City Takes Control of Alexandria’s Torpedo Factory

By Vernon Miles
Gazette Packet

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Map of the proposed Potomac Yard metro design.

Metro Moves Forward

By Vernon Miles
Gazette Packet

After years of planning, Potomac Yard Metro is starting to come together. But for many local residents, the arrival of the new Metro station comes with some remaining hurdles.

The ongoing Potomac Yard Metro Station development received two major updates in the first week of June. The first was the release of the Potomac Yard Metrorail Station final Environmental Impact Statement. The document summarizes the potential impacts on the nearby neighborhoods and parks. The second update was the approval of a master plan amendment, a zoning change, and three development special use permits (DSUP) at the June 7 Planning Commission meeting. The changes approved at the Planning Commission divide and rezone portions of Potomac Yard and Potomac Greens to be utilized for the purposes of Metro construction.

Several citizens from Potomac Yard and Potomac Greens spoke at the meeting and expressed concerns. Planning Commission Chair Mary Lyman summarized as those centered around the cost of the station and the traffic impact on the local neighborhood. Given that the most recent Metro station construction, NoMa-Gallaudet U in northeast D.C. overran its initial construction budget by 37 percent, some residents expressed concerns that city staff’s project cost overrun only planned for up to 15 percent. Lyman said she heard and recognized the cost concerns, but that those were issues better handled by the City Council than the Planning Commission.

When asked for a specific number for the cost of the project, Mitch Bernstein, director of Project Implementation, said that the full cost of the project won’t be known until the city settles on a construction bid. The Environmental Impact Statement compared the effects of the no-build alternative to the preferred alternative, Alternative B selected by City Council in May 2015. While the two updates are mostly unrelated, the Environmental Impact Statement provided some of the answers to questions raised at the Planning Commission meeting. The estimate of capital costs for the Potomac Yard project range from $160 million to a high of $316 million. The cost to the city is to be funded by projected Metrorail Station development re-

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In remembrance of D-Day’s 72nd Anniversary, a commemoration ceremony was held at Market Square in Alexandria on Saturday, June 4. The tribute served as a connection to the past, allowing residents to honor those who had served during World War II. Featured at the program were the Presentation of Colors, D-Day reenactors, the U.S. Army Fife and Drum Corps, the Blue Jazz band, and the Gottaswing 1940’s swing dancers.

D-Day reenactors included (not in order) Jim Callear, Jim Ortte, Robert Hubbs, Deb Fuller and La France Libre.

The U.S. Army Fife and Drum Corps, led by Staff Sgt. William Parks, perform in front of the Market Square crowd.

Gottaswing swing dancers, with the accompaniment of the Blue Jazz band, entertain.

Photos by Preston Jones/Gazette Packet
SEPT. 10-21
2016 Northern Virginia Senior Olympics. Online registration will open July 5. Registration forms will be mailed to previous participants in late June and will be available at community and senior centers, senior residences and event venues. The registration fee of $12, which covers multiple events, remains the same. Three events have an added fee, ten pin bowling, golf and orienteering. Deadline for registering is Aug. 27 (by mail), Sept. 3 (online). Call 703-830-5604 or email nso1982@gmail.com for more. To volunteer, call 703-403-5360.

CRAFTERS & VENDORS WANTED
The Kingstowne Center is hosting a craft fair on Saturday, Oct. 22 from 9-3 p.m. The center is looking for crafters and vendors who would like to participate. We provide a 6-foot-by-2-foot table with two chairs for a nominal rental fee. Call the Center at 703-339-7676 or email K.McGraw-Wildman@fairfaxcounty.gov.

THROUGH SEPTEMBER
Mental Health Training. The Department of Community and Human Services (DCHS) offers Mental Health First Aid (MHFA) training for laypersons and paraprofessionals. MHFA is an eight-hour training and certification on skills to help persons who are developing a mental health problem or experiencing a mental health crisis. Registration is open until filled. Limit 20 participants per class. Visit http://www.mentalhealthfirstaid.org/csu/ for more; or visit http://survey.alexandriava.gov/s3/MHFARegistration to register. Course dates include:
❖ Youth MHFA July 12 and 14, 8:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. at 4401 Ford Ave.
❖ Youth MHFA July 23, 9 a.m.-5:30 p.m. at 1900 Beauregard St., 2nd Floor Conference Room
❖ Adult MHFA, Aug. 2 and 4, 9 a.m.-1:30 p.m. at 1900 Beauregard St., 2nd Floor Conference Room
❖ Youth MHFA Aug. 8 and 9, 9 a.m.-1 p.m. at 1900 Beauregard St., 2nd Floor Conference Room
❖ Youth MHFA Sept. 13 and 15, 1-5 p.m. at 1900 Beauregard St., 2nd Floor Conference Room

THURSDAY/JUNE 9
Move2Learn Summit. 8:30-10 a.m. at The Campagna Center, 418 S. Washington St. RunningBrooke will host Tim McCord, a nationally known health and physical education expert, to discuss how physical exercise fuels the brain and accelerates learning. $20. Register at RunningBrooke.org or email Events@RunningBrooke.org with questions.

Community Meeting. 6:30-8 p.m. at Tenants and Workers United, 3801 Mt. Vernon Ave. Tenants and Workers United and the Alexandria Branch of NAACP will present a town hall community meeting, where Alexandria City Public Schools (ACPS) parents and students will be presenting and speaking about their concerns on Restorative Justice. ACPS Superintendent Dr. Alvin L. Crasley and ACPS Executive Director Dr. Julie A. Crawford will have the
Capt. Ryan Wojtanowski Dies
Poet Laureate suffers massive heart attack.

By Jeanne Theismann
Gazette Packet

C aptain Ryan Wojtanowski, longtime head captain of the Dandy Dinner Boats in Alexandria, died suddenly May 26 after suffering a massive heart attack.

A longtime resident of Del Ray, Wojtanowski was also the city’s newest poet laureate, having been named to the position April 18. He was also an accomplished musician, playing trombone in Captain Ry’s quartet, which performed frequently on board the Dandy’s Club Nautique.

Wojtanowski recently welcomed the Hawaiian canoe Hokule’a to the Alexandria waterfront with an original poem, which he recited May 17 to Hokule’a crew members during a presentation to the Alexandria Seaport Foundation.

As poet laureate, Wojtanowski was excited to share his ideas about places, people, literature and science, which were well researched, precise and written to be read aloud. He used alliteration, meter and occasional rhyme to “please the ear, amuse and provoke a thought or two.” He was known for his love of the English language and believed it was “an unabashed thief — if it lacks a word, it simply steals the best from abroad: a boon to the poet and a diverse thread in our social fabric.”

Wojtanowski also served on the Alexandria Environmenral Policy Commission and the Alexandria Waterfront Commission. A Master Mariner in the U.S. Merchant Marine, Wojtanowski twice sailed across the Atlantic in a small boat, an experience he shared with the ASF apprentices just one week before his death.

Wojtanowski lived by his credo — “Nuthin’ beats fun.” He is survived by his wife, Jan Macpherson. They were together for 45 years. He is also survived by a brother, Jack Wojtanowski. Memorial contributions may be made to Friends of the North Fork of the Shenandoah (www.fnfsr.org). No services are planned.

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Cecelia Snyder leaves Old Town Montessori School.

By Shirley Ruhe
GAZETTE PACKET

People

Teacher Retires After 40 Years

Cecelia Snyder leaves Old Town Montessori School.

Gordon Tracy rushes into the room and thrusts a large bouquet of pink roses and baby's breath into the hands of a surprised Cecelia Snyder. After 20 years of teaching 3-6-year-olds at the Old Town Montessori School on S. Columbus Street and serving as its administrative director, Snyder is retiring. This is her last official day of teaching.

“It is hard to go after all of this time,” Snyder said. “On the other hand, my husband retired last year from his ‘real job’ as a patent lawyer for the State Department and we are moving to Lake Canandaigua in Upper New York State. It was named ‘the chosen spot’ by the Natives. Prior to Old Town Montessori, Snyder had spent 20 years teaching in a Montessori school in Annandale and served as a part-time staff member at Grace Episcopal Church in Alexandria as coordinator of Children’s Ministries.

A boy places an empty wooden puzzle frame on a rug he has unrolled on the floor and begins putting the puzzle pieces in places for the provinces of Canada. Starting with the Pacific side orange for British Columbia, brown for Alberta and green for Saskatchewan. “All right, are you ready for another one?” Rugs are spread out across the wooden floor with activities. Children in blue shorts, white shirts with Old Town Montessori and their indoor shoes are concentrating on a variety of activities. Everyone is busy with a project. “You have that upside down,” Snyder said. “The lung has to go in the other way.” Maria Kozlowski pauses for a moment and snapshots the organ he put it back on the shelf and never did it again.”

Primary school teacher Cecelia Snyder assists Maria Kozlowski as she puzzles where to place the lungs and other organs in her rubber figure. Snyder is retiring after teaching 3-6-year-old children at Old Town Montessori on S. Columbus Street for 20 years.

who did the same thing all day for three days. My eye was twitching. But once he had mastered it, it he put it back on the shelf and never did it again.” She says she always wonders whether the child who works with the horses will grow up to be the vet or the one who works with the human body will grow up to be the surgeon. “We have so many differ ent little lights in that room. It is always wonderful to see how they grow and what they become. I’ve had some surprises.”

The children will work at different activities until 11:30 a.m. when the half-day students will go to the playground. The 5-6-year-olds who are there until 3 p.m. will have a picture book and lunch. Snyder says the older ones have French and yoga once a week. Meanwhile Campbell Nguyen has decided it is time for a snack. She pulls out a picture card from the file box and takes it to a place at the table with a container of applesauce. “They have the sidewalk café mentality. Eat your snack and watch passers-by,” Snyder said.

Snyder says some of her current parents were former her students. Last night some of the parents had a little get together for her and invited some former parents. “One of these parents had attended with her brother and sister years ago. She called the school and asked whether the Mrs. Snyder they had could her maiden name be Stump. When she found out I was the same person, I got her daughter in my class.”

“O.K. 1-2-3-4. We need to do another one. How about if we do ‘hat?’” A rug is spread out and covered with a spelling mat and a box of blue and red letters. Snyder leans over. “H-h-h ahhhh t-t.” The letters appear on the mat under several other attempts at words such as jet, mo, pas and fox. Snyder says some of the guys really enjoy drawing birds and write on the back of the card what the birds eat and where they live. “And we have the tape from the Cornell Lab with the bird songs so they can listen. We nurture each child’s gifts and talents at his or her own pace following the child instead of setting artificial boundaries and goals.”

Snyder says that since the Montessori model is universal as a prepared environment for children, that trends don’t affect the education much and they don’t have any computers in the classroom. But “we have something unique in our where our children are witness to living history. George Washington’s home is one of the houses down the block. They have a different perspective here.” This is a day like all others at Montessori but it is her last.
Belated Recognition for a Spy

By Michael McMorrow
Gazette Packet

Many are the unseen heroes and heroines living among us, most masked by their own modesty. One died early this year: Stephanie Czech Rader. Born to immigrants and living in New York State, she grew up submerged in the family’s Polish language and culture. She was “different” from most of her peers in Poughkeepsie, and it often showed. But something special drew the attention of a teacher who became a mentor and guided her into college. Then known as Stephanie Czech, she was a 1937 chemistry graduate of Cornell University.

Females in the workplace those days faced many hurdles. Those with a diploma in the sciences from a top-notch university were not spared. Stephanie Czech found jobs, not as a chemist but as a librarian and a researcher in a company to be renamed Texaco. At the outbreak of war, she was an early enlistee of the Women’s Auxiliary Army Corps, which became the Women’s Army Corps. Personal traits and advanced education led to an officer’s commission and she rose to rank of captain as World War II was ending.

By then, however, the Office of Strategic Services, the OSS, had taken notice. The “hot” war closed, but the “Cold War” was beginning. The country’s former ally, the Soviet Union, was a growing adversary, especially in and for the string of countries forming Eastern Europe. One of those countries was Poland.

As predecessor to the Central Intelligence Agency, the OSS was in need of information about Soviet troops and Polish secret police activities. Fluent in Polish and in tune with all aspects of the culture, Stephanie Czech became a spy. She was the only person with the right skills at the right time in the right place. Duty called. She answered. Working out of the U. S. Embassy in Warsaw, Stephanie Czech criss-crossed Poland and Germany using the cover story of a search for lost family members. She gathered vital information and carried intelligence documents and messages. Under suspicion only once, she never was caught by the Soviets or their eastern bloc partners. Upon discharge with rank of major, her personnel records were marked “secret” and personnel files were marked “secret” and closed away. They included her superiors’ recommendations for the Legion of Merit which had not been approved.

William Rader and Stephanie Czech married in 1946. He began service in the Army Air Corps and was recognized several times for bravery in action against Japan and Germany and for leadership during and after the war. William Rader continued serving in the Air Force during the era of the Strategic Air Command and retired a Brigadier General in 1968. Beside him all those years, Stephanie Rader, to all appearances, was the typical wife of a senior military officer. Upon his retirement, the couple made their home in Alexandria for the next four decades and William Rader became a businessman. He died in 2003 and was buried in Arlington National Cemetery.

Stephanie Rader remained in their home surrounded by friends accumulated over the years. They, and everyone else, were stunned when her military personnel file was declassified and reviewed by veterans in the OSS Society. The recommendations for award of the Legion of Merit that lay dormant for 70 years established that she truly earned the award based on “exceptionally meritorious conduct in performing outstanding services.”

NEWSPAPER STORIES, personal interviews, photographs and other publicity followed the opening of her file. Stephanie Rader died in January of this year at age 100 and her story, to that point, has become common knowledge. Only the final chapter of events on Wednesday, June 1 of this year, need be added.

Moments before 0900 hours, a flag-draped casket was gently carried into the Old Post Chapel of Joint Base Myer-Henderson Hall. The service was a private time for family and close friends. After a while, the remains of Stephanie Czech Rader were brought out and taken in hand by a score or more of perfectly polished, uniformed personnel who would participate in the ceremonies underway.

The warm and windless day was perfect for bidding a final farewell to anyone, but somehow it seemed more than appropriate for the brave. At the waiting grave covered by green carpeting, no birdsong could be heard. It was as though the creatures had conspired not to sing on such a solemn occasion. Then, quietly at first but growing louder with each step, the beat of a single drum announced approach of the cortege.

The United States Army Band, a firing team of seven enlisted members of “D” Company, 3rd Infantry Regiment (The Old Guard), a color guard with the Army Flag capped by nearly 200 campaign streamers of wars old and on-going, three white horses carrying three side-riders and drawing a caisson bearing the flag-covered box with the remains of Stephanie Czech Rader drew nearer.

For the 60 people who gathered to pay respect, the formalities were over in moments: A mournful hymn and “America the Beautiful” from the band, three sharp volleys by the firing team, “taps” by the bugler beside a tree some distance away, the military chaplain’s recitals echoing “ashes to ashes, dust to dust,” and presentation of the tri-toned flag.

Soldiers left their positions and reformed to follow the single drumbeat that had heralded their arrival. One lonely bell sounded the hour of 10 from a carillon dedicated with the words “While these bells ring, safely rest, Freedom lives.”

William and Stephanie Rader had no children, and living relatives were quite distant. For that reason, the recipient of the folded flag that had covered her casket was a close friend, who also serves as executor of Stephanie Rader’s estate: Kenneth Elder. When asked about a repository for the flag, Elder’s daughter responded, “No decision has been made, yet.”

A presentation was made of the too-long deferred Legion of Merit awarded to Stephanie Rader posthumously.

Stephanie Czech Rader joined William Rader in Arlington’s Section 11, Grave 11-614-B. Their marker reflects a rare case of both spouses being highly honored for their indepen- dent acts of bravery. They are in the best of company. Beside nearby headstones lie the likes of “Delbert James 29th Division June 8, 1944 Normandy, France” and “Alan Bowen Grimes Ohio Philippine Scouts World War II November 6, 1942” and many more of the nation’s heroes and heroines, known and unknown.
Library’s Passport Program Honored

The Alexandria Library’s Beatley Central Library welcomed Brenda Sprague, deputy assistant secretary for Passport Services at the U.S. Department of State on Tuesday, May 24. Sprague met with Rose Dawson, executive director, Alexandria Library; Kathleen Schloeder, chair, Alexandria Library Board; and other library and city officials to discuss the library’s passport acceptance program. Sprague also toured the Beatley Central Library, observed passport processing, and spoke with some of the library’s passport agents and customers. The Alexandria Library’s passport program started on July 21, 2015. To date, the Library has helped more than 4,000 community members apply for a U.S. passport. Trained staff members also serve as a resource to provide the required forms and to answer questions. As a result of the popularity of its passport program, the library will open a second office at the Barrett Branch in the fall to increase the availability of the service.

From left are Kathleen Schloeder, chair, Alexandria Library Board; Rose Dawson, executive director, Alexandria Library; Brenda Sprague, deputy assistant secretary, Passport Services; and John Armstrong, director, Washington Passport Agency.
OPINION

Returning Citizen or Just Plain Citizen

BY TERRY GARRETT
Alumna, Friends of Guest House
AND KARI GALLOWAY
Executive Director, Friends of Guest House

Securing a job, renting an apartment, voting in an election: things people without a felony conviction do with relative ease. Many formerly incarcerated people argue that returning to their community after serving a felony sentence is more difficult than the sentence itself. They often re-enter their communities with histories of severe trauma, addiction, sexual/emotional/physical abuse, minimal resources, and bills that have accumulated during their time in prison — unstable building ground for a new life and second chance.

Men and women trying to get back on their feet outside of the criminal justice system are essentially asked to do the impossible. Between negotiating the logistics of living to navigating with little support and high demands, formerly incarcerated people are tested in perseverance every day. Terry Garrett, a long time resident of Alexandria, was released from her final incarceration in 2006, entered transitional housing at Friends of Guest House and got a minimum wage job an hour-plus bus ride away from her home. Meanwhile, she was required to give all but $40 of her monthly income to pay fines, child support, and restitution. Terry has often asked herself, “What is former inmate going to become ‘citizen’?” Terry has often asked herself, “What is all of this for? Because in the eyes of the law, they’re still looking at what I did, not what I am doing today. I’m not living what I was 11 years ago. I’m out there helping others, volunteering, and advocating. I am a grandmother. I am a mom. I’ve turned my life around. I just don’t seem like it will ever be enough.”

As we saw most dramatically on April 22, “all of this” certainly has been for something. With the help of advocates like Terry, the tide has been turning. On April 22, Virginia Gov. Terry McAuliffe signed an executive order restoring voting rights and other civil rights to more than 200,000 individuals who have served their time for felony convictions. Terry Garrett is one of those and will be casting her vote in the next election. In addition, Terry has traveled to Richmond to advocate for different issues pertaining to the criminal justice system. She knows that she may not reap all of the benefits of her advocacy work, but feels good that women with similar stories will benefit down the road.

“We talk about women without a felony record. I see myself. I see a neighbor, a voter — what will you do to help formerly incarcerated people like Terry?”

Terry Garrett is an active public speaker and can be reached through Friends of Guest House.

Letters to the Editor

Shopping Cart’s Return

To the Editor:

Over the Memorial Day weekend, I noticed an abandoned shopping cart behind Jefferson-Houston School, so after a few days I dragged it home and called the city’s service line. I have no idea how a shopping cart found its way miles from that chain’s nearest store. Later the police department called back, saying they’d alerted the store manager who would send someone by to pick it up.

Three days later, it was still sitting in front of my house and hadn’t yet been picked up, so I dragged it to the DASH bus stop, but the driver wouldn’t let me on (he even confirmed with the dispatcher) because it couldn’t be collapsed so it might block the bus’s aisle. So I dragged it to the Metro station where the Metrorider was more lenient after I explained the shopping cart was getting off before I did. I had to put my leg through the cart to keep it from rolling around when the bus accelerated/decelerated, went up/downhill, or made a corner, vaguely reminding me of what had happened, some decades ago, when I had brought a Halloween pumpkin I had bought on the bus. When the bus stopped in front of a store in that chain, I kicked the cart out so it rolled into the store’s entryway past. Apparently, the shop hadn’t missed it while it was gone, couldn’t be bothered to pick it up, and wouldn’t notice it any more than “just another shopping cart” now that it’s back.

I brought a Halloween pumpkin I had bought on the bus. When the bus stopped in front of a store in that chain, I kicked the cart out so it rolled into the store’s entryway past. Apparently, the shop hadn’t missed it while it was gone, couldn’t be bothered to pick it up, and wouldn’t notice it any more than “just another shopping cart” now that it’s back.
CLEVELAND PARK | $5,500,000 | 3625 Woodley Rd NW
Steps from the National Cathedral, this historic house features exquisite period details, high ceilings, an attractive master suite, and original hardwood floors. There are beautifully landscaped grounds, multiple terraces, and stunning Cathedral views. Rare opportunity.

MICHAEL RANKIN | +202 271 3344

ALEXANDRIA | $3,500,000 | 212 S Fairfax Street
One of the finest and most historic homes in Old Town. This stately four-level townhouse is sited on two lots with lowering trees and tranquil gardens. This exceptional property offers a grand foyer, 6 bedrooms, 4.5 baths, a 40-off street parking spots, 4 half baths, 4 off-street parking spots, 2 half bathrooms, and a private parking garage. MIKE RANKIN | +202 271 3344

JEANNE WARNER | +1 703 980 9106

GEORGETOWN | $2,955,000 | 3200 Vansittart Place NW
A historic landmark in the heart of Georgetown, this tasteful home features an elevator, high ceilings, hardwood floors, elegant moldings, an eat-in kitchen that opens to a private brick terrace, and a spacious master-suite. An attached guesthouse has a bedroom and full bath, and there is a garage parking for one car.

MICHAEL RANKIN | +202 271 3344

BELLE HAVEN | $1,800,000 | 2220 Windsor Road
COMING SOON Gorgeous custom-built Bel House property sited on a large lot, offering five bedrooms, five and one-half baths, spectacular kitchen, and every imaginable amenity. JEANNE WARNER | +1 703 980 9106

THE HEART OF DAVIDSONVILLE | $1,999,000 | 3581 Del Ray Avenue
This spacious colonial has been completely renovated and meticulously maintained. With over 5,000 square feet of living space, this home features 5 bedrooms, 6 baths, attached guest suite, fully finished lower level, and outdoor patio perfect for entertaining.

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OLD TOWN | $1,250,000 | 714 Wythe Street
This magnificent home combines Old Town charm with modern luxury. Five bedrooms, four and one-half baths, a full-level master suite, a decadent kitchen, and a rooftop with views of Alexandria await you.

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WELLINGTON | $1,999,000 | 7732 Southdown Road
OPEN SUNDAY 2 - 4 PM Lovely views of the Potomac River from this beautifully renovated property. Offering five bedrooms, three full baths, state-of-the-art kitchen with adjoining family room with a fireplace, and 2 car garage.

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BELLE HAVEN | $799,900 | 6212 Toll Ho Lane
Light-filled Belle Haven home with an open floor plan and 3 main level bedrooms, including a master bedroom with its own bath. Updated kitchen with a breakfast bar opens to family room. Recreation room, bath, laundry, and storage on lower level.

JEANNE WARNER | +1 703 980 9106

HEATHER COREY | +1 703 989 1183

ALEXANDRIA | $2,232 Winter View
Maintained home with high-end finishes throughout and gorgeous views of trees and wildlife from over-sized windows and large deck. Recent improvements include Pella windows, gas fireplace, water heater, stainless, irrigation system, appliances, deck, fence, garden house, high ceilings, and more.

HEATHER COREY | +1 703 989 1183

GEORGE WASHINGTON PARK | $639,000
2600 King Street
Perfectly updated, classic George Washington Park home. 3 bedrooms, 2.5 baths, large garage, fully fenced yard, upper gardens, brick patio and terrace off bedroom level are just a few of the special features in this home.

HEATHER COREY | +1 703 989 1183

BELLE HAVEN | $749,000 | 2132 Windsor Road
Absolutely charming and updated four bedrooms, three full baths Belle Haven property. Graceful formal rooms, renovated kitchen and baths, two fireplaces, hardwood floors, and garage.

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OLD TOWN GREENS | $769,000 | 701 Norfolk Lane
Light-filled and townhouse in popular Old Town Greens. Fresh and updated, with large, airy rooms, and great light. Use the entry level room as a bedroom with its adjoining bath or as a private study. The open kitchen/family room/breakfast area is great for entertaining. Close to metro location, neighborhood pool, tennis, and playgrounds.

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back yard. Eventually, after I raised the topic at a public meeting, the police sent an officer who loaded them into his police van and returned them. Around this time, the neighborhood had started to experience a homicide spike — eventually amounting to 15 in a decade within five blocks of my house there.

I am an unavailing devotee of the “Broken Windows Theory” and believe few things scream “neighborhood that doesn’t give a hoot” more than abandoned shopping carts.

Dino Drudi  
Alexandria

One-Party Rule Thrives

To the Editor:

Despite the fact that Alexandria is one of the most diverse cities in the entire country, we are totally absent leadership that embraces anything close to diversity in opinion. As it is with one-party rule, it goes without saying that if you don’t hear the arguments on the other side you will never be able to make good rational decisions.

If one were to track the many decisions made by this council since January, you would find that almost all of their decisions have been made with a 7-0 vote. If all of those “slam dunk” decisions had been made using the right rationale and reasoning you would shout “Hooray.” However, that has not been the case. Unfortunately there is not one member of this council who has the intestinal fortitude to take on his or her colleagues and subsequently not cave-in when the final vote is taken. A number of examples bare this out.

There were three major developments that typify what is commonly referred to as “pay-to-play” or what does it cost me to essentially cheat upon the zoning criteria. These were: the Ramsey Homes public housing redevelopment, the ABC Liquor/Giant Food Store development and the Old Colony Inn redevelopment. None of these developments should have been approved. If a city is expected to abide by zoning that in most cases has been in place for many years, then why is the zoning always changed based upon the size of the contributions made by the developers. In addition, the Ramsey homes reflected a different historic past reflecting for the first time housing for black tenants working in the Pentagon during World War II.

Council unanimously and suspiciously approved a watered down version of an ethics code, however there is absolutely no enforcement arm to bring ethics violators to justice. All seven council members also approved a property tax increase of three cents on top of even more egregious tax assessment increases which they were very aware of. Also remember that for at least the last two election cycles they have not increased taxes before the election. Immediately thereafter taxes always seem to increase precipitously.

The council also hammered through a food truck ordinance that authorizes one location near the King Street Metro which happens to be in the Old and Historic District. Lastly, they have failed to take actions against a city staff who have allowed a runaway Bikeshare program to germinate throughout the Old and Historic District.

This one-party rule has to start being responsive to the citizenry. The residents in Alexandria make up one of the most educated populations in the entire country. Council, you need to start paying attention to the people who put you there, or if the heart is too much for you to handle then bail out. Even more importantly why do the citizens continue to vote in the same cast of characters when they know fully well that conditions will not get better.

Townsend A. “Van” Fleet  
Alexandria

Government Over-reach

To the Editor:

It is very disheartening to discover the men and women elected to high office in Washington, D.C. have decided to set prices for hourly labor employed by privately owned businesses. Like their counterparts in Alexandria, they were elected to tend to safety, streets and schools. They were not elected to run, even partially, businesses they don’t own.

Their rationale for arbitrarily specifying a new and significantly higher minimum wage: it’s too expensive to live in D.C. Hourly workers need more money. However, when businesses pass on the higher minimum wage to consumers in the form of higher prices, the consequence of Mayor Brower and her City Council emulating Cuba, Venezuela and other failed states will be to make it even more expensive to live in D.C.

Alexandria is not immune from government over-reach. Our cost of living is higher than it need be because the Alexandria government runs at a great loss a string of businesses. Among them are the bus company, the bike share program and a batch of swimming pools. Unable to operate these enterprises profitably, it is forced to use your tax dollars to subsidize them.

And there’s more to come: A new swimming pool for use by a minuscule number of competitive swimmers in Alexandria will cost taxpayers more or less a cool $15 million. Although the swimmers’ parents seeking this state of the art pool are cost-sharing its construction, their contribution is dwarfed by yours.

And now we have a new parking enforcement program that requires a full-fledged court appearance to dispute a parking ticket. I suspect if someone did a cost-benefit analysis of this program that it would reveal the city has created another money-losing enterprise.

All the cars, their gas and maintenance; the new personnel including their training uniforms and equipment plus their wages, benefits and pensions, cost heaps of money. To pay for these costs, our parking Gestapo has to issue a lot of tickets. For example, to generate just $2 million in parking fines requires roughly 140 ticket per day, including on snow days, Sundays and holidays, at $40 a pop. That’s a lot of parking tickets.

It’s hard to believe this enterprise covers its overhead much less produces a profit. And how about the hidden costs? The tourists and day shoppers who get a ticket they can’t contest unless they appear in court will think twice about returning to Alexandria. Even D.C. permits tickets to be contested by mail.

Jimm Roberts  
Alexandria

Reach and Rise for Excellence

At Hammond Middle School.

“Y ou can never have too much sky!” That sentence was taken right out of one of my favorite works by Sandra Cisneros, “The House on Mango Street.” The sky is truly the limit for the student participants of the Reach and Rise for Excellence (RARE) Program at Francis Hammond Middle School because they have the opportunities to hone academic and social skills needed for success in life.

The book is used, cleverly, to connect and engage today’s tween/teenagers with their feelings about social issues. Impressive. But, wait there is much more, The Reach and Rise Program is one of the staple programs of the Concerned Citizen Network of Alexandria.

Concerned Citizens Network of Alexandria’s mission is to empower a comprehensive community-wide effort, including the Alexandria City Public Schools, the Alexandria city government, faith-based community, parents, and students, in ending Alexandria’s Public School dropout rate through researched-based youth programs and youth development.

The founder and executive director of the CCN of Alexandria is former School Board member, Gwen Hubbard Lewis, who after her tenure on the board, knew the work of school dropout rate reduction and student achievement was not done. With her purpose clear, she started the after school program, Reach and Rise for Excellence (RARE).

“I wanted to work to integrate community services to support and help children, engage parents, and encourage cultural competence,” said Lewis.

May 26 was an opportunity to celebrate the achievements of the youth who participated in the program. Mayor Silberberg, Vice Chair of the School Board Chris Lewis, long time educator Dr. James Wilson and many other community leaders were there to show support for the CCNA and its many participants. Each student had a chance to speak about what they accomplished and what they received from the program. Tablet recipients were the following outstanding students who solved 1,400 math problems each: Nansira Doumbouya, Yabesera Shimelis, Auriena Gilmore, Maryam Khan, Edna Pokuua, Shaqeqiy Mitchell and Rahkeem Smith. Tablets were purchased through the generosity of the Alfred Street Baptist Church.

There are so many people who make this program and others of the Concerned Citizens Network of Alexandria a success. All of the teachers, tutors, volunteers, members of the board, to just name a few. Heartfelt gratitude to Gwen Hubbard Lewis (founder/executive director), Gwen Day-Fuller (chair of CCNA Board), CCNA board members, Principal Pieterrite Hall (ACPS), Misti Washington (Program Director of RARE), students and parents of RARE participants. For more information on the goals of the CCNA and how you can contribute to their continued success visit their website at www.ccnalexandria.org.

Dino Drudi  
Alexandria

Letters

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Mt Vernon On The Green
1914 Rosemary Lane Way, Alexandria VA
Colonial with 4 bedrooms, 4.5 baths, covered cooking center, water fall, and gas fire pit in the backyard, wired inside out for sound and remote viewing security system. $950,000
Bob Hamilton 703-966-8532 MLS # FX9610173

Open House Sunday 2-4pm
Waynewood
1039 Potomac Lane, Alexandria VA
Beautiful, expanded Mayfield, open concept, 4 bed/2 full/2 half baths, updated kitchen/bathrooms, fresh paint, sunroom, gorgeous landscaped level lot! A+ $749,000
Lyssa Seward 703-298-0562 MLS # FX9674337

Abingdon Row
1025 N. Royal Street #110, Alexandria VA
1 bed/1.5 bath, just like a 2 bedroom, Top of the line everything, Brazilian hardwoods, granite, chef's kitchen, stainless, elevated unit with 550 sq ft of outdoor space! $625,000
Lyssa Seward 703-298-0562 MLS # AX9674168

Open House Sunday 1-4pm
Wilton Hall 6007 Devery Drive, Alexandria VA
Beautifully updated house near Metro, Old Town, Beltway. 4 bedrooms, 3 baths, large fenced lot. Updates: kitchen, baths, deck, carpet, windows, roof, HVAC, siding. Must see. $515,000
Rita McCauley-Redmond 703-447-9114 MLS # FX9671848

Mt Vernon Manor
8619 Gateshead Road, Alexandria VA
PRICE REDUCED! Spacious 4 BR/2.5 BA colonial in sought-after Mt Vernon Manor. Meticulously maintained, hardwood floors, fireplace, carport, updated kitchen, windows, roof & more. $495,000
Mark Souder 703-856-5538 MLS # FX96533313

Timothy Park
8203 Cooper Street, Alexandria VA
4BR, 3.5 BA, 1-car garage home with renovated kitchen and bathrooms. Hardwood floors throughout main and upper levels. Family room with double doors leads to huge flat yard w/ shed. $475,000
Cathy D Antuono 703-819-3077 MLS # FX9674249

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

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The Alexandria Sportsman’s Club presented $2,000 scholarships to eight students at its 61st annual Athletes of the Year banquet May 25 at the Westin Hotel. Recognized for their athletic and academic excellence were Maggie Lohrer (Bishop Ireton), Mimi Hyre (T.C. Williams), Laura Wilcox (T.C. Williams), Brooke Teferra (T.C. Williams), Taheeb Sonekan (St. Stephen’s & St. Agnes), Trey Lovisone (Bishop Ireton), Stephanie Lin (Bishop Ireton), and Sam Price (Bishop Ireton).

Scholar-Athletes Honored
ASC awards $16,000 to high school seniors.

By Jeanne Theismann
Gazette Packet

The Alexandria Sportsman’s Club presented $16,000 in scholarships to eight high school seniors at the 61st annual Athletes of the Year banquet May 25 at the Westin Hotel.

Receiving $2,000 scholarships were Maggie Lohrer (Bishop Ireton), Mimi Hyre (T.C. Williams), Laura Wilcox (T.C. Williams), Brooke Teferra (T.C. Williams), Taheeb Sonekan (St. Stephen’s & St. Agnes), Trey Lovisone (Bishop Ireton), Stephanie Lin (Bishop Ireton), and Sam Price (Bishop Ireton).

“The Sportsman’s Club owes a debt of gratitude to our scholarship fund donors,” said ASC president John Duke. “Once again Marion Moon made a generous contribution in memory of her son Rick Mann, along with the Skip Goree Family Foundation, Jack Reed of Delta Dental and many other donors that help us recognize the best of our high school athletes.”

Maura Munson, an 11-year-old sixth grade student at George Washington Middle School, was surprised with a bicycle from Donnie Simpson Jr. when she was recognized as the Recreation Department Athlete of the Year.

Recreation Department Athlete of the Year Maura Munson is presented with a bicycle from Donnie Simpson Jr. at the annual Alexandria Sportsman’s Club banquet May 25 at the Westin Hotel.

For more information on the Alexandria Sportsman’s Club, visit www.alexandriavisports.org.

Honoring Fallen Officers

Lieutenant Monique Rea, who recently celebrated 30 years of service with the Alexandria Sheriff’s Office, just completed three cycling events in a two-week span to honor the sacrifices of law enforcement officers who died in the line of duty. Joining her was Byung Rimbo Ri who retired from the Sheriff’s Office as a sergeant in 2011.

During their rides, which coincided with National Correctional Officers and National Police Weeks, they stopped at memorial sites to pay tribute to fallen officers.

On May 1, they pedaled throughout New York City in the 40-mile Five Boro Bike Tour, a day after visiting the National September 11 Memorial and Museum. Then on May 2, they set off on the Honor Roll, a cycling tour from New York City to Philadelphia which stopped at several law enforcement memorials in New York, New Jersey and eastern Pennsylvania, including ones in Manhattan, Westchester County, and suburban and Center City Philadelphia. The Honor Roll team visited with students at Makefield Elementary School and pay their respects at the Garden of Reflection, a September 11 memorial, in Bucks County.

After that six-day tour ended, Rea and Rim spent a day traveling by bus to Charlotte to join the Law Enforcement Bicycle Ride to D.C., a four-day, 500-mile ride to the District where thousands gathered for the annual National Police Week activities. This event, known as Bike2DC, began in 2007 to honor two Charlotte-Mecklenburg Police Officers killed in the line of duty. Along the way, the cyclists were cheered on by citizens, local public safety agencies, and some family and friends, like retired Deputy Michelle Logan who greeted them in South Boston, Va. The team completed their ride by traveling through Northern Virginia along Braddock Road and Route 29, before crossing the Key Bridge to reach the District on May 12.

Rea estimates she pedaled about 900 miles during these three events, which she completed while off-duty. These were not Rea and Rim’s first rides for the fallen either; both participated in the three-day, 285-mile Tour of New England last fall to benefit New England Concerns of Police Survivors.

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Creating Low Maintenance Outdoor Oasis this Summer

Simple ideas for enjoying outdoor space and reducing yard work.

By Marilyn Campbell

Warm weather and sunshine offer opportunities for spending time relaxing and entertaining outside. Local landscaping gurus offer suggestions for creating a low maintenance backyard that will allow for more time spent enjoying it and less time taking care of it.

Building an outdoor room or patio means less foliage to maintain and more space for entertaining. “It’s low maintenance because if you have a patio with pavers you only need to spend a half hour once or twice a year maintaining it,” said David Watkins, general manager of Merrifield Garden Center in Falls Church.

“You need to sweep more sand in and take care of any weeds that come up between the stones. When the ground freezes and thaws, you’ll get movement in the ground, which might cause two or three of the pavers to heave up. All you’ll need to do in that case is pull up, break up and smooth out the base material and lay them back down.”

When creating a patio, using a stone that will stand up to the elements and ensure wear and tear is a key consideration. “Blue-stone is durable and more high-end, but it’s going to last forever,” said Dianne Duvall of American Plant in Bethesda, Maryland. “Another option is manufactured paving blocks that will mimic the look of cobblestone or brick and create a uniform look. It’s important that it be permeable so that water will soak through rather than pooling up or running off.”

When selecting low-maintenance plants, says Watkins, look for woody ornamental varieties such as boxwoods, hydrangeas and azaleas, which are aesthetically appealing and require little care once established. “You’ll fertilize them in the fall and prune them after they finish blooming, and for most of these plants that’s all the maintenance you’ll need to do,” he said. “Once a plant is established you’ll probably only need to water them two or three times throughout summer, during at time when we are without rain for a couple of weeks.”

Coneflowers and other native plants require little care, while adding potted plants to a landscape adds variety while preserving a yard’s low-maintenance appeal. “If you have patios, you have to have potted plants, simple ideas for enjoying outdoor space and reducing yard work.

Drought-tolerant plants are aesthetically appealing and require little care once established.

Furniture and accessories made of high quality, durable fabrics and other materials can add to the low maintenance appeal of patios and outdoor rooms, says Philip Smith, design consultant with Offenbachers, an outdoor furniture and accessories company with showrooms in Springfield and Fairfax. “Sky’s the limit when it comes to color … the season is full of vibrant pops and soothing undertones sure to please every style and preference,” he said. “It is proving to be a very organic and lovely extension of the season’s interior design trends.”

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Creating Outdoor Oasis

it’s like putting curtains on a window,” said Watkins.

He recommends adding water-absorbing crystals called Moisture Mizer, which retain and then release water when the soil becomes dry. “It helps potted plants retain moisture because as the soil dries up, it releases moisture and can cut your watering down tremendously,” said Watkins.

Adding hostas or other ground cover plants can decrease pesky weeds and cut down on yard work. “Try to plant with landscaping that covers the whole plant bed,” said Watkins. “If you layer a ground covering plant it adds texture, color and height difference and fills in a plant bed. After 2-3 years the whole ground is covered, and the amount of mulch that you need to spend on the yard each year becomes less and less.”

Home for History Buffs
Property once inhabited by General Robert E. Lee.

Two Old Town Alexandria residents have spent the last 25-plus years living in a home once inhabited by General Robert E. Lee.

Construction of the home, which has four bedrooms, six bathrooms and one half bathroom, and six full and 1 half bathrooms, began in 1791 and was completed by Edmund Jennings Lee, uncle of General Robert E. Lee, in 1801.

Known as the Edmund Jennings Lee House, the home has a large drawing room, which is believed to be the location where Lee accepted his military commission to lead the Confederate Army.

Other features include an original hand-blown, etched light fixture, which hangs in the front hallway, a walled courtyard garden, wisteria-covered colonnade, an inground pool and a tavern room with brick and stone walls and beamed ceilings.

“The pool is an unexpected find,” said Ann McClure of McEnearney Associates. “I love the Tavern Room. (It’s) constructed of brick and stone and wood-beamed ceilings in the lower level. It makes you feel like pulling up a seat at a barrel table and sharing a pint of mead.”

Guests enter the home through the carved Georgian doorframe. To the right is a drawing room with what is believed to be the original hardwood floors and the original fireplace mantle.

“This home does not mess around,” said McClure. “There are 12’ ceilings, incredible trim work, period light fixtures and lock plates on grand, solid doors.”

The home, located at 428 North Washington Street in Old Town, is on the market for $3.5 million. The current owners are avid boaters,” said McClure. “They … decided to trade this property for one in Florida where they could enjoy the warm sunny climate and fair winds all year long.”
It’s all about getting better.

Virginia Hospital Center offices are now open in Old Town, Shirlington and Mark Center.

There’s great news about healthcare in Alexandria. Virginia Hospital Center, a member of the Mayo Clinic Care Network, now has three primary care practices nearby— in Old Town, Shirlington and Mark Center. That means that our Alexandria patients have access to the world-class expertise of Mayo Clinic along with our own unparalleled care, right here in the neighborhood. It’s all about getting better.

virginiahospitalcenter.com/alex
Boat Club Hosts Luncheon for Children with Special Needs

The Old Dominion Boat Club held its annual spring cruise and luncheon for children with special needs in the city’s public schools. Seventy-seven children, accompanied by 54 adults, enjoyed an hour-long ride on the dinner ship Dandy on Tuesday May 31. Afterward, the group walked a block to the ODBC clubhouse for hot dogs and chips, followed by an annual favorite, frosted cupcakes.

The students come from five schools in the city — James K. Polk Elementary, John Adams Elementary, Patrick Henry Elementary, Mt. Vernon Community School, Cora Kelly School and William Ramsay Elementary. The adults included parents, teachers, classroom aides and targeted adult assistants.

The Boat Club has hosted twice-annual luncheons for children with special needs for over 35 years. In addition to the spring event, the club and Santa Claus hold a Christmas luncheon. Boat Club members donate the food and help prepare the meal, and the chairperson of the event last week, Dee Beresford, said the results are worth the time and effort: “The smiles on the kids’ faces are reward enough.”

From left are Lorenza Myers; Phyllis Doak, Robin Van Valkenburgh; Sandy Modell, General Manager/CEO; Paul Abramson, ATC Chairman; Allyson Teevan; and Raymond Mui.

DASH Program Named Outstanding

Alexandria Transit Company is this year’s recipient of the Virginia Transit Association’s Outstanding Program Award. Alexandria’s DASH system was presented with the award during an awards ceremony held on May 25, in conjunction with VTA’s annual statewide transit conference in Fredericksburg.

DASH was selected by the association for its “Plan Ahead ... Pay it Forward” marketing campaign and outreach efforts. The Plan Ahead ... Pay it Forward campaign made DASH the first system in the region to take the process of adding value to a SmartTrip card off the bus. By eliminating the add value function on the bus, riders encounter less hassle, ease of boarding, and reliable departures and arrivals.

Your Home... Your Neighborhood... Your Newspaper
This year 60 percent of the children attending Alexandria City Public Schools qualified for free or reduced price meals provided by the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s (USDA) National School Lunch and/or School Breakfast Programs. Yet come summer time, even though there is a USDA Summer Food Service Program, only a fraction of the students show up to eat.

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

Unlike the school year, all meals are free. There are no reduced prices. Anyone 18 years of age or younger is permitted to eat and no previous qualifications are needed. All sites want a parent or guardian to bring the child the first time to register and identify any food allergies. The child does not need to be registered in a recreation program or summer school to be served; however, they may only attend during the meal service time period.

The map marks all the sites where breakfast, lunch and/or afternoon snacks are available. Share this information with anyone who may want their children to participate in this service or who has contact with families that may want to participate in this service such as teachers, clergy, community workers, police officers, fire fighters, and retail stores.

### RECREATION CENTERS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Address</th>
<th>Phone No.</th>
<th>Dates</th>
<th>Breakfast</th>
<th>Lunch</th>
<th>PM Snack</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Charles Barrett Recreation Center</td>
<td>1115 Martha Custis Dr.</td>
<td>703-746-5551</td>
<td>June 27 – August 19</td>
<td>12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m.</td>
<td>3:30 – 4:00 p.m.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Charles Houston Recreation Center</td>
<td>901 Wythe St</td>
<td>703-746-5552</td>
<td>June 27 – August 19</td>
<td>12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m.</td>
<td>3:30 – 4:00 p.m.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gora Kelly Recreation Center</td>
<td>25 West Reed Ave.</td>
<td>703-746-5554</td>
<td>June 27 – August 19</td>
<td>12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m.</td>
<td>3:30 – 4:00 p.m.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Douglas MacArthur Playground</td>
<td>1101 Janney’s Ln.</td>
<td>703-746-5575</td>
<td>June 27 – August 19</td>
<td>12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m.</td>
<td>3:30 – 3:30 p.m.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John Adams Playground</td>
<td>5651 Rayburn Ave.</td>
<td>703-746-5575</td>
<td>June 27 – August 19</td>
<td>12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m.</td>
<td>3:30 – 3:30 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mount Vernon Recreation Center</td>
<td>2701 Commonwealth Ave.</td>
<td>703-746-5556</td>
<td>June 27 – August 19</td>
<td>12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m.</td>
<td>3:30 – 4:00 p.m.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nannie J. Lee Recreation Center</td>
<td>1108 Jefferson St.</td>
<td>703-746-5550</td>
<td>June 27 – August 19</td>
<td>12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m.</td>
<td>3:30 – 3:30 p.m.</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Patrick Henry Recreation Center</td>
<td>4643 Taney Ave.</td>
<td>703-746-5557</td>
<td>June 27 – August 19</td>
<td>12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m.</td>
<td>3:30 – 3:30 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Polk Playground @ Minnie Howard</td>
<td>3701 W. Braddock Rd.</td>
<td>703-746-5575</td>
<td>June 27 – August 19</td>
<td>12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m.</td>
<td>3:30 – 4:00 p.m.</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Power-Up Program at G.W. Middle School</td>
<td>1005 Mount Vernon Ave.</td>
<td>703-746-5575</td>
<td>June 27 – August 19</td>
<td>12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m.</td>
<td>3:30 – 3:30 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>William Ramsay Recreation Center</td>
<td>5650 Sanger Ave.</td>
<td>703-746-5558</td>
<td>June 27 – August 19</td>
<td>12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m.</td>
<td>3:30 – 4:00 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rudy Tucker Center</td>
<td>322 Tancil Ct.</td>
<td>703-535-3175</td>
<td>June 27 – August 19</td>
<td>12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m.</td>
<td>3:30 – 3:30 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Alexandria Redevelopment and Housing Authority (ARHA)</td>
<td>360 Wyche St.</td>
<td>703-549-7115</td>
<td>July 5 – August 19</td>
<td>8:00 – 9:00 a.m.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dunbar Boys’ &amp; Girls Club</td>
<td>401 North Payne St.</td>
<td>703-549-3077</td>
<td>July 5 – August 19</td>
<td>12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m.</td>
<td>3:30 – 4:00 p.m.</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

### ALEXANDRIA CITY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Address</th>
<th>Phone No.</th>
<th>Dates</th>
<th>Breakfast</th>
<th>Lunch</th>
<th>PM Snack</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>T.C. Williams High School</td>
<td>3330 King St.</td>
<td>703-824-6600</td>
<td>July 11 – August 5</td>
<td>8:45 – 9:15 a.m.*</td>
<td>12:30 p.m. – 1:00 p.m.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>George Washington Middle School</td>
<td>1005 Mount Vernon Ave.</td>
<td>703-765-4500</td>
<td>July 11 – August 5 and August 31</td>
<td>8:45 – 9:15 a.m.</td>
<td>12:30 p.m. – 1:00 p.m.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Francis C. Hammond Middle School</td>
<td>4646 Seminary Rd.</td>
<td>703-461-4100</td>
<td>August 31</td>
<td>8:45 – 9:15 a.m.</td>
<td>12:30 p.m. – 1:00 p.m.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John Adams Elementary School</td>
<td>5651 Rayburn Ave.</td>
<td>703-824-6970</td>
<td>August 15 – 19</td>
<td>9:00 – 9:20 a.m.</td>
<td>12:00 p.m. – 12:30 p.m.</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Charles Barrett Elementary School</td>
<td>1115 Martha Custis Dr.</td>
<td>703-824-6990</td>
<td>August 15 – 19</td>
<td>9:00 – 9:20 a.m.</td>
<td>12:00 p.m. – 12:30 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gora Kelly School for Math, Science and Technology</td>
<td>3600 Commonwealth Ave.</td>
<td>703-706-4420</td>
<td>July 11 – August 5</td>
<td>8:45 – 9:15 a.m.</td>
<td>12:30 p.m. – 1:00 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>George Mason Elementary School</td>
<td>2601 Cameron Mills Rd.</td>
<td>703-706-4470</td>
<td>July 11 – August 5</td>
<td>8:45 – 9:15 a.m.</td>
<td>12:30 p.m. – 1:00 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jefferson-Houston School</td>
<td>1501 Cameron St.</td>
<td>703-706-4400</td>
<td>July 11 – August 5</td>
<td>8:45 – 9:15 a.m.</td>
<td>12:30 p.m. – 1:00 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lyles-Groove Elementary School</td>
<td>530 S. St. Asaph St.</td>
<td>703-706-4430</td>
<td>August 15 – 19</td>
<td>8:45 – 9:15 a.m.</td>
<td>12:30 p.m. – 1:00 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Douglas MacArthur Elementary School</td>
<td>1101 Janney’s Ln.</td>
<td>703-746-5575</td>
<td>August 15 – 19</td>
<td>9:00 – 9:20 a.m.</td>
<td>12:00 p.m. – 12:30 p.m.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Matthew Maury Elementary School</td>
<td>600 Russell Rd.</td>
<td>703-706-4440</td>
<td>August 15 – 19</td>
<td>9:00 – 9:20 a.m.</td>
<td>12:00 p.m. – 12:30 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mount Vernon Community School</td>
<td>2601 Commonwealth Ave.</td>
<td>703-706-4460</td>
<td>July 11 – 29</td>
<td>7:25 – 7:55 a.m.*</td>
<td>10:00 a.m. – 12:10 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Patrick Henry Elementary School</td>
<td>4643 Taney Ave.</td>
<td>703-461-4170</td>
<td>August 15 – 19</td>
<td>9:00 – 9:20 a.m.</td>
<td>12:00 p.m. – 12:30 p.m.</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>James K. Polk Elementary School</td>
<td>5000 Polk Ave.</td>
<td>703-461-4180</td>
<td>July 11 – August 5</td>
<td>8:45 – 9:15 a.m.</td>
<td>12:30 p.m. – 1:00 p.m.</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>William Ramsay Elementary School</td>
<td>5700 Sanger Ave.</td>
<td>703-824-6950</td>
<td>July 11 – August 5</td>
<td>8:45 – 9:15 a.m.</td>
<td>12:30 p.m. – 1:00 p.m.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Mealtimes vary by program at this site. Please see [http://www.acps.k12.va.us/nutrition/summer.php](http://www.acps.k12.va.us/nutrition/summer.php)
Potomac Yard Metro Project Moves Forward

From Page 1

The environmental impact statement noted that there would be impacts on the views from the George Washington Memorial Parkway, but also noted that the development makes efforts to mitigate that impact. "The preferred alternative would impact views from the George Washington Memorial Parkway...due to the introduction of new visual elements and removal of vegetation for construction access and staging areas," according to the Environmental Impact Statement. "New visual elements include the station and pedestrian bridges. Under Station Design Option 1 for the Preferred Alternative, the new visual elements would also include retaining walls adjacent to the realigned tracks."

City Takes Control of Alexandria’s Torpedo Factory

From Page 1

Potomac Yard Metro Project Moves Forward

FROM PAGE 1

will remain the same.

Deputy City Manager Emily Baker emphasized that the city’s takeover for the Torpedo Factory Arts Center is temporary. "Friction at a board level has created issues that have plagued the Torpedo Factory reform process since the beginning," said Baker. "We’ve had conversations but no consensus."

The artist associations within the Torpedo Factory have reacted with cautious optimism. Don Viehman, president of the Artist’s Association, says that right now many within the Torpedo Factory are willing to wait and see how this goes. Viehman says the primary focus is continuing to make sure that artists aren’t excluded from the ultimate decision-making.

Suzanne Bethel, executive director of the Art League, said she hasn’t heard anything

Potomac Greens neighborhood along the nearby CSXT rail tracks.

Resident Rafael Lima expressed concerns that the station could have a negative impact on parking in the neighborhoods. Lima was particularly concerned that the city’s response seemed reactive. There are currently no parking restrictions on the streets closest to the Potomac Yard Metro station. The report on the project says that, under city regulations, the problem has to be shown to exist before the city will amend parking condition requirements. For local residents, this means the Metro station’s effect on parking will have to take place before anything can be done to keep the Metro station from impacting local parking.

To change parking conditions, 75 percent of parking spaces in the neighborhood must be occupied, 25 percent of that occupation by non-residents of the proposed district. This parking issue is made worse by the fact that, being classified as a transit station, there is no requirement for parking in the city’s zoning ordinance.

"During the early planning stages for the Metrorail station, a decision was made to make this an urban station with no designated parking, and no designated drop-off area or Kiss and Ride," said the report. "While some vehicular drop-off will likely occur, the design tries to discourage this by not including a designated or convenient drop off area."

Planning commissioners expressed similar concerns about parking, but it was not enough to deter the commission from a unanimous vote in favor of the changes. Commissioner David Brown questioned the feasibility of not having drop off access, but said that this was the kind of change staff can continue to look at as the design goes forward.

"But that’s all part, in my mind, of fine tuning an implementation that has to come down the road," said Brown. "I have heard nothing tonight that in any way shakes my confidence that staff has done a thorough job here.

A lot of what I’ve heard from the community is still stuff that can be addressed down the road that we can still revisit as appropriate."

City Takes Control of Alexandria’s Torpedo Factory

BULLETIN BOARD

TUESDAY/JUNE 21 Waterfront Commission. 7:30 a.m. City Hall, Sister Cities Room 1101, 301 King St. Contact Jack Browand, jack.browand@alexandriava.gov, 703-746-5554.

THURSDAY/JUNE 23 Foster Parent Orientation. 6-7 p.m. at Burke Branch Library, 4701 Seminary Road. The City of Alexandria will hold a free, no requirements to foster and/or adopt. For questions or to RSVP, call 703-746-5554 or email Christine.Levine@alexandriava.gov.

Old Town North SAP Advisory Group Meeting. 7 p.m. Crowne Plaza Hotel, 901 N. Fairfax St. Contact Nancy Williams, nancy.williams@alexandriava.gov, 703-746-3858.

FRIDAY/JUNE 24 Sugar Shack Honors Teachers. Sugar Shack, 814 N. Henry St, with the public’s help, will deliver donuts to nominated Alexandria school teachers. Use the hashtag Treats4Teachers to tell us on Facebook or Twitter why they should be picked to deliver donuts to their local school teachers and to which school. Winners get donuts to feed the teachers at their chosen school and a Sugar Shack T-Shirt to wear when delivering them. Post nominations at www.facebook.com/sugarchaxalexandria, or twitter.com/SugarShackDMV. Nominations will be accepted through the end of the 2015-2016 school year.

MONDAY/JUNE 27 City Council - School Board Subcommittee. 5 p.m. ACPS Central Office Contact Ron Frazier, 703-746-5967. North Potomac Yard AG Mtg #4: Options Refinement. 7 p.m. Charles Houston Recreation Center, 901 Wythe St. Contact Richard Lawrence. richard.lawrence@alexandriava.gov, 703-746-3849.

TUESDAY/JUNE 28 City Council Legislative Meeting. 7 p.m. City Hall, Council Chamber, 301 King St. Contact Jackie Henderson, jackie.henderson@alexandriava.gov, 703-746-4500.

See Bulletin Board, Page 33
Irreverent Update of Chekhov’s The Seagull’

Port City Playhouse presents “Stupid F#@*ing Bird.”

By Steve Hibbard
Gazette Packet

The Port City Playhouse is presenting “Stupid F#@*ing Bird” by Aaron Posner June 10-25 in Alexandria. Anton Chekhov’s “The Seagull” gets an irreverent update in this comedy about the battles between the sexes and the generations, and the disappointments to be found in love, art and aging. Original songs are composed by James Sugg with lyrics by the award-winning playwright enhance the meanings and the mood.

Director Jeffrey Davis had seen another production of “Stupid Bird” and fell in love with the show. “The acting was so real and the emotions were so raw. When presented with the opportunity to direct this show, I was more than excited to jump in,” he said. “The opportunity to explore the various emotions and create a piece of art that genuinely reflects life with such a high level of realism reflected in the acting thrills me, excites me and challenges me. I love a good challenge.”

As far as challenges, he said he tried to encourage the actors not to act. “The cast is very talented and I love them all, but often actors in an effort to find the realism in a scene and a character will incorporate dramatic pauses to let the character emote or reflect. In real life people don’t often take pause; they are quick to blunt out their emotions. Keeping the realism and the rawness of the scenes has been a great challenge,” he said.

He added: “This is one of those shows that will really suck you in as an audience member. As the show progresses, you begin to really care for each of the characters and their unique places in life. The emotions are so real and so raw you will leave the theatre identifying with the uncertainties of life and love.”

Producer Alan Wray decided to stage the play because he was intrigued with how it took ideas from “The Seagull” and tried to work with the questions individuals have about the characters from Chekov. “I wanted to enjoy where the take-off could go having done sound for the Christopher Hampton translation of ‘The Seagull,’” he said.

What he was trying to accomplish was to allow the audience to have something that made fun of the theatre even as Chekov was allowing the audience to have something that could appreciate the product.” Daniel Boos plays the role of Dev, who is Conrad’s close friend who provides support and perspective when Conrad needs it. “While he may be the oddest character in the bunch, he is also one of the more stable and observant members, trying to keep some hope and optimism when all goes awry,” he said. “He lives a poor humble life as a teacher while longing to be with someone one doesn’t feel the same way but tries to make the best of it every day.”

He said, “As excited as I am to do this show, it does indeed demand from the cast to preserve naturalness amidst these emotionally charged situations. Luckily I see a lot of myself in my character but at the same time it’s difficult to then go through self-examination and control that behavior to various levels.”

He added: “Though each of the characters are flawed in their own little ways, each provides a perspective and message that are defended and justified to a certain degree, showing in the end, as Trigorin’s character shows, how beautiful and complicated life is for better or worse.”

Jeff Smith plays the role of Doyle Trigorin, a successful and famous writer. “He is a bit of an outsider, observer to life, and enjoys this position as his observations become the source of his writing. As much as he is an active artist/author, he is skeptical about art and the human need to create,” he said.

He added: “Trigorin is immediately infatuated by the young, beautiful Nina and tries to seduce her, and as such becomes an active participant in this episode of life. All this despite the fact that his lover, Emma, is on hand for his overtures to Nina. Trigorin is disliked by the other males in the play.”

He said the biggest challenge has been the balancing act of Trigorin. “He is an outsider that enjoys looking inside. Trigorin is an active, successful artist/author and is dubious about the value of the need to create and any fame that may be acquired because of his ability to create,” he said. “He is cognizant of people’s frailties, but he relishes these frailties that become a source for his writing. Trigorin’s infatuation and romantic involvement with Nina puts his romantic involvement with Nina puts his own frailties on display. Capturing Trigorin’s genius and his frailties has been my biggest challenges.”

The Port City Playhouse is presenting “Stupid F#@*ing Bird” by Aaron Posner June 10-25. Tickets are $18-20. Show times are Friday, June 9 at 8 p.m. and Saturday, June 10 at 8 p.m., days at 8 p.m., Saturdays at 2 p.m. and 8 p.m., and Thursday, June 23 at 8 p.m. The Port City Playhouse is located at the corner of Quaker and Crestwood Lanes; the address for the Lab at Convergence is 1819 N. Quaker Lane. Visit www.portcityplayhouse.org.
UNITY Interactive Public Art

Art in Progress: “Highest Honor.” Through June 30, gallery hours at The Art League, 105 N. Union St. In collaboration with military veterans from The Art League’s JUMP program, artist and League instructor Andy Yoder will construct a site-specific, suspended, 25-foot triangular banner for the Torpedo Factory Art Center’s atrium. Yoder will be working daily in studio 8 in the Torpedo Factory Art Center to create the banner through the month of June. Free. Visit www.theartleague.org for more.

FRIDAY/JUNE 10
Family Fun Night. 6-9 p.m. at Chinquapin Park Recreation Center & Aquatics Facility, 3210 King St. Pool games include beach ball relays, water basketball, diving for prizes on the “Aqua Challenge” floating obstacle course. Participate in swimming skill assessments for youth, learn pool safety tips and more. Tickets are $4. Visit www.shop.alexandriava.gov for more. Tickets are $22. Visit www.mountvernon.org.

FRIDAY/SATURDAY/JUNE 10-11
Old Town Arts & Crafts Festival. 9 a.m.-6 p.m. at Waterfront Park, 1A Prince St. More than 70 vendors gather to sell fine arts, crafts, food, and beer. Dogs are welcome. Free. Visit www.oldtownva.com.

Canine Cruise. 11 a.m. at Alexandria City Marina, 1 Cameron St. With four-legged friends in tow, board a Potomac Riverboat Co. cruise and tour the Alexandria waterfront on this popular 60-minute waterfront excursion. Dogs must be on 6-foot flat leash at all times. $11 for adults, $10 for children, free for dogs. Visit www.PotomacRiverboatCo.com/canine-cruise.php.

Hospitio Heroes of the Civil War: Hands on History Tent. 11 a.m. at Alexandria City Marina, 1 Cameron St. For free.

SATURDAY/JUNE 11
Kids Bike Parade. 9-11 a.m. at Potomac Yard, 3671 Jefferson Davis Highway. Bring your bike, trikes, scooters and wagons to the 1st Annual Kids Bike Parade. $9. Call 703-746-5411 for more.

Sunset at the first president’s home. 7-9 p.m. at George Washington’s Mount Vernon. George Washington’s Mount Vernon invites visitors to sip craft beer and taste local and historic culinary treats while watching the sun set at the first president’s home. Bus: Collective performs. Tickets are $22. Visit www.mountvernon.org.

Stupid F#@*ing Bird.” 8-10 p.m. at Fort City Playhouse, 1819 N. Quaker Lane. Anton Chekhov’s “The Seagull” gets an irreverent update in this comedy about the battles between the sexes and the generations, and the disappointments to be found in love, art and aging. Tickets are $18-20. Visit www.porcynplayhouse.com.
Celebrate Your Super Hero! Happy Father’s Day

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10 am–4 pm
Prix Fixe 3 Course Menu $36

At Walker’s Grille, we believe that the benefits of a sustainable future and an energy-efficient environment are worth the extra effort.
ENTERTAINMENT

Rejuvenation in Del Ray Workshop and Garden Party. 1-4 p.m. at Department of Community and Human Services building, 2525 Mount Vernon Ave. Learn about different architectural styles in the neighborhood and see how property owners restored the original details of their 1911 house. Enjoy a post-workshop garden party. Free. Visit alexandriava.gov/Historic.
Chefs in the Round. 6-8:30 p.m. at Carl Sandburg Middle School Food Lab, 8428 Fort Hunt Road. Join Chef Andrew McFadden former Executive Chef at the Department of State and Chef Paul Magnanti former Guest Chef at the White House in the GMS Food Lab for a gourmet five-course meal. Tickets are $50. Call 703-799-6100 for more.
Summer Concert. 7-9 p.m. at Carlyle House, 121 N. Fairfax St. Howard University’s DuPont Brass performs. Free. $5 suggested donation. Visit www.carlylehouse.org.
Southside Johnny & The Asbury Jukes. 7-9 p.m. at The Birchmere, 3701 Mount Vernon Ave. Joined on stage by the Gary Douglas Band. Tickets are $89.50. Visit www.thebirchmere.com for more.
Magnolia Tea. 12 p.m. and 2:30 p.m. at Carlyle House, 121 N. Fairfax St. This event is inspired by the real life history of the Mansion House Hotel and the PBS television series, “Mercy Street,” which premiered last winter. Tickets are $40 per person. Visit www.carlylehouse.org.
A Tribute to Phyllis Hyman. 3 p.m. doors open, show at 4:30 p.m. at The Carlyle Club, 2950 Ballenger Ave. The Alexandria African American Hall of Fame is having a tribute to Phyllis Hyman show to benefit the Alexandria African American Hall of Fame project. Tickets are $35. Call 571-217-9951 for more.
TUESDAY/JUNE 14 Early Music Concert. 7-8:30 p.m. at St. Mary’s Lyceum, 313 Duke St. “Concerto Degli Imperfetti” presents Italian Renaissance music from masters of the 16th Century. Voice, lute, recorder, bass viola da gamba. Free. Call 202-378-8223 for more.
Seed Saving. 7-8:30 p.m. at Barrett Branch Library, 717 Queen St. Some 10,000 years ago, seed saving facilitated humans’ transition from hunter-gatherers to farmers. Only in the mid-1900s did this practice decline, with the development of the commercial seed industry. Now renewed interest in heirloom, unique and locally adapted vegetable and flower varieties is sparking a resurgence in seed saving. Free. Call 703-228-6414 or email mgarlalex@gmail.com.
JUNE 14-JULY 24 "Edge," watercolor, Alex Tolstoy. Visit www.portcityplayhouse.com. “Edge,” watercolor, Alex Tolstoy ‘Watermarks’ Now Open at Art League Alex Tolstoy’s “Watermark” exhibit will be on display at The Art League through July 3. Tolstoy’s past life as an ocean acoustics mathematician sub-consciously informed and inspired her present life as a watercolor artist, as she now paints the moods and forms of the oceans, seas, lakes, ponds, and storms. Admission to the gallery is free. Visit www.theartleague.org.
Meet the 2016 Honored Teachers! Because you can do better than an apple.

See Entertainment, Page 28
The origins of one of Port City Brewing’s most popular beers came from a rather unfortunate situation. It was the summer of 2012, and an unanticipated storm—a derecho, in fact—blew through the city one late June night, ripping apart power lines and leaving much of the region in darkness for days.

Port City’s brewery was one of the buildings left in the dark by the derecho, and the beers-in-progress rested in the balance. Several days later, the electricity was restored to the Wheeler Avenue location, and what had transpired in the interim became the beer of legend.

“Power is really important for the brewery,” Port City’s Chris Van Orden laughed. “And we had brewed a pilsner, which was sitting in a tank, and a pilsner is a lager that needs to be fermented cold.”

Port City’s brewers had a problem on their hands. As the temperature began to rise in the summer heat, the brewmasters watched their pilsner warm up much too much. Only a year and a half into service, the brewery needed to rise in the summer heat, the brewery needed to make sure the brewery’s intact, (and) thankfully it was — and when we came to check on the beer we found that the beer had risen to ale fermentation temperatures, which is fine for most of the other beers, but that’s very warm for a lager,” Van Orden said.

“But there’s a style of beer known as California common — that was a classic American style — it’s one of the few styles that was truly invented in the U.S. — and it was a lager-yeast beer fermented at warmer temperatures.”

Higher temperatures: Check. A pilsner ready for a makeover: Check. Now came the moment of truth. The brewmasters “tasted the beer and were actually very happy with it,” Van Orden said. “It’s nice to have that beer come up in summer is a good excuse to celebrate.”

Derecho’s release party — this year spanning two days, June 10 and 11 — has taken on a life of its own, extending well past the storm’s lifespan, and has become a kickoff to the summertime months. And this year, the brewery has some new party plans in place.

“This year, for the first time when it comes to the actual celebration, we are doing a party outside,” Van Orden said. “We did the very first one of those this past January for the Co-lossal V release. … We are doing that again for Derecho, which is going to be a lot of fun, and it’s nice that it won’t be freezing-freezing cold. And if it rains, then it’s only that much more appropriate.”

Chris Van Orden laughed. “And we had brewed pilsner, which was sitting in a tank, and a pilsner is a lager that needs to be fermented cold.”

Higher temperatures: Check. A pilsner ready for a makeover: Check. Now came the moment of truth. The brewmasters “tasted the beer and were actually very happy with it,” Van Orden said. “It just was serendipity.”

What resulted from the 2012 storm became one of Port City’s best beers: The Derecho Common, a beer now brewed each summer with a release date very close to the original derecho event. “Every year we celebrate it because it’s just one of those, you know — the beer gods were smiling down on us,” Van Orden said.

On draft in 2012 and bottled beginning in 2013, the Derecho common has joined the pantheon of Port City’s seasonal repertoire. And its popularity took hold nearly immediately.

“(Derecho) vies with Tidings, our winter seasonal, for the most popular seasonal,” Van Orden said. “It’s nice to have a beer that people remember the origin for. And it’s just a beer that’s well-suited to summer — really refreshing and very dry and bright. And now that it’s been in bottles it’s been really a runaway hit for us. So having that beer come up in summer is a good excuse to celebrate.”

Derecho’s release party — this year spanning two days, June 10 and 11 — has taken on a life of its own, extending well past the storm’s lifespan, and has become a kickoff to the summertime months. And this year, the brewery has some new party plans in place.

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Hope Nelson owns and operates the Kitchen Recessionista blog, located at www.kitchenerecessionista.com. Email her any time at hope@kitchenerecessionista.com.
SUNDAY/JUNE 19


Father’s Day at Gadsby’s Tavern. 1-5 p.m. at Gadsby’s Tavern Museum, 134 N. Royal St. Get a tour by Junior Dinosour. Free for fathers, $5 for all other adults and $3 for children 5-12. Call 703-746-3852 for more.

Alexandria’s Historic Breweries Guided Tour and Tasting. 2 p.m. at Old Town Alexandria. Join Alexandria’s Historic Breweries owner Garrett Peak and Porter Brehouse co-founder Cat Porter on a guided walking tour around Old Town Alexandria exploring the foundations of local brewing. The tour includes highlights from the print brochure, a Porter Brehouse beer sampling and culminates at one of Alexandria’s current Hops Stops. Tickets are $20. Visit www.porterbrehouse.com for more.

THURSDAY/JUNE 23

Film Screening: “Goonies.” 7:30 p.m. at The Birchmere Music Hall, 3701 Mount Vernon Ave. Free. Visit www.birchmere.com for more.

SATURDAY/JUNE 25

Reynolds Vineyard Dinner. 6:30 p.m. at Skyline Vineyard, while being expertly paired wines by Early Mountain Vineyards, while being served in various rooms throughout the historic Millersville. Tickets are $225. Visit www.earlymountain.com.

SUNDAY/JUNE 26

Living With a Happy, Healthy Cat. 9 a.m.-2 p.m. at PetSage, 2539 S. Dover St. Learning more about cat health, diet, preferable environment and more via lectures, panel discussions, and more. Tickets are $50 until June 16, $65 after and $75 at the door. Visit www.imbyturnyt.com/Yap for more.

Three Dog Night. 7:30 p.m. at The Birchmere Music Hall, 3701 Mount Vernon Ave. Live music tickets are $69.50. Visit www.birchmere.com.

JUNE 27-JULY 15


TUESDAY/JUNE 28

Family Fun Day: Shaping Our City. 10-11:30 a.m. at The Lyceum, 201 S. Washington St. Explore bow shapes are used in buildings – in the classroom and on the streets of Alexandria. Families are encouraged to bring recycled materials to share during our building workshop and should be prepared for a short walk outdoors, including walking shoes, sunscreen, and clothing appropriate for the weather. Tickets are $8 for children, free for adults. Visit shop.alexandriavirginia.gov/events.aspx for more.
Summer Living
In Old Town

Trends and tips
to keep cool.

By Amy Rutherford
Owner of Red Barn Mercantile

Summer living is easy except when it’s not. Trying to beat the heat of a Virginia summer sometimes feels like an effort in futility. This year it doesn’t have to be. The latest trends are guaranteed to make your summer as cool — literally and figuratively — as possible.

Beat the heat by turning the oven off the oven. Give your range a rest and rely on the summer salad trend to keep you cool. Pick up Jeanne Kelley's “Salad for Dinner” at La Cuisine and try the baby greens with Quince Vinaigrette, artisanal cheeses and charcuterie. It makes the perfect summer supper for one or many. Serve your cheeses and charcuterie on a chilled Himalayan Salt Block from Olio Tasting Room to keep everything cool. Their olive oils will make the vinaigrette below extra tasty.

Ann Tuennerman of Tales of the Cocktail festival, says frozen drinks are making a big comeback this summer. The daiquiri is returning along with fresh new cool takes on classic cocktails. Can you say frozen Moscow Mule? Red Barn Mercantile stocks a wide selection of cocktail staples. Try the recipes in Maria del Mar Sacasa’s book, “Summer Cocktails” or pick up Arrowhead Farms’ Spinfire Margarita Mix for something quick. Mexican spirits are still a strong trend in cocktails. Pick up Bittermilk’s Oaxacan Old Fashioned mixer from Curated and serve your favorite new cocktail on a tray from Acme Midcentury to amp up your cool factor.

Seersucker is a summer essential. To keep your cool this year pair Sara Campbell’s classic striped seersucker swing dress with the latest trend in foot wear, white leather sneakers. Crisp, polished and a little bit retro, the white sneaker is this year’s go to summer shoe. Try the Blair by Vince from The Shoe Hive.

If you’re going to be strolling Old Town, shopping its boutiques, or attending the Monaco’s Yappy Hour, be sure to keep your pup cool with the Ultimate Cooling Coat from the Dog Park. Dog friendly establishments are a trend that is on its way to becoming a standard. As dogs become more than just pets, more businesses are opening their doors to them. Old Town has never been more pet friendly than it is today.

Frozen cocktails, oven free dinners, and Fido by your side sounds like the ideal way to keep cool and be cool this summer. Wouldn’t you agree?

Quince Vinaigrette
1/4 cup white wine vinegar
3 Tablespoons quince paste
1 garlic clove, peeled
1/2 teaspoon kosher salt
1/2 cup extra virgin olive oil (available at Olio Tasting Room)

Combine the vinegar, quince paste, garlic clove, and salt in a blender. Blend until the quince paste is smooth. Add the olive oil and pulse briefly until blended. Season the dressing to taste with freshly ground black pepper. (Dressing can be made one week ahead. Cover and refrigerate. Bring the dressing to room temperature and whisk to blend before using.)

Memorial Day Jazz Festival
The Alexandria Department of Recreation, Parks and Cultural Activities held a Memorial Day Jazz Festival at the Lee Center in Alexandria. Local bands such as the Nitehawks and the U.S. Navy Band Commodores performed a variety of music and neighborhood events throughout the year.

Tasteful Awards at Food Festival
Stomping Ground, Del Ray Cafe win Taste of Del Ray.

The Del Ray Business Association hosted the 8th Annual Taste of Del Ray on June 5, show casing a diverse collection of Del Ray’s top restaurants. Proceeds from the food festival fund neighborhood events throughout the year.

Del Ray Cafe’s Chocolate Beignets won the Judges’ Choice Award, while Stomping Ground’s Biscuit Sausage Balls with Sriracha Cream Cheese and Sorghum Butter won the People’s Choice Award.

The complete list of winners includes:

PEOPLE’S CHOICE
1st Place: Stomping Ground — Biscuit Sausage Balls with Sriracha Cream Cheese and Sorghum Butter
2nd Place: Pork Barrel BBQ — Korean Hillbilly Sliders
3rd Place: The Happy Tart — Trio of Ice Cream Sandwiches

JUDGES’ CHOICE
1st Place: Del Ray Cafe — Chocolate Beignets
2nd Place: Pork Barrel BBQ — Korean Hillbilly Sliders
3rd Place: Swings Coffee — Nitrogen-fused Lattes
TC Girls’ Soccer to Face Cox Friday in State Semifinals

Titans lose to Battlefield in match for region championship.

By Jon Roetman
Gazette Packet

A
fter making the 40-mile drive to Haymarket, the T.C. Williams girls’ soccer team surrendered a goal to Battlefield less than five minutes into Friday’s 6A North region championship game.

After settling into the match, the Titans missed an opportunity to equalize in the 24th minute, when Kaily Kocot’s header hit the post.

TC. Williams created multiple scoring chances during the region final but each time the Titans came up empty during a 2-0 loss to Battlefield, which captured its third straight 6A North crown on June 3 at Battlefield High School.

Sophomore Claire Constant said the Bobcats were the best team TC had faced all season. The Titans, however, sounded like they let one slip away.

“I think that it took us about halfway through the first half to get in our rhythm,” TC head coach Ally Wagner said. “Just two unfortunate events and they capitalized on them and from then [it was an up-hill battle]. But we’re resilient. We’re hoping to see them again [this] week in the state tournament.”

A rematch with Battlefield would happen if both teams advance to the state final on Saturday. First, TC has to get past 6A South region champion Cox in the state semifinals at 10 a.m. on Friday at Robinson Secondary School.

“It’s very frustrating, but we’ll bounce back,” Wagner said. “We’re looking forward to the state tournament [this] week. We’re confident going into Friday’s game and, yeah, we’re hoping to see them again on Saturday.”

What went wrong against Battlefield?

One factor, Wagner said, was getting used to playing on grass — something the Titans hadn’t done since traveling to Gar-Field on March 17.

As for the Battlefield goal in the fourth minute, Constant had multiple explanations.

“Most of the goals were on them the whole time and I’m really proud of how everyone played,” Constant said. “I think we did a very good job of handling it, but we just couldn’t find the back of the net.”

Diz said TC continued to battle after falling behind and the Titans are confident they can bounce back at states.

“It’s very frustrating, especially when I hit the crossbar, that was really frustrating,” Diz said. “I thought we kept it up and I kept pushing ourselves harder and harder and it was just tough that we couldn’t get one in, but we’ll get them in the states, so that’s good.”

The loss dropped TC’s record to 19-3 and snapped its eight-game win streak. Battlefield’s two goals were the only ones the Titans allowed during the run of play in four region tournament games.

Battlefield, which has played in three consecutive state finals, improved to 19-2-1. The Bobcats will take on 6A South region runner-up Grassfield in the state semifinals at noon on Friday at Robinson.

“I’m disappointed that we didn’t start off stronger because usually we start off really quick, get some chances early and have momentum going forward and obviously we didn’t this game,” TC senior defender Hannah Bates said. “We messed up at the very beginning, which gave them an easy goal, but I feel like even after the second goal, we were on them the whole time and I’m really proud of how everyone played. “… I think everyone kind of feels the frustration with this, so hopefully we can channel that into the next game at states. I know I don’t want the next game to be our last game. We want to see these guys again in the state final.”

— T.C. Williams senior Hannah Bates

“I think everyone kind of feels the frustration with this, so hopefully we can channel that into the next game at states. I know I don’t want the next game to be our last game. We want to see these guys again in the state final.”

Caroline Bates and the T.C. Williams soccer team finished region runner-up.

Bella Ponzi and the T.C. Williams girls’ soccer team will face Cox in the 6A state semifinals at 10 a.m. on Friday, June 10 at Robinson Secondary School.

TC would allow a second goal and couldn’t capitalize on its own scoring opportunities.

“We weren’t expecting them to be so fast and strong and so technical — they’re a very good team,” Constant said. “I think we did a very good job of handling it, but we just couldn’t find the back of the net.”

Diz said TC continued to battle after falling behind and the Titans are confident they can bounce back at states.

“I think we just feel asleep,” she said. “I think it was a miscommunication. I think we just weren’t ready for it.”

Videos

Video screenshot by Jon Roetman/Gazette Packet

Alexandria Gazette Packet Sports Editor Jon Roetman 703-752-4031 or jroetman@connectionnewspapers.com
News

From left: Seaport Foundation Executive Director Steve Mutty; EYA Foundation Director Genna Love; EYA SVP AJ Jackson; Seaport Foundation VP Kathy Seifert; and Seaport Foundation Apprentice Program Lead Evan Waksler.

EYA Foundation Presents Grant to Seaport Foundation

The foundation for Bethesda-based community developer and homebuilder, EYA, has provided a grant to the Alexandria Seaport Foundation to support the organization’s work with at-risk youth through mentoring, project-based learning and wooden boat building.

The donation will help to fund the Seaport Foundation’s Apprenticeship Program for young adults ages 18-22 who face barriers to employment and the Middle School Math Program implemented in industrial arts classes in Alexandria and Arlington schools.

EYA Senior Vice President, Brian ‘AJ’ Jackson, and Assistant Controller and EYA Foundation Director, Genna Love, presented a check to the Seaport Foundation staff and met with volunteers and apprentices at the organization’s boat-building center on the Old Town, Alexandria waterfront.

More than 500 apprentices from Northern Virginia and the metropolitan region have participated in the Seaport Foundation’s Apprenticeship Program since 1993.

Over a 35-week period, apprentices are paid a stipend and work alongside volunteer adult mentors to learn mathematical, carpentry and wooden boat-building skills, including proper use of hand and power tools.

In addition, the curriculum includes lessons to help apprentices become employable such as attendance and timeliness, goal-setting and planning. Apprentices also receive assistance connecting with potential employers, post-secondary education institutions, and continued job training opportunities.

The Seaport Foundation’s Middle School Math program helps students learn math through hands-on exercises and carpentry projects in coordination with the schools’ Career and Tech Ed teachers and Seaport Foundation staff and apprentices.

Approximately 150 students struggling in math are engaged in the program each year. Projects include building skateboards, remote-controlled sailboats and cigar box guitars.

From left: Apprentice Darrel Brown, Alexandria; EYA SVP AJ Jackson; Apprentice Jimmy Gottfried, Dumfries; and EYA Foundation Director Genna Love.

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UPCOMING GAMES AT FRANK MANN FIELD

Thursday, June 9th vs Herndon Braves
Saturday, June 11th vs Vienna Riverdogs (game moved to Frank Mann Field)
Sunday, June 12th vs Baltimore Redbirds
Monday, June 13th vs Baltimore Dodgers
Games start at 7PM
$5 Adults $3 Youth (Ages 6-17) Under 6 Free

Back for 2016: The Del Ray Pizzeria Concessions Stand
Pizza, Half Smokes & More

Don’t forget to pick up some Aces Merchandise!

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REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL NUMBER 16-06-01

The Fairfax County Government, Department of Planning and Development Services, Office of Community Development, hereby gives notice of the County’s intent to revise the Virginia Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control’s (ABC) wine and malt beverage and mixed beverage license. The purpose is to adjust the license fees, effective January 1, 2016, to bring the County’s fees in line with the ABC’s.

The Fairfax County Government intends to propose a revision to the Code of Virginia Section 4-1-16. The revision seeks to adjust the current, highest license fee from $2,000 to $2,000. This will result in an increase of $2,000.

As a result of the revision, the Base Flood Elevations (BFEs) will increase and decrease and the 1% annual chance floodplain shall widen and narrow within the area of revision.

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**THURSDAY/JUNE 30**

Grant Application Deadline. Transurban, the Virginia Department of Transportation’s partner on the 395 Express Lanes project, has launched the “395 Express Lanes Community Grant Program.” The quarterly grant program seeks to respond to the needs of direct impact communities within the I-395 corridor during the project’s development and construction phase. It will provide organizations with grant awards ranging from $1,000 to $10,000 to implement projects that sustain, enhance or protect residents along the project corridor. The program accepts applications and distributes grant awards each quarter. Visit 395ExpressLanes.com/grant-application.

**SATURDAY/JULY 9**

Foster Parent Orientation. 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m. at Kaiser Permanente and the Virginia Commonwealth. The City of Alexandria will hold a free, no obligation information session for prospective foster parents. Agency representative will be on hand to answer any questions and explain the requirements necessary to become a foster parent. For questions or RSVP, call 703-746-5858 or email Christine.Levine@alexandria.va.gov.

**THURSDAY/JULY 28**

Electoral Office Open House. 5-9 p.m. at the Alexandria elections office, 1220 King Street, Suite 100. The Alexandria Voter Registration and Elections Office is recruiting Election Officials for November 2016 (as well as future elections). Election officials must be a registered voter in Virginia in order to be eligible. There are opportunities in polling places all over the City. Training provided prior to Election Day. Sign up at www.alexandriavoter.org and click “Be a Precinct Election Officer.” Email Alyssa.Glomb@alexandria.va.gov with questions.

**SUPPORT GROUPS**

FACE Center Support Groups provide parents with a space to share their daily parenting frustrations and triumphs while offering new strategies for helping parents to cope, build positive parent-child relationships and best support their children’s learning.

Support Group in English, every Monday, 6-7:30 p.m. at ARHA Main Building, 401 Wythe Street.

Support Group in Spanish, every Wednesday, 6-7:30 p.m. at Community Lodgings Brookside Center, 614 Four Mile Road. Registration not necessary. A light dinner and childcare services provided free. Contact Kristina Levy at 703-619-8055 or krishna.levy@arha.us for more.

Divorce Workshop for Women. Second Saturday of each month, 9 a.m.-1 p.m. at Hilton Alexandria Old Town, 1761 King Street. The workshop is designed to provide education on the legal, financial, family and personal issues involved in divorce in a logical, yet compassionate way. The workshop fee is $25. Visit www.novasecondssaturday.com for more.

**ONGOING**

Robust Walking, Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays at 9 a.m. at Mount Vernon Recreation Center, 2701 Commonwealth Ave. Free 55+ robust walking 1-hour exercise class (with chair exercise options) led by certified instructors on holidays. Contact WalkingConsulting@yahoo.com.

Recreation Survey. Alexandria citizens who received a Park and Recreation Needs Assessment Survey are encouraged to participate in order to affect recreation decisions in the community. Results will be posted online at alexandria.va.gov/recreation in fall 2015. Contact Dana Weede at 703-746-5491 or Dana.weede@alexandria.va.gov with questions.

Alexandria Library cardholders can now use Gale Courses from Gale, part of Cengage Learning. The service offers six work online instruction courses for creative writing, GED test preparation, and more through lessons, assignments and tests. The program is offered for free with a valid library card. Visit www.alexandria.va.us or email SeekingDonations. Computer CORI, which is dedicated to helping low-income adults become computer literate is seeking donations. Visit www.computercori.org/contribute.
NEW! Extended Service Department Hours:
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3750 Jefferson Davis Hwy.
Alexandria, VA 22305
703-684-0710
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MCLEAN, VIRGINIA
New quality construction by Madison Homes. 1/4+ acre. Projected delivery: Summer 2016. Exciting floor plan: 9’ ceilings, over 6,000 SF on 3 finished levels, five bedrooms, four and a half baths. Still time to customize. $1,595,000
Anne DiBenedetto 703-615-1897

ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA
Rarely available stately colonial with nearly 8,000 square feet. Custom designer built-ins. Two-story foyer. Elevator. Whole house generator. 4BR+maid room, 4/2 BA & four-car garage and circular driveway. $2,950,000
Linda Rogers 703-627-6776

ARLINGTON, VIRGINIA
Just completed! New quality construction by Madison Homes. Over 6,000 square feet, five bedrooms, four and a half baths. Expansive Master Suite. Discovery, Williamsburg, Yorktown School District. $1,795,000
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WE ARE PLEASED TO WELCOME INDUSTRY LEADERS
Peggy Richardson & Stacey Romm TO OUR FIRM

FALLS CHURCH, VIRGINIA
Just completed! First of two new custom homes! Amazing value! Steps away from City of Falls Church & close to Metro. Six bedrooms and five and a half baths. Top quality finishes. Private 1/3+ acre lot! $1,298,000
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ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA
NEW LISTING! Fabulous location nestled in the heart of Old Town. Stunning renovation with dream cook’s kitchen! Four bedrooms, three and a half baths in move-in ready condition. $1,229,000
Nancy Ittigal 202-905-7762

VIENNA, VIRGINIA
Location & quality on a large & lush 1+ acre picturesque setting! Surprisingly spacious & rarely available this renovated five bedroom, two and a half bath home on over an acre lot. A must see with two-car garage! $899,000
Nancy Ittigal 202-905-7762
Old Town Alexandria

The Edmund Jennings Lee House, circa 1801, one of the era’s finest examples of Georgian architecture, boasts 4 bedrooms, 6.5 bathrooms, 5 fireplaces and 6,063 total square feet. Features include: A period-perfect drawing room with 11-foot ceiling and original hardwood floors, grand dining room, eat-in kitchen, enclosed sleeping porch, a tavern room in the brick basement and a garage. The private, walled garden and brick courtyard, a colonnaded gallery, and in-ground pool provide ample space for outdoor dining and entertaining.

MCM Notable Homes
571.220.9481
www.MCMNotableHomes.com

Alexandria $3,500,000
36

❖

Alexandria $549,900
3-bedroom, 4.5-bath. 3-level, all-brick duplex. Flowing spaces with lots of natural light. Open eat-in kitchen, lower level family room, master en suite, and private garage. Walk to "The Avenue" in Del Ray. 3821B Elbert Avenue

Jen Walker
703.675.1566
www.JenWalker.com

Alexandria $635,000
Main-level master suite in The Pinnacle. Spectacular view of pond & fountain from the deck, dining room & kitchen! First-floor master suite, plus upper level & lower level suites - 4 bedrooms, 4 baths total. Hardwoods main level, granite/stainless kitchen, Walk to golf! 6543 Gretna Green Way

Peter Crouch
703.244.4024
www.CrouchRealtyGroup.com

Alexandria $452,000
Effortless townhome lifestyle but no expensive HOA fees. 3 bedrooms, including master with large walk-in. Relax or entertain on the fenced patio with lush landscaping and pond. Cul-de-sac location just off 395, easy to DC and close to Shirlington. 2509 Sibley Street

Elizabeth Lucchesi
703.868.3676

Alexandria $740,000
Handsome all-brick split with lovely lot sporting a huge deck accessed by double French doors from the dining room. Updated kitchen & baths, luxurious master suite with marvelous private bath, family room, attached garage. Finished attic for 4th bedroom or playroom/office. 6920 Baylor Dr.

Joel Miller
571.277.1321
www.McEnearney.com

Woodbridge $397,500
Like new. Ryan Homes Energy Star Lafayette model end unit! Save $$ on utilities! Gorgeous hardwoods, deluxe kitchen opens to family room area with gas fireplace. Spacious master suite with full bath includes dual vanities, glass shower, large walk-in closet. Upper level laundry. Huge deck backs to trees.

Kristie Zimmerman
703.786.6155
www.Kristieismyagent.com

Alexandria $499,900
Wonderful opportunity to customize this large, 3/4-bedroom home! Sited on a cul-de-sac, enjoy acres of open space at the adjoining park with tennis & basketball courts, 2 fireplaces, 3 baths, huge master bedroom, energy-saving windows, covered parking AND your own private pool.

Nick Kuhn
703.671.5225
www.NickKuhn.com