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June 25, 2015

# PHOTO BY LOUISE KRAFET/CAZETTE PACKET TO AND THE P

# **Disability Awareness Awards**

Mayor Bill Euille and Alexandria Chamber of Commerce chair Walter Clarke congratulate the 2015 Alexandria Commission of Persons with Disabilities award recipients: Donna Shaw of Senior Services of Alexandria, Dave Hammond of the Neighborhood Restaurant Group, Bishop Ireton graduate Iman Smallwood, Mary Lee Anderson of Senior Services of Alexandria and former ACPD chair Chuck Benaugh. The ceremony was held in City Hall on Tuesday, June 23.

# Shots Fired Police continue investigating wave of gunfire reports from across city.

By Vernon Miles
Gazette Packet

he first "shots fired" call of the summer came in on April 18. Since then, there have been 13 reports of "shots fired" across Alexandria. The situation attracted enough public attention that, on June 17, the Alexandria Police Department released a statement identifying the calls as a priority for the department. But while the situation remains under investigation, Alexandria Police say the answer is likely far less nefarious than it may seem.

"For the last two calls we've received, there was no corroborating evidence that a shooting did occur," said Police Public Information Officer Crystal Nosal. "It's a report of shots fired, which is very different from knowing that someone was shooting a gun."

According to Nosal, the amount of calls is not usual for the Alexandria Police Department, but the department's new notification system makes those calls more visible.

"With the recently added notification system we've been doing, if we get any calls we put a statement out," said Nosal. "That's something the public is having to adjust to ... we've been putting out a lot more information on the shots fired."

However, the increased visibility does not account for all of the shots fired instances. In the public state-

ment, the police identified the area between the Braddock Road Metro area, Cameron Street, and Washington Street as the center of the disturbances.

"Detectives continue to investigate the individuals identified as involved, and have also seized firearms and collected a number of pieces of physical evidence," said the police in a statement. "We are actively ... making progress in identifying the individuals or groups responsible. Several arrests have been made."

At least one of the calls was related to another criminal incident. The shots at Beauregard and West Braddock were investigated in conjunction with a robbery on the street. According to Nosal, the victim of the theft reported that shots were fired into the air by the robber. While she had no comparative numbers available, Nosal said crimes of this nature are more common in summer months.

"There's usually more outdoor related crime because people are outside more," said Nosal. "Just like we get more robberies and package thefts around Christmas, outdoor crime does pick up when the weather is nicer."

However, Nosal indicated that a deeper problem could be taking root.

"In some cases, these incidents are linked to certain crowds of people," said Nosal. "If it is two groups of people going back and forth, neither the victims nor the aggressors are calling the police to report

SEE WAVE OF GUNFIRE, PAGE 12

# Goldilocks Approach

# City Council reluctantly approves programming size for Patrick Henry Recreation Center.

By Vernon Miles
Gazette Packet

recommendation on the scale of the new Patrick Henry Recreation Center escalated into one City Council member calling on the city manager to fire the project staff. At the council's June 24 meeting, the one before summer recess, members of council repeatedly expressed dismay that what should have been a positive review of plans for the Patrick Henry Recreation Center were quickly becoming a nightmare scenario of miscommunication between the Parks Department staff, the School Board, and the public.

Plans to rebuild the Patrick Henry Recreation Center, located adjacent to Patrick Henry Elementary School, date back to a strategic plan formulated in 2002. The recommendation at the time was to take the current facility, which serves primarily as a gym and after-school programming for Patrick Henry Elementary School, and increase the building size to 15,000 square feet to serve the entire neighborhood. No development occurred until 2008, when after a series of community meetings and a feasibility study that recommended the same expansion, development continued to not occur. However, with plans underway to demolish and rebuild the adjacent Patrick Henry Elementary, staff has put through another feasibility study and at the council meeting recommended a development similar to the 2002 proposal.

Three options for Patrick Henry Recreation Center programming were presented: one that served SEE COUNCIL, PAGE 22

# Mourning Betty Wright

# Literacy champion, philanthropist dies at 90.

By Jeanne Theismann Gazette Packet

etty Wright was known for many things. She was committed to historic preservation, loved good food and wine and was a fierce bidder on eBay when she wanted to add to her collection of antique scales. But her real passion was literacy, and

See Betty Wright, Page 21



Photo by Nina Tisara Living Legends of Alexandria

Betty Rhoads Wright at home.

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Police respond to an accident that sent a motorcycle through the window of St. Clement Episcopal Day School.

# Airborne Motorcycle Misses Children

# Students and teachers survive with only minor injuries.

BY MATTHEW CRAWLEY Gazette Packet

motorcycle and a car collided on Quaker Lane on Tuesday, June 16, sending the rider headlong into a tree and the bike crashing through the window of St. Clement Episcopal Day School.

Apart from the motorcyclist, no one was seriously injured, but the event left many children shaken and the community amazed at the good fortune of the classroom's occupants.

Local photographer Wayne Hulehan was on scene moments after the accident. Whipping out his phone, he began to cover what he described as "mass confusion" as police and emergency personnel arrived and traffic slowed as police attempted to close the road and drivers tried to get a look at the

From his initial position on the west side of Quake Lane, Hulehan could see a wrecked car parked in the middle of the street. It wasn't until he until he moved closer and saw the break in the church fence, and the gaping hole where a window had been, that he understood what had transpired.

"It was then that I suspected a motorcycle was involved," he said.

From his new vantage point near the 7-11, Hulehan watched as the police entered St. Clement and a gurney was pulled from an ambulance. Looking at the hole and the intersection, which was littered with black debris from the two vehicles. Hulehan imagined that this accident would surely have serious consequences.

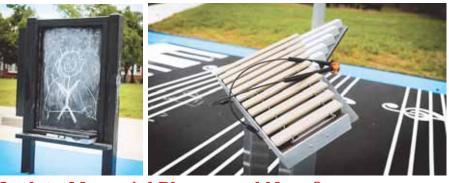
But when he asked a police officer if there had been any casualties, he was amazed to hear that there was not one fatality, and that only the motorcyclist had been seriously injured.

"He just told me, 'We didn't lose him, he's alive." The motorcyclist was taken to the hospital, where he was last reported to be in serious condition.

St. Clement church and school employees echoed Hulehan's astonishment that no one, save the motorcyclist, had been seriously hurt. Father John Hortum, who heads the school, gave an account that emphasized the luck of those in the Purple Room,

SEE AIRBORNE, PAGE 11





# Lodato Memorial Playground Now Open

The new accessible playground, named after Ruthanne Lodato, an Alexandria piano and music teacher who was an active supporter of Alexandria's special needs community, is officially open. Located behind the Nannie J. Lee Recreation Center, 1108 Jefferson St., the playground has accessible swings, outdoor music instruments, shade structures, benches, sensory play components, and soft rubber tile surfacing. CVS Health provided the initial donation of \$25,000. The Kelley Cares Foundation and the Miracle League of Alexandria then raised another \$75,000 to complete the project. The private sector funding totaled over \$100,000 in cash and inkind services.

# Pepper Celebrates 30 Years on Council

t the close of the 2014-2015 City Council session, members of the council watched a presentation and recalled where each was 30 years ago. For most, they were memories of playing sports as a young adult or living with their families, Councilman John Chapman was still celebrating a single-digit birthday. But for Council member Del Pepper, 1985 was memorable for an entirely different reason: it was the year she joined City Council.

In its June 23 meeting, the Alexandria City Council celebrated Pepper's 30 years

of service on the council, making her the longest-serving member in the city's history.

"She's been a mentor to me and others through the years," said Mayor William Euille. "She is dedicated to her work. Her heart and soul is with this great, historic

Pepper glanced back up at the pictures of herself through the years at various events hosted by the City Council.

"Well," Pepper sighed, "I guess all the se-

— Vernon Miles

# The Longest Day Bridge Tournament Supports Alzheimer's Research

# Event at Beth El Hebrew raises \$21,500.

BY EMILY RABBITT GAZETTE PACKET

uen De Anda bustled around the function room at the Beth El Hebrew Congregation on Seminary Road without pausing, greeting all participants by name and putting the final flourishes on the The Longest Day event she's been planning for months.

"Yuen is a whirlwind," said Leo Cardillo about the bridge enthusiast and vice president of the Northern Virginia Bridge Association. "She does a great deal for everyone - at the youth level, with Sunrise Bridge, and for Alzheimer's."

The Longest Day — held on June 21, the longest day of the year — was organized by Bridge Heroes United, a cooperative endeavor between The Northern Virginia Bridge Association, the Washington Bridge League, and the Richmond Bridge Association. The event's goal was to raise awareness and funds for Alzheimer's research.

More than 5 million people are living with Alzheimer's, a number that is expected to exceed 13 million by 2015 if no breakthrough cure is found, according the Alzheimer's Association. The need for something that can stem the rising tide of those

SEE SUPPORTING, PAGE 14



Organizer Yuen De Anda speaks to the participants.

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> Lib Willey 703-362-7206



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#### Alexandria/ Runnymeade \$445,000

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Julie Hall 703-786-3634



Arlington

#### **Old Town** \$1,035,000

513 Princess St. Elegant Bulfinch Square townhome recently renovated just steps from shopping & restaurants! 3 bedrooms (all suites), 3.5 baths, living room with fireplace flanked by 2 sets of French doors to a walled garden. Formal dining room, gorgeous new kitchen and renovated baths. Lower level family room and bedroom suite 2 assigned parking

Christine Garner 703-587-4855

\$1,750,000



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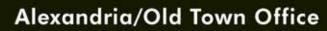


Arlington

2200 Westmoreland St. #227. Immaculate, like new, 1 BR condo in the heart of Arlington. This gem has latest appliances, granite counters, maple cabinets, pecan wood floors, washer/ dryer, and limestone tile bath. It also has a large convenient garage space and storage unit. STUNNING!
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# Helping Veteran-Owned Businesses

# The Bunker@DC opens at Capitol Post.

By Jeanne Theismann Gazette Packet

he Bunker@DC, an incubator program for earlystage, veteran-owned businesses and veteran entrepreneurs, is accepting applications through June 30 for its first cohort of companies.

Operating out of the Capitol Post's co-working office space in Old Town, The Bunker@DC will support veterans in launching and growing a business in a peer-to-peer setting.

The Bunker is a national organization providing peer-learning environments for veteran-owned companies in 11 cities across the country. The first cohort started in Chicago and includes 19 companies selected from more than 60

businesses who submitted an application to participate.

The Bunker@DC is seeking all types of businesses to apply to be part of its first cohort. According to



Capitol Post director Emily McMahan, at right with Secretary of Veterans Affairs Robert McDonald, will manage The Bunker@DC, a new business incubator program for veterans. The Alexandria location will serve the DC region and is one of 11 Bunker locations in the country.

the Capitol Post website, the ideal company will be a legally formed entity, in its first or second year of business, with a scalable business model. However, all applications will be considered.

Over a six-month period, members of The Bunker@DC will receive work space in the Washington Square complex at 625 N. Washington St. and have access to venture funding information and resources including Bloomberg, GovWin and numerous business publications.

The cohort program also includes a curriculum provided by the University of Virginia's Darden School of Business. The entrepreneurial education sessions will focus on entrepreneurship, building personal strengths and business practices to effectively manage small business growth.

Applications for The Bunker@DC are available at www.TheCapitolPost.com. Deadline to apply is June 30 and re-

sponses will be made by July 10. For a tour of The Bunker@DC or for more information about the program costs, contact Krista Ludwig at 703-652-5347 or krista.ludwig@thecapitolpost.com.





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# PEOPLE



Daniel Sherwood's shadow is reflected in a stagnant pool of water down a manhole filled with mosquitoes.



Daniel Sherwood dips out a sample and finds it full of various stages of mosquitoes, some ready to pupate into adults.

# The Hunt for the Culex Mosquito

By Shirley Ruhe
Gazette Packet

aniel Sherwood poked the long-handled dipper into the manhole. "Let's see if we can get any here." He peered into the stagnant water in the dipper. "Look at this; we have all four instars in here. These rafts are filled with eggs, and each raft can have 50-100 mosquitoes. See that little guy wiggling around in there," he said. "He is getting ready to pupate. We are really concerned about the pupa. When they

People At Work get to the fourth instar stage, they stop eating and start laying eggs." Sherwood collects

the specimens in a small plastic bag to take back to the lab. He whirls the bag around itself three

times to seal in the water. "It's kind of fun." Adjoining the manhole is a large yard of dense English Ivy. "That's a haven for mosquitoes — low to the ground, moist and shaded with low predation."

Sherwood is the environmental health biologist with the Vector Borne Illness Prevention program for the City of Alexandria. He starts planning for mosquito season in April and finishes up in November if necessary but May through October is considered mosquito season. On Mondays three battery-powered traps are set at each of 13 sites around Alexandria. The traps are picked up on Tuesday. On Wednesday

Two seasonal workers. **Ana Funes** (left) and Margie Reves, are sorting, spectating and pooling Culex mosquitoes to test for **West Nile** virus.





Daniel Sherwood enters the information on the mosquitoes into the "real time" computer so that it is recorded in the database and not just in his head.

workers sort them, speciate them and then pool them, putting the Culex mosquitoes together to test them for West Nile virus. "Culex mosquitos are the primary vector for West Nile," he said. Sherwood stares through the microscope at black specks in a petri dish and one by one pushes a pile of Culex mosquitoes to the side. They treat the sites once a month rotating by week.

and Thursday he and his seasonal

"In this area there are 20 or so mosquitoes we would see. About 5-10 are very common and 3 or 4 make up about 90 percent of the population. In the beginning they all look alike. Like if you were an alien ... all dogs would look alike," he said. But he adds that when you start to look at a mosquito you see that one has a short palp and one has a palp as long as the probos-

cis or some have abdominal banding. A good seasonal worker can start to identify them by sight in a month or so.

He said he looks ahead to what kind of mosquito season it might be based on weather, what it has been like so far this year with a cool, wet spring. A lot of water gives a lot of opportunity but on the other side in the cool weather, a mosquito uses up a lot of energy. He says they monitor for general abundance of water that leads to more mosquitoes and to interactions with the bird populations. "We aren't fortune tellers"

During the summer his team processes about 30,000 mosquitoes with 1-4,000 in the traps each week. As his truck turns the corner, he points to a pool of standing water. "We just found this the other day, and it has been treated. There are no mosquitoes in it now. We use a bacterial protein that is environmentally friendly and is not bioaccumulative. It inhibits a mosquito's ability to consume food and it dies." He walks to the edge of the pond. "At this site now we are concerned about these deep tire tracks. They have just enough water to hold mosquitoes, are hard to find and can sit for months." Returning to the truck, he records his observations in the "real time" computer system. He explains this way the sites get locked in, "not just in my head."

Although Sherwood routinely checks his regular routes, he is also actively scanning for standing water or other signs along the way such as water-lov-

SEE HUNTING MOSQUITOES, PAGE 9



The Rev. Henry Warring (1888-1912) and Shiloh Congregation, 1890s.

# The Shiloh Story'

# Telling the church's history.

By Amina Luqman Gazette Packet

ith her halo of salt and pepper hair and a calm voice, Lillian Stanton Patterson has an air of someone who has seen it all. When it comes to Alexandria history, there's some truth to that. Patterson is a lifelong resident of Alexandria with a family history in the city dating back to the 1800s. Patterson and co-author Sarah R. Robertson have recently completed their book, "The Shiloh Story, Journey to Jubilee: 150 Years." The book chronicles the history of Shiloh Church, its Civil War beginnings, its clergy, church officers, community efforts and the many historical events Shiloh encountered over the years.

"Shiloh's the fourth," Patterson said; she chronologically lists the three older Black Baptist churches in Alexandria. For approximately 20 years, Patterson has served as Shiloh Church historian. That title, her wealth of knowledge and her lifelong Shiloh church membership, made her a clear choice for the book's authorship. "People always said I should write a book. So finally we decided to do it,..." she said.

The writing and publication journey took three years. Early on she sought out help. That's when Robertson became involved. "I don't know what I would have done without her," Patterson said. "She had all the technical skills." The two met three times a week for a year



**Lillian Stanton Patterson** 



**Sarah Robertson** 

and a half to research and write the book.

"It was a very rewarding experience. I learned so much," said Robertson.

The result is a compilation of images, documents and stories that span Alexandria's history. It was on March 29, 1863, in the yard of the Price, Birch & Company's old slave pen prison at 1315 Duke Street, when a group of 50 formerly enslaved people began the Old Shiloh Society, later known as Shiloh Baptist Church. During this time the slave pen was under Union control, and was used as a prison for deserters. The yard behind it became a hospital for SEE 'THE SHILOH, ' PAGE 9

# THE PATTERSON GROUP PRESENTS

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Information & Tickets available at: www.acctonline.org

Aldersgate United Methodist Church 1301 Collingwood Road, Alexandria VA 22308

# News

# Celebrating Wright To Read

right to Read welcomed more than 50 Alexandria City Public Schools students with their families and their Wright to Read tutors for the Annual Celebration Picnic on Saturday, June 6. The sunny afternoon in the organization's yard featured food; fun and games; giveaways of books, bookcases, and desks; and recognition of each child's reading achievements.

This year's picnic included the presentation of a donation from Alexandria's Kids Helping Kids. On LemonAide Day, May 16, more than 100 local children operated nearly 40 lemonade day stands throughout the city, raising more than \$18,000.

The Kids Helping Kids Junior Board after researching local charities chose to split the proceeds be-

tween Wright to Read and another mentoring organization, A Space of Her Own.

The day's activities capped off with recognition of both outgoing Executive Director Leigh Nida and introduction of the organization's new Executive Director Peggy Morrison-Curtis. Volunteer and Outreach Manager Luisa Reyes was also recognized for her on-going contributions.

Created in 1979 and operated as a program of the Frank and Betty Wright Foundation until incorpora-



Rhae with her tutor/mentor Leigh Nida, outgoing executive director of Wright to Read.

tion as an independent charity in 2012, Wright to Read's mission is to provide volunteer-based, one-on-one sustained tutoring and mentoring relationships to City of Alexandria children in need to collaborate with families, schools, and community partners to create a comprehensive support network that guides each child to success.

For more information, contact Peggy Morrison-Curtis, peggy@wrighttoread.org.

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# PEOPLE

# 'The Shiloh Story'

colored soldiers, and a refuge for formerly enslaved people.

The book includes the gray faded image of the church's first pastor, the Rev. Leland Warring, and an image of the old slave pen, Shiloh's first home. There are church minutes dating back to the 1890s, names of some of original 50 congregants. Robertson

recalled one of the old church minutes the two found. "No clapping in the church," it said. She laughed. "I guess they're turning over in their graves now, because we do that all the time now."

Patterson's own family history is in the book's pages. There's a marriage license dating July 1879, recording the marriage of Patterson's great grandmother Annie Brannan Curry to Randolph Curry. It's the



The Rev. Leland Warring, Shiloh's First Pastor (1863-1889)

only known document showing the signature of Warring.

"I had to take a step back and remember the many the things I'd forgotten." Patterson said of her journey working on the book. For example, in an old church document, it mentioned the beautiful ceiling in Shiloh's old church sanctuary. "I remember that ceiling. It had or-

ange and blue. I remember the color clearly. As a child I would rest on my grandmother and look up at that ceiling, instead of looking ahead at the pulpit," she chuckled. "Very few people remember that ceiling. It was probably changed in the 1950s."

Patterson and Robertson will hold a book signing on Thursday, June 25 at the Alexandria Black History Museum, 902 Wythe St.



WASHINGTON, DC JULY 5 - 6, 2015

Programs include inspirational music, meditation, spiritual discourse, and personal blessings

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OM LOKAH SAMASTAH SUKHINO BHAVANTU MAY ALL BEINGS EVERYWHERE BE HAPPY

# Hunting Mosquitoes

From Page 6

ing plants like cattails. "Over there you can tell by the slope down from the road to the wooded area will be a small stream." Mosquitoes also have distinct habitats with some liking stagnant water and others a flooding situation. They rest during the day in the shade and come out at dawn or dusk. Some fly long distances and some like to feed on only reptiles and others on birds or mammals. "Only the females/suck blood. They need the protein to produce eggs."

Sherwood has been with the City of Alexandria since 2012. He came from Prince William County in its mosquito program. Before that, he says he was a college student after he got out of the Army where he was a vet tech working with police dogs. "I've always had an interest in biology. After I had a summer internship with the vector program in Alexandria, it just clicked. I could see the benefits of

**Daniel Sherwood bags the** 

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BULLETIN BOARD

#### THURSDAY/JULY 2

Application Deadline. The

Alexandria Marketing Fund is a grant program that provides seed money for marketing programs. Apply at www.alexandriava.gov/ MarketingFund.



mosquitoes to take back to the lab to test for Culex mosquitoes that are the vector for West Nile virus.

the program and I was providing a service." Although the general hours are 8 a.m.-5 p.m., sometimes it is 8 a.m.-7 p.m. "The person who gets bit by a bat is always 5 p.m. — guaranteed."

#### SATURDAY/JULY 4

Free Taxi Rides. 10 p.m.-4 a.m. Free cab rides will be offered to patrons throughout Northern Virginia, Maryland and Washington, D.C. residents celebrating with alcohol may call the toll-free SoberRide phone number 1-800-200-TAXI . (8294) and be afforded a safe way home. Must be 21 or older to call a SoberRide. Visit www.wrap.org/ soberride/ for more.







ngleside at King Farm, Rockville, Maryland



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The changes you will see in the coming weeks and months are aimed at making sure we fulfill the evolving responsibilities to our three communities and foundation, not only now but long into the future. In addition, you will see new services and products introduced in keeping with our long history and tradition of leadership, innovation and community service.

INGLESIDE 5121 Broad Branch Road NW Washington, DC 20008 To learn more about Ingleside call 202.534.1500 or visit www.inglesideonline.org



# **OPINION**

# Safe Planning for Independence

# Talking and planning about celebrating July 4, and throughout the summer months.

ndependence Day is a national celebration, and for many, that celebration in cludes alcohol. The summer overall and July 4 in particular are times of greater risk for drinking and driving.

This is true for the young adults over 21 living with you, and unfortunately also for many teens who are under 21. More on that below.

For all revelers in independence: Make a plan. Plan to celebrate with access to public transportation. Plan to have a designated driver. Plan to celebrate in a place safe and comfortable to spend the night.

But in case those plans go awry, here is an alternative safety net.

On the night of Saturday, July 4, the Washington Regional Alcohol Program will offer free taxi rides home (up to \$30), beginning at 10 p.m. for six hours until 4 a.m. the morning of July 5. Participants must be at least 21. Call 1-

On July 4, 2014, more than 150 people used WRAP's SoberRide service rather than possibly driving home impaired.

In summer, 44 percent of all U.S. traffic deaths are caused by alcohol-impaired drivers, according to statistics provided by WRAP. SoberRide is a way to help keep local roads safe from impaired drivers during this traditionally high-risk holiday.

On July 4, historically, nearly 40 percent of traffic deaths in the U.S. are caused by drunk drivers; more than 20 percent of the drunk drivers involved in those deaths during the 2013 July 4 holiday had blood alcohol concentrations of nearly twice the legal limit, said Kurt Erickson of WRAP.

For parents of young adults who may be living at home and parents of those under 21, this is time to talk. Ask about EDITORIAL plans, ask specifically about getting home. Remind those over 21 to take

the WRAP phone number with them.

While you hope that young adults under 21 aren't drinking - because there are lots of dangers to binge drinking beyond drinking and driving — you know that many of them will be drinking. Talk with your teens about the problems of binge drinking. Let your younger family members know that you would much rather pay for a cab or come get them yourself than run the risk of losing them.

This is a message important for the tail end of graduation season and good for the whole summer, which is the time of the highest risk for teen drivers.

Since 1993, WRAP's SoberRide program has provided more than 62,500 free cab rides home to would-be drunk drivers in the Greater Washington area.

Visit www.soberride.com.

The Pet Gazette, a twice-yearly special edition, will publish on July 22, and photos and stories of your pets with you and your family

Our favorite pictures include both pets and humans. We welcome short stories about how you got your pet, a noteworthy talent or anecdote about your pet, tales of the bonds between your family and your pet, plus drawings, paintings or other artwork of your pet by children or adults Please tell us a little bit about your creature, identify everyone in the photo, give a brief description what is happening in the photo, and include address and phone number (we will not publish your address or phone number, just your town name).

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# LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

# Council Punts on Clover-College Park

To the Editor:

As a resident of the Clover-Col-

lege Park neighborhood I am dismayed and bemused by the latest contentious development issue before the City Council. At issue, the property rights of a home owner, affirmed by the city, over the objections of several neighbors. The owner petitioned the city

to subdivide his two large adjoining lots into three. The Planning Commission approved the request to the dismay of neighbors. Their concern is rooted not so much in the subdivision, rather in what might be built there and how it

could change the characteristics of

the neighborhood. The owner has attempted to reassure neighbors he has no plans to build anything in the immediate future; he sought only to reserve the right to do so. Moreover, any new structure would need to conform to existing zoning and code requirements; and get through a separate set of city approvals.

Opponents to the subdivision have used the term "developer" when referring to the petition's applicant; something the owner rightfully believes is a gross misrepresentation of his status. The owner's assurances that he has no intention to sell the properties to a "real developer" have been met with skepticism. This is not a repudiation of the owner's integrity; it's simply prudent recognition that circumstances often can and do change.

Neighborhood opponents appealed to the City Council to overturn the Planning Commission's approval of the subdivision. The issue before the council was whether the Planning Commission erred in granting approval. In other words, did the approval violate the law? The city attorney does not believe so and cautioned councilmembers they would need to cite a legal basis for overturn-

SEE LETTERS, PAGE 20

# Airborne Motorcycle Misses Children

From Page 3

which is used for children aged 3-4: the teacher, Maria Medrano, had apparently just bent down to assist a student when the bike careened through the window and flew right over their heads.

Hortum went on to describe how the room was covered in bits of wood and shattered glass; great gouge marks had been scraped into the floor and cabinet doors. There was also a pool of vomit, made by one of the frightened students.

Church employees worked late into the night cleaning up the wreckage and covering the window with plywood. Thanks to their efforts, the class of the Purple Room was able to use the room for instruction the next day; the beginnings of a flower mural on the plywood covering the window added a bit of cheer to the darkened classroom.

To help the students cope with the trauma of the accident, Hortum spoke to each of them, reminding them that he and the other

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school staff members would be more than willing to discuss the event with anyone at any time.

The school also made a point of showing the Purple Room to the other students so they would understand fully that no one was hurt badly and that there is nothing to fear about the classroom itself.

Despite a few nightmares, the students were able to stay on track and the semester was successfully concluded on Friday. An end-of-year program put on by the students and faculty capped off the term, and the St. Clement community seems to be recovering from the shock induced by the acci-

The window remains boarded up as the church has yet to find a suitable third-party to assist with the repairs.

The cause of the accident is still unknown. The Alexandria Police Department's crash reconstruction team has yet to conclude their investigation.

Commission (AAC) is now accepting nominations for the Bernard "Ben" Brenman Archaeology in Alexandria Award. The Brenman Award, established in 2007, is open to  $businesses,\, organizations,\, families,\, professional$ preservationists, volunteers, students and other individuals who have demonstrated work or efforts in archaeological investigation, research, site protection, education, public interpretation, open space design, collections, or conservation. Visit. http://alexandriava.gov/historic/



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### **DIRECTIONS:**

Form Old Town Alexandria: G.W. Pkwy South - Right on West Boulevard (just past stone bridge) - continue right on Alexandria (over bridge) to Left on Northdown - Right on Stone Terrace (small street) and left on Southdown to 7717 on right.



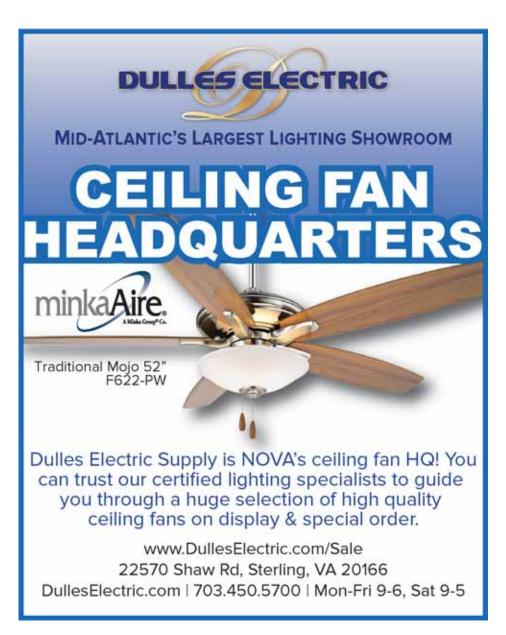
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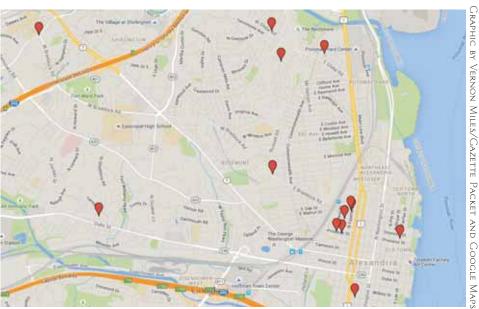
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Map of locations where gunfire has been reported in Alexandria

# Wave of Gunfire Reports

FROM PAGE

that. We have made arrests and taken weapons off the street, but we need people that are willing to come forward and say what happened."

Nosal noted that the Alexandria Police Department was not saying there was a gang war being waged in the Braddock Road Metro Area.

"We're not talking gang activity," said Nosal. "To be termed gang activity, there must be clear gang identifiers, and that is not happening in this case .... It's not an old school family rivalry either, but people hang out in groups, and when they get into arguments they tend to stick up for their associates."

But while the police investigate the series of robberies and not-gang related violence, many of the shots fired calls still end up as false alarms. "After witnesses interviewed," said the report from North Fayette and Wythe streets, "it is most probable that they heard fireworks."

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# Cookie Sales Yield Toys Donation

enson Leavitt, 8 years old, raised \$260 and used the money to buy and donate toys to the Center for Alexandria's Children.

Benson, who attends James K. Polk Elementary School, raised the money by selling homemade chocolate chip cookies in the surrounding community. He decided on doing a service project to help prepare for his baptism.

"Benson originally had the idea to sell lem-

onade," said his mother Brittany Leavitt, "but decided on chocolate chip cookies to reach more foot traffic."

Benson, who was adamant on "helping kids who lived in Alexandria," then went to the Center for Alexandria's Children online wish list and picked out toys for the children. The Center for Alexandria's Children is a resource for prevention, investigation, and treatment of child abuse, providing weekly "Learn & PlayGroups" for children up to age five and their caregivers.

Laura Ruth, Learn & PlayGroup coordi-



Benson Leavitt flashes a smile on Thursday, June 18, after unpacking the toys he was donating.

nator at the center, said, "These toys give our Learn & PlayGroup families concrete ways to engage together in creative play while encouraging learning and socialization. They are invaluable tools to connect children and parents that are integral to our curriculum."

The center serves more than 400 local children a year. Visit www.centerfor alexandriaschildren.org to donate or for more information.

- CONNOR ORTMAN

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# News

# Supporting Alzheimer's Research

From Page 3

facing this degenerative brain disease is pressing since 10,000 people turn 65 every

While the purpose of the 8 hours of games was to raise money for Alzheimer's research, but there was a serious competitive component as well. There was no entry fee to participate, so all funds raise were through donations and raffles. There were participants of all ages at The Longest Day.

Many were Fairfax County Public Schools students who started playing bridge as a part of the service-oriented project Sunrise Bridge, in which young people learn bridge and play with seniors.

Thirteen-year-old Nyla, who was celebrating her birthday at the event, said she's enjoyed learning the game, "I like playing with other people and talking about when they were young," she said of her senior partners. In exchange for passing on their bridge acumen, she teaches them how to use their iPhones.

And, like anything else, when it comes to bridge, there's an apps for that. Michelle Khoury started playing with her twin daughters so they could surprise their grandmother, a bridge enthusiast, with a game. She ended up earning master points at The Longest Day after learning from National Champion Adam Gann who was also

present at the event. Khoury supplements her lessons with online apps, "I'm a little competitive," she said.

Daisy Smith from the American Bridge Association has been playing bridge for about 50 years. She is particularly invested in Alzheimer's research because she lost her brother to the disease. Her hope is to spread the game she loves throughout urban areas, so that everyone has a chance to play. She echoed the sentiment of many participants throughout the day that bridge was a way not only to raise awareness for Alzheimer's but also to stave it off, "it keeps the mind fresh," she said.

Georgette Weiss joined the Washington Bridge Association when she retired because her husband doesn't play games, and the issue of Alzheimer's awareness is close to her heart, "I'm getting older, the baby boomers all are, and I've known so many people with the disease, I'd like to see some-

She goes on to highlight the work of De Anda, who fell in love fast and hard with bridge three years ago, and is now not only an accomplished player but the driving force behind The Longest Day, "Yuen does a phenomenal job, it's amazing what she's put together."

Yuen's months of work paid off. The event raised in excess of \$21,500 toward Alzheimer's research.



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# Entertainment

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

#### **ONGOING**

"Paintings of the Potomac Valley Watercolorists." Through June 28, 9 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Monday-Saturday, 12-4:30 p.m. on Sunday at

Saturday, 12-4:30 p.m. on Sunday at Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road. Find watermedia floral and landscape paintings. Free to visit gallery. www.fairfaxcounty.gov/ parks/greenspring. "Building Bridges." Through June 28

"Building Bridges." Through June 28 during gallery hours at Del Ray Artisans Gallery, 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.
Cat Adoption Promotion. The

Animal Welfare League of
Alexandria, 4101 Eisenhower Ave.
The Animal Welfare League will be
holding a "Class of 2015" Cat
Adoption promotion. Select cats
(typically, cats who have been at the
shelter longer than four months,
senior cats, etc.), will have fees
waived for the month of June. Email
clindsey@alexandriaanimals.org or
call 703-746-4774.

"Art Uniting People" Exhibit.
Through July 9, Monday-Friday, 9
a.m.-5 p.m. on the 2<sup>nd</sup> 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.alexandriava.gov.

"Saturate." Through July 19 during gallery hours at the Athenaeum, 201 Prince St. Six artists use different mediums to convey moisture. Free. Visit www.nvfaa.org.

"Boundaries & Borders." During gallery hours through July at the Target Gallery at the Torpedo Factory, 105 N. Union St. Artists were inspired the "outsider's perspective" for this exhibit. Free.

Visit www.torpedofactory.org.

"Magical, Mystical Animals."

Through July 25, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. daily at The Potomac Fiber Arts
Gallery at the Torpedo Factory, 105
N. Union St. Studio 18. Artists will display art inspired by childhood stories and mythical creatures.
Admission is free. Visit www.potomacfiberartsgallery.com.

Mt. Vernon Recreation Center Art

mtvernonmkt.htm for more.

FOOD & DRINK

Class Exhibit. Through July 28, Monday-Friday 6 a.m.-10 p.m.; Saturday 7 a.m.-10 p.m.; Sunday 7 a.m.-6 p.m. at Saint Elmo's Coffee Pub, 2300 Mt. Vernon Ave. View drawings and paintings done by the senior art class. Free. Visit www.stelmoscoffeepub.com.

www.stelmoscoffeepub.com. **Cool Yoga.** Wednesdays through Sept. 4, 6:30–7:30 p.m. at 1900 Mt.

Vernon Ave. Participate in group yoga sessions taught by Prasada Yoga's Maureen Clyne and enjoy refreshments provided by St. Elmo's Coffee Pub and other local eateries. Suitable for all levels. Bring mat, towel and water. Free. Call 703-671-2000

**Baseball Boat to Nationals Park.** 

Through Sept. 26 at various time. Leaves from the Alexandria Marina, 1 Cameron St. Baseball fans can avoid heavy traffic and cruise along the Potomac to Nationals Park. Tickets are \$20 one-way and \$25 round-trip. Visit www.potomacriverboatco.com/baseball-boat.php.

baseball-boat.php. **Doggy Happy Hour.** Tuesdays through Oct. at 5-8 p.m. at Jackson 20, 480 King St. Enjoy discounted drinks and treats with one's dog. Free. Visit www.jackson20.com/buzzevents events.php.

Water Taxi to the National Mall.

Through Nov. 1, at various times at Alexandria Marina, 1 Cameron St.

Cruise from Old Town to D.C. on the Miss Sophia, while stopping view some of the area's most popular attractions. Tickets are \$28 roundtrip and \$14 one-way for adults. For children under 12, tickets are \$16 roundtrip and \$8 one-way. Visit www.potomacriverboatco.com.

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 will the National Kidney Foundation for a program highlighting a different artist each month for a year.

Civil War Sundays. 1-5 p.m. at

Civil War Sundays. 1-5 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.alexandriaarchaeology.org.

# CAMPS, CLASSES & WORKSHOPS

**Tiny Dancers 2015 Summer** 

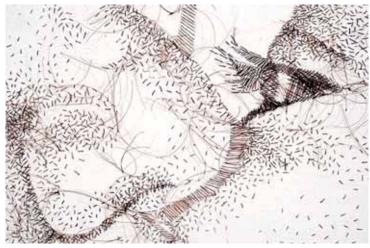
**Camps.** Each session includes daily instruction in ballet, a snack, fine motor exercise through a themerelated craft and a story with dressup dance interpretation. The session culminates with a recital and reception. Tiny Dancers is designed for ages 2-12, featuring a performance based ballet, tap, jazz



(Above) "The American Dream - Starring Jackie Chan and John Cusack" by Bin Feng and "Peck, No Prick" by Rosemary Meza-DesPlas. "Peck" is made of human hair sewn to a canvas.

# 'Boundaries and Borders' Open at TAG

"Boundaries and Borders" is an exhibit of 20 works in a variety of media — including human hair. Each piece is meant to be a commentary on religion, politics, and other societal factors across the world. The artists come from as close as Arlington and as far away as Belgium. "Boundaries and Borders" will be on display through July 19 at The Target Gallery, 1-5 N Union St. Admission is free. Visit www.torpedo factory.org for gallery hours and more.



and musical theater curriculum. The studio is located at 621 S. Washington St., Alexandria. Call 703-739-0900 or visit

www.tinydancers.com for more. **Art League Summer Camps.** 

Registration for Summer Camps.
Registration for Summer Art Camp 2015 is now open.Art Camps run
Monday to Friday, June 22-Aug. 21.
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 (a new medium
each day). \$155-\$345. Visit
www.theartleague.org/content/
art camp for more.

2015 Youth Summer Art Camp.
July 20-25 or July 27-31 at Del Ray
Artisans Gallery, 2704 Mount Vernon
Ave. Youth ages 8-14 spend one
week creating art and learning
creative techniques, followed by a
one-day gallery show. All art
supplies lunch and spacks are

supplies, lunch, and snacks are provided. \$300 per child. Scholarships are available. See www.TheDelRayArtisans.org/ ArtCamp.

Grown-Ups Art Camp. June 29-July 17 at Del Ray Artisans, 2704 Mount Vernon Ave. Adult art instruction 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 tango. Visit www.thedelrayartisans.org.

Parks and Cultural Activities' Summer Fun Guide, is now available. Summer camps and activities are available for youth ages 2-17 and include sports, dance, creative arts, computer, chess, enrichment, nature, adventure, Out of School Time (residents only) and classic camps. The guide has an index listing camps by week offered and age group. Register online or in-person at the Lee Center, 1108 Jefferson St. The Summer Fun Guide is available for download at www.alexandriava.gov/Recreation. Free printed brochures will be available at City Hall,

Summer of Smiles. The Recreation,

libraries. Call the Registration and Reservation Office at 703-746-5414. **Photography Workshop.** 10:30 a.m.-12 p.m. at Multiple Exposures Gallery on 105 N. Union St. Photographers and enthusiasts of all skill levels are invited to share work, ideas, and questions at this free workshop held on the last Sunday of each month, except December. No reservations. Call 703-683-2205.

recreation centers, and public

Community Dance. 7:30-9:30 p.m. every third Friday at Hollin Hall Senior Center, 1500 Shenandoah Road. Live music. Tickets are \$4. Call

703-765-4573. **Life Drawing.** Del Ray Artisans offers a range of open life drawing sessions for anyone to develop life-drawing skills further. Drop-in for the session and bring supplies to draw or paint our live models. Fee ranges from \$8-

\$12. All skill levels are welcome. Del Ray Artisans is located at 2704 Mount Vernon Ave. Visit www.TheDelRayArtisans.org for a schedule.

Community Yoga. Wednesdays 9:30-10:30 a.m. and Sundays 7:30-8:45 p.m. at 532YOGA, 532 N. Washington St. Suite 100. No experience required to participate in weekly community class. Suggested \$10 donation. Visit www.532yoga.com.

Tween Yoga. Thursdays, May 28-July 16. 4-5 p.m. at at 532YOGA, 532 N. Washington St. Suite 100. 532Yoga uses yoga to help tweens develop greater self-confidence. The workshop fee is \$125 or \$20 for drop-in classes. Visit www.532Yoga.com.

Drawing and Painting Lab for

**Teens.** Wednesdays, June 24-July 15, 1:30-3:30 p.m. at Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road. Teens ages 13-17 may explore techniques including concepts of shape, line, texture and color blending. The fee is \$77 for four 2-hour lessons. Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov.

#### THURSDAY/JUNE 25

Mason Jennings with Karen Jonas.

7:30 p.m. at The Birchmere Music Hall, 3701 Mount Vernon Ave. Acoustic singer/songwriters perform live. Tickets start at \$25. Visit www.birchmere.com.

Mount Vernon Farmers Market. 8 a.m.-noon, Wednesdays, through Dec.

Old Town Farmers Market. 7 a.m.-noon, Saturdays year round. Local

**Del Ray Farmers Market.** 8 a.m.-noon, Saturdays year round. Features

Lane. Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/farmersmarkets/

Market Square, 301 King St. Call 703-746-3200 or email

oldtownfarmersmarket@alexandriava.gov.

East Oxford and Mount Vernon avenues. Contact

17. Fresh local food, artisan crafts. Sherwood Library, 2501 Sherwood Hall

farmers and artists have been selling products there since 1753. Located at

fresh vegetables and fruits in season, meats, eggs, fresh pasta and sauces,

Amish cheese, yogurt, bakery goods and more. Located at the corner of

pmiller1806@comcast.net or visit www.delravfarmersmarket.com for

Four Mile Run Farmers & Artisans Market. 9 a.m.-1 p.m, Sundays

Mount Vernon Ave. Visit www.4mrmarket.org/index.html for more.

and seasonal peaches. Vendors also sell fresh-squeezed orange juice,

West End Farmers Market. 8:30 a.m.-1 p.m. Sundays through November.

Fresh, locally grown, in-season vegetables as well as berries, apples, pears,

pastries, cheeses and more. Located at Ben Brenman Park, 4800 Brenman

Park Drive. Visit www.westendfarmersmarket.org/#FarmersMarket for

# Entertainment

#### FRIDAY/JUNE 26

The Derecho California Common

**Celebration.** 3-10 p.m. at the Port City Brewing Company, 3950 Wheeler Ave. Celebrate the third anniversary of the creation of a limited edition summer seasonal: the Derecho California Common. Lived music and food and souvenirs for sale. Admission is free. Email info@portcitybrewing,com, or call Tammy Portney at 713-560-0969.

#### FRIDAY-SATURDAY/JUNE 26-27

SkateFest & "Sk8 For A Cause." 3 p.m. at Wakefield Park, Annandale. Children and adults are invited to the 8th annual Skatefest. The two-day event of competitions and games will raise money for Children's National Medical Center. Registration costs: \$25 (pre-registration), \$30 (day-of registration), +\$10 (VIP tickets).

Visit www.skatefestfairfax.com.

#### **SATURDAY/JUNE 27**

Civil War Kids Drill Day. 9 a.m.-12 p.m. at Fort Ward, 4301 West Braddock Road. Children ages 9-12 can learn more about the daily life of the Civil War soldier. The cost per child is \$25, which includes a Civil War kepi hat and snack. Registration is suggested, space is limited. Call Fort Ward Museum to register at 703-746-4848. The program will be cancelled if it rains.

"Building Altars" Workshop. 9:30 a.m.-5 p.m. Del Ray Artisans gallery at Nicholas A. Colasanto Center, 2704 Mount Vernon Ave., Alexandria. Create altars from small tins and recycled items. Instructor: Lori K. Gordon. \$80 for members and \$95 for non-members not including a \$20 supply fee. See

www.TheDelRayArtisans.org/Altars.
Food & Wine Festival. 12-6 p.m. at
Oronoco Bay Park, 100 Madison St.
Taste food from local restaurants and
sample Virginia wines while listening
to live music. Free admission. Visit
www.alexandriafoodandwine.com.

Pieces of a Dream. 7:30 p.m. at The Birchmere Music Hall, 3701 Mount Vernon Ave. American R&B and jazz group perform live. Tickets start at \$35. Visit www.birchmere.com.

#### THURSDAY-MONDAY/JUNE 25-29,

Choral Festival International Summer Celebration. Various times and dates at 319 Cameron St. This event features professional and community choirs. See www.classicalmovements.com.

#### **SATURDAY/JUNE 27**

Ikebana Flower Design Workshop.

9:30-11:30 a.m. at Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road. Learn the fundamentals of the Japanese art of flower arrangement. The workshop is \$35 plus a \$25 supply fee. Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/ greenspring.

greenspring.

Program on Water Wise

Gardening. 10:30 a.m.-12 p.m. at Fairlington Community Center, 3308 S. Stafford St., Arlington 22206. Master Gardeners of Northern Virginia (Arlington/Alexandria) will present a program on water wise gardening. The program is free and open to the public, but advance registration is requested at www.mgnv.org. Call 703-228-6414.

Family Fun: Make a Patriot Garden. 1-2 p.m. at Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road. Children may decorate a red, white and blue container garden in time for the Fourth of July. The program cost is \$12. Visit www fairfaxcounty gov

is \$12. Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov. **Fruit Salad Tasting.** 1-4 p.m. at Olio,
1223 King St. Health and wellness
coach Donna Zurick will lead
demonstrations on fruit salad
varieties for summer. Free. Visit
www.oliotastingroom.com for more.

Entrepreneur Fellowship for
Women Graduation. 2-4 p.m. at
the Silver Spring Civic Center, 1
Veterans Pl, Silver Spring. Celebrate
the accomplishments of this year's
graduates of the Entrepreneur
Fellowship for Women program with
Alexandria-based Empowered
Women International. Take part by
listening to women's stories and
learning about their businesses and
projects. Also help welcome Florence
Navarro, EPI's new Executive
Director and Chief Empowerment
Officer. Free. Visit
www.myemail.constantcontact.com/

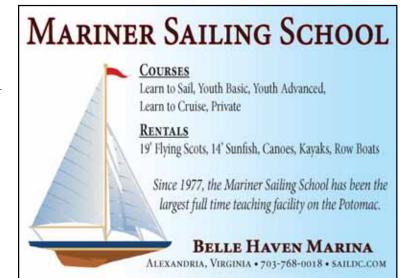
You-re-Invited-to-EWI-s-Entrepreneur-Fellowship-for-Women-Graduation-

.html?soid=1101407869059&aid=tDP5KG3SVb4 for information and to register.

"Toy Stories." 7 p.m. at The Schlesinger Center, 4915 East Campus Drive. The Metropolitan School of the Arts of Alexandria performs an original musical, "Toy Stories." Tickets start at \$20. Visit www.nvcc.edu/schlesingercenter.

#### SUNDAY/JUNE 28

Cook For Your Pet. 10 a.m.-12 p.m. at Pet Sage, 2391 S. Dove St. and Southern Kitchens, 2350 Duke St. Take a three-part course on cooking for your cat or dog. Each session is











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# ENTERTAINMENT



# The Bumper Jacksons Celebrate Album Release

The Bumper Jacksons will celebrate the release of "Too Big World" on July 25 at The Birchmere Music Hall, 3701 Mount Vernon Ave. The new album is the second for the D.C.-based bluegrass/folk band. Tickets are \$20. Visit www.birchmere.com for more

\$25, or \$60 for all three. Visit www.petsage.com.

Sarong Brunch. 11 a.m. at Ten Thousand Villages, 915 King St. Learn different ways to "rock" a sarong and partake in a light brunch and mimosas. Tickets are \$24 and include a rayon sarong from Bali. Customers can also upgrade to a sarong from Bangladesh or Ghana. Visit www.rock-your-sarongbrunch.simpletix.com/ Event/23185/ Rock-Your-Sarong-Brunch.

**Downton Abbey Tea Program.** 1-3 p.m. at Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road. Discover whether Downton Abbey's depiction of life in the 18th century provides true historical insight or historical fiction. The program will be followed by a traditional English afternoon tea. Admission is \$32. Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/

greenspring. **Grand Re-Opening Celebration.** 2-4 p.m. at Old Town Ace Hardware, 809 S. Washington St. Reception with snacks and sweet treats, demonstrations and a meet and greet with the new store owners, managers, and staff at Old Town Ace. The first 100 guests at the reception will receive a free gift. Free. RSVP to

Courtney Belew at Party@acehardwaredc.com or 703-566-7040. Visit www.acehardwaredc.com for more.

Henna Tattoos for El Fenn Maroc. 2-5 p.m. at Del Ray Artisans, 2704 Mount Vernon Ave. For a \$10 donation to nonprofit El Fenn Maroc, artist Lori Gordon will tattoo a small, simple henna design on a hand or foot. El Fenn Maroc supports the traditional arts of Morocco. Visit www.thedelrayartisans.org for more

Jazz at Meade. 4-6 p.m. at Meade Memorial Episcopal Church, 322 N Alfred St. Listen to jazz singer Anita King and her quartet. Entry with a \$15 donation. Visit www.meadechurch.org or call 703-549-1334 or email jazzatmeade@meadechurch.org for

"Toy Stories." 5 p.m. at The Schlesinger Center, 4915 East Campus Drive. The Metropolitan School of the Arts of Alexandria performs an original musical, "Toy Stories." Tickets start at \$20. Visit www.nvcc.edu/schlesingercenter. **Brandy Clark Performance.** 7:30

p.m. at The Birchmere, 3701 Mount Vernon Ave. Tickets are \$29.50. Visit www.birchmere.com

#### MONDAY/JUNE 29

**The Rippingtons.** 7:30 p.m. at The Birchmere Music Hall, 3701 Mount Vernon Ave. Contemporary jazz group performs live. Tickets start at \$39.50. Visit www.birchmere.com/ calendar/ for tickets and more.

#### **TUESDAY/JUNE 30**

Gardening in Alexandria. 7:30-9:30a.m. at Mount Vernon Recreation Center, 2701

Commonwealth Ave. The Alexandria Beautification Commission and Virginia Cooperative Extension invite the public to learn how to plan and install an urban garden. Learn local gardening best practices and more. Visit www.mgnv.org or call 703-228-

Concert in the Garden. 7-8 p.m. at Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road. "Banjo Man" Frank Cassel will perform bluegrass and folk music. Free. Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/ greenspring.

Los Lonely Boys. 7:30 p.m. at The Birchmere Music Hall, 3701 Mount Vernon Ave. Texas-based rock and



# Entertainment



# Del Ray Artisans Summer Camp

Youth ages 8-14 are invited to spend one week creating art and learning creative techniques, followed by a one-day gallery show. All art supplies, lunch and snacks are provided. Two one-week sessions: July 20-25 or July 27-31. \$300 per child. Scholarships may be available. Camps will be held at Del Ray Artisans Gallery (handicap accessible), 2704 Mount Vernon Ave. Visit www.TheDelRayArtisans.org/

roll band perform live. Tickets start at \$29.50. Visit www.birchmere.com. performs. Tickets start at \$35. Visit www.birchmere.com.

#### FRIDAY/JULY 3

Friday Evening Garden Tour. 7-8 p.m. at Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road. Master Gardener docents will highlight the summer sights, fragrances and sounds at the end of the day, when changing light accentuates different plants and landscape features. Refreshments also available. Admission is \$12 person for each tour. Register on-line at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/ greenspring using code 290 302 6901.

Bilal. 7:30 p.m. at The Birchmere Music Hall, 3701 Mount Vernon Ave. R&B artist and wide-range vocalist Bilal

#### SATURDAY/JULY 4

An American Celebration at

**Mount Vernon.** 8 a.m.-5 p.m. at George Washington's Mount Vernon, 3200 Mount Vernon Memorial Highway. Mount Vernon will pay tribute to the first president of the United States with a display of fireworks. The event also includes military reenactments, a wreathlaying ceremony, and free birthday cake for all in attendance. The public is welcome. Visit www.mountvernon.org.

Pohick Church Tours. 1-3 p.m. at Pohick Church, 9301 Richmond Highway. During the colonial period,

Pohick Church was the congregation of many of the area's most prominent families, including the Washingtons, Masons and Fairfaxes. Free. Visit www.pohick.org.

#### SUNDAY/JULY 5

Author Talk: Mikey "J." 2-3 p.m. at the Beatley Central Library, 5005 Duke St. Mikey "J," discusses his work and shares readings from his book, "Color of Word." Free. Visit www.alexandria.lib.va.us. for more.

#### MONDAY/JULY 6-AUG. 24

Yoga for Gardeners. 9:45-10:45 a.m. at Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road. This class is a gentle introduction to the Vinyasa method

which helps participants increase the strength, flexibility and endurance necessary for gardening. The class is held indoors. The class is \$86 per person. Register on-line at www.fairfaxcounty.gov.

#### TUESDAY/JULY 7

Tuesday Morning Stroll. 11 a.m.-12 p.m. at the Simpson Park Gardens, 420 E. Monroe St. Residents are invited to visit the garden, receive free seed packets and have their gardening questions answered by experts. Free. Contact carol\_kilroy@comcast.net for more.

Michael Fisherkeller Talk. 7-8 p.m. at Morrison House Hotel, 116 S Alfred St. Michael Fischerkeller, a Torpedo Factory visiting artist, will be talking about his artwork which incorporates images from pre-Raphaelite artwork into his street-art inspired paintings to represent contemporary issues. Admission is free. Call Tatyana Schremko at 703-548-1750 or email her at tatyana.ss@verizon.net.

#### TUESDAY-FRIDAY/JULY 7-10 Dance Class: Jane Franklin Dance.

10-11:30 a.m. at The Athenaeum 201 Prince St. Body integration for the individual is the class's primary goal while encouraging flexibility, strength, and coordination. Enroll at www.JaneFranklin.com or call 703-

#### WEDNESDAY/JULY 8

933-1111.

Swing Dance with DJ Dabe

**Murphy.** 9-11 p.m. at Nick's Nightclub, 642 S Pickett St. DJ swing dance featuring the music of the 1930s, 1940s, '950s, and some

contemporary favorites. Tickets are \$6. Visit www.gottaswing.com.

#### THURSDAY/JULY 9

Robert Earl Keen. 7:30 p.m. at The Birchmere Music Hall, 3701 Mount Vernon Ave. Country music artist performs "The Bluegrass Sessions" with guest The Hello Strangers. Tickets start at \$49.50. Visit www.birchmere.com.

#### FRIDAY/JULY 10

Jason D. Williams and Dale Watson & The Lodestars. 7:30 p.m. at The Birchmere Music Hall, 3701 Mount Vernon Ave. Combining both country and rock, Jason D. Williams performs along with Dale Watson. Tickets start at \$25. Visit www.birchmere.com/calendar/ for tickets.

Tom Principato Band. 8 p.m. at The Carlyle Club, 2050 Ballenger Ave. Tom Principato performs his trademark guitar riffs live. Tickets start at \$25. There is a \$25 minimum food and beverage purchase required per guest, except for general admission tickets. Visit www.thecarlyleclub.com

Four Mile Summer Movie Festival. Movies start at dusk and are shown at the Four Mile Conservatory Building, 4109 Mt. Vernon Ave. National Community Church's inaugural summer movie festival is co-sponsored by the City of Alexandria. Film schedule is as follows: Friday, July 10, "The Lego Movie;" Friday, Aug. 7, "Mcfarland USA;" Friday, Sept. 11, "Cool Runnings." Bring a blanket or chair. Free. Visit www.theaterchurch.com

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Scholarship- Anna Guo Aly Khan Johnson/Cross Country, Track & Field Scholarship- Khallah James, Benjamin Thomas Amy McCracken TCW '87 Memorial Scholarship- Jerry Wessen Barbara McBane Harper TCW '86 Memorial Scholarship- Kyra McClary Bell Del Ray Corporate Partner Scholarship- Michael Aduamah Bill Nichols Memorial Arts Scholarship- Christopher Riddle Blessed Sacrament Catholic Community Scholarship- Yafiet Gojela Bradlee Merchants Association Scholarship- Daren Cheng Brian and Michael Vaughan Memorial Scholarship- Laura Lane Captain Rocky Versace Memorial Scholarship- Myranda Harrison Catherine Witeck Carter Memorial Scholarship- Muhammad Asad Cathy Puskar Scholarship- Andrew Golemon-Mercer, Amir Shareak Charles W. Murray Scholarship- Yong Cho Class of 1965/Irving Lindsey Scholarship- Barbara Peisch Class of 1977 Clash Scholarship-Maryam Ahmad Class of 1983 Scholarship- Razan Adam, Katherine Ochoa Castillo Class of 1989/Patrick Welsh Scholarship-Surafel Adere, Yongna Lel Class of 1989 Clash Scholarship- Cameron Heyder Class of 1989 Scholarship Darrius Carter, Mohamed Elnoubi, Kiauna Ferguson, MeKayla Robinson Class of 2001 Clash Scholarship- Mona Abdelhamid CNA Corporate Partner Scholarship- Karol Oliva Ortiz CommonWealth One FCU Academy of Finance Scholarship- Emma Schutzius CommonWealth One FCU Scholarship- Anna Paez COVANTA Environmental Scholarship- Lisa Martinez Cardenas Del Ray Artisans/Ted Eichers Memorial Art Scholarship- Mohammed Haidari Del Ray Business Foundation Scholarship- Kevin Ortez Del Ray Citizens Association Scholarship- Alexis Gonzalez Departmental Progressive Club, Inc. Scholarship- Erika Donis-Contreras Direct Holdings Americas/Time Life Scholarship Martha Merbeth Dr. John Liebermann Jr. Scholarship- Kidest Hailu Dr. Manu V. and Shashi Patel Physics Scholarship- Megan Laychak Dr. Morton Sherman Scholarship- Trinh Lu, Linda Maldonado Benites Dr. Robert W. Peebles Memorial Scholarship- Mohamed Khaled Dr. Teh-Chang Shih Memorial Scholarship- Geonni Thorne Floyd James Thompson Memorial Scholarship- Alexander Whidden Former School Board Chairs Scholarship- Rui Guo Foundation of the Alexandria Bar Assn./John Grad Scholarship- Adriana Escalante-Lopez Gallifrey Scholarship- Sarah Jean Galo S. Salvador-Vinueza TCW '04 Memorial Scholarship- Zachary Eisenhour Gila S. Harris Scholarship- Melate Markos Gwen C. Mullen Scholarship- Sebastian Hendi Helen Denny Memorial Scholarship- Fahria Hossain The Helping Alexandria Virginia Excel (HAVE) Scholarship- Reel Mustafa Henry Knox Field Masonic Lodge Scholarship- Meredith Caine Hon. Robert L. 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# LETTERS

From Page 10

ing the commission's ruling. However, rather than make a decision on the simple question before them, the council punted, returning the matter to the commission for further consideration until later this year; likely delaying any action until after the fall election. Where was the council's concern for the integrity of a neighborhood when they approved the 75,000-square-foot assisted living facility on the 2800 block of King Street, an area zoned as single-family residential land? With few exceptions the council consistently votes against home owners in favor of outside interests under the guise of "the greater good."

How many councilmembers bothered to visit the neighborhood before the hearing? The Clover-College Park subdivision does not call for a change in zoning, it simply calls for creation of a new residential lot that conforms to existing lots within the neighborhood. It will not radically change the face of the neighborhood, disrupt life for residence or increase traffic density; like the approved Waterfront development. Nor will it add to the city's debt, like the recently approved Potomac Yard Metro Station. So why is the council so reticent to act in this instance? Perhaps, with an eye to the fall election, some members viewed this as an opportunity to demonstrate backbone by not giving in to yet another developer; if you accept that characterization of an ordinary property owner. If this is the case, then sadly politics and not governance are at play

I'm proud of my Clover-College Park neighbors; opinions might differ but all involved followed the process set forth by the city for seeking remedies. The majority of the council decided to postpone a decision. Election politics should not be a factor in matters effecting the lives of real people. If current members of the council fail to understand this, I suspect challengers will succeed in deposing them.

Roy R. Byrd Alexandria

# Not Easy Jobs

To the Editor:

A while ago, a city councilor expressed concern as to whether we could be the next jurisdiction to suffer a black riot over "an overzealous (white) cop." Two weeks ago, while walking three goldens and a yellow lab through Founders Park, I saw three (white) police officers, with two hovering over a (black) man on the ground. Apparently they were waiting for paramedics. I found myself wondering why there was no one video taping.

From personal observation, if you're committing a crime in this city the police are going to come after you regardless of your skin color.

It reminds me of another incident when three police officers (in two cars) arrested a shoplifter at the then Best Buy on



# **Snapshot**

At Episcopal Seminary
Church on Quaker Lane, a
pretty rare occurrence
when — during the
evening's heavy rain and
thunderstorms that came
through from 5-6 p.m. —
one of the old oak trees
was struck by lightning
which blew off the bark
from the tree.

Photo by Martin Orfila

Stevenson, and two of the officers where chit-chatting by one cruiser while the other was about to place the shoplifter in a squad car when she bit him on his hand or arm and he slammed her against his cruiser which caused the other two to react. That said, the one officer, from where I stood, on the other side of the street walking my dogs, remained considerably professional and composed.

I think our police officers, our sheriff's deputies, and firefighters should be fully supported, given appropriate raises and funded so that they can maintain their training to continually keep us safe and respond appropriately when there is a structure fire or other emergency.

Ruben Duran Alexandria

**OBITUARIES** 

# Alice June Atkinson Higgins

Alice June Atkinson Higgins died on Monday, June 22, 2015. She was born June 13, 1929 in Spotsylvania County, the eldest daughter of Anna Mae and Milton Francis Atkinson. She was preceded in death by her husband of 24 years, Lee Sanford Higgins, and by her brothers Robert, George, Roscoe and Daniel.

She is survived by her daughter, Sharon Higgins Brock and son-in-law Steven, of Las Vegas, Nevada, and by her son, Ronald L. Higgins and daughter-in-law Patricia, of Gordonsville. Grandchildren include Heather Brock Harris (Dean) of Las Vegas, Jason Lee Brock (Amy) of Atlanta, Ga., Katherine Higgins Hosey (Lance) of Washington, D.C., and John Sanford Higgins (Lisi), of Baltimore, Md., as well as five great grandchildren and one great great grandchild.

Surviving sisters and brothers are Bernice Thompson (Tom), Lillian Morrison, Ruby Merriman (John), William (Juanita), Raymond (Ann), and Benjamin (Gloria), all of Fredericksburg, and Elizabeth Ridgeway (Ashby) of Alexandria.

A family graveside service will take place on Friday, June 26 in Alexandria. Preddy Funeral Home of Gordonsville is in charge of arrangements.

The family wishes to thank Dr. Thomas Wolanski, Dr. Sutherland, staff at UVA Culpeper Regional Hospital Medical-Surgical Unit, Dr. Chen, Windy Forch, NP, the staff at Dogwood Village and Hospice of the Piedmont, as well as the many supportive and committed friends at JABA. Memorial contributions may be made to: Jefferson Area Board for Aging (JABA), 674 Hillsdale Drive, Charlottesville, VA 22901; Dogwood Village, 120 Dogwood Lane, Orange, VA 22960; or Hospice of the Piedmont, 675 Peter Jefferson Parkway, Suite 300, Charlottesville, VA 22911.

# Olive Jean Osbourn Powell

Olive Jean Osbourn Powell died on June 7, 2015 in Alexandria, after a brief illness. Born on March 4, 1938, Ollie grew up in Chesterland, Ohio, the oldest of six sisters. She attended Hiram College and became an elementary school teacher. Ever the adventurer, Ollie became a teacher for the Department of Defense in Okinawa, where she met and married Donald Mudge Powell. There they started a family before moving to Alexandria where Don continued his Air Force service. Ollie loved to travel the world and never met a stranger. She loved working with children and touched hundreds of children's lives as the director of the Browne Academy Summer Camp and as a preschool teacher many years.

Ollie loved caring for her mother-in-law, parents, children and grandchildren over the years and her pool was a frequent stop over for family, friends and summer campers. When her parents, Bertha and Chuck Osbourn became too infirmed to do so, Ollie became the family scribe and reporter. She also shared her love of the early morning, swimming and the outdoors with her children, grandchildren and family as she frequented the ancestral summer home in the New York Thousand Islands.

Her loving daughters and their families will miss Ollie's joy of life: Deidre Ann and husband Tom Chapman and their seven children from Sacramento, Calif.; Paige Louise and husband Michael Schuppin and their three children of Catlett, V.; and Holly Jean, and husband Patrick Thomas Dunn, owners of the Silver Parrot in Alexandria, and their three children. She is also survived by Ollie's four sisters and their families: Beth and Jack DeBord, Mary and Chuck Ryall, Robin and Brad Ostroff and Margaret

(Peggy) Osbourn and David Cole, along with numerous nieces, nephews and their families, cousins and myriad friends. Ollie was preceded in death by her spouse, Col. Donald Mudge Powell, and his mother, Mary Louise Powell, her parents, Bertha and Charles Osbourn and her sister Sally Osbourn Kratochvil.

A memorial service to celebrate Ollie's life will be held at the Wesley Methodist Church, 8412 Richmond Ave., Alexandria, VA 22309, on Friday, June 26, 2015 at 10 a.m. Internment will occur at Arlington National Cemetery later. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to United Service Organization (USO) http://www.uso.org/donatelanding.aspx or Friends of the Minna Anthony Common Nature Center, 44927 Cross Island Road, Fineview, NY 13640.

### – Bulletin Board —

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

#### 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 moving forward that will require further engineering analysis and evaluation. Visit the City's combined sewer system website alexandriava.gov/Sewers.

#### FRIDAY-SATURDAY/JUNE 19-20

Architecture Symposium. 6-10 p.m. at George Washington Masonic National Memorial, 101 Callahan Drive. Alexandria's Department of Planning & Zoning will host its first public symposium on contemporary architecture. The event will feature guest speakers and explore what Alexandria's urban fabric may look like in 50 years. Free. See www.alexandriava.gov to RSVP.

# Betty Wright: Literacy Champion, Philanthropist Dies at 90

From Page 1

in 1979, she and her husband Frank established the Wright to Read children's literacy program with just three volunteers.

"That was her baby," said former Mayor and state Sen. Patsy Ticer when Wright was named a Living Legend of Alexandria in 2010.

What began as a pilot program is now a nationally recognized mentoring program serving over 150 students with more than 150 volunteer tutors. On June 20, the advocate for underachieving children in Alexandria died at home in Old Town at the age of 90.

Born in Ashville, N.C., Betty Dale Rhoades moved to Washington, D.C. in 1942. She settled in Arlington after her marriage to insurance salesman Frank Lester Wright, Jr. in 1949.

When the young couple attended a performance of "The Beggar's Opera" at the Little Theatre of Alexandria in 1953, Wright fell in love with Old Town and moved to South Lee Street in July of that same year.

In 1979, the Wrights purchased the historic property on South Fairfax Street known as "The Doc-

tor Brown House," once owned by William Brown, surgeon general of the American Revolution and author of the first American Pharmacopeia.

Wright began her professional career at U.S. News & World Report before joining the Historic Times. The company eventually published seven magazines, including British Heritage, Civil War Times Illustrated, Historic Times Illustrated and Early American Life. She retired when the company was sold to Coles Media.

After serving as president of the Landmark Society, which then owned the Stabler-Leadbetter Shop Museum, Wright purchased a large group of original records from the earliest days of the shop and donated the items.

"I found out how important the records are," she said when named a Living Legend. "It's really a record of Alexandria history. George and Martha Washington and Robert E. Lee all got their medicines there."

The collection includes an inventory of documents dating from the 1790s to the 1930s, including an order from Martha Washington and the 1790 journal of Edward Stabler.

Wright was recognized by the Alexandria Commission for Women in 2002 and received a special award in 2004 from the Alexandria Historical Society. In 2005, she received a Daily Points of Light Award.

Other philanthropic efforts include providing funds for a reading garden at the Charles E.

Beatley Jr. Library, donating American furniture and paintings to the Smithsonian's State Department reception room and donating a portrait of Brown and funds for restoration to the Alexandria Art Museum.

Wright was predeceased by her husband in 1993, and her brother, Robert Stanley Rhoades. She is survived by nieces Robin Rhoades Holmes of Silver Spring, Sharon Rhoades Plank of Mt. Joy, Pa., Patricia Sky Rhoades of San Francisco, and grandnieces Dana Holmes and Paige Holmes.

A memorial service will be held Thursday, June 25 at 11:30 a.m. at the Old Presbyterian Meeting House, 323 S. Fairfax St. In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to Wright to Read, 414 N. Washington St., Suite 101, Alexandria, Va. 22314.

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# Council Approves Programming Size for Patrick Henry Rec Center

From Page 1

just the school, one that served the neighborhood, and one built for city-wide use. Parks Department Staff recommended the middle route, one that served the neighbor-

But while three options were presented, Councilman Paul Smedberg noted that the school-level center wasn't really being considered as feasible, leaving the council with two unsatisfactory choices. In a letter to the council, the Parks and Recreation Commission stated that it could not endorse the current plan for the Patrick Henry Recreation Center without a higher level plan for how to address the recreational needs of the West End.

"This disagreement in the community, along with budget constraints, is the reason why RPCA has, like Goldilocks, settled on the middle 'neighborhood' option," said the Parks Commission. "The prospect that significant recreational needs will go unmet on the West End is why the commission could not vote to endorse it. Without an assurance that expanded programming will be offered somewhere in this half of the City, we cannot say for certain that a community-centered facility should be taken off the table.... The Patrick Henry recommendation illustrates why a high-level plan should be a priority. In its current form, the Patrick Henry Recreation Center... does not provide programming to residents during the day, or on the weekend."

However, other nearby residents expressed disapproval that the school serving center was not more seriously considered. As an alternative to the neighborhood or city-wide redevelopment, local resident Mary Biegel highlighted the possibility of expanding the Chinquapin or Ramsey Recreation Centers.

The turmoil began with questions over the confines of the project. The City Council expressed universal disappointment with the lack of clarity

"Is this the right spot?" asked Councilman Paul Smedberg. "I know we have the land, but is it truly the right investment?"

"I would rather not put all of our eggs in one basket here," said Mayor William Euille. "I would rather have multiple new facilities and site them where we can that's more feasible... but we don't have the luxury of having another site available."

However, in their letter to the City Council, the Parks Commission highlighted the possibility of looking into other areas in the West End for develop-

"The amount of available land on the West End is both a blessing and a curse," said the Parks Commission. "It is a blessing because the City has many large sites where it could provide needed programming in the future, including Patrick Henry, Cameron Run Regional Park, the Eisenhower West area, and Hensley Park (which has already



The current Patrick Henry Recreation Center.



**Outside Patrick Henry Recreation Center.** 

been planned), to name a few. But having these sites available also makes it easy to kick the can down the road on recreation. As long there is some unplanned piece of land out there, there will always be another hypothetical location for the recreational programming everyone agrees that we need, but that many do not want to "host" in their own neighborhood."

Biegel, in a letter to the City Council, also raised concerns regarding many process issues related to the development.

"The Parks and Recreation community meetings (June 4 & 6), the Rec Center Feasibility study (dated June 8 but posted online on June 12), the community survey (closed June 15), the recommendation (June 16), and the Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting (June 18) were all done in the last 3 weeks.," wrote Biegel. "The community has had very limited time to review, provide feedback and receive answers about the information provided."

The criticism struck a nerve with Council Member Del Pepper, who took issue with the way the process was being sped a public forum hosted by the Parks Department, but the issue had never been brought before City Council for a public hearing.

Jim Spengler, Director of Recreation, Parks, and Cultural Activities, said that the timeline for public input was compressed because the Department had to wait on the schools to make certain determinations for the Patrick Henry Recreation Center.

"Our direction throughout this process has been to stay on the school schedule so that the school itself would not be held up in any way," said Spengler.

However, in earlier School Board meetings, School Board members expressed frustrations that much of the design elements for the Patrick Henry School had to be stalled until the Parks Department released information on the programming size for the Patrick Henry Recreation Center.

When Euille asked to see the specifications for the building, none were available, and it raised other concerns.

"We don't have a layout at this point to show you the mass of the rec center and the school or how people will access the

site and where the drop off point will be," said Emily Baker, Deputy City Manager, referring to recent controversy over a potential entrance to the school and recreation center from a nearby two-lane residential street.. "We're asking Council to focus on program level of what we want to see in the site and to allow us to work with the school staff over the summer. We are very sensitive to [these] concerns. We need to work with the designer to

come up with what that looks like on the site, but we need to know that we're looking at the right program level.'

However, some in the City Council expressed a belief that it was impossible to separate the size of the programming from problems with the eventual design of the

"I don't see programming as a separate issue," said Pepper, "it impacts how big the building is eventually going to be."

"I don't want to be telling the community

what we want inside the building," said Euille. "We want the community to tell us what they want. Why can't we slow this down and wait until September to have more community input?"

Pepper proposed that the decision on programming be deferred until the fall, when the Council can host more public hearings and receive community input on the size of the facility's programming. However, Mark Eisenhower, Principal of Construction for Alexandria Public Schools, said this suggestion came with it's own share of problems. Namely, Eisenhower said that delaying the decision on the size for the Patrick Henry Recreation Center would have detrimental repercussions for the Patrick Henry School construction project.

"[The Schools] do have a pretty strict timeline," said Eisenhower. "To open in Fall of 2018, we would need to break ground by May of 2017. This would make the timelines tighter. It wouldn't be impossible to finish but it would be difficult."

While each member expressed disapproval with how the process was handled, some felt that the neighborhood selection was the inevitable choice, and agreed with Eisenhower's assessment that the schools were on a fairly strict timeline.

"I do like the neighborhood option," said Councilman John Chapman. "It allows additional programming where we need it. The bigger option doesn't take into affect current budgets... and I don't think anyone is happy with the school serving. I think the neighborhood option is the way to go, and we do need to move forward with a decision... We have a time table. There is a growing number of students in our schools that we are not prepared for."

Ultimately, the City Council declined to delay until the fall. The Council unanimously accepted the neighborhood programming selection to inform future design, with an added note that the staff bring forward a specific community engagement plan to commence over the summer and continue into the fall, though not without harsh words towards the Parks Department

"If I were you, Mr. City Manager, I would get a whole new team to direct this project," said Smedberg. "This has really been poor."

"I don't want to be telling the community what we want inside the building. We want the community to tell us what they want. Why can't we slow this down and wait until September to have more community input?"

- William Euille, Mayor of Alexandria

through.

"A whole bunch of this happened in the last three weeks and it didn't always give the neighbors, who were very much concerned, and opportunity to respond in a meaningful way," said Pepper. "I have to say, this was a really bad process. The decision we make tonight lays out a great deal, it's quite a commitment, and the neighbors haven't had their say."

Pepper acknowledged that the residents had an opportunity to speak on the issue at

# Sports

# Aces Battling in South Division

The Alexandria Aces were one of four teams in the South division within 1.5 games of one another entering Wednesday's action in the Cal Ripken Collegiate Baseball League.

The Aces were tied for third in the division with a 6-8 record, 1/2 a game behind the Vienna River Dogs, and 6 1/2 behind the first-place Bethesda Big Train (14-3).

Sports Briefs The Herndon Braves (5-7) and D.C. Grays (7-11) are also in the South division.

The top two teams in each division qualify for the league playoffs, along with the two remaining

teams with the best records.

Alexandria defeated Herndon 7-2 on June 22, thanks to a five-run third inning. Griffin Harms finished 3-for-4 with a double and an RBI. Malcolm Nachmanoff went 2-for-4 with a home run and two RBIs.

Gabriel Mosser earned the win on the mound, allowing one earned run on six hits in six innings. He walked two and struck out five. Mosser was tied for the league lead with three wins. He had an ERA of 1.13.

The Aces will host the Grays at 7 p.m. on Friday, June 26.

# Summer Field Hockey Training Available

The Academy International Coaches will be running field hockey camps this summer in the following locations at Herndon High School, Annandale High School, Yorktown High School and Long Bridge Park in Arlington. Beginners to advanced players welcome. For dates and times go to www.academyinternational.net or call 1-888-529-3827.

# Register for Senior Olympics

The 2015 NVSO competition will take place Sept. 12-25 at 23 venues throughout Northern Virginia. Events include track and field, rowing, swimming, diving, tennis, table tennis, pickleball, racquetball, hand-

ball, bocce, golf, miniature golf, ten pin bowling, Wii bowling, eight ball pool, nine ball pool, horseshoes, men's basketball, men's and women's basketball free throw and field goals, Frisbee throw, football throw, bunco, badminton, volleyball, cycling, scrabble, cribbage, duplicate bridge, softball hit and throw, Mexican Train dominoes. Mah Jongg, 5K road race, cornhole toss and yo-yo tricks. Registration forms are available at senior centers, community centers and senior residences or by calling 703-228-4721. Participants can register online at www.nvso.us after July 1. Registration fee is \$12 which covers multiple events There is no onsite reg-

# Marymount to Host Boys' Lacrosse Camps

Marymount University is hosting a series of lacrosse camps for boys ages 6 to 15 this summer.

There will be a day camp from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. from Monday, July 13 to Friday, July 17. Cost is \$310.

There will also be a day camp from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. from Monday, July 20 to Friday, July 24. Cost is \$310. Lunch is included for the day camps.

Campers will have access to all of Marymount University's Division III varsity athletic facilities.

Rental equipment is available for \$35 a week but does not include sticks. Space is limited and available on a first-come, first-served basis.

For more information, contact jreynolds@marymount.edu.

# Marymount Offers Summer Baseball Camps

Marymount University is offering two all-day baseball camps for high school players from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Aug. 18-19 at Bishop O'Connell High School.

Run by the Marymount Saints staff and other area college coaches, the camps provide the opportunity to showcase a player's talent and offer instruction and feedback.



Photo by Harvey Levine/Gazette Packet

Ryan McMillen and the Alexandria Aces entered Wednesday's action with a 6-8 record.

Marymount's Frank Leoni has more than 20 years of experience as a head coach, including stints at William & Mary and Rhode Island. A total of 25 players Leoni has recruited or coached have been either drafted or signed free agent contracts to play professionally.

The camps will be held at the Saints' new, state-of-the-art baseball facility in partnership with Bishop O'Connell. Cost is \$100 per day or \$150 for both days.

To register, go to http://collegebaseballcamps.com/saints/info/19200. For more information, contact the Marymount coaching staff at baseball@marymount.edu or 703-284-5966. Campers must bring their own equipment, including a glove, bat, cleats, turf or tennis shoes, hat and helmet.

# Marymount Offering Girls' Lacrosse Camp

Marymount University is offering a lacrosse skills camp for girls in ninth through 12th grade from 5:30 to 8 p.m., July 27-30 at the back field on the school's main campus.

Designed for high school players prepar-

ing for the fall season, the camp will offer specialty position instruction, strength and speed workouts specific for lacrosse, along with individual sessions and full field scrimmages.

Each player will be given a pinny to use for scrimmages, which they can keep. The camp will be staffed by the Marymount women's lacrosse staff and certified strength and conditioning coaches. Cost is \$150.

# Registration Open For Fall Field Hockey League

Registration is now open for Potomac Field Hockey's fall youth league for ages 4-14 (U6, U8, U10, U12, and U14). No experience necessary. Onceweekly team practices with games on Saturdays. Season runs March 23 through June 13. For more information or to register, visit www.potomacfieldhockey.org or email info@potomacfieldhockey.org.

# Potomac Field Hockey Offering Camps

Potomac Field Hockey is running one-week camps on July 20-24 and August 17-21 at the Dulles Sportsplex for boys and girls, rising first through ninth grade. Learn both indoor and outdoor hockey. For more information or to register, visit www.potomacfieldhockey.org or email info@potomacfieldhockey.org.

# Registration Open for Adult Field Hockey League

Registration is now open for Potomac Field Hockey's summer game-only league for adults aged 18 and older. All games are on Sundays at Loudoun Soccer Park on sport turf. Season runs June 14 through Aug. 9. For more information or to register, visit www.potomacfieldhockey.org or email adult@potomacfieldhockey.org.

### SCHOOL NOTES

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

**George B. Alberts** was presented with the Kathryn Fraser Mackay Endowed Prize in Religious Studies at St. Lawrence University's (Canton, N.Y.) Moving-Up Day ceremony. Moving-Up Day celebrates student achievements in academics and co-curricular activities.

**Malik S. Jabati** has been named a 2015 U.S. Presidential Scholar.

**Lester Schonberger** has been named the outstanding senior in the Department of Food Science and Technology in the Virginia Tech College of Agriculture and Life Sciences.

**Hope Wentzel** received Virginia Tech's 2015 College of Agriculture and Life Sciences (www.cals.vt.edu/) Outstanding Senior Award.

**Bryan Corvera-Flores** is one of the 23 Stevenson University (Owings Mills, Md.) student-athletes to be named to the Middle Atlantic Conference winter academic honor roll.

**Brooke Barwick** has been named to the Champlain College (Burlington, VT) dean's list for the spring 2015 semester.

**BreAnne Galloway** has graduated with a Master of Science degree in health, physical education, and recreation from Emporia State University (Emporia, KS).

**The Polk School** modular classroom and gymnasium renovation has been recognized for its eco-friendly school features with a LEED Gold award from the U.S. Green Building Council.

William Cassidy, Senior Editor, Trucking and Domestic Transportation for The Journal of Commerce, has been named a SUNY Oneonta Alumni of Distinction honoree. Cassidy is a 1984 graduate of SUNY Oneonta.

**Christopher Gerlach** has been awarded a two-year scholarship and a 10-week summer internship position at a National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration facility.

Students from **St. Stephen's & St.** 

**Agnes School** competed in the 2015 Governor's Challenge in Economics and Personal Finance in the Adam Smith Division (advanced economics). They were named the runner-up. The sponsoring teacher was Emily Geiger.

**Alexander King** has been named a 2015 Zoetis Veterinary Student Scholars Award recipients. He will receive a \$2,000 scholarship from the animal health company Zoetis and the Association of American Veterinary Medical Colleges.

**Kathleen Fitzpatrick**, an art teacher at the Northern Virginia Juvenile Detention Center School, has won a Fulbright scholarship to conduct research in India next year. Fitzpatrick

will study new ways to link yoga into her art program at the Juvenile Detention Center.

**Gregory Casey** has graduated from Hampden-Sydney College (Farmville, Va.) with a degree in English.

**Mariya Ilyas** has been offered a Fulbright U.S. Student Program grant to teach in Turkey.

**Nathan Oppman** has graduated from Bob Jones University (Greenville, S.C.).

**Moudran Kamara** has received dean's list recognition for the fall 2014 semester at University of Massachusetts Boston.



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# **SPORTS**



The team members of the Chinquapin Wahoos.

# Chinquapin Wahoos Win Season Opener

The Chinquapin Wahoos, of the Colonial Swim League (CSL), kicked off the 2015 summer swim season with a win on June 20 against the Sugarland Run Dolphins in a home opener at Old Town Pool in Alexandria. The team's Boys 11-12 relay also broke the league record, swimming nearly three seconds faster than the previous mark set at CSL Relay Carnival in 2012.

Emil LaSida, Ronan Lauinger, Will McLaury, and Angel Callisaya, earned the record with a time of 2:05.08 — the only record broken in the first week of CSL swimming. Freestyler Angel Callisaya swam the last portion of the relay with a goggle malfunction and still managed to earn a personal best. Chinquapin also holds the league record for Boys 9-10, 100 yard medley at 1:05.05 set at a meet with Sugarland Run in 2013.

Will McLaury, the butterfly leg of the team, credits the friendships and coaches for the win and the record. "We have been swimming together for a long time and are really good friends." says McLaury. "We bring out the best in each other in the water because of the pressure we put on ourselves to work harder and swim faster when we are together on the relay. No one wants to let anyone down."

Head Coach Dennis Burstein believes records are made to be broken. "We have some hard working young athletes that enjoy swimming together and supporting each other. If they keep swimming, there is no doubt they break more records. The key is the enjoyment they get from swimming, which is a great lifetime activity."

Emil LaSida, the backstroker of the relay, holds the record at a time of 33.63 for the individual 50 Yard Back stroke in the 9-10 age group, set last summer. Breaststroker Ronan Lauinger, too, is no



The team's Boys 11-12 relay broke the league record. From left are Ronan Lauinger, Angel Callisaya, Emil LaSida and Will McLaury

stranger to breaking records. He currently owns CSL records in the 100 Yard Individual Medley with a time of 1:12.50, set in 2014 as well as the league's 8 & Under Boys 25 Yard Breaststroke record with a time of 19.21seconds. The original record, from 1978, was broken before any current league swimmers were even born.

The Dolphins, new this year to the CSL Blue league, were defeated 297.50 to 145.50.

The Chinquapin Wahoos, the city's only public swim team, are part of the Youth Sports Recreation Department of Alexandria in association with the Chinquapin Park Recreation Center Aquatics Division. Unlike the five other private clubs and neighborhood association pools that it swims against, the Wahoos draw its 140 members from all neighborhoods within the city. For more on the team and a complete schedule, visit www.teamunify.com/reccscwva.



# Junior Division Champs

FBR defeated Federated IT 5-2 at Simpson Field to claim the Alexandria Little League Junior Division Championship. Bottom, from left, are Andrew Buckman, Story Everett, Charlie Wixson and Owen Ehret. Top, from left, are Chris Onorato, Luke Remy, Holden Miller, Max Powell, and Matt Miller. Other team members not pictured are Whit LaValle, David Weissman and Jacob Kluger.

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# Obituary



# **Irene Louise Tilley Russell**

**ASHEVILLE, NC** 

After a long illness, Irene Louise Tilley Russell, 92 years, passed away peacefully on June 8, 2015 at Deerfield Health Care Center in Asheville, NC. She was born on July 6, 1923 in Magnolia, Massachusetts, the fourth child of Elsie Irene (Renna) Kellaway and Arthur Wareham Tilley. She is survived by James S. Russell, her loving husband of 71 years, and her five children: Jeffrey K. Russell (Bea) of Asheville. Suzanne R. Stillman (Brad) of Norfolk, Va., Sandra R. Andrews (Jeff) of Burlington, NC, Elaine R. Boger (Brian) of Columbia, SC, and Thomas S. Russell (Gail) of Reston, Va., and 15 grandchildren and 18 great-grandchildren. She grew up with three older brothers, Art, Bill and Doug, who all preceded her in death. Her early years were lived in Gloucester, MA and Chevy Chase, Md., and she spent the summers on Cape Cod in Hyannis, MA. She attended Hood College in Frederick, Md., and graduated with a BS in Nursing from Johns Hopkins University. She married James Sidney Russell, who also attended Johns Hopkins University. After her husband, Jim, returned from Germany (WWII), they began a family, eventually having 5 children. They settled in Alexandria, Va. where they lived from 1956 to 2001. At age 41, she returned to nursing, working in post-partum obstetrics. Later she cared for her aging mother for 10 years. She was also Vice President of Northern Virginia Beverage Company. the family business, and managed their pension fund for many years. She and her husband, Jim, traveled extensively and provided many family gatherings in Alexandria, at the beach in their second home in Garden City, SC and on ski trips to Colorado. She loved the outdoors, especially the ocean, fresh salt air, and the sun. In 2001, they moved from Alexandria, Va. to the Deerfield Community in Asheville, NC. For the past two years, she resided in Simonds Health Care at Deerfield.

As a wife, mother, grandmother and great-grandmother, she was the picture of grace and had an elegance that inspired others. She never missed a birthday, family event or anniversary without a thoughtful card or gift. She leaves a legacy of humanness, kindness, unselfishness and unending love for her family and others. A supportive and intelligent woman, she was devoted to her husband and family. She brought a calm and smiling presence to many.

May she rest in peace with her loving God and deceased relatives and friends. We would like to acknowledge and express great appreciation for the loving and excellent care she received from the staff at Deerfield Health Care Center. Special thanks go to Malinda McDevitt, a loving caregiver from Home Instead. We also would like to thank her many caring and supportive friends at Deerfield Retirement Community.

A funeral and memorial service are planned for August. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to CarePartners/Hospice Foundation, P.O. Box 25338 Asheville, N.C. 28813 or to a charity of your choice. Groce Funeral Home at Lake Julian is assisting the family and a memorial guest register book is available online at www.grocefuneralhome.com.

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#### LEGAL NOTICE

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

Title: Request for Proposals No. 00000523, Transportation Demand Management Marketing Communications and Outreach

Closing Date and Time: August 4, 2015, 4:00 p.m., prevailing

The City will hold a non-mandatory pre-proposal conference on: July 8, 2015, 10:00 AM prevailing local time at 100 N. Pitt Street, Suite 301, Purchasing Conference Room, Alexandria, VA 22314

For general inquiries contact Cynthia Davis, Contract Specialist at 703.746.3921.

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

# 21 Announcements 21 Announcements

#### **OBITUARY BRENDA BROWN HATTON**

Brenda B. Hatton passed away on June 15 at her home in Alexandria. She put up a valiant effort against the lung cance with which she had been diagnosed three years earlier.

Brenda was born in Lake Providence, LA, the daughter of Edna Mae (Keller) and Joseph Patten Brown. She grew up on a cotton plantation, owned by her father, and graduated in 1963 from Sophie Newcomb College (now Tulane) with a degree in English Literature. She was a member of Kappa Alpha Theta sorority. For over thirty years, she served as a professional staff member in the U.S. Congress, working in the personal offices of Florida Senator Edward Gurney, Louisiana Senators Allen Ellender and Russell Long and Representatives David Bowen (MS) and Jerry Huckaby (LA). She also directed a subcommittee of the House Committee on Agriculture and retired as staff member of the full Committee.

Brenda was an avid reader, an accomplished gardener and an enthusiastic traveler, visiting over 30 foreign countries during her lifetime. She was a member of the Red Hill Garden Club and Alexandria Hospital's TWIG.

She is survived by her husband of 42 years. Bruce N. Hatton and her daughter Amanda Briggs Hatton. She is also survived by her sister, Amanda Lasker, of Alexandria, her brother, Joseph Patten Brown, of Lake Providence and several beloved

A memorial service will be held at 11:00am on Tues., June 23 at Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church in Alexandria Donations may be made in her name to the Alexandria Public

> I believe the future is only the past again, entered through another gate. -Arthur Wing Pinero

# **LEGAL NOTICE**

Pursuant to the provision of section 4-1-16 of the code of the City of Alexandria, the Alexandria Police Department located at 3600 Wheeler Avenue, Alexandria, VA 22304 is now in possession of un-claimed bicycles, mopeds,

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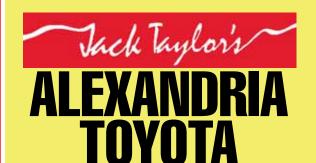
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