In Three-Way Race, Silberberg Triumphs

Levine wins 45th District Democratic nomination.

By Vernon Miles
Gazette Packet

fter a tense race with a last minute shift in the polls, current Vice Mayor Allison Silberberg became the Democratic nominee for mayor. Without a Republican candidate for mayor, Silberberg is currently unopposed in the race to be Alexandria’s next mayor, unseating incumbent William Euille.

At a Democratic Party gathering at Red Rocks in Old Town on Tuesday, June 9, Silberberg addressed her supporters and the other candidates. She thanked the other candidates for their service and said she honored their vision. “I am honored to stand before you as the next mayor of Alexandria,” said Silberberg. “We will continue to fight to preserve Old Town, the West End, and everything in-between.”

Silberberg won by 312 votes, roughly 2 percent, in a 13,437 vote election. Euille has been the unopposed incumbent mayor since his election in 2003. In this primary, Euille ran against Silberberg and former Mayor Kerry Donley. With 27 percent of the vote, Donley trailed behind Silberberg and Euille. Euille led in the polls for much of the evening, but the City Hall voting precinct was one of the last to report in. The City Hall precinct covers much of Old Town, an area Silberberg had focused heavily on preserving during mayoral debates, and Tuesday night.

See Silberberg. Page 20

Alexandria Waterfront Commission tours key locations in the long-range redevelopment plan.

By Vernon Miles
Gazette Packet

lexandria Waterfront Commission meetings are usually held in a crowded room at City Hall. But at 9 a.m. on June 6, the commission took its meeting to the streets, visiting sites all along the waterfront, from Tide Lock Park in North Old Town to Windmill Hill Park near Jones Point Park in the south, amassing a following of city staff and local citizens along the way.

At Tide Lock Park, Greg Rawls from American Real Estate laid out the preliminary plans for changes to the area. “The ownership is pursuing beautification in and around the Lock,” said Rawls. “We’re looking for ways to revitalize the area, specifically we’re putting plans together for waterproofing the base.”

Waterproofing the Lock would mean water in a currently empty concrete basin, but Rawls emphasized that there’s no intention of filling the Lock, only putting a little water at the base. Other plans for the area included lowering a fountain in a central plaza to provide local citizens with a more uninterrupted view of the waterfront, but Rawls emphasized that there’s no intention of filling the Lock, only putting a little water at the base. Other plans for the area included lowering a fountain in a central plaza to provide local citizens with a more uninterrupted view of the waterfront, but Rawls emphasized that there’s no intention of filling the Lock, only putting a little water at the base.
Old Town Alexandria

$3,055,000

Alexandria

$712,000

If you’re looking for a well-maintained home to put your own personal touches on, look no further. All 4 bedrooms are spacious & closets are plentiful throughout. The deck is perfect for barbecues. Easy locale for commuters. 209 Macarthur Road

Elizabeth Lucchesi
703.669.5676
LizLuke.com

Alexandria

$332,000

Luxury renovation with 1284 SF, largest unit with den and fireplace. 2 bedroom, 2 bath condo on penthouse level offers higher ceilings, new laminate floors, recessed and pendant lighting & a spectacular expanded kitchen! Updates extend to both baths.

Jane Manstof
571.276.8116
soan-jane.com

Alexandria

$555,000

Charming home nestled in cul-de-sac with 5 bedrooms & 4 baths, vaulted ceilings, hardwood floors, skylights and finished basement. Addition included the breakfast room, den & master suite. Fenced private backyard with flagstone patio. 3622Palo.mcenearney.com

Sue Goodhart
703.362.3221
TheGoodhartGroup.com

Old Town

$1,100,000

Victorian gem with high ceilings, oversized windows, elegant formal spaces, huge kitchen, updated baths and master that carries a king with room to lounge. All brick, end unit with dreamy walled garden. 3 bedrooms, 2.5 baths. All on one of Old Town's finest blocks.

Joan Shannon
703.507.8655
JoanHome.com

Old Town

$725,000

Victory historic house in prime location offers high ceilings, original floors, an inviting living room with fireplace and built-in bookshelves, a sparkling updated kitchen, plus a separate dining room. A rooftop deck provides spectacular views and unique place for entertaining. 304 Prince Street

Babs Beckwith
703.627.5421
BabsBeckwith.com

Alexandria

$900,000

NEW LISTING! Beverly Hills work of art. Every detail has been taken care of from the inside out! New in 2014, Generator, fencing, deck, irrigation, roof landscaping. Custom tile work, shutters, madrona built-ins. Many special conveniences.

Laurel Conger
703.577.6899
AlexandriaLiving.com

Old Town

$949,000

Custom woodwork fits this light-filled stunner, with its high ceilings and walls of cabinetry. Hardwood floors, skylights, stylish kitchen and baths. 2-car parking behind deep private terrace. 3 bedrooms, 2.5 baths. Close to Metro! 301 N Alfred Street #301

Susan Bruce Anthony
703.795.9536
SusanBruceAnthony.com

Overlook

$514,000

Offering 4 bedrooms, 3.5 baths, walk-out lower level, 2 gas fireplaces, eat-in kitchen, hardwood floors, deck, patio, fully fenced rear yard, backs to parkland! Easy commute to DC & Pentagon.

Betty Mallon
703.989.8543
BettyMallon.com

Alexandria

$455,500

Wonderful 3-level brick townhouse/condo with 2500+ SF of living space. 3 bedrooms, 3.5 baths, renovated kitchen and family room. Separate dining room and private patio! Fireplace, hardwood floors and granite counters. One assigned parking space, plus additional spots available.

Lisa Groover
703.919.4426
LisaGroover.com

Old Town

$939,900

Upgrades galore! 3 bedrooms, 3.5 baths, crown molding, hardwood floors, granite and stainless kitchen, sound system throughout, roof terrace and 2-car garage. Walk to King/Docks Metro, King St and Mt Vernon Trail. Seller hired painter, buyer picks colors with contract by June 30th.

Mary Ashley Ruhle
860.214.7474
MaryAshleyRealEstate.com
Food Truck Showdown

By Vernon Miles Gazette Packet

“Food Truck Rodeo” is a bit of a misnomer. The event outside Southern Towers on Seminary Road did have several food trucks, but there were also two clothing boutique trucks, a homemade jewelry store, and a mobile skateboard shop. Despite the diversity of food and products being sold, the owners of the store all expressed one thing in common: doing business in Alexandria is a nightmare.

While each food truck and mobile boutique owner expressed support for special events like the rodeo, most were critical of the restrictions in the city’s food truck program.

In May 2014, City Council adopted a pilot program that allowed food trucks into the city, but only in off-street locations on public or private property. Eighteen vending locations were approved, all outside parks, recreation centers, and other public facilities. The program was set to run from July 2014 to December 2015. However, one year later, there are only five food trucks licensed to operate in Alexandria.

The Friday, June 5, event was hosted by the West End Business Association as an effort to raise awareness for business opportunities in the western part of the city. Without specifying where, Lynn Bostain, president of the West End Business Association, said certain other parts of Alexandria were extremely hostile to the idea of food trucks and other mobile stores on the city streets.

“So we said ‘bring them to the West End,’” said Bostain. In the event’s first year, the Food Truck Rodeo brought in 3,000 visitors. This year, Bostain said the event drew between 4,500 and 5,000 visitors to the event’s 10 food trucks and four specialty trucks.

“Some people have a bad perception of food trucks,” said Bostain, pointing out several trucks that have professionally trained chefs trained at culinary institutions, “These are not fly-by-night operations.”

Most of the Food Trucks are based out of Washington D.C.

“We originally wanted to do pizza, but then we found out about D.C. Slices,” said Patrick Rath, referencing another food truck present at the rodeo. As one of very few food trucks operating in the city, Rath decided not to get into direct competition with another vendor. When Rath started on Dec. 10, 2010, there were only 12 other food trucks in D.C. Now, there are nearly 250, with plenty of overlap in offerings.

Big Cheese offers a variety of grilled cheese sandwiches, from the more traditional Full Vermonty (cheddar on sour dough bread) to the Mindoro Blue (blue cheese with fig spread, walnuts, and honey on multigrain bread). Before starting Big Cheese, Rath managed restaurants. While working in restaurants, Rath was surprised to discover how easy it was to get quality cheese, thus the truck’s motto: craft, not Kraft.

“It’s not as easy as it looks,” said Rath. “People think we just roll up on the street and open a window. Rath said the trucks face constant mechanical issues. They also have to buy specialized equipment in the winter months to keep the pipes from freezing, and even that’s just to make enough profit to break even. Still, Rath insists that it’s “better than a real job.”

Rath, who was a former restaurant manager, said that most people talk to don’t understand the amount of work that goes into running a food truck.

“We end up spending more time tearing things apart and cleaning more than a restaurant,” said Graybill. “For a three hour lunch, we spend six hours of preparation and cleaning.”

Graybill also said the inside of the trucks can get very uncomfortable. On a summer day, it can reach 120 degrees inside the truck. During festivals and special events, like the food truck rodeo, there are three employees working inside a very confined space.

“Teamwork is crucial, it’s a fine dance,” said Graybill. “But we’re also all helping each other.”

While similar in concept, the mobile boutiques face their own set of problems.

Jeremy Brandt-Vorel wanted to open a skateboarding store, but couldn’t afford a brick-and-mortar store. After looking around on Craigslist though, Brandt-Vorel discovered that he could afford a bread truck. It took six months to open The Board Bus, his mobile skateboard store, most of which Brandt-Vorel said was permitting. “Of the different permits are challenging,” said Brandt-Vorel. “You have different forms for each city, each county, each state.”

But Brandt-Vorel says the job has its rewards too. Brandt-Vorel said children and teenagers are always excited to come into the shop, but that his favorite moments are when he can show parents that skateboarding isn’t just for “kids smoking pot.”

The Board Bus travels around Wakefield, Annandale, and Arlington, but specifically avoids Alexandria. “Alexandria is very against mobile retail,” said Brandt-Vorel. “We talked about showing up at a skatepark on Duke street, but the city won’t allow it.”

Donna Hundley, who runs the Curvy Chix Boutique Truck, said the job is a nightmare in Alexandria as well. “We originally wanted to do pizza, but then we found out about D.C. Slices,” said Hundley. “People think we just roll up on the street and open a window.”

Zachary Graybill, general manager at DC Slices.

Donna Hundley, owner of Curvy Chix Chariot.

At Food Truck Rodeo, mobile vendors express frustration with city truck policy.
Poetic Intersections hopes to connect “pockets of poetry” in the city.

By Emily Rabbitt
Gazette Packet

In the second year of her three-year term as the poet laureate of Alexandria, Tori Lane Kovarik is struck by the diversity of what she calls “pockets of poetry” in the city. From spoken word to homegrown punk, Kovarik hears people of all ages engaging in wordplay.

Kovarik, a Burke native and graduate of Christopher Newport University is the author of two collections of poetry, “Falling Season” and “The Beautiful Ruins.” She created the concept of “Poetic Intersections,” an open community event held for the first time at the Durant Arts Center on May 15, with the hopes of highlighting non-traditional ways to celebrate language. “A lot of things can be poetry,” she said, “novels, song lyrics — whatever grabs our hearts.”

The group assembled for the inaugural “Intersections” showed that the raw materials are already alive in Alexandria. Tattooed millennials, Alexandria arts supporters and educators, local middle, high school and college students all had a stake in Friday’s event. Wit, irony, a hint of the absurd, individual and national tragedy and, of course, love all made an appearance in the works shared.

Kovarik opened the event by reading a poem by Billy Collins and a passage by Elie Wiesel to the small group assembled in a circle of plastic chairs. Attendees shared their own work which included original poetry, both deeply personal and playfully abstract and also shared pieces by established authors and lyrics by celebrated songwriters. Prose and song were shared as well.

Debbie Hardy of Community Lodgings, a program that works with families to transition out of homelessness, was inspired to start writing again when the organization started developing the Book of My Own Project. Seeing what the students wrote drove her to reconnect with her love of poetry. Accompanying Hardy was NOVA Communications student Lakia Dozier, a singer and lyricist who defines poetry as “speaking from your soul.” The young woman, who did a recitation of one of Hardy’s works, participates in poetry events all over Arlington and D.C., but didn’t know a lot about events in Alexandria.

Kovarik is looking to change that. “Poetic Intersections” was purposefully scheduled in May to take advantage of the momentum from April’s National Poetry Month. Kovarik hopes to hold another event this month and throughout the coming school year to bring together the scattered interest in poetry that exist in Alexandria into a larger community.

Kovarik closed with the poem that made her a writer, “An Horation Notion” by Tomas Lux, a piece that discusses the work required of a creative life. She shared the story of hearing the poem her senior year in high school and how those words, and the educator who shared them with her, inspired her to become the writer she is.

To learn more about future iterations of “Poetic Intersections” and other Poet Laureate approved events, you can consult Kovarik’s website www.tlanekovarik.com/
Grand Opening

Sunday, June 14 at 7AM
7905 Hilltop Village Center Dr

Food Shopping will never be the same
Visitwegmans.com/alexandria for a chance to WIN $500
Never a Slow Day in the ER

By Shirley Ruhe
Gazette Packet

It is 11:10 a.m. and the emergency room is full with light blue curtains drawn across the patient rooms lining the long hallway. Tia Moffa, Emergency Room nurse at Inova Alexandria Hospital, is currently monitoring a critical patient who was brought in by ambulance and was unresponsive upon arrival. Moffa said, “We did lots of tests — blood work, urine, cat scan of head, x-ray of chest. We currently have her on a ventilator.” Moffa says the patient will be transferred soon to the Intensive Care Unit.

People At Work

Beep beep BEEP!

Moffa said, “There are lots of beeps in this room — the ventilator, the pump, the monitor. We know what is normal, what is critical.” This beep means the patient’s blood pressure is elevated. “We closely monitor her vital signs since she is a high acuity patient.” Moffa said, “It is a really crazy day with a lot of sick people,” but she pauses for a minute. “We are always busy.” Down the hall is a drug overdose, and a severe allergic reaction just came through the door.

Moffa is juggling her ICU patient with a psychiatric patient and an elderly fall with a head injury. “Normally I would have more patients, but my high acuity patient requires a lot of one-on-one services, and I can’t step away for a long period of time.” She says the emergency room is really busy today with four high acuity patients who all demand a lot of services before they are transferred to the ICU. “Our goal is to not keep anyone waiting before seeing a doctor.”

She says when a patient enters the door of the ER, he checks in front. If he arrives by ambulance, the ER has received a call ahead of the patient’s arrival so they know what to expect and can be ready. Then the patient is “sent back here and placed in the appropriate patient room.” Moffa explains they have “express care” for things that are simple like a cut or a fall. She adds they also have great protocols for stroke or heart patients and rooms for psychiatric patients. Moffa said they see a lot of patients that could be seen by a primary care doctor “but what is considered an emergency to the patient may be different than to us. We see anyone who comes.”

She steps around the end of the bed and opens her computer screen in the corner. Moffa says everything is on the computer including medical records and history, medications, all of the charts and monitoring of vital signs, and everything is private. Moffa’s schedule is 7 a.m.-7:23 p.m. three days a week. She has been at Inova Alexandria Hospital for eight and a half years where she...
A Cookbook of Comfort Food

From Page 6

which we live today.”

“Cook With Brooke” is available through the author’s website cookwithbrooke.tateauthor.com, Amazon.com, barnesandnoble.com and bookstores nationwide.

Since the book’s release, Ross has been busy setting up various marketing and fundraising events. Currently, she is doing pre-sales of the cookbook out of the trunk of her car along with selling her “Cook With Brooke” salad shaker. Her salad shaker will also be featured along with her cookbook at various weekend markets this fall.

“My goal is to keep it simple and fun. It is all so exciting and I really had a great response to it from my neighbors and friends and even friends of friends,” she said.

In addition, she also wants to use the book to give back to the local community. This spring, she will be auctioning off a “Deluxe Cook’s Package” for one elementary school and a baseball and lacrosse team in Alexandria. The package will include a copy of “Cook With Brooke,” one of her salad shakers and she will cook a meal for a family of four.

Ross has lived in the Alexandria area for 30 years. Prior to becoming an author, she worked as an assistant press secretary on the Hill and for an association management firm. She also has a bachelor’s degree in English and communications.

People Notes

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

Anna Bernal, 26, of Alexandria, placed first at the Marine Corps 17.75K in March 2015.

Peter Baldwin has been elected as The Living Legends of Alexandria Board’s newest director. Baldwin, Managing Principal and Chief Business Coach of the business improvement advisory MarketForce Strategies has agreed to focus on enhancing the strategic growth of the organization.

Living Legends of Alexandria is an ongoing 501(c)(3) photo-documentary project to identity, honor and chronicle the people making current history in Alexandria.

The Military Officers Association of America and the MOAA Military Family Initiative, a subsidiary of MOAA, has welcomed Val Hawkins as its newest member of the board of directors. The MOAA Military Family Initiative supports the nation’s military families in five areas: career transition, disability assistance (VSO), military family reunification, military spouse programs, educational outreach.

The Propane Education & Research Council and Food Network personality Sunny Anderson are debuting a new cookbook, “Grilling for Heroes,” to raise money for wounded veterans. The cookbook features a recipe and personal story of military service from Alexandrian Richard Wachtel.

Salvation Army Cadet-Lieutenants Nathan and Kelsey Bridges have been promoted to the rank of Lieutenant. The husband and wife team began serving at The Salvation Army Alexandria Citadel Corps in 2014. The Bridges oversee social services, youth, and spiritual programs the Corps offers to the community.

NYC BROADWAY, Sept. 29-30 ..............................................$499

“An American in Paris” Includes motor coach from Vienna or Rockville, Overnight hotel in theatre district, Orchestra seating for show.

Costa del Sol, Spain, Nov. 7-21....................................................$3319

Includes air from Washington. 13-nights Amelia Costa Del Sol Hotel, 4-star, Daily Breakfast, 13 Dinners with Wine, 5 full days of sightseeing, Transfers & Porterges.

Hudson Valley, NY, Aug. 3-7 .......................................................$1075

Motor coach from Vienna or Rockville, 4 nights Hyatt House, Hotel, Fishkill, NY. Daily Breakfast, 2 Lunches, 3 Dinners Daily sightseeing. Call for itinerary.

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This year 59 percent of the children attending Alexandria City Public Schools qualified for free or reduced price meals provided by the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s (USDA) National School Lunch and/or School Breakfast Programs.

Yet come summer time, even though there is a USDA Summer Food Service Program, only a fraction of the students show up to eat.

The reason for the low turnout is not because the students are all out of town on vacation, but because of the lack of awareness that the opportunity for meals is available at several sites throughout the city including recreation center locations and several Alexandria City Public School locations.

Unlike the school year, all meals are free. There are no reduced prices. Anyone 18 years of age or younger is permitted to eat and no previous qualifications are needed. All sites want a parent to bring the child the first time to register and identify any food allergies.

The child does not need to be registered in a recreation program or summer school to be served. No advanced notice is required.

The map marks all the sites where breakfast, lunch and/or afternoon snacks are available. Share this information with anyone who may want their children to participate in this service or who has contact with families that may want to participate in this service such as teachers, clergy, community workers, police officers, firefighters, and retail stores.
OLD TOWN $3,590,000
203 S Fairfax St
Elegant, historic, and ideally situated home only steps away from shops and restaurants. Beautifully renovated with great attention to detail, 9-foot ceilings, exquisite moldings, and state-of-the-art kitchen.
JEANNE WARNER +1 703 980 9106
PENNY YERKS +1 703 765 0744

GEORGETOWN, DC $2,850,000
1513 33rd Street NW
Sited steps from parks and Wisconsin Avenue shops, this 3BR/3.5BA plus den/contemporary design townhouse offers the pinnacle of luxurious living newly built by architect Rudrid. It has an elevator, large windows, high ceilings, European kitchen, spa bath, and garage.
JULIA DIAZ-ASPER +1 202 320 0441
MICHAEL RANKIN +1 202 271 3344

GEORGETOWN, DC $2,650,000
1517 20th Street NW
This handsome bayfront residence is a rare find, with approximately 4000 sq. ft. of living and features high ceilings, 3 fireplaces, first-floor family room, kitchen with table space, and a deep garden.
MICHAEL RANKIN +1 202 271 3344

BELLE HAVEN $2,100,000
6041 Edgewood Terrace
Breathtaking views of the Potomac River, fabulous master suite, state-of-the-art kitchen, 2-car garage, and an open floor plan make this one of a kind Belle Haven property.
JEANNE WARNER +1 703 980 9106

OCOQUAN OVERLOOK $1,500,000
4301 Occoquan Overlook
A park-like setting waterfront peninsula, the dramatic setting for this custom home with incomparable water views from all angles.
ROB CARNEY +1 703 927 4290

BRADDOCK HEIGHTS $1,500,000
418 W Braddock Road
Gracious living and glorious land delights the eye in this beautiful brick center hall colonial. This private oasis has 3BR/3.5BA featuring fine architectural details and mature landscaping on a 3.6 acre lot. Build the addition, carriage house or pool of your dreams!
MARGARET MILLER +1 703 906 7920

JANNEY’S LANE $1,269,000
1304 Janney’s Lane
Beautifully renovated home on 0.4 acre lot. Home features 3 bedrooms, 4.5 bathrooms, 2 car garage, gourmet kitchen, finished basement and fenced yard. Ideal location!
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DAYNA BLUMEL +1 703 597 2252

POTOMAC GREENS $829,900
1712 Potomac Greens Drive
Welcome to the best value in popular Potomac Greens. 4 bedroom, 2 full and 2 half baths end townhome with rare fenced yard and rooftop deck, 10 ceilings, oversized windows and moldings, open floor plan, like-new condition, community shuttle to metro, pool, clubhouse with exercise facility and party room, walking trails, playgrounds, close to DC.
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ATHENAEUM

athenaeum, invitational

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Announcing the Athenaeum Invitational Open Call
Theme: Cole Porter’s “Don’t Fence Me In”
$2,500 Prize
Entry Deadline: 6/15/15
Event Dates: 9/10/15 - 10/25/15
To enter visit: http://nvfaa.org

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Not a Difficult Solution

To the Editor:

Bravo to Townsend Van Fleet for his letter that appeared in the May 28 Gazette Packet. It couldn’t have been more timely, since on the previous afternoon a humongous tour bus, or motor coach, did more than just graze a car parked in the 200 block of So. Lee Street. A loud crash brought neighbors spilling from their homes and left a late model Audi, parked fully 12 feet from the corner crosswalk, badly damaged and the street littered with debris, including a large piece of the bus’s fender. The police arrived, followed by the Ohio-based bus driver who didn’t know he’d hit a car until the driver of the bus behind him told him (the behemoth always travel in packs of three or four). He was anything but arrogant, instead very apologetic, but he was confused by our streets, had been given no instructions or directions for reaching the waterfront, and had ended up on So. Lee because the cobbledstoned 100 block of Prince Street prevented him from proceeding directly to his destination at the foot of Prince.

Just why a bus that size was on either Prince or Lee Street raises a decades’ old question and calls for an immediate answer. In the 39 years I’ve lived near the corner of So. Lee and Duke Streets I’ve witnessed the nightly packs of tour buses inching past my house before trying to turn left onto Duke. At best it’s a dicey move that usually requires back and forth maneuvering that blocks traffic in all directions. Occasionally a bus will become wedged between parked cars on both streets, and minor damage to cars is not a rarity (I lost my side mirror to a motor coach several years ago). Twenty years ago I photographed some of this “action” and contacted then Mayor Ticer and Transportation and Environmental Services Director O’Kane about the problem, suggesting that the tour bus companies be given a prescribed route to follow that would avoid the narrowest and most historic blocks of Old Town. Both informed me that the city could not dictate to the bus companies and that any signage indicating that they would add unwanted clutter to our streets. Nothing could, or rather would, be done.

Now, however, something must be done. With massive demolition and construction projects about to start along So. Union Street as part of the Waterfront Development Project, traffic in the entire area promises to be severely impacted for some time, even without the pack of tour buses. Now is the time for our mayor and City Council to follow the example of other historic cities like Charleston, Savannah, Boston, San Francisco and New Orleans, to name just a few. That is, establish a tour bus depot on the edge of Old Town, bring tourists into our district by existing trolley or shuttle buses and stop the humongous motor coaches from doing any more harm on our historic streets.

Jane Coughran
Alexandria

Letters

“The Great Gall of China”

Correcting Misinformation

To the Editor:

As the property owner of 809 and 811 Vassar Street, the sub-dividable lots mentioned in several letters last week, I feel like it is important to correct the record.

1) Neighbors have said that this subdivision “would open all of our quiet, stable, historic neighborhood up to future subdivisions and development.” This is patently untrue. In fact, if you listen to the Planning Commission meeting where our subdivision was approved you can see Commissioner Brown address this very topic. He stated that he had looked at this neighborhood and there is no other lot large enough to subdivide besides ours and the neighbors’ lot directly across the street from us. Since they would have to tear down their house to do it, it seems highly unlikely. This is not a fragile neighborhood, nor a historic one. And this subdivision is not going to suddenly start a rash of new development here or in the city at large. No one is going to be “carving up” our neighborhood in the future or carving up other neighborhoods because subdivisions can only happen as they are in line with the laws that govern the city.

2) Neighbors have said that our subdivision “means the creation of a new smallest lot.” So that the facts are clear: a lot in an R-8 zone (the zoning for Clover/College Park) by law requires 8000 SF, 40 feet of frontage, and 65 feet of building width. The new lot we proposed and that has been approved is 9452 sq ft, has 53 ft of frontage and 67 ft of building width. It is larger than almost every other lot on the same side of the street all the way down Vassar until you hit Dartmouth Road and it is larger than a majority of lots in this neighborhood (the average lots are in the 8000-9000 sq ft range). Calling this the smallest lot in the neighborhood is also simply untrue. And since the zoning requirements are set by law, no one in the neighborhood can suddenly decide they want to make two 4000 sq ft lots out of their existing 8000 sq ft lot and increase the density of the neighborhood.

3) Some of the discontent we’ve heard about stems from the possibility of water run-off problems. The city tightly controls water run-off for new construction. If/when a new house ever goes up on the new lot, the city has extremely strict regulations to make sure that water run-off is not a problem for the surrounding neighbors. In fact, the guidelines are so strict that it is very likely that run-off will actually have less of an impact on surrounding properties, than it does currently.

4) Some have said we said we would build a “behemoth” house on the new lot. We did not ever say that and it, in fact, not possible to do so. A modest home can be built on the new lot—a home similar in size and scale to most of the homes in the neighborhood. The only lot that could have a behemoth house built on it is 809 as it exists right now. Our subdivision is actually a net positive for the neighborhood, because the newly created lots are all smaller than the existing two lots. This guarantees that any future development is fitting and proper for our neighborhood, because home size is directly correlated to lot size in our city. 809 as it sits today is a developer’s dream lot because it is so large. I have already been approached by multiple builders about purchasing 809 Vassar Road and it is not even for sale. Potentially a house of 7000 to 8000 square feet could go there. That would most definitely not fit in with the character of our neighborhood. But the new owner could do this “by right,” without any input from the city, you or me. Again, our subdivision prevents this from ever happening, creating the potential for two modest homes instead of one large out of place. See Letters, Page 18
Food Truck Showdown

Chariot parked next to the Board Bus at the Food Truck Rodeo, agreed that Alexandria isn’t any friendlier towards mobile boutiques than it is towards food trucks.

“I don’t even try to sell in Alexandria,” said Hundley. “We can’t vend on public streets here, we have to do it on private lots and partner with local businesses. It’ll get there, and I understand the hesitation. This truck is two parking spots, and those are people paying rent who can’t park in that location. So we can’t park just anywhere [in Alexandria], we can only go to festivals or certain yard sales to sell on private property.”

Hundley started Curvy Chix Chariot in 2013. Attending an event where she’d met Michael Jordan, Hundley began shopping for clothes to wear only to be disappointed with the available selection. Like Brandt-Vorel, Hundley had originally hoped to open a store location, but discovered that the costs were prohibitively expensive, but then heard that a shoe brand was opening inexpensive mobile stores to sell their products outside of strip clubs.

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From Page 3

Jeremy Brandt-Vorel, owner of The Board Bus

phantom by Connor Ortman/Gazette Packet

Open House, Sunday 2-4pm
Riverview
9063 Tower House Place, Alexandria, VA
Charming and unique 9,000 sq ft home with gracious entertaining space and comfortable family living overlooking the Potomac. 6 BR, 6.5 BA, gourmet kitchen, 3-car garage, pool. $2,150,000
Cindee Jackson
CBmove.com/FX8346022

Old Town SE Quadrant
600 South Lee Street, Alexandria, VA
Great River Views, lots of windows and sunlight are waiting at this brick end town-home with high ceilings, hardwoods, open kitchen, plus 4 brs, 3.5 baths. Move-in Ready! $1,150,000
Bonnie Rivkin
CBmove.com/AX8618439

Open House, Sunday 2-4pm
Potomac Yard II
1418 Main Line Blvd, Unit 102, Alexandria, VA
Gorgeous “Year Young” Urban Loft with high ceilings and 2,800+ sq feet of upgrades! 3 BDRMS, 2.5 BATHS w/Garage parking and walk to Metro. A+. $760,000
Eileen Marousek
CBmove.com/AX8644347

Fort Williams Park
3605 Trinity Drive, Alexandria, VA
Meticulously maintained 3 BR + 2 BA brick home with lovely woodland views. Sparkling hardwood floors, fp & beautifully renovated kitchen & baths. $728,000
Donnan C. Wintermute
CBmove.com/AX8641208

Open House, Sunday 1-4pm
Cameron Station
327 Fucci Court, Alexandria, VA
Sunny Cameron Station Bradley model. New hardwoods, new carpet, fresh paint, plantation shutters. Beautiful throughout with 4 levels of space offering 3 very large bedrooms with full baths. Built-ins throughout, FP, deck and kitchen with bump-out bay window and adjacent eat-in area. Two-car garage with visitor parking right at your front door. $645,000
David and Stephanie Thorpe
CBmove.com/AX8623169

Huntington at Mount Vernon
8225 Clifton Farm Court, Alexandria, VA
Perfection! 3 bed/3.5 bath townhome/quiet community, backs to woods, renovated baths & kitchens, gleaming hardwoods, 2 parking spaces, community pool, tennis, water access! $435,000
Lyssa Seward
CBmove.com/FX8644862

From Page 4

Jeremy Brandt-Vorel, owner of The Board Bus

Photo by Connor Ortman/Gazette Packet

Food Truck Showdown

Chariot parked next to the Board Bus at the Food Truck Rodeo, agreed that Alexandria isn’t any friendlier towards mobile boutiques than it is towards food trucks.

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Wegmans’ New Store Opens Sunday

By the time Store Manager Mike Dempsey opens Wegmans’ newest 126,000 sq. ft. supermarket in Hilltop Village Center (corner of Telegraph and Beulah) on Sunday, June 14, he will have built a team of 550 employees.

Dempsey had been a store manager previously, at the Lake Manassas Wegmans in Gainesville and the Potomac Wegmans in Woodbridge.

This store will be the first in Virginia to include The Pub, Wegmans’ casual dining restaurant that serves freshly prepared seasonal foods and a selection of craft beers, food-friendly wines, and seasonal cocktails. There is also the Market Café with a selection of prepared foods and indoor and outdoor seating for 300.

Alexandria is Wegmans’ 86th store, the 7th in Virginia. The company’s first Virginia store opened in 2004 in Sterling. Today, Wegmans has more than 3,600 Virginia employees, and that number will grow next year when it opens two stores in Richmond and one in Charlottesville.

BUSINESS NOTES

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

Old Town architecture firm Cole & Denny Architect is celebrating its 30th anniversary. The firm recently announced that Bryan E. Lavie, RA, AIA, Michael Detomo, and Louis M. Barbieri Jr., RA joined founding partner John E. Cole, RA and Kristine Hesse, RA as partners in ownership. Founding partner Douglas J. Denny, RA retired last year after almost 30 years of practice with the firm.

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Fred Parker and Hard Times Café.

By Diane Bechtol
Gazette Packet

Fred Goodfellow Parker is recognized for his pioneering spirit and the economic value it contributed to upper King Street and the entire City of Alexandria.

Prior to 1980, someone with a hankering for a "bowl of red" on upper King Street would have had a hard time of it. There were few restaurants or attractions and many tired buildings needed rehabilitation.

“It was a rough area,” said Parker. When he and his now deceased brother and business partner Jim picked this location for their legendary chili parlor Hard Times Café, early customers sometimes had their cars broken into while dining inside. “But they kept coming back.” Thirty-four years later, they’ve served an estimated 1.1 million bowls of chili. Aside from the Alexandria location, the Hard Times brand has been franchised to a total of 15 more locations throughout the country for a bowl of chili.

Parker’s family has earned more than 100 chili-cooking competitions awards and Fred Parker is an advisory board member of the International Chili Society and on the judging panel of the World’s Championship Cook-Off. He still judges local chili competitions. One of his proudest chili booster moments occurred when the chili lobby was founded at Hard Times Café. The Parkers met his future wife, Carol Christiansen, a painting conservator. Today, the couple lives in Alexandria’s Jefferson Park neighborhood in a Spanish Colonial house “that looks like the Alamo.”

Parker was born in Pensacola, Fla., was named “Goodfellow” in honor of his chuck wagon cook grandfather Ira Goodfellow. He attended Wakefield High School in Arlington, but looked to Alexandria for entertainment. He’d catch a bus to King Street to hang out, and patronized Alexandria’s library and public swimming pool. Later, he attended the University of Arizona and became a graphic designer. While working at the National Gallery of Art during the 1980s, the Parkers began organizing and cooking for chili festivals benefiting the National Kidney Foundation. Hard Times Café regularly donates food to the Rotary Club of Alexandria’s Taste for Giving and the National Gallery of Art, Alexandria’s Meet the Legends reception, and to the Carpenter’s Shelter Cook-off. The restaurant also donates gift cards and benefits to schools and other local nonprofits. A proponent of Alexandria since his teens, Parker says giving back with personal commitment is the way to better a community.

Recently, Hard Times Café reestablished Open Mike nights on King Street, after neighboring Tiffany Tavern closed, to maintain a tradition of live music in the neighborhood. Parker plays in a band of former colleagues from the National Gallery of Art, including his wife Carol, and characterizes the genre as “geriatric rock and roll.”

“His brother Jim was a musician, as are his two adult sons Jonathan and Ned (Edward).” Jonathan, a graduate of Oberlin, is a jazz sax player who works as a paralegal to support his music. He plays in a band and has just released a critically acclaimed CD. Ned, a graduate of Cornell, who studied mathematics and physics, previously worked at the Naval Research Laboratory. Currently Ned is on a travel adventure working on an organic farm in Costa Rica. He plays the guitar and writes his own songs.

Parker says his restaurant is a chili parlor museum and he relishes perpetuating the chili parlor as an American icon. Just as the menu has grown beyond the Texas-style chili to Cincinnati style (made with cinnamon, allspice and cloves), Terlingua Red (recipe perfected by his brother Jim for competition) and vegetarian varieties, plus chicken dishes, burgers, sandwiches and salads, so has the vitality of the neighborhood in the past three and a half decades.

Parker joined the King Street Metro Enterprise Team, and is now a board member of its successor, the Old Town Business and Professional Association, with which he has been associated with for more than 10 years. He is a former board member of the Torpedo Factory First Night Alexandria, the New Year’s Eve community party of family-friendly entertainment.

Other civic involvements include driving his 75-year-old reddish-brown pickup truck (“the same age as me”) in the George Washington Birthday Parade. The life-size fiberglass horse mounted in the truck bed came from a saddle/tack shop in Laurel, Md. that was going out of business. “The horse with no name” — Parker never gave it a moniker — is routinely decked out in patriotic emblems or seasonal decorations, such as a wreath around its neck at Christmas. The beloved truck has been banged up by a few motorists, but is carefully maintained and gets limited mileage.

During the 1980s, the Parkers were organizing and cooking for chili festivals benefiting the National Kidney Foundation. Hard Times Café regularly donates food to the Rotary Club of Alexandria’s Taste for Giving and the National Gallery of Art. They have mentored him, instead of the other way around, though Parker admits to indoctrinating them in legendary chili parlor stories, family history, and Western Swing music. “Over the years, all these young people feel like I haven’t aged since 1980. “I have found them to be great mentors in keeping me young.”

Staff have gone on to become doctors, dentists, airline pilots, lawyers, stockbrokers, and politicians. “I’m sure they have found Hard Times on their resumes to have been helpful. Many have raised families and now their kids are customers.”

One of the Parkers’ favorite stories is about a cook who became an airline pilot. “Whenever the airport was shut down because of weather, he would come by and pick up an order. One time the following morning the pilot landed his plane in the middle of a runway, flipped off the motor and said, ‘Look at that guy flying my plane!’”

Stroll inside the King Street restaurant and cowboy crooner Roy Rodgers is lyrically pouring out of the glowing Wurlitzer jukebox. Sepia tone photographs on the wall depict dusty ranches and spare landscapes and hard-working, determined westerners. Glasses clink among convivial patrons. From the open kitchen, the smell of meat and onions frying what appetites for a hearty meal that any campfire cook would be proud to serve. Up next, a female country western singer tells you she is capable of breaking a few hearts. The front door opens and patrons glance up, feeling as though a true cowboy with a few quarters in his hand will chop his hard-worn boots to the back to where the music machine plays. No spurs will drag across the red brick tile floor and no lassos hang from the coat hooks — but they could, if they wanted, because they are immersed in western legend and lore the moment they slide into one of the wooden booths or hunker down at a rustic table.
Interested in a Career in Real Estate? Pre-licensing courses are available soon. Call Managing Broker, Mark Ackermann, at 703-851-8100 for further information.
The Great Cell Phone Debate

More than 350 students sign petition to permit cell phones at graduation.

By Angelica Irozarry

Gazette Packet

A fter considering a student petition allowing cellphones at graduation, T.C. Williams High School Principal Suzanne Maxey reaffirmed the ban.

Graduating seniors at TC compiled a petition with more than 350 signatures arguing that seniors should be allowed to have their cell phones during the graduation ceremony on Monday, June 15, at George Mason Patriot Center. The students argued that they would need cell phones to find their families at the end of the ceremony, in case of emergency, and to take photos and videos of the ceremony.

Maxey acknowledged the seniors effort, stating “I am greatly in favor of hearing the voices of the students and thought that the petition was well written and made many good points, however we decided that there was no real real reason to lift the ban.”

She took it under consideration and spoke to the School Board, but they decided it was not a good idea to let the seniors have their cell phones during the ceremony.

“I want the kids to live in the moment,” said Maxey, noting that phones will ruin the ceremony for the majority of the students. She wants students to sit back and enjoy the ceremony for what it is, “There is a time and a place for cell phones, however graduation is not one of them, they will have plenty of time at the all night grad party to take selfies and text,”

School Notes

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Nick Gargas, class of 2018, is a member of the Denison University men's lacrosse team. Gargas is a native of Alexandria and a graduate of St. Stephen's & St. Agnes' School.

Lillian Smith, class of 2016, is a member of the Denison University women's lacrosse team. Smith is a native of Alexandria and a graduate of St. Stephen's & St. Agnes' School.

Nicole Ann Tormey of Alexandria has graduated from James Madison University (Harrisonburg).

Gina Lee of Alexandria has graduated from Emory University (Atlanta, Ga.).

Alexandria native Cristina Chistrom received dean's list recognition at Colgate University (Hamilton, N.Y.) for the fall 2014 semester. Chistrom is a graduate of West Potomac High School.

Sharmendra Devkota has received dean's list recognition for the fall 2014 semester at Pratt Institute (Brooklyn, N.Y.).

Mousa Gaye, a student at Fairleigh Dickinson University's Metro (Teaneck, N.J.) has been inducted into Phi Kappa Psi.

Omega Epsilon chapter for the fall 2014 semester.

Matous Rychlik has been named to the president's list at the University of Mary Washington (Fredericksburg) for the fall 2014 semester.

Jacqueline A. McCabe has been selected to appear in the 2015 edition of Who's Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges. McCabe attends Bridgewater College (Bridgewater, Va.).

Usnish Majumdar, of Alexandria, a third-year neuroscience major, has received funding from the University of Virginia to research a combination of neuroscience and genetics.

Wongel Belihu, a senior in the Davis & Elkins nursing program, joined with student and professional nurses from throughout West Virginia to participate in Nurse Unity Day at the Capitol in Charleston, W.Va.

Seth Kennard, principal of Charles Barrett Elementary School, has been awarded The Washington Post's 2015 Award for Distinguished Educational Leadership.

T.C. Williams High School has been named as the Top American Field Service School for 2015 for its willingness to host and integrate international exchange students during their stay in the United States.

Fiona L. Carroll has been inducted into the College's Honor Society Lambda Epilson Sigma.

Monica Vroomen will study at the University of Oxford this summer in a fellowship sponsored by the English Speaking Union of the United States (ESU). A junior at Longwood University (Farmville, Va.), Vroomen was chosen for the ESU's British Universities Summer School scholarship program, which is primarily for high-school English teachers but also involves a small number of college undergraduates.

Kelly Gallagher was named to the dean's list for the fall 2014 semester at Saint Mary's College (Notre Dame, Ind.).

Molly Adler has been named a Fulbright Fellow. She will teach English in Russia for the upcoming 2015-2016 school year. Adler is a senior at Juniata College (Huntingdon, Pa.).

Damba Koroma was recognized with the Unsung Hero Award at Mary Baldwin College (Staunton). The award is given to a student who serves as a role model to others and goes above and beyond in her care and concern of the campus community, but who often does not receive public acknowledgement of her hard work.
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CONGRATULATES THE CLASS OF 2015

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- Accepted by more than 170 colleges and universities.
- More than one-third of the class was offered college scholarships or merit aid.
- 90% of the class was enrolled in at least one of our 23 Advanced Placement courses.
- Led our Upper Level Latin certamen team to a state championship and the varsity Mathletes to a first-place season finish.
- Prepared 12,000 sandwiches for Martha’s Table; collected 1,100 food items and spent over 100 hours working at local food banks. Led clothing and supply drives for local people in need and our partner school in Haiti. Volunteered thousands of hours with local non-profits. Participated in international causes in Romania and Haiti and helped raise money to make nearly a dozen micro-loans in six developing countries.
- Performed in the Virginia District X Festivals for band, chorus, jazz, and solo and ensemble; invited to sing Evensong at the National Cathedral.
- Won six Gold Keys, one Silver Key, and one Honorable Mention in the National Scholastic Art Awards, for photography, painting, art portfolios, ceramic creations, and comics. Won the Artistic Discovery Congressional Art Competition, including the exhibition of the winning artwork in the U.S. Capitol for one year.
- Nominated for Cappies awards for Shakespeare’s “Richard III” in four categories: creativity, lead actor, sets, and sound. Performed in all of our drama and musical productions, Evening of the Arts, and Multicultural Night. Directed the One Act Plays and performed in the pit orchestra all four years.
- Twenty to play collegiate athletics next year, representing eight sports. Led the boys basketball team to the IAC season championship and the field hockey and girls lacrosse teams to ISL season and tournament championships.
- Participated in VISAA state tournaments and championship meets in boys basketball, cross country, field hockey, boys and girls lacrosse, swimming & diving, track & field, and wrestling.

COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES ENTERED BY THE CLASS OF 2015

Albright College • Amherst College • Arizona State University • Auburn University • Bates College • Boston College • Brown University • University of California at Berkeley • University of California at Los Angeles • University of California at San Diego • University of California at Santa Cruz • Christopher Newport University • Claremont McKenna College • Coastal Carolina University • Colgate University • Colorado College • University of Colorado at Boulder • University of Connecticut • University of Denver • Duke University • Elon University • Ferrum College • George Washington University • George Mason University • Georgetown University • Hamilton College • Hampton University • Harvard College • Iowa Western Community College • James Madison University • Kenyon College • Lafayette College • University of Maryland at College Park • University of Miami–Florida • University of Michigan • Middlebury College • Morehouse College • University of New Hampshire • Northwestern University • Randolph-Macon College • San Diego State University • University of San Francisco • University of Southern California • University of South Carolina • Southern Methodist University • St. Andrews–Scotland • St. John’s University–New York • Stanford University • University of Texas at Austin • University of Toronto • Tufts University • Tulane University • United States Military Academy • Villanova University • University of Virginia • Virginia Military Institute • Virginia State University • Virginia Tech • Wake Forest University • Washington & Jefferson College • Washington & Lee University • Wheaton College–Illinois • College of William & Mary
Steam Engines and Parking Lots

By Ellen Hamilton

My dad loves steam trains. Maybe because his dad used to take him and his brother down to the Alexandria train station on King Street to watch the trains go by. Dad says he remembers seeing steam engines. I looked it up, and sure enough the last steam engines ran in Alexandria in the early 1950s, when Dad was a young kid.

My parents love to ride the Cass steam train in West Virginia. It’s in the Cass Scenic Railroad State Park and runs 11 miles from the crossroads called Cass to Bald Knob. I bet it would be a big hit if we could find an old steam engine and offer rides from Alexandria. This is what happened in July of 1982 when the steam locomotive #2716 of the Southern Railway ran from Alexandria to Charlottesville, Va.

Alexandria has a great train station. It was built in 1905, a few years before the one built in Fredericksburg, to our south. I came across a detailed paper on Alexandria’s station written by Al Cox in 1996. Al is an architect and Historic Preservation manager for the City of Alexandria. He wrote how the City of Alexandria commissioned Washington Southern Railway Company to build a station. They did, for $62,000. That company today is CSX. Alexandria’s Union Station opened in September 1905. The station was renovated in 1882 and again in the 1996. The old ceiling was removed to expose beautiful wooden rafters and door windows. The station was owned by Amtrak and CSX from 1971 until the City of Alexandria bought it in 2001. I believe it was racially segregated originally. Renovations in 1929 combined separate waiting areas into one.

Dad says he remembers there used to be an artillery cannon which sat in front of the station, facing out towards the intersection of King Street and Russell Road. Eventually, the cannon was taken away. Dad wondered what happened to it. Thankfully, Al Cox writes that it was from World War I, and was taken to a Veterans of Foreign Wars museum in Huntington, W.Va. in the early ‘80s.

I have a plan for the Alexandria train station. Al writes that the parking lot was extended in the 1996 renovations. Most of the lot houses city vehicles today. There is a steep little slope between the tiny train station lot and the city lot. Every time I go to pick up Aunt Katey at the station, there is a traffic jam. Taxis wait out front. The parking spaces by the station seem to be permanently occupied. Getting in and out is a nightmare. In all that, I have to get my car turned around and up front for Aunt Katey’s suitcase. I propose moving the city vehicles elsewhere, designating the whole lot to the station. The lot could be smoothed out and modernized with curbs and trees. A system of meters could be installed to make sure people don’t park there permanently. A second entrance could be added, further up Callahan drive for easier access.

Recently, I extended the family train watching tradition to my niece and nephew. Their parents were going to New York City for the weekend, so we all went to see them off. The conductor announced train number 90, also called the “Palmetto,” arriving and ushered us all across the path to the far platform. We waited. The kids danced around. A double decker commuter train, VRE, pulled in from the north. The kids thought that was very interesting. After about 10 minutes we heard a long deep roar. Dad says he remembers there used to be a station in West Virginia. He wrote about 10 minutes we heard a long deep roar. Dad says he remembers there used to be a station in West Virginia.

My four-year-old nephew juggled with anticipation. The enormous steel shape loomed into view and groaned its way to a stop, hearing and grinding. A conductor emerged, opening a door as passengers gathered. We watched Mom and Dad disappear into the train, and emerge behind dark glass. A few minutes later, the train began to glide forward, noiselessly. We waved and waved. It was a big moment.

While waiting, the kids had been just asking to find out where the tunnel under the tracks went. As trains came and went, we descended into the rounded ceiling, vault-like brick tunnel, and emerged at the front of the station. They were particularly impressed with the double decker train. “When can we ride on the top level?” asked the four year old. “Have you ever ridden a double decker?” asked the 8 year old. “Was it fun?” “What was it like?” Hopefully these kids will have trains as a part of their lives for a long time.

The tunnel and the station on King Street.

The renovated interior of the Alexandria train station.

Letters to the Editor

FROM PAGE 10

character home.

5) One of the letters attacked the way the city staff determined comparable lots. I think an unbiased third party determining comparable lots is much more trustworthy than say neighbors who are opposed to the new subdivision. And Commission Koenig, another unbiased third party, supported this point at the Planning Commission saying he thought the city chose the correct lots for comparison.

In conclusion, our subdivision fulfills all of the city requirements for subdivision easily and without exception and has been supported by both the city staff and the Planning Commission. If you don’t like our plan, then we respect your opinion and your right to not support it, but please only oppose the subdivision with all the facts on the table, minus the fear mongering and misinformation.

We hope you will support our subdivision by writing to the City Council and/or coming to the council meeting this Saturday at 9:30 a.m. at City Hall.

Steve and Mary Hales
Alexandria

Historic Milestone

To the Editor:

The Virginia Declaration of Rights, a call for American independence from Britain, was drafted by George Mason in 1775. Madison in drawing up the Bill of Rights.

The Declaration was adopted unanimously by the Virginia Convention on June 12, 1776, as a separate document from the Constitution of Virginia which was adopted on June 29, 1776. It rejected the notion of privileged administrative, legislative, and judicial. It is unusual because it not only prescribes legal rights but also describes moral principles upon which a government should be run.

The Declaration can be considered the first modern Constitutional protection of individual rights for citizens of North America. It rejected the notion of privileged political classes or hereditary offices such as the members of Parliament and House of Lords described in the English Bill of Rights.

As we observe the Sesquicentennial of the War Between the States, we may note another important application of the Declaration in our history. Virginia’s western counties cited it as a justification for rejecting the Ordinance of Secession. Delegates to the Wheeling Convention argued that under the Declaration of Rights, any change in the form of government had to be approved by a referendum. Since the Secession Convention had not been convened by referendum, all of its acts were void. This assertion started the chain of events that resulted in the western counties breaking off to become the state of West Virginia which was loyal to the Union.

Ellen Latane Tabb
Alexandria

Judgment Day

To the Editor:

Citizens of Alexandria — you have spoken loud and clear — your voice has been heard, the torch has been passed, a new agenda and a new leader has emerged. You have been bold — you have voted for a new path predicated on respect for neighborhood, a belief in academic achievement and a need for growth at a reasonable price.

Our new leader, Allison Silberberg, has emerged as the victor. Let us unite and join her in her vision of our city — a vision that will restore pride in our city, fiscal well

See Letters, Page 29
2015 Heels & Wheels
Alexandria Chamber of Commerce

June 18, 2015 • 5:00pm - 7:00pm
Land Rover Alexandria/
Beyer Automotive Group
2712 Duke Street, Alexandria

Start Your Engines!

Join the Alexandria Chamber of Commerce Professional Women’s Network for an automotive educational event including automotive information, games and fun activities, featuring a NASCAR simulator and racecar.

For more information and to purchase tickets, please visit www.AlexChamber.com.

Brought to you by the Alexandria Chamber of Commerce Professional Women’s Network
Commission Tours Locations in Long-range Redevelopment Plan

FROM PAGE 1

said these plans have not been approved by the City Council yet.

Further south, Robert Kearns laid out city plans for Robinson Terminal North. According to Kearns, the ground floor of the redeveloped area will be retail and restaurant space with residences above. Kearns also noted that a 115-120 room hotel was docked for approval this month but is being pushed towards the end of the summer.

“Without an accessible pier, barging construction material to and from the site would be unlikely, which would potentially mean truck haul routes through North Old Town. The city recently faced a legal battle by developer EYA to primarily use barging to Kearns, the ground floor of the redevelopment material to the site.

Kearns also noted a small but vital addition to the Alexandria Waterfront: public bathrooms on the western side of the Blackwall Hitch restaurant. The restrooms were opened on Monday, and despite Kearns’ suggestion, there was no toilet paper-cutting ceremony.

The group also received a tour of the Shipyard and Harborside parks, the southern tip of the city’s waterfront redevelopment plan. Shipyard Park currently suffers from degradation to a rope barrier erected around the bulkhead, which city staff said has become a weekly maintenance issue. Staff also said the city is looking into rounding the interior of the basin, which currently has sharp angles, to reduce the amount of trash left against the bulkhead by tides.

Silberberg Wins Democratic Nomination for Mayor

FROM PAGE 1

night it paid off. City Hall had one of the city’s largest voter turnouts and, with nearly 65 percent of the vote, voted overwhelmingly in favor of Silberberg.

“There are people here who’ve lived in their homes for decades,” said Silberberg. “We need to listen to them.”

At the Democratic event, Donley congratulated Silberberg and said the party needed to stay united for the upcoming November election. While Euille had earlier been in attendance at the event, the incumbent mayor was at a separate campaign event during Silberberg’s announcement.

In the race for the 45th District, Mark Levine won the Democratic nomination with 27.8 percent of the vote. Levine and four other candidates ran to replace Del. Rob Krupicka, who resigned after the current legislative session. With a campaign financed by private individual donors and a $70,000 personal loan, Levine said his campaign was a grassroots effort. “We won because people invited me into their living rooms and we chatted,” said Levine. “And now, we owe no one anything.”

Further down the Waterfront, Old Dominion Boat Club is hoping to move into the new Beachcomber property, future home to the Old Dominion Boat Club. Thayer noted that last week, the Old Dominion Boat Club and the City of Alexandria had exchanged deeds, giving the City of Alexandria the club’s old property at King Street. Demolition on the Beachcomber property will begin in the fall, with 12 months expected to build the new property on the location. Thayer said the Boat Club is hoping to move into the new site by December 2016.

The tour ended at the Shipyard and Harborside parks, the southern tip of the city’s waterfront redevelopment plan. Shipyard Park currently suffers from degradation to a rope barrier erected around the bulkhead, which city staff said has become a weekly maintenance issue. Staff also said the city is looking into rounding the interior of the basin, which currently has sharp angles, to reduce the amount of trash left against the bulkhead by tides.

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Unofficial results show Mayor Bill Euille (E) winning 11 precincts and closely splitting five precincts. Vice Mayor Allison Silberberg (S) won nine precincts and closely split three precincts with Euille (E/S); former Mayor Kerry Donley (D) won two precincts and closely split two precincts with Euille (E/D).

### Unofficial Precinct-by-Precinct Results for Democratic Mayoral Primary

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<tr>
<th>Precinct Name</th>
<th>Candidate</th>
<th>Votes</th>
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<tr>
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<td>102 - CITY HALL</td>
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### Table

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<th>Precinct Name</th>
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<th>Votes</th>
<th>Percent</th>
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NEW! Extended Service Department Hours:
Monday – Friday, 7 am to 9 pm
Saturday, 8 am to 5 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!
Mike Tokarz looks out the back entrance of the tiny Rocklands Barbeque food truck kitchen where he shares the tiny space with Claudia Cruz.

Mike Tokarz looks out the back entrance of the tiny Rocklands Barbeque food truck kitchen where he shares the tiny space with Claudia Cruz.
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.FourPassportMonticello.org for more.

Fifty Years of Collecting. Tuesday-Sunday 11 a.m.–5 p.m. Sunday noon–5 p.m. Fort Ward Museum 4301 West Bradlck Road. An anniversary exhibit of objects from the Fort Ward collection. Free. Visit www.fortward.org or call 703-746-4844.

Dinner for the Washingtons Noon at George Washington's Mount Vernon. 1200 Mount Vernon Memorial Highway. A walking tour that goes behind the scenes to find out how food was stored and served before the era of microwaves and TV dinners. S.5 in addition to estate admission. Visit www.mountvernon.org/ for more.

Second Thursday Music. Athenaeum, 201 Prince St. 7 p.m. Second Thursday of every month. Visit mvfa.org to view concert calendar and listen to upcoming concerts.

Second Thursday Music artists.

The Monday Morning Birdwalk takes place weekly (except during electrical storms, strong winds, or icy conditions), at 7 a.m. (8 a.m. November through March), is free, requires no reservations and is open to all. Birders meet in the parking lot for the park’s entrance at 3703 Lockwood Blvd. Direct questions to Park staff during normal business hours at 703-768-2525.

Art for Life. Third Thursday of every month. 4:30–7:30 p.m. at Torpedo Factory. 105 N. Union St. Hyatt Regency Crystal City has partnered with the National Kidney Foundation for a program highlighting a different artist each month for a year.

Civil War Sundays. 1:30 p.m. at Alexandria Archaeology Museum, 105 North Union St., #327. Learn more about the Civil War as it occurred in Alexandria. Find dioramas, newspaper articles and more. Free. Visit www.alexandriabotanical.org.

Camps, Classes & Workshops
Tiny Dancers 2015 Summer Camps. Each session includes daily instruction in ballet, a snack, fine motor exercises through a themerelated craft and a favorite story with dress-up dance interpretation. The sessions conclude with a recital and reception for family and friends. Tiny Dancers is a program designed for ages 2-12, featuring a performance based ballet, tap, jazz and musical theatre curriculum. The Alexandria studio is located at 621 S. Washington St., Old Town Alexandria. Call 703-739-0900 or visit www.tinydancers.com for more.

Art League Summer Camps. Registration for Summer Art Camp 2015 is now open.

Art Camps run Monday to Friday, June 22-Aug. 7. Camps are available for ages 5 and older, with morning, afternoon, or all day options. Subjects include: drawing, cartooning, painting, photography, ceramics, sculpture, jewelry, fiber arts, clay animation, and Basic Art Camp (for new medium each day). $155-$3345. Visit www.theartleague.org/content/art-league-summer-camps.

2015 Youth Summer Art Camp. July 20-25 at Del Ray Artisans Gallery, 2704 Mount Vernon Ave. Youth ages 8-14 spend one week creating arts and learning creative techniques, followed by a one-day show. All art supplies, lunch, and snacks are provided. $300 per child.

Scholarships are available. See www.TheDelRayArtisans.org.

Grown-Up Art Camp. June 29-July 17 at Del Ray Artisans, 2704 Mount Vernon Ave. Adults in Alexandria with an interest including 37 workshops and events. Classes range from working with resin to polymer clay; from creating a monotype or paper masterpiece to learning how to print. Visit www.thedelrayartisans.org.

Summer of Sunsets: The Recreation, Parks and Cultural Activities’ Summer Sunsets Series 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 Programs (residents only) and classic camps. The guide has an index listing camps by week and age. Register online or in-person at the Lee Center, 1108 Jefferson St. The Summer Fun Guide is available for download at www.alexandriavirginia.gov/Recreation. Free printed brochures will be available at City Hall, recreation centers, and public libraries. Call the Registration and Reservations Office at 703-746-5414.

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

JUNE 4-19 JUILH

JUNE 5-28
"Building Bridges." gallery hours at Del Ray Artisans, 2701 Mount Vernon Ave. The gallery will unveil an exhibit that is the result of a partnership with Six Degrees Consortium. Free to attend. Visit www.thedelrayartisans.org.

SUNDAY/JUNE 14 AND 28
Cook For Your Pet. 10 a.m.-12 p.m. at Pet Sage, 1306 Duke St. and Southern Kitchens, 2350 Duke St. Take a three-part course on cooking for your cat. Each session is $25, or $60 for all three. Visit www.pet-sage.com.

JUNE 9-19 JUILH
"Art Uniting People" Exhibit. Monday-Wednesday and Friday and Saturday 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on the 2nd floor hallway at Alexandria City Hall, 301 King St. The exhibit is designed to raise awareness about the stigma faced by those with mental illness, substance use disorders, and intellectual disabilities. Admission is free. Visit www.alexandriavic.gov.

WEDNESDAY-FRIDAY/JUNE 10-12
French Taff Ship Hermione Tours. 11 a.m. – 4 p.m. on Wednesday; 9 a.m. – 4 p.m. on Thursday and Friday at the Alexandria Marina. Explore Hermione, an exact replica of the ship that brought the Marquis de Lafayette to George Washington with news of full French aid in 1780, turning the tide of the American Revolution. Tickets are free, but are limited. Visit www.visitalexandriavirginia.com/calendar-of-events/hermione-in-alexandria-to-learn-how-to-get-tickets.

WEDNESDAY/JUNE 10
Airmchair Travel with Conne Rubenstein. 10:00 a.m. at Hollin Hall Senior Center, 800 Sheneandoah Road. airmchair travel to Costa Rica with Conne Rubenstein. Travel by bus, 11:30 a.m. to 12:00 noon. Free. Visit the Hollin Hall Senior Center's Facebook page for more.

FRIDAY-SATURDAY/JUNE 12
"Next to Normal," 7 p.m. at West Potomac High School, 600 Quander Highway. Beyond the Page Theatre presents a performance of the rock musical by Tom Kitt and Brian Yorkey. General admission tickets are $15. Prime seat tickets are $30. $18 of every prime seat ticket purchased will support WPHS students participating in the Scottish Fringe Festival in Edinburgh this August. Visit www.westpotomactheatre.org for more.

FRIDAY-SATURDAY/JUNE 12-13
Wine and Dine on George Washington’s Lawn. 6-9 p.m. at 3200 Mount Vernon Memorial Highway. George Washington’s Mount Vernon invites visitors to sip wine and taste local and historic culinary fare while watching the sunset at the Mount Vernon Estate. Admission is $20 per person. See mountvernon.org/summerscape.

FRIDAY/JUNE 12
Opening Reception of “Art Uniting People.” 6:30-7:30 p.m. at Alexandria City Hall. 301 King St. A celebration of recovery, creativity and mental health stories. Free. The public is welcome. Visit www.alexandriavic.gov.
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Blackwall Hitch Opens in Alexandria

The Blackwall Hitch restaurants are named for a type of nautical knot used by immigrants that sailed out of London’s Blackwall Port in the 1860s. They would dock in Maryland and Virginia.

“We thought we would build our restaurants along the same line that the ships that came in,” said Susan Parker, Blackwall Hitch’s director of marketing. The restaurant just opened its second location in Old Town inside of what used to the Torpedo Factory food court. The other location is in Annapolis.

Expect American cuisine with influences from the Chesapeake Bay. Prawn roasted with Old Bay butter, crispy soft-shelled crab served with tabbouleh, an oyster bar, and more, are all locally-sourced when appropriate. A new specialty cocktail menu was introduced shortly before the opening of the Alexandria location featuring “The Dirty Hitch,” which includes tabasco and bleu cheese in it ingredients and a seasonal sangria.

The décor is meant to convey an upscale look with a casual, nautical twist, said co-designers Bobbi Nock and Tammy Ray. The 10,000-square-feet, two-level location has been outfitted with quartz flooring in the foyer, cedar-wrapped walls, reclaimed and restored tables and chairs, antique elements and replica Edison lighting.

Blackwall Hitch is located at 5 Cameron St., and is open 11 a.m.-12 a.m. Monday- Wednesday, 11 a.m.-2 a.m. Thursday-Saturday, and 10 a.m.-12 a.m. on Sunday. Visit www.theblackwallhitch.com.

— Sarai Johnson
SUNDAY/JUNE 14

Meet the Artists. 5:30-7 p.m. at St. Elmo’s Coffee Pub, 2200 Mount Vernon Ave. Meet members of the Senior Citizens Art Class at a reception and view their works. Free. Call Alice Kate at 703-683-3988.

Envisioned Strings Concert. 7-9 p.m. at George Washington Masonic Temple Memorial Theater, 101 Callahan Drive. Enjoy different genres of music played on string instruments. $5-$15. Visit www.envisionedstrings.com.

MONDAY/JUNE 15
Soul Line Dancing Class. 6-7 p.m. at Lahey High Rise, Community Room, 300 Wythe St. Learn how to line dance with an experienced instructor. Visit www.acps.k12.va.us/openhouseshelped.

Open Houses Scheduled for Interested Master Gardener Trainees. 6:30-8:30 p.m. at Fairfax Community Center, 3308 S. Stafford St. VCE Master Gardeners of Northern Virginia have scheduled an open house for people interested in participating in this fall’s training program. Those planning to attend should send an email to the VCE Horticulture Desk at mgarlalex@vt.edu.

JUNE 16-JULY 25
“Magical, Mystical Animals.” 10 a.m.-5 p.m. daily at The Potomac Fiber Arts Gallery at the Torpedo Factory, 105 N. Union St. Artists will display art inspired by childhood stories and mythical creatures. Admission is free. Visit www.potomacfiberartsgallery.com for more.

FRIDAY/JUNE 19
Annual Golf Classic. 7 a.m. and tee-times beginning at 9 a.m. at the Fort Belvoir Golf Course, 8450 Beulah St. #2920, Fort Belvoir. All proceeds go to the Military Order of the Purple Heart as we support our fellow wounded veterans and their families. Open to all. Contact 703-283-9698 or noelgohp@john.com.

“Under a Summer Sun” Art Exhibit Reception and Artist Talk. 12-7 p.m. at the Vola Lawson Animal Shelter, 4101 Eisenhower Ave. Enjoy a reception and “Three Minutes with Three Artists” with the artists of the “Under a Summer Sun” exhibit. Also visit the animals at the Animal Welfare League of Alexandria. Visit www.ThelDealBayArtians.org/GWV for more.

Third Friday Community Dance. 7:30-9:30 p.m. at Hollin Hall Senior Center, 1500 Shenandoah Road. This community dance will feature the Mount Vernon Swing Band Live, conducted by Owen Hammert. $4 at the door. Open to the public. Call 703-765-4573 for more.

SATURDAY/JUNE 20
Container Gardening and Composting in Small Spaces Program. 10:30 a.m.-12 p.m. at Barrett Branch Library, 5005 Duke St. Learn about container gardening and composting in small spaces. The segment on container gardening will focus on how to select the right pots and plants, prepare for planting, and keep plants healthy and happy. The program is free and open to the public. Sign up online at mg.org.

Soroptimist Event. 11:30 a.m. at Waterford at Springfield, 6715 Commerce St., Springfield. Visit www.soroptimist.org.

Wine on the Water. 6 p.m. in front of the seaport center, Thompson’s Alley. Join the Alexandria Seaport Foundation for its annual wine tasting event. Held on the Old Town waterfront, this event is a casual, and lively event, featuring steel drums, a silent auction and wine and food. The event will be held in front of the Torpedo Factory.
SUNDAY/JUNE 21
Father’s Day Museum Tours. 1-5 p.m. at Gadsby’s Tavern Museum, 134 N Royal St. Fath...
**Letters to the Editor**

**From Page 18**

being and academic achievement. It will not be easy. It will take time, patience and effort, but as a united city we will succeed. Let us put away our differences and our political views, let us embrace Mayor Silberberg’s agenda and success will follow.

God bless the citizens of Alexandria — our political and voting system worked. We have our new leader. A new beginning is upon us. Let us seize this opportunity and thrive.

**William A. Goff**

**Alexandria**

Creating a Legacy

To the Editor:

As I write this, I have no idea who will win the Democratic mayoral primary. Whoever prevails, I offer my congratulations. As it stands now, you’ll have no opponent in the general election. This means you’ll become our mayor with an anemic mandate. To preclude this from happening again, I hope you’ll pump some energy into our limp democracy by empowering the citizenry.

Show leadership by:

Using the three existing school districts as political districts within which two council representatives are elected. Doing so would make important the person and their services within their community; not their popularity among the few who vote in the Democratic Party primary. Currently, it’s this small forum that essentially appoints most, sometimes, all council members. Great if you are a Democrat, but not great for democracy.

Providing these newly created political districts authority to spend a small fraction of their taxes by letting district residents decide what projects to fund. It’s their money after all, and letting them spend a modest sum in their districts would engage lots more residents in civic affairs.

Requiring a referendum for major expenditures. This step would give the taxpayers a chance to cast an advisory vote, especially if the call for one is used judiciously.

These five simple initiatives will create a vibrant local democracy, make more effective use of available technology, and create an informed and engaged citizenry. You may become mayor with a puny mandate, but effecting these initiatives during your tenure will give you a lasting legacy all democrats will praise.

**Jimm Roberts**

**Alexandria**

OPINION

**Two Lives Changed**

**From Celia**

I have been with my tutor/mentor for six months. Each week, Berkley and I work on writing, reading, and vocabulary. We practice writing y’s, because I have trouble with them. Berkley taught me how to write on the lines and how to express myself in poetry. We read fairytales and information books. I like these types of books, because I like to ask questions.

I have enjoyed having fun with Berkley. We talk about our day and we laugh. We went to the museum and saw cool animals from the past. Berkley taught me about her family and I taught her about my family in Guatemala.

I think Berkley deserves to be Mentor of the Month, because we work well together and because she is kind, nice, and very patient with me and has taught me never to give up.

When me and Berkley starting meeting each other I started being more confident, because I paid more attention. Thank you Berkley for teaching me. My family and I love you. God bless you.

**From Berkley**

Growing up my family emphasized the importance of giving back and always taking steps to play a role in the larger community. Working with Celia for the last six months through the Wright to Read Program has enabled me to do just that, and seeing her growth each week has been transformative.

Celia and I have read a range of books and have spent a lot of time reflecting on summarizing stories and articulating thoughts. She is inquisitive and constantly thinking. She is inquisitive and constantly thinking. She is inquisitive and constantly thinking. She is inquisitive and constantly thinking.

My favorite moment with Celia was watching her recite her own poetry in front of her peers. She spoke with confidence and was proud of her work. I would like to thank Celia for being who she is and sharing her joy and kindness with me. I am forever touched and look forward to seeing how she will forge her place in the world.

Celia’s parents have been extremely supportive. Celia’s parents ensure that she reads each day and together push her to never give up. I commend her parents for providing building blocks to success. The Wright to Read program constantly provides books and organizes activities so that students are engaged as active learners. I commend this program for putting resources in place that will change lives and showing me the power that one-on-one based learning can truly have.

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Volunteers Make Up the Backbone of a Community

**By Katharine Dixon**

**President/CEO**

**Rebuilding Together Alexandria**

Did you know that 29 percent of Virginia adults volunteered last year through an organization? And that we volunteer at a higher rate than the national average (25 percent)? These volunteer efforts by our neighbors and friends are valuable, equating to $6.1 billion in donated time, according to Volunteer America.

This is great news for nonprofits like Rebuilding Together Alexandria, which relies heavily on volunteers to preserve housing affordability and revitalize the Alexandria community by providing free, safe, and healthy home repairs.

These upgrades are important, and since most of our clients are homeowners who live near the poverty level. By improving their housing conditions, we can help them remain active members of their neighborhood and in turn help our city remain economically, socially and culturally diverse.

In the past three decades, 23,000 volunteers have worked on more than 1,800 homes in the city, improving the lives of thousands. We have volunteer opportunities for individuals and groups. In fact, corporations, congregations, businesses, schools, community service organizations, trade associations, and government employees often partner with us to create exceptional volunteer experiences for their employees to teambuild through service.

Our volunteers build raised vegetable gardens, replace doors and windows, rebuild porch steps, install safety handrails and grab bars, fix cabinets, make energy efficiency upgrades, and more. Skilled tradespeople are always in demand; and indeed, hundreds of carpenters, plumbers, electricians, and roofers donate their time.

**Letters to the Editor**

**From Celia**

Berkley Jenkins with Celia

Berkley’s parents have been extremely supportive. Berkley’s parents ensure that she reads each day and together push her to never give up. I commend her parents for providing building blocks to success. The Wright to Read program constantly provides books and organizes activities so that students are engaged as active learners. I commend this program for putting resources in place that will change lives and showing me the power that one-on-one based learning can truly have.

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**Rebuilding Together Alexandria**

Celebrating 36 years of giving the gift of literacy, Wright to Read has been serving elementary school students who are reading below grade level. Volunteers meet with their student once a week for an hour in the evenings or on the weekend. Wright to Read is a member of the Alexandria Mentoring Partnership (AMP) created in 2006 to ensure that quality mentors and mentor programs are available for Alexandria’s youth and young adults in need. There are 11 professionally managed programs in the partnership that need adult mentors. To learn more about AMP, visit: http://www.alexandriava.gov/Mentoring

**Favorite Rebuilding Together Alexandria**

**By Katharine Dixon**

**President/CEO**

**Rebuilding Together Alexandria**

Importance of Volunteering: “This is essential to being part of the community and I feel I have been fortunate in my life, so it is my duty to help those that are less fortunate. I want to be a good example for my children.” — Parent of two children

Our volunteers are special. The improvements they make to people’s homes have profound, lasting effects on the quality of clients’ lives and their own. To explore becoming a volunteer, visit us at www.rebuildingtogetheralex.org.

**Volunteer Focus:** “Serving as a volunteer is my full-time job, so I do research and study to ensure delivery of quality service with the best techniques and tools.” — Tired Alexandrian

Best Accomplishment: “Getting the job done!” — Facilities manager and Vietnam veteran

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**Letters to the Editor**

**From Page 18**

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**William A. Goff**

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Creating a Legacy

To the Editor:

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Show leadership by:

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Providing these newly created political districts authority to spend a small fraction of their taxes by letting district residents decide what projects to fund. It’s their money after all, and letting them spend a modest sum in their districts would engage lots more residents in civic affairs.

Requiring a referendum for major expenditures. This step would give the taxing public, not four council members, the power to decide if council-created mega-million dollar spending extravaganzas are something for which citizens want to pay. Again, it’s their money, and requiring them to decide whether to spend it will engage even more residents in civic affairs.

Establishing term limits as a means to add fresh vigor and new voices on City Council. If term limits are good for the governor and the president, then they will be good for our small city.

Serving the public should not be allowed to morph into an entitlement; it should always be an opportunity.

Eight years is enough for any elected office holder.

Add a polling feature to the city web site. Use it whenever the City Council must address an especially contentious issue. This will further engage the public by allowing them to cast an advisory vote, especially if the call for one is used judiciously.

These five simple initiatives will create a vibrant local democracy, make more effective use of available technology, and create an informed and engaged citizenry. You may become mayor with a puny mandate, but effecting these initiatives during your tenure will give you a lasting legacy all democrats will praise.

**Jimm Roberts**

**Alexandria**
People

A Red Nose Affair
Program participants from Youth Achieving Greatness and the Therapeutic Recreation Mainstream Program at the Nannie J. Lee Memorial Recreation Center could not wait to put on their red noses to help support the Red Nose Day campaign on May 21. The goal of this campaign is to keep children safe, educated and healthy as well as providing assistance to those living in poverty. The center is offering summer camp filled with games, excursions, scavenger hunts, sports, swimming, and Six Flags of America adventure. To register, stop by the office at 1108 Jefferson St. or call 703-746-5550.

The City of Alexandria Department of Recreation, Parks, and Culture Activities 2015 “Summer of Smiles” summer camp registration information is also available on-line at www.AlexandriaVA.gov/recreation.

Bulletin Board

From Page 20
http://alexandriava.gov/tes/info/default.aspx?id=77053 or contact Kayte North at Kayte.North@alexandriava.gov or 703-746-4139

Saturday/June 13
Training for First Time Homebuyers, 10 a.m.–4 p.m. at the Office of Housing, 421 King St., Suite 200 in Conference Room 3. The City of Alexandria is offering free training for first time homebuyers. Training leads to a certification from the Virginia Housing Development Authority and access to VHDA’s below market rate mortgage financing. Participants will also learn more about properties available through the City’s Resale Restricted Homeownership Program and Neighborhood Stabilization Program.

For more information, or register for this training, contact Oscar Bermudez at 202-667-7006, ext. 230 or oscar.bermudez@housingetc.org.

Monday/June 15
Entry Deadline. The Athenaeum Gallery, 201 Prince St., is seeking entries for the Athenaeum Invitational. Artists from Virginia, Maryland, and District of Columbia are invited to enter to win cash prizes and an exhibit in the gallery. The entry fee is $35. Visit www.mvaaf.org.

Tuesday/June 16

Wednesday/June 17
“Audiobooks Come Alive!” 7:30 p.m. at Beatty Central Library, 5005 Duke St. A panel of experts will discuss the creation methods of audiobooks for the commercial audiences and for the National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped. Free. Call 703-746-1751 or visit www.alexandria.lib.va.us.

Thursday/June 18
Public Information Meeting, 7-9 p.m. in the Council Workroom, City Hall, 301 King St. Residents are invited to give written or oral comments at this public meeting. This meeting will provide information on the combined sewer control strategies evaluated, and the recommended strategies. Visit the City’s combined sewer system website alexandriava.gov/Sewers.

Victory Day Fly-in
Disappointed visitors searched the sky at Dulles on Saturday, May 9, hoping for a break in the weather. Gene Fischer and Michael Herget (left), both from Alexandria, inspect the C-47 transport plane, the only aircraft able to make it to the Victory Day fly-in at Udvar-Hazy Center due to the low cloud ceiling by early afternoon. More than 20 planes had been scheduled to fly in from Culpeper and Manassas after the WWII flyover on the National Mall on Friday. Fischer and Herget consider themselves aviation buffs for over 40 years and remember being at Dulles in 1972. Herget said his sister works at Udvar-Hazy and her husband works on restoration there as well. Steve Daner (right) from Reston is a regular volunteer at the museum working in Visitor’s Services.

Addressing Men
Church’s conference offers advice and encouragement.

By Marissa Beale
Gazette Packet

W ith Bibles and note books in hand, men who were both members and visitors of Alfred Street Baptist Church filled into the building one early and recent Saturday morning, perhaps because they knew New York Knicks Coach Jim Cleamons would be there, or because they knew there would be a message from the pastor, or perhaps due to just the simple camaraderie that being at church on an early Saturday morning would bring.

On Saturday, May 30, Alfred Street held its first, community-wide one-day men’s conference. Conference presenters included Alfred Street’s Pastor Howard-John Wesley, Pastor Donté Hickman from Southern Baptist Church in Baltimore, and New York Knicks Assistant Coach Jim Cleamons. This was Cleamons’ first visit to the church, and he along with the other presenters gave messages of encouragement to both members and visitors of the church.

“This is for what’s been happening with black men,” said Wesley, referring to recent conflicts in the news. This time, rather than host an internal retreat, the event was open to non-members of the church as well. “I’ve seen some from ages eight to 82,” said Wesley as attendees trickled into the church, some from as far as Baltimore and Fredericksburg. There were more 300 in attendance, and the goal was for each of them to leave the conference prepared to take an active role in their communities, or to continue taking an active role.

“Improvement is a daily process,” said Cleamons, whose coaching philosophy involves positive teaching techniques. “I’m not sure what the men need to hear today, but I would like to talk about leadership development, even for myself,” he said. “I think the most important take-away from a conference like this is to have a plan.”

Hickman’s father was 17 years old when Hickman was born. Hickman said this that taught him how important it was to have an establishment of self as well as self-awareness.

“We have to change the dynamic of our culture and society,” he said. Those in attendance had backgrounds as diverse as those of the presenters. Rodney Black, from Alexandria, said that he was once in debt and homeless, but said the message that stood out to him the most was not to be intimidated.

Twenty-two year old Daniel Gillison, III, decided to attend after his parents talked to him about it. “I’m trying to make the right personal decisions,” he said. “I’m trying to understand the past but also most past it.” The conference also included question-and-answer sessions, concluding with lunch afterwards.
Neighborhood Celebration

On Sunday, May 24, Mayor Bill Euille joined neighbors from Valley Drive, Quincy Street, and Valley Circle for the neighborhood’s annual Memorial Day weekend celebration.

‘Family Paint Night’

The Office of the Arts hosted a second “Family Paint Night” on Friday, June 5 at the Durant Arts Center, 1605 Cameron St. Teresa Brunson was the featured artist who guided 70 attendees through painting their own masterpiece. No experience was needed. The art class lesson was painting a frog on a lily pad. Families were treated to light refreshments. “Family Paint Night” was one of the “First Fridays” series events. The series is a project of the Office of the Arts, a division of the Alexandria Department of Recreation, Parks and Cultural Activities. The next First Friday event will be held on Friday, Sept. 5.

New Marker Unveiled

A new engraved marker for the Braddock Cannon Monument was unveiled last month on the northwest corner of the Braddock and Russell Roads intersection. The marker unveiling comes exactly 100 years to the hour that the original monument was dedicated on May 26, 1915 at 3 p.m. The ceremony was led by the Alexandria Committee chair Virginia Jenkins. Also present was the Virginia State Society president Molly Carey. The National Society of The Colonial Dames of America promotes appreciation for the people, places and events that led to the formation and development of the country.

Open House

Scott Graham, natural resource technician who works on invasive plant removal, met with visitors during an open house in April at Jerome “Buddie” Ford Nature Center, 5750 Sanger Ave.

Acting director and naturalist Jane Yeingst brings out a Mali Uromastyx from the Sahara Desert who drinks no water. He receives all his moisture from his food. His body can go as low as 40 degrees to as high as 120 degrees. When he’s warm, his body turns yellow green.

The “Greenhouse,” a tropical/reptilian habitat, at the nature center.

Burgess Bradshaw talks with Alexandria Committee chair Virginia Jenkins and Society of Colonial Dames of America Virginia State president Molly Carey before the unveiling of the Braddock Cannon marker.
## Alexandria REAL ESTATE

### April, 2015 Top Sales

In April 2015, 224 Alexandria homes sold between $2,325,000-$97,000.

| Address ................... | BR FB HB | Postal City .. Sold Price .... Type .... Lot AC .... PostalCode ........ Subdivision ........ Date Sold |
|---------------------------|---------|-------------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|---------------------------|
| 1020 Prince Street —      | 4 . 3 . 1 | ALEXANDRIA .. $2,325,000 .. Detached .. 0.10 .... 22314 .. OLD TOWN ........ 04/20/15 |
| 11 Wharf Street —         | 4 . 3 . 2 | ALEXANDRIA .. $1,850,000 .. Townhouse .. 0.03 .... 22314 .. FORDS LANDING .... 04/03/15 |
| 7 Wilkes Street —         | 3 . 3 . 1 | ALEXANDRIA .. $1,380,000 .. Townhouse .... 0.03 .... 22314 .. HARBORSIDE ...... 04/24/15 |
| 15 Alexander Street —     | 3 . 3 . 1 | ALEXANDRIA .. $1,350,000 .. Townhouse .... 0.03 .... 22314 .. FORDS LANDING .... 04/03/15 |
| 315 Vassar Rd —          | 4 . 4 . 1 | ALEXANDRIA .. $1,224,689 .. Detached .. 0.21 .... 22314 .. CLOVER ........... 04/08/15 |
| 525 Wilkes Street —       | 5 . 4 . 1 | ALEXANDRIA .. $1,380,000 .. Townhouse .... 0.29 .... 22314 .. CLOVER ........... 04/08/15 |
| 1004 Russell Rd —        | 5 . 3 . 2 | ALEXANDRIA .. $1,350,000 .. Townhouse .... 0.03 .... 22314 .. FORDS LANDING .... 04/03/15 |
| 14 Clay St W —           | 6 . 4 . 0 | ALEXANDRIA .. $1,160,000 .. Detached .. 0.10 .... 22314 .. ROSECREST ...... 04/15/15 |
| 11 Patrick St N —        | 5 . 4 . 0 | ALEXANDRIA .. $1,130,000 .. Townhouse .... 0.06 .... 22314 .. PARKER GREY ...... 04/24/15 |
| 17 Spring St E —         | 4 . 3 . 1 | ALEXANDRIA .. $1,050,000 .. Detached .. 0.15 .... 22314 .. ROSECREST ...... 04/27/15 |
| 118 Montgomery Pl —      | 3 . 2 . 1 | ALEXANDRIA .. $1,090,000 .. Townhouse .... 0.06 .... 22314 .. RIVERGATE ...... 04/15/15 |
| 720 Custis Ave —         | 4 . 3 . 1 | ALEXANDRIA .. $1,069,000 .. Townhouse .... 0.05 .... 22314 .. POTOMAC YARD .. 04/09/15 |
| 214 Franklin St —        | 2 . 2 . 1 | ALEXANDRIA .. $1,050,000 .. Townhouse .... 0.04 .... 22314 .. OLD TOWN ........ 04/15/15 |
| 100 Myrtle St W —        | 3 . 2 . 1 | ALEXANDRIA .. $1,050,000 .. Townhouse .... 0.11 .... 22314 .. ROSECREST ...... 04/09/15 |
| 1200 Galliard St N —     | 4 . 3 . 1 | ALEXANDRIA .. $1,000,000 .. Detached .. 0.46 .... 22304 .. VAUXHALL ...... 04/24/15 |

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Trending in the Garden

By Marilyn Campbell
Gazette Packet

As summer gets underway, so does time spent outside. The American Society of Landscape Architects recently released the results of its 2015 Residential Landscape Architecture Survey, a list of trends in outdoor design that yields a bounty of backyard design ideas. From adding a pond to planting a garden, local landscape gurus explain how these trends can be used to transform an outdoor space into a favorite escape.

The top landscape and garden elements include native plants, vegetable gardens and low-maintenance landscapes. “Since native trees and shrubs are meant to grow here, they’re easier to take care of and they’re lower maintenance,” said Janet Darab of Cravens Nursery in Fairfax.

“I think there is an increased awareness of the benefit in planting native,” said Patrick Lawver of Nature By Design in Alexandria. “If you are planting natives, they should be able to maintain themselves. If they are planted in the right area and planted correctly, you don’t have to water them once they get established, so you won’t have to rely on water that much.”

Dogwoods, redbuds and magnolias are native trees that Lawver says are among the most popular in the Washington, D.C., region. Iris, milkweed and butterfly weed are some of the most popular native flowers. “A lot of people are liking butterfly weed because it’s great for attracting monarch butterflies.”

Experts also recommend amateur gardeners think about what type of plants are appropriate for their yards. “For example, if someone has a small backyard garden, there are some plants that grow aggressively that we don’t recommend because you’d have to constantly cut them back to keep them under control,” said Lawver. “There are some plants that grow better if you have wet soil and some that do better in dryer soil. The bottom line is that they’re all low maintenance as long as you’re planting them into the right situation.”

Raised garden beds are also popular. “One of the advantages of raised beds is that they discourage critters like rabbits from getting in and digging stuff,” said Lawver. “Raised beds often hold moisture really so well there is not as much maintenance with the plant.”

Among the most popular outdoor design elements, as reported in the American Society of Landscape Architects survey, are fire pits and fireplaces, lighting and grills. One pavilion, built by Rill Architects for a Potomac, Md., home, incorporates the three elements and can serve as inspiration for those who want to create an outdoor oasis.

The space was created as a place to enjoy nature while relishing the comforts of home. “(It) creates a seamless transition between the house and yard,” said James F. Rill, AIA of Rill Architects.

A ceiling fan cools the space during warm weather and a stone fireplace warms it when the temperature drops. A mahogany pergola hovers above the terrace. Outdoor chairs, along with low walls that are made of stone, provide seating for entertaining. The floor of the pavilion is made of flagstone. The pavilion offers of view of the home’s English garden, including a pond and walking bridge, and its terrace overlooks a saltwater pool. A gatehouse connects the updated rear porch to the expanded garage. “Now the outbuildings offer an oasis to enjoy nature from both inside and outside the home,” said Rill.
Congratulations the Class of 2015!

Back Row L-R: Zoha Siddiqui, Kayvon Samadani, Kathryn Fronabarger, Hal Lackey, Shannon Ayres, Kieran Donaldson
Third Row L-R: Mary Margaret Lehmkuehler, Trinity Palacio, Thompson Eskew, Naomi Yared, Michael Miller, Mosey Kernan, Hayden Katz
Second Row L-R: Nora Stanko, Ellie Wilkie, Gretchen Roberts, Dakota Hunt, Bella Hubble, Caroline Coburn, Kyle Oshinowo
Front Row L-R: Harper Darden, Camille Ashkenazi, Mac McIntyre, Kendall Fronabarger, Scott Laane, Rachel Suleymanov, Charlie Stephenson, Pete Coburn

We wish you all the best at the following High Schools: Bishop Ireton High School, Bishop O'Connell High School, Episcopal High School, The Field School, Georgetown Visitation, The Heights, Lake Braddock High School, Madeira, Mercersburg Academy, National Cathedral School, Sidwell Friends School, St. Stephen's & St. Agnes School, Stuart Hall, T.C. Williams High School, Washington-Lee High School and West Potomac High School.

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Choosing Between High School and Club Soccer

What’s best for the players?

**By Isabel Jones**

**Gazette Packet**

Every spring more than 100 boys crowd the soccer field at Parker-Gray stadium to try out for the reigning state champion T.C. Williams boys’ soccer team. However, two faces were absent this year that could have rerouted the direction of the season: Eryk Williamson and Jorge Calix.

In 2014, Williamson was the lead scorer for the Titans, totaling 22 goals for the season and receiving an All-Met title. Calix, although never permitted to play for the Titans, competes at an equally high caliber as a midfielder for the Honduras U20 national team. Both players participate in the Development Academy League for DC United’s U18 team and will play for the University of Maryland this coming fall. Under academy rules, Williamson and Calix are not allowed to play for T.C. and other teams not approved by the league.

“High school has fallen off the past couple years because of these rules,” said Williamson. “[My coaches are] not fans of something they think will not benefit me in the long run.”

The boys’ program was not the only one that suffered losses this year. Junior Zoe Boocock did not return to play for the girls’ team after committing to Dartmouth College. She was on the team in 2013 when the T.C. girls beat Lake Braddock and advanced past the first round of districts for the first time in over 20 years.

Freshmen Bella Ponzi and Claire Constant played for the Junior Varsity team last season, but decided to leave the Titans this year as well. “After going through the high school tryouts and trying to balance them both, I decided it would be most fair to both myself and the girls on the teams to step away from high school soccer and focus on club,” said Ponzi. She also had to give up playing for ODP (Olympic Development Program) to further commit to her club team, FC Virginia. “I knew going into the spring I really wanted to focus on improving my game and increasing my speed of play; and training at a higher level with these girls (on FC Virginia) would help me with that.”

Constant came to a similar consensus. After she attempted to balance high school basketball with her club team in the winter, she realized the mental and physical demand of committing to two competitive teams was too draining. “During basketball season, I could feel my body breaking down,” Constant said. “You want to be there for your high school team and you want to be there for you club team, but it’s hard to do both.”

So what does this mean for the future of high school soccer? If the most talented players in every high school are choosing to play for elite clubs over their high school teams it detracts from the competitiveness of the game at the high school level. Unlike other sports such as lacrosse at St. Stephen’s & St. Agnes School, where spots are coveted and attract the attention of top-tier college recruiters, soccer is shifting its emphasis to the club level.

“High school doesn’t matter for recruiting. It’s all about club,” said Bishop Ireton senior Bridget Snyderstrup, who plays for both her high school and travel team.

For athletes hoping to compete at the next level, club and high school coaches agree that club provides the most exposure. In the college showcases attended by Elite Club National League (ECNL) teams, there can be up to 100 or more college scouts, a majority of whom are from Division I universities. Less competitive club teams can also compete in similar tournaments, which attract lower-tier schools, but still allow players to develop connections with college coaches.

“College coaches won’t attend a high school game where they might see one player when they can attend a showcase and see a pool of hundreds of players,” said Constant.

In recent years, the recruiting process has shifted target groups from juniors in high school to younger players in as low as eighth grade. Constant, 15 years old, has already been approached by a number of coaches who have attended her tournament games. This is why many talented players looking to commit to college teams are opting to play club over high school soccer. “I think a better job needs to be done overall with the system on how the different levels of soccer are being handled,” said Chris Arnold, who coaches the girls’ soccer team at St. Stephen’s & St. Agnes School and three club teams for the Alexandria Soccer Association. He believes communication between the players, their families and coaches should be a top priority: Arnold also said that travel and high school coaches need to be more flexible so players can have the opportunity to play in both leagues.

Ally Hodgkins, head coach for the T.C. girls’ soccer team, tailors her practices to accommodate all of her players, most of who play on club teams. “I had to find a balance during our practices to prevent girls from being burnt out while still considering there are others that aren’t playing in additional games or practices,” Hodgkins said. “It is definitely a day-by-day consideration.”

**BALANCING TWO SPORTS**

At once can take a large physical toll, especially on younger players. “Playing club in high school means double everything. Two practices in one day and game after game. I learned to manage my time well and get lots of rest when I had the chance,” said Bishop Ireton sophomore Lilly Weber. “I remember one game, I wasn’t playing my best and [my coach] kept calling me out. I had a high school game the night before and woke up at 5 a.m to drive to North Carolina for a league game. At the end of the game, he called me out [on playing poorly] and I agreed with him because all he said was true.”

However, Weber’s exhausting experience is not an unusual one. On higher-level club teams, players typically practice three to four times a week and can have anywhere between one to five matches on a weekend, depending on whether they are participating in a tournament or not.

“Players who were practicing for high school five times a week along with club and academy training were just getting exhausted,” said Thomas Torres, the head coach for the DC United U18 team. Although Torres did not make the decision to disallow academy players from playing high school soccer, he speculates the rule’s main purpose is to prevent overuse injuries caused by competing on multiple teams. “Our main concern is the health of the players,” he said.

Despite the risk of injuries and fatigue, high school is still considered by many to be an important and valuable experience for athletes.

“They’re learning how to adapt, be flexible, be leaders, balance their commitments and how to play with people they aren’t used to playing with. It’s making them better players and also making them better people,” said Hodgkins. “I do feel it is unfortunate that some [players] miss out on the chance to play for their high school team.”

The debate between high school and club soccer is becoming an increasingly pressing issue, especially as high school coaches discover yet another face will be missing at tryouts next season.

“If a player wants to play high school and club let them,” said Weber. “Choosing to play club over high school or both should be the player’s decision, not the coaches’ or teammates.”

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The T.C. Williams girls’ first varsity 8 captures the gold medal at the Canadian Nationals on June 7, defeating the U.S. national champions. Members include Brooke Teferra (coxswain), Maria Justiano, Claire Embrey, Katie Murphy, Reed Kenney, Amelia Bender, Maura Nakahata, Maeve Bradley and Kyra McClary.

TC Crew Wins Two Golds

Girls’ first varsity, varsity lightweight 8 dominate.

The T.C. Williams girls’ first varsity 8 and girls’ varsity lightweight 8 ended the season with two big wins: gold medals at the Canadian Nationals in Ontario, Canada. The girls’ freshman 8 boat also captured a silver medal, and TC sculler Kyra McClary powered down the course to a close fourth-place finish.

Held in St. Catharines, Ontario on June 5-7, the Canadian Secondary Schools Rowing Association Championship Regatta is Canada’s equivalent of the national championship for high school rowing teams. As such, it attracts the fastest boats from across Canada, and a handful of top boats from the United States, as well. Against this elite field, the TC girls’ first varsity 8 (1V) and varsity lightweight 8 (LW8) both came out on top.

In winning the gold medal, the Titan girls’ first varsity 8 defeated Saratoga – the recently-crowned U.S. SRAA national champion – for a huge win to end the season. The 1V victory came at the end of the finals on Sunday, as one of the premier events. The 1V stormed down the 2,000-meter course, neck-in-neck with the crew from Saratoga for the first 500 meters. It then took the lead and held off Saratoga’s advances. Coxswain Brooke Teferra called for one more sprint to end the season. The Titan oarswomen responded brilliantly, and TC increased its lead, crossing the finish line 3.8 seconds ahead of Saratoga.

The Titans won with a time of 6:33.86. The boat also posted the fastest time in the qualifying heat the day before. The 1V added Canadian gold to its Virginia state title. Members of the T.C. Williams girls’ varsity 8 include Brooke Teferra (coxswain), Maria Justiano, Claire Embrey, Katie Murphy, Reed Kenney, Amelia Bender, Maura Nakahata, Maeve Bradley and Kyra McClary. Jaime Rubini coaches the girls’ first varsity 8.

Continuing its strong performance this season, the TC girls’ varsity lightweight 8 dominated its Canadian races. With a powerful start, the LW8 pulled away early in the 2,000-meter final, with a field of competitors hot on its trail. With a strong final sprint, the LW8 powered over the finish line, 8 seconds ahead of rival Branksome. The LW8 posted a time of 7:43.99. During the semifinals the prior day, the Titan LW boat won its heat by 22 seconds, with open water between it and its next competitor. With the Canadian gold medal, the TC girls’ LW boat, created this year’s first time in many years, added an international gold medal to its bronze medals in the SRAA Nationals and at Stotesbury, a Virginia state title.
LEGAL ADVERTISEMENT

The Board of Equalization and Assessment Review for the City of Alexandria will convene at 3:30-4:30 PM on Friday, June 12, 2015, at 301 King Street, City Hall, Room 3008, Alexandria, Virginia, for the purpose of equalizing real estate assessments. The purpose of this meeting will be to discuss meeting date, docket order and processing, and other administrative issues. There are no scheduled public hearings for this meeting; however members of the public are welcome to attend. Additional information about this meeting may be obtained by contacting the Department of Real Estate Assessments, 301 King Street, City Hall, Room 2000, Alexandria, Virginia, 22314, between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, or by calling 703.746.4180. The deadline for filing an appeal is June 1, 2015, however this appeal deadline is not applicable to appeals of assessments made pursuant to Virginia Code § 58.1-3292.

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 22303 is in possession of unclaimed bicycles, mopeds, lawn equipment, money, jewelry, watches, and other items. All persons having valid claim to items will be sold, destroyed, converted or donated. For a complete listing go to http://alexandriava.gov/police/ Alexandria Police Department located at 3600 Wheeler Avenue, Alexandria, VA 22303, between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, or by calling 703.746.4180. The deadline for filing an appeal is June 1, 2015; however, this appeal deadline is not applicable to appeals of assessments made pursuant to Virginia Code § 58.1-3292.

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Two Goods at Canadian Nationals

FROM PAGE 36

gold medal, and several victories in regional competitions. Members of the TC varsity lightweight 8 include Elizabeth Roda (coxswain), Rachael Vannatta, Olivia Anthony, Sierra Arnold, Abby Prall, Sarah Stroegs, Caroline Hill, Emily De-Bodene, and LeeAnn Richards. The lightweight 8 boat is guided by coach Jaime Rubini.

Patrick Marquardt, the TC girls’ head coach who accompanied the Titans to Canada, said, “I am really proud of the entire TC Crew team this year. These two final gold medals show that TC boats are among the fastest in North America. The first varsity’s win against U.S. national champion Saratoga shows that it can beat the best. The lightweights took off this year and never stopped excelling. This final gold medal capped an outstanding season that included national and state medals for the boat.”

The Titan girls’ freshman 8 boat also showed its strength during the CSSRA competition, competing in the Junior 8 category. The boat won its heat on Saturday, with a time of 8:15.79. Powering down the course during the finals, it jockeyed with rival Saratoga for first place, with Saratoga finally pulling ahead and crossing the finish line just 7 seconds ahead. The freshman girls’ strode to the medal dock proud of their silver medal finish, with an impressive time of 7:29.06. Showing their strength throughout the season, the freshman girls also captured the silver medal in the Virginia state championship competition and won regional competitions. Members of the boat include Camila Cardwell (coxswain), Hope Parsons, Grace Vannatta, Madeline Gyllenhoff, Grace Hogan, Emma Carroll, Tess Moran, Cleo Lewis, and Rachel Sedehi.

Also turning in strong performances at the Canadian Nationals were two TC girls’ se0 4 boats, which had been rowing as teams for just two weeks. Made up from the TC girls’ second 8, both boats excelled against tough international competition. The senior 4 boat, including Priya Vehra (coxswain), Lynn Stevens, Lily Warden, Hannah Posson, and Alyssa Forbes, advanced to the semi-finals by capturing second place in its heat and put in a powerful performance in the semifinals. The girls’ lightweight 4, with Sadie Frymire (coxswain), Anissa Ashraf, Giulia Pastore, Lauren Kelly and Harper Jensen, also showed its strength against a highly competitive field during the semifinals. Grace Barbara coaches these boats.

While the TC boys’ team did not attend the Canadian Nationals, they also had a strong season, including gold medals for both the first varsity 4 and the freshman 8 at the Virginia state championship and many regional wins. The Titan boys’ crew coaching team is led by head coach Peter Stranese.
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