



‘Pushed to the Brink’ City digs out from epic snowstorm.

BY JEANNE THEISMANN
GAZETTE PACKET

After days of being at a standstill, Alexandria is slowly recovering after nearly two feet of snow paralyzed the city in the worst single storm to hit the area since the Knickerbocker Storm of 1922.

“According to the National Weather Service, Alexandria recorded 22 inches of snow in less than 36 hours,” said Yon Lambert, Director of Transportation and Environmental Services. “There is some debate over the official record at Reagan Airport but obviously this was a historic event and pushed us to the brink.”

City officials worked around the clock as snow began blanketing the region Friday afternoon, with whiteout conditions developing into Saturday before the storm moved its way up the Mid-Atlantic coast.

“Everyone in the city, from road crews to those clearing sidewalks, was out and working very, very hard,” Lambert said. “We did our best to manage the expectations of citizens and set a goal to have all streets passable for emergency vehicles by 7 a.m. Wednesday morning. We met that goal but we still have a lot of work left to do.”

By the city’s definition, “passable” in some instances means a single lane of access with more time needed to clear the massive



Mayor Allison Silberberg discusses the storm damage with arborist Matthew Barker Sunday near Van Dorn Metro station.

amounts of snow from the city streets.

“We are focusing today on residential streets and managing traffic issues on primary and secondary routes,” Lambert added Wednesday morning.

According to Lambert, no power outages were reported in the city by Dominion Power and it was not necessary to operate any emergency shelters. “That was one of the most fortunate things to come out of this storm,” Lambert noted.

Mayor Allison Silberberg spent Saturday and Sunday with city crews during the storm. “This was a real Level 3 storm,” Silberberg said. “That is the highest we have experienced and whiteout conditions slowed down plowing. But I am really proud of how everyone pulled together – citizens, law enforcement, road crews — it was re-

ally a great team effort.”

Residents banded together during the storm, with some like Rick Augusburger anticipating the massive clean up to clear streets and vehicles of snow and ice.

“It was a whim,” said Augusburger, who was able to rent a walk-behind Bobcat loader when one suddenly became available Friday morning. “But while I was the one who made the call, the real story is about how the entire block came together. It was a complete team effort.”

Augusburger, who lives with his wife Jane in the 900 block of South St. Asaph Street, alternated 90-minute shifts with neighbor Chris McCarthy operating the snow loader to keep their street and the side access roads clear during the storm.

“During the worst of the storm, another

neighbor, Dave Beck, made several hikes to the only open gas station on North Henry Street to get diesel fuel so we could keep working,” Augusburger added.

As the weather improved, so did everyone’s spirits with Beck barbecuing brats on a street grill and using the snow banks as a cooler for drinks.

“We had a goal to get everyone’s car out before the NFL playoff games started on Sunday,” Augusburger said. “I think we freed up more than 50 cars and everyone who operated the Bobcat had a fun experience. It was like playing in a sandbox for us.”

With snow removal continuing throughout the city, trash collection was suspended until Monday, Feb. 1, to help keep streets clear for the ongoing clean up.



Yon Lambert, left, director of Transportation and Environmental Services, talks with snow plow driver Leslie Wood, who was working to clear streets in the West End Sunday afternoon.

PHOTOS BY JOHN BORDNER

Achieving ‘Passable’ Roads

On Wednesday morning, Jan. 27, the city announced that all streets in Alexandria were passable for emergency vehicles, but warned that “passable” may mean only one lane is clear.

“People still need to be careful,” said Craig Fifer, Alexandria’s director of the Office of Communications and Public Information.

Fifer said he understood residents’ frustrations, but that clearing away snow is a slow and tedious process. To clear the roads, Fifer acknowledged that the city may annoy local residents, particularly when snowplows block in people’s driveways. There is also the added inconvenience that, because the dump trucks were converted to impromptu snow plows,



A snow plow makes its way through the streets of Old Town Jan. 24 following the worst snowfall in the region since the Knickerbocker Storm of 1922.

PHOTO BY JOHN BORDNER

garbage would not be picked up this week in the city.

“It’s not as simple as just driving down the street,” said Fifer. “It can take up to half an hour to clear a single block. We have 560 miles of roads, and a single lane takes at least two passes to clear, sometimes as many as six, that’s not counting parking lots, sidewalks, city facilities, fire stations, and all kinds of non-street areas that also have to be cleared.”

— VERNON MILES



Residents of Quay Street rest Monday afternoon after clearing their block of nearly two feet of snow.

JEANNE THEISMANN/GAZETTE PACKET

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

Selling ALEXANDRIA

Sue & Allison Goodhart
Trusted. Proven. Respected.



502 Summers Court, Alexandria, VA 22301



303 W. Walnut Street, Alexandria, VA 22301



3303 Carolina Place, Alexandria, VA 22305



Please contact us for more information on our listings or to discuss how we can help you achieve your real estate goals.



THE GOODHART GROUP
SUE & ALLISON GOODHART

LICENSED IN VA | DC | MD

sue@thegoodhartgroup.com
allison@thegoodhartgroup.com
www.thegoodhartgroup.com
703.362.3221

#1 Agent at McEneaney Associates (Alexandria's #1 Real Estate Company)



109 S. Pitt Street, Alexandria, VA 22314 | 703.549.9292



NEIGHBORHOOD OUTLOOK

ALEXANDRIA GAZETTE EDITOR STEVEN MAUREN
703-778-9415 OR GAZETTE@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

Developments Underway for Oakville, Eisenhower, Landmark

Incremental steps require time and negotiations.

BY VERNON MILES
THE CONNECTION

With the approval of the Oakville Small Area Plan by the City Council in late 2015, that small corner of Alexandria is receiving a major facelift. The area referred to in council discussions as the “Gateway to Alexandria” will see expanded density and retail as the city braces for the opening of the nearby Potomac Yard Metro Station.

“Del Ray is an established small scale community main street,” said Stephanie Landrum, president of the Alexandria Economic Development Partnership, “so one of the exciting things about development at Oakville is that we add density, retail, and customers without threatening the scale of Mount Vernon Avenue.”

Early in the planning process, residents expressed frustration that their homes would be overwhelmed by nearby retail and high density complexes. The project features larger “anchor” retail stores in the 20,000-square-foot space, with outdoor dining and restaurants in a nearby plaza.

“This project complements Del Ray,” said Landrum. “You could envision brands going into this project that wouldn’t fit on Mount Vernon Avenue.”

According to City Manager Mark Jinks, the Oakville Triangle plan isn’t one where the plan is set in motion but the city is forced to wait on the developer. According to Jinks, developers at the site are actively looking to push the project into the next stage.

“Assuming the [development site plan review] gets approved, we anticipate that the developer will transition into the internal workings of that plan,” said Landrum. “So sometime over the next nine months, we will have a finalized plan.”

Landrum said the current plan is to have the retail at Oakville Triangle open alongside the Potomac Yard Metro Station in 2020.

THE EISENHOWER RENAISSANCE is at hand. As construction continues on the National Science Foundation in Eisenhower East, the plans for the surrounding area are taking shape. The National Science

Foundation’s exterior is nearly complete, but interior work will continue over the next 12 to 14 months, with an opening sometime in 2017.

Paradim, the high-rise apartment complex across the street, is also slated for an early 2017 opening. Behind Paradim, next to the beltway, another building project is still in the planning phase, though it’s already been approved for a special use permit. The building will be a mix of residential and retail. According to Jinks, Harris Teeter has already filed a letter of intent to move into one of the retail spaces.

Jinks also noted that the nearby sports field at the Alexandria Renew Enterprises facility had opened in early January, though weather conditions have so far kept it from being widely used.

Moving a few blocks west, where Eisenhower crosses over Telegraph Road, Rushmark Properties has submitted concept plans for two multifamily buildings for the empty lot on the north side of Eisenhower. The concept will be reviewed by the Plan-

ning Commission and the City Council in February.

populations are at critical mass, that’s when we’ll start to see retail flourish. We’re seeing that now in Carlyle.”

However, the city has also faced major setbacks in their plans for the Eisenhower Valley. The long vacant Victory Center had been selected as the new headquarters for the TSA, and city officials had expressed enthusiasm that the new resident would bring growth to the area the way the Patent and Trademark Office and National Science Foundation did to Eisenhower East. However, in November, U.S. Court of Federal Claims Judge Charles Lettow overturned the lease, citing misconduct by the Government Services Administration who had been handling the transaction. “The Victory Centre’s owners offered

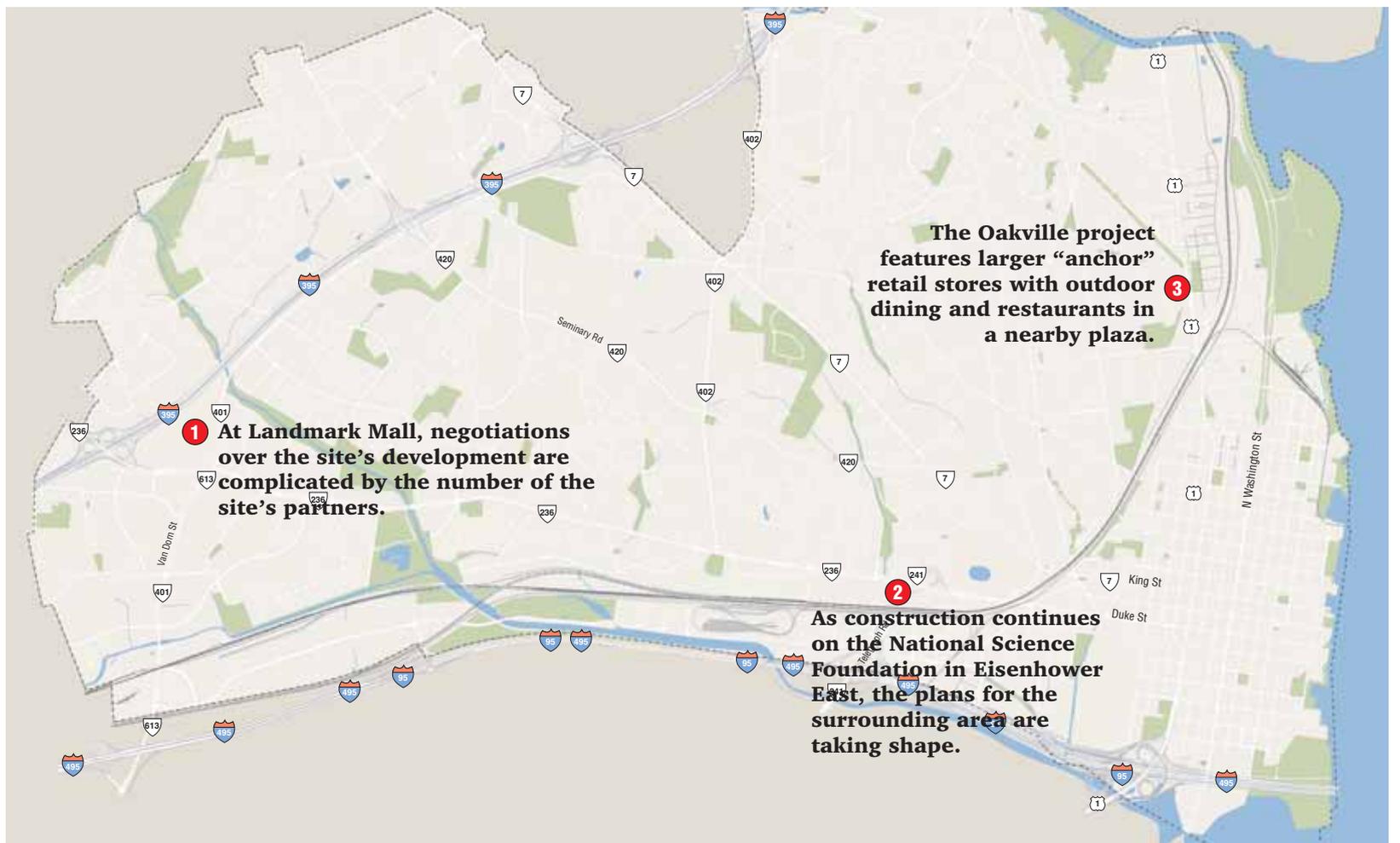
restarting the search.”

“We’re waiting on formal notification from GSA on the next step,” said Jinks. “The federal government is not going to appeal the judge’s decision. We expect that there will be some kind of competition, but we don’t know how that’s going to work out or who is going to be eligible... It’s very complicated, subject to significant litigation. They’re wanting to do everything perfectly right, especially the second time around. We expect some kind of competition, but we don’t know who is being invited in.”

Jinks said the decision on the new process could be arriving in weeks or months. “We’ve been hearing ‘any moment now’

“It’s a critical part of the infrastructure to make sure Eisenhower lives up to its potential.”

— Stephanie Landrum,
President, Alexandria Economic
Development Partnership



ning Commission and the City Council in February.

“On the north side of Eisenhower, we’re adding significant retail,” said Landrum. “We’re adding more of a community to Eisenhower. That’s one of the themes of these plans. These are areas that didn’t have people living and working in them. There’s been no population that considers these places a community. By adding residential projects, we’re creating that nighttime and weekend population. When both of these

GSA additional space at no cost, but it was over the amount of space that had been approved by Congress,” said Landrum. “There was evidence that GSA said that it was more than they were approved for but that they said they’d take it and get the lease signed.”

With the lease overturned, the city is left back at square one with an empty Victory Center.

“It creates a vacuum,” said Landrum. “There’s a lot of information that’s not coming out. Over the next few weeks, they’re

for well over a month,” said Jinks.

The silver lining to the judge’s decision is that, despite the ruling against the GSA, the judge found no fault with the Victory Center building itself, meaning that when the competition restarts, it may still have a chance. Even if not at the Victory Center, Jinks noted that one of the other TSA finalist locations was another parcel of land on Eisenhower near Telegraph Road.

On the western end of Eisenhower, city

Weichert®

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



Alexandria **\$1,199,000**
6002 Grove Drive. Stunning remodeled home in popular Belle Haven boasts 3,200+ square feet of living space. Gleaming hardwood floors throughout. Gourmet kitchen opens to family room and deck. Dramatic master with exposed stone wall opens to patios overlooking the garden. Now priced at \$1,199,000! Welcome home!
Fran Slade 904-476-2691



Alexandria/Braddock Heights **\$875,000**
1303 Quincy St. Fabulous renovation & expansion in Braddock Heights! Quaint stone "cottage" has been transformed into a sleek contemporary with open floor plan, rich hardwood floors, high ceilings and abundant windows. 2 main level bedrooms and 2 upper including the spacious Owner's suite with luxury en suite bath. Large corner lot with fenced back & side yard, patio, shed and manicured lawn with irrigation. *Christine Garner 703-587-4855*



Alexandria/Old Town Greens **\$765,000**
728 Catts Tavern Dr. PRICE REDUCED • 4 Levels of Luxury Living. Rare End Town Home. Full of Upgrades, Options and Built-ins. 3 Bedrooms, Beautiful Wood Floors. Soaring Vaulted Ceiling in Master bedroom with 4th level Loft, Walk-in Closet, Entry level office or library, 2-car garage, Huge Country Kitchen (19 X 11) and Deck for Grilling, Fireplace. Easy parking with 2-car Garage. Large Pool. *Gary Chute 703-371-9926*



Alexandria **\$499,900**
6706 Oak Drive. Adorable Cape Cod on 1/2 acre in Fairfax County. 4 bedrooms, fireplace. Freshly painted, new carpet. Close to Metro, Ft. Belvoir, Old Town, D.C., National Harbor.
Michelle Zelsman 202-390-8714



Alexandria **\$429,900**
5902 Mount Eagle Dr. #518. Live in a private "tree house" in Montebello's park-like oasis of 35+ acres close to Old Town. 3-bedroom condo w/1,695 square feet floor plan, newer large kitchen w/maple cabinets & SS appliances; updated bathrooms. Garage space included. New state-of-the-art fitness center, tennis courts & indoor pool refurbished. 24/7 security. Pet-friendly. Small town ambience w/many activities & events.
Cindy Baggett 703-593-1418 & Leslie Rodriguez 703-400-3010



Alexandria/Old Town **\$759,900**
719 S. Royal St. Walk to cafés, shops & the riverfront from this beautifully renovated home. 2 BRs, fireplace, handsome kit/FR. Finished Basement. Deep garden. Easy parking.
Diann Hicks Carlson 702-628-2440



Alexandria **\$899,000**
6812 Smithway Dr. Newly custom-built colonial, 6 BR, 5.5 baths on a double space lot. Hardwood floors, high ceilings, recessed lights, office, conveniently located close to all major routes, shops, library, schools.
Elvira Jakovac 571-405-8058



Alexandria **\$235,000**
5902 Mt. Eagle Drive #802. Beautiful 1 bedroom, 1 bath with lovely glass enclosed balcony – over 1,000 sq ft. UPDATED kitchen and bath. Cherry Wood floors. Everything is done, just move right in.
Julie Hall 703-786-3634



Alexandria/Potomac Greens **\$799,900**
1768 Potomac Greens Drive. Fantastic 4 bedroom, 3.5 bath row home features tons of upgrades. Built-in sound system, SS appliances, granite counters, custom cabinets, rooftop deck, attached 2-car garage. Mins from community center/pool and Old Town. Easy commute to D.C. *Jennifir Birtwhistle 703-835-1256*



Alexandria/Parker Gray **\$539,900**
912 N Columbus St. Wonderful 2 bedroom, 1 bath row home boasts renovated gourmet kitchen with Soapstone counters, custom cabinetry, ceramic tile backsplash. Features tankless H₂O heater and boiler, newer windows/roof & gleaming hardwood floors. Detached garage. Mins to shops and restaurants.
Jennifir Birtwhistle 703-835-1256



Alexandria **\$949,000**
6201 Bernard Ave. Gorgeous & Custom Colonial w/over 6,000 Sq. Ft! Beautiful Architectural details, Fantastic Open Flr. Plan, Gourmet Kit, & Generously Sized Rooms. Hardwd. Flrs. on Main & Upper Lvl's, Luxurious BAs, & Dramatic Great Room w/door to back yard & Wonderful Pavilion; Perfect for Entertaining! Expansive Fin. Lower Lvl. w/Additional Office/6th BR & Full BA, & Bonus Upper Lvl. Loft! Close to Everything! *Lisa McCaskill 703-615-6036*



Alexandria/Chapel Hill **\$1,499,000**
1120 Key Drive. Fabulous 7 bedroom, 5.5 + .5 bath custom home with approx. 7,000 sq. ft. of living space on 1/2 an acre with a 4-car garage! Impressive 3-story fieldstone fireplace in the living room, spacious gourmet kitchen with adjoining family room and breakfast room. Master suite with soaring ceiling and luxury bath. Screened-in porch, large deck and sports court. Quiet dead-end street steps to Chinquapin Park. *Christine Garner 703-587-4855*

Interested in a Career in Real Estate? Pre-licensing courses are available soon. Call Managing Broker, Mark Ackermann, at 703-888-5100 for further information.



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



Tragedy and Charity

Hardships continue for deputy sheriff, while family and coworkers help.

BY VERNON MILES
GAZETTE PACKET

People at the Alexandria Sheriff's Department say good things about Sergeant Chris O'Dell, but one of the most telling stories about O'Dell is when he saved an inmate's life in August 2014. The inmate at Alexandria's Detention Center, suffering from mental health issues, pressed a pen against his own throat and was on the verge of suicide when O'Dell approached and talked him out of it. For his actions, O'Dell was awarded the Lifesaving Award at the annual Valor Awards.

But less than a year later, another act of altruism inadvertently left O'Dell hospitalized with severe brain damage.

Last June, O'Dell was on duty at King's Jewelry on King Street. When his shift there ended, he headed back towards the headquarters in Eisenhower to turn in his car, but stopped along the way to help a deputy whose car had been disabled. He helped to push the car, but in the process tore his carotid artery. He didn't know it at the time. He checked out from work, changed, and drove home to Spotsylvania. It was only once he reached his house that his wife, Beth O'Dell, noticed that something was wrong. Chris O'Dell had a headache. He was stumbling and dropping things he tried to pick up. Once he started saying words that didn't make sense, his wife realized what was going on. Chris O'Dell was having a stroke.

The doctors managed to repair Chris O'Dell's carotid artery, but he spent nine more days in the Intensive Care Unit, then at rehab in Mount Vernon for several weeks. The stroke left Chris O'Dell with aphasia, a disorder that critically affects the victim's ability to communicate. While Chris O'Dell has returned home, the challenges to him and his family haven't stopped.

"As far as what's to come, we don't know," said Beth O'Dell. "We went back recently to the neurologist and she does not feel that he will be able to return to work. That's two weeks ago, so now we're trying to figure out the next plan."

Beth O'Dell says this wasn't something her family had been prepared for. Chris O'Dell O'Dell has been with the Sheriff's Office for 21 years and still had nine years left before he expected to retire. Both Chris and Beth O'Dell were working full time, Beth O'Dell as a special education teacher, while also raising four children, the youngest of whom is 12. She said insurance helped cover the costs, but over time the copays started to stack up: copays of at least \$500 per hospital visit, weekly therapy sessions, radiology treatment. Beth O'Dell said the family had been expecting benefits under the Virginia Workers' Compensation Act, but the family received notification in December that the claim had been denied because the commission felt that the injury was not workplace related. Beth O'Dell is putting together the medical records and writing back explaining why the



Sergeant Chris O'Dell with his family.

PHOTO BY VERNON MILES/GAZETTE PACKET

injury was work related, but the appeal process could take up to six months.

Chris O'Dell is currently on leave from the Sheriff's Office, but it seems unlikely that he'll be able to return. When his saved up leave expired, he used his sick leave. Now, other members of the Sheriff's Office have been anonymously donating their own leave time to Chris O'Dell. Sheriff Dana Lawhorne says the donations are allowed as part of a city-wide program, and Lawhorne confirmed that he and other members of the Office had contributed time. Lawhorne

echoed the sentiments of other Sheriff's Department employees, saying Chris O'Dell was an outstanding and dedicated employee. One of the other employees, Lt. Monique Rea, has set up a fundraiser to help the O'Dell family at youcaring.com.

"Everyone here, including City Hall, are doing their best to work toward

— Beth O'Dell

a positive outcome for Chris," said Lawhorne.

The Sheriff's Office has a disability plan, but Beth O'Dell said the plan only extends for three years to give the family time to find something new.

"He's not able to drive," said Beth O'Dell. "We have to rely on people to help get him to his therapy appointments. I work full time. I teach in Spotsylvania County. So it's difficult to coordinate all of his care, like calling doctors and calling medical places and records. I never thought about it until now, but they're only open 9 to 4. It's been hard."

For Chris, Beth O'Dell says one of the hardest parts has been communicating, generally in conversations, but also in explaining the extent of his injuries.

"It's a traumatic brain injury," Beth O'Dell said. "It's hard to explain that to people ... when you look at him, you don't see the disability. He has to talk to people and tell them he's had a stroke and needs people to talk slowly to him."

For Chris O'Dell, communicating without visual cues has been next to impossible. He's unable to get on the phone and talk to people or coordinate with others in his office. But the family is finding ways to overcome this. Texting has replaced phone calls as the primary form of mobile communication.

"Communicating within the family, we've accommodated, but we're still learning how to deal with it," said Beth O'Dell.

The Potomack Company
AUCTIONS ~ APPRAISALS ~ ESTATE SALES
1120 N. FAIRFAX STREET, OLD TOWN ALEXANDRIA, VA 22314
www.potomackcompany.com ~ 703.684.4550 ~ VA#0704

February 6th Live Auction
Preview starting Saturday, January 30th and view catalogue online at
www.potomackcompany.com
Private collection of 150 Old Master paintings, drawings and sculptures

Italian School, Aft. Raphael (16th/17th C.) Venus Riding a Chariot Pulled by Doves Red chalk: 14 1/2 x 19 1/2 in.

Follower of Caravaggio (17th C.) Ecce Homo Oil on canvas: 35 x 25 1/2 in.

Italian, 17th C., Aft. Giuseppe Cesari Il Cavalier D'Arpino (Italian, 1568-1640) Mosca Red chalk: 12 1/2 x 8 1/2 in.

Bronze Figure of The Dancing Faun, Aft. the Antique, Italian, Prob. Late 18th/Early 19th C.

Tiffany & Co. Repousse Demitasse Pot

Chinese Clair de Lune Glazed and Molded Palace Vase, Kangxi Six-Character Mark in Underglaze Blue

Pair of Continental Louis XVI Style Gilt Bronze and Gray Marble Candelabra

Chinese Gilt Bronze Figure of Guangdi, Ming Dynasty

Always accepting quality consignments.
consign@potomackco.com

Our Savior Lutheran School
Arlington, VA

Open House

Saturday, January 30, 2016, 9 a.m. to noon

Our Savior Lutheran School
Pre-K (age 4 by September 30) through 8th grade

- Before and after care available
- Small class sizes, diverse student body
- Fully accredited and licensed
- Christian education, traditional skill building
- Near Pentagon, NFATC, ANGRTC
- We start each day with The Pledge of Allegiance and "My Country, 'Tis of Thee"

825 South Taylor Street, Arlington, VA 22204
(703) 892-4846
www.osva.org

PEOPLE

Keeping the City Safe in Snowstorm

Team works 24/7.

BY SHIRLEY RUHE
GAZETTE PACKET

It is Thursday before the big snowstorm predicted to hit the D.C. area with up to two feet of snow. The control room is silent and the conference table empty. In a few hours it will become the Snow Operations Center buzzing with an interdisciplinary team of Alexandria City employees focused 24/7 on keeping the city safe. Eleven large screens line the wall hooked to cameras that are recording in real time the major Alexandria intersections and zooming in on a problem area. Other smaller televisions sit side by side on tables crossing the room, each with a specific purpose — checking the temperature of the roads across the city, spitting out up-to-date weather reports and radio dispatch communicating with other agencies and cities across the region.

“We prepare year round for winter weather. In the summer we do table top exercises as well as in-field training and preparation. In the middle of summer it looks pretty funny,” said Jeff DuVal, deputy director of operations for the city’s Department of Transportation and Environmental Services.

All of the drivers are sent out on their routes ahead of time and have plenty of time in their zones to become familiar with their own particular speed bumps, cul de sacs, tight areas, pedestrian facilities and potential obstacles. DuVal says many of the drivers have between 15-25 years experience and know their zones like the back of their hand.

DuVal says they have 35 snow plows when everything is on the street including 10-12



Jeff DuVal inspects one of the 35 snow plows on Thursday that stand ready for action when the storm begins. He says they will begin with the primary roads connecting to an interstate like King, Duke, Quaker Lane and Van Dorn, then move on to secondary connector roads and then residential.



Jeff DuVal, deputy director of operations for the City of Alexandria’s Department of Transportation and Environmental Services, indicates an intersection monitored in real time by one of 11 traffic cameras in the Snow Control Center. “On King and Dangerfield we get a pulse for traffic and pedestrians in and out of the metro station,” he said.

PHOTOS BY SHIRLEY RUHE/GAZETTE PACKET

contractor 10-wheel dump trucks for the larger streets. “And it involves a small army when we all come together — drivers, repair folks, supervisors, administrative staff arranging food, hotel rooms and the logistics of planning the rosters (who works which shifts). This is a team response, not just me. It’s all hands on deck,” he said. “We have to have an organized system, be able to handle any challenge.”

“We are ready and today will start pre-treating all primary and secondary roads with brine — like your Thanksgiving turkey. This helps prevent the initial bind of the snow.” He adds that it is also very cost effective for a fraction of what it costs to treat with salt. “We watch the weather 24/7 in communication with the National Weather Service in Sterling. We also have access to the D.C. Council of Governments so we speak to other counties and cities.”

During the event DuVal said, “We have central conference calls multiple times before, during and after the event with the governments in the region. That way another jurisdiction can request resources if needed. “It is in everyone’s best interest to have this be a regional response.”

When the storm hits they will start with the primary roads like Duke, King, Quaker Lane and Van Dorn that connect with interstates. Then on to the secondary connector roads and finally the residential roads starting geographically with what makes sense close to bus routes, proximity to schools and hospitals. “We work 12-hour shifts, and it is physically and mentally taxing for the drivers to stay on focus for this length of time. Getting enough sleep is important.” DuVal will hop around from the Operations Center to driving around the city looking at the conditions for himself, to check on drivers to be sure they are staying warm and being safe.

DuVal says the public can help. Once a snow emergency has been declared it is important that people move their cars off the designated streets. “It is also essential

for people to stay home to give us room and space. It is particularly difficult in Old Town where there are a lot of cars and space is tight. And there is nowhere to dump over 6-8 inches of snow.” They can’t put it in the river because of sensitivities about the Chesapeake. He said they have a contractor who moves snow to a dumping site. In addition, it is the responsibility of the property owner for clearing the snow on their property. DuVal said, “When you are out shoveling your property, if you wouldn’t mind, it helps if you can clear off a nearby fire hydrant or storm drain.”

This year they have a new AVS system that uses GPS to indicate in real time where all of the drivers are currently, where they have been in the past and where salt has been applied. “We learned from Snowmageddon that we needed to have a more organized and systematic response across agencies. We are in a better place than 2009-10,” he said.

During the operation DuVal explains two hours can pass like five minutes as 50 decisions are made on the fly. A phone call from a supervisor that a driver has been in an accident, a truck is stuck, a bus is blocking an intersection, a road is blocked by a number of vehicles. “It involves triage and crisis management, quick decision. I have a very dedicated team of professionals who work all hours, day and night and couldn’t be prouder of my people.” DuVal says he comes from a family of community service. “It is a passion; a labor of love.” He heads off Thursday afternoon to City Hall for an afternoon of meetings with the fire and police chiefs, superintendent of schools, city manager where they will be planning for the city overall, when to make a declaration of snow emergency and which events and activities to cancel. Then home to sleep and back at 6 a.m. Friday. “The biggest surprise we have is always the weather. We rely on meteorologists but with all of the technological advances, we’re looking into a crystal ball.”

Out in the Storm

Saturday, Jan. 22, 11 a.m.

Jeff DuVal has been up since 4:30 a.m. when he left his hotel room in Old Town to head to the Snow Control Center in the City of Alexandria Transportation and Environmental Services headquarters. He is currently on Mount Vernon Avenue taking a quick spin around the city to check things out. “I honestly don’t know how much snow is out there — maybe 20 inches.”

DuVal says, “We are in decent shape on the primary roads. We’re starting on the secondary now. Later in the day we’ll start the residential. Our goal is to make one lane passable on every road by sometime tomorrow.” But he explains to get curb-to-curb snow removal will take the better part of next week.

No accidents on vehicles reported yet, but there have been a handful of snow plows stuck. “We bring in heavy equipment to get them out.” He says they are trying to get cars and people to stay home. “People playing in the snow in the street is dangerous. They should stay in warm with their families.”

DuVal says, “It is the beginning of the storm so the drivers’ spirits are still high. They are still excited. It is the fun part of the storm.” But he continues, “give it a couple of days and they start to get fatigued. They are staying in hotels away from their families and eating whatever food we can find. Employee burn-out sets in.” He says this is the most difficult part of the operation.

Sunday, Jan. 24, 8:30 a.m.

DuVal is tired but good. He says, “I don’t remember what time I went home.” The drivers have been working multiple 12-hour shifts but are still in good spirits. DuVal explains It is a major logistical challenge to get 40-50 drivers to hotels and back on the job. Sometimes they use the snow plow — we use anything we can get.”

DuVal says, “last night the snow plows were getting stuck and we had to divert resources from plowing to get the other snow plows out.” He said the city had to bring in a lot of pieces of heavy equipment from a disaster response contractor — front loaders, backhoes and dump trucks. Many of them are heavy and bulky to move, not like just driving a snow plow down the street. He had called the contractor earlier in the week and had pieces of equipment staged around the city as backup. He said, “These drivers are from Pennsylvania and upper New York and have a lot of experience with big storms. So for us this is a historic snowstorm but their attitude is this is just a little storm.”

The day before DuVal saw a lot of vehicles slipping around at the major intersections on the 11 cameras in the Snow Control Center but “no accidents — great.” He said he watched a lot of pedestrians slipping around, too, “drinking adult beverages since they didn’t have to go to work.” But most people were listening to the advice to stay home. “But the problem today is the snow has stopped and people will want to get out but we still have to be able to work. There is a lot still to do.”

BLIZZARD '16



Chelsea (6, left) and Lindsey (5) Pyle playing on their 12th floor balcony in Alexandria that overlooks DC/Fairlington (above) at 395 and King Street on Saturday, Jan. 23 at 8 a.m. Chelsea is in first grade and Lindsey is in Kindergarten and they are both in the Dual Language Program at John Adams.



TCHOUPITOULAS

Fine Furnishings and Interior Design



Tradition with a Twist

Join us Thursday, February 11th between 6pm and 8pm for our Fine Wine and Design Event. We will have hors d'oeuvres and champagne. Look forward to seeing you there!



210 N. Lee Street, Alexandria ~ 703-299-0145
www.TchoupitoulasFurnishings.com
 Mon-Fri: 10-6 • Sat: 10-5 • Sun: 12-5
 Bring as many guests as you'd like, but please RSVP to orders@tchoupitoulasfurnishings.com by February 8th.



Alexandria

\$1,639,000

OPEN SUNDAY 2-4 PM



Welcome to 815 Arcturus on the Potomac – an exquisite 5 bedroom, 3.5 bath home in beautiful Alexandria, Virginia. Situated on a .69 lot on a private road in an exclusive neighborhood of nine custom homes, this recently updated and redesigned home by renowned interior designer Darryl Carter offers modern conveniences while providing the charms of yesteryear! A classic colonial with a 2-car detached garage, idyllic landscaping, winter view of the Potomac River, and a private guest suite are just a few of the noteworthy features of this home. The list of exquisite details and luxuries, both big and small, is endless; making it more than just a home...it's an experience. www.815arcturus.com Directions: From Old Town Alexandria: South on the G.W. Parkway. Left on East Boulevard. Right at stop sign. Left on Arcturus to home on right #815.



KRISTIN KELLY

RE/MAX Hall of Fame
 RE/MAX Chairman's Club
 RE/MAX Lifetime Top Producer
 RE/MAX Lifetime Achievement Award

703-402-6009

kristinkellysellshomes.com



Allegiance



COUNTRY LIVING & CITY LIFE

THE BEST OF BOTH WORLDS

WESTMINSTER

AT LAKE RIDGE

ENGAGED LIVING

An Ingleside Community



Residents since 2010



Walk out your door to a forested trail, gather with friends for quiet coffee and conversation on a deck overlooking the water—enjoy wine tasting and shopping in the historic town of Occoquan along the river—yet you are a short ride away from the Smithsonian, the Kennedy Center or Wolf Trap. That's life at Westminster at Lake Ridge!

Here, retirement is a time of renaissance, the continued enjoyment of a fulfilling and engaged life, plus the peace of mind that comes with maintenance-free living and a full continuum of health services.

Now accepting wait list deposits. Call or visit us today!

703-791-1100 | www.wlrva.org
 12191 Clipper Drive | Lake Ridge, VA



'Disappointing, Not Surprising'

Bills to rein in predatory lending die in Senate committee.

Have you ever paid 36 percent interest on a loan or credit card? Not likely. It's an outrageous rate, especially given that the actual cost of money is close to zero right now.

But right now, some people in Northern Virginia are paying more than 200 percent on loans secured by their car title. These are people who are both financially desperate and financially unsophisticated, who likely assume that regulation would keep a lender from bleeding them dry with unrestricted interest rates.

Predatory lending is a local issue, with car title lenders congregating in lower income areas like along Route 1 in the Mount Vernon area, and also queuing up near the border with Prince George's County, Md., where car title lending is illegal.

Earlier this week, a Virginia Senate committee killed a bill that would have capped consumer loan interest rates at 36 percent. It's hard to believe, but right now there are no limits to the interest rates that can be charged in Vir-

ginia. And car title lenders, which are not consumer loans, often have effective interest rates of more than 200 percent.

"Predatory lending is a major problem in the U.S. 1 Corridor," said Sen. Scott Surovell (D-36), who introduced the failed legislation to curb predatory lending. "Car title lenders have been abusing this loophole by charging rates over 200 percent. ... To rein in car title lender bait and switch tactics, I am proposing to limit interest rates on consumer finance loans at 36 percent." But that effort died in a Virginia Senate Committee this week.

Between 2010, when the Virginia General Assembly gave the green light to the car title lending industry, the total number of locations more than doubled from 184 to 395.

Some legislators claim this is a free market and personal responsibility issue, that people who have no other options should be able to turn to high interest lending as a last resort. But most people who turn to these loans would be better off without this last resort.

"It's a trap, and although it's presented as a loan it's really loan-sharking," said Jay Speech, executive director of the Virginia Poverty Law Center. "People who get into this end up much worse off than when they started."

We all pay the price when an industry preys on the poor. People who lose their cars can lose their jobs, then relying on the frayed and in-

Listen to Michael Pope's reports on predatory lending on WAMU

Visit wamu.org/the_debt_trap

adequate safety net.

Michael Pope, who wrote about car title lending abuses when he worked for the Connection and Gazette Packet, recently completed a multi-part investigative series on predatory lending for WAMU, which you can listen to here: http://wamu.org/the_debt_trap

When his series concluded, the message of the damage of predatory lending seemed to resonate. Legislation to rein in the abuses of 200 percent interest seemed destined to make a difference.

This year, it will not.

Attorney General Mark Herring tweeted, "disappointing, not surprising" on Monday in response to the news that all four bills that sought to limit predatory lending were voted down in committee.

Disappointing, but not surprising. A sad commentary.

— MARY KIMM

MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Why Develop Small Area Plans?

To the Editor:

The City of Alexandria invests thousands of dollars, in the form of employee man-hours and contractor fees, to develop the small area plans. Citizens likewise contribute considerable time to attend

public meetings, write letters, and testify before Planning Commission and City Council to provide input into these plans. The result is a coordinated and collaborative view of what is acceptable development within our neighbor-

hoods, where that development is appropriate, and at what density and height.

The property at 699 North Patrick St., known as Ramsey Homes, is in the Parker Gray Historic District and is also governed by two small area plans that were approved only eight years ago: the

Braddock Metro Neighborhood Plan (BMNP) and the Braddock East Master Plan — the latter of which was developed specifically to address development of the public housing sites in the Braddock neighborhood, including Ramsey Homes. These plans are specific on what the community and the city agreed was appropriate for the Ramsey Homes site.

The Braddock Metro Neighborhood Plan states "new buildings east of Route 1 will remain as walk-ups or townhouses with backyards;" the Ramsey Homes site is located east of Route 1 and thus is subject to this requirement. The Braddock East Small Area Plan "recommends that Ramsey Homes should either be rehabilitated as part of the overall redevelopment program for the area, with some potential for infill, or be redeveloped with townhomes or townhouse scale buildings..." In September, nearly 30 citizens spent hours testifying before City Council in favor of the Braddock East Plan's rehabilitation recommendation — an option City Council encouraged the developer, the Alexandria Redevelopment Housing Authority (ARHA), to consider and for which city staff



STEVE ARTLEY/GAZETTE PACKET

www.AlexandriaGazette.com

@AlexGazette

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

Published by
Local Media Connection LLC

1606 King Street
Alexandria, Virginia 22314

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

NEWS DEPARTMENT:
gazette@connectionnewspapers.com

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

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

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

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

Steve Artley
Cartoonist
artley@connectionnewspapers.com

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

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

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

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

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

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

Publisher
Jerry Vernon
jvernon@connectionnewspapers.com

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

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

Editor Emeritus:
Mary Anne Weber

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

A Connection Newspaper

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



SEE LETTERS, PAGE 9

OPINION

The Accidental Mentor

BY JANE HESS COLLINS
COMMUNITY LODGINGS COMMUNICATIONS/
VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR

Mentoring a teenage girl was the last thing on Dana Gilbertson's mind in 2013 when she visited Community Lodgings, an Alexandria non-profit that offers transitional and affordable housing and youth education to low-income, predominantly Latino families. Gilbertson had intended to start a birthday

program for the Community Lodgings youth, something that she had seen in her native Wisconsin.

COMMUNITY LODGINGS

However, Melanie Ficke, Community Lodgings' program director, knew she would be a perfect fit for their mentoring program, a weekly meeting of adult role models and teens from the Arlandria community. Now Gilbertson, a marketing executive with Innovative Association Solutions in Del Ray and a part-time nanny, says mentoring with Community Lodgings each Monday evening "is always the best part of my week."

Through those meetings she met Hennesy, a creative 14-year-old girl struggling with grades and focus. Last spring Gilbertson offered Hennesy a challenge — pass your failing class and we will scrapbook together over the summer.

Hennesy set herself on a study schedule and passed her class. The two of them spent the summer bonding over their shared love of scrapbooking. "Hennesy felt much more comfortable talking because it was so natural," Gilbertson recalled. "She was able to talk about the things she probably would not have if I were asking her questions. It was an awesome experience."

Gilbertson's only regret is that she did not mentor sooner, saying, "The mentoring program has taught me more than I would have ever expected. It really comes down to listening and being present every minute of



PHOTO COURTESY OF DANA GILBERTSON

Hennesy (left) and her Community Lodgings mentor Dana Gilbertson display the scrapbook they worked on together last summer.

our time together. That means so much to them."

She asserts that mentoring has had a greater impact on her than on the girls. "I didn't realize just how much effect one person can have on the entire course of someone's life and wellbeing."

Mentoring has also given her a peek into the world of a young, Hispanic teen and the challenges of cultural differences, immigration and translating for parents. "I have never experienced so many of the things these girls juggle on a daily basis. Their resiliency and ability to tackle seemingly grownup issues at such an early age truly blows my mind," she added.

While Gilbertson began mentoring somewhat accidentally, she feels everything happens for a reason and acknowledges this is the best "accident" she may ever make. "The girls have changed the way I see so many things in life," she reflects "and I'm so incredibly grateful for that."

To become a volunteer mentor for girls or boys with Community Lodgings, contact Jane Collins at jcollins@community-lodgings.org.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

FROM PAGE 8

developed some good proposals that would have addressed community concerns. However, ARHA has ignored the community's concerns and instead proposes to build two large apartment buildings that will shadow over the nearby 19th century row houses. The plans speak of townhouses on the site — not apartment buildings that require elevators.

ARHA seeks to more than triple the density on this small site, from the existing 15 homes to 53 apartments that will house nearly 200 people, but will only have 29 parking spaces. The Braddock East Plan specifically addresses the issue of appropriate density for each of the public housing sites, noting "these FARs are the maximum that is likely to be supportable on these sites." For the Ramsey Homes site, the plan specifies 15-30 units.

ARHA's development proposal for Ramsey

Homes violates the most fundamental tenets of the approved area plans — necessitating ARHA to request that the Planning Commission up-zone the site and amend an approved plan that is less than a decade old and was developed specifically to address development of the neighborhood's public housing sites like Ramsey Homes. If small area plans are to have any relevance, planning commissioners and City Council must uphold the letter of plan

and require ARHA to redesign the project to conform to the plans' requirements on density, parking, and green space. Otherwise, perhaps the city should stop wasting taxpayer dollars to develop small area plans that it ignores.

Heidi Ford
Alexandria

SEE LETTERS, PAGE 10

ColdwellBankerHomes.com

86,000 Agents | 3,000 Offices on 6 Continents | 109-Year Legacy



Belle Rive
3900 Picardy Court,
Alexandria VA

Classic colonial on cul-de-sac near Mount Vernon. 5 BR, 3.5 BA, 2-car garage backs to woods. Spacious floor plan with office, rec room, media room & home gym. Just steps to the beach.
\$1,095,000
Jeanne Atkins
MLS # FX8773280

Shirlington Village
2720 Arlington Mill Drive
Unit #416, Arlington VA

2 BR/2 BA + DEN condo features: granite counters, 36" cabinets, new hardwood floors, an open floor plan that spans to an extra large patio & garage parking with additional storage.
\$669,000
Mark Souder
MLS # AR9511790



Wellington Estates
1108 Westmoreland Road,
Alexandria VA

This charming home is just waiting for your special touches! Freshly painted & hardwood floors refinished. A short drive to Old Town and steps to bike trail. Waynewood School.
\$597,500
Karen Leonard
MLS # FX9504867

Mount Vernon Manor
8619 Gateshead Rd,
Alexandria VA

Spacious 4 BR, 2.5 BA, colonial in sought-after Mt Vernon Manor. Meticulously maintained, hardwood floors, fireplace, carport, updated kitchen, windows, doors, roof, etc. Must see!
\$529,900
Mark Souder
MLS # FX9533313



Tauxemont
1241 Shenandoah Road,
Alexandria VA

Large treed lot with Tauxemont Spring Water! Cherished for years — now waiting for new owner to add personal touches. 3 BR, 1 BA, steps to bus, shopping & dining. Waynewood School Dist.
\$449,900
Karen Leonard
MLS # FX9525435

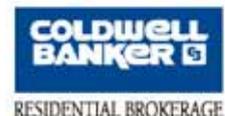
Parkfairfax
3128 Ravensworth Place,
Alexandria VA

Located on one of Parkfairfax's best streets with exceptionally easy parking, this completely refurbished 1 BR + 1 BA condo is freshly painted with brand new carpeting & windows.
\$235,000
Donnan C. Wintermute
MLS # AX9539166



Alexandria 310 King St. | Alexandria, VA 22314 | 703.518.8300

The property information herein is derived from various sources that may include, but not be limited to, county records and the Multiple Listing Service and it may include approximations. Although the information is believed to be accurate, it is not warranted and you should not rely upon it without personal verification. Real estate agents affiliated with Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage are independent contractor agents and are not employees of the Company. ©2015 Coldwell Banker Real Estate LLC. All Rights Reserved. Coldwell Banker Real Estate LLC fully supports the principles of the Fair Housing Act and the Equal Opportunity Act. Operated by a subsidiary of NRT LLC. Coldwell Banker, the Coldwell Banker logo, Coldwell Banker Previews International and the Previews logo are registered and unregistered service marks owned by Coldwell Banker Real Estate LLC. 10713WDC_05/15



FROM PAGE 9

Praising Staff Treatment

To the Editor:

As an Old Town resident, it is always enjoyable to walk around during and after a snow storm. My wife and I had dinner on King Street and a few warm drinks at places that stayed open.

Some restaurant owners and managers expected their staff to drive to and from Old Town for a shift with nearly two feet of snow falling or on the ground and no Metro or DASH service. The places we would rather support took a different approach, paying for hotel rooms for restaurant staff during the storm and its aftermath.

One such place is Murphy's on King Street, which paid for its staff to stay at the walkable Hotel Monaco, something Pat Troy also used to do for Ireland's Own staff.

Kudos to restaurant owners who arrange accommodations for their employees when it's snowing. Perhaps more of the places that choose to stay open during a blizzard will make sure their staff is safe and happy when most of the region gets the week off work.

Kenneth J. Wolfe
Alexandria

Vote in Primary

To the Editor:

There is an important election coming soon, on Tuesday, March 1, the primary election for President of the United States. I am supporting Hillary Clinton for President because I feel she is the best of all the candidates to be in charge in this extremely complicated world.

The following information benefits all candidates and outlines the important dates in Virginia for the 2016 Presidential elections and to emphasize the importance of taking the time to vote, in both the primary and general election. We are very proud of our daughter who voted in 2012, the first time she could vote. Elections are very important at all times, and especially now, given the stark differences in the candidates.

On Tuesday, March 1 the Virginia Democratic and Republican primary elections for President will be held at your respective precincts. Absentee voting began Friday, Jan. 15 and continues to Feb. 27, at the City's Voter Registration Office, 132 North Royal St., Suite 100. Hours are Monday - Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Voter registration deadline for this election is Monday, Feb. 8. You may submit a new or updated (change of address, etc.) voter registration application online through Virginia's Department of

Elections website (<http://elections.virginia.gov/casting-a-ballot/in-person-voting/index.html>).

If you would like to submit a paper registration application, you may use the form on the Voter Registration Information and Application page located at: www.alexandriava.gov/Elections.

Sample Ballots for the March 1 Primary

are posted on that website. All persons qualified to vote may vote in either Primary, however, they may not vote in both Primaries (Virginia Code 24.2-530). For this election, voters who wish to participate in the Republican Party Primary must sign a statement confirming Republican Party affiliation before voting.

Primary voting determines who will be the Democratic and Republican candidates for President on Nov. 8, national election day.

Virginia voters must show photo identification prior to voting. For more information, including a list of acceptable IDs, please see Virginia's Department of Elections website (<http://elections.virginia.gov/casting-a-ballot/in-person-voting/index.html>).

If you do not have a photo ID, you may apply for a free photo ID at the City of Alexandria's Voter Registration office any time it is open, including Election Day. They are located at 132 North Royal Street, Suite 100. Hours are Monday - Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. This ID is valid for voting purposes only. On Election Day the office is open from 6 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Voting is a privilege, please exercise it.

Lynn Hampton
Alexandria

Helping Outdoor Cats

To the Editor:

The feral cats, homeless cats, stray cats, wild cats, street cats, and alley cats among others are members of the same species of cats. Because these cats lack food, shelter, and water, it prompts them to hunt and scavenge to look for their bread. At times, the cats have no luck, and they are forced to rely on the kindness of people who love cats.



However, it may be quite difficult during winter. There are some reasons that people might consider when helping this type of cat. The cats assist in killing rodents that destroy property and are causative agents of diseases; therefore, there is no need to use pesticides. The members of the society should endeavour to care for cats since it is simply a gesture for appreciating what cats do. In addition to that, it indicates respect for life.

Providing Shelter

Cats need a place where they can stay protected against outdoor factors such as rain and the scorching sun. The cats require just a small portion given because they rely on each other for warmth, thus creating tight spaces around their shelter. Any materials may be used to make the place comfortable and habitable for the cat. Two basic types of housing include homemade and readymade shelters.

SEE LETTERS, PAGE 11

WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

**Yahia and
volunteer
Sharon
Wilkinson**

PHOTO
CONTRIBUTED



Reading Buddies: Yahia and Sharon

From Yahia:

I have been working with Ms. Sharon for about three years and it is a lot of fun. My favorite moment was when we went to IHOP and shared stuff about ourselves. And meeting at the library every Friday. Ms. Sharon and I learned new words, because we read books above my reading level. Ms. Sharon would help me pronounce and tell me the meanings of words. Ms. Sharon also helped me write cursive when I was in the 3rd grade. Ms. Sharon and I read "Curse of the King Tut Mummy" and "The Shark-Headed Zombie;" and we read half of "Hugo" then watched the movie.

Ms. Sharon helped me improve my reading and gave me more knowledge about the meaning and spelling of words. We also did some math together. I taught her some math skills that can be useful in life and she taught me some reading skills that can be useful in life.

Ms. Sharon is nice, caring, and loving. She is nice, caring and loving, because every time she picks me up for our lesson, she says, "how are you and what did you do at school?" The Wright to Read program is an awesome program to be in, because it stays in contact with your teachers to see what you are doing in class. Wright to Read is also great, because we can go down to their library any time and get some new books. I love being in the program, because it helps Ms. Sharon and me be connected at something in common. Wright to Read is an awesome program.

From Ms. Sharon:

I have been mentoring Yahia for three delightful years. I always look forward to seeing him on our session days. (And I think he feels the same way.) We talk about so many things — what's going on in school, what he does when he hangs out with his friends, and his adventures with his family. Yahia has made tremendous progress to

date. He has always been a good reader (out loud reading); he reads with great expression and it was no wonder that his teachers choose him to read to younger students at school. He tackles new words with energy and curiosity and he's open to reading different kinds of books and stories — mysteries, adventure, science and nature. This is really great, because it opens his imagination to new information and possibilities.

I love working with Yahia, because he is flexible and open to learning new things. One big challenge has been focus. We used to talk about this a lot, but now we hardly need to mention it because he can clearly see, and articulate, how important focus is to the success he strives for in his classes.

I admire the Wright to Read program so much, because it is such a smart concept. The fact that the students are recommended to the program by their teachers and that Wright to Read takes such care in selecting the mentors and pairing them with the students and their families is a major reason why my partnership with Yahia has been so successful. I have met many of Yahia's teachers and have consulted with them on reading material and on ways to best help Yahia succeed in class. They have been unfailingly helpful.

Finally, the effort that the program managers expend to engage the families, students and all the great resources Wright to Read has to offer is first rate — the trainings, picnics, parties at IHOP. All of this create a sense of community and mutual support.

Wright to Read provides volunteer-based one-on-one sustained literacy tutoring and mentoring relationships to City of Alexandria elementary school children in need, and collaborates with families, schools and community partners to create a comprehensive support network that guides each child to success. Wright to Read is a member of the Alexandria Mentoring Partnership (AMP). AMP was created in 2006 to ensure that quality mentors and mentor programs are available for Alexandria's youth and young adults in need. There are 11 professionally managed programs in the partnership that need adult mentors. To learn more about Wright to Read, visit www.wrighttoread.org or to learn more about AMP, visit: <http://www.alexandriava.gov/Mentoring>.



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

New Deputies

The Alexandria Sheriff's Office welcomes three new deputies to its ranks. From left: Dwayne Rogers, Emily Morris and Morgan Garner were sworn in at the Alexandria Courthouse on Friday, Jan. 22, shortly before the courthouse closed early in advance of the blizzard. The three received their badges and Edward Semonian, Clerk of the Circuit Court, administered their oath of office. The recruits begin training this week.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

FROM PAGE 10

The homemade shelter is designed from any material ranging from wood, plastics, or metal among others depending on what is available. The shelter built should be of a size that can accommodate a good number of cats comfortably. It should not be too big and neither too small, just the appropriate size. However, the smaller size is the most preferred given that it helps the cat to retain its body heat.

The size of the entry point to the shelter should be put into consideration. It should just fit the cat's size so as to prevent elements of weather such as the wind from getting in. Depending on the space available, a curtain may also be put in the shelter. The shelter should be well ventilated, and bedding materials such as blanket and towels should be added to keep the cat warm. The ready-made shelters are bought with everything in place for the cat.

Access to food and water

The maintenance of energy requirements during the cold spell means that cats will require more calories and fat. This, therefore, calls for individuals in the neighbourhood to give support through donations. A perfect source of a high content of calories

and proper nutrition is the kitten formula. Extra calories can also be obtained from canned foods because the food freezes during the cold seasons.

To protect cats from harsh environmental conditions, the water and feeding locations should be situated close to the shelter. Cats require a devoted feeder as the cats might get used to a particular feeding schedule due to routine feeding. Cats are dependent on fresh, clean water that's essential for their living. This means the bowl should be checked regularly to ensure the cat has fresh water that is not frozen.

Conclusion

Although cats do not have a specific way of saying that they are grateful for everything, they will express their gratitude for making sure that there are no rodents in the home. All in all, we should show compassion all God's creatures. For more information on how to care for feral cats go to these links:

- www.humanesociety.org/issues/feral_cats
- www.alleycat.org/sheltergallery
- www.neighborhoodcats.org

Patricia Vargas
Alexandria

Maintaining Memory

BY MARY LEE ANDERSON
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
SENIOR SERVICES OF ALEXANDRIA



begin at
9:30 a.m.

SSA is partnering with local experts from Inova Alexandria Hospital, Arden Courts of

If you are a fellow baby-boomer, does an occasional lapse in memory sometimes make you wonder if it is something more serious than a momentary distraction? Are you unsure about the best way to ease the frustration that can come with caring for a loved one who is suffering from dementia? Would you like to learn more about the latest medical advances related to dementia and its treatment? The next Senior Speaker Series event will address these questions, and share concrete advice on methods to stimulate memory and brain activity.

SENIOR SERVICES OF ALEXANDRIA

Senior Services of Alexandria's Feb. 10 Speaker Series is going to focus on "Maintaining Memory and Coping with Its Loss." The event takes place at Beatley Central Library at 5005 Duke St. from 10 a.m. - noon. Registration will

Annandale, Insight Memory Care Center, and Alexandria's Division on Aging and Adult Services Senior Mental Health Department to provide useful information on the different types of memory loss. The workshop will include interactive exercises on ways to stimulate the brain to keep it active and lessen memory loss. Participants will also learn about the "10 Warning Signs" related to dementia, and how exercise and healthy eating can make a difference.

This event is free and open to the public. Light refreshments with healthy brain food will be served. Please register at www.seniorservicesalex.org or call 703-836-4414, ext. 110.

Inside or out...

...Tech Painting's got you covered!

Serving:
VA
DC
MD
OBX

703-684-7702

www.techpainting.com

Home of the \$6,850 Bathroom Remodel

From Now to WOW in 5 Days Guarantee

TWO POOR TEACHERS

Kitchen and Bathroom Remodeling

10% down
nothing until the job
is complete for the
past 17 years

Free Estimates
703-999-2928

MOBILE KITCHEN & BATH DESIGN CENTER
703-969-4179

Select your products from our Mobile Showroom and Design Center

Fully Insured & Class A Licensed Since 1999

Visit our website: www.twopoorteachers.com

WINTER FUN & ENTERTAINMENT

3 Tables to Reserve for Restaurant Week

Do Alexandria's many restaurant deals have you stymied? Here are three menus to consider.

By HOPE NELSON
GAZETTE PACKET

his offer to make an interesting cocktail from Thrasher's repertoire.

As Alexandrians dig themselves out from their recent string of snow days, Restaurant Week arrives at the perfect time for a respite from shoveling. Here are three eateries worthy of saving a spot for in the coming week.

Restaurant Eve, 110 S. Pitt St.

Long the darling of Old Town fine dining, Eve's got quite a deal in **APPETITE** store for Restaurant Week. Whereas many restaurants pick and choose a special tasting menu, Restaurant Eve is allowing diners to concoct their three courses straight from the entire bistro menu.

Relatively new participating in Restaurant Week, it's clear that Eve has hit the ground running. In an age of prix fixe options, Chef Cathal Armstrong and his team may have set the top spinning in the opposite direction, allowing diners to enjoy the freedom of choice in their menu offerings.

Bistro entrée prices generally land in the \$35-40 range, so enjoying an entrée plus a first course and dessert for Restaurant Week prices is a treat indeed. Try one of Chef Armstrong's internationally inspired dishes, such as the Jinga Palak, and for a first course, the heirloom beets can't be, well, beat. For a more complete Eve experience, ask the sommelier, Todd Thrasher, for the perfect pairing, or take the bartender up on

Cheesetique, 2411 Mount Vernon Ave.

Cheesetique is by far a perennial Restaurant Week favorite. Like most of its brethren, it offers a set menu for the week, but its options are hardly limited as a result. A \$35 dinner for two gets you and your companion three selections of meats and cheeses from the restaurant's wide array, plus two entrees and a chocolate mousse for the two of you to share.

It's easy to get bogged-down in the entrée selection, and you really can't go wrong. But to ignore the grilled pimiento sandwich would be a crime — its gooey center is offset perfectly by crisp bread, and the side salad makes you feel rather virtuous in the end. Or consider the Mediterranean white bean salad, which is certainly filling (and flavorful) enough for a hearty meal — with a little room to spare for dessert.

A silky chocolate mousse is a perfect way to top off the evening. And with a glass of wine or pint of beer to wash it all down, how can you go wrong?

Trademark, 2080 Jamieson Ave.

Tucked away amid hotels, condos, and the federal courthouse, it's easy to overlook Trademark. But the tavern's Restaurant Week special is sure to win you over. A three-course prix fixe will run you \$35 per person — with drink pairings you'll pay \$45 — and the variety of offerings will likely pull



The first course of Cheesetique's Restaurant Week menu allows diners to pick three meats or cheeses to share.

you in straightaway.

Give Trademark's winter Caesar a try to start with — the liquorice-like taste of Belgian endive blends very nicely with the dish's capers — and then move on to the main course, where you'll find a solid array of options. The butternut squash risotto offers a seasonal take on the rice dish, and you could do worse than the grilled pork

chop with sweet potato polenta.

To finish off your meal, you could be "good" and order the cardamom poached pears, or you could go the decadent route and dive into a Guinness brownie. Either way, you're sure to enjoy a sweet surprise.

Hope Nelson owns and operates the Kitchen Recessionista blog, www.kitchenrecessionista.com. Email her at hope@kitchenrecessionista.com.

CALENDAR

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

ONGOING

"Medieval Story Land." Through Jan. 30, 8 p.m. on Fridays and Saturdays, 2 p.m. on Saturdays at Port City Playhouse, 1819 N. Quaker Lane. Red Knight Productions presents "Medieval Story Land," a parody of the medieval fantasy genre. Tickets are \$18 and \$20. Visit www.portcityplayhouse.com for more.

"True Colors: Like a Rainbow." Through Jan. 31, Gallery hours at The Del Ray Artisans Gallery, 2704 Mount Vernon Ave. Del Ray Artisans' artists use colors of the rainbow for inspiration. Free. Visit www.TheDelRayArtisans.org/True.

VCA Alexandria Animal Hospital Art Show. Through Jan. 31 at VCA Alexandria Animal Hospital, 2660 Duke St. The artwork is on display in waiting areas and examination rooms as a part of Del Ray Artisans' Gallery Without Walls program. Free. Visit www.TheDelRayArtisans.org for more.

"Celebrating What We're Made Of." Through Jan. 31 at The

Associates Gallery, 105 N. Union St. This show features mixed media artist and TAG member Karen Fitzgerald, who creates art from recycled materials. Using everything from junk mail to food packaging, Fitzgerald's art celebrates the small things that make up our everyday lives. Free. Visit www.torpedofactory.org for more.

"Muted." Through Jan. 31, gallery hours at the Art League Gallery, 105 N. Union St. "Muted" will showcase the artist's ability to focus on using a limited palette, exploring subtle composition, pursuing soft representation or discussing thoughts that are not expressed strongly or openly. Free. Visit www.theartleague.org for more.

"Birds of a Feather." Through Feb. 7, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. at Potomac Fiber Arts Gallery-Torpedo Factory Arts Center, 105 N. Union St. The artist focus on things that go together: ham and eggs, bride and groom, etc. Free. Visit www.potomacfiberartsgallery.com for more.

"Fred Zafran and Danny Conant." Through Feb. 14, gallery hours at the Multiple Exposures Gallery, 105 N. Union St. Danny Conant presents compositions inspired by a recent trip to Paris. Fred Zafran's new work is an allegory of being, time and memory. Free. Visit www.torpedofactory.org for more.

"Mountains: Recent Paintings by Sue Grace." Gallery hours, through Feb. 22 at Goodwin House Bailey's Crossroads, 3440 S. Jefferson St. Sue Grace's paintings draw inspiration from the West Virginia Mountains and time she has spent there. These paintings represent her fascination with the representational, abstract, and figurative elements of painting. Free. Email Anthony Brock at abrock@goodwinhouse.org.

"No Holds Barred." Through Feb. 27, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. on Fridays, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. on Saturdays at The Gallery @ Convergence, 1801 N. Quaker Lane. This exhibit is named for the "don't hold back, just let go" approach artists Pamela Underhill and Rusty Lynn employ in their artmaking. Free. Visit www.convergence.org for more.

"Who The Wounded Are." Through July 11 at Carlyle House Historic Park, 121 N. Fairfax St. "Who These Wounded Are: The Extraordinary Stories of the Mansion House Hospital" is about people who lived and worked at this site in Alexandria and their real life stories that inspired the PBS show, "Mercy Street." Tickets are \$2-12. Visit www.carlylehouse.org for more.

The Lyceum: 175 Years of Local History. Ongoing, Monday-Saturday 10 a.m.-5 p.m. and Sunday 1-5 p.m. at The Lyceum, 201 S. Washington St. On view in the museum's

Coldsmith Gallery, the historical objects and images featured represent The Lyceum, the community at work, and commemorations and celebrations. Throughout the exhibition, visitors are invited to "be the curator" and think about why the various artifacts are in the museum's collection, and about how tangible representatives of the past help tell the story of Alexandria's history. Free. Visit www.alexandriahistory.org for more.

Medical Care for the Civil War Soldier Exhibit. Ongoing at the Fort Ward museum, 4301 W. Braddock Road. ongoing exhibit which features original medical instruments and equipment from the Civil War period and information on Union Army hospital sites in Alexandria. Free. Visit www.alexandriava.gov/fortward for more.

Alexandria's Nurses & Hospitals During the Civil War. Ongoing at The Lyceum, 201 S. Washington St. An exhibit on the life of Clarissa Jones, a nurse at The Lyceum hospital during the Civil War. The true story of a nurse in Alexandria during the war, drawing parallels with characters portrayed in the PBS drama "Mercy Street," with references to the experiences of other nurses, such as Anne Reading, who worked in the Mansion House hospital, and Jane Woolsey, who

served at the Fairfax Seminary hospital. Admission is \$2. Visit www.alexandriava.gov/lyceum for more.

Occupied City: Civil War Alexandria Self-Guided Tour. At The Lyceum, 201 S. Washington St. learn about the real history behind the show "Mercy Street" on this self-guided walking tour, which features significant Civil War Alexandria sites all within walking distance of The Lyceum, which was seized and used as a hospital during the war. Tickets are \$2. Visit www.alexandriava.gov/lyceum for more.

"Ancient Art of Movement." 1 p.m. at Hollin Hall Senior Center, 1500 Shenandoah Road. Carmen Shippy, retired professional dancer, teaches a series designed for ages 50 and above. Movements are designed to strengthen core muscles and increase flexibility. Adjustments will be made for those with physical limitations. First lesson in the series is free for non-center members. To continue lessons, a yearly membership to all Senior Center programs is \$48. Call 703-765-4573 to sign up.

Flamenco Show. Wednesdays and Thursdays, 7:30-8:30 p.m. at La Tasca, 607 King St. Watch dancers and guitarists perform traditional flamenco. Free to attend. Call 703-299-9810 or visit www.latascausa.com.

SEE CALENDAR, PAGE 13

WINTER FUN & ENTERTAINMENT



PHOTO BY HOPE NELSON

Poppy seed fritters are on Vermillion's Restaurant Week menu.

Alexandria Winter Restaurant Week

Neighborhoods throughout Alexandria — including Old Town, Del Ray and the West End will offer a \$35 three-course dinner or a \$35 dinner for two. More than two dozen restaurants are also offering lunch deals at \$10, \$15 or \$20 per person in addition to the dinner specials. Visit www.alexandriarestaurantweek.com for a complete list of participating restaurants.



PHOTO BY CONNOR ORTMAN

Blackwall Hitch is participating in Alexandria Winter Restaurant Week.

CALENDAR

FROM PAGE 12

French Movie Night. Every Thursday, 7 p.m. in the back room of Fontaine Caffe & Creperie, 119 S. Royal St. View a French film. Free, no reservation necessary. Call 703-535-8151 or visit www.fontainecaffe.com/reviews.html.

Journey to Be Free: Alexandria Freedmen's Cemetery. Through March, Tuesday-Saturday, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Alexandria Black History Museum, 902 Wythe St. A new exhibit tracing the 150-year history of the long-forgotten Freedmen's Cemetery, its rediscovery and how the new Contrabands and Freedmen's Cemetery Memorial was created at the site. Call 703-746-4356.

Their Fates Intertwined: The Lees of Alexandria in the War of 1812. Wednesday- Saturday, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Sunday, 1-4 p.m. Lee-Fendall House and Gardens, 614 Oronoco St. A new exhibit on the experiences of the Lee family in Alexandria during the War of 1812 examines the contributions of

Alexandria's citizens during the conflict that led to the writing of our national anthem through the lives of this iconic Virginia family. Visit www.leeendallhouse.org or call 703-548-1789.

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

Fifty Years of Collecting. Tuesday-Saturday 10 a.m.-5 p.m., Sundays 12-5 p.m. Fort Ward Museum, 4301 W. Braddock Road. An anniversary exhibit of objects from the Fort Ward collection. Free. Visit www.fortward.org or call 703-746-4848.

National Inventors Hall of Fame Exhibit. Through November at The National Inventors Hall of Fame-USPTO campus, 600 Dulany St. The exhibit features the stories of Inductees of the National Inventors Hall of Fame who served their country during World War II and

FEB 6TH

Are You & Your Family Comfortable in Your Home?



THIS EVENT FILLS UP FAST!
If you are unable to make this date, please give us a call to get on the schedule for the next event!

We Hope You Will Join Us!

Saturday, Feb. 6th, 2015 - 10am-2pm

Where: Sun Design Corporate Office
5795 B Burke Centre Parkway, Burke, VA 22015
(Located behind the Kohl's shopping center)

Seminars run from 10am-12pm. Lunch to follow.
Please arrive at 9:45am for check-in.

Seating is limited!

RSVP: info@sundesigninc.com or call Erin at 703.425.5588

Seminars:

Kitchen + Bath Trends | Renovating for Lifestyle Changes | Opening Up Your Floor Plan

SUN DESIGN
Design. Remodel. Relationships.

Major Remodels • Additions • Kitchens & Baths • Basements • Outdoor Spaces
703.425.5588 | SunDesignInc.com



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

Enjoy the Carefree Lifestyle You Deserve

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

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

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

For more information, call 703-797-3814.

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

Alexandria, VA
www.Hermitage-Nova.com



OAKCREST SCHOOL
An independent school for girls in grades 6-12 inspired by the teachings of the Catholic Church

**Underslept and Overstressed:
Why children need sleep, and
what we can do if they are not
getting enough**

A lecture and discussion by family physician Dr. Carmel Kelly
Saturday, January 30 @ 7:30 pm
Wine reception follows

850 Balls Hill Road, McLean, VA 22101 • Moving To 1619 Crowell Road, Vienna, VA
Oakcrest.org

Upper School presents
Anne of Green Gables
Book by Donald Harron
Music by Norman Campbell
Adapted from the novel by L.M. Montgomery

"Anne of Green Gables (Harron)" is presented by special arrangement with SAMUEL FRENCH, INC.

February 26 7:30 p.m.
February 27 11:00 a.m.* & 7:30 p.m.
*Special Group Pricing Available.
Contact Terri Collins at admissions@oakcrest.org for Information

SPECIAL CONNECTIONS CALENDAR
Advertising Deadlines are the previous Thursday unless noted.

FEBRUARY
2/10/2016.....HomeLifeStyle
2/10/2016.....Valentine's Dining & Gifts II
2/17/2016.....A+ Camps & Schools
2/24/2016.....Pet Connection

MARCH
3/2/2016.....Wellbeing
3/9/2016.....HomeLifeStyle Real Estate Pullout
3/16/2016.....A+ Camps & Schools
3/23/2016....Spring Fun, Food, Arts & Entertainment
FCPS Spring Break 3/21-3/25

APRIL
4/6/2016.....Wellbeing – Senior Living Pullout
Easter Sunday is March 27
4/13/2016.....Real Estate Pullout – New Homes
4/20/2016.....A+ Camps & Schools
4/27/2016.....A+ Camps & Schools Pullout
4/27/2016.....Mother's Day Celebrations,
Dining & Gifts I

E-mail sales@connectionnewspapers.com for more information.

Award-Winning
THE CONNECTION
Newspapers & Online
703-778-9431
www.ConnectionNewspapers.com/Advertising

Reaching Suburban Washington's Leading Households

- Alexandria Gazette Packet
- Arlington Connection
- Burke Connection
- Centre View
- Chantilly Connection
- Fairfax Connection
- Fairfax Station/Clifton/Lorton Connection
- Great Falls Connection
- McLean Connection
- Mount Vernon Gazette
- Oak Hill/Herndon Connection
- Potomac Almanac
- Reston Connection
- Springfield Connection
- Vienna/Oakton Connection

WINTER FUN & ENTERTAINMENT

returned home to help build the nation with their innovations. Free. Visit www.inventnow.org.

Dinner for the Washingtons. 12 p.m. at George Washington's Mount Vernon, 3200 Mount Vernon Memorial Highway. A walking tour that goes behind the scenes to find out how food was prepared and served before the era of microwaves and TV dinners. \$5 in addition to estate admission. Visit www.mountvernon.org for more.

Second Thursday Music. Athenaeum, 201 Prince St. 7 pm. Second Thursday of every month. Visit nvfaa.org to view concert calendar and listen to upcoming Second Thursday Music artists.

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

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

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

CAMPS, CLASSES & WORKSHOPS

Photography Workshop. 10:30 a.m.-12 p.m. at Multiple Exposures Gallery on 105 N. Union St. Photographers 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.

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 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.

SATURDAY-SUNDAY/JAN. 23-24, 30

Jane Franklin Dance: "Niche." 7:30 p.m. at Theatre on the Run, 3700 S. Four Mile Run Drive, Arlington. Alexandria dance company Jane Franklin Dance performs "Niche," which follows an unremarkable couple with a new house, big careers, and odd neighbors. Tickets are \$15 in advance and \$20 at the door. Visit www.janefranklin.com.

THURSDAY/JAN. 28

Reading: "Virginian Luxuries." 7 p.m. at The Athenaeum, 201 Prince St. Attend a staged reading of a new play written by Pamela Leahigh detailing the lives of two Alexandria



PHOTO BY ERNEST EVANS

Brazilian singer Cissa Paz will lead a concert of Carnaval dance music at the Carlyle Club, 2050 Ballenger Ave. on Feb. 6 at 8 p.m. Tickets are \$25. Visit www.carlyleclub.com for more.

families — one modern, the other living in the Civil War era. Tickets are \$15. Visit www.nvfaa.org for more.

Birthnight Ball Dance Class. 7:30-9:30 p.m. at Gadsby's Tavern Museum, 134 N. Royal St. In preparation for the Birthnight Ball on Feb. 13, learn 18th-century English country dancing from expert dance instructors. Tickets are \$12 per class or \$30 for the entire series. Visit www.shop.alexandriava.gov for more.

JAN. 28-FEB. 11

George Washington Birthday Cherry Challenge. Various times and various locations around Alexandria. Celebrating George Washington's Birthday, local restaurants offer dishes and beverages featuring cherries in the spirit of the old cherry tree tale. Visit any of the more than 50 participating restaurants during the contest and vote for your favorite cherry based items. The customer sampling the greatest number of competing items will receive the Frequent Cherry Diner Award. Visit www.washingtonbirthday.net/cherry-challenge.

JAN. 28-MARCH 6

"Shake Loose." Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday at 8 p.m., Saturday at 3 p.m. and 8 p.m., and Sunday at 3 p.m. and 7 p.m. at MetroStage, 1201 N. Royal St. "Shake Loose" features music and lyrics by Thomas W. Jones II, William

Hubbard and William Knowles. It features stories and songs from MetroStage productions including "Three Sistahs," "Cool Papa's Party," "Ladies Swing the Blues" and more. Tickets \$55-60. Call 703-548-9044 or visit www.metrostage.org.

FRIDAY/JAN. 29

"Paris Vivra: France After the Attacks." 7-9 p.m. at the Lyceum, 201 S. Washington Ave. Guy Sorman, publisher of "France-Amerique" will present a lecture. \$5 suggested donation. Visit www.guysorman.eventbrite.com.

Civil War Wine Dinner. 7-10 p.m. at Gadsby's Tavern Museum, 134 N. Royal St. Start your evening in the museum for the first course and conversation with Gray Ghost Vineyards. Then head down to the restaurant's main dining room to experience more wine and great food inspired by the 19th century. Tickets are \$100. Visit www.shop.alexandriava.gov for more.

The Fabulous Hubcaps. 8 p.m. at the Carlyle Club, 2050 Ballenger Ave. Oldies and classic rock show band. Tickets are \$25. Visit www.thecarlyleclub.com for more.

JAN. 29-FEB. 6

"U-Street, the Musical." 7-9 p.m. at Richard Kauffman Auditorium-Lee Center, 1108 Jefferson St. U-Street, features 12 original songs and eight dance numbers, bringing light to the issue of homelessness in America. Tickets are \$20. Visit

Jan. 29 - Feb. 7, 2016

EXTRAORDINARY

Alexandria

restaurant week

OVER 60 RESTAURANTS WITH \$35 MENUS!

AlexandriaRestaurantWeek.com



Browse Menus - Make Reservations

POWERED BY OpenTable



RESTAURANT WEEK SPECIAL



\$35.00 per person
3-Course Prix
Fixe Menu
with a Glass of
Sparkling Apple Cider



Lunch • Dinner • Weekend Brunch
119 South Royal Street, Alexandria VA 22314
703.535.8151 • www.fontainecaffe.com

THREE COURSE PRIX FIXE
\$35 DINNER OR \$22 LUNCH

Wine Pairings Available
Lunch and Dinner



NEW AMERICAN TAVERN

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

DINE DELICIOUSLY

Come celebrate
Alexandria's Restaurant Week
while overlooking the Potomac River and
the Washington, D.C. skyline!

Open Wednesday through Sunday, 11:00 a.m. - 9:00 p.m.
Sunday Brunch served from 11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Indigo
LANDING

1 Marina Drive, Alexandria, Virginia 22314
703-548-0001 • indigoland.com



\$35

3-course prix
fixe menu

205 E. HOWELL AVENUE
703-717-9151
WWW.DELRAYCAFE.COM



\$35 dinner \$20 lunch
3-course prix fixe menu

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



WINTER FUN & ENTERTAINMENT

www.ustreetmusical.wordpress.com.

JAN. 29-FEB. 7

Alexandria Winter Restaurant Week. Neighborhoods throughout Alexandria — including Old Town, Del Ray and the West End. More than 60 Alexandria restaurants offer a \$35 three-course dinner or a \$35 dinner for two. More than two dozen restaurants are also offering lunch deals at \$10, \$15 or \$20 per person in addition to the dinner specials. Visit www.alexandriarestaurantweek.com for more.

SATURDAY/JAN. 30

“Explore the Real Mansion House.” 10 a.m.-12 p.m. at the Carlyle House, 121 N. Fairfax St. Go behind the scenes and learn about the true story of the nurses, doctors, soldiers and Alexandrians who star in PBS’s series “Mercy Street.” The program will begin in one of the original lobbies of the hospital, normally closed to the public. Tickets are \$10 for Alexandria Historical Society members and friends of the Carlyle House, \$20 for non-members. Visit www.alexandriahistoricalsociety.org for more.

Artist Workshop: “No Holds Barred.” 10 a.m.-3 p.m. at The Gallery @ Convergence, 1801 N. Quaker Lane. Learn to make box sculptures. Supplies will be provided. Free. Visit www.ourconvergence.org for more.

Kitchen & Bath Remodeling Seminar. 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. at Ferguson Lighting Gallery, 5650 General Washington Drive. Gain insight into the latest trends and the different levels of kitchen and bath remodeling. Also learn more about time frames and project budgeting. Free. Visit www.casedesign.com for more.

“Northern Virginia Women in the Civil War.” 2-3 p.m. at Burke Branch Library, 4701 Seminary Road. Prof. Alice Reagan discusses the changes in lifestyle for women during and after the civil war. Visit www.alexandria.lib.va.us or call 703-746-1704.

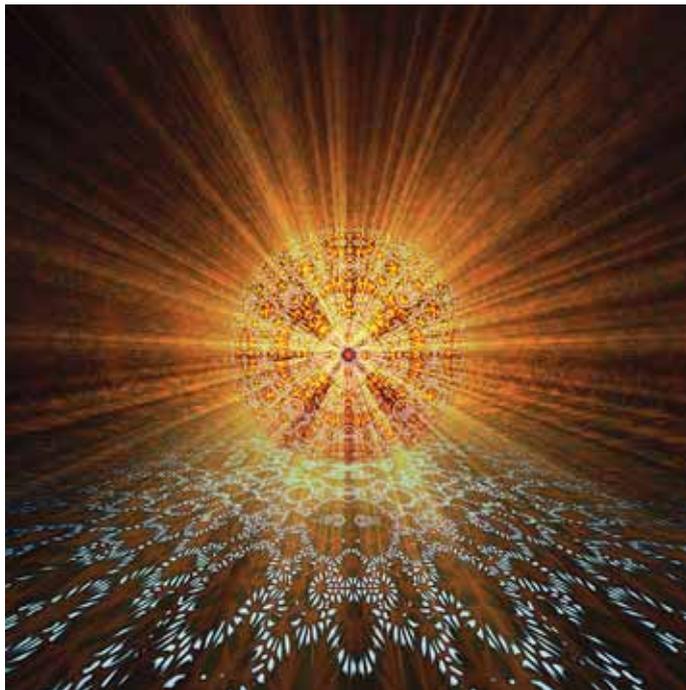
SUNDAY/JAN. 31

Alexandria’s Destination Bridal Showcase. 11 a.m.-3 p.m. at the Carlyle Club, 2050 Ballenger Ave. Experience live music, talk with professionals in the areas of floral design, cake design travel, event planning, and more. Tickets are \$10. Visit www.carlyleclub.com for more.

Wonders of Science. 1-4 p.m. at the Stabler-Leadbeater Apothecary Museum, 105-107 S. Fairfax St. Visit the Apothecary and discover curious objects, from poison bottles to dragon’s blood, find out how they were used and if they worked. During the hour-long tours, Project Enlightenment, McLean High School’s historical-reenactment society, will conduct 18th century scientific demonstrations. Tickets are \$6. Visit www.shop.alexandriava.gov for more.

JAN. 31-MAY 15

Art Exhibit: “Partnerships.” Business hours at VCA Alexandria Animal Hospital, 2660 Duke St. All artwork is available for purchase through Del Ray Artisans. Artists are donating 20 percent of the purchase price of sold pieces in an equal split between Del Ray Artisans and the VCA Alexandria Animal Hospital’s charity of choice, Veterans Moving Forward. Free. Call 703-751-2022 for more.



“Filigree Lamp” by Cameron Turner

‘March Melee’ Coming to Del Ray Artisans Gallery

The March Melee exhibit at the Del Ray Artisans gallery is inspired by the Roald Dahl quote “A little nonsense now and then is relished by the wisest [wo]men.” Beyond the art exhibit running March 4-27, also find a “Build a Beast” textile workshop, a generative digital art lecture, a hat making workshop, and a reception with the artists. Admission to the gallery is free. Visit www.delrayartisans.org for a full schedule.

note their favorite pieces, so they’ll be prepared to select from the available artwork when their names are drawn. Admission to the gallery is free, tickets for the drawing are \$200 for one work of art and one seat, \$250 for a couple’s ticket which includes two seats and one work of art. Visit www.theartleague.org/content/patrons_show.

TUESDAY/FEB. 2

Art Extravaganza. 7-9 p.m. at West Potomac High School, 6500 Quander Road. This event will feature a “Tuesday Night Live” performance, a parody of “Saturday Night Live.” featuring students from TV Production, dance, and theater classes performing musical numbers, sketch comedy, dance, and a digital short. Attendees can participate in the West Potomac Super Art Fight and paint with light, paint like Jackson Pollock, play with pixels and clay; and learn how to play guitar during a mini lesson by a guitar student. Free. Contact principal Alex Case at 703-718-2500 or abcase@fcps.edu or event liaison Amy Stoll at aestoll@fcps.edu.

WEDNESDAY/FEB. 3

Lecture: Medical Care During the Civil War. 7:30 p.m. at The Lyceum, 201 S. Washington St. Learn about medical practices of the Civil War era and military hospitals in urban settings like wartime Alexandria by attending a lecture entitled “We are not Butchers: Military Surgeons of the Civil War.” In honor of the PBS drama series, “Mercy Street.” Tickets are \$5. Visit www.historicalalexandria.gov.

FEB. 3-14

Art League Patrons Show. Gallery hours at The Art League, 105 N. Union St. This annual event features 600+ works of original fine art donated by Art League artists, Art League Faculty, and Torpedo Factory artists. The number of tickets sold matches the number of works donated. Prior to the drawing on Feb. 14, the show is on view online and in the Gallery, giving ticket-holders an opportunity to study the artwork and

Athenaeum, 201 Prince St. Celebrate the launch of this exhibit considering the roles of women in society. Free. Visit www.nvfaa.org or call 703-548-0035.

“Trending: Contemporary Art Now!” Opening Reception. at the Target Gallery, 105 N. Union St. Celebrate this all-media exhibition featuring works by self-identifying women artists. Free. Visit www.torpedofactory.org/target for more.

Mardi Gras in Alexandria. 6-8:30 p.m. at Durant Arts Center, 1605 Cameron St. Make a Mardi Gras mask with Metamorphosis Art and Enrichment Center or bring your own and participate in the evening’s Mardi Gras parade. In advance, tickets are \$5 for residents, \$10 for nonresidents. At the door, tickets are \$10 for residents, \$15 for nonresidents. Visit www.alexandriava.gov/webtrac and register using class code 355203.01.

“Joshua.” 7:30 p.m. at Blessed Sacrament Church, 1427 W. Braddock Road. Blessed Sacrament music director John H. McCrary will conduct the Blessed Sacrament festival choir, along with an orchestra of professional DC-area musicians in Handel’s oratorio, “Joshua.” Featured soloists are Michelle Kunz and Joshua Hong, Washington National Opera, and Sally Mouzon and Phillip Pickens, San Francisco Opera. Free. Call 703-998-6100 ext. 103.

FEB. 5-28

“All aBoard.” 7-9 p.m. at The Del Ray Artisans Gallery, 2704 Mount Vernon Ave. Eight board members, Ron Blank, Michele Reday Cook, Kim S. Joy, Stephen Lally, Marlin Lord, Elizabeth Guerry Mead, Kathy Turner and Joan Woodill, display their work. Free. Visit www.delrayartisans.org/show.

SATURDAY/FEB. 6

Winter Warehouse Sale. 9 a.m.-4 p.m. at The Westin Alexandria-400 Courthouse Square. Each year, the Old Town Boutique District hosts a warehouse sale featuring designer clothing, shoes, jewelry, home furnishings, and more at up to 80 percent off retail. Admission to the sale is free. Visit www.oldtownboutiquedistrict.com for more.

Preparing for a Ball. 10:30 a.m.-4 p.m. at Gadsby’s Tavern Museum, 134 N. Royal St. Explore the tavern where famous balls like George Washington’s Birthnight Ball were held and practice the tasks involved in preparing for a ball. Includes an 18th century dance lesson and a craft

to take home. The program begins each 45 minutes. Tickets are \$6. Visit www.shop.alexandriava.gov for more.

John Carlyle Birthday Celebration. 12-4 p.m. at The Carlyle House, 121 N. Fairfax St. Celebrate the birthday of Alexandria town founder John Carlyle with 18th-century dancing, live music, Scottish history and more. Free. Visit www.novaparks.com for more.

“The Green Family of Cabinetmakers.” 1:30-3 p.m. at Barrett Branch Library, 717 Queen St. Learn how the Greens made their money and became a prominent Alexandria family. Visit www.alexandria.lib.va.us or call 703-746-1703.

Cissa Paz. 8-10 p.m. at the Carlyle Club, 2050 Ballenger Ave. Brazilian singer Cissa Paz will lead a concert of Brazilian Carnival dance music. Tickets are \$25. Visit www.thecarlyleclub.com for more.

SUNDAY/FEB. 7

Winter Warmer Tea. 3-4:30 p.m. at Gadsby’s Tavern Museum, 138 N. Royal St. Drink a special blend of tea or a cup of American Heritage Chocolate, eat period-inspired delicacies, with “Mrs. Martha Washington.” During the tea, “Mrs. Washington” will be sharing stories from her life and visiting with each guest. Also take a tour at 2:15. Tea is \$35 per person, all inclusive, reservations are required. To make reservations call 703-746-4242 or visit shop.alexandriava.gov.

MONDAY/FEB. 8

Partners in Art. 2-4 p.m. at Del Ray Artisans Gallery, 2704 Mount Vernon Ave. Creatives gather to discuss art and exchange ideas. Free. Visit www.thedelrayartisans.org for more.

Lecture: Women of Alexandria. 7 p.m. at The Athenaeum, 201 Prince St. “Women of Alexandria, from Antebellum to the 20th Century” will depict the effect of the Civil War on the lives of Alexandria’s women before, during, and after the war. Free. Visit www.nvfaa.org or call 703-548-0035.

TUESDAY/FEB. 9

Interfaith Dinner. 6:30 p.m. at Beth El Synagogue, 3830 Seminary Road. Maureen Fiedler, founder and host of public radio’s preeminent religious news magazine program, “Interfaith Voices,” will be the keynote speaker at the Beth El Hebrew Congregation/Fairlington United Methodist Church Interfaith Dinner. Tickets are \$15. Email Ron Sturman at

Join in 8th Annual Cherry Challenge

The 8th Annual Cherry Challenge will be held Jan. 28 through Feb. 11. In the spirit of the old cherry tree tale, local restaurants are participating in a culinary contest. Patrons of the participating restaurants can vote for their favorite cherry drinks, starters, entrees and desserts.

During the contest period, each patron who orders an item may submit a ballot on which they rate the item on taste, creativity, and presentation. At the end, the ballots will be collected and tallied.

A “Frequent Cherry Diner Award” will go to the diner who buys and rates the greatest number of Cherry Challenge entries. For a complete list of participating restaurants visit www.washingtonbirthday.net/cherry-challenge

Sponsors of the contest include Halt Buzas & Powell, Ltd. and Dale Digital Printing.

WINTER FUN & ENTERTAINMENT



PHOTO BY CHRIS BANKS

Anthony Manough, Lori Williams, Rayshun Lamarr, and Roz White star in "Shake Loose" through March 6.

MetroStage Presents 'Shake Loose'

"Shake Loose" is a musical production featuring the music and lyrics of Thomas W. Jones, William Hubbard and William Knowles. "A musical odyssey" of African American people in the 20th century, "Shake Loose" celebrates the gospel tradition, and the African American icons, who invented the jazz, blues, and R&B. "Shake Loose" will run at MetroStage, 1201 N. Royal St., Jan. 28-March 6. Tickets are \$55-60. Visit www.metrostage.org for more.

rgsturman@msn.com to RSVP.

Workshop: Vegetable Gardening.

7-8:30 p.m. at the Walter Reed Recreation Center, 2909 16th St. South, Arlington. The Master Gardeners of Northern Virginia, (Arlington and Alexandria) present a workshop for the beginning vegetable gardener. Program will address best practices for site selection, soil requirements and soil improvement, as well as guidance on crop selection and planting schedules. Free. Call 703-228-6414.

FEB. 10-MARCH 13

"A Salute to Primary Colors." 10 a.m.-5 p.m., 9 p.m. on second Thursday of each month. Potomac Fiber Arts Gallery presents primary colors in all forms including as gifts, jewelry, sculpture, clothing, and wall pieces. Free. Visit www.Potomacfiberartsgallery.com.

THURSDAY/FEB. 11

Birthnight Ball Dance Class. 7:30-9:30 p.m. at Gadsby's Tavern

Museum, 134 N. Royal St. In preparation for the Birthnight Ball on Feb. 13, learn 18th-century English country dancing from expert dance instructors. Tickets are \$12 per class or \$30 for the entire series. Visit www.shop.alexandriava.gov for more.

FRIDAY/FEB. 12

Mount Vernon Chocolate Dinner. 6:30-10 p.m. at George Washington's Mount Vernon, 3200 Mount Vernon Memorial Highway. Find a four-course meal in celebration of Valentine's Day featuring peppercorn crusted steak and triple chocolate cheesecake. Tickets are \$125 each. Visit www.mountvernon.org for more.

SATURDAY/FEB. 13

Beyond the Battlefield Walking Tour. 10 a.m. starting at the Lyceum, 201 S. Washington St. Discover the real-life stories and locations of soldiers, citizens, and former slaves that inspired the PBS

drama "Mercy Street" in this walking tour of Old Town. Tickets are \$15. Visit www.leefendallhouse.org for more.

Birthnight Banquet and Ball. 5:30-11 p.m. at Gadsby's Tavern Museum, 134 N. Royal St. Attend a recreation of a celebration of Washington's Birthday. The evening includes an 18th-century banquet, English country dancing, dessert collation, character re-enactors, and General and Mrs. George Washington. Tickets are \$125, \$150 for dinner in the same room as the "Washingtons" and \$250 for a spot at the same table. Visit www.shop.alexandriava.gov for more.

SATURDAY-SUNDAY/FEB. 13-14

Presidents Day Weekend Celebration. 9 a.m.-4 p.m. at George Washington's Mount Vernon, 3200 Mount Vernon Highway. Join "General Washington" for a sample of "hoecakes swimming in butter and honey," mingle with costumed characters from George Washington's world, take part in Mount Vernon's

NEIGHBORHOODS

Taylor Run

Forty-eight years ago was the first time a group of children from three families on Shuter's Hill went caroling during the Christmas break. They needed something to do because so much Christmas activity happened before Christmas when youths were still in school.

On St. Stephen's Day, Dec. 26, 2015, Rachel Gibson Hunt led the carolers, in which she has

participated since she was 4 years old. Emma Swindell sang and helped collect donations for Children's Hospital, this year totaling \$1,105. The group of carolers has changed over the years, but they follow the same path, curling around in a circle up on top of the hill. Moina Ratliffe, as usual, supervised the potluck supper afterward at 310 Park Road.

— LOIS KELSO HUNT

Alexandria
PASTRY SHOP
Complete Catering - Gourmet To Go

Valentine's Day

We have: Heart-shaped cookies and cakes, petits fours, truffles, triple-dipped strawberries, gift baskets and XOXO cookies. Let the ones you love know it with a pastry from the heart!

ALEXANDRIA PASTRY SHOP AND CATERING COMPANY
703.578.4144
or e-mail: catering@alexandriapastry.com





Cedar Knoll

FOOD & AMBIENCE DESERVING OF ITS WATERFRONT ADDRESS

Sunday Brunch: 11-2:30
Happy Hour: 4-7, Tuesday-Friday
Dinner: begins at 5pm, Tuesday-Sunday

Special Valentine's Day Menu

Inaugural Sunday Brunch January 31st
Restaurant Week Tasting Menu for \$35 from January 29th through February 7th

Memories are made here
Call us to learn more about our private dining and event services.

9030 Lucia Lane
Alexandria, Virginia 22308
703-780-3665 • cedarknollva.com
reservations@cedarknollva.com

**Make your reservations early for
VALENTINE'S DAY
Sunday, February 14th**

Le Refuge
Restaurant

Winter Specials

- Split Pea Soup
- Venison Medallions
- Beef Wellington
- Rack of Lamb
- Bouillabaisse
- Dover Sole
- Coq au Vin
- Cassoulet

 Find us on Facebook

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

WINTER FUN & ENTERTAINMENT

largest-ever 18th-century dancing demonstration with costumed characters on the Bowling Green, and more. This event is included in admission: adults, \$20; children ages 6-11, \$10; and children under 5 are admitted free. Visit www.mountvernon.org.

"The Dramatic." 8 p.m. on Saturday at Rachel M. Schlesinger Center, 4915 E. Campus Drive, 3 p.m. on Sunday at George Washington Masonic Memorial, 101 Callahan Drive. Alexandria Symphony Orchestra performs love duets from "La Bohème" and "Madame Butterfly" by Giacomo Puccini, Respighi's "Pines of Rome," Vivaldi's "Double Cello Concerto" and selections from "The Godfather." Tickets are \$5-80. Visit www.alexsym.org for more.

SUNDAY/FEB. 14

Parade Day Open Houses. 11 a.m.-4 p.m. at Gadsby's Tavern Museum,

134 N. Royal St., the Stabler-Leadbeater Apothecary Museum, 105-107 S. Fairfax St., and the Friendship Firehouse Museum, 107 S. Alfred St., 10 a.m.-4 p.m. at The Lyceum, Alexandria's History Museum, 201 S. Washington St. Find a collection of herbs and botanicals at the Apothecary museum, see leath water buckets and hand-drawn fire engines at the friendship firehouse, and more. Free. Visit www.historicalexandria.org for more.

Music in the Gallery: The Navy Concert Band. 2 p.m. at the Athenaeum, 201 Prince St. The Navy Band Chamber Music Series features musicians from the U.S. Navy Band. This chamber music recital will feature traditional and modern music for woodwinds and brass. Free. Visit www.nvfaa.org for more.

Adulteration of Chocolate Tasting. 3-4:30 p.m. at Gadsby's Tavern Museum, 134 N. Royal St. Learn

more about 18th century tavern beverages and American Heritage Chocolate. Find multiple courses of beverage, chocolate, and food pairings. Tickets are \$45. Visit www.shop.alexandriava.gov.

Art League Patrons Show Drawing. 4 p.m. at The Art League, 105 N. Union St. For 10 days prior to the drawing, the show is on view online and in the Gallery, giving ticket-holders an opportunity to study the artwork and note their favorite pieces, so they'll be prepared to select from the available artwork when their names are drawn. New this year: an app called "Art Thief" that helps build a list of art and keep track of it during the Patron Show drawing. Admission to the gallery is free, tickets for the drawing are \$200 for one work of art and one seat, \$250 for a couple's ticket which includes two seats and one work of art. Visit www.theartleague.org/content/patrons_show.

Burlesque-A-Pades in Loveland. 7:30 p.m. at The Birchmere, 301 Mount Vernon Ave. Burlesque ensemble performs. Tickets are \$29.50. Visit www.birchmere.com.

MONDAY/FEB. 15

Presidents Day Celebration. 8 a.m.-4 p.m. at George Washington's Mount Vernon, 3200 Mount Vernon Highway. Participate in a dance demonstration, take a photo in front of the Lansdowne portrait, and more. Free. Visit www.mountvernon.org.

FEB. 10-26

"Space Bop." Various times at the Athenaeum, 201 Prince St. "Space Bop" features Christylez Bacon in a show engaging children ages 0-2 in an exploration of celestial life. Tickets are \$6. Visit www.artsonthehorizon.org/space-bop for more.

TUESDAY/FEB. 16

Homeschool Day: Washington's Ball. 1-2:30 p.m. at Gadsby's Tavern Museum, 134 N. Royal St. In honor of George Washington's actual birthday on Feb. 22, learn how the citizens of Alexandria would celebrate his birthday in the late 1790s. Admission is \$8 for children, free for adults. Visit www.shop.alexandriava.gov for more.

Workshop: Vegetable Gardening. 7-8:30 p.m. at the Kate Waller Barrett Branch Library, 717 Queen St. The Master Gardeners of Northern Virginia, (Arlington and Alexandria) present a workshop for the beginning vegetable gardener. Program will address best practices for site selection, soil requirements and soil improvement, as well as guidance on crop selection and planting schedules. Free. Call 703-228-6414.

BULLETIN BOARD

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

ABSENTEE VOTING

In-Person Absentee Voting. Through Saturday, Feb. 27, during business hours at Office of Voter Registrations and Elections, 132 N. Royal Street, Suite 100. Absentee voting for Virginia's March 1 Democratic and Republican Presidential Primary is open. Many Alexandria voters are eligible to vote absentee, to learn what circumstances qualify, visit

alexandriava.gov/Elections and click on "Absentee Voting," or call 703-746-4050.

Absentee Voting By Mail. The deadline to apply for an absentee ballot by mail is Tuesday, Feb. 23. Applications must be received in the Voter Registration Office by 5 p.m. on this day. Absentee ballot applications are available at alexandriava.gov/Elections, or by contacting the Alexandria Voter Registration Office at 703-746-4050. Applications may also be submitted online through the Citizen Portal at <http://elections.virginia.gov>.

THURSDAY/JAN. 28

Advisory Group Meeting. 6:30 p.m.

at Charles Houston Recreation Center, 901 Wythe St., in the Multi-Purpose Room. The Braddock Implementation Advisory Group's next public meeting will include a presentation and discussion on the refined concept plan for the 1-acre Braddock Community Park, as well as updates on the Fayette Street Streetscape Project, Braddock Metro Station Redevelopment, and neighborhood development projects. Community members are encouraged to attend. Visit www.alexandriava.gov/braddock.

SUNDAY/JAN. 31

Submission Deadline. The City of Alexandria Office of the Arts invites

artists and artist teams to submit their qualifications for this year's Traffic Control Box Vinyl Wrap Public Art Project. Up to three artists or artist teams will be selected to design wraps for 12 traffic control boxes located at intersections in the West End of the City of Alexandria. The City will be responsible for the printing and installation of the box wraps. Visit <http://bit.ly/1W5mM5c>.

MONDAY/FEB. 1

Deadline Extended. 5 p.m. Alexandria Transit Company (DASH) and the City of Alexandria's Office of the Arts have extended the deadline to submit applications to be considered as the new Poet Laureate

and to submit poetry for the "DASHing Words in Motion" poetry contest. Visit www.alexandriava.gov/Arts for an online application. For additional about the literary programs, email the Poet Laureate at poet@alexandriava.gov or call the Office of the Arts at 703-746-5588.

TUESDAY/FEB. 2

Parenting Presentation. 7 p.m. at St. Stephen's & St. Agnes School Upper School Campus, Chapel & Performing Arts Center, 1000 St. Stephen's Road. Dr. Carlotta G. Miles will speak on "Meeting the Challenges of Parenting in the Age of the Internet." Free and open to all. RSVP to attend at www.sssas.org.

Join Us for Lunch:

PASTA

Thursdays

EVERY THURS. 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.



MADE TO ORDER

- Choose Your Pasta
- Choose Your Toppings
- Choose Your Sauce
- Includes Salad Bar & Hot Bread

\$8.50

per person



SCAN Image with Smart Phone using QR code reader to view content on our website

FREE    

Royal Restaurant

ALEXANDRIA'S NEIGHBORHOOD RESTAURANT • SINCE 1904

734 North Asaph Street, Alexandria VA 22314

703-548-1616 www.RoyalRestaurantVA.com

10% OFF

BRING THIS AD and RECEIVE 10% OFF Your Entire Bill. Limited to parties of 4 or less. One coupon per party and Offer excludes alcohol, tax & gratuity. Cannot be combined with any other offer. Present coupon when ordering. Exp. 2/29/16

JACKI SORENSEN'S FITNESS CLASSES

Jacki Sorensen's Aerobic Dance

**Classes at Lee Center,
1108 Jefferson Street 22314**

Openings Available

- Monday/Wednesday/Friday 10:15 am
- Wednesday 6:30 pm

Register online at alexandriava.gov › Recreation

For information,
Call: 202-657-1150
Email: JackisDC@gmail.com



COMMUNITIES OF WORSHIP

Good Shepherd Catholic Church Mass Schedule

| | |
|---|---|
| <p>Saturday: 5:00 pm Vigil Mass 6:30 pm Vigil Mass (en Español)</p> <p>Sunday: 7:30 am; 9:00 am (with Sign Language Interpreter and Children's Liturgy of the Word); 10:30 am; 12:00 Noon; 2:00 pm (en Español); 6:30 pm</p> <p>Monday-Saturday: 9:00 am Mass En Español: Monday, 6:30 pm; Thursday, 7:30 pm;</p> | <p>First Friday, 7:30 pm</p> <p>Eucharistic Adoration: Wednesday: 6:00 pm; Thursday: 7:00 pm; First Friday: following 9:00 am Mass & 7:00 pm</p> <p>Confession: Wednesday, 6:00 pm; Saturday, 8:00 am, 4:00 pm</p> <p>En Español: Sunday, 1:10 pm; Saturday, 6:00 pm</p> |
|---|---|

8710 Mount Vernon Highway, Alexandria VA, 22309
Tel: 703-780-4055 Fax: 703-360-5385 • www.gs-cc.org

Join us for the Year of Mercy

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

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

Adopt Donate Volunteer

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



lostdogandcatrescue.org



PHOTO BY RICHARD MUMFORD

Gunston Road in Parkfairfax on Sunday morning, Jan. 24.



PHOTO BY THOMAS C. CARTER

The Alexandria National Cemetery on the morning of Jan. 25.

Developments

FROM PAGE 3

plans include the construction of a multimodal bridge over the railroad tracks. "It's a critical part of the infrastructure to make sure Eisenhower lives up to its potential," said Landrum. "In concept, I think the majority people are comfortable with it, but it's where the bridge ends and what property it goes over that's where there are concerns."

"There are many questions with the bridge, and financing is just one of them," said Jinks. "The Council envisioned a multimodal bridge, from the Western End of Cameron Station over to Eisenhower Avenue. But a number of additional studies need to be done and we need to negotiate for the corridor."

Those negotiations include nearby residential and commercial spaces, as well as Norfolk Southern, who controls the area over the train tracks. Either way, it's just the start of a long process.

"Once we get the corridor for the bridge cleared, then we need to look at preliminary designs to find the cost," said Jinks. "Then we look at financing and phasing. It doesn't have to be there when Eisenhower West redevelopment starts, but it needs to be put into place at some point in that process."

AT LANDMARK MALL, very little has changed on the surface over the last year. The stores are still empty and the parking lot is desolate.

But under the surface, Jinks and Landrum say plans continue to slowly, tentatively move forward. Negotiations over the site's development have always been difficult, with every decision needing to be approved by Sears, the Howard Hughes Corporation, and Macy's. Landrum said Howard Hughes has been a very active part of the process since the beginning, but that getting the other two on board took more work.

"On a project like this, Howard Hughes has a management agreement, but each party has protection and assurances," said Landrum. "Any change has to be negotiated. That's been a part of this process. We needed to get development approval from the city, but also approval from those two partners."

"In June, Sears created a real estate investment trust as a separate company ... to create value out of their property," said Jinks. "Part of the discussion has shifted to this new Sears company. It's a good sign. They've become a new player in this process."

The next stage of the process is getting the financials in order, but there's one last partner paying for the mall: the public.

"The last piece is financing the mall," said Jinks. "We've said out there in the public that there may be a necessary tax increment [increase] to finance back into the project. That was in the Landmark Van Dorn Small Area Plan as a concept."

According to Jinks, the city is currently working through negotiations to determine whether the project will need tax financing or public participation.



PHOTOS BY PATRICIA DI ZEBBA

Here's a 24-hour snowfall difference: Saturday, Jan. 23, 9 a.m. and Sunday, Jan. 24, 9 a.m. No more chairs!



Graphic designer Ellen Hamilton of Yellow Dot Designs created a snow shelter on Spring Street, complete with interior lighting.



Tina (left) and Molly Edwards

PHOTOS BY NATASHA EDWARDS



At Capitol Hill, taken by Lisa Kilday, City of Alexandria native, attended Bishop Ireton.



Norah Curry, 9, and her sister Katie, 14, in Del Ray.

PHOTO BY JENNY CURRY

PHOTOS CONTRIBUTED

What a Difference a Day Makes



Bishop Lane



S. Lee Street



Ft. Worth Drive



These yard pictures were taken in different locations across the City of Alexandria at mid-afternoon on Friday, Jan. 22, just as the storm was beginning. Same picture again at mid-afternoon on Saturday when many areas had recorded 18 inches of snow or more.

SPORTS

TC Gymnast Wins All-Around

Junior is last remaining competitor from championship team.

BY JON ROETMAN
GAZETTE PACKET

TC. Williams junior Cailyn Lager is the last remaining gymnast from the Titans' 2014 Conference 7 championship team — the school's first complete gymnastics team in three decades. While TC likely won't be taking home a team title this year, Lager has continued experiencing individual success.

Lager won the all-around during a meet on Jan. 20 at West Potomac High School. She produced a score of 36.275, besting runner-up Abbie Levine of West Springfield by two-tenths of a point.

Lager placed first on vault (9.5) and beam (9.25), second on floor (9.1) and fourth on bars (8.425).

"I think I did well," Lager said.

Lager, a club gymnast for Arlington Aerials, added a Yurchenko Pike vault and full floor routine to her high school repertoire.

"She's coming on right now," TC coach Pete Novgrod said. "That's the first time we threw the Yurchenko for high school — we've been holding that back. She stuck that pretty nice. Her shoot on bars is still a little rough; we're still having trouble timing that. ... It's the first time she's thrown a full in high school, ever ... on floor."

Lager said executing the Yurchenko Pike is more of a mental challenge than physical.

"No. 1 thing is you can't hold back," Novgrod said. "You've got to be aggressive. Gymnasts have a tendency to wait until they get their first move onto the table and say, 'OK, this feels good enough, I can go.' If they do that, they're going to land short every time. They've got to make their mind up from back there that they're going."

West Springfield won the team competition with a score of 133.675. T.C. Williams did not have a full team competing at the meet.



PHOTO BY RICHARD MAPLE

T.C. Williams junior Cailyn Lager won the all-around at a meet on Jan. 20 at West Potomac.

The Conference 7 meet is scheduled for 6 p.m. on Thursday, Feb. 4 at West Potomac High School.

Two Feet of Snow? No Problem

180 ergs delivered to Alexandria for 31st Annual MidAtlantic Erg Sprints

Record setting weather isn't going to stop rowers from their own record setting this week. The blizzard that set a new single-day snowfall record didn't stop the shipment of 180 Concept2 ergs from being delivered to Alexandria in anticipation of the 2016 MidAtlantic Erg Sprints. At 7 a.m. on Saturday, T.C. Williams High School will be opening its doors to host more than 2,000 rowers, volunteers and vendors for the indoor rowing event.

"Rowers are a dedicated bunch," said MidAtlantic Erg Sprints Coordinator Lisa Zickar. "They take to the water for regattas in some fairly uninspiring conditions — an expansive indoor arena, full of competitive rowers, in the middle of winter is too exciting to let a little snow put a question mark in the day."

Even though online registration has closed, same



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

At 7 a.m. on Saturday, T.C. Williams will be opening its doors to host more than 2,000 rowers, volunteers and vendors for the world's second-largest indoor rowing event.

day registration is still an option for rowers looking to put their winter conditioning to the test. The race schedule and event details are on the MidAtlantic Erg website <http://ergsprints.com/>.

SNOWSTORM Q&As

James: Storm Won't Affect TC

A snowstorm caused Alexandria Public Schools to cancel classes and athletic events from Thursday, Jan. 21 through Wednesday, Jan. 27. Some areas of Northern Virginia received more than 20 inches of snow during the weekend, according to the National Weather Service, creating a break from competition for local high school athletes.

T.C. Williams senior guard Tavaris James shared his storm experience via email.



PHOTO BY JEFF MCQUILKIN

Senior guard Tavaris James, seen earlier this season.

and hung out with them since there aren't any gyms open.

Q: How did the amount of snowfall in your neighborhood compare to what you thought would fall?

A: I didn't think too much of it really. When I heard about how much it would be I was shocked, but I wasn't expecting it to really be a lot.

Q: What, if any, preparations did you and your family make for the storm?

A: We didn't have any preparations really, just to buy food because we will be snowed in.

Q: What did you do to pass the time during the storm?

A: I shoveled some snow and also played 2K to pass the time. I've also been to a friend's house

Q: Did you play in the snow? If so, what did you do?

A: I really didn't play in the snow, but I took my little brother and niece outside to play in and enjoy the snow.

Q: Were you able to exercise/practice during the storm? If so, what did you do?

A: Not really practice. I did a little exercise like pushups and sit-ups so I wouldn't get lazy and out of shape.

— JON ROETMAN

Blair-May: Peaceful Late-Night Walk

A snowstorm covered parts of Northern Virginia in more than 20 inches of snow during the weekend, according to the National Weather Service, creating a break from competition for local high school athletes.

Episcopal senior Eli Blair-May, a running back for the school's football team and captain of the indoor track team, shared his storm experience via email.



CRAIG STERBUTZEL/THE CONNECTION

Episcopal senior Eli Blair-May rushed for 1,108 yards and nine touchdowns in eight games during the fall.

Q: How did the amount of snowfall in your neighborhood compare to what you thought would fall?

A: About a week before the storm I heard about how bad it was projected to be, but I didn't think it would be this much at first. The days leading up storm I felt differently as the city and area started calling for a state of emergency and to really prepare for it.

Q: What, if any, preparations did you and your family make for the storm?

A: My family stocked up on a lot of food and water before the storm

Q: What did you do to pass the time during the storm?

A: I actually brought a few of my friends home with me from Episcopal so we spent a good amount of time battling it out in 2K and watching Netflix.

Q: Did you play in the snow? If so, what did you do?

A: I didn't really play in the snow, but I did walk to a 7-Eleven around midnight, which I enjoyed because it's never really that peaceful out. I enjoyed the calmness of it.

— JON ROETMAN

21 Announcements

ABC LICENSE
Chicken Boxx, LLC trading as Chicken Boxx, 2303 Huntington Ave. Alexandria, VA 22303. The above establishment is applying to the VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL (ABC) for a Wine and Beer on and off premises/Keg Permit & Mixed Beverage license to sell or manufacture alcoholic beverages. Julie Lien Owner

NOTE: Objections to the issuance of this license must be submitted to ABC no later than 30 dates from the publishing date of the first of two required newspaper legal notices. Objections should be registered at www.abc.virginia.gov or 800-552-3200

21 Announcements

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

21 Announcements

CATCH A LIFT THIS WINTER.

Unwind in our 2,000 acre playground, well-maintained slopes, world class spa and savory dining options.

SKI PACKAGE FROM \$219 PER NIGHT WITH LIFT TICKETS

OMNI RESORTS the homestead
OMNIHOTELS.COM/THEHOMESTEAD

Restrictions apply. Offer valid through March 13, 2016. Call 540-859-1766 or see website for additional details.

21 Announcements

21 Announcements

ALEXANDRIA CITY PUBLIC SCHOOLS REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL NUMBER 16-01-03

The Alexandria City School Board dba Alexandria City Public Schools is seeking proposals for World Languages Web-Based Authentic Videos with Activities at ACPS Schools.

Sealed Proposals with the notation RFP# 16-01-03 World Languages Web-Based Authentic Videos with Activities will be received in the Central Procurement Office, 1340 Braddock Place, Suite 620, Alexandria, Virginia 22314, on or before 3:00 pm, February 12, 2015. The time of receipt shall be determined by the time clock stamp in the Procurement office. Proposals appropriately received will be opened and the names of the firms responding will be read aloud. RFP documents may be obtained at the above Procurement Office or by calling 703-619-8162, or by downloading the RFP from the ACPS website at <http://www.acps.k12.va.us/financial-services/purchasing/> All questions answered will be posted as an addendum to the ACPS web site. No RFP may be withdrawn for a period of ninety (90) days after the opening of proposals except as may be set forth in the RFP. ACPS reserves the right to cancel this RFP and/or reject any or all proposals and to waive any informalities in any proposal.

Gerald W. Amacker (Jerry)
ACPS Senior Buyer

21 Announcements

21 Announcements

OBITUARY
Melvin Leo Estes, 84, of Dayton, VA, passed away January 22, 2016 at his home.

Leo was born in Hinton, VA on April 11, 1931, and was a son of the late Willie B. and Beulah Virginia (Myers) Estes.

He worked as sheet metal fabricator at Alexandria Metals of Falls Church and Alloy Metal in Woodbridge, VA. Leo was a member of the Clover Hill United Methodist Church.

He was united in marriage on April 30, 1954 to Viola Mae (Dove) Estes, of Dayton.

Surviving in addition to his wife are four daughters, Kathryn & James Wyre, of Spotsylvania, VA, Rose Eldreth & Johnnie Miller, of Fredericksburg, VA, Christine & Victor Rodriguez of Middletown, MD, and Carol & Charles Miller, of Yorktown, VA. He is also survived by eight grandchildren.

A memorial service will be held on Saturday, January 30, 2016 at 11:00 AM at Clover Hill United Methodist Church with Pastor Edward Barnett officiating.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Clover Hill Fire & Rescue, 2100 Clover Hill Rd., Dayton, VA 22821.

Online condolences may be sent to the family at www.johnsonsf.com.

101 Computers

101 Computers

HDI COMPUTER SOLUTIONS
JENNIFER SMITH • Serving the Area Since 1995

- Speed Up Slow Computers
- Virus Removal
- Computer Setup
- Help with Windows 8

571-265-2038
Jennifer@HDIComputerSolutions.com

21 Announcements

21 Announcements



Marie Madeline Hart

Marie Madeline Hart, 92, of Clemmons, NC departed this life surrounded by her family on Saturday, January 9, 2016 at Forsyth Medical Center after a brief illness. She was born on December 8, 1923, in Swoyersville, PA to the late John and Mary Lajoski. Marie grew up on Wilkes-Barre, PA, graduating from the first graduating class of Swoyersville High School in 1941. After working at the local pants factory and the Blue Ribbon Bakery, she applied for a government job and moved to Washington, DC to pursue her dreams. This is where she met the love of her life, Neal Hart. She worked as a typist for the US government and a legal secretary before becoming a homemaker and mother to her four children.

A long time resident of Vienna, VA and a founding member of St. Mark Catholic Church, "Mama Hart" as she was affectionately known, loved flowers, working in her garden and bird watching. She was a member of the Vienna Volunteer Fire Department Ladies Auxiliary, an avid bingo and card player and the Washington Redskins #1 fan. Above all, Marie enjoyed spending time with her family, friends and grandkids.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by two siblings, Joseph and John Lajoski, her husband Neal Hart, her son Darryl Hart, a nephew David Berger, a nephew John Lajoski, Jr. and daughter in law, Kelly Hart. Survivors include her children, Kevin Hart of Advance, NC; Debbie Van Niman (John) of Mocksville, NC; Theresa Reed (Bruce) of Gainesville, VA; her grandchildren, Brian Hart, Jennifer Hart, Katie Van Niman, Emily Hart, Joey Van Niman, Bria Reed and Tyler Reed; her sister, Florence Berger (Glenn) of Blandon, PA; and several nieces.

A private memorial has been scheduled for a later date in Virginia. The family requests that memorials be considered in Marie's honor be made to the Vienna Volunteer Fire Department Auxiliary, PO Box 1676, Vienna, VA 22183 or the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society (donate.lls.org). The family would like to extend a special thank you to the staff of the Elms at Tanglewood and the Palliative Care Unit at Forsyth Medical Center for their care and comfort.

26 Antiques

26 Antiques

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

21 Announcements

21 Announcements

LEGAL NOTICE
Please be advised that the Low Income Housing Waitlist for Creekside Village Apts. in Alex. will OPEN for new applications on Feb. 1, 2016. To apply, come to Creekside Village 7979 Janna Lee Ave., Alex. VA 22306

21 Announcements

21 Announcements

Obituary



On December 22, 2015, Carolyn N. McDonald, longtime resident of Alexandria, VA, passed away after a brief illness. Surviving Carolyn, are her brother Kent Miller; daughters Margaret McDonald and Lara M. White (Brandon); granddaughter Nancy McDowell (Scott); three great-grandchildren (Zeke, Zack, and Zoey); and her extended family in multiple states. Roy "Bud" McDonald, Carolyn's beloved husband of 61 years, passed away in 2007. The memorial service for Carolyn scheduled for January 23, 2016 was postponed due to the severe winter storms forecasted. A service will be held at Heritage Presbyterian Church in Alexandria, VA later in the Spring. Family and friends are also invited to attend a service for Carolyn at the Nisbet Cemetery, in Mallory, MN in the Summer.

HOW TO SUBMIT ADS TO

THE CONNECTION
Newspapers & Online
CLASSIFIED

DEADLINES

Zones 1, 5, 6.....Mon @ noon
Zones 2, 3, 4.....Tues @ noon

E-mail ad with zone choices to:
classified@connectionnewspapers.com
or call Andrea @ 703-778-9411

EMPLOYMENT

DEADLINES

Zones 1, 5, 6.....Mon @ noon
Zones 2, 3, 4.....Tues @ noon

E-mail ad with zone choices to:
classified@connectionnewspapers.com
or call Andrea @ 703-778-9411

ZONES

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

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

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

Questions? E-mail: goinggreen@connectionnewspapers.com



21 Announcements 21 Announcements 21 Announcements

LIFETIME www.metalroofover.com

METAL ROOFING
1-800-893-1242

WE FINANCE! w.a.c

Single Wides - Double Wides - Houses
WE ALSO BUILD GARAGES, SHOPS & BARNs
VA CAROLINA BUILDINGS, INC

21 Announcements 21 Announcements 21 Announcements

If you've quit reading due to
MACULAR DEGENERATION
Special low vision glasses may help you enjoy reading again.

Call for a FREE phone consultation with Dr. Armstrong, Optometrist
Offices in: Roanoke, Harrisonburg, Wytheville, Virginia
Learn more at: www.VirginiaLowVision.com
Dr. David L. Armstrong (866) 321-2030

ZONE 3: • ALEXANDRIA
• MOUNT VERNON

HOME & GARDEN

CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

CONTRACTORS.com

703-778-9411

ZONE 3 Ad DEADLINE:
TUESDAY NOON

EMPLOYMENT

BLIZZARD '16

GUTTER **GUTTER**

GUTTER CLEANING
Gutters and Downspouts Cleaned
Small Repairs • Gutter Guards

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



IMPROVEMENTS **IMPROVEMENTS**



RN. CONTRACTORS, INC.

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

We Accept All Major Credit Cards
Licensed, Insured, Bonded • Free Estimates • Class A Lic

Phone: 703-887-3827
E-mail: rncontractorsinc@gmail.com
www.rncontractors.com



Picture Perfect
Home Improvements

(703) 590-3187

Remodeling Bathrooms, Kitchens & Basements

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

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

Handyman Services Available
<http://www.pphionline.com/>
"If it can be done, we can do it" 
Licensed - Bonded - Insured

MASONRY **MASONRY**

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

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

HANDYMAN **HANDYMAN** **HANDYMAN** **HANDYMAN**

HAND & HAND HANDYMAN LLC
General Remodeling • Residential & Commercial

DESIGN AND BUILD • COMPLETE HOME RENOVATION

- Kitchen, Bath, Basement Remodeling • Electricity, Plumbing • Doors, Windows, Crown Molding, Hand Rails, Chair Rails, Interior, Exterior, Finish Carpentry • Interior, Exterior Painting, Pressure Washing • Ceramic, Hardwood Flooring, Refinish Floors, Deck Reflooring
- Build Deck, Fence, Patios, Retaining Walls • Concrete Driveway, Brick or Stone Sidewalk
- Building Maintenance • Residential, Commercial • Foreclosures, Realtors Welcome

Serving Northern Virginia, D.C., Maryland • Licensed and Insured
703-296-6409

LAWN SERVICE **LAWN SERVICE**

J.E.S. Services
Your neighborhood company since 1987
703-912-6886



Landscaping & Construction
Free Estimates - Fully Licensed & Insured

- Planting & Landscaping Design
- Drainage & Water Problems
- Concrete Driveways, Replacement or New
- Patios and Walks • Masonry Work or Dry Laid
- Paver, Flagstone, Brick, any style you choose
- Retaining walls of all types

All work Guaranteed

PAVING **PAVING**

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

WINDOWS & GLASS **WINDOWS & GLASS**

CHESAPEAKE/POTOMAC WINDOW CLEANING
Residential Specialist/Family owned/operated
Working Owners Assures Quality
No Hidden Fees/No Broken Window Springs
30 yrs Experience in local area

Licensed 703-356-4459 Insured

TREE SERVICE **TREE SERVICE**

Quality Tree Service & Landscaping
Reasonable prices. Licensed & insured.



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

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

24 Hour Emergency Tree Service

ONYX

Now hiring an **Executive Assistant** in our Old Town Alexandria office to support our staff and ongoing projects. We are looking for a highly organized individual, with experience filing and maintaining a clean organized workspace; successful applicants should have extensive experience in administrative support, a minimum of a high school diploma, Associates Degree desired, and U.S. citizenship is required. Interested Applicants should send their resume to jobs@onyxgroup.com

Home Instead SENIOR CARE

Are you an
EXCELLENT DECISION MAKER
and have
PRESENTATION SKILLS?

Then we want you on our team!
Home Instead Senior Care
is looking for a
Recruitment and
Engagement Coordinator
Send applications to
Andrew.Butler@homeinstead.com

Each Home Instead Senior Care is individually owned and operated

GEORGE WASHINGTON'S MOUNT ★ VERNON

Great Part-Time Job Opportunities!

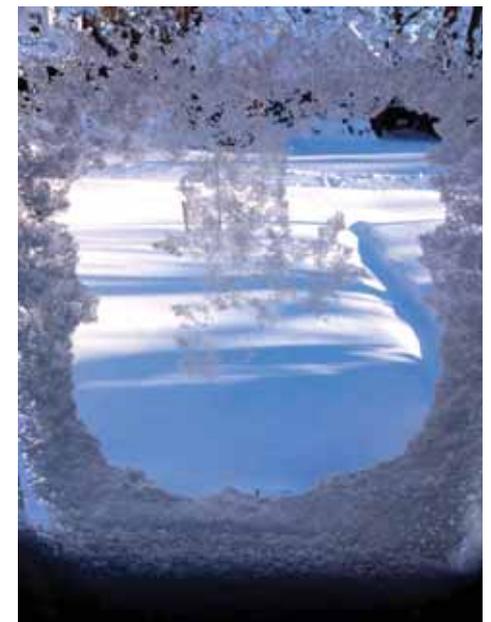
Apply online:
www.MountVernon.org/employment

Historic Trades
Learn a trade working for the Historic Trades department at the Gristmill, Distillery, Pioneer Farm & Blacksmith Shop! Help tell the story of George Washington the entrepreneur. Prior interpretive experience preferred. Contact Sam Murphy smurphy@mountvernon.org for more information.

Guest Services Associates
Provide meaningful learning opportunities for Mount Vernon's one million annual guests! Through interpretive experiences, public programs, services and events, we expand each guest's understanding of, and appreciation for, our nation's Founding Father. Apply online today for immediate consideration!

Mansion Tour Guides
Welcome guests to the most visited historic home in America and give engaging walking tours around the historic area. Call Jeremy Ray, Manager, Interpretive Operations, at 703-799-8629 or email jray@mountvernon.org

Mount Vernon Ladies' Association is an Equal Opportunity Employer.



Susan D. Dawson took this photo looking through a window pane in her house the day after the storm.



David Gefell shows daughter Serenity, 2, how to make snow angels behind their house at North Patrick and Queen.

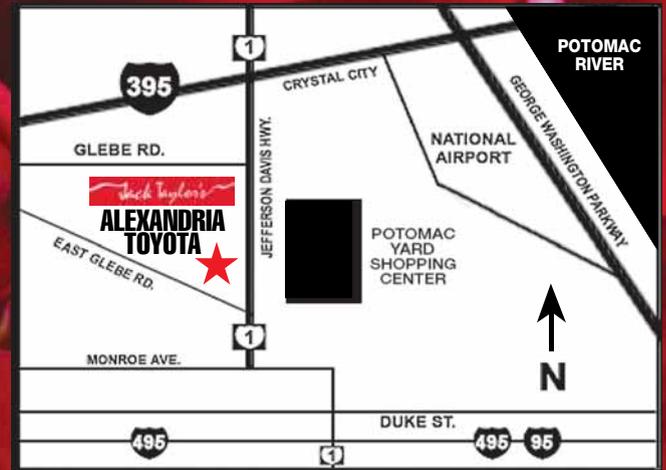


PHOTO BY NATASHA EDWARDS
Photo taken within the 200 Block of South Pitt Street: "That's a car."

WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

Jack Taylor's
ALEXANDRIA TOYOTA

3750 Jefferson Davis Hwy.
Alexandria, VA 22305
703-684-0710
www.alexandriatoyota.com



NEW! Extended Service Department Hours:
Monday – Friday, 7 am to 9 pm
Saturday, 8 am to 5 pm
Sunday, 10 am to 4 pm
Sunday by appointment only.

Make your next service appointment at:
alexandriatoyota.com

You Have Saturdays Off
That's Exactly Why We Don't!



TOYOTA LIFETIME GUARANTEE

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



TOYOTA GENUINE SERVICE
BUY 3 TIRES AND GET 4TH FOR \$1

Got Tires? **NO CHARGE** road hazard protection, tire warranty, and free courtesy **MULTI-POINT** Inspection. Price match guarantee. See service advisor for details.

BONUS: ADD A 4 WHEEL ALIGNMENT FOR \$39.95

NOT VALID WITH ANY OTHER OFFER OR COUPON. TOYOTA VEHICLES ONLY. COUPON MUST BE PRESENTED AT TIME OF WRITE-UP. VALID ONLY AT ALEXANDRIA TOYOTA. AX AND SHOP SUPPLIES ADDITIONAL. OFFER EXPIRES 2/28/16.

TOYOTA GENUINE SERVICE
WINTER MAINTENANCE SPECIAL \$59.95

INCLUDES: Genuine Toyota oil filter, up to 5 qts of conventional oil*, inspect windshield wipers, tire rotation, check tire condition, check battery (with print-out), inspect and adjust all fluid levels, inspect air Alexandria Toyota's 27 pt. inspection & cabin air filters

SYNTHETIC OIL \$59.99 MORE. NOT VALID WITH ANY OTHER OFFER OR COUPON. TOYOTA VEHICLES ONLY. COUPON MUST BE PRESENTED AT TIME OF WRITE-UP. VALID ONLY AT ALEXANDRIA TOYOTA. AX AND SHOP SUPPLIES ADDITIONAL. OFFER EXPIRES 2/28/16.

TOYOTA GENUINE SERVICE
BRAKE SPECIAL \$99.95

INCLUDES: Install Genuine Toyota front brake pads, inspect front & rear rotors & drums, check tire condition and inspect all hardware. TCMC pads only.
MACHINE ROTORS AN ADDITIONAL \$199.95.

COUPON NOT APPLY TO ALL VEHICLES. PLEASE SEE SERVICE ADVISOR FOR DETAILS. NOT VALID WITH ANY OTHER OFFER OR COUPON. TOYOTA VEHICLES ONLY. COUPON MUST BE PRESENTED AT TIME OF WRITE-UP. VALID ONLY AT ALEXANDRIA TOYOTA. AX AND SHOP SUPPLIES ADDITIONAL. OFFER EXPIRES 2/28/16.

TOYOTA GENUINE SERVICE
Purchase Site Line Wiper Blades and Receive 1 year RAINEX OPTIMAL PERFORMANCE APPLICATION

Includes **FREE** touch ups.
Dramatically improve wet weather driving visibility.

NOT VALID WITH ANY OTHER OFFER OR COUPON. TOYOTA VEHICLES ONLY. COUPON MUST BE PRESENTED AT TIME OF WRITE-UP. VALID ONLY AT ALEXANDRIA TOYOTA. AX AND SHOP SUPPLIES ADDITIONAL. OFFER EXPIRES 2/28/16.

WINTER SAVINGS



New RAV4s, Priuses Scion IMs and IAs ALL ON SALE LIKE NEVER BEFORE
Winter is here and so are the SAVINGS!
Ask one of our sales managers, George, Mike, Yared or Rocky
703-684-0700
WE ARE HERE TO MAKE DEALS!

TOYOTA GENUINE SERVICE
LUBE, OIL & FILTER SERVICE SPECIAL

\$5 OFF \$10 OFF

NON-SYNTHETIC SYNTHETIC

INCLUDES: Change oil (up to 5 qts.), install Genuine Toyota oil filter, inspect & adjust all fluid levels and complimentary multi-point inspection with print out.

NOT VALID WITH ANY OTHER OFFER OR COUPON. TOYOTA VEHICLES ONLY. COUPON MUST BE PRESENTED AT TIME OF WRITE-UP. VALID ONLY AT ALEXANDRIA TOYOTA. AX AND SHOP SUPPLIES ADDITIONAL. OFFER EXPIRES 2/28/16.

TOYOTA GENUINE SERVICE
TRUE START BATTERY SPECIAL \$139.95

INCLUDES BATTERY INSTALLATION

Includes: 84 month warranty, 24 month **FREE** replacement, 24 month **FREE** roadside assistance, 60 month probation, **PLUS** we'll check all battery cables & connections.

Does not apply to hybrid batteries.
NOT VALID WITH ANY OTHER OFFER OR COUPON. TOYOTA VEHICLES ONLY. COUPON MUST BE PRESENTED AT TIME OF WRITE-UP. VALID ONLY AT ALEXANDRIA TOYOTA. AX AND SHOP SUPPLIES ADDITIONAL. OFFER EXPIRES 2/28/16.

TOYOTA GENUINE SERVICE
PREMIUM DETAIL SPECIAL
Regularly \$259.95
\$249.95

Prepare your car's paint for the harsh winter road conditions. A full exterior buffing, paint sealant and wax, along with a vacuuming of the interior.
Van & SUV's add \$20.00
By Appointment Only

NOT VALID WITH ANY OTHER OFFER OR COUPON. TOYOTA VEHICLES ONLY. COUPON MUST BE PRESENTED AT TIME OF WRITE-UP. VALID ONLY AT ALEXANDRIA TOYOTA. AX AND SHOP SUPPLIES ADDITIONAL. OFFER EXPIRES 2/28/16.

TOYOTA GENUINE SERVICE
ROTATE & BALANCE SPECIAL \$59.95

INCLUDES: Rotate and balance all 4 wheels and inspect brakes and tires.

NOT VALID WITH ANY OTHER OFFER OR COUPON. TOYOTA VEHICLES ONLY. COUPON MUST BE PRESENTED AT TIME OF WRITE-UP. VALID ONLY AT ALEXANDRIA TOYOTA. AX AND SHOP SUPPLIES ADDITIONAL. OFFER EXPIRES 2/28/16.

WEDNESDAY IS LADIES' DAY
15% OFF ANY REPAIR
Not to exceed \$100

NOT VALID WITH ANY OTHER OFFER OR COUPON. TOYOTA VEHICLES ONLY. COUPON MUST BE PRESENTED AT TIME OF WRITE-UP. VALID ONLY AT ALEXANDRIA TOYOTA. AX AND SHOP SUPPLIES ADDITIONAL. OFFER EXPIRES 2/28/16.

TOYOTA GENUINE SERVICE
15% OFF ANY ACCESSORIES

• Apparel • Window visors
• I-pad adaptors • All weather floor mats
• Toyota bedliners

NOT VALID WITH ANY OTHER OFFER OR COUPON. TOYOTA VEHICLES ONLY. COUPON MUST BE PRESENTED AT TIME OF WRITE-UP. VALID ONLY AT ALEXANDRIA TOYOTA. AX AND SHOP SUPPLIES ADDITIONAL. OFFER EXPIRES 2/28/16.

TOYOTA GENUINE SERVICE
VARIABLE DISCOUNT

\$5.00 OFF with purchase of \$35.00 - \$49.99
\$10.00 OFF with purchase of \$50.00 - \$99.99
\$15.00 OFF with purchase of \$100.00 - \$199.99
\$20.00 OFF with purchase of \$200.00 - \$499.99
\$50.00 OFF with purchase of \$500.00 Or more

NOT VALID WITH ANY OTHER OFFER OR COUPON. TOYOTA VEHICLES ONLY. COUPON MUST BE PRESENTED AT TIME OF WRITE-UP. VALID ONLY AT ALEXANDRIA TOYOTA. AX AND SHOP SUPPLIES ADDITIONAL. OFFER EXPIRES 2/28/16.

TOYOTA GENUINE SERVICE
NITRO-FILL \$39.95

Includes one year FREE nitro gas top off.
We will purge the tires of air and refill them with nitrogen.

NOT VALID WITH ANY OTHER OFFER OR COUPON. TOYOTA VEHICLES ONLY. COUPON MUST BE PRESENTED AT TIME OF WRITE-UP. VALID ONLY AT ALEXANDRIA TOYOTA. AX AND SHOP SUPPLIES ADDITIONAL. OFFER EXPIRES 2/28/16.

EXTEND THE LIFE OF YOUR VEHICLE!
BG FLUID EXCHANGE SPECIAL

TRANSMISSION FLUSH \$189.95
POWER STEERING FLUSH \$139.95
BRAKE FLUSH \$139.95
FUEL INDUCTION FLUSH \$139.95

NOT VALID WITH ANY OTHER OFFER OR COUPON. TOYOTA VEHICLES ONLY. COUPON MUST BE PRESENTED AT TIME OF WRITE-UP. VALID ONLY AT ALEXANDRIA TOYOTA. AX AND SHOP SUPPLIES ADDITIONAL. OFFER EXPIRES 2/28/16.

TOYOTA GENUINE SERVICE
30000 MILES FACTORY RECOMMENDED SERVICE \$159.95

Synthetic \$10 More
INCLUDES: Change engine oil & filter (up to 5 qts), rotate tires, inspect wear and adjust pressure, measure brake pad thickness & rotor runout, replace cabin air filter (if equipped), replace engine air filter, reset maintenance reminder light (if applicable) and multi-point vehicle inspection.

NOT VALID WITH ANY OTHER OFFER OR COUPON. TOYOTA VEHICLES ONLY. COUPON MUST BE PRESENTED AT TIME OF WRITE-UP. VALID ONLY AT ALEXANDRIA TOYOTA. AX AND SHOP SUPPLIES ADDITIONAL. OFFER EXPIRES 2/28/16.

TOYOTA GENUINE SERVICE
4 WHEEL ALIGNMENT \$79.95

Your car's alignment suffers, and can cause uneven tire wear, steering problems and decreased fuel economy.

INCLUDES: Inspect suspension, ball joints, struts & shocks, tire condition and set tire pressure.

NOT VALID WITH ANY OTHER OFFER OR COUPON. TOYOTA VEHICLES ONLY. COUPON MUST BE PRESENTED AT TIME OF WRITE-UP. VALID ONLY AT ALEXANDRIA TOYOTA. AX AND SHOP SUPPLIES ADDITIONAL. OFFER EXPIRES 2/28/16.

TOYOTA GENUINE SERVICE
WE WILL MEET OR BEAT ANY LOCAL TOYOTA DEALERSHIP'S CURRENT ADVERTISED SERVICE SPECIALS

NOT VALID WITH ANY OTHER OFFER OR COUPON. TOYOTA VEHICLES ONLY. COUPON MUST BE PRESENTED AT TIME OF WRITE-UP. VALID ONLY AT ALEXANDRIA TOYOTA. AX AND SHOP SUPPLIES ADDITIONAL. OFFER EXPIRES 2/28/16.



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





Belle Haven \$1,899,000

Elegance & Comfort - 1930s majestic brick home! High ceilings; gracious formal rooms; 5 bedrooms, 4.5 baths and a 2-car garage all on one of Belle Haven's most beautiful streets! Classic and comfortable.

Janet Caterson Price
703.960.5858
www.JanetPriceHomes.com



Beverley Hills \$1,135,000

Beautiful expanded Cape with spacious open plan addition. Main level living room, dining room, study, half bath, mud room, large gourmet kitchen/family room opening to a level back yard. 4 bedrooms, 2 baths, & laundry room up. The finished basement has full bath. 803 S Overlook Dr.

Margaret Benghauser
703.989.6961
www.MBenghauser.com



Alexandria \$899,000

NEW PRICE! Stately colonial in water-privileged neighborhood featuring gourmet kitchen, two-car garage on a lovely half-acre landscaped lot. Large rear deck, new carpet. Boat slips available! 9324 Mount Vernon Circle

Melissa Shelby
703.627.0074
www.MelissaSellsVirginia.com



Del Ray \$550,000

2-bedroom, 1-bath duplex in the heart of Del Ray. Welcoming front porch leads to open floor plan. Large and expanded kitchen. The finished lower level has a family room and laundry/storage area. Private backyard is a quiet escape. Off-street parking.

Jen Walker
703.675.1566
www.JenWalker.com

We are pleased to welcome
JOHN SOMMER
to our Alexandria Office



703.371.3769
jsommer@McEneaney.com
www.realestatebysommer.com



Alexandria \$399,500

Gorgeous, 3-level, 3-bedroom, 2.5-bath townhouse backs to woods. Wood-burning fireplace on main level. Balcony overlooking large fenced area. Hardwoods on stairs, main & upper levels. New HVAC, washer/dryer, & stainless appliances. Cozy lower level family room. 6521 Coachlight Way

Suellen West
703.981.0984
www.SuellenWest.com



Old Town Alexandria \$724,000

Renovated to perfection with 2 bedrooms, 2.5 baths in a central Old Town location, you can walk everywhere from this charming home. Gas fireplace, high-end kitchen, wood floors and gorgeous paint colors throughout. Fenced backyard with patio for summer days or building snowmen. 525 N Alfred Street

Elizabeth Lucchesi
703.868.5676
www.LizLuke.com



Old Town Alexandria \$1,745,000

Gracious rooms with tall ceilings and warm wood floors, a stainless kitchen with adjoining breakfast room, a luxurious master suite, an au pair/in-law suite with kitchenette and a charming sheltered garden with 2 off-street parking spaces add to the delights of this classic, renovated, 5-bedroom, 3.5-bath, early 19th century residence.

Lauren Bishop
202.361.5079
www.LaurenBishopHomes.com



Old Town Alexandria \$739,000

NEW PRICE! Delightful Victorian freshly restored with many period details, gorgeous wood floors, new kitchen, baths, and garden. Located on a fantastic light, corner location at corner of North Patrick and Cameron Streets. Also zoned commercial. 1001 Cameron Street

Paul Anderson
703.408.0676
www.paulvanderon.com