



PHOTOS BY MARK MOGLE/GAZETTE PACKET

George's Parade

World War II veteran Col. Kim Ching, right, waves to the crowd from Bob Geier's 1903 Curved Dash Oldsmobile during the George Washington Birthday Parade Feb. 20 in Old Town. More photos, page 3.



Hard Times Café founder Fred Parker and the Hard Times truck.

Riders from the United Horsemen's Association take to the streets of Old Town for the Feb. 20 George Washington Birthday Parade.



Parade grand Marshal Earl Cook.



Ms. Virginia 2017, Julie Wilson.

A Little More
For the City?

Proposed city budget includes tax, fees, and debt increases.

BY VERNON MILES
GAZETTE PACKET

Check between the cushions on your sofa for loose change, because the city could use some help.

The City of Alexandria faces an increasing number of funding needs, but the tax base is not growing to keep up with the demand. As the city deals with the growing burden, the cost of that struggle will largely be placed on Alexandria residents. A tax rate increase, along with a series of new fees, are proposed to cover a budget that aims to maintain services and combat the city's crumbling infrastructure.

On Feb. 21, City Manager Mark Jinks proposed a general fund operating budget of \$712.5 million and an all funds budget of \$873.7 million, a 3.5 and 2.5 percent increase over the 2017 budgets.

REVENUE

While costs for the city have continued to rise, revenue has stagnated. Revenue in FY 2018 is projected to grow by only 1.6 percent. The real estate tax base is expected to grow just 2.1 percent in 2017 and 1.1 percent in 2018 while home values rise by less than 1 percent. In the calendar year 2017 SEE PROPOSED, PAGE 23

A Family Divided

Uncle against nephew at center of 2015 murder case.

BY VERNON MILES
GAZETTE PACKET

Someone murdered Leon Williams. As Williams ran through the courtyard on Pre Belle Way in North Old Town, someone shot him in the back. A year after Williams' murder, in October 2016 police arrested the second of two suspects. In early February, one of the two alleged co-conspirators in the crime took a plea agreement from the Commonwealth Attorney's Office in early February saying the other pulled the trigger. As the trial started on Feb. 21, the defense was left scrambling to prove that the prosecution's chief witness was actually the murderer.

The prosecution, led by Peter Lord and Joseph Martin from the Commonwealth Attorney's Office, says Williams was murdered by Brian Bolar, a 26-year-old man from Dumfries. Martin said Brian Bolar confronted Williams, fired round after round at Williams as he tried to flee, then came back to the courtyard to



Brian Bolar

SEE A FAMILY, PAGE 23

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By George!

George Washington Birthday parade returns after two-year absence.

Wearing t-shirts and shorts, a crowd of thousands turned out for the City of Alexandria's George Washington Birthday Parade, which made its return after a two-year absence due to extreme weather conditions.

"It was all about the weather," said parade organizer Joe Shumard. "We couldn't have asked for a more beautiful day."

Gen. George Washington, as portrayed by parade newcomer Brian Hilton, surveyed the troops and Fairfax County Supervisor Dan Storck made an appearance as Abe Lincoln. "All the bad weather of the past has



Deputy Juan Guzman of the Sheriff's Office Honor Guard.

been forgotten," Shumard said. "It was the perfect day for a parade."

— JEANNE THEISMANN



PHOTOS BY MARK MOGLE/GAZETTE PACKET

Reenactors of the First Virginia Regiment of the Continental Line.



Gen. George Washington, portrayed by Brian Hilton, applauds the troops.



Pack 135 and Maury School Cub Scouts.



President Abraham Lincoln as portrayed by Fairfax County Supervisor Dan Storck.



Kena Shriners of Shriners International.



PHOTO BY CERI BALDWIN

Celebrating at the 285th George's Washington Birthday Parade are Ron Rigby, Henry Dorton of the American Legion Post 24, former Mayor Bill Euille and Council member Willie Bailey.



Wearing t-shirts and shorts, the crowd salutes during the singing of the National Anthem.



The Sons and Daughters of the American Revolution place a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown Revolutionary Soldier at the Old Presbyterian Meeting House.

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Julie F. Hall 703.786.3634



Washington D.C. **\$749,900**
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NEW LISTING



Arlington Ridge **\$749,000**
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The family of 100-year-old patriarch William Charity, seated at right, will be honored March 4 at the 2017 Senior Services of Alexandria Generation to Generation Gala. Recognized with Charity will be his daughter DeeDee Marshall, sister Marjorie Burts and her husband Albert, and their daughter Kendra Gleaton.

Leaders of the Pack

SSA gala to honor family community service.

BY JEANNE THEISMANN
GAZETTE PACKET

The proverb “charity begins at home” describes the family of 100-year-old William Charity and the decades of community service inspired by the patriarch’s example of service to others. Along with Jack Taylor and his son John, and Fran and Gant Redmon, Charity will be honored at this year’s Senior Services of Alexandria Generation to Generation Gala.

“This year’s honorees exemplify the dedication of giving back to the Alexandria community through multiple generations,” said Lynnwood Campbell, SSA’s board chair. “They serve as pillars in the community making a difference in the lives of many.”

The Generation to Generation Gala will take place March 4 at the Hilton Alexandria Mark Center. SSA will recognize the Charity and Taylor families and present a special Community Service Award to the Redmons.

THE CHARITY FAMILY

William Charity, the 100-year-old patriarch of a four-generation family with deep roots in Alexandria, is a lifelong member of Ebenezer Baptist Church and served the public for 52 years as a taxi driver. His daughter, Diane (DeeDee) Marshall inherited the tradition of service to others from watching her mother and father’s work in

the community. She sings in the Women’s Ecumenical Choir of the DMV and participates in local cancer walks. She is a member of the Sisters with a Purpose and Jesus Cares ministries at Ebenezer Baptist Church and volunteers with Alexandria’s Voter Registration Office.

Charity’s sister Marjorie Burts and her husband Albert grew up in Alexandria, attending historic Parker-Gray High School. Marjorie Burts is the oldest member of the Women’s Ecumenical Choir of the DMV and received a Certificate of Recognition for her support of the choir. Albert Burts served in the Korean War with the Third Infantry Division.

Their daughter, Kendra Gleaton, joins her mother and cousin in the choir and serves as the administrator of the Ebenezer Baptist Church’s Children and Youth Ministry. She also volunteers with the March of Dimes, Alexandria Cancer walk, the Salvation Army and the church’s distribution of backpacks and school supplies. She and DeeDee are both certified Red Cross Disaster Workers.

JACK AND JOHN TAYLOR

Jack Taylor came to Alexandria in 1973 when he and Frank Page acquired Alexandria Toyota. Taylor became the sole owner of the dealership in 1984 and continues to serve as president today. He has been a tireless supporter of many local charities, as well as the Michael J. Fox Foundation for Parkinson’s research. A committed supporter of the Scholarship Fund of Alexandria, Taylor has contributed more than \$1.5 million through car donations, matching

SEE LEADERS, PAGE 23



Jack and John Taylor will be honored at the Senior Services of Alexandria Generation to Generation Gala March 4 at the Alexandria Mark Center Hilton.



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PEOPLE

A Dog's Best Friend: The Doggie Sports Club

BY SHIRLEY RUHE
GAZETTE PACKET

Morgan jumps over the 12" hurdle and sniffs Tayler Hudson's hand, looking for his dog treat. "Morgan is super treat-oriented," Hudson said. Morgan comes every weekday to Frolick Dogs, a Canine Sports Club on Colvin Street. Hudson says Morgan loves agility, balance balls and "he is very showy." Morgan doesn't like the treadmill very much, but he will do it. "He likes to do tricks; the treadmill is too boring," Hudson says all of the dogs will do all of the equipment but some have favorites.

A loud howl reverberates overhead in the kennels where the dogs spend their break time. Hudson said, "That sounds like Gyella, a mastiff, who loves people and wants someone around all of the time. When one of them starts, you can be sure that pretty soon others will follow." Hudson says they have to learn the dog's personalities. "Some don't like to play well together and some will butt heads. Other dogs here are best friends." For instance, she mentions an "infamous couple," Maxine, a pit-mix and Crosby, "I don't know what he is. They are both full of energy and a lot of times they do activities together."

Hudson arrives in the morning about 11 a.m., just after the dogs' first of three outings each day. She says dogs are generally dropped off between 7-11 a.m. Her job is to work with the dogs one-on-one and give them individual attention. "Come on Morgan, let's do the rail." Morgan jumps onto the high beam and begins to edge along toward the hand with the treat. "He knows the phrases like 'table' and 'tube' and will run toward the place I mention."

"Let's go to the balance ball." Morgan bounds over to the middle of the room. Hudson explains it's another of Morgan's



Morgan jumps onto the large blue ball at Frolick Dogs, a canine Sports Club on Colvin Street. Tayler Hudson, a fitness coach, says this is one of Morgan's favorite things. "He loves agility, and is very showy. The treadmill is too boring for him."

favorite things. She says that Morgan is really good. "He doesn't shake. It is harder to balance for some of the larger dogs. They are using core muscles that they don't usually exercise." She said, "We try to challenge the dogs." Most of the time they start out slowly with the dogs and trick them into going over the hurdle with a treat. Hudson says they use little low-calorie treats most of the time, but some dogs are picky so they get lamb lung treats.

Kim Gilliam, co-owner of Frolick Dogs with her husband, Kevin, says they started the business 2-1/2 years ago. "We talked to a lot of vets struggling with different ways to exercise dogs. We were looking for something new and different. This is a really rich area for dog-oriented people." So they came up with the concept of a dog gym. "We board 50 dogs for the day on a week day, and our job as a fitness coach is to work

SEE A DOG'S BEST FRIEND, PAGE 8



Stella jumps onto the balance ball, wavers and then slips down the edge of the ball as co-owner of Frolick Dogs Kim Gilliam jumps back. The ball uses core muscles that dogs don't usually exercise and can be harder for larger dogs.



Stella is in the middle of her 8-minute treadmill period running at 3.5 mph. Hudson says Stella is a high energy dog and loves to run.



Morgan inches his way along the beam following the trail of the treat that Tayler Hudson uses to train him. "Morgan is super treat-oriented," she said.

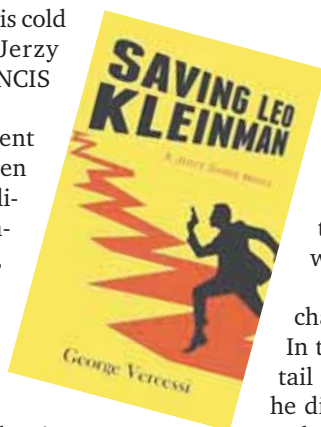
Local Author Produces Sequel

BY SENITRA T. MCCOMBS
GAZETTE PACKET

George Vercessi, a longtime Alexandria resident, published a sequel to his cold case mystery "NCIS Agent Jerzy Shore," continuing the adventures of NCIS agent Jerzy Shore.

In "Saving Leo Kleinman," NCIS agent Jerzy Shore must connect the dots between Leo Kleinman, an American naval intelligence analyst who is serving a life sentence for selling military secrets to Israel, and the Israeli air and naval attack on the USS Liberty in the eastern Mediterranean Sea on June 8, 1967.

"This was inspired because I got such positive feedback from the last novel I wrote. People were asking me if I would write a sequel. I never really wrote a sequel before but I



thought I'd give it a try," Vercessi said.

While trying to figure out a plot for his new novel, he remembered an attack on the USS Liberty by Israeli forces that occurred during his time in the Navy. He then created a cold case mystery for his main character to solve by tying the "decades-old attack on the USS Liberty" to the present day attempt to harm Kleinman.

When Vercessi mentioned the idea to his writers' group, they thought it was a perfect idea for a novel.

Character development was another challenge he faced in writing a sequel. In the first novel, he provided much detail about Shore's life and personality so he didn't want this novel to be repetitive yet he still wanted first time readers to get well-rounded view of the character.

Jerzy Shore returns in "Saving Leo Kleinman."



George Vercessi pens sequel to NCIS Agent Jerzy Shore novel.

"For instance, in the first book, I wove the story about how he takes care his disabled sister into the plot but in this book I just eluded to the fact that he had a sister he took care of," he said.

He also touches on the main character's bad luck with romance and attempts to appear more youthful through his adventures in speed dating and his recent hair transplant.

Asked to describe the novel's genre, he replies it is "mid-life crisis mystery romance novel."

Vercessi spent a good amount of time researching the various topics essential to the plot from the actual attack on the USS Liberty

SEE LOCAL AUTHOR, PAGE 8

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OBITUARIES

Ann Oneida Jones Dempsey

Ann Oneida Jones Dempsey, age 81, of Springfield, Va. died at home on Thursday, Feb. 16, 2017 after a lengthy illness. Ann was born in the Old Alexandria Hospital, and attended Alexandria public schools. Ann married another Alexandria native, Joe G. Dempsey in 1954. They lived in Alexandria until 1972, until moving with their family to Fairfax County. Ann and Joe remained married for over 50 years, until his death in 2008.

Ann was a devoted mother and grandmother. She had a wonderful sense of humor and enjoyed the beach, sewing, crocheting, needlepoint, and spending time with her family. Her family and friends covet her special homemade blankets.

She was also very accomplished in furniture resto-

ration. Although she enjoyed family beach visits and casino outings, her focus was always her family and she delighted in her grandchildren and great grandchildren.

Survivors include her three children: Son Gary (Diane) Dempsey; daughter Vicky Trump of Springfield, Va.; and son David (Jeanne) Dempsey; and eight grandchildren: Valerie (Peter) Riccardi, Gregory (Sarah) Dempsey, Benjamin (Anna) Trump, Jacob Trump, Joshua Trump, Sean and Michael Mullikin, and Matthew Dempsey. She is also survived by six great-grandchildren: Jack, Wyatt, and Georgia Riccardi; Kennedy, Colton and Beckett Dempsey.

Family received visitors on Sunday, Feb. 20 at Everly-Wheatley Funeral Home, 1500 W. Braddock Road. Funeral services were held at Everly-Wheatley on Monday, Feb. 21 with interment immediately following at Mount Comfort Cemetery, 6600 South Kings Highway, Alexandria.

Donald Patrick Eggleston

Donald Patrick "Pat" Eggleston, 82, died Jan. 7, 2017 at Pratt Health and Rehab in Pratt, Kansas. Pat was born on Jan. 26, 1934 to David Robert and M. Jane (Irvin) Eggleston. He married Carol (Cochran) Eggleston on July 27, 1957 in Alexandria. She preceded him in death on Dec. 31, 2015.

His is survived by a son Brandon and his wife Kathy Eggleston of Alexandria. A brother Barry and his wife of Pratt, Kansas.

Cremation has taken place. Memorial service will be held at 11 a.m. on Friday, April 7, 2017 at National Memorial Park 7482 Lee Highway, Falls Church. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to either the Hungarian Vizsla or German Shorthair Pointer Rescues for dogs in his honor.

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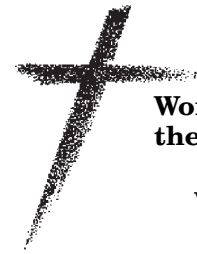
THURSDAY/FEB. 23

Budget Presentation. 7-9 p.m. at at Beatley Library, 5005 Duke St. This will be one of several opportunities for members of the community to learn more about the proposed budget. The meeting will also be streamed live from www.alexandriava.gov. Visit www.alexandriava.gov for more.

FRIDAY/FEB. 24

Elect Her. 9:30 a.m.-4 p.m. at the Northern Virginia Community College Alexandria Campus, Bisdorf Building Room 158. Northern Virginia Community College's Women's Center will host the annual training and empowerment event Elect Her. Visit www.nvcc.edu/news/press-releases/2017/alexandria-elect-her.html.

Lent begins ... join us for the journey.



March 1

Ash Wednesday

Worship with Holy Communion and the Imposition of Ashes at 7:00 p.m.

Midweek Worship

Wednesdays, March 8 through April 5 at 7:00 p.m.

Holy Week and Easter Services April 9 -16

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PEOPLE

Hats Off for CAC

Gala to honor
ACT, Sengel.

BY JEANNE THEISMANN
GAZETTE PACKET

The Center for Alexandria's Children is "tipping their hats" to former Commonwealths Attorney S. Randolph Sengel and ACT for Alexandria for their contributions in protecting neglected and abused children at the 10th anniversary gala celebration Feb. 24 at the Hilton Alexandria in Old Town.

With a theme of "Hats Off," the annual gala will benefit the center, which serves as the city's primary resource for the prevention, investigation and treatment of child abuse.

Sengel will be honored with the 2017 Outstanding Dedication to Children Award for his role in helping develop a new, collaborative, coordinated child abuse response system that prioritizes children's long-term health and wellbeing. He was part of a group of public servants and private activists who came together in response to the city's need to better protect its children from abuse and neglect.



John Porter



S. Randolph Sengel

PHOTOS CONTRIBUTED

The center will also honor its partner nonprofit organization, ACT for Alexandria with the 2017 Champion for Children Award, for its role in incubating and launching the center a decade ago. ACT was instrumental in helping the center bring the multi-disciplinary, multi-agency Child Advocacy Center model to Alexandria, enabling children to receive coordinated and specialized services to assist them in their recovery from abuse.

The gala will take place Feb. 24 from 7-10 p.m. at the Hilton Alexandria Old Town, 1767 King St. For more information or to purchase tickets, visit www.centerforalexandriaschildren.org.

A Dog's Best Friend

FROM PAGE 6

with a dog." The day is structured with group play in the morning, outdoor walks and an exercise routine including treadmill, balls, hurdles and hoops to work on agility and balance. She said, "We filled up in June and now we have a waiting list of 250."

Hudson opens the door and puts a leash on Stella, a Vizsla, and a good friend of Moochie, a Doodle. When Hudson opens the gate, Stella runs toward the treadmill and jumps on, ready to run. Hudson turns the speed to 3.5 mph and Stella begins her 8-minute period. "She is a high energy dog and she loves to run." Hudson says about "five percent of the dogs are scared or don't like it so we try other things."

As the timer ticks down, Stella's mouth hangs open and she starts to pant, but when the treadmill stops, she wants to go again. Hudson scratches Stella's ears and comments, "we work them hard, and they enjoy their naps."

Hudson just started as a fitness coach in November 2016. She came here from Chicago where she had worked and then managed a doggy day camp for five years. It was her first job in high school and then it became a career. "I've had dogs all my life, volunteered in shelters and rescued three of my own dogs, all mutts." Hudson said the staff is small and one of the owners is always there. "It's like a little family."

You can tell they care." Hudson muses that "the staff is all different, in ages and personalities, but all genuinely love and care about dogs."

Frolick Dogs is open on weekends when people can come in and work with their dogs in the gym. "And of course there are the dog birthday parties," according to Gilliam, "where the dogs can invite their neighborhood friends."

The event comes complete with party hats, doggie goodie bags, decorations and a dog bone cake. "We have had as many as 20 dogs at a birthday party." She says they have three scheduled this weekend.

Local Author Produces Sequel

FROM PAGE 6

and the federal prison system to speed dating and hair transplants.

To get a better feel for the language and culture of the federal prison system he reached out to a man he had previously assisted in writing his memoir and who had experience in the federal prison system.

"There were a lot of books and articles I read on how prisoners try to scam the system," he said.

He also turned to retired FBI Special Agent Sharon S. Smith, Ph.D. who specializes in the field of psycholinguistics. She helped him figure out which linguistic clues his character needed to find in order to piece together the puzzle of the identity of an

anonymous letter writer.

Even though "Saving Leo Kleinman" is only 200 pages, Vercessi spent nearly two years writing it before its release on Oct. 9, 2016. He explained that this novel took longer because he shared each chapter with his monthly writers' group.

"Saving Leo Kleinman" is available at Amazon, Barnes and Noble, and bookstores nationwide.

George Vercessi retired from the US Navy with the grade of captain after serving for 27 years. He has Master's Degree in mass communications from San Diego State University and a Bachelor of Arts in political science from La Salle College in Philadelphia. He enjoys listening to opera and collecting art in his spare time.

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ALEXANDRIA GAZETTE PACKET ❖ FEBRUARY 23 - MARCH 1, 2017 ❖ 9



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OPINION

Get Involved in Politics

BY CHARNIELE
HERRING
DELEGATE (D-46)



As the regular 2017 Virginia legislative session comes to a close I have to admit that this session has been one of the most interesting that I have experienced. I am honored to serve you in Richmond, and one of my favorite parts is when constituents from Alexandria are able to make it to advocate for their needs and the needs of our community. I believe the key difference between this year and years past is that we have seen an incredible uptick in enthusiasm and engagement on the state level since the 2016 election.

People have reached out to my office to offer their opinion and to advocate for policies that they feel that need to be changed in record numbers. I have had hundreds of additional letters and calls on issues related to preserv-

ing women's rights, LGBT rights, and raising the minimum wage. People have organized around the decriminalization of marijuana and fought for the ability to allow doctors to prescribe related products when medically necessary. This kind of outpouring across the Capitol is one of the best ways to advance the issues we care about.

An increased level of engagement is great ... talking to legislators, calling offices, and writing letters are all important. However, in Virginia we have an added way to be engaged. We have elections every year. In 2017 the Governor, Lt. Governor, Attorney General, and all 100 seats in the House of Delegates are up for election. While many are tired after the grueling year that 2016 presented in the political and civic sphere, the increased participation I have seen from community groups is heartening. In addition to making sure that candidates care about your issues, you can use your time and voice to advocate for candidates that will fight for you. You can even run for office! Increasing the di-

COMMENTARY

versity of our legislature is a key way to make sure that all kinds of voices are heard when the time comes for decisions to be made.

While this year brought a number of disappointments — a failure to resolve our gerrymandered legislative districts, blatant attacks on women, and legislation that endangers our environment, it also sets the stage for next year. We can have better voting rights legislation, enforce clean air and water standards, and make sure that our teachers get the raises they deserve. If you did not like what came out of Richmond this year, you have a chance to act and make a change for next year. Whether it is simply casting your ballot, running for office, or volunteering to help a candidate of your choice, you can make a change in how our government runs.

Charniele Herring represents Alexandria City's 46th District in the Virginia General Assembly where she serves as House Minority Caucus Chair and on the Courts of Justice and Counties, Cities, and Towns Committees. Visit www.charnieleherring.com.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Pedestrians, Be Alert

To the Editor:

I read with great interest your excellent article about pedestrian safety. I hope your readers will take the time to read this letter as it conveys some very important additional points.

I was not surprised to see your map that clearly indicated that one of the most dangerous, if not the most dangerous, street to cross is Duke Street. Our community knows this well, as there have been a number of pedestrians and cyclists hit by cars and trucks.

First, I want to stress that many such inci-

dents are not reported to the police, so numbers in your article are understated. There are various reasons for not reporting, including a reluctance to talk to the police, a concern by some service workers, including caregivers pushing baby buggies, that they will lose their jobs, etc. If this frightens you, it should.

Second, it took us six years of petitions before we finally got something we consider the bare minimum for a safer crossing of Duke at the intersection most of us in our community use. I pray the reported interest in the City Council to pedestrian safety is not simply polite words.

All pedestrians should cross our streets only with the greatest of caution. It's not simply a

matter of driver distraction, which indeed only gets worse every day. It's a matter of Commonwealth Law, which like some many Virginia laws, is written by those in rural areas who have no priority in pedestrian safety.

The law is clear: Drivers only need to avoid hitting a pedestrian at a crosswalk that does not have a red light. They can swerve, they can speed up ... as long as they don't hit you. Once again, if this frightens you, it should.

At the same time, our police have competing priorities. Alexandria has no limited access highways, so there is high priority in keeping traffic moving, especially at rush hour. Pedestrians are most vulnerable during the morning and evening rushes, especially on Duke, where drivers coming east in the morning have the sun in their eyes and those going west in the afternoon face the same problem.

I appeal to pedestrians to never expect a vehicle to stop. Be alert, try to make eye contact with drivers before crossing and never cross until you are confident you can do so safely.

Jim Larocco
Alexandria

Resist Complicity

To the Editor:

The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) has issued two official memos, dated Feb. 20, 2017, implementing the president's Executive Orders on internal enforcement and "border security." Here is a link to the DHS page with these materials, the Executive Orders, and other material: <https://www.dhs.gov/executive-orders-protecting-homeland>. The final interior enforcement memo says that DHS should "prioritize" any removable noncitizen who has been charged with any criminal offense or has "committed acts which constitute a chargeable criminal offense." It says DHS "no longer will exempt classes or categories of removable

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LETTERS

FROM PAGE 10

aliens from potential enforcement.”

The time has come for us as a city, and for our elected and appointed leaders and our local press, to resist complicity in implementation of a perverse, counterproductive, and woefully discriminatory policy that will wreak havoc on the lives and fortunes of untold numbers of persons who have fled to this country for freedom, security and a better life. Our authorities should not engage in facilitating the deportation of persons who have done nothing to warrant their removal except having come here in the first place. If this means defying the federal government and suffering the consequences, so be it.

When the law becomes perverse, it is the obligation of responsible authorities, in the public as well as private realm, to say so and act accordingly. This is already happening in all manner of contexts and venues relative to the Trump administration’s appalling policies. Our city and its political and civic leadership should join and take a leadership role in this debate. This is what we learned, is it not, from Martin Niemoller (“First they came for the socialists”) and from Dr. King’s Letter from a Birmingham Jail.

Vic Glasberg
Alexandria

Preserve History

To the Editor:

The annual Presidents Day Parade marches right by my home on the 300 block Queen Street, near North Royal Street, in the heart of Old Town. I invite you to come by our block and take a look, where a modern day revolutionary battle is raging.

On Feb. 25, the Alexandria City Council will decide whether to preserve a uniquely historic 200-year-old home on our block, or turn it over to a developer working for Fairfax homeowners, who want to destroy historic exterior walls and almost double the size of the original home to make it marketable for “millennials.”

Even if you don’t live in a historic district, Alexandria taxpayers, especially, should be concerned. This issue goes to our city’s credibility as a historic “Old Town”

that draws tourists’ dollars.

Here’s the issue. The Old and Historic Alexandria District Board of Architectural Review (BAR) approved partial destruction of 319 Queen St., —one of four near identical houses in a row that have been lived in for almost two centuries and have Historic Alexandria Foundation (HAF) plaques.

The BAR also approved a massive addition that will almost double the size original house, loom over neighboring Queen Street and North Royal homes, and create a “Greek Revival” facade on the rear. That addition will ruin the unique back story of these historic homes, which are visible from North Royal Street.

The impact on the historic setting on Royal Street is contrary to the city’s historic preservation ordinance, and is grounds for the City Council to deem this project as inappropriate.

This project also undermines Alexandria’s storied historic preservation that sustains the local economy. It is worth remembering that the Old and Historic District, designated in 1946, was the third historic district in the U.S., after Charleston and New Orleans.

Alexandria’s historians, like Charles Trozzo, of the historic foundation, and Michael Hobbs, of the Old Town Civic Association (OTCA) reminded the BAR that the standard should not be how much can possibly be demolished, but how much of our rich history and architecture can be saved.

Both civic groups have joined local residents in opposition to this project because it fails to meet that standard, among others.

It is now up to the City Council to preserve our city’s heritage. Will it?

Council members have the authority and obligation to maintain Alexandria’s historic and architectural heritage and block destruction of the home, which is a Historic Landmark, and is in a National Register Historic District and a Local Zoning Historic District.

The case also raises a broader question: Are we going to allow Alexandria’s historic treasures to be torn apart, one house at a time, until there is no history left to preserve?

The BAR claimed it’s only responsibility was to rule on the architectural plans be

SEE LETTERS, PAGE 12



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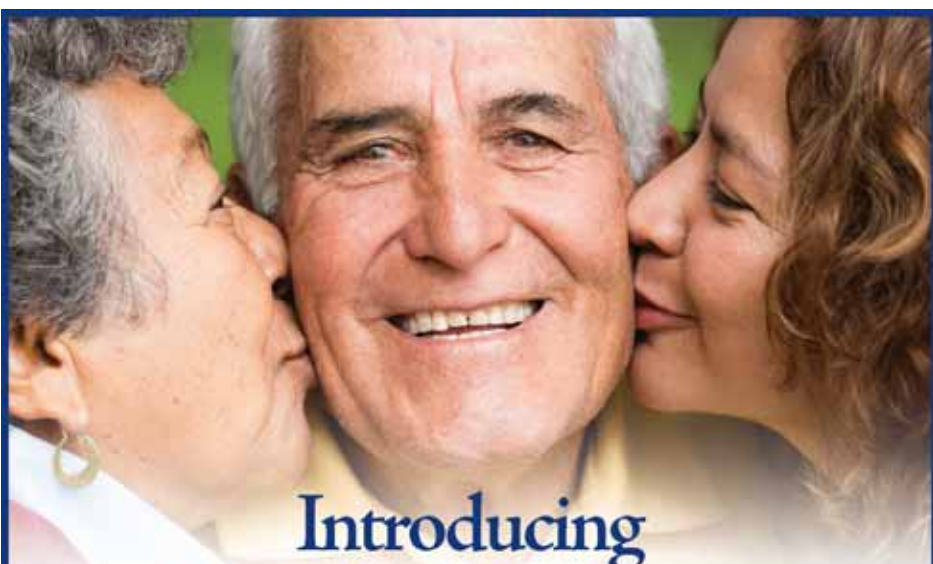


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—Chief Seattle
(1788-1866)
Suquamish/
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private setting. Topics to be covered include: How to Visit; Accepting Loss; and Enjoying the Remaining Strengths of Your Loved One. Aleksandra (Any) Parpura, MD, PhD, an expert in aging and dementia, will lead our Caregiver Connect program. Dr. Parpura is the president of Aging Perspectives, Inc., the Scientific Review Officer with CSRA International, an adjunct professor at The Catholic University of America, and a faculty member at the Washington School of Psychiatry. Dr. Parpura brings to us vast knowledge, helpful tips and a kind heart.

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LETTERS

FROM PAGE 11

fore it, not what could not be seen from the middle of the block. Perhaps that should have been expected from a BAR dominated by architects.

One of the most telling comments during the BAR hearings on this project came from BAR member and architect John von Senden. "Old Town," von Senden said, "is not a museum district." The Alexandria Convention and Visitors Association begs to differ, as it promotes Old Town on the city's website as "a museum without walls."

For too long, this city has been scarred by battles between developers trying to squeeze every penny out of our limited land, and neighbors trying to preserve our history while limiting density.

Tell the City Council to overturn the BAR's decision and preserve history.

Francois Duret
Alexandria

City's Failure To Control Traffic

To the Editor:

Why can't we solve the problem of cars blocking traffic at some of our key intersections during the peak traffic hours in the morning and evenings? This dilemma really begs a very simple response, yet after 17 years of my railing about this, little to nothing has been done by our council to solve the problem. When I ran for council

in 2000 I proposed an initiative to stop cars from parking in the box by having uniformed police officers direct and expedite traffic at critical junctures during those peak traffic periods. Ironically, even though I did not win a seat on council my initiative was adopted by the council and was effective for a short period of time. However, all of a sudden though the initiative was terminated and regrettably has never been reinstituted. Every day as I leave my office near the King Street Metro and go east on Prince, I am invariably stopped at Henry Street (Route 1 South) for sometimes long periods of time by cars blocking traffic, despite the fact that that intersection has a traffic signal to control the traffic. I might add that the same scenario to a lesser extent takes place as I approach Washington Street.

Other venues such as Baltimore and Capitol Hill have uniformed officers that perform this task daily and as a result traffic moves efficiently through all of the key intersections. Large fines are levied against any of the parking-in-the-box law-breakers. Isn't it time that the council direct our police department to emulate this practice by having Alexandria police officers stationed daily at a number of key traffic intersections in order to keep the traffic moving? Why does it take essentially 20 years to solve a simple problem in Alexandria?

Townsend A. "Van" Van Fleet
Alexandria

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Matching Pets to their Owners

Animal shelters' counselors help families find the right fit when seeking a pet adoption.

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL
GAZETTE PACKET

Natasha had been abandoned and was wandering the streets of Arlington under the blaze of a hot summer sun when she was rescued and taken to a local shelter. When handlers at the shelter leashed the German Shepherd mix, she became aggressive with other animals. After months of behavior classes, however, she began to trust and her pugnacious disposition became docile. Within months, Natasha was adopted by a family with small children.

"Most people wouldn't think of a German Shepherd as a kid-friendly dog, but that's a great example of how by taking a dog at their face value and looking at their personality rather than their breed, you can end up with a great dog that you wouldn't have thought of before," said Chelsea Lindsey, communications specialist for the Animal Welfare League of Arlington.

Lindsey says that Natasha's adoption dispels a common misconception that certain breeds are better suited than others for families with children. Lindsey and other shelter counselors say that when selecting a family pet, parents should consider factors such as the animal's temperament and the family's ability to afford and care for a dog properly.

"We don't say there are breeds that are better with kids than others. Some pit bulls are great with kids and some aren't," said Lindsey. "You really have to look at the individual personality of the dog. Are they going to let kids tug on their ear or take away their toys? Just because a dog is a lab or golden retriever doesn't mean that they're going to be good with kids."

Before selecting a pet, families should do

an assessment of their ability to give the new pet proper socialization, training, exercise, and attention. "You have to be realistic and honest with yourself," said Lindsey. "Puppies are appealing and hard to turn down, but they're a lot of work. Maybe your family is looking for an adult dog that is already house trained."

One of the first steps to successful pet ownership is beginning with an animal that is the right fit. Counselors are on hand at local shelters to help with the adoptions process. "We want to understand your family's environment and match it up with the best dog," said Gina Lynch, outreach coordinator for the Humane Society of Fairfax County, Inc. "Half the people who walk in to adopt a specific dog end up adopting something else after they talk to a counselor. You might want a puppy, for example, but if you're gone a lot during the day, an older dog that doesn't need as much attention might be a better match."

"When anyone adopts a dog, it's important to work closely with the counselors who know the dog best, so they can tell you about any personality issues," continued Lynch. "If a dog has recently lost its owners, for example, it might be depressed."

Becoming familiar with an animal's history before deciding to adopt is one of the recommendations Lynch offers. "It's like when you buy a used car, you want to know all you can about the car so that you can be an informed buyer," she said.

One-on-one counseling for families to help with the adjustment of adding a pet to a family is recommended, says Lynch. "We teach families that dogs have to have their own space and an area to eat," she said. "We want to give the best advice to make it a good situation. That's why the whole family has to be there. Until the dog gets used



Shelter counselors like Kelley Davis of the Animal Welfare League of Alexandria can help families with the adjustment of adopting a pet.

them about the potential issues that could arise so that they can coexist peacefully."

"When the family does bring the animal home, we do encourage people to use caution around food, toys or other items of high value to the dog," added Fortin. "Proactively setting boundaries with the child, like [not] touching [the dog] when he's eating or taking toys out of his mouth. Respecting those boundaries can generally set them up for success."

Parents must watch vigilantly for the signs that a new family pet is uncomfortable or fearful, says Fortin. "Those signs include growling, avoidance, like the animal choosing to keep its distance, or things that they're visually communicating like looking fearful. Most of the time the dog will give lots and lots of warning before it bites," she said. "Children should use proper behavior and not be too loud or too rough with the animal. There is a potential for an injury to occur, but that is not the norm."

"Kids often want to watch the dog eat, which is fine as long as they stay at an appropriate distance and respect the dog's boundaries," continued Lynch. "Just like you don't want a dog eating off your plate at the table, a dog doesn't want you trying to pull his food away from him."

There is a return on the significant investment that goes into animal adoption with benefits ranging from self-confidence to communications skills development. "Pet ownership teaches kids about responsibility if they are actively taking part in [caring for] the animal," said Lindsey. "It teaches them compassion. They learn to listen and pay attention to nonverbal cues because they don't speak the same language as the animal. Kids who grow up with animals in their homes are also more aware of animal welfare issues."

Recommended Reading

For those considering adopting a pet, see www.livingwithkidsanddogs.com/.

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PET GAZETTE



Groucho and Gordy

We recently adopted best friends, Groucho and Gordy, from the barn where I keep my horse. They are now warm and happy Alexandria residents.

— KAREN BUCK

George

From foster to forever.



PHOTO BY VERNON MILES



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Mirabelle

Mirabelle, a dressage-trained Thoroughbred mare, keeps an eye on things out in Accokeek, Md, where her owner, Michel Gauthier, stables her so he can make the quick trip across the Woodrow Wilson Bridge for a ride or to give lessons. Mirabelle, when not showing off her Level 3 Dressage skills, begs for carrots and sugar cubes. She also follows without a lead, is sensitive to the slightest change difference in position, and “speaks” both French and English.

— EDEN BROWN



Esne

In April 2017, Esne, “son” of Alexandria residents Max Rotermund and Susan Dawson, will turn 20 years old. Quite a life he’s had. For 12 years he lived with Caesar, a warm, welcoming, older cat who adored him. After Caesar’s death in 2009, big, bouncy, intrusive Cinco came along. We’re not sure Esne’s ever gotten over it. Cinco, now an adult twice Esne’s size, still thinks it’s OK to play “pounce.” Esne, you’re old and skinny and wobbly, but you’re still hanging in there. Happy Early 20th Birthday!

— MAX ROTERMUND AND
SUSAN D. DAWSON



Elvis

Elvis, The King, reigns at Starbucks.

PHOTO BY
HAL HARDWAY

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PET GAZETTE



Grendel and Angel

A year ago (Valentine's Day weekend 2016) our kids arrived back home from a sleepover to find a large cardboard box. "We got you some treats," we said, "they're very tasty." Inside were two puppies, 5/8 mastiff 3/8 labrador, 16 lbs and 14 lbs at nine weeks. Opening that box was, without a doubt, the most exciting moment of their lives for both the kids and the dogs. A year later, Grendel, the boy dog, is over 120 lbs. His sister Angel is about 100 lbs. We still call for them, "Puppies!" from across the dog park or the back yard. And those jumbo XXL dogs still come bounding to the call.

— JC HERZ



Timmy Boy

Timmy Boy, headed out to a job interview as a squirrel exterminator.

— JUDITH SUTHAR

Guinness

This is Guinness, son of Scott and Henni Collins of Alexandria. Recently he stayed with me while his parents were out of town, and we embarked on a 150-mile road trip. Apparently he's a little apprehensive about my driving.

— HAL HARDAWAY



Guinness and Cannoli

Our 12-year-old lab mix Guinness relaxing with "her" own pet, our 6-year-old cat Cannoli, they are best of friends.

— BRIAN MARQUIS



Seagulls in January.

PHOTOS BY HAL HARDAWAY

ENTERTAINMENT

LTA Stages 'Key for Two'

British farce with situational and physical humor.

BY STEVE HIBBARD
GAZETTE PACKET

The Little Theatre of Alexandria (LTA) is staging "Key for Two" from Feb. 25 to March 18. The classic British farce centers around Harriet, a divorcee with financial woes, until she takes control of her finances by entertaining — and collecting rent — from two gentlemen callers. To keep things straight, she orchestrates their comings and goings very strategically. Her carefully calculated scheme falls to pieces when Harriet's men arrive at her flat on the same day followed by their irate wives.

"The play is a domestic comedy, a British farce, with lots of situational and physical humor. It has been called 'a thoroughly engaging romp.' It is very fast-paced — you're laughing at one situation after another," said Producer Jean Coyle.

She added: "The play is one of those laugh-a-minute productions. Audiences should be ready to 'split their sides' at the hilarity presented before them on the stage."

Director Eleanore Tapscott wanted to pay tribute to farce as a specific theatrical form. "I love directing comedies, but particularly farce because getting the timing of the language and physical business — all the while working with the actors to establish relatable three-dimensional people, takes a lot of time and energy," she said.

She added: "I particularly love this play because we have women who are the key protagonists. In this type of British sex farce, it is usually the gents running around all frantic, and that dynamic is completely flipped with this production."

She said the challenges were working on the timing of the physical comedy, which has to be precise and requires a lot of repetition. "My fight choreographer, Ian Claar, has done a great job developing the various falls and working with the cast to ensure they can perform the various falls and stunts safely," she said.

Charlene Sloan plays the role of Harriet, a modern, enterprising woman who has engaged in some questionable behavior to



Cal Whitehurst (Alex) and Charlene Sloan (Harriett) rehearse for "Key for Two" at the Little Theatre of Alexandria.

maintain her standard of living despite a failing economy.

"This has been a challenging role because in addition to memorizing the normal amount of lines for a play this length, there is the additional struggle to remember the string of lies and mistaken identities that occurs in the plot. It is also a very funny play so trying to keep a straight face is hard too," she said.

Cal Whitehurst plays the role of Alec, a self-made businessman who worked his way up from enlisted man in the British Navy, to crewman on the fishing trawler, to owner of a fleet of fishing vessels. "He is a strongly physical man, very attracted to Harriet, but has come to see his wife more as a wife and mother than a romantic partner," he said.

He said: "The challenge in farce — where the situations and everyone's behavior become increasingly outlandish as the plot progresses — is to maintain your character's sincerity and believability. I have to stay true to Alec as this stodgy guy trying to keep up as things around him get increasingly out of control."

Justin Latus plays the role of Richard, the alcoholic husband of Anne. He said: "The challenges are appearing and sounding drunk while pulling off a convincing Brit-

ish accent. I've never been drunk in my life but have taken notes as I've observed others. If the reader is at a bar and sees someone taking notes, that's probably me," he said.

He added: "I hope audiences laugh a lot and find the show ridiculous but in a good sort of way."

Peter Harrold plays the role of Gordon, one of the two gentlemen with a "key." "I am an advertising executive currently under serious financial pressure. I am not low on self-confidence, but a bit of a whiner. And clearly, as the audience will see, not too good at suffering pain," he said.

He said there are only two types of theater worth doing in difficult times: overtly political theater that addresses the big issues we are facing; and comedy, to give audiences a break and let them relax and enjoy the great medicine of laughter. "Safe to say this is no political drama. But if we do our job with this great script, laughter is sure to follow," he said.

Dana Gattuso plays the role of Anne, an old friend of the lead character, Harriet. "Harriet invites Anne to stay with her and within minutes, Anne becomes embroiled in Harriet's increasingly complicated plot to juggle two lovers," she said.



Charlene Sloan (Harriett), Peter Harrold (Gordon), and Dana Gattuso (Anne) rehearse for "Key for Two" at the Little Theatre of Alexandria.

"'Key for Two' is the first farce I have ever done so that has been challenging but also lots of fun. One of the challenges has been to keep it big but also believable. There's an energy that needs to build throughout the play, particularly as we the characters get more ensnared in the complications of the plot and the stakes intensify," she said.

As a co-producer, Becky Patton said the show is fun with laughs and brings out the great wit of Tapscott, the director. Patton handles the business end of the show — getting the technical designers and their crews and making sure everything is running smoothly to all coincide with opening night.

"When you work with all volunteers, this can be challenging — everyone has a day job, after all. But the community that is LTA always pulls together to create a polished product. I never cease to be amazed at the folks we get," she said.

The Little Theatre of Alexandria is staging "Key for Two" from Feb. 25 to March 18. Tickets are \$19 to \$22. Show times are Wednesdays through Saturdays at 8 p.m.; Sunday matinees at 3 p.m. The venue is located at 600 Wolfe St. Visit www.thelittletheatre.com or call the box office at 703-683-0496.

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

UCM Raffle Tickets. Ongoing, the United Community Ministries is raffling off a trip to Cancun at the 'Give From the Heart' Gala on May 6 at the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, 600 Dulaney St. \$175 admission, \$25 raffle ticket. Visit www.ucmagency.org for more.

RockNBlades. 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.

"Sanctuary." Through Feb. 18 in the Commons Fireplace Alcove of Mount Vernon Unitarian Church, 1909 Windmill Lane. Selected black and white photographs from Nina Tisara's "Sanctuary" series, shot in Huntley Meadows Park. A closing reception will be held on Feb. 18, 6:30-7:15 p.m., followed by a concert by Nova Chamber Orchestra beginning at 7:30 p.m. Email Nina Tisara at ninat@ninatisara.com or call 703-765-5950 for more.

Convergence Arts Initiative. Through March 4, Fridays 10 a.m.-5 p.m., Saturdays 10 a.m.-4 p.m. at The Gallery @ Convergence, 1801 N. Quaker Lane. Highlights the artwork

of students from Bishop Ireton, Episcopal High School, T.C. Williams, and St. Stephen's and St. Agnes School. Artists reception: Saturday, Feb. 11, 7-9 p.m. Email danabh@ourconvergence.org or call 703-998-6260 for more.

Ceramic Guild Show. Through March 5, 10 a.m.-6 p.m. at Torpedo Factory Art Center, 105 N. Union St. "Customer Appreciation: Welcome to our World" Ceramic Guild show at Scope Gallery. Visit www.scopegallery.org, www.torpedofactory.org/galleries/scope or call 703-548-6288 for more.

China Photography Exhibit. Through March 6, various hours at the Bisdorf Building, NVCC, 5000 Dawes Ave. "China in my Eyes" photography exhibit. Artists

reception: Saturday, Feb. 11, noon. Visit www.nvcc.edu/alexandria/ or email JJZelloe@aol.com for more.

Mixed Media Exhibit. Through March 14, 11 a.m.-5 p.m. at the St. George Gallery, 105 North Alfred St. Inspirational approaches in mixed media inhabit this art exhibit. Call 703-299-9495 or visit www.StGeorgeofEthiopia.com for more.

Potomac Fiber Arts Gallery. Through March 19 at Torpedo Factory, Studio 29, 105 N. Union St. Cosmic Sights and Sounds, comes as the winter night sky's grand collection of brilliant stars begins to give way to the vernal equinox. This show will also highlight the work of featured artists Carol Bodin, Mickey Kunkle, and Lynda Prioleau. Visit

www.Potomacfiberartsgallery.com for more.

Mercy in Alexandria Walking Tour. Sundays at 1:30 p.m. at Alexandria Visitors Center, 221 King St. Experience an inside access tour of 19th century Alexandria. Inspired by the PBS mini-series "Mercy Street," accompany a trained military historian through Civil War-era Alexandria and learn the actual history behind the TV show. Short tours are \$15, private tours for five are \$149. Visit www.dcmilitarytour.com for more

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

Dealing Up 'The Gin Game' at MetroStage

Pulitzer-prize winning classic.

BY STEVE HIBBARD
GAZETTE PACKET

MetroStage in Alexandria is staging the 1978 Pulitzer prize-winning classic, "The Gin Game," which has an all-black cast, now through March 12. This two-person, two-act play shows how intimately drawn characters and a simple game of gin rummy can offer explosive life lessons through a card game that escalates the stakes higher and higher with each dealt hand.

While MetroStage is best known for its original work and musicals, Artistic Director and Producer Carolyn Griffin thought it would be interesting to offer a classic play like "The Gin Game," by D.L. Coburn, and let Director Thomas W. Jones II put his signature mark on it. So they cast two of their favorite actors — Roz White (who plays Fonsia) and Doug Brown (who plays Weller) — who had also worked with Jones in the past and had supporting roles in MetroStage's "Uprising" a few years ago.

"Jones also added his stamp with additional music between scenes as 'bridge music' as well as within the scenes themselves," she said. "These unique music selections make the staging of the play with scene changes and time changes feel seamless. Classic Tom Jones. His signature style. On stage at MetroStage now," she said.

She said it was also of interest as a producer to cast these two well-known roles with African American actors as was done on Broadway recently with James Earl Jones and Cicely Tyson. Husband and wife team, Hume Cronyn and Jessica Tandy appeared in the original production, which received four Tony nominations with Tandy winning the Tony Award for Best Actress. "Previously I suspect it had always been cast in the traditional way with Caucasian actors. What is fascinating about this classic play is that it is so timeless and universal that it crosses all color barriers and is completely believable, moving, poignant, and



PHOTOS BY CHRIS BANKS
Doug Brown and Roz White star in "The Gin Game" at MetroStage in Alexandria now through March 12.

funny with all actors. Maybe its universal-ity is what won it the Pulitzer in 1978?" she said.

Actress Roz White, who previously played in MetroStage's "Black Pearl Sings," said she would like for audiences to be thoroughly entertained by this piece as well as gain an understanding of what the elderly sometimes face in assisted living facilities. "Also I would like for people to get a peek into family dynamics and how major decisions can have a long-term effect on family ties," she said.

She said the challenges she faced in the role were: "Being almost 30 years younger than the character, the intricacy of the card games interspersed with the dialogue, and removing from my mind, a 21st century image of how the elderly is supposed to look, feel and behave"

MetroStage in Alexandria is staging the classic "The Gin Game" now through March 12. Show times are Wednesdays through Saturdays at 8 p.m.; Saturday matinees at 3 p.m.; and Sundays at 3 and 7 p.m. Tickets are \$55 and \$60. The venue is located at 1201 North Royal St., Alexandria. Call the box office at 703-548-9044 or visit the website at www.metrostage.org.

CALENDAR

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

Pick-Up Hockey. Ongoing, Wednesdays and Fridays 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m. at Mount Vernon Ice Skating, 2017 Belle View Blvd. Play hockey with other hockey buffs, hitting slap shots and learning puck handling skills that the pros use. Players must have full equipment. 16 and older. Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/

parks/rec/mtvernon/ or call 703-768-3224 for more.

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

Alexandria's Nurses 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.alexandriava.gov/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.-4 p.m., Sundays, noon-4 p.m. at the Carlyle House Historic Park, 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. www.carlylehouse.org or call 703-549-2997

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

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

French Movie Night. Every Thursday, 7 p.m. in the back room of Fontaine Caffe and Creperie, 119 S. Royal St.

View a French film. Free, no reservation necessary. Call 703-535-8151 or visit www.fontainecaffe.com/reviews.html.

Their Fates Intertwined: The Lees of Alexandria in the War of 1812. Wednesday- Saturday, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Sunday, 1-4 p.m. Lee-Fendall House and Gardens, 614 Oronoco St. A new exhibit on the experiences of the Lee family in Alexandria during the War of 1812 examines the contributions of Alexandria's citizens during the conflict that led to the writing of our national anthem through the lives of this iconic Virginia family. Visit www.leefendallhouse.org or call 703-548-1789.

Alexandria Cars and Coffee invites car enthusiasts to meet for coffee at Hollin Hall Shopping Center in front of Roseina's, 1307 Shenandoah Road. Owners of classic cars, hot rods,

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ENTERTAINMENT

Meggrolls Moves from Food Truck to King Street Home

BY HOPE NELSON
GAZETTE PACKET

It's a common sight in Old Town: One neighbor moves out, another moves in. Or, more accurately in this case, another drives in. With Five Guys' relocation to a larger space on King Street, the burger-flipper's original space advertised a vacancy, and it didn't take long to find a taker.

Enter Meggrolls, a longtime food truck business finally settling into its first brick-and-mortar space. And owner Megg Baroody is ready to set up shop at the Fayette Street location — and is aiming for an April grand opening.

"It's been very exciting; it's been kind of a whirlwind," Baroody said. "This is definitely a creative concept first and then became a business, slowly but surely."

APPETITE Meggrolls' specialty is — as one might expect — gourmet eggrolls in a variety of flavors and styles. The company, which started about seven years ago, has steadily grown in popularity and in recent times has become a catering powerhouse as well as a tried-and-true food truck. The next step was clear: It was time to expand to a larger kitchen and a café space.

And the former Five Guys restaurant, Baroody said, couldn't have been a better fit for the company's Old Town presence.

"We are very lucky that the space is already set up as a quick-service restaurant. They're actually leaving a lot of their equipment behind and we're lucky that it's not just mom-and-pop equipment, it's Five Guys Corporate equipment. We trust them that they're leaving us with stuff that's in great shape, and we're looking forward to being able to get in the space, give it a cosmetic facelift, and personalize it to what we think Meggrolls is all about" — beachy

If You Go

Meggrolls, 107 N. Fayette St.
Grand opening: April 2017.

Non-Meggroll menu item of note: White chicken chili. "I want people to say, 'Hey, I might not be in the mood for a Meggroll today, but man I love that chili,'" says owner Megg Baroody.

blues and whitewashed wood, she said. "Those are things that have been in my head for years and I couldn't wait to turn it into a reality."

Visitors to Meggrolls' permanent location will see plenty of familiar menu items as well as some additions to the repertoire. Whereas the food truck sported three different Meggrolls at any given time, Baroody says the café will offer more straight out of the gate.

"We'll have a menu of five to six standard Meggrolls that will always be on the menu, and then we will have a rotating menu with one to two Meggrolls that will be seasonal, or weekly, or based on the holidays," she said.

And the eggrolls won't stand alone on the menu. Baroody is planning several varieties of slaws "that are the perfect accompaniment to a crispy indulgent Meggroll," she said. Also on the docket: French fries, because "Who doesn't love French fries?"

But by design, Meggroll's new location will keep its signature offering as the star of the show. It's what started everything years ago and will maintain its place at the top of the heap, Baroody said.

"The Meggroll has been the main event since the beginning, so we kind of want to build the menu around that crispy fried deliciousness," she said.

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

CALENDAR

exotic cars, motorcycles and more meet to share car stories and drink coffee. Group meets the first Sunday of every month. 8:30-11 a.m.

Fifty Years of Collecting. Tuesday-Saturday 10 a.m.-5 p.m., Sundays 12-5 p.m. Fort Ward Museum, 4301 W. Braddock Road. An anniversary exhibit of objects from the Fort Ward collection. Free. Visit 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. Visit nvfaa.org to view concert calendar and listen to upcoming Second Thursday Music artists.

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

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

Alexandria Archaeology Museum, 105 North Union St., #327. Learn more about the Civil War as it occurred in Alexandria. Find dioramas, newspaper articles and more Free. Visit www.alexandriaarchaeology.org.

Doggy Happy Hour. Starting April 5, Tuesdays through October 5-8 p.m. at Jackson 20 and Hotel Monaco Alexandria, 480 King St. Doggy Happy Hour at Jackson 20 and the Hotel Monaco Alexandria offers specials on cocktails and beers plus treats and water for canine companions. Free, but drinks sold separately. Visit www.monaco-alexandria.com for more.

Wake Up Wednesdays featuring The Pop Up Cafe. 7-9:30 a.m. on Wednesday's near the King Street Tunnel - Carlyle Entrance located near 2000 Duke Street near Motley Fool. The cafe will feature coffee, live music to help commuters start the day off right and donuts from Sugar Shack. maurispotts@gmail.com

CAMPS, CLASSES AND WORKSHOPS

Community Dance. 7:30-9:30 p.m. every third Friday at Hollin Hall Senior Center, 1500 Shenandoah Road. Live music. Tickets are \$4. Call 703-765-4573.

Life Drawing. Del Ray Artisans offers a range of open life drawing sessions for anyone to develop life-drawing skills further. Drop-in for the session

and bring supplies to draw or paint live models. Fee ranges from \$8-\$12. All skill levels are welcome. Del Ray Artisans is located at 2704 Mount Vernon Ave. Visit www.TheDelRayArtisans.org for a schedule.

FEB. 17-26

Winter Restaurant Week.

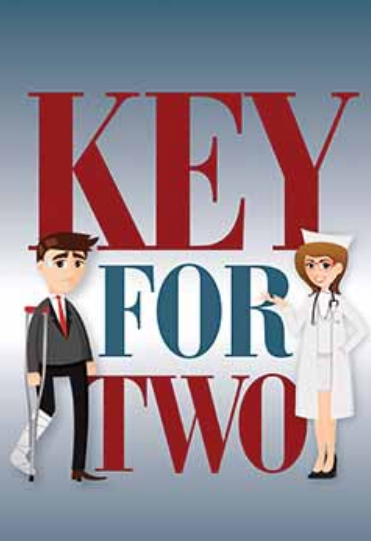
Neighborhood restaurants throughout Alexandria, including Old Town, Del Ray, Carlyle and the West End. \$35 three-course dinner for one or \$35 dinner for two; select locations offering lunch from \$10-20/person. Visit www.AlexandriaRestaurantWeek.com or call 703-746-3301 for more.

FEB. 23-APRIL 2

The Hand Print Workshop. Various times at the Athenaeum, 201 Prince St. Dennis O'Neil's Hand Print Workshop exhibit features a wide representation of the prints created by these artists in his Alexandria studio, including some by William Christenberry and Renee Stout, as well as works by O'Neil himself. Opening Reception, Sunday, Feb. 26, 4-6 p.m. Visit www.nvfaa.org or call 703-548-0035.


THURSDAY/FEB. 23

Starving the South. 7:30 p.m. at The Lyceum, 201 S. Washington St.



Cases of mistaken identities and hilarious outcomes will have you laughing in your seat when a divorcee's carefully calculated scheme falls to pieces.

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ENTERTAINMENT

Andrew F. Smith discusses his book "Starving the South: How the North Won the Civil War," and sign books. \$10. Call 703-746-4994, or visit www.alexandriahistory.org.

FRIDAY/FEB. 24

CAC Hats Off Gala. 7-10 p.m. at the Hilton Alexandria Old Town, 1767 King St. Benefit to help child abuse victims and vulnerable families in the City of Alexandria. Visit www.centerforalexandriachildren.org or call 703-746-6043 for more.

Blessed Sacrament Concert. 7:30 p.m. at Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church, 1427 W. Braddock Road. Director of Music, John McCrary will conduct the Blessed Sacrament Festival Chorus and Orchestra with soprano Michelle Kunz, alto Sally Monson, tenor Phil Pickens, bass Joshua Hong in a performance of Arthur Sullivan's sacred oratorio. Email jmccrary@blessedsacramentcc.org or call 703-998-6100 x103 for more.

Todd Snider Concert. 7:30 p.m. at The Birchmere, 3701 Mt. Vernon Ave. Nashville gonzo outlaw music. Visit www.birchmere.com for more.

SATURDAY/FEB. 25

Black History Month Speaker. 9-11 a.m. at Bethlehem Baptist Church, 7836 Fordson Road. C.R. Gibbs will be the featured speaker for Boy Scout Troop 1906 talking on "Let Your Motto Be Resistance, Great Slave Revolts." Visit www.bethlehemofalexandria.org/ for more.

Gallery Talk on Retha Gambaro. 11 a.m. at the Potomack Company 1120 N. Fairfax St. Dr. Letitia Chambers will present a Gallery Talk

on Native American artist Retha Walden Gambaro, whose spiritually inspired sculptures are featured in The Potomack Company's Feb. 28 auction. Visit www.potomackcompany.com or call 703-684-4550 for more.

The Will to Adorn Workshop. 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m. at the Alexandria Black History Museum, 902 Wythe St. The Will to Adorn: African American Diversity, Style, and Identity. Free. Email black.history@alexandriava.gov, or call 703-746-4356 for more.

George Washington Symposium. 1-3 p.m. at George Washington Masonic National Memorial, 101 Callahan Dr. Mark Tabbert, the Memorial's director of collections, discusses contemporary research on the life of George Washington. Free. Visit www.washingtonbirthday.net or call 703-829-6640 for more.

Winter Birds and Feeder Workshop noon-2 p.m. at Huntley Meadows Park, 3701 Lockheed Blvd. Learn about the birds that call Huntley Meadows Park and your backyard home during winter. Learn how to identify winter birds through calls, games and activities. Children must be accompanied by an adult registered in the program. \$8 county residents, \$10 non-county. Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/huntley-meadows-park for more.

Civil War Winter Drill Day. 1-4 p.m. at Fort Ward Museum, 4301 W. Braddock Road. Members of the 3rd U.S. Regular Infantry, Company K, will interpret the life of the Union soldier on Civil War in the winter. Visit www.fortward.org or call 703-746-4848 for more.

Annual Birthday Gala. 5:30-9:30 p.m. at George Washington Masonic National Memorial, 101 Callahan Dr.

Black tie affair, featuring The presentation of the George Washington Memorial Award. \$125. Visit www.washingtonbirthday.net or call 703-829-6640 for more.

Washington Revels Jubilee Voices. 6-8 p.m. in the Alexandria Black History Museum, 902 Wythe St. Songs and stories of struggle and perseverance, trials and triumphs, as expressed through a cappella music, drama and dance. \$5. Call 703-746-4356 for more.

Annual Black History Month Gala. 7 p.m. at the Hilton Alexandria Mark Center, 5000 Seminary Road. Keynote speaker is Dr. Stedman Graham. He will speak on the 2017 National Black History Month Theme: The Crisis in Black Education. Visit www.vabhma.com.

SUNDAY/FEB. 26

Deer and the Garden. 1:30 p.m. at Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road. Author and garden expert Ruth Clausen shares some beautiful shrubs, annuals and perennials that deer usually ignore, and signs her book on "50 Beautiful Deer-Resistant Plants." \$10. Call 703-642-5173 or visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/greenspring/ for more.

Lindy Bots Dancing. 1:30-4:30 p.m. at Market Square, 301 King St. Join Lindy Bots Adrian and Ashley Munteanu for a public dance experience. Visit www.facebook.com/lindy.bots for more.

Secretive Marsh Birds. 2 p.m. at Sherwood Regional Library, 2501 Sherwood Hall Lane. Join several area audubon clubs, the Northern Virginia Bird Club and the Virginia Society of Ornithology. Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/

'Dispensing Mercy'

Civil War nursing subject of Agenda: Alexandria.

Inspired by the PBS drama series Mercy Street, "Dispensing Mercy" will be the featured subject of the upcoming Feb. 27 meeting of Agenda:Alexandria.

Set in Alexandria during the Civil War, Mercy Street is inspired by events that took place at the Mansion House Hospital, which was located in front of the Carlyle House. Chris Foard, a consultant on the show, will be the featured speaker and will share his lifelong research and collection of first person accounts and artifacts.

Foard is considered an expert on Civil War nursing and has amassed a collection of over 3,200 artifacts that illustrate how those who cared for the thousands of wounded and dying in the Civil War helped lay the foundation of modern nursing.

A life member of Disabled American Veterans, Foard earned

a Master's of Science in Nursing from Wesley College. He has presented at various colleges and universities, the American Association for the History of Nursing, Delaware Nurse's Association, the American Assembly for Men in Nursing and the Navy Nurse Corps. His nursing collection has been exhibited locally and nationally including at the Dittrick Medical Museum in Cleveland, the Carlyle House and the Clara Barton House in Glen Echo. Rare photos from his collection have also been exhibited at the National Gallery of Art in Washington D.C., and the Massachusetts Historical Society in Boston.

The Agenda:Alexandria meeting will take place Feb. 27 at The Hermitage, located at 5000 Fairbanks Ave. A cash bar reception begins at 6:30 p.m. followed by dinner at 6:45 p.m. Program begins at 7:15 p.m. and ends promptly at 9 p.m. Reservations can be made online at www.agendaalexandria.com.

— JEANNE THEISMANN

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ENTERTAINMENT



Matthew Miller, Caren Anton, Katherine Stanford, and Robin Covington read from “A Very Present Presence” at The Kennedy Center’s Page-to-Stage last September.

PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

‘A Very Present Presence’

MetroStage hosts Pipeline Playwrights’ first reading.

BY STEVE HIBBARD
GAZETTE PACKET

The new Pipeline Playwrights group in Alexandria is kicking off its 2017 inaugural series with a reading of its first play, “A Very Present Presence,” on Monday, Feb. 27, at 7:30 p.m. at MetroStage in Alexandria. It will be a reading of the whole play with a time for discussion with the playwright, Ann Timmons, and actors with a reception afterwards.

This comedy opens as Alice’s mid-life crisis is interrupted by a visitation from her long-dead great-aunt, who takes her on a journey through time. Alice learns that her problems spring from sources deeper than she imagined.

Writer and Director Ann Timmons said she wanted to see this play onstage, fully produced. “I think the events of the summer/fall have galvanized women and revived awareness of gender inequality that still exists,” she said. “Cultural expectations work in tandem with political movements and the policies they produce to keep women ‘in their place.’ And somehow that message had gotten lost in the shuffle of our recent small victories.”

She said she hopes people go away with an appreciation of family history, of cultural forces that shaped the lives of their parents and grandparents, and that have had an impact on their lives. “I also want audiences to see that people can change, and they can change the circumstances in which they live. It may

not always be easy, but it is possible. Passively accepting ‘one’s lot in life’ is not the only (or best) option,” she said. “I also want to treat a fairly weighty subject with humor and empathy.”

Caren Anton plays the role of Nell, the “presence” referenced in the play’s title. “Without revealing too much, I will say that I am the great-aunt of Alice, whose journey the play depicts. I have come to visit her from a time in the past in order to help her through a personal crisis in the present,” she said.

As far as challenges, she said: “There’s an inherent challenge in presenting a play in a staged-reading format. You count on the audience to ‘fill in the blanks.’ And in this play, especially, there are extra challenges because it plays with the concept of time. You want to be sure the audience is not confused.”

Katherine Stanford plays the role of Alice, a strong but soft-hearted, over-achieving but flawed woman who has a lot to learn, and does in the course of the play. “We first see her vacating her life for a few days to rest and reflect, but she ends up taking a leap of faith into her new future by exploring her family and feminist history, and ultimately learning to live in the present,” she said.

Her biggest challenge was bringing compassion to the character of Alice, she said. “The audience needs to identify with her right away so they can join in her journey of self-discovery. But she yells a lot in the first few scenes — and it’s a fine line to walk between hilarity and annoyance.”

The play reading is Monday, Feb. 27 at 7:30 p.m. at MetroStage, 1201 North Royal Street, Alexandria. More info at: www.facebook.com/events/101047870374049.

CALENDAR

branches/sh/direct.htm or call 703-765-3645 for more.

Locals Highlight Black History. 2 p.m. at the Lee Center Richard Kauffman Auditorium, 1108 Jefferson St. Program features the recognition of three former employees: Lawrence “Lucky” Elliott, Traverse Gray, and Jackie Mason for their more than four decades of service to the Alexandria community. In addition, local R&B singing group Nu Era and a youth cheerleading team and dance group from neighborhood recreation centers will provide entertainment. Call 703-746-5402 or email Mac Slover, Regional Program Director, at mac.slover@alexandriava.gov.

FocusMusic. 7 p.m. at George Washington Masonic Memorial, 101 Callahan Drive. Scott Ainslie and Reggie Harris in concert. \$18/\$15 for advance sales and members. Call 703-380-3151, or visit www.focusmusic.org/buy-tickets.

Documentary. American Association of University Women Mt Vernon Branch presents “Harvest of Empire, the Untold Story of Latinos in America.” The 90 minute film examines the role of the United States military and economic interests in Latin American countries. Light refreshments will be served. 4 p.m., Heritage Presbyterian Church, 8503 Ft. Hunt Road, Alexandria, 703-780-8494, mtvernon-va.aauw.net, Free.

TUESDAY/FEB. 28

Member Orientation. 7:45-9 a.m. at the Alexandria Chamber of Commerce, 2834 Duke St. An

overview of the Chamber and member benefits. Call 703-739-3801, email info@alexchamber.com or visit www.alexchamber.com for more.

Homeschool Program: 17th and 18th Century Music and Dance. 1-2:30 p.m. at Gadsby’s Tavern Museum, 134 N. Royal St. Enjoy a special interactive presentation of instruments and dances as you compare early Colonial and Early American music. Tickets are \$8 per child, adults free. Pre-registration is required. Visit shop.alexandriava.gov.

MARCH 1-31

2017 Woodlawn Needlework Show and Sale. 10 a.m.-4 p.m. at the Woodlawn & Pope-Leighey House, 9000 Richmond Highway. Themed “Every Stitch Counts,” that includes both traditional and contemporary works. Visit woodlawnpopeleighey.org or call 703-570-6904 for more.

THURSDAY/MARCH 2

Childrens Jazz Band Concert. 7:30-9 p.m. at the Rachel M. Schlesinger Concert Hall and Fisher Art Gallery, NOVA, Alexandria Campus, 4915 East Campus Drive. Free. Visit www.nvcc.edu or call 703-425-5839 for more.

FRIDAY/MARCH 3

Children’s Concert. 5-6 p.m. at Various hours at The Lyceum, 201 S. Washington St. Local musician, Achille, will be singing popular children’s French songs. \$5. Email AlexandriaSisterCities@gmail.com or call 202-203-0177 for more.



The Alexandria Chamber of Commerce is excited to announce that applications are now open for our 2017 40 Under 40 Awards!

The 40 under 40 program was established in 2016 by the Chamber to recognize top men and women, age 40 and under, engaged in a variety of fields including business, technology, nonprofit management, civic life, public service, education, and the arts, who are shaping Alexandria for the future.

Our 2016 honorees represent a diverse group of individuals, all contributing to the thriving business and civic community in Alexandria. We look forward to celebrating the significant impact of another class of young professionals at the top of their respective fields in 2017.

All submissions and supporting documentation must be received in full by 5:00pm on Friday, March 10, 2017. Our chosen 2017 Honorees will be honored at our 40 Under 40 Awards on Thursday, July 27, 2017.

For more information on the eligibility requirements, and to access the links to apply or nominate an individual, please visit www.alexchamber.com.

Questions, please contact Shari Simmans at sholouri@alexchamber.com



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OPINION

Getting Ready for National Rebuilding Day

BY BREANNE
DRISCOLL
REBUILDING TOGETHER
ALEXANDRIA



As National Rebuilding Day 2017 approaches, on Saturday, April 29, Rebuilding Together Alexandria staff is busily prepping 40 teams for a city-wide day of volunteerism, a day in which thousands of volunteers across the country partake. Volunteer teams are paired with low-income residents that have critical health and safety issues inside their homes that they are unable to physically or financially correct. Our teams remedy the issues free of charge for the homeowners.

Many of the 800 volunteers that serve on National Rebuilding Day and throughout the year have prior knowledge of electrical, plumbing, and general repair work. However, in an effort to cultivate more knowledgeable and handy volunteers we offered Rebuilding Together Alexandria's very first skills-based Volunteer Training.

This month, staff and two dedicated vol-

unteers offered demonstration sessions on grab bar installation, GFCI replacement, three-way switch issues, and drywall repairs. Thirty trainees now have the foundational knowledge to make their repairs during National Rebuilding Day or at an independent project they may take on throughout the year as part of our "Mod"ification Squad.

This knowledge could even save a life of a homeowner. For example GFCIs, ground-fault circuit interrupters, are required by the National Electric Code in all new kitchens, bathrooms, crawl spaces, unfinished basements, and most outdoor receptacles, but what about the old homes we work in? Andrea, our program manager explains, "A GFCI outlet costs less than \$20 and is easy to install. By installing a GFCI on a circuit, you can protect yourself and your household from electrical shock. A GFCI can detect when current is flowing through an unintended path (such as a person or water), and shut off the connected circuit accordingly." According to the Electrical Safety Foundation International, "Since the 1970s, GFCIs have saved thousands of lives and have helped cut the number of home electrocutions in half." Grab bars are also particularly important to homeowners aging in place. Our seasoned volunteer, Brent, men-



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

This month, Rebuilding Together Alexandria offered skills-based Volunteer Training.

tions, "Grab bars are an important safety feature in any home, but especially for those who experience declining strength, flexibility, and balance. With grab bars, the homeowner can confidently use a tub or shower without concerns of falling."

Small upgrades like GFCIs and grab bars can make a big difference. With the great feedback we received from the trainees, we have decided to make it a fixture in our

program. Beginning in June we will offer mini-demos at our office, focusing on one particular repair process per session. Stay tuned and in the meantime sign-up for our newsletters and get your hands dirty and souls clean with Rebuilding Together Alexandria.

For more information call 703-836-1021, email info@RebuildingTogetherAlex.org, or visit www.RebuildingTogetherAlex.org.

Progress on Mental Health Reforms

BY ADMA EBBIN
STATE SENATOR (D-30)



A robust legislative agenda seeking to improve Virginia's approach to mental health crises emerged this year from the Joint Subcommittee Studying Mental Health Services.

The committee was formed in 2014 with the passage of legislation, introduced by Sen. Creigh Deeds (D-Bath), which I co-sponsored. Senator Deeds humbly and heroically transformed his personal tragedy into progress. He had been stabbed by his son, Gus, who suffered from mental illness, who then committed suicide. Days before his son's death, Senator Deeds sought help for Gus but was told that Gus did not meet the criteria for hospitalization, which was being a danger to himself or others. The General Assembly adopted reforms to establish a new real-time registry of available psychiatric beds, and a law requiring state hospitals to serve as a facility of last resort and provide beds to those in need. Since then, the "Deeds' Commission" has been tasked with evaluating long-term solutions needed to address mental health issues.

Legislation initiated by the committee this year would require local Community Service Boards to provide additional mental health services, improve how our criminal justice system addresses intake and discharge of at-risk inmates, and also provide funding for permanent supportive housing.

SB1005, legislation sponsored by Sen. Emmett Hanger (R-Augusta) and Senator Deeds would increase required mental health services offered by Community Service Boards (CSBs) and behavioral health authorities. The bill will expand the core services of CSBs to include same-day access to mental health screening. It would also require crisis services for individuals with mental health or substance use disorders, outpatient services, psychiatric rehabilitation, peer support and family services and targeted mental health case management. Funding to provide same-day access was provided in the Governor's proposed budget, and the bill has passed the Senate unanimously and is progressing quickly through the House of Delegates. Another positive advancement is the inclusion in both the House and Senate budgets of more money to provide rent subsidies and other support to help get people out of state hospitals or off the street and into housing. Whatever the final amount, I am confident significantly more resources will be made available to support a "housing first" approach to address the needs of some of the most vulnerable Virginians. Having access to stable housing is essential to putting people on the path to permanent recovery.

In the wake of escalating problems in jails across Virginia and the death of Jamycheal Mitchell at Hampton Roads Regional Jail a renewed focus was placed on the intersection of mental health and the criminal justice system. Mitchell, who was arrested for stealing a Mountain Dew, a Snickers bar,

and a Zebra Cake from a 7-Eleven, had been diagnosed with bipolar disorder and schizophrenia and was ordered to be transferred to a state psychiatric hospital. Instead, after 101 days in jail, he lost 40 pounds and died of starvation. Several bills were introduced to build on efforts in 2016, when we funded pilot programs to improve the ability of jails to identify and better provide services to mentally ill inmates. SB975, sponsored by Sen. Louise Lucas, engages Community Service Boards in the mental health pre-screening process at local and regional jails and grants them the responsibility of providing services to inmates. The bill seems poised for passage. SB1063 redefines the qualifications required to sit on the Board of Corrections. The revamped board will include mental health practitioners, professionals with experience conducting death investigations, as well as other experts and community advocates. On an additional positive note, legislation to provide planning services for those with serious mental illnesses due to be released from local and regional correctional facilities, SB941, has passed both the House and Senate. It now awaits Gov. McAuliffe's signature.

COMMENTARY

LETTERS

FROM PAGE 12

Can't Anyone Say 'No'?

To the Editor:

When it comes to governments, especially

I introduced legislation to provide for a study which would have identified solutions for addressing the physical and mental health needs unique to older incarcerated adults and those being discharged into the community at an advanced age, 20 percent of whom suffer from some degree of mental illness. The Senate Finance Committee, however, opted to wait to conduct this research until a current study evaluating the health needs of the general prison population has been completed.

While not all legislation recommended by the Joint Subcommittee Studying Mental Health Services made its way through the General Assembly this year, bipartisan, bicameral support for addressing mental health issues is a positive step. The General Assembly has embraced several aspects of mental health reform, however, several important steps remain to be taken before we are fully faithfully supporting this community. Our work to build coalitions across regional and party lines to benefit the mental health of Virginians continues.

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

our city government, there are always more needs than money to address them. We're reminded of this truism annually when, on or about this time of the year, our City Council members make sad remarks that there's nothing left to pare, and similar lamenta-

SEE LETTERS, PAGE 25

Proposed Budget

FROM PAGE 1

assessments, two thirds of all residential properties either decreased in value or were unchanged. The office vacancy rate across Alexandria is nearly 19 percent, with 2 million square feet going un-leased. The situation is even worse in the West End of the city, where there's nearly 40 to 50 percent vacancy.

The budget includes an increase in the real estate tax rate of 2.7 cents, from \$1.073 to \$1.10 per \$100 of assessed value. This would increase the average homeowner's tax bill by 3.5 percent, or \$197 per year. This is the lowest dollar increase to the average real estate tax bill in five years, but there are other fees hiding behind that number.

A new stormwater utility fee to cover the state and federally mandated stormwater projects replaces a 1.1 cent increase to the real estate tax rate. The utility varies by property, based on the permeability of the property's surface area. The average homeowner would pay \$70 for the fee in the second half of FY2018, when the fee is implemented.

There is also a 30 percent increase in the sanitary sewer fee, from \$1.40 to \$1.82 per thousand gallons, and a residential refuse fee increase \$10 per year to \$373.

The budget also calls for the city to raise the allowable ratio of debt to tax base from

1.6 percent to 2.5 percent and to raise the ratio of debt service as a percentage of the operating budget from 10 percent to 12 percent.

"Changing market standards and investment cycles require a reevaluation of the city's policy," said Jinks. "[But] this absolutely will not put the city's AAA/Aaa bond rating at risk."

EXPENDITURES

The largest portion of the budget goes to employee compensation. The largest new item in compensation is \$5 million to fund an annual merit increase for all eligible employees, an increase to the approximately 500 employees currently at the top step of their pay grades. The budget funds 2,564 total full-time equivalent permanent positions, a net decrease of one over the current number. Fourteen positions were decreased while 13 were created. Of those 14, six employees occupied positions that will be cut, half of those from Alexandria's libraries.

The largest single new investment in the operating budget is \$1.5 million to accelerate police hiring and fully staff patrol and traffic units in the Alexandria Police Department. Jinks said the hiring aims to expand the APD's community policing program and support the city's Vision Zero initiative to eliminate traffic deaths and serious injuries.

The budget also helps the Alexandria Fire Department transition into dual-role firefighter/medic position. The budget funds a one time skill-based bonus of \$5,000 and pay increases of \$5,000 for firefighters or medics transitioning into the dual role.

For transportation, the biggest hurdle facing the city is the cost Metro improvements. The FY2018 fully funds the additional \$7 million requested by WMATA over the current year, bringing Alexandria's total operating contribution to \$40 million. Jinks cited the Metro funding as a major driver in the proposed real estate tax increase, but said he believed the funding was an investment in the local economy. Roughly 95 percent of all new office construction in the region is within half a mile of a Metro station.

"By funding Metro at this higher dollar level, we can give him the resources he needs to build a safe, reliable and well-managed Metro system," said Jinks.

At the City Council meeting on Feb. 21, Mayor Allison Silberberg said long term the region needed to come together to find a dedicated source of funding for the Metro.

Street paving for Alexandria will remain funded at current \$5.3 million, though the city will have to cover \$1.5 million more in the cost due to a reduction in state aid.

The proposed operating budget includes a \$7.5 million increase to Alexandria City Public Schools, or 3.5 percent above the current funding. This falls short of the \$9.6 million requested by Superintendent Alvin Crawley. The Capital Improvement Plan proposed by the School Board proposed that the city fund \$611 million in school capital projects over the next decade, triple the amount ACPS was previously scheduled to receive from the city. The funds are requested for the replacement of the Minnie Howard campus of T.C. Williams High School, construction of a new middle school, and replacement and modernization of five elementary schools.

"While these are important projects, it is not realistic for the city to suddenly provide such an enormous increase in funding," said Jinks. "For the FY 2018-2027 School CIP I am recommending a substantial \$144 million increase... This should be sufficient to build a new ninth grade center, a new middle school and eventually a

new elementary school when enrollment increases justify it. The \$194 million cost for the elementary school replacement and modernization ACPS has proposed cannot also be funded with the amount I am recommending ... we cannot afford to add capacity and modernize at the same time."

The additional funding for the ACPS Capital Improvement Plan was presented to the City Council as an unfunded supplemental CIP option.

ACPS released a statement hours after the budget presentation expressing dissatisfaction with the funding: "This is not the budget that we had hoped for. There is no doubt that if this budget is passed without changes, it will directly impact schools in a negative way, both in terms of elementary school capacity projects and the modernization of our aging facilities, and in terms of supporting teachers and students in the classroom. We look forward to working with the city to resolve some of these issues."

On the capital side of the city budget, the largest cost is the greatly accelerated remediation of the city's combined sewer outfalls likely to be required by the state legislature and related sewer separation and compliance projects. Bills have passed both houses of the Virginia legislature requiring Alexandria to accelerate plans to combat pollution into the Potomac River. The timeline for the required implementation remains in debate, but every case is sooner than the city had planned.

"I have proposed \$386 million in the next 10 years towards these mega-projects, including nearly \$2 million more than expected for accelerated planning in FY 2018," said Jinks. "Revenue for these projects would come from a 30 percent increase in the sanitary sewer fee in FY 2018, with a projected increase of more than 500 percent to \$8.84 by FY 2027. This would increase the average annual household bill from about \$76 to about \$477 over 10 years."

The City Council will hold 10 work sessions throughout the spring to review the proposed budget. There will be a public budget presentation on Feb. 23 at the Beatley Central Library, a special budget public hearing on March 13, and a tax rate public hearing on April 22.

Leaders of the Pack

FROM PAGE 5

funds and direct contributions. He has also been an outstanding supporter of Capital Caring, raising over \$1 million for the hospice organization.

John Taylor was raised in Alexandria and joined his father at Alexandria Toyota after attending Christopher Newport University. John, who became general manager in 2016, has continued his father's tradition of giving back to the community through his support of the Scholarship Fund of Alexandria and also through his commitment to veteran's causes.

GANT AND FRAN REDMON

Gant and Fran Redmon, recipients of the special Community Service award, have been residents of Alexandria for over 55 years. They met in the fourth grade and were married in 1958 after 11 years of courtship. Gant is the managing partner in the law firm of Redmon, Peyton & Braswell LLC and Fran worked as a couture fashion model before retiring and devoting her time to her work in the arts community.

Over the years, the Redmon's have worked together in support of the Alexandria Bar Association and the Alexandria Rotary Club and were named Living Legends of Alexandria in 2011. Gant Redmon is a past president of Alexandria Rotary and past chair of the Alexandria Chamber of Commerce. He is currently chairman of the Goodwin House Foundation and is the recipient of the 2016 Annie B. Rose Lifetime Achievement Award from the Alexandria



Gant and Fran Redmon will be presented with the Community Service Award by Senior Services of Alexandria.

Commission on Aging.

Fran Redmon has also served on numerous boards and is well known for her support of the arts community. She has worked with the boards of the Alexandria Symphony, Cultural Alliance of Greater Washington, the Performing Arts Association of Alexandria, Wolf Trap Associates and the Torpedo Factory Arts Center. She was a patron for the American Showcase Theater (now Metro Stage) and Alexandria Harmonizers and participated in the selection by the Art-in-Architecture Commission of "Lady Justice" for the Alexandria Federal Courthouse.

SSA's Generation-to-Generation Gala will take place Saturday, March 4 at 5th Alexandria Mark Center Hilton. For tickets or more information call 703-836-4414 ext. 110 or visit www.seniorservicesalex.org.

A Family Divided

FROM PAGE 1

throw the gun into a trash can. Brian Bolar initially told the police he wasn't present in the area, but Martin said the prosecution can prove through cell phone data that he was. Martin said others had come forward, saying Brian Bolar had confessed to them that he'd killed Williams, and a friend said Brian Bolar had called him to ask him to retrieve the gun from the murder scene.

But Brian Bolar's attorney, Robert Jenkins, said Brian Bolar is being framed as the gunman by one of the co-conspirators and witnesses for the prosecution: his uncle, James Bolar. Jenkins told the jury it was James Bolar, not Brian Bolar, who had earlier gotten into a confrontation with a friend of Williams and shot the man with the exact

same type of gun later used to kill Williams. Jenkins said the Commonwealth's case is riddled with inconsistencies. A witness said the gunman displayed the firearm using his right hand, while Brian Bolar is left handed. James Bolar, on the other hand, is right handed. Jenkins said James Bolar was also later photographed wearing a necklace that had been taken from Williams' body. While Jenkins said Brian Bolar's phone was used to call a friend to pick up the gun, Jenkins said that James Bolar had borrowed Brian Bolar's phone because his own did not have service and only worked when connected to wifi. Jenkins accused James Bolar of lying and deflecting attention away from himself by agreeing to help the prosecution convict his nephew. The trial is expected to conclude within this week.

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21 Announcements

21 Announcements

OBITUARY

Sarah Helen Moneyhun Bird



Sarah Helen Moneyhun Bird, 93, of Winchester, Virginia
died at Shenandoah Valley Westminster-Canterbury on Febru-
ary 16, 2017.

Mrs. Bird was born March 4, 1924 in Wise County, Virginia, the
daughter of the late Charles Carter and Sara Nancy Money-
hun. She was a graduate of Coeburn High School in Wise
County, and Marymount University (Alexandria) from which
she earned a Bachelor of Education degree.

Boyakin and Helen Bird were married at Emmanuel Church in
Alexandria in 1946 and remained members there until the '70s.
Mrs. Bird was instrumental in the founding of church schools
for the Episcopal churches in Alexandria. She served as direc-
tor of the church school at Grace Episcopal. Subsequently,
she opened a new church day school, becoming its director, at
Emmanuel Church on High Street that is still in operation to-
day. She taught Kindergarten at St. Agnes School, and then
English and Old Testament at St. Stephens School.

After moving to Winchester in the '80s Helen and Boyakin be-
came members of Christ Episcopal Church. Both were very
active in practically every aspect of church life. The current
rector, The Rev. Webster Gibson, was one of the many stu-
dents who had her for a teacher at St. Agnes and St. Ste-
phen's.

Helen loved cats and enjoyed gardening, birdwatching and
studying butterflies. She was very knowledgeable about the
history of Virginia, especially the Winchester area, and knew a
great deal about architecture and furniture from the 18th and
19th century. Helen was a wise Bible scholar. Her heart was
generous and she was always ready to comfort others with a
hug, a hot casserole, flowers from her garden or an under-
standing ear.

Mrs. Bird is survived by her loving daughters and their hus-
bands, Sara Bird Bicking (David) of Winchester, VA and Cath-
erine Bird (Irvin Chewing) of Fredericksburg, VA; grandchil-
dren, Christy Spencer, Becky Starkey, Jennifer Hodge, Mat-
thew Wright, Katy Schain, and Nathan Bicking; and thirteen
great grandchildren.

Funeral services will be held at Christ Episcopal Church, Win-
chester, VA at 11:00 a.m. on Saturday, February 25, 2017 with
The Rev. Webster Gibson and The Rev. Bridget Coffey cele-
brating. Immediately following, interment will occur at the
Church Columbarium with a reception in the Tilford Room.

Helen was always ready to lend a hand to friends, and would
be delighted to know that someone might do a kindness for
others in remembrance of her. The family would prefer that in
lieu of flowers memorial contributions be made to The Living
Memorial Fund of Christ Episcopal Church, 114 W. Boscawen
Street, Winchester, VA 22601 or the Westminster-Canterbury
Employee Emergency Fund, 300 Westminster-Canterbury
Road, Winchester, VA 22603.

Please view obituaries and tribute wall at
www.ompsfuneralhome.com

21 Announcements

21 Announcements

OBITUARY

Mrs Virginia G. Jacob

On February 16, 2017, Virginia G.(Bunny) Jacob died
peacefully after an extended illness. She is survived by her
brother Dr. John A. Galloway of Duxbury, MA, daughter Anne
G. Tyree of Ladysmith, VA, son James L Jacob and his wife
Barbara B Jacob, grandchildren Andrew Tyree and Tamara
Tyree, Christopher Tyree, Alex Jacob, and Erin Jacob, and
great grandson Andrew Tyree, Jr.
Services will be held at St Paul's Episcopal Church, 228 S. Pitt
Street, Alexandria, VA 22314 on Friday, February 24, 2017 at
11:00 AM. In lieu of flowers donations to St Paul's Church.

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ALEXANDRIA CITY PUBLIC SCHOOLS REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS RFP NUMBER 17-02-03

The Alexandria City School Board dba Alexandria City Public Schools is seeking Proposals for Design Services for Relocatable Placement. Sealed Proposals with the notation RFP # 17-02-03, Design Services for Relocatable Placement will be received in the Central Procurement Office, 1340 Braddock Place, Suite 620, Alexandria, Virginia 22314, on or before 3:00 pm, Monday March 20, 2017. The time of receipt shall be determined by the time clock stamp in the Procurement Office. Proposals appropriately received will be opened and the names of the firms responding will be read aloud. RFP documents may be obtained at the above Procurement Office or by calling 703-619-8181, or by downloading the RFP from the ACPS website at <http://www.acps.k12.va.us/financial-services/purchasing/>

All questions must be submitted before 3:00 p.m., March 10, 2017. If necessary, an addendum will be issued and posted to the ACPS web site.

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

ACPS reserves the right to cancel this ITB and/or reject any or all bids and to waive any informalities in any bid.

Meloni Hurley
Procurement Manager

An expert is someone
who knows some of the worst
mistakes that can be made in his
subject and how to avoid them.
-Werner Heisenberg

21 Announcements

21 Announcements

21 Announcements

21 Announcements

LEGAL NOTICE

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

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LETTERS

FROM PAGE 22

tions.

Former Mayor Euille was recently quoted saying we're at the point where services have to be cut. This is code for saying, get ready; your taxes are going up. Another clue: not a single elected official has the courage to posit potential spending reductions, even as much as a hint that there might be savings from doing without something, or contracting out a service, much less establishing a year round campaign to aggressive solicit suggestions for savings from the community.

It's just not part of their DNA. For our City Council, fine Democrats to their core, taxing and spending is their crowning moment. It's when they exert the maximum power entrusted to them. This is the time when they can lawfully take what others earn to spend in a manner in which they deem right and proper.

Here's why you need to be fearful: our City Council can't even say no to night lights at T. C. Williams stadium, an insulting extravagance that has nothing to do with education and everything to do with increasing unaudited, off-the-book rental income from leasing the stadium to non-student sports groups. They can't even say no to the Board of Architectural Review which is disfiguring Old Town, the tourist lure that distinguishes Alexandria from all other American cities.

But they are mindful that evermore taxes are not popular with voters. Their stealth solution for more revenue, however, is worse than the cure. They are dense-packing Alexandria with more people, cars and structures. They are altering your city for lucre.

They falsely believe more cars, structures and people will produce more revenue thereby reducing our tax burden when, in fact, just the opposite occurs. The more dense our city becomes, the more services are necessary the cost of which is exceeded by the revenue generated. If you are doubtful, then take a look at the city manager's proposed budget. It demands more of your money to provide more services to more people.

A partial answer to this annual ritual of tax increases: preserve what little open land exists in Alexandria. It's far less expensive to maintain than it is to serve the needs of evermore residents. Apart from also saying no to night lights at T. C. Williams stadium, here's another answer: Add wealth-makers to our City Council which, perforce, means

replacing every current council member, wealth-takers all.

Jimm Roberts
Alexandria

A Woman Who Makes A Difference

To the Editor:

Throughout the history of the U.S., communities continually change and evolve. Many change for the better but sometimes they do not. One factor that we can say is consistent with communities is that the components and organizations that comprise them cannot function without people. People who stand-out, set a positive example and provide guidance and leadership for others to follow. One such person, Karen L. Bune of Arlington has not only been a positive role model but throughout her life has touched countless people and made their lives better.

Karen has worked in public servicer for over three decades most notably in the law enforcement field not as a uniformed sworn officer but as civilian public servant. Karen's 18 years of experience in victim's services is the highlight of her career. Her work in "domestic violence" services not only in counseling victims but as a consultant within the Department of Justice and as a trainer to a myriad of organizations throughout the U.S. has been recognized and formerly cited for special awards.

Karen's work in victims services is only the tip of the "iceberg" where it comes to her many skills and talents. She is a freelance writer and an "expert contributor/writer for law enforcement publications. She is listed in the "Who's Who" of American Professional Women.

In her current role as the "patient relations manager" at the INOVA Alexandria Hospital, Karen serves the community and the city by assisting patients, their families and occasionally victims of domestic violence. Karen's background and skills are a valuable resource for the hospital and to the City of Alexandria.

Karen's contribution to victims of crime stands alone and is the biggest reason she is considered a "woman who makes a difference to all who come in contact with her professionally and otherwise."

Charles E. Flinn III,
Captain ret.

Prince George's County, Md.
Fire/EMS Department

'Expressions 2017'

Akiko Lloyd, a resident of the Fountains at Washington House in western Alexandria, used her basket weaving skills to become part of the "Expressions 2017" wall calendar. The picture of

Lloyd's baskets was selected from 182 art submissions for this calendar which celebrates active aging and the arts. Born in Japan, Lloyd has resided at The Fountains at Washington House since 2011. She loves sewing, crocheting and participating in The Fountains' needlework group which donates useful items to charity.



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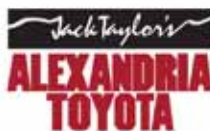
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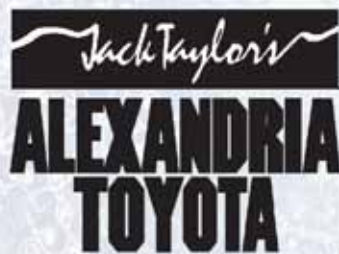
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Mark McFadden 703-216-1333



ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA

Overlooking the Potomac River, elegant brick townhouse in Ford's Landing. 4 bedroom, 3 full bath, 2 half bath, & gourmet kitchen. Steps to waterfront and Mount Vernon Trail. Walk to restaurants & shops of Old Town. Two-car garage. \$1,849,500
Mark McFadden 703-216-1333



ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA

Sun-filled, semi-detached townhouse in Ford's Landing. Featuring an open layout throughout with 3BR, 3.5BA. Luxurious master suite with fireplace and sitting area. Rear deck backing to Jones Point Park and Mt. Vernon Trail. \$1,699,999
Mark McFadden 703-216-1333



OPEN SUNDAY

NORTH ARLINGTON, VIRGINIA

Between Westover & Ballston. Refreshed 2004 all brick colonial on cul-de-sac lot in McKinley, Swanson, Yorktown district. 4 bedrooms, 4.5 baths, 2 car garage, family & breakfast areas off kitchen. 5225 17th St N. Open 1-4. \$1,399,000
Betsy Twigg 703-967-4391



OPEN SUNDAY

NORTH ARLINGTON, VIRGINIA

Overlee Knolls - New expansion & renovation of classic colonial with 5 bedrooms, 3.5 baths, open concept plan, daylight walkout LL, huge flat rear yard. Tuckahoe, Swanson, Yorktown. 6219-22nd St. N. Open 1-4. \$1,265,000
Betsy Twigg 703-967-4391



NORTH ARLINGTON, VIRGINIA

Leeway Heights - 3 additions have transformed this home into a 5BR 3.5BA colonial w/ gar. Blocks to Westover Village. High end kit open to breakfast & FR room & deck overlooking yard. McKinley Swanson Yorktown. 1916 N. Kenilworth St. \$1,150,000
Betsy Twigg 703-967-4391



FALLS CHURCH, VIRGINIA

4BR/3.5BA home inside the City of Falls Church & just around the corner to local shops, restaurants & W&OD trail. Two-level living with LL family room, refinished hardwood floors & huge yard. Detached garage. \$899,000
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Jefferson Park
\$829,000

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Laurel Conger 703.577.6899
www.AlexandriaLiving.com

OPEN SUN 2/26, 1-4



Del Ray
\$899,000

This beautifully landscaped brick colonial blends the charm of an older home with convenient modern updates. 4 bedrooms, 2.5 baths, gleaming hardwoods, main level master suite, rear driveway parking, and abundant storage. 103 W Alexandria Ave.
Trebor Lefebvre Whearty 703.627.5239
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\$898,000

Circa 1820, this plaqued semi-detached home is on a sensational block and offers off-street parking. Chef's kitchen with top-of-the-line appliances and an adjoining family room is an ideal gathering space. Enjoy your own private patio and garden.
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www.BabsBeckwith.com

OPEN SUN 2/26, 1-4



Kingstowne
\$529,900

All-brick, end-unit, garage townhome with private deck and patio. 3 bedrooms, 3.5 baths. Wood floors in the living and dining rooms, fireplaces in the living room & family room. Marvelous Kingstowne amenities. 6620 Haltwhistle Lane off Lake Village Dr.
Joel Miller 571.277.1321
www.McEneaney.com



Del Ray
\$560,000

Charming, updated 2-bedroom, 2-bath townhouse with off-street parking. Open kitchen. French doors to the deck & fenced backyard. Parking in rear. Finished lower level with radiant flooring, bath & laundry. Wood floors on main & upper levels.
Donna Cramer 703.627.9578
www.DonnaCramer.com

OPEN SUN 2/26, 1-4



Del Ray
\$699,900

2-bedroom, 1-bath bungalow. Wonderful layout with one-level living. Tons of charm with a fireplace, expanded kitchen with eat-in nook, front porch with swing, rear deck and large yard. Blocks to "The Avenue" makes this home a dream! 7 W Wyatt Ave.
Jen Walker 703.675.1566
www.JenWalker.com

OPEN SUN 2/26, 2-4



Old Town Commons
\$885,000

Stunning 3-bedroom, 3.5 bath Green townhome in the heart of Old Town! Gourmet kitchen with light-filled open entertaining

space and expansive master with luxury bath. Upper level rec room and roof terrace. Excellent location! Just steps to the Braddock Metro, shops, restaurants and the waterfront. 923 North Alfred Street

MaryAshley Rhule 860.214.7474
www.MaryAshleyRealEstate.com

OPEN SUN 2/26, 2-4



Old Town
\$1,249,000

This circa 1800 3-bedroom, 2.5-bath home is brimming with light and charm. Move-in ready with beautifully renovated kitchen & baths, period appointments,

4 fireplaces and remarkable improvements throughout. An enchanting garden with alley access completes this special, up-to-date home within easy walking distance of shops, the river and Lee Street Park. 411 S Lee St.

Lauren Bishop 202.361.5079
www.LaurenBishopHomes.com

OPEN SUN 2/26, 2-4



Del Ray
\$798,000

Character and convenience in townhome with modern finishes! Gorgeous Armstrong wood floors and 9-ft ceilings throughout. Upgraded kitchen,

2-sided fireplace, laundry on upper level. Steps from Braddock Road Metro, shops and restaurants. thegoodhartgroup.com/listings/607-e-nelson-avenue-102/

Sue & Allison Goodhart 703.362.3221
www.TheGoodhartGroup.com

OPEN SUN 2/26, 1-4



DC/Brookland
\$799,000

Chancellor's Row! Make the move to EYA's bright and shiny Luxury Town Home Community today! This LEED Certified Barton Model offers 3 bedrooms, 3.5

baths, 1-car garage, chef's kitchen and roof-top deck perfect for stargazing. Just a short stroll to Brookland Metro, dining, shopping & Catholic University. 2881 Chancellors Way NE

Cindy Clemmer 703.966.0403
www.CindyClemmer.com

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