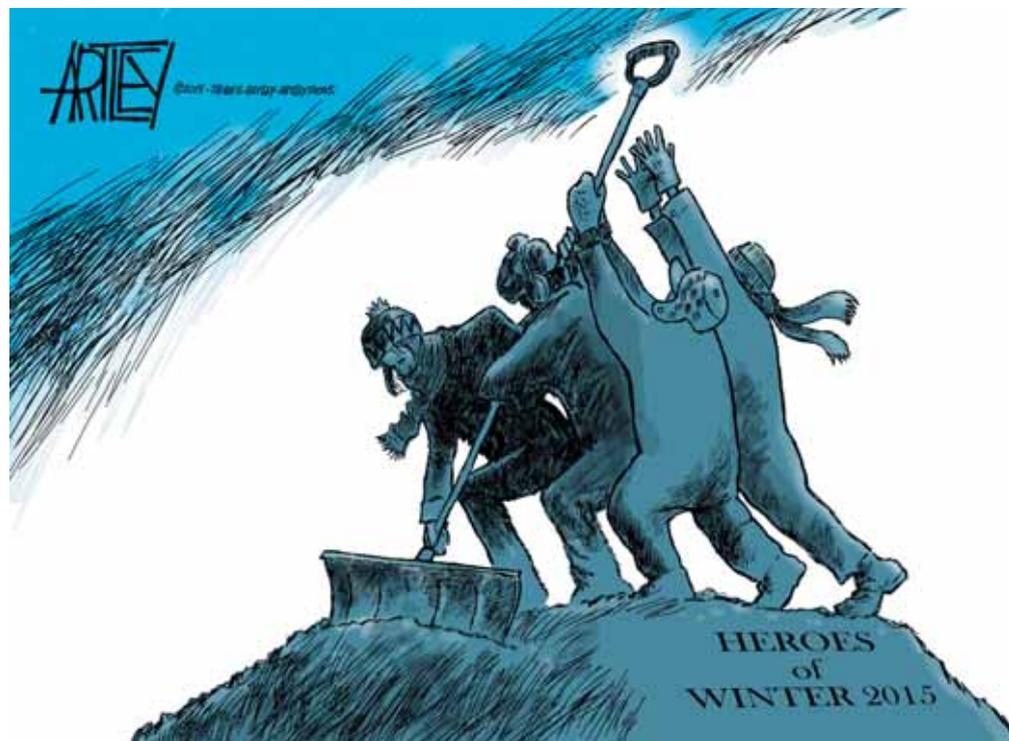
ties. This is a good thing for homeowners as well as the municipality since it ultimately encourages real estate investments and secures local revenue streams, noting that

real estate taxes fund a major percentage of local government operations. Zoning is supposed to constrain the free market forces to preserve a higher goal of encouraging the development of neighborhoods that promote green space, livability, and location, all qualities that translate into market value and increased quality of life. Just look at the pro-development, "mc-mansion" movement in Arlington and you'll notice the difference and appreciate the value of good planning and zoning.

The Woodbine owner is now free to build a huge modernistic 75,000-square-foot structure in the midst of modest colonial brick homes. Don't be fooled, this is not a townhome configuration, this is a three-story, for-profit business and the current architect's rendering of the behemoth looks like, as the vice mayor suggested, "East German"

architecture — a wild departure from its surroundings. A concession from the developer to provide a 40 percent discount on two of the proposed 66 beds would require someone with a \$62,000 annual retirement income to afford it according to the developer's representative — and that's the discounted beds. To afford one of the undiscounted beds, the developer's representative stated that you'd need more than \$96,000 in annual retirement income — that's a retirement income of \$192,000 per year for a couple. This rezoning is an underhanded way to promote commercial development where none should exist for the benefit of the super-rich or guaranteed impoverishment for some unwitting retiree.

SEE LETTERS, PAGE 11



STEVE ARTLEY/GAZETTE PACKET

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OPINION

Ethics and Immunizations

BY ROB KRUPICKA
STATE DELEGATE (D-45)

As we wrap up the 2015 session, there is still a lot of work to do before we adjourn on Feb. 28. This past week, the House passed a bill to strengthen the anemic ethics reform passed last year. The bill takes some small steps in the right direction: it removes the distinction between tangible and intangible gifts, it strengthens disclosure

polices, and requires approval from the Virginia Conflict of Interest and Ethics Advisory Council for any travel compensated by a third party with a value over \$100. However the proposed bill still does not go nearly far enough. Among the stronger reforms I would like to see implemented, I believe it is important to support the Governor's call for an independent body to investigate and review ethics issues. Many legislators have expressed reluctance to increase ethics reforms. They say we don't need these reforms and that they have done nothing wrong. Whether or not a legislator feels like they are individually a moral person is not the purpose of ethics reform. Legislators don't need lavish gifts and meals to do their jobs effectively. We owe it to our constituents to restore faith in our elected officials and pass real ethics reform legislation. The recent measles outbreak, including a confirmed case in Washington, D.C., has brought the vaccine debate front and center. The balance between a parent's right to choose what is best for their child and our responsibility as legislators to ensure a basic level of public safety is a difficult line to maintain as we con-



sider how to best control the spread of a highly contagious disease. I recently sent a letter to Governor McAuliffe asking him to organize a panel of medical and health professionals to review Virginia's current vaccination standards and evaluate the risks associated with a decrease in parents' vaccination participation. According to the 2013 Virginia Immunization Survey, Virginia's kindergarten compliance rates for immunizations have declined sharply in the past few years. Meanwhile, the number of Virginia parents requesting vaccination exemption has steadily increased in the past decade.

The measles virus was considered eliminated in the U.S. in 2000, however, already this year's measles outbreak rate is higher than the entire total for 2012 — and it's only February. Considering how contagious measles is, the fact that we have a confirmed case in Washington, D.C. is a considerable concern for residents of the 45th District and Virginians across the Commonwealth.

Children under the age of one year are especially susceptible to these sorts of viral outbreaks because infants cannot be immunized until their first birthday. While I understand some parents may choose to forego vaccinations, we owe it to the parents and children who do plan to receive their vaccinations the chance to grow up safely and without fear of preventable disease. Convening this panel will allow us to make better-informed decisions to ensure the health of our communities.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

FROM PAGE 10

Residential neighborhoods make Alexandria City the prime choice for living in the metro area. Without safe, livable, single family residential neighborhoods protected by enforcement of city zoning laws and requirements and the 1992 Master Plan, Alexandria City would be so much less, not more. Unfortunately, with this Council vote, neighborhoods lost and corporations won.

Sean M. Mildrew

18-year resident of City of Alexandria

Dangerous For Pedestrians

To the Editor:

It is saddening, but not surprising, to read (Feb. 5, 2015) of the serious accident on Duke Street. The city seems content to let Duke be seen as a freeway, and farther down there is a memorial in a grassy traffic island to a little girl who was killed there a few years ago.

In fact, in the stretch of Duke
SEE LETTERS, PAGE 12

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Fully Addressing Campus Sexual Assault

BY ADAM P. EBBIN
STATE SENATOR (D-30)



With only a few days left in this year's legislative session, the General Assembly has finished much of its business. Republicans have defeated commonsense proposals to raise the minimum wage, close the health care coverage gap, and my bill to keep guns away from toddlers. Negotiators from the House and Senate are inching closer to a final budget deal. Governor McAuliffe has already begun signing some bills into law.

Even so, a handful of high-profile issues have yet to be resolved. Notably, we are still working towards a final compromise on how best to prevent and respond to sexual assaults at our colleges and universities. In both the House and Senate, multiple pieces of legislation were introduced to address this critical issue; those bills were eventually rolled into two vehicles. As of this writing, those remaining bills — SB712 and HB1930 — differ slightly, but the basic outlines are very similar.

Both bills strike a careful balance between

protecting the rights and privacy of victims and keeping college communities as safe as possible. Each proposal would require colleges to establish memorandums of understanding with local victim support services, ensuring that students who have been assaulted are aware of and able to access resources to help them. Both bills require university employees who become aware of a sexual assault to report it to their school's Title IX coordinator. Each bill establishes review teams to promptly assess the cases that are brought to that coordinator. Based on those proceedings, each bill provides for team members to determine whether to release identifying information about the victim and begin a law enforcement investigation.

It's important to me that the final legislation explicitly protects victims' anonymity during assessments, and leaves post-assessment decisions about how to proceed in the hands of the Title IX coordinator. (These have been points of dispute between the House and Senate.) In any event, we need to make our students safer and prevent fu-

ture tragedies.

Passing a compromise measure, however, will not mean our work is done. As we strive to prevent future crimes, we must also seek justice for those who have already been hurt.

Last year I co-sponsored SB658, a bipartisan bill that required state and local law enforcement to inventory the untested physical evidence recovery kits (PERKs) in their possession — that is, the kits used to collect and preserve physical evidence following a rape or sexual assault.

The findings were troubling. Virginia has a backlog of at least 2,279 unanalyzed PERKs — and I expect the final total to be above 4,000. Evidence from these kits is often the key to putting rapists behind bars. If we're truly going to crack down on sexual violence, it's not enough to pass new protections.

We also have to ensure that existing laws are working as they should. That means giving our Department of Forensic Services the resources it needs to work through this substantial backlog.

In 2014, I carried a successful budget amendment to do exactly that. My proposal provided \$600,000 over two years so the Commonwealth could hire new forensic

scientists to work through these untested PERKs.

The original budget as introduced would have sharply reduced that funding. I have worked to protect it, and the budget put forward by the Senate Finance Committee restores much of the money the Department of Forensic Science was slated to lose. I have every hope that the final budget — the compromise to which both the House and Senate will eventually agree — will do the same.

The legislature this year meets for just 46 days. That isn't enough time to solve all the problems we face — especially in the face of partisan gridlock on so many critical issues. Still, I take heart in knowing that on this issue, at least, Democrats and Republicans have been able to come together to do what's necessary and right. It's a path I hope my colleagues will follow on many, many other issues when we reconvene next year.

You can email me at district30@senate.virginia.gov and sign up for my weekly email updates at www.AdamEbbin.com. I am active on Twitter @AdamEbbin and Facebook at www.facebook.com/EbbinCampaign.

It is my continued honor to represent the citizens of the 30th Senate District.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

FROM PAGE 10

between Paxton Street and Landmark Plaza there are a half dozen places, one virtually blind, where pedestrians have to cross speeding traffic without so much as a crosswalk. There are places where even the narrow, rutted path gives out, and walkers have to take the rubble-strewn shoulder. This is a route used constantly by all sorts of people, including mothers with young children and even with strollers. A few months ago on a dark rainy night there was even someone wheelchair-bound hurrying eastwards in the westbound shoulder, unable, of course, to make use of such rough pedestrian paths as there are.

For some reason this dangerous stretch of road — so filthy with trash it's like an open-air dumpster — is allowed to blight one facet of our gem-like city. Maybe the defense is "You should see Little River Turn-

pike." But only the truly reckless attempt to walk there, though there are large apartment complexes on both sides.

Did I mention the supreme irony: one large, formerly grassy island is occupied by gigantic vehicles marked "Richmond Traffic Control," deep in mud and extending helter-skelter over the narrow paved walkway. I guess they are helping control traffic in Richmond, by being here.

Apparently the city's policy is containment. Unfortunately, it's being betrayed from time to time by serious and even fatal accidents like the one you reported.

Elisabeth Vodola
Alexandria

Council Loses Trust

To the Editor:

On Saturday, Feb. 21, after hearing hours

of citizen statements regarding rezoning the property on King Street between the Woodbine Nursing Home's parking lot and Ivy Hill Cemetery, the City Council voted overwhelmingly to permit the construction of a three-story "Memory Care Facility" in this residential neighborhood.

My wife was at the hearing and spoke with a number of other interested citizens there. Apparently there was a pervasive feeling that "the fix was in" and council's approval of the rezoning action was a lock. Hearings were just a formality, a block to be checked, because the council's mind was already made up. I believe they were right and that the cause was lost before the hearing ever took place because the city permitted the developer to frame the issue in terms of building a Memory Care Center rather than as a zoning issue — the location of such a facility.

Opponents could be then characterized as, at best, the not-in-my-back-yard (NIMBY) crowd, at worst, people who were cruelly indifferent to the plight of memory impaired seniors rather than as neighbors with whom the city was about to break faith. The developers' tactics were brilliant given council's demonstrated willingness to waive zoning regulations based on fairly weak justification by providing a bumper-sticker worthy justification: "It's for the seniors." Really, one can be for a memory care facility in Alexandria and be opposed its construction at the proposed location and to this spot-rezoning action that drops a huge, monolithic structure on a small site in a residential neighborhood. That battle is lost, so why write this letter? I urge citizens to pay more careful attention to zoning issues in other parts of the city and support your

SEE LETTERS, PAGE 14

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 Great 1 Bed/1 Bath unit, 714 sq ft, hw flrs, tile BA. Utilities included in condo fee are central heat & A/C, gas, water, electricity, a recreational facility pass, sewer, trash removal. Fantastic commuter property close to G.W. Pkwy, Rt 1 & Huntington Metro. \$174,000 **Jane King CBmove.com/FX8524943**

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Administered by American Home Shield

LETTERS

FROM PAGE 12

neighbors. Why did the city Staff become advocates for a structure that did not comply with the site's current zoning before rezoning was approved? Who is looking out for property owners here? It's easy to dismiss the potential rise of another architectural eyesore in the West End or Del Ray: "I live in the North Ridge area, not my problem." But in larger sense, it is your problem: in purchasing your home, you assume that the neighborhood's zoning actually matters and provides some sort of dependable, stable, protection to your neighborhood, and yes, your property values. Your neighborhood may be the next area to be singled out to sacrifice for what council perceives to be the greater good. If you read the Gazette-Packet, you'll note that the city is perfectly willing to renege on its commitment to not put lights at Parker-Gray Field, as well as any number of rezoning actions enacted over the wishes of the people most affected.

Richard Vanderhoeven
Alexandria

To Barge Or Not To Barge?

To the Editor:

For over a year, the Old Town community has been suggesting the use of barges on the Potomac River (rather than trucks on our historic streets) to haul out the debris and contaminated soil from each of the four projected development sites on the waterfront. Many months ago, prior to the issuance of any Development Special Use Permits (DSUPs), an alternative river haul route by barge was proposed by citizens. The city's initial response was that the barge alternative would indeed be discussed and considered before any concrete decisions regarding haul routes were made. However, this did not come to pass.

It was not until the developer Carr held its citizen on-site briefing for its 120-room hotel, did we learn that Carr had not considered and would not consider the use of barges as a haul route. In effect, has the city once again misled its citizens, or shall we just chalk this up to another incompetent bureaucratic fiasco?

A few months ago, at the urging of the citizens, the mayor appointed an Ad Hoc Waterfront Monitoring Group to provide a forum in which the citizens could register their complaints and concerns about the construction at all of the projected sites on the waterfront. From the beginning, I have stated in print and in person before the City Council that the Ad Hoc group should not just "monitor," but it should be a proactive body to provide the council timely and important advice on all facets of construction on Old Town's waterfront.

Needless to say, this suggestion was not accepted by the mayor. What this has led to is that the director of Transportation and Environmental Services (T&ES) is acting as a sole decision maker and the filter of information to the City Council. In fact, the director of T&ES stated during the last meeting of this body that the citizen members of the Ad Hoc group are not appointed

Seniors Choose to Stay Home

BY KATHARINE DIXON
PRESIDENT AND CEO

REBUILDING TOGETHER ALEXANDRIA

As baby boomers become seniors, it will have huge implications for our community, especially as we house and care for this independent generation.

As is, many in the great generation and the older ranks of the boomers are opting to stay put, choosing to live in their own homes instead of entering a nursing home. In fact, the number of Americans 65 and older that live in a nursing home fell 20 percent between 2000 and 2010, according to the Census Bureau. As more baby boomers enter retirement years, this trend will undoubtedly grow.

This enormous aging generation also means our society will grapple with issues related to caring for them. The National Council on Aging warns that the number of Americans needing long-term care will more than double as the baby boomers age, causing many seniors to

to advise the City Council, but only to relay information to the affected community.

The city attorney has also jumped on this particular "band wagon," and has actually refused to allow his staff to discuss this matter in open meetings with the monitoring group.

In a letter to me as president of Old Town Civic Association, he stated that he did not work for the citizens, but only for the mayor and City Council for whom he must observe "attorney client confidentiality," which implies that the Ad Hoc group's interests are adversarial to the mayor and City Council. Thus, this group is really a waste of time for both citizen members and city staff, since it is the job of the city staff to keep the citizens informed, (or so I have been told). In this particular situation, "Ad Hoc" really means "Nihil Curantes," (Pay no attention).

To date, only one of four commercial development sites that have been approved is the Carr hotel.

No decision has been made by the director of T&ES as to any haul routes for the hotel, or for any of the other three developments. Section 5-2-27 of the City Code states that the director of T&ES is: "authorized to issue permits to haul such materials, supplies or equipment over the streets within the city, subject to such conditions and restrictions specifying the time and route for such hauling, and such addition conditions and restrictions, as the director may deem appropriate to promote traffic safety and to minimize disruption to established residential, commercial, institutional and other areas in the city."

I spelled all this out to the T&ES director at the last meeting. I also stated that he cannot continue to say that barges won't



spend their life savings.

Also a recent AARP Foundation and The Joint Center for Housing Studies of Harvard University report revealed that older people are "skipping on necessities in order to stay

housed." In particular, low-income older adults are making tough trade-offs, including spending significantly less on food in order to pay their mortgages or rents.

We are already seeing the effects of these trends at Rebuilding Together as we work with aging, low-income homeowners who prefer to stay in their own homes. Our volunteers provide no-cost upgrades to help them maintain their homes. Besides enabling an individual to remain independent longer, helping them age in place helps keep neighbors anchored to the community, while preserving housing affordability and revitalizing Alexandria.

Helen* is a perfect example. Now a widower, Helen doesn't want to move out of the neighborhood in which she grew up. "Everyone has always been so friendly and social," she recalls. In fact, former neighbors became her son's godparents and cur-

rent neighbors often help her with chores.

Even with family and neighbors helping Helen with some maintenance issues, there are a lot of repairs she cannot physically or financially handle on her own. That's why Helen reached out to Rebuilding Together.

Our team helped assess her needs. Then, armed with supplies and tools, a group of volunteers landed upon Helen's home to make much needed improvements, including new light fixtures, venting a dryer, plumbing, installing handrails, installing a new backyard fence, and removing an overgrown, invasive tree. Helen now lives much more safely and was able to save money that she can use for other important needs.

The influx of boomers and the need to retrofit homes to meet their needs means Rebuilding Together's role will continue to grow as will our need for volunteers and sponsors. If you'd like to learn more about how to help, please visit www.RebuildingTogetherAlex.org or call 703-836-1021.

** It is Rebuilding Together Alexandria's policy to not disclose full names*

be considered, just because a DSUP has been issued on the Carr property. The fact is that no haul routes have been designated as of this date, therefore when that discussion does actually take place, barges need to be included as one of the alternative haul routes. Getting a Federal permit for barging is necessary, but not difficult. The Potomac River Boat Company sails on the river at very regular intervals. Anything short of considering every available option is a total miscarriage of justice, and once again, a shameful and telling indicator of no real representation of citizen's interests and concerns by any appointed or elected body.

Townsend A. "Van" Van Fleet
Alexandria

Unconvincing Crocodile Tears

To the Editor:

Last Saturday neighbors opposing the Woodbine Nursing Home expansion in a totally residential area along King Street presented a property owner petition to the City Council that required only two negative votes to nix the development. Unfortunately only one member — Vice Mayor Allison Silberberg — had the courage to vote "No."

While the rest cried crocodile tears about having to rezone the property from residential to allow a huge building, spot zoning at its worst, they went along with the commercial developer. It is symptomatic about what is wrong in this City. Council members pledge to "protect neighborhoods" but when well-financed interests want something else, they forget about the people they

represent. Ms. Silberberg did not forget us and earns herself a gold star.

Jack Sullivan
Alexandria

Disappointing Decision

To the Editor:

Words cannot convey the disappointment I felt on Saturday with the Alexandria council's decision on the Woodbine issue. Each council member except Vice Mayor Silberberg chose the politically expedient road and made the wrong decision when they voted for rezoning. Yes, the proponents in favor of the memory care facility had a sympathetic and lofty cause. But zoning is a promise made by the city to its citizens.

However, the council let the emotionally driven arguments sway their votes. By doing so they ignored all that was troubling with this project. So many questions were never fully resolved regarding the building of this very large, out of character facility on this particular piece of property. They favored a private developer over two Alexandria neighborhoods.

Alexandrians will get so little in return, the developer so much. This memory care facility will have 66 beds costing approximately \$96,000 a year. Medicare and Medicaid patients need not apply. You don't have to be an Alexandrian resident to obtain a spot.

It is doubtful that anyone will move to Alexandria because of this facility. However, people will be fearful about buying a home in a community where residential property

SEE LETTERS, PAGE 20



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REAL ESTATE
LUXURY HOMES
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Sharon Edwards 703.408.8144
ALEXANDRIA / Old Town \$ 260,000 OPEN SUNDAY 1 - 4

1403 E ABINGDON DR #2 Awesome renovated 1 bedroom 1 traffic light to DC and airport, designer colors, granite, SS, wood floors, new deck, on bike / jogging trail along the Potomac. Walk to shops, Harris Teeter, great restaurants. On direct bus line to DC.



Susan Haughton & Mindy Brubaker 571.242.9913
ALEXANDRIA / Montebello \$ 299,900

Stylish 2 bedroom / 2 bath condo at Alexandria's premiere gated community, Montebello. With 1,305 square feet, beautiful wood floors and an updated kitchen make this one a winner.



Margaret Keagle 571.332.5264
ALEX. / Fairlington \$ 450,000 OPEN SAT & SUN 1 - 4

4623 31st RD S Designed for easy living and casual entertaining, this 3 level Clarendon model lives like an end unit with extra side windows and lots of sunshine! Even the completely renovated LL has full-sized windows, warm brick walls, full bath and 3rd bedroom/office. Close to Shirlington/Fairlington amenities.



Ruth Guirard 703.609.3343
ALEXANDRIA / Mt Vernon \$ 634,900 OPEN SUNDAY 1 - 4

8401 PORTER LN Larger than it looks! New on the Market! 5BR / 3 full BA! 2,410 sq. ft. plus walkup LL partially finished. Expanded family room with skylights off updated kitchen. 1st floor Master Bedroom! Thermal windows! Living room fireplace. Carpet! Stratford Landing ES and swim club.



Martha Deal 703.622.6797
ALEXANDRIA / Old Town \$ 1,200,000

Charming 1900 Victorian all-brick townhome. 3 BR / 2.5 BA. Updated kitchen, sparkling heart of pine flooring, rich paneling, skylights, stained glass 2 fireplaces, custom built-ins, 10' ceilings with crown and dental moldings. Private walled English garden and 2-car garage.



Peggy Baldwin 703.772.5236
ALEXANDRIA / Nethergate \$ 605,000

Elegant end townhome. Gleaming hardwoods, classic chair rail and crown molding. Granite, SS appliances, fenced patio off kitchen. 2 stately master suites. 2 wood-burning fireplaces. LL family room. Closets/storage galore. Parking at door. Low HOA. 1 light to DC. Minutes from waterfront, GW Trail and more.



Randy Bender 703.906.1749
ALEXANDRIA \$ 499,900 OPEN SUNDAY 1 - 4

2418 GARNETT PL A wonderful townhome in Stonegate. 4 levels / 3BR / 2.5BA, updated kitchen with SS Maytag appliances, granite, custom ceramic tile, hardwoods on main level. Custom paint, trim and many more upgrades throughout. Community club house, pool and so much more.



Mary Bourke 703.906.5825 & Mary Taylor 703.785.5619
ALEXANDRIA / Hunting Creek \$ 250,000

High-end renovation of 2BR/2BA condo with views of Potomac and National Harbor. Large balcony off living room. Pretty parquet wood floors throughout. Beautiful lobby, 24 hour desk, outdoor pool and tennis, sauna, and plenty of parking. 1 minute to 495 and 5 blocks from Metro. FHA and VA approved.



Louise Devers 703.795.9944
ALEXANDRIA / Old Town \$ 839,900

Just completed total renovation in South East Quadrant. Quality materials used thru-out with attention to details. Wolf gas stove, KitchenAid fridge / dishwasher, neutral floor and impressive backsplash in kitchen. Living room has beautifully crafted custom built-in bookcases and storage. 2 new full baths on UL.



Klanci Vanderhyde 703.919.4660
ALEXANDRIA / Villamay \$ 899,000 OPEN SUNDAY 1 - 4

7409 BURTONWOOD DR Sited on a beautiful landscaped corner lot, this large 5BR/3.5BA Colonial has a modern open floorplan. The open kitchen/family room has high vaulted beamed ceiling and a sun porch leading to outside Patio. LL offers an enormous rec room, the 5th BR and laundry.



Louise Devers 703.795.9944
CENTREVILLE / Bull Run Post Office Rd \$ 750,000

#6745 - 22+ acres priced to sell. Great location - Builders welcome. Great property to renovate or build custom home. Immaculate and livable 3BR / 1BA home.



Annelise Smith 703.505.2533
ALEX. / Marlan Forest \$ 895,000 OPEN SUNDAY 1 - 4

Beautiful 4-5 bedroom Colonial on .62 acres situated on a cul-de-sac in sought after Marlan Forest. 2 fireplaces, oversized 2-car garage, deck, patio, hardwoods, updated kitchen and baths. Super location with easy and quick commute to Old Town and DC.



Long & Foster Old Town Historic District Office 703.683.0400
400 King Street, Alexandria, Virginia 22314



ENTERTAINMENT



PHOTO COURTESY OF LTA

Chuck Dluhy and Karen Shotts star in The Little Theatre of Alexandria's production of "God of Carnage."



PHOTO COURTESY OF LTA

Allison Block and Jack B. Stein star in The Little Theatre of Alexandria's production of "God of Carnage."

LTA Stages 'God of Carnage'

Parents behave badly as the gloves come off in this side-splitting free-for-all.

BY STEVE HIBBARD
GAZETTE PACKET

The Little Theatre of Alexandria is staging "God of Carnage" Feb. 28 to March 21. The Tony Award-winning play centers around a playground altercation between two boys which brings two sets of parents together for a meeting to resolve the matter.

At first all is well, but as the evening progresses, the rum flows, the gloves come off, and the night becomes a side-splitting free-for-all with the parents behaving badly.

"What happens next is that we find out that the parents are worse than the kids in dealing with each other," said Director

Christopher Dykton.

He said "God of Carnage" follows in the literary traditions of black comedy and satire.

"I think this play gives a chance to look at how we behave at times in not the best way, while at the same time allowing us to laugh at ourselves. We know that underneath our social self is that Neanderthal waiting to pop out," Dykton said.

Co-producer Sharon Field has seen both the play and the movie and liked it very much. She had also worked with Christopher Dykton previously and proposed that Rance Willis consider producing with her. After seeing the movie and reading the script, he agreed.

"We knew the director and the quality of

his work. We were fortunate to be able to get the best designers and production staff to assist in creating just the right setting for this production," she said. "Seeing rehearsals, we have gained a greater insight into the writing and the subtle characterizations brought out by the director and actors. We think the audiences will come away with a greater appreciation of the comedy and a significant appreciation for each of the characters."

Allison Block plays the role of Annette Raleigh, the reserved, tightly-wound wife of Alan and mother of Benjamin.

"The subject matter is close to the heart (I am a mother of two school-age children), but very dark, so it often takes me places that I am reluctant to feel as a parent," she said. "The premise of the play is also deceptively simple and the challenges of sometimes playing a darker moment filled with oddly comic elements are everywhere in the script."

She said, "It's a moment in time. An evening when four people are not at their best, but are meeting for a noble purpose — for the sake of their children."

Jack Stein plays Alan Raleigh, a bulldog of a corporate lawyer who likes to be in control of his situations.

"As a social worker by profession, I'm pretty much the antithesis of Alan, particularly with respect to his ethics and attitudes. It's been an interesting challenge to tap into what makes him tick and find some humanity in the man."

Stein said, "Humans are unique beings but there's only a fine line separating us as such. We need to keep reminding ourselves of this uniqueness, especially when witnessing so many unfortunate savage atrocities going on in the world."

The Little Theater of Alexandria is staging "God of Carnage" Friday, Feb. 28-Saturday, March 21. Show times are Wednesdays through Saturdays at 8 p.m.; Sundays at 3 p.m. Tickets are \$19-\$22. For tickets, call 703-683-0496. The Little Theater of Alexandria is located at 600 Wolfe Street, Alexandria. Visit www.thelittletheatre.com.

CALENDAR

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

ONGOING

Mount Vernon Celebrates Black History Month. Through February at Mount Vernon, 3200 Mount Vernon Highway, Mount Vernon. In observance of Black History Month, George Washington's Mount Vernon highlights the lives and contributions of the slaves who built and operated the plantation home of George and Martha Washington. Throughout the month, a daily Slave Life at Mount Vernon Tour explores the lives and contributions of the slaves who lived

at Mount Vernon at 11:30 a.m. The tour will conclude with a wreath laying at the Slave Memorial site. Black History Month activities are included in admission. Visit www.mountvernon.org for more.

Annual Student/Faculty Show - Art League School. Through March 1, Monday-Saturday, 10 a.m.-6 p.m.; Thursday, 10 a.m.-9 p.m.; Sunday, noon-6 p.m., at The Torpedo Factory, 105 North Union St., Studio 21. The Art League's annual Student/Faculty Show showcases faculty works alongside hundreds of paintings, drawings, printmaking, stained glass, jewelry, ceramics, pottery, fiber, mosaics, sculpture created by students. Visit www.theartleague.org. Call the gallery at 703-683-1780 or the school at 703-683-2323.

"Bessie's Blues." Through March 15 at MetroStage, 1201 North Royal St., Alexandria. "Bessie's Blues," features

Bernardine Mitchell, Roz White, TC Carson and a cast of actors and musicians who will tell the story of Bessie Smith through a musical odyssey of the blues. William Knowles is music director. Performances are Wednesday-Friday, 8 p.m.; Saturday, 3 and 8 p.m.; and Sunday, 3 and 7 p.m. \$55-60. Visit www.metrostage.org or call 800-494-8497.

"Front and Back." Through March 15, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. daily; 10 a.m.-9 p.m. second Thursday of the month at Potomac Fiber Arts Gallery in Studio 18 of the Torpedo Factory Art Center at 105 North Union Street, Alexandria. Artists' imagination plays with Items that are different front vs back; right vs left; top vs bottom; inside vs outside; right side up vs up side down; positive space vs negative space. Anything that has two or more sides can be used to show two

different visuals. Free admission. See www.potomacfiberartsgallery.com for more.

"Considering Harm." Through Saturday, March 21 at The Gallery at Convergence, 1801 N. Quaker Lane, Alexandria. Artist Pamela Flynn presents an exhibition titled "Considering Harm." This art project focuses on the issue of gun violence and bringing awareness to our community. Visit www.ourconvergence.org or www.pamelaflynnart.com for more.

"In and of the Land." Through Sunday, March 29, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and during performances at The Rachel M. Schlesinger Concert Hall & Arts Center, Margaret W. and Joseph L. Fisher Art Gallery at the Alexandria Campus of Northern Virginia Community College, 4915 East Campus Drive, Alexandria. "In and of the Land" is a two person

exhibition of recent work in paintings by Clive Pates and ceramics by Virginia Rood Pates. Visit www.nvcc.edu/schlesingercenter/Gallery for more.

Nine Paintings from John Chapman. Through May 25, 9 a.m.-4 p.m. at the Donald W. Reynolds Museum and Education Center Mount Vernon, 3200 Mount Vernon Highway, Mount Vernon. Nine unique paintings by the Virginia born artist John Gadsby Chapman (1808-1889) illustrating landscape scenes important to George Washington's biography are on view. Visit www.mountvernon.org.

"Paws 'N Claws for Art." Runs through May 31 at Vola Lawson Animal Shelter, 4101 Eisenhower Ave., Alexandria. Del Ray Artisans and Animal Welfare League of Alexandria teamed up to present this animal-themed, fundraising exhibit.

ENTERTAINMENT

Both nonprofits receive a percentage of each sale. Also showing, but not for sale, will be UpCycle's Fur-Vor project community-based student-recycled dog art. Visit www.TheDelRayArtisans.org/GWW 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-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. 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

Summer of Smiles. The Recreation, Parks and Cultural Activities' Summer Fun Guide, is now available. Summer camps and activities are available for youth ages 2-17 and include sports, dance, creative arts, computer, chess, enrichment, nature, adventure, Out of School Time (residents only) and classic camps. The guide has an index listing camps by week offered and age group. Registration opens Wednesday, March 18 for City of Alexandria residents and Friday, March 20 for nonresidents. Interested participants may register online or in-person at the Lee Center, 1108 Jefferson St. The Summer Fun Guide is available for download at www.alexandriava.gov/Recreation. Free printed brochures will be available at City Hall, recreation centers, and public libraries. Call the Registration and Reservation Office at 703-746-5414.

Tavern Toddlers. Every Monday (except Federal Holidays) 10:30-11:30 a.m. Gadsby's Tavern Museum, 134 North Royal Street, Alexandria.

PETS

FRIDAY/FEB. 27

Opening Reception. 7-9 p.m. at the Vola Lawson Animal Shelter, 4101 Eisenhower Ave., Alexandria. "Paws 'N Claws for Art," Del Ray Artisans and Animal Welfare League of Alexandria show animal-themed art with UpCycle's Fur-Vor student-created dog art. Visit www.TheDelRayArtisans.org/GWW for more.

"Paws 'N Claws for Art." Runs through May 31 at Vola Lawson Animal Shelter, 4101 Eisenhower Ave., Alexandria. Del Ray Artisans and Animal Welfare League of Alexandria teamed up to present this animal-themed, fundraising exhibit. Both nonprofits receive a percentage of each sale. Also showing, but not for sale, will be UpCycle's Fur-Vor project community-based student-recycled dog art. Visit www.TheDelRayArtisans.org/GWW.

SATURDAY/MARCH 7

Fun Dog Show. March 7, 11 a.m., Market Square, 301 King St., Alexandria. Register your dogs to win the contests ranging from Best Tail Wag to Best Irish Costume. The show starts at 11:15 a.m., and afterwards all dogs are welcome to walk in the annual Old Town Alexandria St. Patrick's Day Parade. Register at www.ballyshanners.org/parade/ParadeInfo_dogshow.htm.

FRIDAY-SUNDAY/MARCH 27-29

Super Pet Expo. At Dulles Expo Center, Chantilly. The Super Pet Expo is the largest, most amazing event for animal lovers in the DC Metro. Learn, shop and be entertained with hundreds of vendors and fun activities. Before the expo on Saturday morning, join us and hundreds of other dogs and the people who love them to attempt to set a doggie-kissing record in the Dulles Expo Center parking lot, 9 a.m. Visit www.superpetexpo.com for more.

SATURDAY/MARCH 28

City Walks. Four-week session begins Saturday, March 28 at Villages of Shirlington. This class is for the dog that responds really well to basic obedience cues at home or in the classroom but could use more practice around everyday distractions. This class is also great way to continue socializing your dog to new surroundings and helping them to feel comfortable with a variety of visual stimuli and sounds. It is a class that is well worth repeating to perfect good manners in public settings. Four-week session, \$165. Visit www.furgetmenot.com.

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. Drop-in for the session and bring supplies to draw or paint our live models. Fee ranges from \$8-\$12. All skill levels are welcome. Del Ray Artisans is located at 2704 Mount Vernon Ave. Visit www.TheDelRayArtisans.org for a schedule.

THURSDAY/FEB. 26-SUNDAY/MARCH 1

Robert Cwiok / Enveloping Time. 12-4 p.m. Thursday, Friday and Sunday; 1-4 p.m. Saturdays at the Athenaeum, 201 Prince St., Alexandria. Paintings, collage, and mixed media works representing all phases of Cwiok's 40-year career lead visitors on a tour through the development of an artist. Visit nvfaa.org for more.

FRIDAY/FEB. 27

Family Fun Night. 6-9 p.m. at Chinquapin Park Recreation Center & Aquatics Facility, 3210 King St. Bring the whole family to Family Fun Nights for swimming and fun for all ages on Friday evenings. Pool games include beach ball relays, water basketball, diving for prizes and fun on the 'Aqua Challenge' floating obstacle course. Participate in swimming skill assessments for

youth, learn pool safety tips and more. Admission, \$4 per person. Visit www.alexandriava.gov/c/10280 for more.

Gala Benefit. 7-10 p.m. at Virtue Feed and Grain, 106 South Union St., Alexandria. Gala will benefit The Center for Alexandria's Children, the City's primary resource for the prevention, investigation and treatment of child abuse. Attendees will "Get Up and Boogie" to the disco sounds of the 1970s, enjoying an evening that includes a cocktail buffet, silent auction, 50/50 raffle, and "Be A Superstar" booth where patrons can purchase items to benefit the Center. Tickets start at \$150. Available online at <http://2015scacgala.eventbrite.com>. Call 703-746-6008 or visit www.centerforalexandriachildren.org.

Mike + The Mechanics 30th Anniversary Tour. 7:30 p.m. The Birchmere Music Hall, 3701 Mount Vernon Ave., Alexandria. Their first American tour in almost 25 years. Visit www.birchmere.com or call 703-549-7500.

SATURDAY/FEB. 28

2015 Generation to Generation Gala. 6-11 p.m. at Hilton Alexandria Mark Center, 5000 Seminary Road, Alexandria. Join Senior Services of Alexandria at the 2015 Generation to Generation Gala to celebrate honorees Christopher Campagna and his mother June Geoffroy; John and Bea Taylor and their daughters Karen Taylor Chandler and Rhonda Taylor; and the first recipient of the SSA Philanthropist Award, Ronald M. Bradley. Cocktails, silent auction, dinner and dancing. Black tie optional. Tickets at www.seniorservicesalex.org or 703-836-4414.

Andrew O'Day. 8-11 p.m., at John Strongbow's Tavern, 710 King St., Alexandria. Visit www.johnstrongbows.com or call 703-329-3075.

lost (adj): 1. unable to find the way. 2. not appreciated or understood. 3. no longer owned or known

Adopt Donate Volunteer

Volunteers needed for adoption events, fostering, transportation, adoption center caretaking and more.



lostdogandcatrescue.org

SHINING CITY

written by Conor McPherson
directed by Becky Patton
produced by Jim Howard

PORT CITY PLAYHOUSE

Feb. 27, 28 Mar. 6, 7, 10, 13, 14
• 8pm | Mar. 7 and 14 • 2pm
1819 N. Quaker Lane, Alexandria

At the corner of Crestwood Drive and N. Quaker Lane
Purchase tickets online

portcityplayhouse.org

Le Refuge was rated #1 in Alexandria on TripAdvisor. Thank you for your continued support.

Le Refuge Restaurant

Winter Specials

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- Split Pea Soup
- Venison Medallions
- Beef Wellington
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SUNDAY/MARCH 1

Play Reading/Fundraiser. 2-5 p.m. at Beth El Hebrew Congregation, 3830 Seminary Road, Alexandria. Beth El Hebrew Congregation Women are performing a reader's play, "Love, Loss and What I Wore," written by Nora Ephron and Delia Ephron based on a book by Ilene Beckerman. This is a collection of funny, powerful monologues about women and memories. \$15/per person at the door. Guest Readers will include Hillary Howard, WTOF anchor and host of TV's It's Academic. Other readers will be Catherine Weinraub, Suzie Shalewitz, and Joanne Rhodes all members of the Beth El Sisterhood. Visit www.bethelhebrew.org for more.

Author Event. 2-4 p.m. in the Great Room of the Cameron Station Clubhouse, 200 Cameron Station Blvd., Alexandria. The Alexandria Branch of American Association of University Women will present "Presidents' Gardens," with a discussion and a slide presentation by author Linda Holden Hoyt. Email danielleaauw@gmail.com or 202-331-3074 for more.

Closing Reception. 2-4 p.m. at The Torpedo Factory, 105 North Union St., Studio 21. The Art League's annual Student/Faculty Show, on view through March 1, 2015, showcases work by faculty alongside hundreds of paintings, drawings, printmaking, stained glass, jewelry, ceramics, pottery, fiber, mosaics, sculpture created by the student body. Visit www.theartleague.org or call the gallery at 703-683-1780 or the school at 703-683-2323.

Barbershop Harmony Concert. 3 p.m. at Mount Vernon Unitarian Church, 1909 Windmill Lane, Alexandria. The 30-member Harmony Heritage Singers present "Forward March," a concert of familiar patriotic and popular music. The men's acapella chorus presents more than 25 performances a year in the Washington area. No tickets required, offering taken for United Community Ministries. Call 703-765-4779 or email brandtron@verizon.net.

Opening Reception. 4-6 p.m. at The Athenaeum, 201 Prince St., Alexandria. Opening for "Enveloping Time," an exhibition of the works of Robert Cwiok in the Athenaeum gallery. Cwiok's paintings, collage, and mixed media works lead visitors on a visual tour through the development of an artist. Text, print ephemera and envelopes are visual leitmotifs throughout his career. Free. Visit www.nvfaa.org.

PLTI Fundraiser. 5:30 p.m. at ABACA, 1201 North Royal Street, Alexandria and MetroStage. The Parent Leadership Institute of Alexandria

will hold its annual fundraiser at MetroStage and ABACA. The evening will begin with a dinner buffet and a silent auction at 5:30 p.m., followed by "Bessie's Blues" at 7 at MetroStage. \$85 per person for the dinner and show. Visit www.plti-alex.org or contact Fay Slotnick at 703-409-6872 or fay@plti-alex.org for tickets.

SUNDAY-SUNDAY/MARCH 1-29

"Four." Through Sunday, March 29 11 a.m.-6 p.m. at The Associates Gallery, Studio 319, at the Torpedo Factory, 105 North Union St., Alexandria. The Torpedo Factory's newest gallery presents the fantastic "Four," featuring photographer Julie Patrick, mixed media artist Kara Hammond, painter Jill Finsen and painting/mixed media artist Barbara Muth. TAG will present a new show each month. Visit torpedofactory.org for more.

MONDAY/MARCH 2

R.E. Lee Camp Dinner. 6:15 p.m. at the American Legion Hall, 400 Cameron St., Alexandria (behind Gatsby's Tavern on Royal Street). Social hour is followed by a catered dinner. Hear speaker Philip Schreier, the senior curator at the National Rifle Association talk about "The English Enfield in Confederate Service." \$25 per person; \$12.50 for those 17 and under. RSVP with a check made out to R.E. Lee Camp #726 and mailed to 401 Wilkes St., Alexandria, VA 22314. Must be received by Feb. 27. For additional information, visit www.leecamp.org.

Film Screening and Discussion. 7 p.m. at the U.S. Patent & Trademark Office, 600 Dulany St., Alexandria. Following a screening of "The Raising of America," hear from early childhood experts on early childhood and the future of our nation. Free. RSVP at <http://bit.ly/1wQqjFF>

TUESDAY/MARCH 3

National Pancake Day. Participating local IHOPs celebrate by giving away one free short stack of pancakes with the hopes that patrons will make a donation to The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society's National Capital Area Chapter in lieu of payment for pancakes. Visit www.ihop.com for more.

WEDNESDAY/MARCH 4

Witness to War & Reunion. 7:30 p.m. in the Lecture Hall of The Lyceum, 201 S Washington St., Alexandria. This spring lecture series looks at the end of the Civil War, and its aftermath. "Iron Confederacies: Southern Railways, Klan Violence and Reconstruction," by Scott Nelson,

Port City Stages 'Shining City'

Set in Ireland, play tells of troubled human relationships and a ghost story.

BY STEVE HIBBARD
GAZETTE PACKET

Port City Playhouse in Alexandria is staging "Shining City," a story of troubled human relationships overlaid with a hint of a ghost story. Set in Dublin, the play by Irish playwright Connor McPherson tells how a man comes to a psychiatrist for help after he starts seeing a ghost since his wife's death in a car accident.

Director Becky Patton said the play is about relationships and how we communicate (or don't) with them. "The parallels between the character's experiences in their relationships brings the message home that honest communication in even casual relationships is key, but incredibly hard to achieve and maintain," she said. "We can hear the words when they are said, but it is how we choose to accept or reject them that makes all the difference. I hope people will listen more intentionally."

Producer Jim Howard decided to produce "Shining City" because he liked its intense dialogue and subject matter. "Secondly, I owe the director (Becky Patton) a lot for her help in many projects over the past several years, and I think she is one good director. Her vision is always clear on what she wants out of her production staff, and especially her actors."

Tom Flatt plays John, a recently widowed salesman who is visited by the ghost of his wife, and then seeks therapeutic counseling. He said the most challenging aspect of the play was the lan-

guage.

"The writer has composed the piece very poetically to simulate the broken rhythms of everyday speech, so my challenge is to turn the fractured prose into a natural and emotionally transparent performance," he said.

Andy De plays Ian, a man who cares deeply for others but often ignores his own needs. He said the challenge was that Ian's emotional growth takes on wild shifts from scene to scene.

"And on top of that he has quite a bit of trouble expressing himself and getting complete thoughts out due to his own insecurity," he said.

Ashley Amidon plays Neasa, Ian's girlfriend and the mother of his child. She said the role was emotionally challenging for her.

"Neasa has built her life into a partnership with Ian, so when he out of the blue says that their relationship is over, she feels devastated, and like she should have seen this coming," she said. "I've been in that place where you know that this person that you love is leaving no matter what, but you want to walk away having been totally honest. Neasa doesn't want to ever look back on her breakup with Ian and wonder 'what if?'"

Port City presents "Shining City" Friday-Saturday, Feb. 27-28, March 6-7 and 13-14, and Tuesday, March 10, at 8 p.m.; with Saturday matinees March 7 and 14 at 2 p.m. Port City Playhouse is located at 1819 N. Quaker Lane, Alexandria, VA 22302. Tickets are \$18 regular and \$16 for students/seniors/military. Visit the website at www.portcityplayhouse.org.

The College of William & Mary. \$5. Seating is limited, make reservations in person, at shop.alexandriava.gov or 703-746-4994.

weather. Free. Call 202-767-5658 or visit www.usafband.af.mil.

FRIDAY/MARCH 6

"Family Paint Night." 6-8 p.m. at the Durant Arts Center, 1605 Cameron St., Alexandria. Explore the arts with featured artist Teresa Brunson guiding participants through painting their own masterpiece. No experience needed. Art supplies, pizza and soda provided. \$15 per adult, children under 12 years old are free and must

be accompanied by one adult. For reservations, stop by the Durant Arts Center, call 706-746-5560, or email durantcenter@alexandriava.gov.

Scottish Social and Tasting. 7-9 p.m. at Lloyd House, 220 N Washington St., Alexandria. The City of Alexandria's Sister City Committee is holding a fundraiser to support educational and cultural exchanges. The program includes discussion, whisky tasting instructions, and a Q&A led by a Scotch whisky expert; there's plenty for the non-whisky

THURSDAY/MARCH 5

Concert. 8 p.m. at the Lyceum History Museum, 201 S. Washington St., Alexandria. The United States Air Force Band-Chamber Players concert featuring eclectic music for Tuba-Euphonium Quartet. Concert subject to cancellation due to inclement



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drinkers: dinner, wine and other beverages will be served. \$40. RSVP to roberthayjr@gmail.com. Send checks to Robert Hay, ASCC, 300 N. Washington St #205, Alexandria VA 22314 or visit <https://shop.alexandriava.gov/> to make payment.

Opening Reception. 7-9 p.m. at Del Ray Artisans Gallery, 2704 Mount Vernon Ave. Local area artists express their dreams through their art in "DREAM ON!" Visit www.thedelrayartisans.org or call 703-838-4827.

MARCH 6-29

"DREAM ON!" Runs through Sunday, March 29 at Del Ray Artisans Gallery, 2704 Mount Vernon Ave., Alexandria Local area artists use any media to explore and express their dreams in the "DREAM ON!" exhibit at Del Ray Artisans gallery. Using their imaginations, artists interpret their dreams—from weird to wonderful, scary to surreal. Visit www.thedelrayartisans.org or call 703-838-4827.

SATURDAY/MARCH 7

Country-Western Dance. 6:30-9:30 p.m. at Lincolnia Senior Center, 4710 North Chambliss St., Alexandria. The Northern Virginia Country-Western Dance Association will hold a dance with a lesson at 6:30 p.m. and open dancing, 7-9:30 p.m. A DJ provides music. Couples and singles welcome. Admission for NVCWDA members \$10; non-members \$12; children under 18 accompanied by a paying adult \$5. Smoke-free, alcohol-free. BYO refreshments. Visit www.nvcwda.org or call 703-860-4941.

Live Music. 7 p.m. at St. Aidan's Episcopal Church, 8531 Riverside Road, Alexandria. Focus presents folk singer/songwriter Peter Mayer, with guest Doug Alan Wilcox. \$18 general, \$15 in advance at www.focusmusic.org.

SATURDAY-SUNDAY/MARCH 7-8

Thomas Lynch, Poet-Undertaker. Saturday, 5:30 p.m.; Sunday, 8:30, 9:45, and 11:15 a.m.

at Aldersgate Church, 1301 Collingwood Road, Alexandria. Thomas Lynch, author and inspiration behind the HBO series "Six Feet Under" will speak at Aldersgate Church. There will be a question/answer session and book signing at Aldersgate on Sunday, March 8, 12:30 p.m. \$10 per person, pre-registration required at www.aldersgate.net/lynch.

SATURDAY-SUNDAY/MARCH 7-22

March 150. Through Sunday, March 22 in the Target Gallery at Torpedo Factory, 105 N. Union St., Alexandria. The exhibition will feature 200+ works of original art by local artists, all created on 10" square panels and sold for \$150 each, until the night of the Art Party on March 20, when all the work is discounted to \$100. Visit torpedofactory.org/event/march-150/ for more.

SUNDAY/MARCH 8

International Women's Day at Ten Thousand Villages. Noon-6 p.m. at 915 King St., Alexandria. Shoppers can find the perfect fair trade gift for the women in their lives; that gift was most likely made by one of the thousands of female artisans working with Ten Thousand Villages; on March 8 the store will donate a portion of the day's sales to the City of Alexandria's programs combating domestic violence. Visit www.alexandria.tenthousandvillages.com for more.

WEDNESDAY/MARCH 11

Illustrated Lecture. 7:30 p.m. at Lloyd House, 220 N. Washington St., Alexandria. First Ladies of the Civil War, an illustrated lecture exploring the lives of Varina Howell Davis and Mary Todd Lincoln as First Ladies, wives, mothers, and widows, will be presented by Kelly R. Hancock, Manager of Education and Programs, The American Civil War Museum and White House of the Confederacy. Free. Call 703-746-4554.



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LETTERS

FROM PAGE 14

can be rezoned so easily in favor a developer.

The way this process worked has left me very frustrated. Something has to change.

Jeanne Harley
Alexandria

Winners and Losers

To the Editor:

The Woodbine memory care facility sharply focuses two key contrasts in political theory, rights of neighborhoods versus wellbeing of “the whole” and whether zoning is discretionary or inherent.

Most area jurisdictions have a mix of at-large and district representation, precisely because any at-large decision-making regime is structurally skewed toward giving greater weight to the interests of the whole. But every decision amounts to a reallocation with winners and losers; someone is prevailed upon to give up something supposedly for the overall public interest. Lately, as with the Woodbine memory care rezoning, City Council consistently has [adversely impacted] neighborhoods “for the good of the whole.” Many who spoke represented the interests of those benefiting from the memory care facility, even if they had to pretend away the immediate impact on nearby properties.

Notwithstanding City Council’s two-hour long debate charade, the Woodbine decision had been made before the first person testified. So, when Vice Mayor Allison Silberberg pressed the point no one could cogently refute as to why a lot unsuited to even four single-family homes is somehow suited for a 75,000 sq. ft. facility, staff could only give the answer the six in-favor votes on the dais wanted, the risible notion that the four single-family homes were denied relying upon the zoning, as if special use permits shredding zoning are not rubber stamped en masse almost every time City Council meets.

City Council’s six-vote override of the neighbors’ petition was a cudgel to silence Silberberg’s question for which there was no coherent answer to pass the laugh test.

Is zoning something the authorities may impose as an optional property protection, then later repeal, revise, exempt, except, etc.? Is it just there to extract “voluntary” proffers from developers, in exchange for waiving the zoning via “development special use permits,” to benefit the community as a whole rather than the neighbors whose property is burdened by the development undertaken in conflict with the prior zoning? Or does zoning, once it has been in place long enough, “run with the land” as a “property right,” a vested part of the property’s regulatory framework allowing property owners the rightful enjoyment of their property? If the latter, any change like the Woodbine rezoning is, in effect, a “regulatory taking” of some of the nearby properties’ inherent value.

Economists, who talk about “internalizing all costs,” would view development decisions like the Woodbine rezoning as prevailing upon the impacted neighbors to “subsidize” the benefit that would accrue to the community as a whole, just as taking

someone’s land for a new road, school, or sanitation facility benefits the community as a whole, but requires “just compensation” to the land owner for his/her loss. Some city councilors conceded impact upon the neighborhood — indeed it would be difficult not to given the point Silberberg pressed.

This question could be teed up in court, but forcing the neighborhood residents to go this route would defeat the purpose of good government. The City Council could concede, quite straight-forwardly the Woodbine rezoning’s impact on nearby properties and offer monetary compensation. City hall could even have pressed Woodbine to compensate the city so as not to add to the tax burden. The nearby residents who petitioned against the rezoning would have no basis for complaint. Instead of being exploited to subsidize something for general public benefit, they would be fairly compensated, their legitimate objections acknowledged and addressed in a way that brings closure rather than resentment.

A fair, competent city government would understand things in this way. The cost would be relatively small for the public policy benefit it could engender.

Dino Drudi
Alexandria

Leasing \$200 Million Asset for \$0.25 a Year

To the Editor:

Currently 36.3 acres of Alexandria’s Cameron Run Park (4001 Eisenhower Ave.) are leased to the Northern Virginia Parks Authority (“NOVA Parks”) where they operate a water slide, Wave Park, mini golf, batting cages and ancillary facilities. The current 40-year lease expires in six years. NOVA Parks would apparently like to add one or more attractions to the park but understandably would like a lease extension, or a new lease, before incurring that expenditure. One current suggestion is that a new lease might be signed on the same terms as the

current one: \$10 total rent for 40 years (\$0.25 a year). If true, that would appear to be a very favorable arrangement for them, given that more than one appraiser has estimated the 36-plus acres, if unencumbered, could well be worth in excess of \$200 million. By comparison, our city has assessed the improvements made by NOVA Parks as being worth \$1.5 million.

Despite the lease of our park apparently being a very profitable venture for NOVA Parks, Alexandria also makes an annual per capita contribution to the organization; that will amount to \$652,000 in the current fiscal year. Our residents do get a discount on some park fees; for example a \$15 daily use fee is discounted to \$14.75.

Given the extent and value of this property, many have suggested that additional and/or alternative uses ought to be considered and evaluated before any new lease is pursued. It has also been stressed that, at present, the City Council can approve a new lease without the necessity of holding any public hearing on the matter. It has been suggested that they are under increasing

A Home for a Lifetime

Are you and your home a “good fit?”

BY AMBER NIGHTINGALE
ASSOCIATE STATE DIRECTOR
AARP VIRGINIA



If you are like most Americans, you want to continue living in your current home and community as long as you can. But are you and your home a “good fit”? Will you be able to enjoy your home and will it continue to meet your needs as your lifestyle and abilities change?

It’s always better to plan ahead rather than wait for a crisis. Unfortunately, most people don’t discuss or think about the

SENIOR SERVICES OF ALEXANDRIA

livability of their home until something happens, such as managing a broken leg in a house full of stairs. Usually, the crisis makes it obvious they are living in a place that might need some modifications to make it work for them.

Summer and fall, before the winter frost sets in, are the ideal time to make home improvements. Here are eight simple questions to get you thinking about whether your home meets your current — and future — livability needs.

- ❖ Is there at least one step-free entrance into the home?
- ❖ Are the doorways and hallways wide enough for a wheelchair to pass?
- ❖ Do the doorknobs and faucets have lever handles, which are easier to use than rounded knobs?
- ❖ Are there grab bars in the bathroom, or has the wall been reinforced so they can be added?
- ❖ Does the bathtub or shower have a

non-slip surface?

❖ Can light switches, electrical outlets and thermostats easily be reached, even from a seated position?

❖ Are there

secure handrails on both sides of stairways?

❖ Can the windows be opened with minimum effort?

While some of these improvements, like widening doorframes, might require major repairs, many solutions can be as easy and low-cost as adding an inexpensive floor mat to provide a non-slip bathroom surface, or installing lever handles.

To find out more about making your home fit your needs join Senior Services of Alexandria at its March speaker series. They are partnering with AARP Alexandria Office on Housing and Rebuilding Together Alexandria for a “HomeFit” Workshop on Wednesday, March 11, 9:30 a.m.-noon at Westminster Presbyterian Church, 2701 Cameron Mills Road in Alexandria. The event is free and open to the public. It will be a very informative event to learn how small changes in your home can make a big difference. To register go to www.seniorservicesalex.org or call 703-836-4414, ext 10.

For a complete assessment of your home, you can also visit the American Occupational Therapy Association (<http://www.aota.org/>) or the National Association of Home Builders (www.nahb.org). Get more home tips from AARP’s Home Fit Guide, to order, call 1-888-OUR-AARP and ask for Stock #D18959.

pressure to do so.

In response to the above, there is currently a petition circulating in the community simply requesting that our City Council “Establish and Appoint a Cameron Run Regional Park Advisory Group to Independently Consider and Evaluate All Aspects of Any Proposed Lease of Cameron Run Park Land As Well as Any Potential Alternative and/or Additional Uses.”

This is not an effort to reduce the amenities which the park offers but rather is an effort to ensure we maximize its use and value to our community and that any related lease is not signed behind closed doors but only after a reasonable and appropriate public hearing.

Those wishing to support this request may do so by signing the petition which can be accessed at www.gopetition.com and then searching for “Cameron Park” which will lead you to the petition.

Don Buch
Alexandria

Working Against Homelessness

To the Editor:

The Partnership to Prevent and End Homelessness in the City of Alexandria, wishes to thank the mayor and the City Council for adopting the “Strategic Plan to Prevent and End Homelessness in the City of Alexandria, VA” (2014-2020) presented on Jan. 27. This action, combined with Mayor Euille joining the National Mayor’s Pledge to End Veteran Homelessness, and the adoption of other human service strategic plans, solidifies the city’s commitment to continue to strengthen its efforts to prevent and end homelessness.

The newly adopted Strategic Plan goals align with the City Council’s Strategic Plan initiatives and “Opening Doors: Federal Strategic Plan to Prevent and End Homelessness.” The four main goals are to (1) increase leadership, collaboration, and

SEE LETTERS, PAGE 21

LETTERS

FROM PAGE 20

civic participation; (2) increase access to stable and affordable housing; (3) increase economic and health security; and (4) retool the homeless crisis response system.

The adoption of the Strategic Plan came on the eve of this year's annual Point in Time (PIT) count of persons experiencing homelessness. This count, conducted nationwide during the last 10 days of January provides a one-night snapshot of the extent and nature of homelessness in the City of Alexandria, including the unduplicated number, characteristics, and service needs of sheltered and unsheltered persons as defined by the Department of Housing & Urban Development (HUD). The data collected is used to develop strategies, evaluate the efficacy of programs, inform funding decisions, and identify gaps in the homeless services continuum of care. The data for the 2015 PIT count will not be available until late spring, but we anticipate declining numbers as the city's count has decreased from 352 persons in 2012 to 267 in 2014. Our plan to end homelessness is working, and our efforts are showing success.

The Partnership to Prevent and End Homelessness in the City of Alexandria is Alexandria's Continuum of Care, a collaborative group representing public and private stakeholders providing services and/or resources to persons experiencing or at risk of homelessness in the City of Alexandria. The Partnership ensures the planning, coordination and implementation of an effective and efficient system-wide response to homelessness within the City of Alexandria. We invite interested individuals, businesses, faith communities, and other nonprofits to join us in making the Partnership's vision that "within the City of Alexandria no one should be without a safe, suitable, and stable place to call home" a reality. To learn more, please contact Nan Goodwin, Continuum of Care Lead staff, at nan.goodwin@alexandriava.gov.

Pamela L. Michell

Chair, Governing Board
Partnership to Prevent and End Homelessness

Members of The Partnership to Prevent and End Homelessness in the City of Alexandria include: Alexandria DCHS/Center for Aging and Adult Services, Alexandria DCHS/Center for Economic Support, Alexandria DCHS/Center for Children and Families, Alexandria City Public Schools, Alexandria Code Enforcement, Alexandria Community Services Board, Alexandria Department of Health, Alexandria Domestic Violence Program, Alexandria Fire and EMS Department, Alexandria Housing Development Corporation, Alexandrians

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Involved Ecumenically, Alexandria Neighborhood Health Services, Inc., Alexandria Office of Housing, Alexandria Police Department, Alexandria Redevelopment & Housing Authority, Bridges to Independence, Carpenter's Shelter, Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Arlington, Christ Church Lazarus Ministry, Community Lodgings, Inc., Community representatives, Diocese of Arlington - Christ House Men's Shelter, Friends of Guest House, Homeless Consumer Representatives, INOVA Alexandria Hospital, JobLink/Workforce Investment Board, K.I. Services, Inc., New Hope Housing, Inc., Northern Virginia Affordable Housing Alliance, Offender Aid and Restoration, Partnership for a Healthier Alexandria, Salvation Army Transitional Housing, Veterans Administration-Northern Virginia, Wesley Housing Development Corporation and Virginia Department of Corrections

Appreciates Good Samaritans

To the Editor:

On Sunday, Feb. 22, en route to evensong at St. Paul's, I was parking my Acura in Old Town when the car got stuck in the snow and ice.

My efforts to get clear failed, and I had foolishly left my cell phone at home. A family of Good Samaritans, a father and two young teenagers, were providentially nearby and shoveled the car out and pushed it onto the street. These unknown good neighbors have my sincere gratitude. They put the Golden Rule into practice!

Anne Bradford
Alexandria

Conflict over Fort Ward Park

To the Editor:

Fort Ward Park and the recently approved Fort Ward Management Plan has become an issue of concern for residents on the West End. A small group of residents representing descendants of those who once lived at the abandoned fort after the Civil War opposed City Council adoption of the Management Plan alleging a litany of distrust of city staff, but also raising concerns this is a continuation of a pattern of racial injustice dating back to the 1950s and '60s.

Since 2008 The Fort Ward and Seminary African American Descendants Society and the Seminary Civic Association have been outspoken and made costly demands of city officials. They have aggressively advocated the city find all of the graves in the 35-acre park. They also want the city staff to notify them in advance of any surface disturbing activities in the park that may uncover a possible grave, so they can monitor the activity. They demand the city take steps to reduce storm water flow from the adjacent park land

through the historic Oakland Baptist Church Cemetery and nearby grave sites. They also were outraged when the city announced the release of a report documenting the African American settlement at Fort Ward. The descendant groups believed the report was potentially biased and felt they had an agreement with the city to work with them "to tell our story, not theirs."

Underlying their resentment is a long list of alleged mistreatment by the City of Alexandria dating back to the 1950s. They claim their ancestors were manipulated and mistreated and their properties confiscated by the city for both Fort Ward Park as well as T.C. Williams High School.

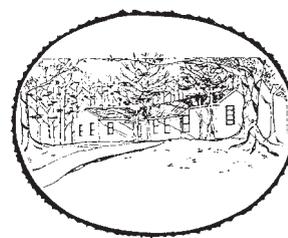
The descendant groups were represented on the Ad Hoc Fort Ward Park and Museum Stakeholder Advisory Group recommending the management plan. They repeatedly prolonged the process by claiming they did not have enough time to prepare comments or staff did not consult with them ahead of time. Basically the descendant groups are seeking veto power over the operation, maintenance and presentation of African American history at the historic park.

City taxpayers have spent close to \$1,000,000 on ground penetrating radar, shovel tests, drainage plans and archaeology, genealogy and history studies documenting the location of buildings, home sites, gravesites and an early African American school. Often these studies generated more distrust and disagreement between the descendant groups and contractors and staff. The growing costs however have resulted in less funding for grass mowing, addressing soil and drainage problems, removing tree stumps, planting trees and restoring the fenced maintenance and storage yard back to the park.

The mayor, City Council members and city staff have worked closely with the descendant group to resolve apparent issues, but to no avail.

The issues regarding Fort Ward are complicated and will ultimately be addressed. Over a two-year period the Advisory Group wrestled with many of the issues and to their credit produced a management plan adopted by the City Council. The mayor and City Council have an important role to play in moving ahead and structuring a process that is fair, respectful of others and equitable to all stakeholders, not just the African American descendant groups.

Dave Cavanaugh
Alexandria



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Non-profit Organizations Unite for City Budgeting

FROM PAGE 1

in the city have met in a series of meetings to present a unified message to the council.

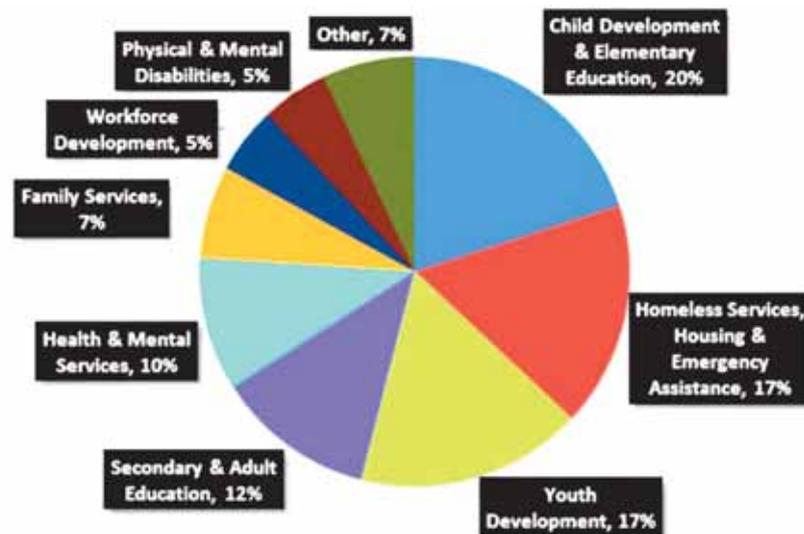
“We’ve been organizing non-profit development housing and human services providers to come around the budget season and evaluate the needs in the community,” said Michelle Krocker, executive director for the Northern Virginia Affordable Housing Alliance, “[We look at] what is being proposed in the budget and comment on it, either to thank City Council or to make recommendations for further funding.”

According to Debra Collins, deputy city manager, the process was a bit more chaotic in years past. The non-profits were divided and the pool of funding was broken up based on the types of services offered by the non-profits. Some funding would go to housing groups, some funding would go to organizations that provided food. But the reality of the non-profit world is that the responsibilities of these groups aren’t as cleanly divided, and when the non-profits were pitted against each other to compete for funding, they all lost.

“Last year, [then City Manager] Rashad Young told us that if we wanted to have any kind of impact, we couldn’t come in while the cake was in the oven,” said the Rev. Dr. Jonathan Smoot, executive director of the Northern Virginia branch of Habitat for Humanity. “So the strategy for this budget cycle is to talk over what we see as needs and priorities that we put together as a formal letter to the council in March. Then what we would do is seek to make individual appointments, a couple of us going together to each council member, to get their ideas and feedback to help us work together [with the council].”

Over the years, Krocker says Alexandria’s non-profit organizations have seen their work transition from independent organizations in competition to a more collaborative ecosystem, and the new approach at funding is an attempt at representing that.

“Rather than everyone performing the same activity, [the non-profits] organize themselves into activities that are complementary,” said Krocker. “There are two major homeless shelters in the city, but one



Breakdown of Alexandria's nonprofit organizations

DIRECT ECONOMIC IMPACT

TABLE 2: LARGEST ALEXANDRIA NONPROFITS (by revenue)

NONPROFITS	TOTAL REVENUE*
GOOD360	\$310,514,892
INSTITUTE FOR DEFENSE ANALYSES	\$242,961,609
AMERICAN DIABETES ASSOCIATION INC	\$202,794,922
CENTRO INTERNACIONAL DE MEJORAMIENTO DE MAIZ Y TRIGO DF	\$123,523,994
CNA CORPORATION	\$119,403,514
GLOBAL IMPACT	\$101,128,558
UNITED WAY WORLDWIDE	\$96,098,760
SERVICOURCE INC	\$90,329,576
AMERICAN SOCIETY OF CLINICAL ONCOLOGY	\$88,427,911
ALLIANCE FOR A GREEN REVOLUTION IN AFRICA	\$84,433,438
GOODWIN HOUSE INCORPORATED	\$66,668,369
DONORS CAPITAL FUND INC	\$61,700,814
ISLAMIC RELIEF USA	\$60,899,942
CHARITIES AID FOUNDATION AMERICA	\$53,825,234
ASSOCIATION FOR SUPERVISION AND CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT	\$50,645,717
NATIONAL CENTER FOR MISSING AND EXPLOITED CHILDREN	\$48,006,661
INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTE OF TROPICAL AGRICULTURE	\$47,427,000
DONORS TRUST INC	\$40,127,442
PROTESTANT EPISCOPAL HIGH SCHOOL IN VIRGINIA	\$36,830,518
INTERNATIONAL WATER MANAGEMENT INSTITUTE	\$35,129,000

focuses more on families and the other focuses on individuals. These are very different needs. ALIVE has a very robust food program and food delivery, they deliver to some of the people that live in affordable housing that non-profit developers build.”

The unofficial coalition’s membership includes the Alexandria Housing Development Corporation, Healthy Alexandria, Bridges to Independence, ALIVE!, Carpen-

ter Shelter, New Hope Housing, Friends of Guest House, Community Lodging, Rebuilding Together Alexandria, and Habitat for Humanity.

Last year, the city approved over \$2 million in grants. According to Collins, the funding to non-profits has an extraordinarily high return of investment and minimizes the cost to the city for human services. According to the Alexandria Nonprofit Impact

Report, Alexandria is the fourth largest location in Virginia in amount of revenue generated by non-profits and in expenditures.

The key message for the 2016 fiscal year seems to be asking City Council to hold the line on funding to nonprofits.

“It’s a tough environment because the city has very little money,” said Smoot. “It’s a constrained budget year. Everybody wants a big piece of that, whether its schools or infrastructure or the 10-year plan for capital improvements. It’s all really expensive stuff, and the council has a difficult job with decreasing commercial revenue.”

In addition to funding, the coalition is asking the City Council to take further steps towards strategic land use redevelopment. According to Carol Jackson, director of the Alexandria Housing Development Corporation, there are several empty parcels of land owned by the city that the nonprofits hope to convert into affordable housing. One parcel, originally under contract to the Community

Services Board, had been used as a group home for clients before that department lost funding and had to discontinue use of the site. The lot has been vacant since and the coalition will be asking City Council to allow a non-profit to begin using the site as a group home again. Smoot also said he hoped the city would consider relaxing zoning in certain housing areas to increase density to create more affordable housing space.

On the city side of this change, the city manager’s office is currently in the process of updating the 2008 Needs Assessment of the Alexandria Human Services System. The Alexandria Fund for Human Services (AFHS), a program under Community and Human Services, has also moved towards providing grants on a three-year cycle rather than annually. According to Collins, the AFHS will also specifically target non-profits that emphasize collaboration with other groups.

“As a human service provider, the fact that the city may change what used to be the community partnership fund to the human service fund, a multi-year grant, that’s something we’ve been arguing for,” said Michael O’Rourke, director of Bridges to Independence, formerly the Arlington-Alexandria Coalition for the Homeless. “Our clients sometime span years, so to make it a multiple-year grant: we think that’s the way to go and we’re happy about that.”

NASA Administrator Encourages Jefferson-Houston Students

FROM PAGE 3

auditorium that he had a couple pieces of advice, but that he’d keep it short so that he could answer more of their questions. He told the students to study hard, no matter what they wanted to do, and to never be afraid of failure. Bolden told them that was a lesson he learned from Ronald McNair, one of the first African American astronauts. Bolden said McNair inspired him not to succumb to his own self-doubts.

While Bolden presented the children with some general background information, notably about growing up in the segregated south and how difficult that made getting into the Naval Academy, most of his time at

Jefferson-Houston was focused around answer questions from the students. “Are astronauts for real?” asked one student.

“I hope so,” said Bolden. “I was one.”

Bolden was a test pilot in the Navy before becoming a space shuttle pilot, flying missions on the Columbia and Discovery, and eventually becoming a mission commander. Bolden was appointed by President Obama to be the administrator of NASA in 2009.

“Look around you. We have lots of races and cultures and creeds. The space shuttle allowed all of us to go into space,” he said.

While Bolden showed the students footage from onboard the International Space

Station, he told them that he was never able to go on board, it was after his time flying missions. But he told the students that some of them would go to the International Space Station, and there was a chance some of them will go to Mars. Bolden estimated it would be 15 or 20 years before he says NASA will be confident enough in the safety of the mission to send a mission to Mars.

Despite a hopeful question from one student, Bolden said he’d never had an extra-terrestrial experience, but said that NASA was still looking for it on Mars.

“When you go to Mars, don’t assume life will look like us,” Bolden advised the students. “A microbe, one cell, that’s still life.”

Bolden stayed in the auditorium after the presentation to take photos with students and answer their questions about the space program. Pamela Chance, the Jefferson-Houston parent who set the program up, said she’d heard Bolden was a nice man and figured it wouldn’t hurt to reach out to NASA and see if he could arrange a visit to the school. Chance figured Bolden’s prestigious status would work in her advantage.

“The pretty girl doesn’t get asked much to the dance,” Chance said. “He was a kind man, so I wasn’t surprised when he said yes. NASA coming here presents more inspiration than almost anything in the classrooms can.”

Council Approves Zoning Amendment 6-1

FROM PAGE 1

majority of the opposition to the facility was centered. More than 50 speakers on both sides of the issue lined up to voice their approval or concerns.

Proponents of the facility spoke about the need for living options accessible to Alexandrians suffering from dementia and Alzheimer's disease.

"This facility is really needed," said Tim Bloeckl. "We've read every letter on this case and I just don't see a compelling reason not to approve this facility. There are between 200 and 300 citizens in the city who may have this disease. I think the pros outweigh the cons."

Jack Taylor, president of Alexandria Toyota, offered the most moving testimony for the proponents of the project.

"I have Parkinson's disease, and Parkinson's can often turn into dementia," said Taylor. He described watching a friend, who had lived all his life in Alexandria, forced to move elsewhere when his memory failed, "There's a huge demand for beds and there's no supply ... When the time comes, I want to know that there's a facility that can take care of me, and maybe I'll get a discount at [Ivy Hill] cemetery."

Others expressed similar frustration at inadequate memory care capacities in Alexandria.

"People diagnosed with dementia need specialized care," said Alan Dubow, vice president of Capital Health Solutions. "The closest facility is Annandale, which is completely full."

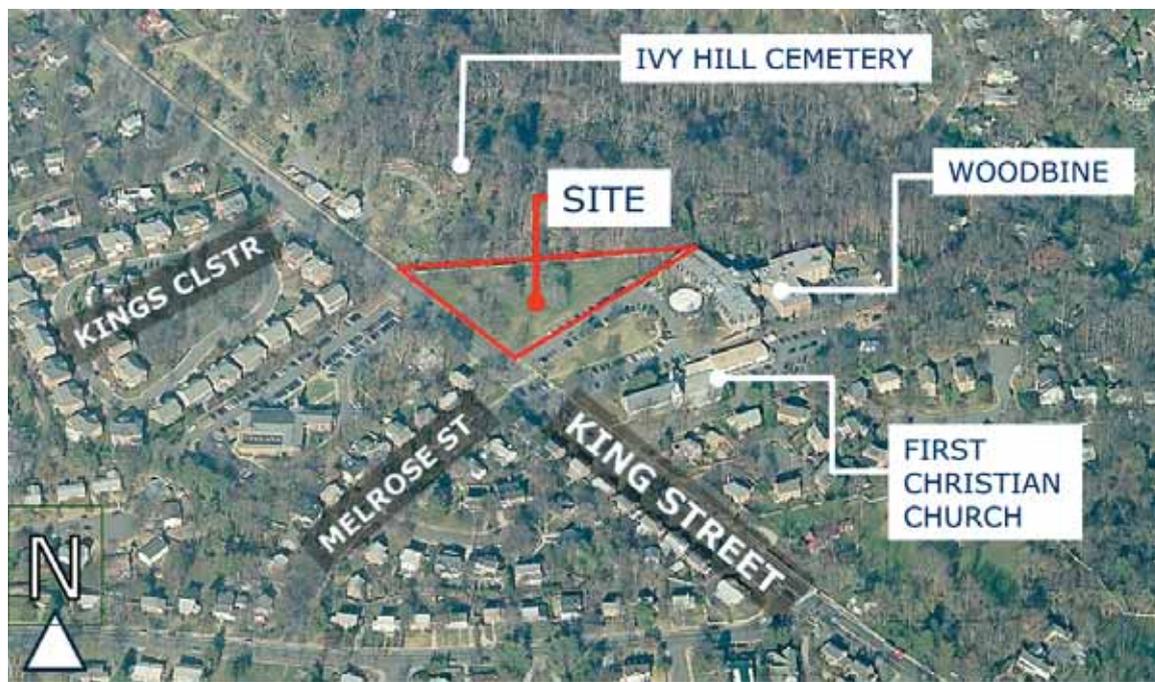
According to city staffer James Roberts, the project's planners have taken steps to make the facility as unobtrusive as possible. The building is 55 feet away from the property line, far more than the necessary 20 feet, and has scaled down the height and added a flat roof to reduce its visibility. Allowable height in an RB zone is typically 45 feet, but one of the proffers limited this height to 35 feet.

Many in opposition expressed concerns that spot-rezoning in this location would open the doorway for rezoning in other parts of the city.

"Rezoning a residential area has huge ramifications," said John Harley, noting that this type of rezoning has only happened twice since 1992 and never in the past 11 years. "We should follow the 1992 master plan and zoning codes ... this sets a dangerous precedent."

On page three of the 1992 Master Plan's section on land use, it says that areas of the city currently zoned residential should remain zoned residential use at no higher than their current density.

While critics of the plan were concerned that rezoning of the residential property would set a dangerous precedent for future rezoning, Acting Director of Planning and Zoning Karl Moritz said that the decision



Map with the Woodbine Memory Care Center location outlined in red.



Rendering of the proposed Memory Care Center, southbound on King Street.

wouldn't have the city-wide precedent that most of the citizens feared it would.

"Precedent here is relatively limited and could not be automatically applied to other situations," said Moritz. "We would have to evaluate each [rezoning] circumstance individually ... each parcel has a story to tell and its own background."

But while none of the opponents argued that there wasn't a need for greater care to those suffering from memory ailments, many questioned whether this facility was actually going to benefit Alexandrians. The cost per month to live at the facility is expected to be approximately \$8,000 per month or \$96,000 per year. According to the "Alexandria of Our Future" report, a part of the 2013-2017 Strategic Plan on Aging, the average annual median household income in Alexandria for ages 65-74 is \$65,800, or \$62,800 for those above 75. Even with two of the 66 units marked as affordable housing at \$57,600, it raised questions about whom the memory care development was really serving.

"It's only two units, but it's two more than we have today," said M. Catharine Puskar, an attorney representing the developer. "The average stay in the facility is 1.5 years, people keep their loved ones at home as long as they can. So over 20 years, those two beds would serve over 20 individuals."

The affordable housing units originally had a 20-year limit, but after urging from the council, Puskar said the developer would be willing to take that limit off and simply make those units affordable for the lifetime of the facility.

Mayor William Euille acknowledged that the "affordable housing" argument from the developer felt hollow.

"The discount for the two units is not inspiring to me," said Euille. "It's not going to make or break the deal."

Some of the cosmetic changes have created more problems than they seem to have solved. According to Moritz, the flat roof design was chosen by the project architects to minimize the site's visual impact. Some of the building's opponents said the flat roof was unsightly, Vice Mayor Allison Silberberg even likened it to Soviet Bloc architecture. Silberberg also criticized the staff's judgment that the site was appropriate for a memory care center but rejected a proposal to build four homes on the site in 2005.

"The standards of approval are different," said Moritz. "Homes need to occupy greater amounts of land, especially single family homes."

The final major concern for opponents to the facility was the additional traffic on that stretch of King Street.

"Parking and traffic is not a potential

problem," said Jim Morrell, "it is an existing one with Woodbine. [Woodbine] staff regularly parks on Melrose Street [one of the adjacent streets]. This facility adds additional entrance and exits on King Street."

Some opponents to the site requested the city conduct their own traffic study on the facility, but according to city staff, independent studies aren't required for sites where there are less than 50 anticipated car trips during peak usage. According to the staff report, residents of the memory care facility are unlikely to use vehicles and King Street's status as one of the city's principal arterials would be sufficient to accommodate any employee or visitor traffic with limited impact on nearby residential areas.

Opponents of the project insisted that they were not opposed to memory care facilities or were against Alexandria's elderly population, but believed the development's use as a memory care center was clouding the judgment of the city staff.

"Our city needs to consider all aspects of this project," said Alina Eldred. "This is not the right location for this property. We want to continue to be proud of our city and its leadership."

The developer has packaged and messaged this project as a vote for Alexandria seniors, [but] the rezoning proposition is fundamentally flawed ... An out-of-town developer can't come in and dictate how and where we care for our elderly."

Alan Harwood proposed that the development find an alternative site, namely at Landmark Mall or Potomac Yard, but Euille specifically cited in his vote in favor of the development that those sites were private property and the city could not dictate what developers should build there.

"This is not my preferred site, but it's vitally needed, and if we miss this there may not be an opportunity in the future for a private developer to tackle this need," said Euille.

"This government will never have the opportunity to fund a facility of our own ... This is not an easy decision, but we have to tackle this opportunity."

The vote required a supermajority vote, meaning if two members of the board voted no, the development would not proceed. In council discussion of the rezoning, Silberberg clearly voiced her opposition to project, but the vote seemed to come down to a conflicted Councilman John Chapman.

"This doesn't fit the price range for many Alexandrians," said Chapman. "The 'affordability' piece is a tough pill to swallow ... But growing up on that street, looking at that parcel ... I don't believe this changes the character of the neighborhood."

With Chapman's vote in favor of rezoning, the rezoning proposal passed the City Council in a 6-1 vote.

TC Boys Show Improvement Despite Upset Loss

The T.C. Williams boys' basketball team entered the Conference 7 tournament as the No. 2 seed, but ended its season with an upset loss to No. 7 South County, 59-55, in the opening round on Feb. 19 in Alexandria.

South County went on to win the conference championship.

Despite a disappointing end to the season, the Titans' second-place finish in the regular-season conference standings under new head coach Bryan Hill was an improvement over last season, when TC won just a handful of games.

Hill was recognized as Conference 7 co-Coach of the Year, along with West Potomac's David Houston III.

Senior guard Andrew Hill received first-team all-conference honors, and junior guard Jordan Jones was named to the second team.

Senior guard Curtis Jordan garnered honorable mention.



T.C. Williams senior Andrew Hill earned first-team all-conference honors for the 2014-15 season.



T.C. Williams junior Jordan Jones received second-team all-conference recognition.



T.C. Williams senior Rejoice Spivey was named Conference 7 Player of the Year for the 2014-15 season.

PHOTOS BY LOUISE KRAFT/CAZETTE PACKET

TC Girls To Face Chantilly

The T.C. Williams girls' basketball team will travel to face Chantilly at 7 p.m. on Thursday, Feb. 26 in the opening round of the 6A North region tournament.

The Titans received the No. 3 seed from Conference 7 after being upset by South County, 38-36, in the conference semifinals on Monday in Alexandria.

T.C. Williams, led by head coach Kesha Walton, entered the conference tournament as the No. 2 seed and earned a regional berth by defeating No. 7 Woodson in the quarterfinals on Feb. 19.

T.C. Williams senior guard Rejoice Spivey was named Conference 7 Player of the Year. Teammate Bhrandi Crenshaw received sec-

ond-team all-conference honors, and sophomore forward Keyana Roberts and senior guard Dominique Smith garnered honorable mention.

West Springfield defeated South County in the Conference 7 championship game.

Ajuanae Nelson and the T.C. Williams girls' basketball team will face Chantilly in the opening round of the 6A North region tournament at 7 p.m. on Thursday, Feb. 26.



T.C. Williams boys' basketball coach Bryan Hill was named Conference 7 co-Coach of the Year.

TC Celebrates National English Honor Society Induction

T.C. Williams High School held the induction ceremony of the school's chapter of the National English Honor Society on Jan. 27. Twenty-three students and four members of T.C. Williams' administration and faculty were inducted at the ceremony, which featured a speech by WAMU reporter Martin Di Caro, another of the evening's inductees, who congratulated the students and urged them to keep their minds open when considering future experiences and careers.

The National English Honor Society is open to high school students and select faculty who have demonstrated exceptional ability in such areas as literary analysis, media studies, composition, linguistic study, and creative writing, and who have earned a cumulative 3.75 in their high school English courses, with a 3.75 overall grade point average. A national organization, the National English Honor Society acknowl-

edges students who have shown extraordinary academic success on a national level and encourages them to further develop their English studies and abilities, as well as to pursue service opportunities. The founder and advisor of T.C. Williams' chapter of the National English Honor Society is Kirsten von Topel.

The T. C. Williams' chapter of National English Honor Society inductees are: Ella Benbow, Anne-Marie Berens, Ismelda Bustillo, Torian Cook, Joshua Ryan Habib, Liza Harris, Saleh Hassen, Tasnim Sultana Howlader, Akobi Hylton, Akie Kadota, Emily Kiernan, Peter Laboy, Ayah Mahdi, Isabella Miller, Dixy Ortiz Osorio, Giulia Pastore, Elizabeth Quill, Savannah Ring, Will Rossello, Lindsey Rust, Sophia Vassallo, Lungiswa Vilakati, Nadia Zakula, T.C. Williams English Teacher and Department Chair Mark Eaton, T.C. Williams Academic Principal Kathy Taylor, T.C. Williams Interna-



The T. C. Williams' chapter of National English Honor Society inductees.

tional Academy Principal Danielle Wierzbicki and T.C. Williams English Teacher and Department Chair Matthew Zahn.

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21 Announcements **21 Announcements**

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RFP No. 00000515: Title: Architectural Design Services, Engineering Services and Construction Administration Services for Fire Station 203 RFP Closing Date and Time: April 2, 2015, 4 p.m., prevailing local time
Pre-Proposal Conference: March 10, 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.

25 Sales & Auctions **25 Sales & Auctions**

**PUBLIC REAL ESTATE AUCTION
FAIRFAX COUNTY**
SATURDAY, MARCH 7TH @ 11:30AM
7808 Southdown Rd, Alexandria, VA 22308



6BR/6BA/2HBA Single Family Waterfront Home & 106'x47' +/- lot w/ private parking on the Potomac River. Financial statement & appointment required for showing.

Gopal Hariani 410-977-9390 **AUCTION BROKERS**
TERMS: Deposit: \$50,000 (one-time fee) Cash or certified funds. 30-day settlement. 10% buyer's premium. Balance on 90-day note. See website for full terms and conditions. *Sale on Previous Auctioneer: Larry Mikowski (LH 10) **410-426-2622**
www.AuctionBrokers.net

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

**ALEXANDRIA CITY PUBLIC SCHOOLS
INVITATION TO BID NUMBER 15-02-07**
The Alexandria City School Board dba Alexandria City Public Schools is seeking competitive bids from qualified Bidders to provide Network Switching and Wi-Fi Equipment. Sealed Bids with the notation ITB# 15-02-07 Network Switching and Wi-Fi Equipment, will be received in the Central Procurement Office, 1340 Braddock Place, Suite 620, Alexandria, Virginia 22314, on or before 3:00 pm, March 20, 2015. The time of receipt shall be determined by the time clock stamp in the Procurement office. Bids appropriately received will be opened and the names of the firms responding will be read aloud. Bid documents may be obtained at the above Procurement Office or by calling 703-619-8181, or by downloading the ITB from the ACPS website at <http://www.acps.k12.va.us/financial-services/purchasing/bids.php>. All questions must be submitted before 5:00 p.m., March 13, 2015. If necessary, an addendum will be issued and posted to the ACPS web site. No Bid may be withdrawn for a period of sixty (60) days after the opening of bids except as may be set forth in the ITB. ACPS reserves the right to cancel this ITB and/or reject any or all bids and to waive any informalities in any bid.
Chris Guy
Procurement Manager

21 Announcements

**ALEXANDRIA CITY PUBLIC SCHOOLS
INVITATION TO BID NUMBER 15-01-07**
The Alexandria City School Board dba Alexandria City Public Schools is seeking proposals for the replacement/repair of the Stage Curtains at the following locations: John Adams Elementary School, Samuel Tucker Elementary School, Charles Barrett Elementary School, William Ramsey Elementary School, and Francis Hammond Middle School. Sealed Proposals with the notation RFP# 15-01-07 Stage Curtains & Related Equipment will be received in the Central Procurement Office, 1340 Braddock Place, Suite 620, Alexandria, Virginia 22314, on or before 3:00 pm, March 24, 2015. The time of receipt shall be determined by the time clock stamp in the Procurement office. Proposals appropriately received will be opened and the names of the firms responding will be read aloud. RFP documents may be obtained at the above Procurement Office or by calling 703-619-8162, or by downloading the RFP from the ACPS website at www.acps.k12.va.us/financial-services/purchasing/bids.php. All questions must be submitted before 1:00 p.m., March 13, 2015. If necessary, an addendum will be issued and posted to the ACPS web site. No RFP may be withdrawn for a period of ninety (90) days after the opening of proposals except as may be set forth in the RFP. ACPS reserves the right to cancel this RFP and/or reject any or all proposals and to waive any informalities in any proposal.
Gerald W. Amacker (Jerry)
ACPS Senior Buyer

26 Antiques

**PRIVATE SWORD
COLLECTION FOR SALE**
Antique swords from the United States and United Kingdom.
Call 703-371-1765

26 Antiques

**ALEXANDRIA CITY PUBLIC SCHOOLS
REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS NUMBER 15-02-04**
The Alexandria City School Board dba Alexandria City Public Schools is seeking proposals for Roof Maintenance Services. There will be a non-mandatory Pre-Proposal Conference on March 4, 2015 at 10:30AM at Alexandria City Public Schools Central Office, 1340 Braddock Place, Conference Room 620-1, on the 6th floor, Alexandria, VA 22314. All Offerors interested in submitting a proposal for Roof Maintenance are encouraged to attend.
Minimum experience required for any firm submitting a response to this RFP, and for providing the services therein, is five(5) years.
Sealed Proposals with the notation RFP# 15-02-04 Roof Maintenance will be received in the Central Procurement Office, 1340 Braddock Place, Suite 620, Alexandria, Virginia 22314, on or before 3:00pm, March 23, 2015. The time of receipt shall be determined by the time clock stamp in the Procurement Office. Proposals appropriately received will be opened and the names of the firms responding will be read aloud. RFP documents may be obtained at the Procurement Office or by calling 703-619-8043, or by downloading the RFP from the ACPS website www.acps.k12.va.us, Administration, Financial Services, Procurement and General Services - Current Bids and Request for Proposals.
All questions must be submitted before 4:30pm, March 13, 2015. If necessary, an addendum will be issued and posted to the ACPS website.
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Sharon T Lewis MLS, VCO, CPM, CPPB
Director of Procurement & General Services

21 Announcements

26 Antiques

We pay top \$ for STERLING, MEN'S WATCHES, JEWELRY, COSTUME JEWELRY, FURNITURE, PAINTINGS AND CLOCKS.
Schefer Antiques
703-241-0790
theschefer@cox.net

21 Announcements

**ALEXANDRIA CITY PUBLIC SCHOOLS
REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS NUMBER 15-02-10**
The Alexandria City School Board dba Alexandria City Public Schools is seeking competitive proposals from qualified Offerors to provide Internet Service. Sealed Proposals with the notation RFP# 15-02-10 Internet Service will be received in the Central Procurement Office, 1340 Braddock Place, Suite 620, Alexandria, Virginia 22314, on or before 3:00 pm, March 20, 2015. The time of receipt shall be determined by the time clock stamp in the Procurement office. Proposals appropriately received will be opened and the names of the firms responding will be read aloud. RFP documents may be obtained at the above Procurement Office or by calling 703-619-8181, or by downloading the RFP from the ACPS website at <http://www.acps.k12.va.us/financial-services/purchasing/bids.php>. All questions must be submitted before 4:30 p.m., March 10, 2015. If necessary, an addendum will be issued and posted to the ACPS web site. No Proposal may be withdrawn for a period of ninety (90) days after the opening of proposals except as may be set forth in the RFP. ACPS reserves the right to cancel this RFP and/or reject any or all offers and to waive any informalities in any proposal.
Chris Guy
Procurement Manager

21 Announcements

**ALEXANDRIA CITY PUBLIC SCHOOLS
REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS NUMBER 15-02-06**
The Alexandria City School Board dba Alexandria City Public Schools is seeking competitive bids from qualified Bidders to provide Network Switching and Wi-Fi Equipment. Sealed Bids with the notation ITB# 15-02-06 Wide Area Network Infrastructure Equipment will be received in the Central Procurement Office, 1340 Braddock Place, Suite 620, Alexandria, Virginia 22314, on or before 3:00 pm, March 20, 2015. The time of receipt shall be determined by the time clock stamp in the Procurement office. Bids appropriately received will be opened and the names of the firms responding will be read aloud. Bid documents may be obtained at the above Procurement Office or by calling 703-619-8181, or by downloading the ITB from the ACPS website at <http://www.acps.k12.va.us/financial-services/purchasing/bids.php>. All questions must be submitted before 5:00 p.m., March 13, 2015. If necessary, an addendum will be issued and posted to the ACPS web site. No Bid may be withdrawn for a period of sixty (60) days after the opening of bids except as may be set forth in the ITB. ACPS reserves the right to cancel this ITB and/or reject any or all bids and to waive any informalities in any bid.
Chris Guy
Procurement Manager

21 Announcements

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Director of Procurement & General Services

21 Announcements

102 Instruction

**ENGLISH/
FOREIGNERS BY
SKYPE expert
teacher learn at
home \$10 per hr.
703-378-1714 Mary**

21 Announcements

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21 Announcements

**HOW TO SUBMIT ADS TO
THE CONNECTION
Newspapers & Online**

**CLASSIFIED
DEADLINES**
Zones 1, 5, 6.....Mon @ noon
Zones 2, 3, 4.....Tues @ noon
E-mail ad with zone choices to:
classified@connection
newspapers.com
or call Andrea @ 703-778-9411

**EMPLOYMENT
DEADLINES**
Zones 1, 5, 6.....Mon @ noon
Zones 2, 3, 4.....Tues @ noon
E-mail ad with zone choices to:
classified@connection
newspapers.com
or call Andrea @ 703-778-9411

ZONES
Zone 1: The Reston Connection
The Oak Hill/
Herndon Connection
Zone 2: The Springfield Connection
The Burke Connection
The Fairfax Connection
The Fairfax Station/Clifton/
Lorton Connection
Zone 3: The Alexandria
Gazette Packet
The Mount Vernon Gazette
Zone 4: Centre View North
Centre View South
Zone 5: The Potomac Almanac
Zone 6: The Arlington Connection
The Vienna/Oakton
Connection
The McLean Connection
The Great Falls Connection

21 Announcements

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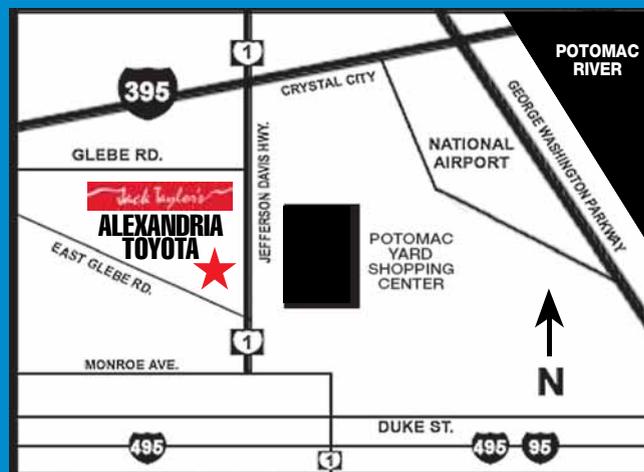
21 Announcements

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Director of Procurement & General Services

21 Announcements

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
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 GENUINE SERVICE
WINTER DETAIL SPECIAL
\$119⁹⁵
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.
NOT VALID WITH ANY OTHER OFFER OR COUPON. TOYOTA VEHICLES ONLY. OFFER EXPIRES 2/28/15. COUPON MUST BE PRESENTED AT TIME OF WRITE-UP. VALID ONLY AT ALEXANDRIA TOYOTA.

GENUINE TOYOTA
15% OFF
WIPER INSERTS & WIPER BLADES
SOME MODELS HIGHER. NOT VALID WITH ANY OTHER OFFER. TOYOTA VEHICLES ONLY. GOOD THRU 2/28/15. COUPON MUST BE PRESENTED AT TIME OF PURCHASE. VALID ONLY AT ALEXANDRIA TOYOTA PARTS CENTER ONLY.

TOYOTA GENUINE SERVICE
WINTERIZATION SPECIAL **\$59⁹⁵**
Includes: Drain and fill radiator with genuine Toyota anti-freeze inspect belts hoses and water pump.
Lifetime anti-freeze \$10 more
SOME MODELS HIGHER. NOT VALID WITH ANY OTHER OFFER. TOYOTA VEHICLES ONLY. GOOD THRU 2/28/15. COUPON MUST BE PRESENTED AT TIME OF PURCHASE. VALID ONLY AT ALEXANDRIA TOYOTA PARTS CENTER ONLY.

TOYOTA GENUINE SERVICE
OIL & FILTER SERVICE SPECIAL
\$5⁰⁰ OFF
Includes: Change oil, install Genuine Toyota oil filter, inspect & adjust all fluid levels and complimentary multi-point inspection with print out.
NOT VALID WITH ANY OTHER OFFER OR COUPON. TOYOTA VEHICLES ONLY. OFFER EXPIRES 2/28/15. COUPON MUST BE PRESENTED AT TIME OF WRITE-UP. VALID ONLY AT ALEXANDRIA TOYOTA.

TOYOTA GENUINE SERVICE
WE WILL MEET OR BEAT
ANY LOCAL TOYOTA DEALERSHIP'S CURRENT ADVERTISED SERVICE SPECIALS
NOT VALID WITH ANY OTHER OFFER OR COUPON. TOYOTA VEHICLES ONLY. OFFER EXPIRES 2/28/15. COUPON MUST BE PRESENTED AT TIME OF WRITE-UP. VALID ONLY AT ALEXANDRIA TOYOTA.

TOYOTA GENUINE SERVICE
NITROFILL SPECIAL
\$39⁹⁵
We will purge the tires of air and refill them with nitrogen.
NOT VALID WITH ANY OTHER OFFER OR COUPON. TOYOTA VEHICLES ONLY. OFFER EXPIRES 2/28/15. COUPON MUST BE PRESENTED AT TIME OF WRITE-UP. VALID ONLY AT ALEXANDRIA TOYOTA. TAX AND SHOP SUPPLIES ADDITIONAL.

Great Savings
Great Security
Great Service

Sales Hours: Mon – Fri: 9am – 9pm | Sat: 9am – 6pm | Sun: 12pm – 5pm **703-684-0700**



New 2015 Prius Liftback
\$1,250 Cash Back



Peace of mind with every new vehicle. Receive a no-cost maintenance plan* and roadside assistance** with the purchase or lease of every new Toyota. For two years or 25,000 miles, whichever comes first, you and your new Toyota will be covered.



Finance a New 2015 Corolla LE Auto at 0.9% APR for 60 months.

*Covers normal factory scheduled service for 2 years or 25K miles, whichever comes first. See Toyota dealer for details and exclusions. Valid only in the Continental U.S. and Alaska.
**Roadside Assistance does not include parts and fluids. Valid only in the Continental United States and Alaska. 1-800-444-4195.

Add Dealer Processing Fee of \$599. \$1,250 Cash Back from Toyota Motor Sales USA, Inc. available on new 2015 Prius. Customers can receive cash back from Toyota or can apply to down payment. Excludes plug-in models. See dealer for details. ToyotaCare covers normal factory scheduled service. Plan is 2 years or 25k miles, whichever comes first. The new vehicle cannot be part of a rental or commercial fleet, or a livery/taxi vehicle. See participating Toyota dealer for plan details. Valid only in the continental U.S. and Alaska. Roadside assistance does not include parts and fluids. Prius plug-in hybrid comes with an extra year of roadside assistance, for a total of three (3) years from date of purchase. Lease, APR and Cash Back offers may not be combined. See dealer for details. Offers expire 3/2/2015.

Add Dealer Processing Fee of \$599. 0.9% APR financing up to 60 months available to qualified buyers thru Toyota Financial Services. Total financed cannot exceed MSRP plus options, tax and license fees. 60 monthly payments of \$17.05 for each \$1,000 borrowed. Not all buyers will qualify. ToyotaCare covers normal factory scheduled service. Plan is 2 years or 25k miles, whichever comes first. The new vehicle cannot be part of a rental or commercial fleet, or a livery/taxi vehicle. See participating Toyota dealer for plan details. Valid only in the continental U.S. and Alaska. Roadside assistance does not include parts and fluids. Prius plug-in hybrid comes with an extra year of roadside assistance, for a total of three (3) years from date of purchase. Lease, APR and Cash Back offers may not be combined. See dealer for details. Offers expire 3/2/2015.



ALEXANDRIA TOYOTA/SCION
3750 JEFFERSON DAVIS HWY. | ALEXANDRIA, VA 22305
703-684-0700 | ALEXANDRIATOYOTA.COM
JUST MINUTES FROM REAGAN NATIONAL AIRPORT!





Alexandria \$1,395,000

Wonderful Craftsman themed dream built in 2012! Curb appeal, all modern amenities and appliances, and "show home" living. This home has it all! Over 4,000 finished SF with 5 bedrooms & 3.5 baths near Old Town and Del Ray. www.1700russell.mceneaney.com

Sue Goodhart
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TheGoodhartGroup.com



Del Ray \$1,249,000

Southern style porch welcomes you to 6 bedrooms, 4 full baths and 3 levels of grand living space in this completely renovated farmhouse! Driveway for off-street parking. Excellent location, walk to "The Avenue." Easy access to Metro. 14 W Caton Avenue.

Jen Walker
703.675.1566
JenWalker.com



Porto Vecchio \$579,000

Waterfront and poolside. This rare 2-bedroom, 2-bath unit features a stunning waterfront view and the luxurious top-notch building amenities: limo service, garage parking, 24 hour concierge, health spa and more. Just off the GW Parkway. 1250 Washington St #101.

Sandy McMaster
571.259.2673
FischerMcMasterHomes.com



Rosemont \$849,000

Inviting farmhouse with character throughout. Spacious family room has a cozy fireplace & built-in bookcases. There's a renovated chef's kitchen and luxurious master suite. A few blocks to Braddock Rd and King St Metros, parks and shops. 32 Linden Street.

Elizabeth Lucchesi
703.868.5676
LizLuke.com



Stonegate \$639,000

End unit in sought-after community. 2 master suites, 3.5 baths, hardwood floors, kitchen/family room opens to deck, and walk-out lower level rec room. 2 gas fireplaces and 2-car garage. Close to Pentagon, Mark Center & just a zip to DC. 4614A Latrobe Pl.

Jo Erkiletian
703.862.6870
McEneaney.com

McEneaney Associates, Inc. welcomes



LISA GROOVER

to our Alexandria Office

703.919.4426 • lgroover@McEneaney.com



Alexandria \$415,000

Country setting and convenient location. Beautiful large, wooded lot with 2-level rambler style home ready for your TLC. Open living/dining room, fireplace, 2/3 bedrooms, 1 bath, 2 screened porches, detached garage. Don't miss!

Leslie Dembinski
202.365.0903
DwellingByDesign.com



Rosemont \$1,165,000

Beautifully renovated and expanded bungalow in Rosemont! 4 bedrooms, 3.5 baths, 3 levels of great living space, gourmet kitchen, beautiful

hardwoods, long driveway, and just a short walk to King Street Metro! Fantastic location! 8 E Walnut St.

Jen Walker
703.675.1566
JenWalker.com

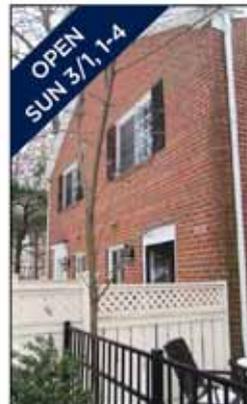


Alexandria \$979,000

Stunning 4-bedroom, 3.5-bathroom townhouse overflowing with upgrades! 2-car garage, private roof terrace, each bedroom with en-suite bath.

4 blocks to Braddock Metro, 5 blocks to river/Mt Vernon trail, 7 blocks to King Street. 816 Snowden Hollowell Way

MaryAshley Rhule
860.214.7474
MaryAshleyRealEstate.com



Parkside \$299,500

Located in ever popular community, 2-bedroom, 1.5-bath condo townhouse offers stunning updated kitchen with open concept living and dining area on

main level, 2 bedrooms up with bath, and patio. Easy off/on access to 95. Walkable to community pool & adjacent to park. 5242 Maris Ave.

Noel Kaupinen
703.200.1165
NoelK.com



Alexandria \$927,000

Beautifully finished 3-bedroom, 3.5-bathroom townhouse with private roof terrace, rear deck, 2-car garage and office. Each bedroom with

en-suite bath. 4 blocks to Braddock Metro, 5 blocks to river/Mt Vernon trail, 7 blocks to King Street. 828 Madison Street.

MaryAshley Rhule
860.214.7474
MaryAshleyRealEstate.com