Commemorating Brotherhood

Universal Lodge #1 celebrates 172 years in Alexandria.

By Vernon Miles
Gazette Packet

T here are few cities with as visible a Masonic presence as Alexandria. The National George Washington Masonic Memorial has become a symbol of the city. The Freemasons are fraternal organizations commonly known today for their dedication to charity and their attire. But beneath the apron and chains, the Freemasons of Universal Lodge #1 have a long history of brotherhood and overcoming segregation.

“To the uninitiated it looks like pomp and circumstance,” said Dgessey Major, “but to those who understand ... it means everything.”

“It’s about the continuum of taking care of society, especially with regard to widows, orphans and charity,” said Macarthur Meyers, a member of the lodge. “You take a good man and make him a better man. At the time of our founding, people didn’t want blacks to be Freemasons, they wanted them in positions of servitude. That’s why we were [sponsored] by an organization that illustrates changes to city’s urban landscape

Strategic Plan
Part I: Neighbors

The first section of the city’s Strategic Plan focuses around ensuring that new development coming into Alexandria’s neighborhood is compatible with the historic environment. To this end, the action items for FY 2018 focus primarily around a series of small Area plans and two major developments at the end of King Street. Action items for FY 2018 include:
❖ Construct Interim Fitzgerald Square
❖ Design the Waterfront Flood Mitigation with early utility construction
❖ Award a design build contract for the Potomac Yard Metrorail Station Project
❖ Digitize historic documents that illustrate changes to city’s urban landscape
❖ Commemorate and interpret Alexandria’s role in WW I
❖ Continue preservation of the historic ship and other artifacts from Alexandria’s waterfront
❖ Complete Old Town North Small Area Plan
❖ Conduct update of North Potomac Yard Small Area Plan
❖ Begin Mt. Vernon Avenue planning study
❖ Provide support for the formation of a Business Improvement District (BID) in Old Town
❖ Provide support for the Old Town Small Area Plan, the North Potomac Yard Small Area Plan, the work on the interim Fitzgerald Square Park, and the

Alexandria, Arlington Construct Bigger and Better ‘Bridges’

Local safety net organization helped 500 people rebuild their lives last year.

By Eden Brown
Gazette Packet

L ike any other Alexandria mother, Amina Amir was bursting with pride that her daughter would be graduating from high school this spring, with plans to go to college, and that her son is in the U.S. Navy in California. But unlike most Alexandria mothers, Amir is a domestic violence survivor. She was taken out of her home a few years ago by a detective who referred her and her 13-year-old daughter and 17-year-old son to Bridges to Independence for emergency shelter from domestic abuse. They were placed in rapid rehousing in a three-bedroom apartment not long after, to rebuild their lives.

At the Screwtop Wine Bar in Clarendon on Feb. 6, this mother of two stood up and thanked a crowd of about 40 community-minded residents for giving her and her children a chance to live outside the shadow of domestic violence. Amir said she remains awed by the dedication of the staff at Bridges to Independence, a safety-net nonprofit organization which helps individuals and families in Alexandria and the City of Alexandria out of homelessness and into stable, independent futures. “They miss time with their families to help families they’ve never met before, generous with their time and their help; they remain our family,” she said.

It seemed like family, Monday night. Former U.S. Rep. Jim Moran, who was a founding board member 30 years ago when the organization was called the Alexandria Coalition for the Homeless (AACH) was there. “I started working with an Episcopal priest, Rosemary Sullivan, whose vision it was to create this,” Moran said.

Lars Flori interjected: “It was Jim Moran who arranged for an earmark of a House Bill to enable AACH to purchase their original building at 952 North Highland St., which is one of the reasons we can raise capital today.”

“Bridges” — as it is known in the community — has launched a $2.5 million capital campaign for a new headquarters space in Arlington. See Arlington, Page 24
Get Geared up for the Spring Market!

4076 Lee Highway, Arlington, VA 22207
2-bedroom, 2.5-bath Cherrydale charmer! 3-level townhouse with two-car garage and walkout lower level. Large open floor plan with eat-in kitchen with granite counters and stainless steel appliances, plus dining area and living room with fireplace. Updated baths, wood floors on main. Offered at $679,000

505 Braddock Rd E #303, Alexandria, VA 22314
Wonderfully convenient Colecroft Station located across the street from the Braddock Road Metro! This 2-bedroom condo has TWO parking spaces and a brand new kitchen. It has been freshly painted, has new carpet and 1 bathroom updated, it sparkles! Offered at $412,500

181 Reed Avenue E #304, Alexandria, VA 22305
The Preston - 2-bedroom, 2-bath condo with TWO parking spaces at The Preston. Open floor plan with 9-foot ceilings. Offered at $400,000

2342 Lee Highway, Arlington, VA 22201
Courthouse Square - Beautifully updated 4-story garage townhouse walkable to Courthouse or Clarendon Metro. 3 bedrooms plus entry level den. $3,900/month

I genuinely appreciate your referrals, please call me if you are moving out of the area. McEnearney Associates, Inc. has an extensive network of agents in other locations, we can help you find a REALTOR® in your next town or your next country!

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examination of a potential BID are all cur- rently underway and scheduled to be con- sidered by the City Council before the sum- mer break this year. While Fitzgerald Square Park and the Waterfront Flood Mitigation are ongoing projects, the upcoming budget discussions mean the two projects could begin work in 2017 or 2018.

Greg Useem, chief performance officer, said the action items are either approved or are already being worked on as per the Strategic Plan. Some projects could be on- going past FY 2018, like the digitization of the city’s historic documents. Karl Moritz, director of Planning and Zoning, said fund- ing is identified for most of the projects and several projects are moving forward within the next few months.

Interim Fitzgerald Square Project
Mitch Bernstein, director of the Depart- ment of Project Implementation, said the interim Fitzgerald Square Project is cur- rently going through the development site plan. Bernstein says the demolition of the Boat Club will go to the BAR in mid-March for a public hearing. The development site plan for Fitzgerald Square Park will be pre- sented to the Planning Commission in May, then that month to the City Council for approval of special use permits. Bernstein says construction is expected to begin a year from now, contingent on when the Boat Club vacates their property.

“How long the park is interim for is con- tingent on funding,” said Bernstein. “It’s a budget question. The way it’s currently bud- geted … planned for seven or eight years. The project is budgeted for $1 million. When the final design is approved we’ll have a tighter cost estimate.”

Bernstein says the idea for an interim park had support from the Alexandria Economic Development Partnership and the Chamber of Commerce as an economic benefit.

“We’re creating a new space available for use,” said Tony Gammon, deputy director of the Department of Project Implementa- tion. “So if the city wants to go forward with an ice rink or a marketplace, we’ve always said we’re making it a flexible space.”

The idea of an ice skating rink at the foot of King Street has been in discussion at City Council since the park concept was ap- proved in 2014, but some local residents are less in favor of the idea.

“Please, just no ice skating rinks at Fitzgerald Square Park,” said Yvonne Weight Callahan.

Bert Ely, co-chair of the Friends of the Alexandria Waterfront, said he believed the city should keep the Old Dominion Boat Club and convert it to a city-use facility.

“It’s a functional building,” said Ely. “As part of an interim plan, they should keep that building. Utilize it instead of tearing it down.”

Flood Mitigation
Flood mitigation on the waterfront has been a contentious issue in the past. Dur- ing heavy rains, waters tend to flood the foot of King Street and often rise as far in- land as Union Street. Several local citizens have expressed opposition to the city’s pre- liminary designs, which call for the rain to be trapped behind a beachhead and pumped back into the Potomac.

“It’s not that there’s opposition to flood mitigation, it’s how you do it,” said Ely. “The strategic plan doesn’t get into that, but it’s an important issue.”

Bernstein says the city has just finished the fact finding phase of the flood mitiga- tion and is beginning to move into the de- sign phase. Gammon said the FY2018 fund- ing will allow the city to begin utility work for the plan. This involves rebuilding some existing sewer works as a precursor to flood mitigation and undergrounding the remaining heavy wires near the end of King Street. Indigo Hotel and Robinson Termi- nal South buried most of the electrical lines in the area as part of their development, but there’s still a section of overhead wires that need to be buried. Separate from the utility work, Gammon said the final design process for the stormwater management system could take a year or two.

“The budget is the driving factor in this,” said Gammon. “Prior year funding got us through the preliminary design. Now, it’s subject to city funding. We will be making phasing recommendations to them to in- form the budgeting. The FY2018 funding is not going to change the undergrounding and utilities that need to be replaced first, it’s more about the major elements of con- struction: the tens of millions in bulkheads and promenades.”

Potomac Yard Metro
Potomac Yard Metrorail made progress at the Feb 7 Planning Commission meeting, with the commission voting unanimously to subdivide the parcel of land currently holding the Regal Movie Theater to facilit- ate the development of the site into the new Metro station. In 2016, designs for the Metro station were approved, including pedestrian bridges to give the site greater access to the Potomac Yard shopping areas nearby. The Metro station is planned to open in 2020.

Business Improvement District
At the City Council meeting on Jan. 28, the council changed the language of the Strategic Plan from the formation of a Busi- ness Improvement District (BID) for Old Town to “consideration” of a BID. Though several BIDs have been successful in Wash- ington D.C. and Arlington, some local resi- dents and businesses have expressed con- cerns about the BID’s impact on Alexandria. The BID will promote and help manage local businesses, but will also come with a 10 cent tax per $100 of assessed value for commercial properties. The BID will be consid- ered by City Council in March.

On Wednesday, Feb. 22, Alexandria Chamber of Commerce will host a forum at 7:30 in The Westin Alexandria hotel to dis- cuss how BIDs work and how they have impacted other local jurisdictions.

The next section of the Strategic Plan looks at how to create a more inclusive city, with a focus on adding to the city’s stock of affordable housing.
Alexandria $1,700,000
304 West Alexandria Avenue
Beautiful spacious home with custom 2 story addition. 3 bedroom, 3.5 bath Cape Cod with 3 finished levels and an attached 1 car garage. Wood burning fireplace, custom built-ins, refinished hardwood floors. Fenced yard with patio and large custom deck.
Christine Garner 703.587.4855

Alexandria $1,125,000
705 Grand View Dr.
4 bedroom, 3.5 bath, 3 fireplaces, screened in porch, fencd, flat backyard, closed to the “Pit”
Melissa Schultz – 703.407.5847
Ana Rivas Beck, Esq – 703.775-.3526

Alexandria $795,000
6128 Bayliss Place
Country Club living w/o the cost! Close in Alex brick Colonial with 5 beds,3.5 baths, gourmet kitchen A sunroom overlooking secluded pool and deck. Perfect for entertaining and indoor/outdoor living. 2 car garage. Located on a quiet cul-de-sac. No HOA dues!
Rick Lane, Esq. 703.626.6691

Alexandria $1,600,000
606 Queen Street
Elegant income producing residence in the heart of Old Town. 3 units totaling 5 bedrooms and 4.5 baths. Main 3 story residence with 3 bedrooms and 2.5 baths is currently owner occupied. Masterously maintained with high end finishes throughout.
Christine Garner 703.587.4855

Alexandria $594,900
7 Herbert Street
Spacious Del Ray townhome, just blocks to shops and restaurants on Del Ray’s vibrant Mount Vernon Avenue! Three level townhome with 3 beds and 2.5 baths, updated eat-in kitchen, gas fireplace, hardwood floors, deck for outdoor entertaining, large master suite with vaulted ceilings and one car garage and driveway for convenient off-street parking.
Mary Hurlbut & Michael Seith 703.980.5955

Alexandria $749,090
6128 Bayliss Place
Country Club living w/o the cost! Close in Alex brick Colonial with 5 beds,3.5 baths, gourmet kitchen A sunroom overlooking secluded pool and deck. Perfect for entertaining and indoor/outdoor living. 2 car garage. Located on a quiet cul-de-sac. No HOA dues!
Diann Hicks Carlson 703.626.2440

Alexandria $121,000
206 E. Braddock Rd.
Large Cape Cod 2 blocks to Metro. Looks can be deceiving—this spacious cape has 2000 Sq. ft. over 3 finished levels with 5 Baths & 2.5 baths, large first floor with stainless appliances and granite counters. Other bonuses include new windows, waterproofed basement, whole house generator, hardwood floors and large patio.

Alexandria $515,000
2211 Wittington Blvd.
JUST LISTED!
Alex/Old Town
Just Listed! 6 BR, 2 BA Raised Rancher just finished, large carport, a new HVAC, roof, & deck. Stratford Landing in Mt Vernon area.
Mike Downing 703.780.2727

Alexandria $950,000
207 Gibson Street
Unique opportunity in the SE quadrant 1 block from the riverfront! 4 bedrooms, 2.5 baths, 4 levels. Circa 1820 expanded brick residence with 3 fireplaces, hardwood floors, spacious yard, outbuilding with electric and alley access.
Christine Garner 703.587.4855

Alexandria $875,000
305 South Fayette Street
Spacious townhouse in courtyard setting with attached 2 car garage! 3 bedrooms, 3 full and 2 half baths, 4 finished levels. Desirable open floor plan, hardwood floors throughout, gas fireplace, Master suite with cathedral ceiling, Blocks to King St. Metro shops and restaurants!
Christine Garner 703.587.4855

Del Ray $874,000
305 E. Brock Rd. Large Cape Cod 2 blocks to Metro. Looks can be deceiving—this spacious cape has 2000 Sq. ft. over 3 finished levels with 5 Baths & 2.5 baths, large first floor with stainless appliances and granite counters. Other bonuses include new windows, waterproofed basement, whole house generator, hardwood floors and large patio.

Alexandria $905,000
207 Gibson Street
Unique opportunity in the SE quadrant 1 block from the riverfront! 4 bedrooms, 2.5 baths, 4 levels. Circa 1820 expanded brick residence with 3 fireplaces, custom built-ins, refinished hardwood floors, spacious yard, outbuilding with electric and alley access.
Christine Garner 703.587.4855

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Monte Durham, co-host and fashion director of TLC's "Say Yes to the Dress: Atlanta," will be the featured guest at the first annual Alexandria Wedding Showcase Feb. 19 at The Westin Alexandria.

A career bridal image consultant, Durham is well known in Alexandria, where he resides and celebrated his own wedding in 2013. He will host a VIP reception and participate in the showcase.

"We are really excited about the inaugural Wedding Showcase," said Lorraine Lloyd of Visit Alexandria. "The quality of our vendors along with our program sets this apart from typical wedding showcases."

More than 50 local vendors will participate in the showcase, which will also serve as a benefit for Brides Across America, a nonprofit that provides weddings and wedding gowns to military and first responder couples nationwide.

"With Monte’s help, 10 brides chosen by Brides Across America will select their gowns at the showcase," said Visit Alexandria’s Megan Hosford, a member of the Wedding Showcase committee. "The gowns have been donated by Brides Across America and Global Bridal Gallery, an Alexandria wedding dress boutique. And $2 from each ticket sold to the Wedding Showcase will be donated to Brides Across America."

Hosford, who has a background in wedding planning, said the idea for a showcase began a year ago.

"Alexandria is a premier destination for weddings," Hosford said. "We wanted to engage the many wedding vendors with the goal of creating a great wedding community."


"This really is a community effort," Lloyd added. "Sponsors of the showcase include Engaged! Magazine, The Westin Alexandria, Kimpton Lorien Hotel & Spa, and Visit Alexandria. And we couldn’t have done it without the support of the Alexandria Marketing Fund."

Featured vendors will include bakeries, boutiques and caterers; dress and tuxedo boutiques; entertainment and music providers; florists; photographers; salons and spas; transportation and other service providers; and hotels and other venues.

Local celebrity chef Cathal Armstrong will discuss selecting the perfect wedding menu and mixologists from Blackwall Hitch and PX will present a demonstration on seasonal cocktails.

Showcase attendees who purchase tickets before the show will feature "Say Yes to the Dress” host Durham.

See Wedding, Page 7
Hands Held High for 44 Years

By Shirley Ruhe
Gazette Packet

Cora Reed steps out into the intersection of S. Asaph and Gibbon and holds her arms up high. “You got to do that so they can see you,” Reed has been a school crossing guard for the Alexandria Public Schools for nearly 44 years. She started over on Beauregard “at ... it’s been so long I can’t remember.” Then she was at Jefferson-Houston Elementary School for a number of years before coming to her present spot at Lyles-Crouch Elementary School.

Reed says she had a husband who didn’t want her to work. She had some friends who were crossing guards and they urged her to try it. She said her husband didn’t mind. “He was a good provider, and I was a good wife.”

Now Reed works from 7:15 to 8:05 in the morning and 2:25-3:05 in the afternoon. She says she really has a lot of traffic. “Some people say they don’t see you. With all the lime green you get on that’s hard to believe. Everyone is in a hurry. These cars try to get a jump start across the street so you have to be alert.” Reed continues “some people try to sneak up on you, but when you have your hand up, it means don’t go until I say so.” And when it gets close to 8 a.m. they all spurt for the front door so the kids aren’t tardy.

Reed views herself as a shield. She says that often parents walk across the street with their children behind them. The child may drop something in the street on their way home from school.

Cora Reed stands on her corner ready to act as a shield to get the children safely across the street on their way home from school.

People At Work

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Obituary

W. Jeff Knicely

W. Jeff Knicely, 59, of Alexandria, died at his home on Tuesday, Jan. 24, 2017 following a recent illness.

He was born in Wabasha, Minn. on April 2, 1959 ... moving to Virginia in 1960 with his family. Jeff graduated from Mt. Vernon High School in Alexandria in 1977. After working most of his life in Alexandria, he was employed by the Master Roofing Company in Alexandria at the time of his death.

He is survived by his mother Anna Mae Knicely and brother Will Knicely both of Alexandria, as well as two nephews Jesse Knicely of Bradstown, Ky. and Shane Eberly (Knicely) of Burke.

He was preceded in death by his father Wiley H. Knicely in 1982 and sister Jackie E. Knicely in 2002.

Jeff was very active as an auto mechanic and enjoyed fishing, hunting and antique cars.

A memorial service is planned for Saturday, Feb. 11, 2017 at the Commonwealth Baptist Church, 700 Commonwealth Avenue, Alexandria. The family will receive guests at a reception immediately following the service in the lower level of the church.

Wedding Showcase To Feature Durham

The Alexandria Wedding Showcase will be held Feb. 19 at the Westin Alexandria Hotel, 400 Courthouse Square, from 11 a.m. - 3 p.m. Advance tickets can be purchased online for $15 each or $20 per couple or $25 per person the day of the event.

For more information or to purchase tickets, visit www.alxweddingshowcase.com.
The Journey to the Other Side of the Street

Success occurs one-on-one.

By Shirley Ruhe
Gazette Packet

Lavonne Williams and Michael Diffley sit sharing an afternoon cup of coffee remembering their journey. They recall the day they met in 2007. Williams said, “I was a homeless ex-offender, staying at the day shelter on Henry Street and sleeping on the streets at night. Mike pulled up in a truck and asked if anybody wanted to help him transfer mattresses donated from hotels to the furniture bank at ALIVE!”

Diffley added, “Like many other days I would look for the older black guys in their 50s because I knew they had been through a lot of stuff and I liked to listen to their stories. My comment to him was he won’t be on the streets. His comment to me was he will come and help me move furniture.”

Though they didn’t realize it at the time, at that moment a bargain was struck.

Williams said, “Mike gave me a jump start on being able to find work.” Diffley said, “You can roll the dice 40 times and the law of probability says you get snake eyes; you get a job. But an ex-offender rolls the dice 40 times and gets rejection and quits. They need people to take them on one-on-one, to roll up their sleeves.” He points to Williams and back to himself. “This works,” he said.

At the time Williams also panhandled in front of St. Joseph Catholic Church where Diffley is a parishioner. Many people that he called his “regulars” were giving Williams money and when they asked him what do you want, he would say, “I want work.”

Diffley said, “I got to know him better. I made it a point to talk to him. So many people pass by and don’t even give the time of day to the homeless. Lavonne has a great personality.” At the time Williams had some medical problems; he was a heavy smoker. Williams added, “They stuck a little cord in my vein to scrape the extra plaque out.”

Williams said when he met Diffley he had gotten “real tired” of living on the street. He slept in used car lots and went to businesses on King Street where trucks were unloading at 5 a.m. to earn $20 just to get something to eat. He said it took him “a while to get the concept of his situation in his entirety. I was trying to live on both sides of the street at the same time. I have taken Mike through a couple of headaches and he hasn’t given up on me.”

Diffley explains that Williams was on probation and still smoking marijuana. “He thought he could beat the charge. That really hurt and he knew it. We had the walk around the block talk,” Diffley said Williams was close to going back to jail and me saying to myself it’s too hard for me to do anything. ’But I still remember it. I said, ’do you want to come over to my side of the street or not?’ He said, ’I’m ready, Mike.’”

Diffley added, “To do what Williams did, that’s not easy to do. All your friends are over there on that side of the street, your social network, your drug supply.”

Williams said, “There are a lot of people who say they want to do something but put their foot in it is an entirely different perspective. You would rather stay where you are and beef than to look for work.” He thinks of Jamion who first got him involved in panhandling. “He is a perfect example. Jamion has been panhandling for years. He says he can make more money than working for anybody.” But sometime Jamion will get tired and want to get off the street and sleep on the couch and connect with Diffley.

Williams had been released from Lorton Prison in 1997 and told not to have a D.C. address anymore so he woke up in the D.C. jail and walked to the Potomac Avenue Metro, got on the train and came to Alexandria. He said it’s the biggest letdown because there are expectations that the government has programs to help you. “Back in the day when you went to the unemployment office they had a Rolodex that they would go out and talk to employers about ex-offenders. There was a tax credit for employers who hired an ex-offender. But,” he added, “if you don’t do one-on-one, sending us out is useless.”

Diffley says there are programs to help write resumes but do they take someone to find a job? “No, they are too busy writing resumes and with their computers.”

Williams says when you get out, “you got 30 days. The first two weeks people are glad to see you. Then it’s what do you do all day? When I leave, you’re here; when I come home, you’re here.” He was married at the time so had some family support. He lived with his wife and her family. But as time went by he wasn’t comfortable with his family’s illegal activities so “I took her and moved to New Jersey.”

Williams got a job “with a pretty good company” repairing computers, a skill he had learned in prison. His job performance was so satisfactory they wanted to hire him permanently. It was when he had to fill out an application that they discovered his prison background and decided he “wasn’t clean enough. So they let me go.”

Williams had been at Lorton for 11 years. “When I went in I knew what I did was wrong but it was based on a vendetta for my sister.” He explains someone gave his sister a “hot shot,” a dose of heroin and cocaine at the same time. Now her mind fluctuates from 12-year-old to her current 53 years “and me and my dad are the only ones she recognizes off the top.” He says he went after the guy who did it.

He said being in jail was close to life on the street. At Lorton, except driving, he says they did everything they did on the outside, like hustling and selling drugs. “We had carry-out soul food, some dormitories had sex parties.” He says the slightest thing was magnified in jail, “like if you said the wrong thing about somebody’s visiting wife.”

And there weren’t many fistfights. “If you’re coming at me, you’re coming at me to kill me,” Diffley’s personal journey that led him to the street where he met Williams began when he was a colonel in the Army stationed in New Orleans in the early ’90s. He was involved in the Little Brother Program and “this was the first time I had interacted with folks on the other side of the street.” He came back to D.C. for his last tour and looked for some way to get involved again. Since he had graduated from West Point, had two degrees from MIT and a Master of Business he decided he had the credentials to teach so got a position in the inner city. “The more I did, the more I got hooked on social justice.” After 12 years of teaching went by, he fell in love with the youths who were trying so hard, sometimes without any parents. He became much more progressive. “I used to be a Republican.” Now he wants to do the things that society is obligated to do.

Williams says he has a lot of blessings. “I have a program for low-income mothers.” They help him sort food for ALIVE! in exchange for community service hours. He has recommended several homeless for employment and he loads up boxes of food that a police officer delivers to homeless on the street. “Lavonne has become quite a philanthropist,” Diffley said.

With the help of Diffley Williams has started his own business, Alexandria Labor Co-op, a 50 percent self-sufficient business, with vehicles, tools, uniforms and an active payroll. Diffley said, “I’m a hard worker. He once walked from D.C. to the ALIVE! Warehouse to meet his regular Saturday morning obligation. We worked to get him incorporated and so he got some focus.”

Williams said, “You have to reset your mind from being a panhandler.” He currently has regular clients and six employees. His goal for the future is to have a 50 percent self-sufficient business, with vehicles, tools, uniforms and an active payroll. He said when he upgraded from sleeping in used car lots to a couch, “I never understood what this upgrade could mean.” Now he wants more.

Diffley helps subsidize his current room. “I’m in a room now with a private bath.” He says he is on a ladder now that will continue to go up. “Mike and I have gotten so close. Going down is not in the equation.”

Photos by Shirley Ruhe/Gazette Packet

Michael Diffley, a former colonel in the Army and later a high school teacher in D.C., says ex-offenders and homeless need people to take them on one-on-one if they are going to make it.

“Mike gave me a jump start on being able to find work.”

— Lavonne Williams

Part III

Concluding a three-part series focusing on prisoner reentry in Northern Virginia.

Alexandria Labor Co-op, labor source for yard work, moving furniture, heavy cleaning inside and out, and other times when you need a helping hand on a project. Diffley said, “Williams is a hard worker. He once walked from D.C. to the ALIVE! Warehouse to meet his regular Saturday morning obligation. We worked to get him incorporated and so he got some focus.”

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First Amendment Is Alive and Well

By Ronald Goldfarb

“Congress shall make no law … abridging … the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances.”

Having worked in D.C. and lived in Alexandria since 1961 when I came to work for Robert Kennedy in the Justice Department, I’ve experienced the First Amendment in real time action, by assembling and petitioning my government for redress of grievances.

In 1963 my wife and I stood near the Lincoln Memorial where Martin Luther King Jr. pleaded to the world for civil rights for all people, and delivered his immortal “I Have a Dream” speech. About 350,000 people — black and white — peacefully gathered in the nation’s capital to plead for President Kennedy to provide 19 million Afro-American descendants the right to vote, travel, and work.

Fears abounded. The D.C. police and FBI were present on the streets. There were altogether over 8,000 guards of the peace. The federal government and many businesses were closed. Hospitals canceled elective surgery so all beds would be available for riot-related emergencies. Jails were emptied to provide room for predicted arrests. Judges were on emergency duty. Jails were emptied to provide room for predicted arrests. Judges were on emergency duty.

Unfortunately, many of the social injustices deplored on that summer day in Washington, D.C., have not yet been overcome. But Aug. 28, 1963, was a seminal moment in American history. It demonstrated the power and dignity of democracy in action.

In 1971, the scene was even more fraught when my wife and I joined Vietnam War protests on the streets of Washington D.C., a gathering which was rougher and more proactive than the 1963 event. We were gassed, with many others, near Dupont Circle by police overreacting to the noisy protests. Eventually the public demonstrations worked. The war was ended, too late, but it might not have ended when it did without these public protests.

Critics of the war hastened the end of it, and resulted in a president leaving politics.

In 1986, my wife, daughter and two human rights activist friends, the late Pat Derian and Rose Styron, and their daughters marched on a sunny day near Congress in a sea of women who came from across the country to support the ERA. But this time their pleas were not successful in terms of reaching the goal that gave rise to that march. But peace prevailed and eventually the goals they asserted then have been advanced in major ways.

On Saturday, Jan. 21, 2017, an estimated half million Americans filled the streets of Washington, D.C., as huge crowds in other cities in America and around the world to claim rights they felt were disparaged by the Trump campaign and election. The Saturday crowds far surpassed Friday’s relatively insignificant inaugural crowds. President Trump now argues about the relative size of his crowds — those applauding his election, and those crying out against him.

My children who attended here in D.C. and other locations reported a cheering good spirit, upbeat communal behavior, welcoming friendly law enforcement officials, filled bleachers, and an upbeat camaraderie.

Now what remains after people returned to their homes away from Washington, D.C. is the question: how does this experience change the future? Will the energy become harnessed into a movement that changes politics? We all ponder that question, brave to the people who are trying.

Another Hotel?

To the Editor:

A group of investors have recently held meetings in the Durant Center with some home owners as well as absentee house owners on Harvard Street attending. Harvard street is a beautiful one lane street between Cameron and King street with shaded trees a few blocks from the King Street Metro. At the present time there is no major problem with parking since on both sides of the street there is off street parking. On the odd number side of the street there are beautiful porches in front of each house which is raised up above the sidewalk and street level. Harvard Street is not in the Old Town Historic District but it’s town houses are now almost 100 years old. The street has become an expensive one to live on with a house generally selling for $700,000 or above. Developers want to make some major changes to the immediate surrounding area of the street.

A six-and-a-half story hotel is proposed to be built on the 1600 block of King Street with white bricks not the historical red. Also, the back of the hotel will be a glass façade. Before the hotel is built developers propose to destroy two buildings. One building is historic having been built around 1900ish. It is occupied and owned by the United States Navy Association, having been restored a few years back. It is a beautiful red brick three- or four-story building with an attached open parking lot to it at the corner of King and Harvard streets. The second building to be destroyed is presently offices. The 1600 1619 Naval Association building or its owners have signed a “Right to Own” so that the hotel will have the right to tear down the two buildings and build a 124-126 room hotel with restaurant.

It is proposed to destroy four mature trees on the entrance of Harvard Street at King Street so that new ones will be replaced as well as develop a two-way entrance to the street so that it will be easy for hotel guests to enter and leave the hotel. The present parking lot will be destroyed and a one level underground parking lot will be made available also for guests. Pole poles will be used. A large pole almost blocks the entrance to the alleyway on the side of the proposed hotel that has to be removed since it holds the electric lines providing electricity to nearby office buildings. The developer has applied to the Alexandria Planning Commission to build a 120 room hotel with a restaurant. The developer is preparing their Application for a variance to the height limits.

Shirley Ruhe

A Connection Newspaper

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Choosing One’s Future

By Monique Alcala

Nearly two weeks ago just across the Potomac, the United States inaugurated its 45th president – Donald J. Trump. It took only seven days for his administration to forth and sign an executive order that barred Syrian refugees indefinitely and blocked entry into the U.S. for citizens from Iran, Iraq, Libya, Somalia, Sudan, Syria, and Yemen.

The consequences were devastating. Countless individuals, including a 5-year old child from Maryland, and a Sudanese mother who had a valid visa coming to visit her son in intensive care in Washington, D.C., were detained or completely turned away at airports. Once word spread of these grave injustices from across the country, communities were outraged — protests across the country, including right here in Dulles International Airport, erupted spontaneously.

Fortunately, on Friday, a U.S. District Court Judge in Seattle put a temporary, nationwide restraining order on the executive order due to its likely unconstitutionality. The administration immediately appealed the ruling and aims to reinstate the executive order due to its likely unconstitutionality. The administration immediately appealed the ruling and aims to reinstate the “ban” entirely — and I have a problem with that.

Despite its checkered past, the bedrock values of social justice and equality are becoming the consistent pattern in our Commonwealth. 21st Century Virginia values can only make us more prosperous as we become more welcoming to all who seek to make their home here. As a resident of Alexandria, I view the President’s ban to be an affront to these values. It threatens the vibrancy of our diverse communities who bring their families and their talents to this beautiful city to live, work, and create businesses and contribute to our local economy.

We have a critical election next November and the stakes have never been higher. So far, all notable Virginia Democrats have condemned the President’s executive order. Republicans like fringe gubernatorial candidate Corey Stewart, on the other hand, have fully embraced it. And Ed Gillespie’s untimely and tepid response to the crisis likely gave us a glimpse into what Virginia families can expect from his tenure as governor.

Republicans cite the fight against terrorism and national security as the justification for taking such extreme measures. But this is simply divorced from reality.

There exist no magical list of countries or group of people, vulnerable refugees or not, that we can “ban” to keep us perfectly safe from any future attack. Pursuing these reckless and empty gestures will do nothing but embarrass the U.S. on the world stage and alienate many of the very people we rely upon as partners in the fight against terrorism. And to add fuel to the fire, these policies play directly into the hands of ISIL, who argue — like the Trump Administration — that Muslims cannot peacefully coexist in the West.

With our federal government failing, it is incumbent upon all of us to prove that argument false. While other states in the U.S. are given a brief respite before the 2018 midterms, Virginians will be given the first opportunity to show true leadership when we elect our statewide offices. We must choose between continued prosperity and freedom or a future limited by economic inequality and intolerance. We must stand steadfast as allies to those who choose to come to this country, whether just for a visit or to start a new life here.

Monique Alcala, a resident of Alexandria, is a partner with the Truman National Security Project. The views expressed are her own.
Opinion

What Do We Do with a Problem Like Alexandria?

Re-imagining the city.

By Kerry Carter

T
here's that guy at the intersection of South Washington and Prince Streets in Old Town who is causing problems for a lot of people. To many he is a permanent pro-
tester, holding up traffic, distracting driv-
ers and refusing to move. Like many of the professional protesters hanging around in Berkeley and NYC in recent days, his up-
keep is supported by someone else's money.

But we'll get back to him in a moment.

What to do about Alexandria, that once quaint but lively seaport town, captured by the Union during the Civil War and invol-
untarily thrust into the political and social fray. That beautiful and thriving "Southern" quaint but lively seaport town, captured by the Union during the Civil War and invol-
untarily thrust into the political and social fray. That beautiful and thriving "Southern"

But back to our problem: What
to do with this backwards town named Al-
exandria, that to some seems lost in time
and struggling to hold on to its unhappy

Fear not, visitors, residents and curiosity seekers, I have a solution. There is no need to tear down, rearrange or destroy anything
in our city that reminds us of the past. Let us instead re-imagine Alexandria! Might we

Could we purposefully re-create the ulti-
mate, non-threatening safe space — dare I
say "sanctuary" full of warm and knowable
names? And, since history is considered a
dying field of study in our schools and uni-
versities, should we not, in keeping with the
defeated Confederate soldier who for many
years has challenged our driving skills and
admired, I propose a "monumental change."

Re-imagine Franklin Street: Named af-
after one of our greatest artists — Aretha —
and a place where people of all nations,
fairs, backgrounds and musical tastes will always be re-re-re-spected. Right on, I love
her!

Re-imagine Queen Street: A street open
to interpretation and many possibilities but
definitely calling for a rainbow flag on ev-
ery block.

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Discover the secret source of many collectors, dealers, decorators and shoppers with "good eyes" and great taste.
Plank in the Progressive Eye

By Dan Brendel

Donald Trump has a lot of people worrying about "alternative facts." Rightfully so. But I also worry about progressives who seem to think their facts don't come from a world of alternatives.

I am not a relativist. I am perfectly comfortable talking about abstract and objective reality. But we are subjective creatures. We navigate through reality like a submarine through the ocean. My ship has no windows. I study my charts. I sound out the world with my sensors. At best it's a functionally factual method. But I would be a fool of a captain if I thought the "facts" on my charts and sensors were literally the same things as the facts outside my hull.

My charts and sensor readings are renderings, interpretations, approximations, full of assumptions. I didn't make any given chart. Maybe I pencil in corrections here and there, but for the most part I received it. I trust it as far as it goes. But I know that the cartographers had an interest, made choices about which facts to render, how to render them, and which to omit. I know that the chart itself is not factual just because it has facts rendered on it. Likewise, I trust my own soundings as far as they go. But I understand that I've chosen when and where to make them, what to measure, and how often. I know that the lines between my data points are interpolations, not data points themselves, and certainly not the real world outside.

If I don't vigorously differentiate between the narratives of bathymetric and barometric charts, or between fitted curves and the seafloor, then sailing on my boat should give you little comfort.

Many progressives are conflating renderings and charts with reality. It's evident in the very term progressive. I'm a theologically conservative Catholic. I believe in the garden-to-city trajectory of God's plan for creation and humankind's responsibility to participate. I embrace the concept of objective progress. But, in concrete politics, "progress" is a value-laden term. Charts and soundings of progress may or may not accurately render the actual terrain of progress. In the conservative Catholic mind — and I would hope in anybody's mind — the Right and Left have both mapped some things rightly and some wrongly.

But instead there is an idea that opponents conservative politics is progressive politics. It's not just change; it's progress. Liberals are straining facts through a sieve of values, but still convinced that the end product is objective.

But every fact has valid alternatives. How we sift, render, prioritize, exclude, and connect these alternatives is an act of judgment. The facts do not render this judgment upon themselves. "The whole truth" is a fine ideal for jurisprudence, but it is impossible. So while there may be a clear difference between a factual account and and purely fictional account, there is no such thing as a purely factual account that is not tinged by myth — a personal myth, a party myth, etc.

For example, Clinton suggested during the campaign that abortion is a matter of women's health care. Trump went as far as to suggest that abortion should be a punishable crime. I would argue that both of these narrative accounts touch on fact, neither of them on all the facts.

According to a 2013 study in BMC Women's Health about why women seek abortions, about as many respondents cited "concern for (their) own health" (6 percent) as concern that a baby would "interfere with their … career plans" (7 percent).

Since I have never heard a convincing reason why life doesn't begin at conception, I honestly don't see why the latter reason should sound plausibly closer to health care than to a crime. But even dismissing the criminal possibility as extreme, the exchange of careers for human lives that would otherwise exist is certainly not an incontrovertible fact of progress.

Even outright lying from one’s opponent doesn’t mean that one’s narrative account of reality came down from the mountain written in stone by the finger of God. To the extent that liberals think they hold the holy tablets — and I fear many are increasingly emboldened by Mr. Trump’s falsehoods to think precisely that — then they have constructed a false dichotomy. But heed the prophets. The Israelites weren’t heroes just because Pharaoh was a villain. Nobody’s safe from the intellectual shoals just because an opposing sea captain is sailing blind.

We should be concerned about facts, not least because of Mr. Trump — but not only because of him. If we’re just now becoming concerned that politics perilously bends the fact-narrative continuum, I don’t think we’ve been looking hard enough in the mirror. We need to navigate with humility and conscience, not to call a preferred version of bad seamanship virtue.

Dan Brendel writes on faith-based issues for the Gazette Packet.

LETTERS

From Page 10

Operators have stated that they will take it down and construct underground electric wires. Massive construction will take place as well as other developments taking place in the area and explained in a previous letter to the paper.

This proposed hotel is not needed in this part of the city since it is saturated with new hotels. In fact Alexandria does not need another hotel in this city. There are two basic reasons why: New hotels developing in Harbor Place across the Potomac River in

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A ‘Big Weekend’ Celebrating Washington’s Birthday

By Joseph S. Shumard
Chair, Alexandria George Washington Birthday Celebration Committee

This is the third in a series of articles about the George Washington Birthday Celebration. For more information, please visit www.washingtonbirthday.com.

By now you should be feeling “in the groove” as Alexandria celebrates Washington’s Birthday with an increasing number of activities. The Winter Warmer Ladies Tea was held at Gadsby’s Tavern Museum on Fe. 5, the first “Walking with Washington” tour was given last weekend (with three more to come, every Sunday in February), and the Cherry Challenge continues through Feb. 11 with 43 of the finest Al- lexandria restaurants presenting cherry-themed drinks, starters, entrees and desserts. Find us on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram (direct links are on our website) to see pictures of many of the offerings and the commentary of many enthusiastic patrons.

We are turning our attention toward the “big weekend” of Saturday, Sunday, and Monday; Feb. 18, 19, and 20. Starting with the Birthnight Banquet and Ball (which is sold out) through the end of the George Washington Birthday Parade, there are five major events held in 46 hours. Most of these are free and accessible to everyone. So let me tell you about these events:

Let’s jump to the Revolutionary War Re-enactment at Fort Ward Park on Sunday, Feb. 19 from 9 a.m. until 3 p.m. It’s a day-long lensing in the Revolutionary War, from the soldier’s perspective. Reenactors from up and down the Atlantic Coast come with authentic weapons, battle gear, and uniforms to show you what it was like to be a fighter in the 18th-century. You will experience how they lived, what they ate, and how they prepared for battle. Visitors can interact with the knowledgeable reenactors, ask questions, and see things up close. Then at 2 p.m. there will be a narrated skirmish between British and Ameri- can troops and visitors can observe the strategies and tactics of war at that time, very different from today.

Monday is a big day and starts off at 9 a.m. with the Friendship Breakfast, hosted at the Alexandrian Hotel by the Friendship Veterans Fire Engine Association (which was founded in 1774). This annual tradition features “George Washington’s” first appearance of the day, an address by retired Four-Star General John H. Tillelli, the awarding of the prestigious Ben Lynx Award for public service, a hearty breakfast, and good fellowship. Tickets: $35.

At 11 a.m. is a wreath-laying ceremony at the tomb of the unknown soldier of the American Revolution in the cemetery of the Old Presbyterian Meeting House. Join the Daughters of the American Revolution as they host colonial military and civilians to honor the soldiers of the Revolution. Free.

At noon is the Armed Forces Community Covenant Ceremony at the Parade Reviewing Stand at Market Square. Come honor our nation’s veterans, listen to brief remarks by senior military officials and civilians, pledge support for the active military and their families, hear music by the Quantico Marine Band, and visit informational booths, and displays. Free.

At 1 p.m. the nation’s largest George Washington Birthday Parade marches a one-mile route through the streets of Old Town Alexandria. With nearly 3,500 participants, this community parade honors Alexandria’s favorite son. The Grand Marshal is retired Police Chief Earl Cook. Special guest is Olympic silver medal winner, boxer Shakur Stevenson. It’s not too late to join us as a marching unit and we still need parade marshals and drivers for dignitaries. For information about participating units, parking, maps, route, status and to volunteer, go to www.washingtonbirthday.com.

A Cross-Cultural Connection

Rebecca and Elodie met through the SOHO program back in 2014. On the first day of the program, they were sitting together and immediately had a great connection. Rebecca is from El Salvador originally and is very interested in other cultures and Elodie is from France and loves to share her love for international travel.

Rebecca quickly asked Elodie to talk to her about her country, cultural differences and what language people speak in France. Elodie also wanted to find out about Rebecca’s original country of El Salvador. A friendship quickly built from there.

Each Thursday evening, they met through the SOHO program and worked on art projects together, including painting, making pillows, ceramics, and other projects with the objective to create a space for Rebecca in her home. At the end of the program Rebecca was sharing a room with her brother and made her “corner” her own space with crafts she had worked on all year long with Elodie along with some new fun things they bought together.

After two years of starting the program, Elodie and Rebecca have a close friendship and see each other on a regular basis to see movies, go to coffee, do some shopping or just talk about school, life, and everything in between. As Elodie says, “Rebecca has brought so much more to my life than I had ever imagined. We have a very strong bond that I plan to cherish for life.” Elodie was so happy when Rebecca told her that she had decided to take French in middle school and promised Rebecca to take her to Europe when she graduates from high school.

Elodie Guillen and Rebecca sist are a member of the Alexandria Mentoring Partnership (AMP). AMP was created in 2006 to ensure that quality mentors and mentoring programs are available for Alexandria’s youth and young adults in need. To learn more about SOHO, visit: http://spaceofthetown.org/ or to learn more about AMP, visit http://www.alexandriavrga.gov/Mentoring.

Edgar A. Bates
George Washington Chapter, Sons of the American Revolution
Alexandria
Homero Escobar jiggles three pans on high heat on the front burners in the kitchen of RT’s Restaurant on Mount Vernon. “I am making the sauce and the topping at the same time for the mahi mahi,” he said. A 20-gallon pot of veal bones with celery, onion, carrots and parsley simmers on a back burner. “We use veal stock in most of the sauces. This will cook about 6-8 hours.” Today Escobar is making the daily special “crusted mahi mahi with Creole meuniere sauce.” This kind of meuniere sauce is much different than the French. Today’s recipe will make enough for 10 servings although usually he makes enough for 40-50 diners at one time.

Escobar drops 1/2 pound of tiny cubes of Andouille sausage into a saucepan with 1/2 cup of canola oil. “This will cook on a high burner for 3 minutes.” While the Andouille is cooking, he starts working on the cream. He drains off a little of the butter in the pan and the Andouille topping at the same time for the special of the day, “crusted mahi mahi with Creole meuniere sauce.” He will juggle three burners as he makes two sauces to combine later.

Pour two sauces together for reduction. Strain out solids. Toss potatoes with Cajun spice. Final step: ladle sauce on mahi mahi.

Meet the Chef: Homero Escobar

In the Kitchen

Pour two sauces together for reduction. Strain out solids. Toss potatoes with Cajun spice. Final step: ladle sauce on mahi mahi.

Cajun specialties at RT’s on Mount Vernon

By Shirley Ruhe

Homero Escobar, executive chef at RT’s Restaurant on Mount Vernon, has lined up his ingredients for the special of the day, “crusted mahi mahi with Creole meuniere sauce.” He will juggle three burners as he makes two sauces to combine later and the Andouille topping at the same time.

Homero Escobar, executive chef at RT’s Restaurant on Mount Vernon, has lined up his ingredients for the special of the day, “crusted mahi mahi with Creole meuniere sauce.” He will juggle three burners as he makes two sauces to combine later and the Andouille topping at the same time.

He drains off a little of the butter in the dish with the fish and reaches for the Andouille topping which goes generously on top of the fish. “I use these julienne carrots as a garnish.” Escobar opens the heavy oven door and slips the fish back in the oven at 500 degrees for another 3 minutes. It is time to add the cream to the Worcestershire combination. His assistant, Sandra Membrino, hands him the large whisk to mix the two together in the pan. The sauce will now cook for another five or so minutes to let it reduce a little.

“The last thing is the cubed potatoes. I have cut these Idaho potatoes into large cubes and deep fried them.” To finish them off, he sautéed them with a little canola oil for 1-2 minutes. “I will throw in a little scallion and Cajun spice.” He flips the potatoes in the air to turn them over in the pan. “Now I’ll arrange the potatoes in the center of the dish and top them with the mahi mahi.” He places the julienne carrots on the side of the dish. Escobar removes the sauce from the stove and strains the solids out into a bowl to discard later. “Now for the final step.” He dips a two-ounce scoop into the sauce and pours the sauce artfully around the fish.

Escobar says his favorite dish at RT’s is the chicken and Andouille gumbo. “The customers like the gumbo, too, and the giga-nitic shrimp with Jack Daniels cream. It’s a signature dish at RT’s and owner Ralph Davis says he can’t reveal what is in it. Escobar has been at RT’s since it opened in 1985. He came to America from Guatemala in 1981. “There I ate a lot of beans and corn and chicken with fresh chilli peppers.” He adds that he ate a lot of spicy food but not the same spices as the Cajun combination that enhances many of his dishes at RT’s. He says it was his dream to be a chef since he was a teenager. “My first job was working in a restaurant kitchen and I discovered I had a kitchen skill.”

Calendar

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

ONGOING

RockNBBlades. Fridays in February 8:45-10:30 p.m. at Mount Vernon Ice Skating, 2017 Belle View Blvd. Skating with music. $12 admission includes rental skates. Multiple Exposures Gallery. www.connectionnewspapers.com

SCENES FROM MULTIPLE EXPOSURES GALLERY. The Lyceum: 178 Years of Local History. Ongoing, Monday-Saturday 10 a.m.-5 p.m. and Sunday 1-5 p.m. at The Lyceum, 201 S. Washington St. On view in the museum’s Goldsmith Gallery, the historical objects and images featured represent The Lyceum, the community at work, and The Lyceum, the community at work, and The Lyceum, the community at work. Alexandria Gazette Packet  February 9-15, 2017  15

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Visit www.nvcc.edu/alexandria/ or call 703-299-9495 or visit www.StGeorgeofEthiopia.com. Inspirational approaches in mixed media inhabit this art exhibit. Call 703-299-9495 or visit www.StGeorgeofEthiopia.com. The Lyceum: 178 Years of Local History. Ongoing, Monday-Saturday 10 a.m.-5 p.m. and Sunday 1-5 p.m. at The Lyceum, 201 S. Washington St. On view in the museum’s Goldsmith Gallery, the historical objects and images featured represent The Lyceum, the community at work, and The Lyceum, the community at work, and The Lyceum, the community at work.
Celebrate Valentine’s Day with the Romance of Italy

Three-course Dinner with Champagne or House Wine
A Red Rose and Chocolates for the Couple

Live Entertainment
Daryl Ott at the piano and some songs by the singing Chef Franco

7:00 - 11:00 P.M.
February 14th
Valentine’s Day

Special Menu Includes:
- Linguini Mare Nostrum
- Veal Scaloppini St. Valentino Style
- Filetto di Salmone al Caviar

Don't miss Opera Night...February 26

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WASHINGTON, D.C.

Colonel Larry H. Lang, Commander and Conductor

Lebrun-Evan’s McDowell County, WV. An artist reception is Jan. 14, 2-4 p.m. www.multipleexposuresgallery.com

entertainment

Multiple Exposures Gallery

Multiple Exposures Gallery is on display through Feb. 12 at the Torpedo Factory Art Center, #312, 105 North Union St. Featuring Colleen Henderson’s A Study in Contrasts, and Sandy Lebrun-Evan’s.

Medical Care for the Civil War

Commemorations and celebrations. Throughout the exhibition, visitors are invited to “be the caravan” and think about why the various artifacts are in the museum’s collection, and about how tangible representatives of the past help tell the story of Alexandria’s history. Free. Visit www.alexandriahistory.org for more.

Pick-Up Hockey

During the Civil War. More

www.alexandriava.gov/fortward for more.

Alexandria’s Nurses and Hospitals During the Civil War. Ongoing at the Lyceum, 201 S. Washington St. An exhibit on the life of Clarissa Jones, a nurse at The Lyceum hospital during the Civil War. The true story of a nurse in Alexandria during the war, drawing parallels with characters portrayed in the PBS drama “Mercy Street,” with references to the experiences of other nurses, such as Anne Reading, who worked in the Mansion House hospital, and Jane Woolsey, who served at the Fairfax Seminary hospital. Admission is $2. Visit www.alexandriahistory.org/lyceum for more.

Shield of Earth: Defending the Heart of the Union exhibit.

Ongoing, museum hours Tuesday through Saturday, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m., Sundays, noon - 5 p.m. at Fort Ward Museum, 4301 West Braddock Road. Highlights of the exhibition include military passes issued by Provost Marshal’s Office, construction tools, and original photographs of some of Washington’s defenders. 703-746-4848 or www.fortward.org.

Who These Wounded Are: The Extraordinary Stories of the Mansion House Hospital exhibit.

Ongoing, Tuesday through Saturday, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m., Sundays, noon - 4 p.m. at the Carlyle House Historic Site, 121 N. Fairfax St. Come see the site that inspired “Mercy Street,” the new PBS’ series inspired by real events that took place at Carlyle House. Visit www.carlylehouse.org or call 703-566-2997.

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

Color Disorder Exhibit. Ongoing, Thursday through Sunday, noon-4 p.m., Sundays, noon-4 p.m. at the Athenaeum, 201 Prince St. A joint exhibition of artists Katie Raines and Amy Chan who use diverse painting materials such as acrylic, gouache, airbrush and screen print to build energized abstract paintings. Free admission. Visit www.nfaa.org or 703-548-0035.


Alexandria Cars and Coffee. Every Thursday, 8 a.m. - 10 a.m. in the parking lot of Roseina’s, 1307 Shenandoah Road. Owners of classic cars, hot rods, exotic cars, motorcycles and more meet to share car stories and drink coffee. Group meets the first Sunday of every month. 8-30-11 a.m.

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

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

Second Thursday Music. Athenaeum, 201 Prince St. 7 p.m. Second Thursday of every month.

Alexandria Faxphone

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Visit refaa.org to view concert calendar and listen to upcoming Second Thursday Music artists. The Monday Morning Birdwalk takes place weekly, rain or shine (except during electrical storms, strong winds, or icy trails), at 7 a.m. (8 a.m. November through March), is free, requires no reservation and is open to all. Birders meet in the parking lot for the park’s entrance at 3701 Lockheed Blvd. Direct questions to park staff at 703-768-2525. Look and listen for owls, beavers and other animals that occur in Alexandria. Find dioramas, archaeology museum exhibits, and other information about the Civil War era. RSVP at admin@nvfaa.org or call 703-765-4573.

Visit www.alexsym.org or call 703-548-0885 for more.

Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/huntley-meadows-park/ or call 703-768-2525 for more.

The Alexandria Symphony
On Feb. 11-12, an All-Mozart Concert, 8 p.m. at Rachel M. Schlesinger Concert Hall, 4915 E Campus Drive. The concert has a focus on musical masterpieces, led by five conductors, anchored by a classical “popular” favorite from the symphonic canon. $20-$80, $5 youth and $10 student with military, senior and group discounts available. Visit www.alexsym.org or call 703-548-0885 for more.

Visit Mistee Koon, 571-251-1717 or visit www.misteekoon.com for more.

AHA Benefit Concert, 7:30 p.m. at The Athenaeum, 201 Prince St. Benefits a heart organization dedicated to providing financial aid, volunteer service and support to Inova Alexandria Hospital. Call 703-548-0885 for more.

The Alexandria Gazette Packet
The DC-based restaurant has “popped up” at the Torpedo Factory.

By Hope Nelson

OId Town’s Torpedo Factory is known for helping artists grow and develop — and sell — their craft. But beginning late last month, there’s another kind of incubator on the scene within the factory walls. EatsPlace, which bills itself as a “pop-up” and restaurant incubator, has made itself right at home with a café for breakfast, lunch, or an early dinner.

“EatsPlace is all about building community and having events and happenings all around food, because food I really believe is a catalyst for other things — for getting people together,” said founder Katy Chang. “… When people get together and community forms, and neighbors start talking to each other … amazing things happen.”

EatsPlace’s flagship space is situated in the Washington neighborhood of Petworth, and it’s there that the groundwork was laid for a more formalized café in Alexandria. The original location remains a space where new or visiting chefs can develop a presence — and a fanbase. In fact, foodies with deeper pockets can even elect to invest in up-and-coming chefs, Chang says. For one, the menu will remain more consistent, shifting primarily with the season rather than more frequently by individual chefs.

“This concept is more self-contained … it’s a café/marketplace. Since we are open in the daytime and have longer hours, we can have a whole retail section where we promote local foods from Virginia, of course, but Maryland and D.C. as well.”

Among some of the top retail selections: Virginia peanuts, naturally, as well as mushrooms from Good Sense Farm.

But the star of the café is, of course, the fresh foods available on the daily menu. Among the highlights: Three different variations on a grilled-cheese sandwich, including a kimchi grilled cheese, which is the most popular version, Chang says. Ingredients are sourced from local farmers, and along with the standard menu fare, there will be some signature dishes here and there.

“As far as the collaboration with our chefs, they’ll do a signature sandwich, but we’re going to try to keep the menu somewhat consistent,” she said, adding: “Which is not to say we won’t do a fondue night or something.”

Also on the upcoming docket: Demonstrations and classes, Chang says, including child-friendly classes. She’s finalizing the spring schedule now but hinted at the potential for a kimchi how-to demo or — for the adults — a beer-brewing class. Even when attendees don’t try again at home, Chang says, the demos help people “appreciate the craftsmanship” behind each technique.

Just a couple of weeks in, Chang has been pleased by the neighbors’ response.

“They have been so kind,” she said. “I always thank people for coming to visit us, but they thank us for opening!”

Hope Nelson owns and operates the Kitchen Recessions blog, located at www.kitchenercessions.com. Email her any time at hope@kitchenercessions.com.

EatsPlace Café Aims To Join Works of Art

The DC-based restaurant has “popped up” at the Torpedo Factory.
FEB. 17-18

Arlo Guthrie in Concert. 7:30 p.m. at The Birchmere, 3701 Mt. Vernon Ave. $110. Visit www.birchmere.com

Eco-Savvy Symposium. SATURDAY/FEB. 18
Winter Restaurant Week. FEB. 17-26
Arlo Guthrie in Concert. FEB. 17-18

Needlework Needlewok takes center stage at the Woodlawn Needlework Show and Sale at the Woodlawn & Pope-Leighy House, 9000 Richmond Highway during the month of March. Visit woodlawnpopeleighy.org for more.

SUNDAY/FEB. 19
Revolutionary War Reenactment. 10 a.m.-3 p.m. at Fort Ward Park, 4301 W. Braddock Road. Learn about a soldier’s life, see authentic weaponry and uniforms from the Revolution. Watch an actual battle between British and Colonial troops. Free. Visit www.alexandriavi.gov/FortWard for more.

Top 10 Plants for the Garden. 1:30 p.m. at Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road. Learn why plant selection is so important in the garden during the springtime. Learn the Top 10 Plants for the Garden. Horticulturists Zatsick discuss their favorites. $10. Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/greenspring/ for more.

WASHINGTON METROPOLITAN PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA

WASHINGTON METROPOLITAN PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA
Barbershop Harmony Concert. 3-5 p.m. at Chapel of Mount Vernon, 3200 Mount Vernon Highway. The Ars Nova Chamber Orchestra will play the music of Poulenc and Britten. Free. Email music@mvuc.org for more.
Striking a Chord

Guitar Center stages lively opening.

Bruce Shepard stood alone under a parking lot street light taking it all in — the crowds, the music, the unusually balmy January weather. After a year-and-a-half of planning, Jan. 12 was opening night for the Guitar Center’s newest location in the Alexandria Commons Shopping Center and Shepard was instrumental in making it happen. “This is a great location for us,” said Shepard, a New York City corporate real estate expert who scouts potential locations for the music store retailer. “We did a lot of research and demographic analysis and decided that Alexandria would be a good fit with our other stores in the Mid-Atlantic.”

Hundreds of people from around the region waited in line to enter the store. With record-setting temperatures in the 70s, no one complained as musicians from T.C. Williams High School and the Blue Tips Band entertained the crowd and free raffle tickets were handed out for dozens of prizes that included gift cards, a PA system, musical accessories and a Gibson Les Paul Studio electric guitar.

“We’ve spent so much money at Guitar Center over the years it’s exciting to finally win something,” said Alexandria resident Mary Beth Buchholz, who won a PA system.

Inside was controlled chaos as everyone, young and old, became a kid in a candy store trying out instruments ranging from guitars to keyboards to drums and DJ equipment.

“This is probably the liveliest opening event I’ve seen in my four years of living in Alexandria,” said Jeff Peterson, owner and Minuteman Press. “The Guitar Center did a great job of promoting this.” Guitar Center bills itself as “home to the world’s largest selection of popular guitars, basses, amplifiers, keyboards, workstations, drums, percussion, microphones, PA systems, DJ equipment, stage lighting, recording software, studio gear and more.”

Music lessons are available at the Alexandria location along with a selection of vinyl records and sheet music for various instruments.

As Shepard was savoring the evening, he paused briefly to look ahead to his next project. In two months we’ll be opening our next location in Silver Spring,” said Shepard, who has been with Guitar Center for 17 years. “But tonight it’s all about Alexandria. This is a great market for retail and it’s good to see all the energy and excitement here tonight.” Guitar Center is located at 3155 B Duke St. in the Alexandria Commons Shopping Center. For hours or more information, visit www.guitarcenter.com or call 703-370-6240.

Grand prize winner Jerry Smolkin, second from right, poses for a photo with his new Gibson Les Paul Studio guitar at the Jan. 12 opening night celebration of the Guitar Center at Alexandria Commons Shopping Center.

Musicians from T.C. Williams High School pose for a group photo after performing at the grand opening of the Guitar Center Jan. 12 at Alexandria Commons Shopping Center.

Matt Carpenter and his 3-year-old son Luke check out the keyboard section of the store.

Guitar Center representative Bruce Shepard at the store’s grand opening celebration Jan. 12 at Alexandria Commons Shopping Center.

Mary Beth Buchholz celebrates winning a new PA system during the opening night raffle.

Stephen Pelerin tries out a left-handed guitar on opening night of the Guitar Center in Alexandria.

Business Notes

Alexandria/Old Town was recently recognized for leading its Weichert sales region, which is comprised of offices throughout Fairfax, Faquier, Loudoun, Orange, Prince William and Warren counties, for resale revenue units. Thomas J. Curcio received the Attorney of the Year “Good Scout” Award Thursday, Dec. 8 by the National Capital Area Council of the Boy Scouts of America. Curcio is a partner with the Alexandria personal injury law firm Curcio Bergren.

iLoveKickboxing recently opened their eighth Virginia franchise located at 660-662 S. Pickert St. It offers fitness classes where members gear up with boxing gloves and perform conditioning drills and kickboxing techniques on heavy bags. Instructors motivate and encourage participants to “go the extra mile” to get results based on their personal goals.

The Alexandria/Old Town office of Weichert, Realtors was recognized in December as the lead office for resale listings in the Weichert sales region, which is comprised of offices throughout Fairfax, Faquier, Loudoun, Orange, Prince William and Warren counties.

Frances Reimers recently launched Firestarter, an Alexandria-based consultancy that helps individuals and small businesses better leverage their personal brand through social and earned media.

Kathy Mejasich, has been appointed director of external relations for Wesley Housing in Alexandria.

Marching to Valentine’s Day

Bloom Fresh Flowers at 625 S. Washington St. is putting a fresh spin on the Million Women’s March on D.C. to celebrate Valentine’s Day. BJ Plecky, an employee of Bloom Fresh Flowers who participated in the march, presented owner Stephen Robinson with a design idea channelling that historic day.

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Bill Would Hinder Municipal Broadband Program

By Charniele Herring
Delegate (D-46)

Our future, at least part of it, exists on the internet. Already many in our country and across the world depend on this tool for commerce, information gathering, and even government transparency. However, a real question that has to be posed is how to access the internet. Many have a connection at home, though in rural areas this is not always the case. Or, in the case of places like Alexandria where competition for service providers does not exist, we live at the mercy of wireless phone companies or our single local cable provider.

While attracting different providers is an option in some places, and federal programs exist to help bring broadband to underserved areas, it leaves places like our city in a quagmire. For many reasons we have not attracted additional competitive service providers to the City of Alexandria for cable and internet. In a long-awaited response to this, the city is working toward a municipal broadband program. They are looking to build the infrastructure needed to connect public buildings and then enter into public-private partnerships to ensure residential buildings have access to the new network. This type of partnership has been successful elsewhere and gives us the opportunity to ensure the best service and pricing through competition in the marketplace. It means competition to make sure we have networks that can meet our needs and we have more than one option for a service provider to keep pricing fair.

From Alexandria’s Chamber of Commerce to consumers watching Netflix at home, Virginians are looking for good alternatives to make sure that we have the best access to the internet — it affects our economy, our regional competitiveness, our home values, and of course for many of us — our daily lives.

This year in the House of Delegates HB 2108 was proposed that would stop our city from moving forward with this type of plan. It would make it difficult for any locality that has existing service of at least 10/MBPS download and 1/MBPS upload speeds to be allowed to build out a municipal network. Thankfully, during the committee process, some of the worst parts of the legislation were addressed. However, I am still opposed to the current version of the bill because it creates an environment that makes moving forward with municipal broadband concerning.

The new version of the legislation proactively empowers current Internet providers with a monopoly to undermine local communities which are working to modernize their local broadband infrastructure. It removes FOIA exemptions for any information related to “the fixing and revision of rates, fees and charges.” This potentially creates a loophole in which requests for competitively sensitive information, trade and proprietary information can be made and could in turn be used to undermine the operations of their competitors.

Access to the internet in a way that allows us to use modern technology is important for growing our local economy, competing regionally for jobs, and helping to educate our youth. I have always been taught that in the vast majority of cases competition in the market helps make services better and more affordable. For something that has such an impact on us every day, we should not shy away from making sure we have done everything we can to have the best and most affordable service.

I’m continuing my efforts to advance sensible gun violence prevention. I introduced a bill that would’ve made it a crime for adults to allow children under five to handle guns. This failed to advance out of committee despite the fact that, just in the last year, more than 50 people were killed in the U.S. by toddlers handling firearms. Unfortunately, all bills that promote gun violence prevention continue to face unwieldy opposition from by groups like the Virginia Citizens Defense League.

My agenda also includes a range of other topics. I advanced a bill through the Senate which saves a step for small businesses in obtaining their ABC licenses. In partnership with the Virginia Young Democrats, I also put forward legislation to mandate Family Life Education in all Virginia school divisions to reduce teen pregnancy.

Please consider following me on Twitter @AdamEbbin, emailing your views to me at district30@senate.virginia.gov and visiting AdamEbbin.com.

Session Chugs Along through Crossover

By Adam P. Ebbin
State Senator (D-30)

On Tuesday, the General Assembly passed “Crossover,” the session halfway point by which each chamber must complete work on its own bills and begin considering legislation passed by the other body. The Senate has passed eight pieces of my legislation and we’ve secured some victories for progressive values. From advancing non-discrimination in public employment for the LGBT community, to promoting research in the emerging field of energy storage, I am confident these bills would move Virginia forward. We’ve faced some challenges as well. Nonetheless, I came to Richmond knowing working for equality for all Virginians and gun violence prevention, would be an uphill, but important battle. I also introduced legislation to make it easier to vote, promote good government, and cut red tape for small businesses. We’ve made serious headway on marijuana reform this year. Currently, those charged with first time marijuana possession face a six month suspension of their driver’s license, in addition to fines, community service. But, we still have work to do. Nearly 80 percent of people in Virginia support marijuana decriminalization, according to a poll released this week by the Virginia Pilot newspaper. A bill I introduced to decriminalize marijuana was referred to the State Crime Commission for study, and I’m hopeful that the commission will see the benefits of moving in the direction of many other states.

My legislation to forbid discrimination against LGBT government employees in Virginia was once again passed by the Senate. Three of our last four governors have issued executive orders to protect state employees from discrimination on the basis of sexuality orientation, gender, and other protected classes. This bill would codify those protections and extend them to local government employees as well. Unfortunately, two pieces of legislation I introduced, which would have removed the outdated ban on same-sex marriages from the Virginia Code and Constitution, were referred to the Code Commission. The commission, which reviewed the same issue in 2016, sent legislation back to the General Assembly, stating it was our responsibility to act on these bills. We cannot allow this ping-pong game concerning gay marriage to be successful elsewhere and gives us the opportunity to ensure the best service and pricing through competition in the marketplace. It means competition to make sure we have networks that can meet our needs and we have more than one option for a service provider to keep pricing fair.

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Access to the internet in a way that allows us to use modern technology is important for growing our local economy, competing regionally for jobs, and helping to educate our youth. I have always been taught that in the vast majority of cases competition in the market helps make services better and more affordable. For something that has such an impact on us every day, we should not shy away from making sure we have done everything we can to have the best and most affordable service.

I’m continuing my efforts to advance sensible gun violence prevention. I introduced a bill that would’ve made it a crime for adults to allow children under five to handle guns. This failed to advance out of committee despite the fact that, just in the last year, more than 50 people were killed in the U.S. by toddlers handling firearms. Unfortunately, all bills that promote gun violence prevention continue to face unwieldy opposition from by groups like the Virginia Citizens Defense League.

My agenda also includes a range of other topics. I advanced a bill through the Senate which saves a step for small businesses in obtaining their ABC licenses. In partnership with the Virginia Young Democrats, I also put forward legislation to mandate Family Life Education in all Virginia school divisions to reduce teen pregnancy.

Please consider following me on Twitter @AdamEbbin, emailing your views to me at district30@senate.virginia.gov and visiting AdamEbbin.com.

OPINION

Mini-Moves to Fight Winter Blues

By Brooke Curran

Did you even know a short burst of exercise can not only boost your mood, but it helps activate your brain, too? It’s true. Exercise not only keeps our bodies healthy, it helps our brains work better, reduces stress and fights depression. That’s a powerful combination.

We see impressive results when kids in classrooms and programs around Alexandria participate in the Move2Learn program. For more. When we fit exercise into their day, the kids not only feel better, they learn better, too.

Even just a few minutes of heart-pumping exercise can have tremendous benefits. Especially during these winter months when our activity level can slow down and we’re often indoors, it’s important to get our heart rates up.

It is easier than you think to fit a few minutes of movement into your day. Here are five easy ways to help keep you and your family active this winter.

Feeling frustrated? Take a mini-break and do 25 jumping jacks.

Young kids? How about a quick game of follow the leader? Start with a march in place.

Did someone say they’re bored? Put on your favorite upbeat song and dance.

Build some strength and get your heart rate up with a quick set of 10 pushups and 10 squats.

Multitask — take your dog and kids outside and play a quick game of chase.

Remember, even just a few minutes of exercise can get your brain fired up, your heart pumping and lift your mood. So, grab your loved ones, pull your kids off the sofa and get moving.

For more information about the benefits of exercise and brain health, and how Alexandria’s kids are benefiting from moving in the classroom, visit www.runningbrooke.org.
City House, Country House

By Marilyn Campbell
Gazette Packet

European craftsmanship, a free-flowing floor plan and light-filled rooms characterize a home that was designed according to the vision of a local jurist. Located in Alexandria’s Braddock Heights community, the home, which sits on more than 1.3 acres, met the specifications of the late George M. Giammittorio, a former Alexandria Circuit Court judge.

“The home is sited on a bucolic lot in the heart of Alexandria,” said Sue Goodhart, real estate agent, The Goodhart Group at McEnearney Associates. “Few homes still in the city have lots this size. It is very private.”

At once grand and cozy, the home was designed with entertaining in mind. It boasts an expansive, sunny kitchen equipped with four ovens, an island and a breakfast room, which is warmed with a fireplace. An abundance of light streams in through floor-to-ceiling Palladian windows that offer a view of the home’s manicured landscape.

The current homeowners “created the great room with a kitchen and open space … and have prepared the home for sale by repainting and updating throughout,” said Goodhart.

Those updates can also be found on the home’s upper levels, which include a master suite and three additional bedrooms. A third level includes an open loft space, which Goodhart says is ideal for sleepovers for a family with children. On the home’s ground level are a recreation room with built-in storage and a second fireplace. It also includes an au pair suite with private entry and finished kitchen.

“Throughout the original house are touches of the handcrafted work created by artisans brought in by the judge from Italy,” said Goodhart.

A multitude of bird species, including bald eagles, have been spotted on the property making it ideal for bird watching.

Located at 2416 Ridge Road Drive, the home is on the market, listed for $2,095,000.

FEB. 11TH

HOME RENOVATION
Are You & Your Family Comfortable in Your Home?

We Hope You Will Join Us!
Saturday, Feb. 11th, 2017 - 10am-2pm
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After a year of hard work and last minute victories, T.C. Williams High School Football Team made it to the playoffs for the second time in the last 26 years. Though they were eliminated in the first round, the players’ drive and determination left an impression on colleges. On Feb. 1, 12 students from T.C.’s football team signed on to play with college teams across the country, many of them winning scholarships to help pay for their education. “It feels good,” said Teyan Williams, attending Livingstone College with a full ride scholarship. “I love basketball, but size carried me through for football. And now I have the opportunity to go to college. Education first: you never know what could happen. You could get hurt, so I need to use this opportunity to get a good education.” Williams was a linebacker and full-back on the team. Williams doesn’t know what he’s going to study yet, but said he wanted to work in a field that involves computers.

“I’m so proud,” said Williams’ mother, Ayana Thompson. “It’s a four hour drive, and we’ve got it planned. We’re excited he’s going. When I found out about the scholarship I was about to cry. I had to hold it in. I am such a proud parent. He gives it everything when he’s on the field.”

Many of the parents and staff credited Coach James Longerbeam for pushing the students to do their best, both on the field and off.

“We’ve been really looking for this day,” said Garrett Roach, his mother. “He’s worked so hard for this. He’s been persistent, and that’s what gets you places.”

Nancy Roach said that persistence was visible in the team throughout the season. Garrett Roach and other players repeatedly looked back on their game against West Potomac High School, where West Potomac was ahead and the clock was winding down. With a last minute touchdown and two point conversion, TC turned the game around and won. Later, in the first round of the playoffs, West Potomac had their revenge and eliminated TC in a 26-0 game, but the players and parents still reflect fondly on that rousing last minute win.

“They stood up and didn’t give up,” said Nancy Roach. “Other teams get down and they give up. This team never gave up. They would fight to the very end.”
ACPS reserves the right to cancel this RFP and/or reject any RFP after the opening of proposals except as may be set forth in the ITB. All questions answered will be posted as an addendum to the RFP. Proposals appropriately received will be opened on or before 3:00 pm, March 6, 2017. The time of receipt location will be immediately following the final closing of the Central Procurement Office, Alexandria VA.

JENNIFER SMITH
COMPUTER SOLUTIONS

Zone 3:
- Zone 3: • Alexandria
- The Alexandria Gazette Packet
- The Springfield Connection

Zone 4:
- Zone 4: • Fairfax
- The Fairfax Connection

Zone 5:
- Zone 5: • Centreville
- The Burke Connection

Zone 6:
- Zone 6: • Vienna
- The Reston Connection

Zone 7:
- Zone 7: • Arlington
- The Arlington Connection

Zone 8:
- Zone 8: • McLean
- The McLean Connection

Zone 9:
- Zone 9: • Falls Church
- The Great Falls Connection

LEGAL NOTICE
Pursuant to the provisions of section 4-1-16 of the code of the City of Alexandria, the Alexandria Police Department located at 3600 Wheeler Avenue, Alexandria, VA 22304 is now in possession of unclaimed belongings. All persons having valid claims to the property should file a claim to the property with reasonable promptness. The items will be sold, destroyed, or converted or donated. For complete listing go to http://www.acps.k12.va.us/financial/services/purchasing/

All questions answered will be posted as an addendum to the ACPS web site.

No RFP may be withdrawn for a period of ninety (90) days after the opening of proposals except as may be set forth in the RFP.

ACPS reserves the right to cancel this RFP and/or reject any of all proposals and to waive any requirements in any proposal.

Gerald W. Amacker (Jerry)
ACPS Senior Buyer

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$968,500
Spectacular 4/5-bedroom, 4-bath on 3/4-acre level lot. Upgrades galore. Chef’s kitchen with butler’s pantry ideal for entertaining. Sun-drenched family room with sun room added in 2014. Hardwoods on main level, master bedroom with luxury bath and oversized walk-in closet + private deck. Gordon Wood 703.447.6138
Chris Hoyas 703.944.7737

Beverly Hills
$799,000
Master suite on first floor. Two additional bedrooms and bathroom upstairs. Mudroom/office inside front door, leads to renovated kitchen. Living room with fireplace attaches to sunroom. Finished basement. Fenced yard, large shed and plenty of off-street parking. 3511 Old Dominion Laurel Coner 703.577.6899
www.AlexandriaLiving.com

Alexandria
$672,500
Grande kitchen, French doors to deck, step-down living room with 9-foot ceiling, and family room with fireplace. Make this lovely 4-level split a very special choice. 4 bedrooms, 3 full baths. Extras include fenced yard, thermal windows, carport. 4518 La Solle Avenue
Michell Schneider 703.851.4416
Susie Scorcione 703.851.4416

Alexandria
$1,625,000
Spacious open floor plan backs to park and views of river. Offering over 3,000 finished SF in one of Fords Landing’s largest models, with 4 levels, 3 bedrooms, 3.5 baths and classic features throughout. Steps to enjoy the beauty & convenience of Old Town. thegoodhartgroup.com/listings/28-old-town/ Sue & Allison Goodhart 703.362.3221
www.TheGoodHartGroup.com

Alexandria
$599,000
2 red lights to Old Town, UBER charm in this updated, classic stone house. With 3 finished levels, a granite kitchen, 3 large bedrooms, 3 baths, and a screened porch, this home is steps to 25 acres of parkland. 6029 Grove Drive
Janet Ceterson Price 703.960.5858
www.JanetPriceHomes.com

Jefferson Manor
$414,000
Ideally located for commuters! Two bedrooms, two baths, hardwood floors, granite counter tops, new carpet, fresh paint and more. Gem of a property backs James Drive making the large deck & rear yard a quiet sanctuary. 2704 Jefferson Dr. Jane Manstof 571.276.8116
www.JaneManstof.com

Fairlington
towne
$396,000
Beautifully updated 3-bedroom model. Kitchen with stainless appliances, granite counters, and maple cabinets. Newly refinished hardwood floors, thermal windows, plenty of storage & parking. Delightful rear patio. Very low maintenance townhouse living, with excellent commute to anywhere! 3740 Jason Avenue
Peter B. Crouch 703.244.4024
www.CrouchRealtyGroup.com

Old Town
$919,000
Great location in Chatham Square of Old Town. Hardwood floors, crown molding, chair rails, plantation shutters, new carpeting! Over 2,300 SF with 3 bedrooms and 3.5 baths. 4th level loft with separate bedroom and rooftop terrace. Walk to everything Old Town has to offer! 404 Orancon Street
Kevin Lonergran 703.786.6122
www.Klonergran.com

Springfield
$494,900
This sparkling 3-bedroom, 3.5-bath, garage-townhouse in DaVentry Park enjoys comfort with its own floor plan, huge gourmet kitchen, expanded finished lower level with fireplace, California closets in all bedrooms, gleaming main level wood floors and a deck. Easy commute to DC. 8004 Readington Court
Ann Duff 703.365.8700
www.AnnDuff.com

National Harbor
$674,900
Stunning four-level townhouse. Fabulous open floor plan, 3 bedrooms, 3.5 baths, including lavish master suite, chef’s eat-in kitchen, spacious dining/living room combo perfect for entertaining, upper level loft opening to rooftop terrace. Walk to shops, restaurants, Patomac River, Gaylord Hotel & MGM Grand Casino.
Casey Sutherland 703.628.1286
www.TheSutherlandPartners.com

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