



PHOTO BY JOHN BORDNER/GAZETTE PACKET

Happy Birthday

Teddy Burstein, 8, waves an American flag as he watches the fireworks display July 8 at Oronoco Bay Park. More photos, page 3.

New Rules

Parking restrictions in place along Prince Street.

BY VERNON MILES
GAZETTE PACKET

If you get ticketed, don't say you weren't warned.

For years it's been possible to avoid metered parking along King Street and adjacent streets by parking for free for two hours on the residential streets nearby. Starting on July 14, new parking restrictions are going into place along the 100 block of Prince Street to change that. Along the cobblestone slope between Union and Lee Streets, new restrictions require any vehicle without a District 1 residential parking permit to pay to park on the block for up to two hours. Those choosing to park and pay can either use the pay-by-phone app Pango or pay at a local meter.

The new restrictions are part of the pay by phone pilot program approved by the City Council in November 2016. According to city staff, the goal of the pilot program is to provide adequate on-street parking for residents by encouraging non-residential parkers to park in metered or garage spaces by eliminating the free two-hour parking on the residential blocks. The cost for the meters is the same as surrounding blocks, \$1.75 per hour. The meters don't apply to district permit holders or guests with district passes. Date-specific guest passes can be obtained at City Hall or printed online.

The pilot program expires in March 2019, but city staff will evaluate before-and-after parking conditions on the block to determine the program's effectiveness.

"We will evaluate how this has worked on all of the blocks and if it's an effective tool to help man-



The 100 block of Prince Street

age parking," said Katye North, principal parking planner. "At that time we will determine whether it should be expanded to other areas or removed from the Code. If we keep this in the Code, the restrictions on 100 Prince could be permanent unless petitioned to be removed by the residents."

For a street to qualify, 50 percent of the residents on both sides of the block must petition to join the program. The blocks must be adjacent to existing metered or pay-by-phone blocks and must have recurring 75 percent parking occupancy. If a block does have this, it can be reviewed by the Traffic and Parking Board to potentially have its residential spaces metered.

A petition to add parking restrictions is available through the city website at www.alexandriava.gov/Parking. Questions about the program can be directed to katye.north@alexandriava.gov. Completed petitions should be mailed to Department of Transportation and Environmental Services at 301 King Street, Room 3600 Alexandria, VA 22314.

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Lighting Up the Night

City celebrates 268th birthday.

BY JEANNE THEISMANN
GAZETTE PACKET

The skies over the Potomac River lit up with fireworks and cannon fire July 8 as the City of Alexandria celebrated its 268th birthday at Oronoco Bay Park.

The Alexandria Symphony Orchestra highlighted the evening with a performance of Tchaikovsky's "1812 Overture," with cannon support provided by the Presidential Salute Battery of the 3rd United States Infantry Regiment, Joint Base Myer-Henderson Hall.

"We love doing this," said Battalion Commander Lt. Col Jody Shouse of the platoon also known as The Old Guard. "For our guys, this is a big deal."

The celebration included live music by Ocho de Bastos, food vendors and birthday cake distributed by Mayor Allison Silberberg

and members of City Council.

The U.S. Army Old Guard Fife and Drum Corps performed and Alexandria Poet Laureate Wendi R. Kaplan delivered a reading.

The main attraction was the ASO, led by guest conductor Jon Kalbfleisch, and its performance of the "1812 Overture" complete with cannon fire over the Potomac River.

"This is our second year providing the cannon support," Shouse said. "For decades the Marines had done it but were not able to last year so we stepped in."

The Old Guard was represented by 14 platoon members in ceremonial uniforms, who mingled with the crowds during the day and enjoyed a lunch sponsored by the Old Dominion Boat Club.

"We love being here," Shouse added. "The guys love talking to the crowds, intermingling and just being a part of this great celebration. We hope to see everyone again next year."



PHOTOS BY JOHN BORDNER/GAZETTE PACKET

Cannon fire from the Presidential Salute Battery of the 3rd United States Infantry Regiment at Joint Base Myer-Henderson Hall highlights the grand finale fireworks display during Tchaikovsky's "1812 Overture" at the City of Alexandria's 268th birthday celebration July 8 at Oronoco Bay Park.



Guest conductor Jon Kalbfleisch leads the Alexandria Symphony Orchestra during the ASO pops concert July 8 at Oronoco Bay Park.



Members of the Presidential Salute Battery of the 3rd United States Infantry Regiment, Joint Base Myer-Henderson Hall, also known as The Old Guard, watch the festivities at Oronoco Bay Park prior to participating in the cannon salute to culminate the city's birthday celebration.

Stuck in the Middle

Healthcare reform could leave widening Medicaid gap.

BY VERNON MILES
GAZETTE PACKET

While the healthcare debate rages in Washington D.C., in Northern Virginia many of the most vulnerable are left wondering how the reform will impact their access to medical care. For 400,000 Virginians who currently fall in the gap between the poverty-level Medicaid and insurance markets, it means the end to any hope of expanding Medicaid in Virginia. For Alexandrians either on Medicaid or in the private insurance market, cuts to entitlement programs and federal subsidies for the insurance market could start to push them

into the Medicaid gap.

"If the House Republican bill were to become law it would have an enormous impact on the poor and uninsured in [Northern Virginia] both short-term and long-term," said Richard Merritt, co-chair of Alliance for Alexandria's Uninsured. "Short term, it would likely scuttle any possibility of the Virginia General Assembly expanding the Medicaid program, as permitted under Obamacare ... Over the long term, if federal payments for Medicaid are block granted or capped to the states as the bill calls for, it will mean a huge shift in responsibility for the health care needs of the poor to states and localities, most likely leading

to even greater restraints on access to care for the poor."

Dr. Basim Khan, the executive director of Neighborhood Health Virginia, helps provide healthcare to residents of Arlington, Alexandria, and Fairfax County. Neighborhood Health provides primary medical care, internal medicine, family medicine, pediatrics, dental and mental health services. "We have about 16,000 patients we serve every year with 50,000 visits," said Khan. "The vast majority of are low income. About half are uninsured and the other half have insurance, primarily Medicaid, Medicare, and insurance."

Khan said in Alexandria, Neighborhood

Health Virginia is the only provider for many of these services, while in Arlington the Free Clinic also provides care.

"The biggest concern related to health reform is that if people lose insurance, it will increase the demands for our services, which are already pretty high," said Khan. "We're trying to grow to meet the demand, but if people lose insurance, it will reduce their access to healthcare. Specialty care in particular can be a challenge for someone without insurance."

Because Medicaid never expanded in Virginia, Khan and Merritt both noted that those in the Medicaid gap are unlikely to

SEE STUCK, PAGE 5

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Stuck in the Middle

FROM PAGE 3

see much difference, but that pool could start to get larger at each end as more restrictions are put on who can receive Medicaid and more people lose access to insurance plans from the Obamacare private exchange market.

"Things never got much better for [those in the middle]," said Khan. "The effect on Virginia might not be as large as other states, but frankly we were in a difficult position to start with."

"There's not much of an impact [for the working poor]," said Merritt. "You're taking away something that was never granted to them. Even under Obamacare, these people never qualified."

Merritt said the continued decision not to expand Medicaid in Virginia left those with an income above 50 percent of poverty level without coverage.

"That shows you how stingy Medicaid levels are in Virginia," said Merritt. "This population is not going to be affected because they never had Medicaid to begin with. In the long term, the impact will be the same: they're not likely to get it."

Meanwhile, for the existing Medicaid budget, "Virginia could lose more than \$314 million from its general fund budget if the new Congress and President make good on their promise to repeal the Affordable Care Act, according to estimates by Virginia's Medicaid director: Cynthia B. Jones, director of the Department of Medical Assistance Services," said Frank Shafroth, director of the Center for State and Local Government Leadership at George Mason University, in an email. "The estimated losses — \$123.2 million in the next fiscal year and \$191.2 million in the budget year that begins in mid-2018 — reflect an outright repeal of the healthcare law, without knowing what would replace it."

According to Sara Rosenbaum, professor of Health Law and Policy at George Washington University, changes in healthcare legislation will have a rippling effect throughout the medical ecosystem.

"In terms of people who depend on federal exchanges, both the House and Senate bills would precipitously increase the price of insurance for older people," said Rosenbaum. "Essentially in various ways, both bills permit states to price based on health status. Both would restore steeper age rating for older people. Both bills seriously reduce subsidies available. Both would result in a massive increase in cost of insurance for older Virginians reliant on subsidies."

Like Merritt, Rosenbaum said the poorest populations will unlikely see much immediate change.

"For the poorest Virginians, it has been an unfor-

tunate reality that the state has so far refused to expand Medicaid," said Rosenbaum. "It has left its poorest residents with nothing. You can't get tax subsidies until your income reaches poverty threshold. In places like southwest Virginia, where people are desperately poor, there's been no Affordable Care Act. Nothing reaches them. Their legislators have worked against their interests. Elimination of additional funds for expansion doesn't directly hit Virginia right now, although it makes it impossible to reverse course in the future."

Even for those without reliance on government subsidies, Rosenbaum said the new legislation could have a dramatic effect on the average Alexandrian's healthcare experience.

"We have different insurance, but we all use same healthcare," said Rosenbaum. "We all use same hospitals, same emergency departments. As people lose insurance, it puts pressure on the rest of the system. In Alexandria, several thousand are uninsured already. If there are cutbacks to marketplace subsidies, older, sicker people will be the worst affected. Even areas like ours that are relatively well insulated will feel the economic fallout."

Rosenbaum predicted that places like INOVA and the Virginia Hospital Center will begin to see more emergency marketplace patients, while Roenbaum said Khan will begin seeing more marketplace and medicaid patients going into his already overwhelmed clinic.

Finally, Rosenbaum said the healthcare legislation will have a residual impact on funding for the school systems.

"The entire special education system depends on Medicaid to run children with disabilities programs, generally the most expensive students," said Rosenbaum. "Because we're urban with large pockets of lower income families, we tend to see more with students with disabilities [in the public schools]."

Meanwhile, Northern Virginia hospitals are closely watching the discussion in Washington D.C. but say there's still much to be seen as the bill works through the Senate.

"The honest answer is that it is too soon to tell," said Robin Norman, senior vice president and chief financial officer for the Virginia Hospital Center. "The new direction of healthcare legislation is not clear at this time. Having said that, I will say that the anticipated impact on healthcare providers is that reimbursement will remain tight and at Virginia Hospital Center we will continue to provide the highest quality care at the best value for our community."

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Army JROTC cadets from T.C. Williams High School pose for a photo during the six-day Junior Cadet Leadership challenge at Fort A.P. Hill.

Camping for Success

T.C. Cadets participate in leadership challenge.

Army JROTC Cadets from T.C. Williams High School joined more than 500 other Cadets from across the region at the 2017 Army Junior Reserve Officers Training Corps Cadet Leadership Challenge at Virginia's Fort A.P. Hill.

The T.C. Cadets participated in JCLC's Camp Success from June 19-24 where they trained competitively with Cadets from 36 high schools from Virginia, Maryland and North Carolina.

Highlights of the six-day training period included a confidence course, rappelling, map reading, drill and ceremony and sporting activities. According to Col. Reginald Geary (ret.), T.C.'s senior Army instructor, team work, discipline and leadership skills are heavily emphasized.

The following 23 Cadets participated in this year's summer camp: Alicia Alfonso, Omar Alsunaini, Sherrod Baptiste, Amanda Barrancos, Roger Barrancos, Anias Ellison, Francis Flores, Delis Hernandez, Oliveira Larissa, Genesis Lopez, Guillermo Lozano, Eder Lemus, Jenifer Mejia, Muhammed Naveed, Alejandro Padilla, Maria Ponciano, Makia Rice, Kevin Rosales, Carla Saavedra, Daymond Savoy, Love Tho-



PHOTOS CONTRIBUTED

T.C. Williams cadets tackle the confidence course at the JCLC summer camp.

mas, Divine Tsasa Nizita, and Hanna Yee.

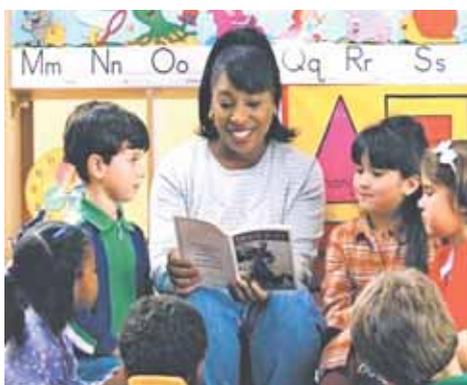
Cadets receiving special recognition and in the top 10 percent included Amanda Barrancos, Delis Hernandez, Makia Rice and Hanna Yee.

Geary has been involved with JCLC for nine years and says Cadets tend to return to school with a renewed sense of purpose, focus and a better understanding of the JROTC citizenship program.

— JEANNE THEISMANN

Prime Time

Hopkins House leverages Amazon "Prime Day" promotion.



Alexandria-based nonprofit Hopkins House took advantage of "Prime Day" to remind shoppers to support the organization through the Amazon Smile program.

BY JEANNE THEISMANN
GAZETTE PACKET

Around the world, July 11 was promoted as "an epic day of deals," a one-day shopping event for Amazon's Prime customers. For Hopkins House, "Prime Day" was an opportunity to reach out in support of its community learning centers for children.

"I can't take credit for this," said Hopkins House CEO Glenn Hopkins. "The idea came from the parents of our children. They are always asking 'How can we help?' and looking for ways they can afford to help. The Amazon Smile program allows anyone of any means to support us."

Amazon Smile allows anyone shopping

on the Amazon website to designate a charitable organization to receive a portion of their purchase price at no additional cost to the consumer. Hopkins House is one of many local nonprofits listed among the nearly one million organizations participating in the program. But few, if any, took advantage of the opportunity to piggyback on the retail giant's worldwide publicity blitz leading up to Prime Day.

"Parents met last month and alerted me to the Prime Day promotion," Hopkins said. "This was an opportunity for us to reach out to our donors and remind them that they can shop and at the same time support our children."

Founded in 1939, Hopkins House operates education enriched preschool acad-

emies for infants and children, summer discovery camps for adolescents and a college and career development institute for teens and adults.

The organization sent out email reminders of the upcoming Prime Day and the opportunity to support Hopkins House through the Amazon Smile program. Once a charity is designated by a shopper, the Amazon Smile Foundation donates 0.5 percent of the purchase price to the organization.

"Every little penny helps us," Hopkins said. "It helps our scholarship program and helps buy paper for our classrooms. No donation amount is too small."

For more information, visit www.hopkinshouse.org.

Neighborhood Flag Day

Dick Cohen, a 90-year-old decorated World War II veteran, gets help from a neighbor replacing the U.S. flag that was burned on the pole outside his door over the Fourth of July weekend. Several flag desecrations, thefts and burnings have taken place recently in the West End townhouse community of Westridge. In a show of solidarity and support, the Seminary West Civic Association, which includes Westridge, has declared Saturday, July 15, as Neighborhood Flag Day. Residents across the city are encouraged to participate.



MOM's Revamps Store

MOM's Organic Market reopened this weekend after closing for renovation. During its hiatus, MOM's expanded by 40 percent. The larger store has a variety of new features, including "sustainable insect proteins," a recycling center, bee-keeping gear, and Naked Lunch, an organic vegetarian eatery in the store. Art from local artists graces the walls and fits into the environmentally-friendly scheme of the store.

— ANTONELLA NICHOLAS



PHOTOS BY ANTONELLA NICHOLAS

MOM's Organic Market's grand re-opening featured local environmental organizations and live music.



The recycling center allows customers to drop landfill items, compost, and plastic bags, and specialized items like shoes, batteries, and Brita Filters, into different slots.

'Eiffel Tower' of Old Town

BAR endorses 1604-1614 King Street design.

BY VERNON MILES
GAZETTE PACKET

None at the Board of Architectural Review (BAR) meeting on July 5 had any reservations about replacing the aged and dilapidated structure at 1604-1614 King Street that currently houses the Gazette Packet and the Dust Farm skate shop and museum. But the ongoing question is whether the new building should stick to the historic stone facade or take a risk on iron latticework. For local residents and members of the BAR, it's a decision that will set precedent for the future architecture of upper King Street.

The original proposal for the new building, brought to the BAR in December 2016, showed a glass topped building with irregular spacing set overtop of a refurbished version of the current structure. However, in response to feedback from the BAR and local citizens, the design has evolved into a more traditional pair of brick building designs whose main difference is the inclusion of metal tracery on the upper floors.

In a report prepared by city staff, there was support for the idea of metalworks on the facade of the building, but without any prior precedent along King Street the suggestion was to play it safe with a stone topping. Staff cited BAR design guidelines dis-



The iron design for 1604-1614 King Street by Michael Winstanley Architects and Planning.

courage following trends for individual buildings at the cost of historic cohesion: "As a general rule, the Boards favor contextual background buildings which allow historic structures to maintain the primary visual importance. Singular buildings in the latest architectural vocabulary are generally discouraged. It is not the intention of the Boards to dilute design creativity in new commercial buildings. Rather, the Boards seek to promote compatible development that is, at once, both responsive to the needs

and tastes of the late 20th century while being compatible with the historic character of the districts."

THE PUBLIC FEEDBACK on the new design was mixed, but most expressed support for the idea of a metal facade reminiscent of earlier industrial buildings.

"This property is a unique transition from historic Old Town to the upper King street and the West End," said Phillip Mattis, representing the Old Town Citizen's Associa-

tion, supporting the metal tracery. "Not everyone liked the Eiffel Tower when it was put up, but people pay a lot of money to go there today."

"Given a choice, I would like to see a cast metal design of the entire building facade reminiscent of the historic cast iron buildings in Soho and other places," said Charles Christopher, a local resident, in an email to the BAR.

Opinions on the BAR were more divided, but one subject of unanimous agreement was that something needs to be done to bring new life and style to upper King Street. Margaret Miller, one of the board members, expressed her agreement with characterizations of upper King Street as dull and in need of revitalization. At the work session's end, the BAR endorsed the scale, mass, height and general architectural character of the building, with Miller and BAR member Slade Elkins dissenting. Elkins was the lone voice of support for the original glass building, saying the new designs didn't go far enough to excite the architectural character of the neighborhood.

"I would love to see more of what was on the drawing board," said Elkins. "It seems you heard 'do traditional' and you went 'eh, OK.' I get it, you responded, but I think it was more dynamic with the glass you started with."

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The New Face of Andrew Adkins

A case study in the challenges of public housing redevelopment.

BY DAN BRENDL
GAZETTE PACKET

The slated redevelopment of the Andrew Adkins community in Old Town illuminates the complexity and controversy attached to public and publicly assisted housing.

Adkins represents an early stage of a much larger arc of redevelopment, including six properties owned by the Alexandria Redevelopment and Housing Authority (ARHA), the entity that administers HUD subsidies locally. In addition to Adkins, these include Ramsey Homes, Samuel Madden, Hopkins-Tancil Courts, ARHA's main administrative office, and Cameron Valley — over a quarter of ARHA's inventory, located mostly in northern Old Town.

ARHA says it is increasingly strapped for cash due to contracting federal dollars. In FY16, for example, ARHA received \$3 million in operating subsidy, or 82 percent of its requested budget. That represents a reduction of about one third since FY11 and FY12, the peak years for operating subsidies in the last decade, and a return roughly to FY07 levels. So ARHA has to upgrade its aging inventory through redevelopment in such a way that it can keep the books balanced with self-generated or other alternative revenues.

"Like development, operations is simple math," said Roy Priest and Connie Staudinger, ARHA's CEO and chief operating officer for development, respectively. "There must be enough income to pay the expense and maintain the property, including the planning for capital improvements related to the life expectancy of systems."

ARHA is selling portions of its most valuable land for market rate development and using the proceeds to redevelop public housing units at average higher rents.

Adkins, located across the street from the Braddock Road Metro station, is ARHA's most valuable property and a case in point. Adkins currently consists of 90 units on one-and-a-half blocks, with private homes occupying the adjacent half block. Clark Realty (CRC), the selected development company, bought those homes to redevelop the whole two-block site. The new development will include an addition of market rate units and two-thirds the current number of public housing units. Although over 80 percent of Adkins households make less than \$40,000 — roughly 35 percent of the area median income (AMI) — only a fraction of the new units will target a corresponding level of rent.

"Our best guess, at this stage in the process, is that the ARHA units will be available to households at some range of 30 [percent] - 60 [percent of] AMI that: (1) results



Five of six ARHA redevelopments, underway or slated.

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in the highest score for the tax credit funding that we need to build it; and (2) results in the necessary income to sustain the project operations," said ARHA's Rose Boyd in a June 22 email.

The gap between the amount of public and market rate housing has progressively widened. ARHA's 2012-2022 Strategic Plan envisions "the construction of 100 replacement housing units, 50 [Low Income Housing Tax Credit] units and 100 market-rate units on the site presently occupied by Andrew Adkins." ARHA's original Request for Proposal (RFP) included replacing the current 90 public housing units on site, which CRC's initial plan accommodated, said Priest. A later iteration, introduced in January, included 60 low-income public housing units, 18 moderate-income "workforce" units, an estimated 387 higher-income market rate units, and the remaining 12 ARHA units replaced off-site. The latest iteration, briefed to City Council at a June 6 work session, includes 60 public housing units, no workforce units, approximately 500 market rate units, and 30 ARHA units replaced off-site. CRC's Casey Nolan said that some 200 of these market rate units would sit on the half block that CRC purchased from private owners, apart from ARHA. Excluding that portion, the latest mix then consists of 83 percent market rate units and 17 percent public housing units.

That is more stratified than ARHA's previous mixed-income redevelopments at Chatham Square (66 percent market rate, 33 percent low-income) and Quaker Hill (73 percent market rate and 27 percent low-income). It is also more stratified than all 10 comparative nationwide examples of mixed-income redevelopments cited in the city's Braddock East Plan: None have a smaller proportion of public housing, and all include a middle affordable tier (13-63 percent) in addition to an upper market rate tier (6-52 percent).

"I was definitely looking to see much more come out of this development, especially for such a high number of market rate units," said Councilman John T. Chapman at the work session. "What we're hearing today is a far cry from what we've laid out strategically."

CRC and the city differ in their interpretation of the city's "bonus density" provision. By this provision, the city would allow CRC to build larger buildings than what zoning would otherwise allow, in exchange for a proportion of the extra units having contractually capped affordable rents. Jonathan Rak, CRC's land use attorney, said that "the units that would justify or support the [bonus] density under the zoning ordinance would be the ARHA units." Chapman called this a "misuse of the bonus density provision," saying "the bonus density is supposed to be on top of" the number of ARHA replacement units. Chapman's interpretation would allow the possibility that workforce-priced units could be interspersed throughout the CRC-owned market rate buildings.

But "the jury is still out" as to whether or not the project will include any workforce units, said Priest in an interview July 10.

Staudinger said it "depends on what [CRC's] development pro forma looks like: how much money they have to borrow, and what rents they need to pay back that money they borrow ..." ARHA is not yet privy to those figures. In construction "there's not an 'affordable brick' and a 'market rate brick.' Pro formas have to work, numbers have to work," she said.

That sums up ARHA's overall stance: everything ultimately comes down to economics.

The city's 2008 Braddock East Plan aims to "sustain a critical mass of public housing residents in order to maintain the strong social and support networks that are essential in low-income communities." But "the

only basis for the critical mass is the sustainability of operations."

The Braddock East Plan also says that "a range of housing options, including workforce and affordable housing" adds to "the diversity of the neighborhood" and serves "to 'bridge' the social and economic gap between the market-rate and public housing residents," said Priest and Staudinger.

But to rebuild any more than 60 ARHA-owned units on-site would require a taller building, which in turn would trigger the requirement for higher contractor wage rates, said Priest. He says ARHA can use the savings, and the extra land value resulting from more market rate units in lieu of workforce units, to build or buy as many or more units less expensively elsewhere in the city.

ARHA's intention with the Adkins redevelopment "was always, at the end of the day, to create net new units for our portfolio, not to just put back one for one" said Staudinger.

"Candidly, anything's possible. ... These are the parameters that we were operating under as to what was in the best interest of getting the right amount of proceeds to ARHA," said Nolan at the council work session. Requirements for more on-site subsidized or affordable units may be possible, but would reduce the land value and ARHA's take, said Rak.

A certain contingent of nearby residents feel that no more than 60 public housing units should return, said Staudinger. Others, including nonprofit and religious activists, want all 90 to return, in addition to other considerations. (See letter on page 15.)

Priest acknowledges the difficulties public housing residents face due to relocation. He says that if ARHA were flush with cash, it would rebuild all units on-site, not least because it's difficult to acquire new properties within city limits. In any case, he thinks ARHA is the only bulwark against the total gentrification of Old Town.

"What we do is so important, because what we own and hold on to is the only assurance that ... [the neighborhood will] always have some diversity of income," he said.

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Problems for Public Health

Increasing the number of uninsured is bad for the rest of us, and the economy.

The proposed plan in the U.S. Senate to give the wealthiest Americans massive tax cuts by cutting health coverage for people who are poor, have disabilities and elders, would also affect the rest of the population, and the economy.

People without health insurance face economic uncertainty. When they do incur medical bills, they often cannot pay them in full. This increases costs to providers and decreases the ability to participate in the economy.

People without health insurance are sicker than people with insurance, but they also often can't afford to stay home from work, often exposing others to preventable illnesses. They are less likely to have flu shots and other routine immunizations that protect all of us, including those with the weakest immune systems and those who cannot be vaccinated.

U.S. Sen. Tim Kaine was in Springfield this week talking to people who depend on Medicaid coverage. He and U.S. Sen. Mark Warner have been active in opposing these major cuts to health care.

This bears repeating — here are some other consequences of proposals in the Senate bill:

- ❖ Millions of people lose their health insurance — 22 million fewer would have health insurance by 2026 according to the Congressional Budget Office analysis.

- ❖ In Virginia, more than 14,000 veterans could lose coverage under Medicaid.

- ❖ States could opt out of the law's essential health benefits measure, which requires insurers to cover 10 main benefits, including hospitalization, prescription drugs and other services. That is, companies could sell health insurance that wouldn't actually be health insurance. Would Virginia be a state that opts out? Quite likely.

- ❖ Loss of coverage for pre-existing conditions, including cancer survivors, people who had transplants, people with asthma, arthritis, high cholesterol, hypertension, obesity, mental health issues, ADD, etc.

- ❖ Ending annual and lifetime coverage caps would also impact people who get health insurance from their employers and the private insurance market. For example, a serious accident or an illness that requires repeated surgeries or bone marrow transplants could put any one of us over the coverage cap.

- ❖ Medicaid pays public schools for many services for special education students, but the Senate bill removes schools from eligible Medicaid providers, costing Virginia an estimated \$40 million annually; \$3 million in Fairfax County; \$2 million in the City of Alexandria.

- ❖ \$800 billion plus in cuts to Medicaid puts the funding for most people who are currently in nursing homes at risk. Many of these are people who were middle class but outlived

their savings and coverage.

- ❖ In Virginia, the proposed changes to Medicaid would cost the state \$1.4 billion over seven years.

- ❖ Medicaid pays for much of the fight against opioid addiction, including treatment. Cuts would be devastating to efforts to counter the wave of overdose deaths and other effects of addiction.

- ❖ Coverage for mental health treatment, including addiction treatment, is threatened both by cuts to Medicaid and by changes in the private insurance market.

- ❖ There will be greater need for Medicaid over time. More seniors will be poor, as fewer people who are retiring have pensions or adequate retirement savings. The demand for nursing home beds will be increasing as the population ages.

Read last week's editorial, "Killing the Poor to Pay Millionaires," here: www.connectionnewspapers.com/news/2017/jun/27/opinion-editorial-killing-poor-pay-millionaires/

— MARY KIMM
MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS

Send in Your Pet Photos Now

The Pet Gazette, a twice-yearly special edition, will publish the last week of July, and photos and stories of your pets with you and your family should be submitted by July 20.

We invite you to send us stories about your pets, photos of you and your family with your cats, dogs, llamas, alpacas, ponies, hamsters, snakes, lizards, frogs, rabbits, or whatever other creatures share your life with you.

Tell us the story of a special bond between a child and a dog, the story of how you came to adopt your pet, or examples of amazing feats of your creatures.

Do you volunteer at an animal shelter or therapeutic riding center or take your pet to visit people in a nursing home? Does your business have a pet? Is your business about pets?

Have you helped to train an assistance dog? Do you or someone in your family depend on an assistance dog?

Or take this opportunity to memorialize a beloved pet you have lost.

Just a cute photo is fine too. Our favorite pictures include both pets and humans.

Please tell us a little bit about your creature, identify everyone in the photo, give a brief description what is happening in the photo, and include address and phone number (we will not publish your address or phone number, just your town name).

Email to gazette@connectionnewspapers.com or submit online at www.connectionnewspapers.com/pets.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Need To Make Streets Safer

To the Editor:

An open letter to residents concerned about pedestrian safety.

I am a resident of Alexandria who incurred severe injuries when a car crashed into me last December as I was walking in the middle of a crosswalk in town. The driver was ticketed for a failure to yield violation. While I survived, the injuries were severe and it took me months of rehab to regain my balance and get back to work. My wife bore a major burden during my recovery because she was my 24/7 care taker.

After my injury, I wanted to do

something to prevent other citizens from such crashes so I spoke at a City Council hearing to ask that action be taken to make Alexandria's streets safer. I held follow-up meetings with the city's Transportation staff and the Chief of Police. I was told about the City of Alexandria's Vision Zero program (<https://www.alexandriava.gov/VisionZero>) which is a formal program to end traffic-related fatalities and serious injuries for all road users.

On Jan. 24, 2017, the City Council adopted a Vision Zero policy with the goal of eliminating all traffic deaths and serious injuries by 2028.

Yes, you read that correctly. By

2028! By 2028, how many more people will have been killed, injured, or lost a loved one? By 2028, how many of you will be affected?

I think our City Council and our city government staff members should have a greater sense of urgency in implementing the Vision Zero program.

In 2016, Alexandria had four pedestrian deaths by car crashes and close to 70 pedestrians were hit by cars but survived the crash. Waiting until 2028 or even 2020 is too long. While it helps to have a policy and goal in place, the risk of such a distant goal is that the planning, investment, and tough decisions necessary may be delayed. Alexandria staff is in the

midst of preparing the Vision Zero Action Plan now and there is an important opportunity for us to advocate urgency and effort on traffic safety initiatives that will yield the best results expeditiously.

It's crucial that victims' voices are heard in this process. I would like to talk with other crash victims and/or their family members who might join me in helping to make Alexandria safer for people to walk, bike, and drive. More voices and more stories than just mine are needed to personalize the issue and advocate the cause with staff and decision-makers who set the budget and schedule for implementation. If you have been injured or a family member has been

SEE LETTERS, PAGE 12

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

Published by
Local Media Connection LLC

1606 King Street
Alexandria, Virginia 22314

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

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A Connection Newspaper

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





PHOTO BY WALTER URBINA/ CASA CHIRILAGUA INTERN

Every year parents of the Chirilagua community pause to come together and celebrate a milestone: their rising 5th grade children's graduation from Kids Club.

Pause and Celebrate Together

DAVID SCHELLHAAS
CASA CHIRILAGUA
COMMUNICATIONS DIRECTOR

In front of her peers and community, Anna's* mother and father begin their address to her, "Dear Anna —," immediately they pause to collect themselves, their eyes welling up with tears. "We want to congratulate you on your first achievement in school. Your education is the best gift that we as parents can give you. We want you to keep on being a hardworking student, responsible, obedient, and respectful. We want you to fly high ... because you have the opportunity and support from us. Our greatest pride is seeing you get an education. We love you."

CASA CHIRILAGUA When a community comes together to pause and celebrate their children's accomplishments, it is a powerful experience. Tears of joy flow freely and laughter fills the air as relationships are deepened. The bonds between these children with their parents, their peers, and their community — friends and volunteers who have guided their lives for years — build up their confidence as they move forward in life.

Every year parents of the Chirilagua community pause to come together and celebrate a milestone: their rising 5th grade children's graduation from Kids Club. This milestone is significant for various reasons. Beyond attaining a higher level of education than some of their parents had in their origin country, these stu-

dent's success builds self-confidence and represents a dream of even greater achievements to come for their entire family.

"[My son Pedro*] finished 5th grade thanks to Casa Chirilagua's support. I'm very happy and proud of him for finishing 5th grade. My wish for him is to continue his education, to be the best student in school and the best son. My biggest hope is to see Pedro graduate from high school and college. Congratulations. I love you, and keep moving forward."

Four years ago this community event did not yet exist. It was the parents in the community who came together to create this celebration. Instead of a party put on solely by Casa Chirilagua's Kids Club staff, these parents envisioned a party for the students which they themselves sponsored, planned and executed. Each year the celebration grows and the parents make it happen by preparing decorations, coordinating outfits, creating games, obtaining food and writing heartfelt letters to their children, reading words of encouragement contained in those letters aloud in front their Casa Chirilagua community.

Milestones are a testament to all of the work put into them. The parents, community and volunteers who pour into students' lives are proof of this. So let's pause — and celebrate together, this one of many milestones that our community has created.

For information on how to create future milestones in our community, visit casachirilagua.org.

* Names changed for privacy.

NEWS

Driver Arrested, Brother Dead in Crash

Two traffic fatalities in 2017 set high for recent years.

Simon Pedro Urbino-Vasquez survived a car accident. According to police reports, the 27-year-old Fairfax County resident, was driving southbound on S. Henry Street on July 8 when he lost control of his vehicle. But one of his two passengers, his 24-year old brother Jose Wuilver Urbino-Vasquez, was not as fortunate. Jose Urbino-Vasquez died in the accident, and now Simon Pedro Urbino-Vasquez is being charged with vehicular manslaughter related to driving under the influence.

According to Laura Binz, communications officer for the Alexandria Police Department, Jose

Urbino-Vasquez is the first DUI-related traffic fatality in 2017 and the second traffic related fatality in 2017. The first, on May 8, occurred when a 79-year-old man driving south on Quaker Lane proceeded through a red light and struck another vehicle at the intersection with Duke Street. The driver was killed at the scene, and the two occupants in the other car were treated for non-life threatening injuries.

Two traffic-related deaths already puts Alexandria at a high for recent years. There were no traffic related deaths in 2016, though there were four pedestrian deaths counted separately. Between 2013 and 2015 there was one traffic related death each year, and none in 2012. In 2016 there were 296 driving under the influence arrests, part of a steady trend of decreasing arrests. In 2013 there were 349 DUI arrests, falling to 344 in 2014 and 299 in 2015.

— VERNON MILES

BULLETIN BOARD

Submit civic/community announcements at ConnectionNewspapers.com/Calendar. Deadline is Thursday at noon, at least two weeks before event.

THURSDAY/JULY 13

Public Meeting. 8:45-11 a.m. in the City Council Workroom, City Hall,

301 King St. The second meeting of the Ad Hoc Joint City-Schools Facility Investment Task Force will include discussion on projects under the Task Force's purview and accompanying draft criteria. The agenda and any relevant materials will be posted at www.alexandriava.gov/97580 prior to the meeting. For more

information, or to sign up to speak at the meeting, contact Katherine Carraway, Urban Planner, at 703-746-3855.

SATURDAY/JULY 15

Dump Your Junk Event. 9 a.m.-noon
SEE BULLETIN, PAGE 22



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FROM PAGE 10

killed or injured in a traffic crash in Alexandria, I encourage you to reach out to me to talk about what we can accomplish together.

The city is planning to introduce a draft of a plan for Vision Zero by September of this year and then a final plan will be submitted to City Council for budget approval later in the year. To have an impact on the city's Vision Zero plans and budget, we need to form a coalition of interested parties ("Alexandria's Citizens for Safe Streets") very soon — by the middle of August, if not sooner. If you are interested in such an effort, please contact me at alxcfss@gmail.com. We can share our respective stories and discuss how we might work together to eliminate serious injuries and fatalities from traffic crashes in our city.

Thank you for your time and consideration. Be careful when crossing streets. I look forward to hearing from you.

Mike Doyle
Alexandria

Preserve City's Natural Heritage

To the Editor:

I'll bet most residents of Alexandria have never heard of Strawberry Run or know that its upper reaches were once forested, and fed by small springs that issue out of the sediments of the Coastal Plain laid down over millions of years by an ancestral Potomac River. They probably don't know that there is a three-acre, forested property in this small tributary of Hunting Creek that still retains many of the natural ecological and geological characteristics that were once common throughout Alexandria below the Fall Line.

Today, a developer wants to construct as many as four large homes connected by a road that will all but destroy the natural habitat of this small but now all too rare forested landscape. The small parcel in question is located behind Temple Beth El off Seminary Road.

The story of this property has been repeated over and over again until there is very little of this sort of habitat left in Alexandria. The city's desire for tax dollars has also meant that Alexandria has far too little active open space for a city of our density, despite being an "eco-city."

When it comes to things like terrace seeps and trees, and the wetlands, birds, and native plants they sustain, the cost of preservation is seen as too high and not worthy of the effort. And citizens feel that

their concerns are ignored by planners and elected officials for the most part — as appears to be the case here.

There are no large natural parcels of land left to set aside, and what has been preserved is not adequate for a city of our size and wealth. Six-acre Monticello Park is a haven for hungry, migrating neotropical songbirds each spring. Winkler, close to the Fall Line, is much smaller than it should be.

The response to development has always been: "it's too costly to save land." If we let that always be the response, then we will have failed as a city to preserve our natural heritage.

Andrew Macdonald
Former Vice Mayor

Feigning Ignorance

To the Editor:

I very much appreciate the column by Mary Kimm ["Killing the Poor to Pay Millionaires," Gazette Packet, June 29] deploring the threatened repeal of the ACA. It's particularly galling that many of the same conservatives who are eager to gut Medicaid and Medicare also oppose abortion. As the sister of a severely retarded woman who was enabled to live a good life by the generosity of the U. S. and Massachusetts governments, I think it highly reprehensible that conservatives feign ignorance of the reality that only with massive government support will badly handicapped babies be welcomed into the world. It's only one element of the conundrum that Ms. Kimm analyzed so energetically for your readers.

Elisabeth Vodola
Alexandria

Loss of Parking

To the Editor:

We will have three projects going on at the same time over a two year period at the same end of King Street.

Not only will Metro be changing the King Street Metro which will remove 35 parking spaces, we will have the destruction of the Naval Reserve Association Building to be replaced by a 124-room hotel, with a 90-seat restaurant, we will also have a new 6-7 story condominium at the end of Harvard Street behind the strip of townhouses on King Street. With the removal of the Naval Reserve Association building, we will lose five on-street parking spaces. This is a total loss of at least 40 parking spaces at this end of King Street. Before the new Jefferson Houston School was built, the

Reading Our Way to Middle School

From the student, Erianna

My tutor and I meet every week to read fun stories. When I read I try to get most words and punctuation right. We build Legos and play with them and also play card games like "I Declare War" which I win. Sometimes we read outside and Ms Bev times me running when I need to take a break. Some of the books I've liked are by Roald Dahl, also Weird School and Zapato Power books and animal magazines.

My tutor and I sometimes do special things like go to the movies, ride bikes, eat ice cream and walk dogs. I also like all the Wright to Read activities like the picnic where we did a cake walk.

I have worked with my tutor for one year and four months and I have learned to take my time and to try my best. It's OK if I don't get all the words right but I have learned a lot of new words.

I think my tutor deserves to be Mentor of the Month because she is the best tutor I ever had and she teaches me stuff that I don't know about. She also supports me in my soccer and track.

From Tutor/Mentor, Bev Atkinson

My 11-year-old student Erianna has a very engaging personality, we enjoy teaching each other and have a lot of fun together. She was 9 when we started working together and through weekly tutoring, lots of conversation during car rides and activities we've done together, we have developed a relationship that allows us to work hard together to improve her reading and other academics areas. Erianna is excited to start middle school in the fall.

We work together each week on reading and writing and all sorts of literacy activities. Erianna is motivated by writing styles and subjects she finds engaging and by competition with herself. Her reading accuracy and endurance have improved enormously since we began.

Every few weeks we reward ourselves with a fun activity such as bike riding on the Mount Vernon trail, eating ice cream, going to the movies, walking my dog and swimming.



Bev Atkinson with Erianna

We have also enjoyed Wright to Read activities on a regular basis. Some of the most memorable have been an author reading, picnics, a planetarium show, a cooking activity, watching a professional basketball game and learning how to use the metro on our way there. My interaction with the Wright to Read staff and other mentors and parents has been very helpful and enjoyable for me.

Seeing Erianna gain confidence in her ability to read well and the sense of self-satisfaction gained by achieving her goals has been very rewarding for me.

Wright to Read is a member of the Alexandria Mentoring Partnership (AMP). AMP was created in 2006 to ensure that quality mentors and mentor programs are available for Alexandria's youth and young adults in need. To learn more about Wright to Read, visit: www.wrighttoread.org or to learn more about AMP, visit www.alexandriava.gov/Mentoring.

parking lot by the Durant Center had been open to the public after school hours.

For some reason, some insane reason, once the new school was built, the signage was changed in the parking lot expressing the lot was now only to be used by the school, the Durant Center, and the swimming pool visitors. To keep this lot closed to the public during non-school hours is too restrictive, especially with the loss of so many parking spaces in the immediate area.

When the new field was built, the field was open to more game activities which means more vehicles that need to park. As it is, we previously had 126 parking spaces, now there are only 124. The configuration of the parking lot does not make it easier for people that use the field to park

close to the field to load and unload children and equipment.

People from all over the DMV come to our city, they park on our streets. Most of them park for free because they avoid the meters, they avoid the parking lots. We, the residents, pay to park near/in front of our homes so we are charged for parking. Each year we renew our residential stickers. Also, the new hotel with 124 rooms will only have 55 underground spaces, with none provided for their employees. Where do you think they will park?

Bea Porter
Alexandria

Report, Don't Distort

To the Editor:

Please tell your reporter that a

news lead should answer the following questions: Who? What? Where? When? How? and Why?

The answers to these questions are found nowhere in the lead of his article [Alexandria Gazette Packet, June 29, 2017, "Reject Hate"]. In fact, the answers to questions 1 and 6 are found nowhere in the article at all.

An appropriate first sentence might have read: "A Democrat activist shot Republican Congressmen practicing baseball in Alexandria on June 14 and wounded four to include House Majority Whip Steve Scalise."

Nowhere does the article identify the political affiliation of the shooter or his victims. Instead, we're treated to an insipid platitude, "Reject Hate," coined to vilify

SEE LETTERS, PAGE 20

Home LifeStyle



PHOTOS COURTESY OF MCEARNEY

This Alexandria home has a monochromatic, gourmet kitchen and an abundance of natural light.

Small Home Gets Big Honor

Old Town home is finalist in national contest.

An abundance of windows and an open floor plan helped a local home garner some national attention. An Old Town Alexandria abode is a finalist in the Living Large in Small Spaces category for HGTV's Ultimate House Hunt 2017 contest. Homes in this category are recognized for a design that maximizes the use of a small space.

"The open design ... gives this small space an airy feel," said Sue Goodhart, The Goodhart Group at McEneaney Associates.

The light-filled home features modern renovations that include a gourmet kitchen, a living room with built-in cabinets and a steel

cable railing. The free-flowing floor plan includes large windows, while the fenced in back yard was designed to be a sanctuary in the middle of city bustle.

"Sleek kitchen cabinetry and a stone table with seating for 12 allows for grand entertaining for the accomplished cook," said Goodhart.

The home is one of eight across the country to become a finalist in the category. Anyone can vote for the 119 Princess St. property online until July 18. See www.hgtv.com/design/ultimate-house-hunt/2017-ultimate-house-hunt/living-large-in-small-spaces.

— MARILYN CAMPBELL



The patio of this Old Town home was designed to be a backyard oasis.

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Have Gun and Pencil, Will Cover War

BY MICHAEL K. BOHN

If indeed the pen is mightier than the sword, there was a time in American warfare history when the pencil also was a robust instrument. That was during the Civil War, when sketch artists traveled with military units on both sides to capture the deadly movement of men and horses that the rudimentary cameras of the era could not achieve. It was dangerous work, and one of these men, Theodore Davis, described the fundamental characteristic of a war artist: “Total disregard for personal safety.”

Englishman Alfred Waud (pronounced Wode) was the most prolific of what the New York newspapers called “special artists,” or “specials,” during the war. Soon after Confederate forces attacked Fort Sumter in South Carolina on April 12, 1861, three prominent illustrated newspapers in New York – Harper’s Weekly, Frank Leslie’s Illustrated Newspaper and the New York Illustrated News – sent specials to Washington DC. Waud initially made field sketches for the Illustrated News, but shifted to Harper’s in early 1862. Throughout, he used pen, pencil and charcoal, plus a zinc-oxide pigment called “Chinese white” to add highlights.

Waud arrived in Washington in early May as Union military units began staging there in anticipation of Virginia formally joining other Southern states that had seceded. Virginians voted to join the Confederacy on May 23, and the following day, the Union Army seized control of Alexandria.

The 11th New York Fire Zouaves regiment was part of the occupying force, and its commander, Col. Elmer Ellsworth, was a friend of President Abraham Lincoln. The commander-in-chief, according to the National Park Service website, previously had seen



IMAGE FROM THE LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

Waud captured this view of the Alexandria waterfront, likely in June 1861, while standing on the Maryland shore. USS Pawnee, a steam sloop-of-war, is on station at the far right as she kept Alexandria’s wharves and piers under threat of her guns. Pencil and Chinese white on olive paper.

from the District a large secessionist flag flying from an Alexandria rooftop and ordered Ellsworth to remove it.

Ellsworth and several soldiers found the flag atop the Marshall House, an inn located on the current site of Hotel Monaco at King and Pitt. They climbed to the building’s roof, removed the large flag and began descending the staircase. The innkeeper, James Jackson, confronted them and with a shotgun killed Ellsworth, the first notable Union casualty of the war. A soldier with Ellsworth, Pvt. Francis Brownell, then shot and killed Jackson. Brownell soon earned an officer’s commission, and, after war, was awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor for his actions at the Marshall House.

Lincoln arranged for Ellsworth’s funeral to be at the White House, and Waud cap-

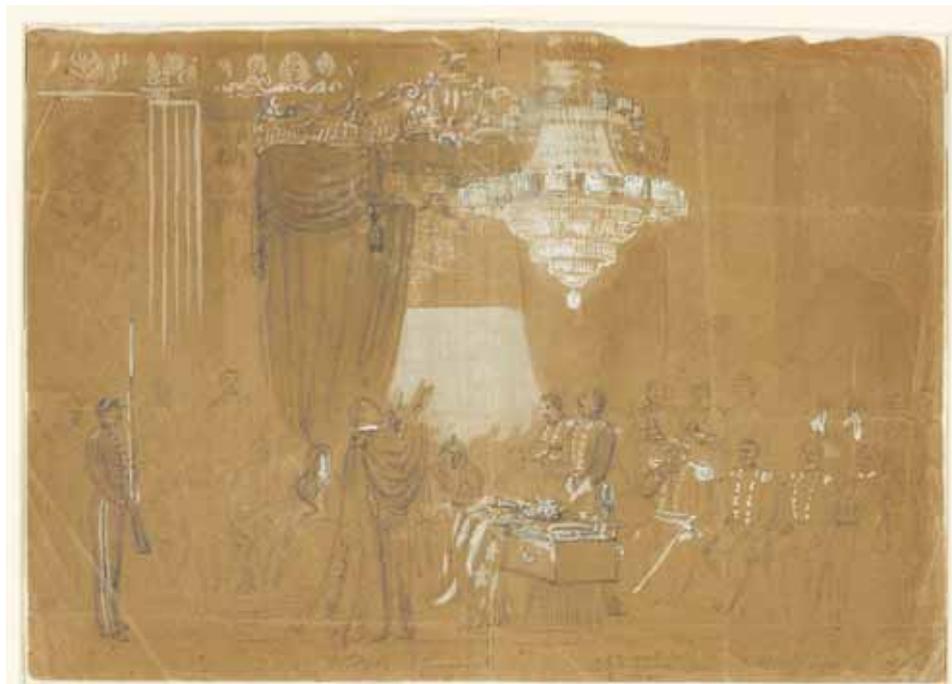


IMAGE FROM THE LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

Alexandria innkeeper James Jackson killed Col. Elmer Ellsworth, commanding officer of the 11th New York Fire Zouaves, on May 24, 1861. Waud sketched Ellsworth’s funeral service in the East Room of the White House. Pencil and Chinese white on brown paper.

tered the scene with a sketch. Following a routine he used throughout the war, he sent the drawing to New York. There, Illustrated News artists turned Waud’s art into first a wood-block engraving and then an electroplate used by the printing presses. Usually three to four weeks elapsed between Waud’s sketching and printing in New York.

In late May and June 1861, Waud sketched several scenes in Alexandria, including the encampment of the 71st New York Infantry near the Mount Vernon Cotton Factory at 515 North Washington, now The Mill, an apartment building. He also sketched the Alexandria waterfront as seen from the Maryland shore of the Potomac.

Waud covered the first Battle of Bull Run (or Manassas) on July 21, and, upon return-

ing to Alexandria with the defeated and largely panicked Union forces, showed his mettle in a tight spot. When a Union soldier tried to steal his mount, according to Waud biographer, Frederic Ray, the plucky Waud drew his revolver and forced the man to retreat. Later, in a story in the Illustrated News, Waud wrote of his next step, “I rode off devilish quick.”

Davis and Waud created drawings of the hostilities until the war’s end, the only two specials to do so without a respite. Many other specials joined the two men, some of whom later moved on to greater artistic endeavors — Winslow Homer and political cartoonist Thomas Nast, for example.

Waud continued to illustrate Harper publications until his 1891 death.

Timothy O’Sullivan photographed Waud on the Gettysburg battlefield in early July 1863. The artist posed on a rock formation in the Devil’s Den area of the battleground, and his revolver holster is evident on his left hip.



IMAGE FROM THE LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

Need To Focus on Public Housing

To the Editor:

On Monday, July 10, an affordable housing advocacy coalition sent a letter to City Council protesting current plans for the redevelopment of Andrew Adkins, a public housing site in Old Town. Adkins is one of six public housing sites, all but one of which are in Old Town, slated for redevelopment. Thirty-three people signed the letter (edited below), including representatives of 12 nonprofits and 10 clergy.

“... We understand that the continued reduction in federal funding for the operation and maintenance of public housing requires ARHA to rethink how to best position their real estate portfolio to address their mission and remain economically viable. However, the following issues need further consideration.

“Ratio of Market Units to Lower Income Housing. While we are dismayed that only 60 of the 90 public housing units will be replaced on-site, the creation of approximately 350 new market rate units on the original ARHA site is very troubling. Is this the best deal that ARHA could structure with the developer in light of the dramatic loss of affordable units in the city, and the significant increase in rents over the last 10 years?

“The mission of ARHA is to serve the most vulnerable families with extremely low incomes, and we believe they have an obligation to press for more affordable units at much lower income levels. Based on information provided by ARHA, the overwhelming majority of households at Adkins earn less than 30 percent of the area median income [AMI]. The current proposal only provides for 20 of the 60 replacement units to be affordable to households at less than 30 percent of AMI. The optics of this proposal are not good, to say the least, and the reality is even worse.

“We recommend 1) replacing all 90 units on site in perpetuity for households earning less than 30 percent AMI, and 2) including additional units at 60 percent AMI of area median income. ... We are in favor of mixed-income development in all redevelopment efforts as long as each project ensures an equitable and viable mix of household incomes, and does not result in a net outflow of low-income households from their neighborhoods. That is what is currently proposed for Adkins. Permanently

removing residents from their communities disrupts their lives and removes them from established social networks, schools, faith communities and neighbors. Practices like these contravene our core values of diversity, inclusion and social equity.

“Transition Plan for Residents. Currently, there appears to be no meaningful transition plan for the residents at Adkins. ... [W]e recommend that a detailed plan be developed and presented to the residents now, to give them time to prepare for what is being proposed for their relocation.

“Housing Affordability as a Citywide Priority. We respect the right of communities adjacent to the Adkins site to be engaged in this planning process by offering their comments and sharing their concerns. However, the Braddock Implementation Advisory [G]roup should not be considered the sole representative of interests in the area. We encourage ARHA to reach out to the small businesses in the area (who may employ Adkins residents), and faith communities who are concerned about the loss of housing affordability in

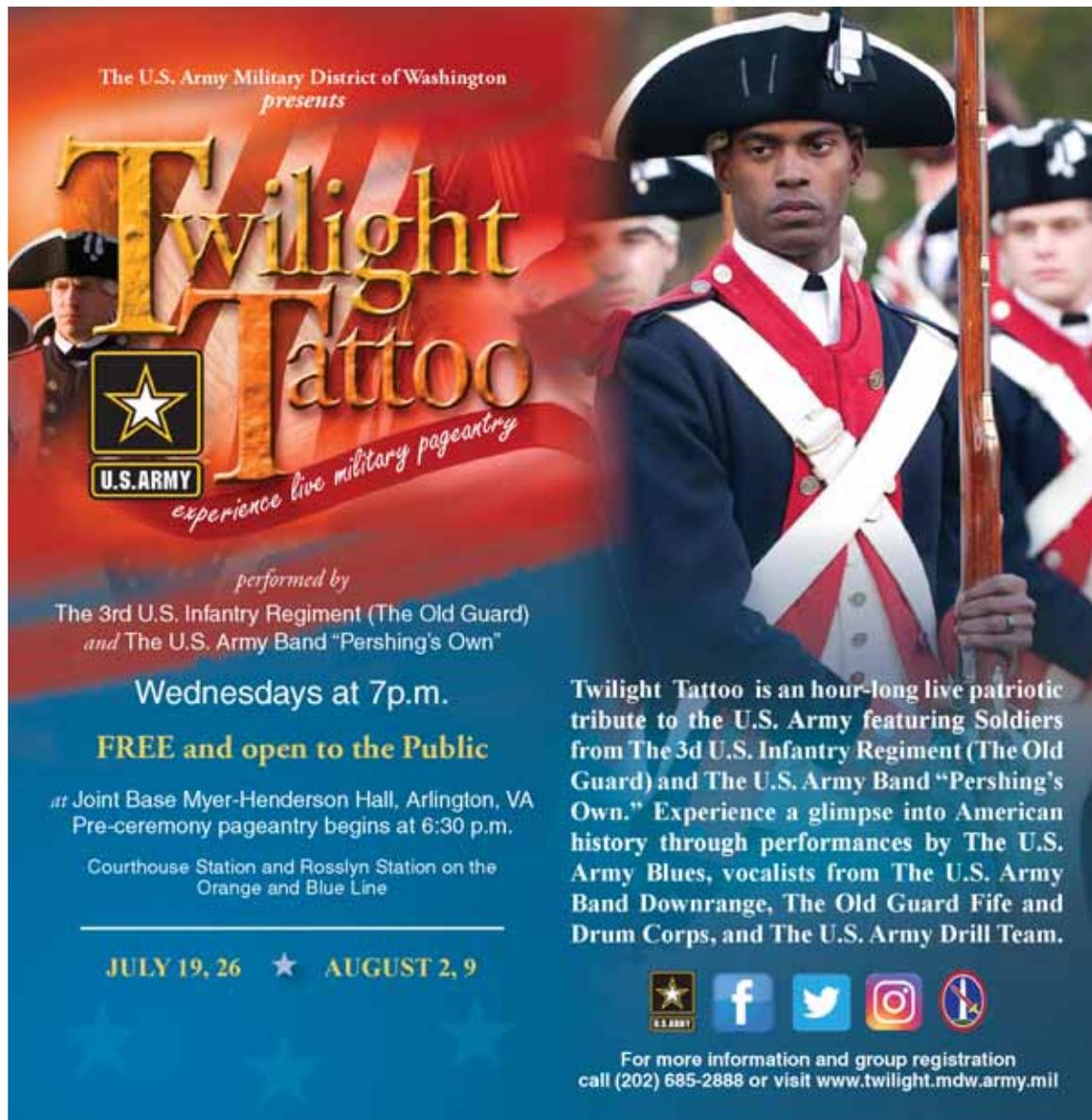
the city or whose congregants may live at Adkins.

“... Housing affordability has been and needs to remain a top priority for the City and as a community we need to maximize these opportunities to secure housing – especially when the land belongs to our public housing authority.

“We urge council and city staff to work with ARHA staff and their board to evaluate the remaining properties slated for redevelopment and seek creative financing strategies and best practices that are economically viable, successfully integrate households with a mix of incomes, and maintain the integrity of these diverse neighborhoods.”

Katharine Dixon, Rebuilding Together Alexandria; **Jon Smoot**, Habitat for Humanity Northern Virginia; **Michelle Krockner**, Northern Virginia Affordable Housing Alliance and Housing Alexandria; **The Rev. Mary Beth Blinn**, Lead Pastor, Fairlington United Methodist Church; **The Rev. Oran Warder**, Rector, St. Paul's Episcopal Church; **Kari Galloway**, Friends of Guest House; **Allen Lomax**; **The Rev. Jeanette Leisk**, Pastor, Good

Shepherd Lutheran Church; **Ann Marie Hay**; **Melanie Gray**; **Nathan Bridges**, Lt. Corp Officer, The Salvation Army; **Bill Harris**; **Shannon Steene**, Carpenter's Shelter; **Lynn Thomas**, Community Lodgings; **Pam Michell**, New Hope Housing; **J. Glenn Hopkins**, Hopkins House; **Shelley Murphy**, Wesley Housing Development Corporation; **Shannon Steene and Lynn Thomas**, co-chairs, Partnership to Prevent and End Homelessness in Alexandria; **Canek Aguirre**, Economic Opportunities Commission; **Evelin Urrutia**, Tenant and Workers United; **Will Monahan and The Rev. Anne Monahan**; **The Rev. Noelle York Simmons**, Christ Church; **The Rev. Juli Wilson-Black**, Fairlington Presbyterian Church; **Walter Webdale**, AHC, Inc.; **The Rev. Jo Belser**, Episcopal Church of the Resurrection; **Betsy Faga**; **June Stowe**, ALIVE! Affordable Housing Committee; **The Rev. Donald Fest**, Pastor, St. Joseph's Catholic Church; **Diane Charles**, Executive Director and **Patrick Anderson**, Board President, ALIVE!; **The Rev. Thomas James**, Washington Street United Methodist Church



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ENTERTAINMENT



PHOTOS BY SHIRLEY RUHE

Yuh Shimomura has chosen about a five-pound yellowtail for his sashimi. He will scale the fish, gut it and slice it into thin pieces. Then he splashes on sake and wraps the fish in kombu seaweed to cure for a few hours before serving it as his second course for the evening.

Meet Yuh Shimomura, Chef at Nasime

A five-course tasting menu: he does it all.

BY SHIRLEY RUHE

Yuh Shimomura scurries around the small kitchen putting a large pot of water on the burner to boil, plugging in the ice cream maker, setting out the bright red tomatoes, deep purple eggplant and snow peas.

The tomatoes will be plunged in the boiling water and quickly removed to peel off their skins more easily. Small pieces will be used to make the Dashi Gazpacho with

IN THE KITCHEN

Kobujime Scallop which is the Sakizuke or Amuse Dish. This is tonight's first course. The eggplant will be fried and the snow peas puréed.

Nasime on King Street serves a five-course Japanese tasting menu that changes each day. "I do it all myself," Shimomura said. "Preparation planning is very important. I only have a few hours." He is balancing the

preparation of all the five courses at the same time.

Shimomura pulls out "about" a five-pound yellowtail and sets it on the counter. It will be today's Otsukuri (or raw dish) second course. He scales the fish, slices open the belly and discards the guts. Off with the head and tail which sometimes are used to make fish broth. Carefully he cuts smaller slices and slowly probes the filets with a pair of Japanese tweezers to remove small bones.

He pulls out a rectangular piece of konbu seaweed and places the fish in rows down the middle. After a drizzle of sake, he wraps the seaweed tightly around the yellowtail where the fish will cure for a few hours. He says the seaweed takes out the moisture and imparts a flavor. This sashimi, the most popular menu item, will be served along with soy sauce and wasabi.

Tokyo, Shimomura's home, is reflected in everything from the Japanese tableware to the traditional recipes and cooking techniques. "I didn't want to do fusion." Even though Shimomura uses American veg-

etables, he uses Asian methods. The concept of Japanese cuisine is "syun" which means "in season" so fiddlehead ferns have given way to asparagus and in the fall he will use a lot of mushrooms. "I always use the freshest ingredients."

Shimomura says sometimes he goes to the Asian market and sometimes to the Farmer's Market. For his fish he says, "Sometimes I go to the market by myself and sometimes a distributor."

Shimomura has been in America a long time, he says. He went to Catholic University in 1993 and studied psychology. "It was interesting to learn but not so creative." He thought what he could do. "I just love eating, and cooking was my favorite thing." He says when he was growing up his dad loved to eat outside at different restaurants. "So I'm a pretty snobbish kid. I went to nice restaurants as a kid." After college he went back to Tokyo and trained to be a chef.

"In Japan you don't graduate that much. Many chefs believe you can only learn by experience, not lectures." He said he started as a dishwasher, which is the most typical

way in Japan. But in Japan dishwasher doesn't mean the same thing. "You work 16 hours a day and everyone has to do everything including prep."

After returning to America, he worked in several restaurants downtown in D.C. and then in October 2016 he opened Nasime, a 20-seat Japanese restaurant. "I recommend reservations because if I have 20 reservations, I make for 25. If I have 30 people come, I have to say no because I don't want to do anything below my standards." He says with not much space, what he prepares today, he uses today.

His final course today will be Genmaicya and Red Bean Ice Cream made with powdered green tea, ricotta, and bean paste as well as heavy cream, half and half and egg yolk. Because temperatures are different, ingredients are pulsed in the blender before freezing in the ice cream machine for 20-30 minutes.

Now back to the Cold Ramen Sesame Noodles. He will be prepping until the customers arrive for the first reservation at 6 p.m.

CALENDAR

Submit entertainment announcements at ConnectionNewspapers.com/Calendar. Photos and artwork welcome. Deadline is Thursday at noon, at least two weeks before event.

ONGOING

Potomac Fiber Arts Gallery. Various times through July 30 at the Torpedo Factory, 105 N. Union Street, ground floor Studio 29. Show is called "Under the Big Top," highlighting the work of three featured artists: Janet Barnard, Paige Garber, and Anne-Sanderoff Walker. Call 703-548-0935, or visit www.Potomacfiberartsgallery.com for more.

Ceramics Show. Various times through July 30 at 105 N. Union St., ground floor Studio 19. The "Rough around the Edges" Kiln Club show. Call 703-548-6288 or visit scopegallery.org.

Light and Depth Exhibit. Various times through July 31 in the The Associates Gallery at the Torpedo Factory, 105 North Union St., Studio 29. Artwork of Marine Weiss and Jennifer Brewer Stone is featured. Visit torpedofactory.org.

The Light of Day Paintings. Through July 15, various times Broadway Gallery, at 5641-B General Washington Drive. Featuring landscape paintings by Michael Godfrey, Christine Lashley, Tricia Ratliff, and Rajendra KC. Call 703-354-2905 for more.

Adult Woodworking Class. 5-8 p.m. through August 5 at the Alexandria Seaport Foundation, Union St. Woodworking 101, hosted by ASF's Middle School Math Program Manager, woodworker, and furniture designer Nicole Reidinger of Habitat Woodworks. \$250. Visit www.alexandriaseaport.org or call 703-778-0977 for more.

Artwork Inspired by Nature Exhibit. Various times through Aug. 31 at Huntley Meadows Park Nature Center, 3701 Lockheed Blvd. Local artist-photographer Nina Tisara will share some of her mosaic work in an exhibit entitled "Inspired by Nature." Call 703-768-2525 or visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks.

Costumes of Mercy Street. Through Sept. 1, at The Lyceum: Alexandria's History Museum, 201 S. Washington St. To learn more about The Lyceum, visit alexandriava.gov/Lyceum or call 703-746-4994.

Gadsby's Tavern Museum Relics. Various times through Labor Day at Gadsby's Tavern Museum, 134 N. Royal St. Learn the history of the museum, the purchase and see the original woodwork. Call 703-746-4242 or visit www.gadsbystavern.org for more.

Mount Vernon Farmers Market. 8 a.m.-12 p.m., Wednesdays, through

SUMMER SUNSET MOVIES IN MOUNT VERNON

The Mount Vernon Rec Center at 2017 Belle View Boulevard will be the location for family-friendly movies throughout the summer. Twice a month, from 7-11 p.m., movies will start at sunset. The movie schedule is as follows:

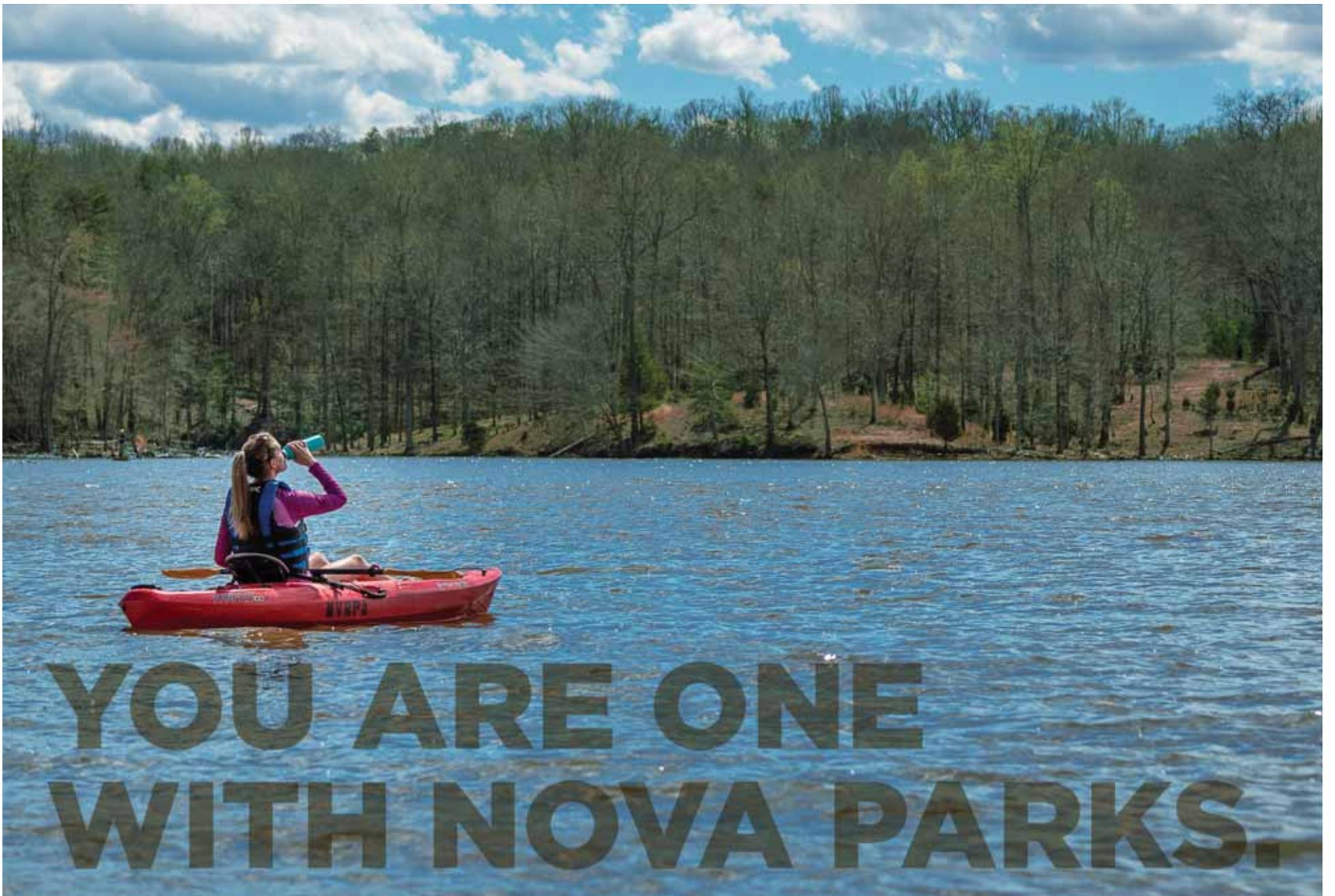
- ❖ July 14 - "The Jungle Book"
- ❖ July 28 - "Secret Life of Pets"
- ❖ Aug. 11 - "The Lego Batman Movie"
- ❖ Aug. 25 - "Beauty and the Beast"

Dec. 14. Fresh local food, artisan crafts. Sherwood Library, 2501 Sherwood Hall Lane. Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/farmersmarkets/mtvernonmkt.htm for more.

All the President's Pups. Saturdays 10 a.m. at George Washington's Mount Vernon, 3200 Mount Vernon Highway, Mount Vernon. All the President's Pups Walking Tour, along the way, learn about George Washington's love for dogs, his dogs'

unusual names, and his efforts to improve the quality of his hunting dogs through breeding. \$7. Visit www.mountvernon.org for more.

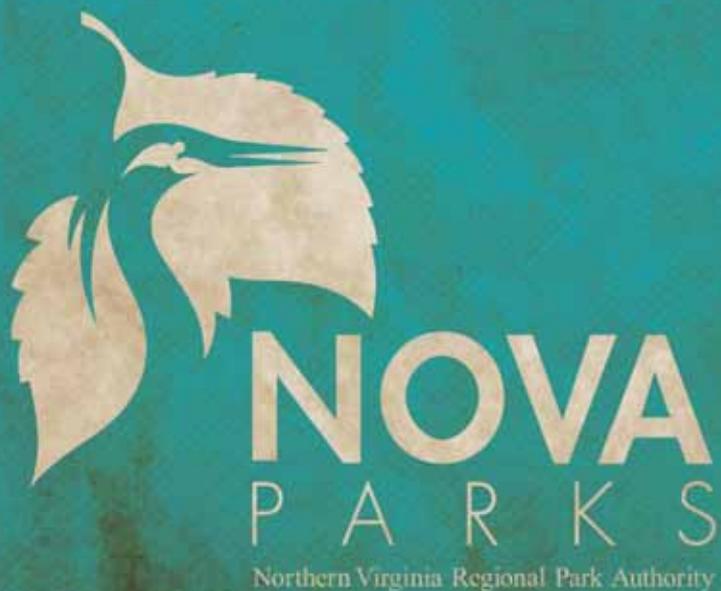
Mercy in Alexandria Walking Tour. Sundays at 1:30 p.m. at Alexandria Visitors Center, 221 King St. Experience an inside access tour of 19th century Alexandria. Inspired by the PBS mini-series "Mercy Street," accompany a trained military historian through Civil War-era Alexandria and learn the actual



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ENTERTAINMENT

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 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 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.leeendallhouse.org or call 703-548-1789.

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

Fifty Years of Collecting. Tuesday-Saturday 10 a.m.-5 p.m., Sundays 12-5 p.m. Fort Ward Museum, 4301 W. Braddock Road. An anniversary exhibit of objects from the Fort Ward collection. Free. Visit www.forward.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 Lockheed 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.alexandriarchaeology.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. maurisapotts@gmail.com

CAMPS, CLASSES & 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



PHOTO BY CURTIS WAYNE MILLARD

Live Music

The Mastersons are in Concert, Tuesday, July 18 at 7:30 p.m. at The Birchmere, 3701 Mount Vernon Ave. \$59.50. Visit www.birchmere.com for more.

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.

The Harmony Heritage Singers (Mount Vernon Chapter of Barbershop Harmony Society), a daytime, a cappella, Chorus, rehearses on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays, monthly, at Sherwood Hall Regional Library, 2501 Sherwood Hall Lane, 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Newcomers welcome for fun or to book for a performance. Visit www.HHSingers.org, or call Bruce at 703-352-5271.

MAY 31-AUG. 25

Summer Theatre Camps. Various times at the Little Theatre of Alexandria, 600 Wolfe St. Preschool-8th graders can learn acting, musical theatre, dancing, improv, Shakespeare, film making. Visit www.thelittletheatre.com or call 703-683-5778.

JULY 17-21

Del Ray Artisans 2017 Summer Art Camp. All day at Del Ray Artisans gallery, 2704 Mount Vernon Ave. Ages 8-14 are invited to spend one week creating art and architecture, followed by a one-day gallery show. All art supplies and snacks are provided. Visit DelRayArtisans.org/event/Art-Camp-2017 for more.

JULY 18-20

History Camp for Kids. 9 a.m.-noon. at The Lyceum, 201 South Washington St. Engages children in American history and life in historic Alexandria through artifacts, storytelling, singing, crafts, old-fashioned games, and visits to nearby historic places. \$105. Visit www.alexandriava.gov/Lyceum, or call 703-746-4994 for more.

JULY 24-28

Del Ray Artisans 2017 Summer Art Camp. All day at Del Ray Artisans gallery, 2704 Mount Vernon Ave. Ages 8-14 are invited to spend one

week creating art and architecture, followed by a one-day gallery show. All art supplies and snacks are provided. Visit DelRayArtisans.org/event/Art-Camp-2017 for more.

THURSDAY/JULY 13

Coffee and Connections. 8-9 a.m. at The Potomack Company, 1120 North Fairfax St. A networking Alexandria Chamber of Commerce event with a lecture by Elizabeth Haynie Wainstein on her career in auctions. \$10 for members, \$20 for non-members. Visit alexandriavacoc.org for more.

Artists Reception. 6-8 p.m. at the Torpedo Factory, 105 North Union Street. "Sarah Nesbitt: Making Sense of What We Have," exhibition open July 13-Sept. 3. Visit www.theartleague.org for more.

First Thursday in Del Ray. 6 p.m. on Mount Vernon Avenue in Del Ray. The theme for the event is Red, White, and Blue. Visit www.visitdelray.com for more.

Artists Reception. 6:30-8 p.m. at the Torpedo Factory, Studio 21, 105 North Union Street. Sally Davies' "Global Views: Light & Shadow" exhibition open July 6-Aug. 6. Visit www.theartleague.org for more.

Kasey Chambers with Garrett Kato Concert. 7:30 p.m. at The Birchmere, 3701 Mt. Vernon Ave. New double album "Dragonfly." \$35. Visit www.birchmere.com for more.

JULY 13-29

By the Seashore. Various morning hours at The Lab at Convergence, 1819 N. Quaker Lane. Produced by Arts on the Horizon. Using an imaginative mix of puppetry, movement, and sound, this sensory-filled production is specifically designed for babies and young toddlers. Visit www.artsonthehorizon.org for more.

JULY 14-AUG. 31

Oil Paintings by Patricia Uchello. 9 a.m.-5 p.m. at the River Farm, 7931 East Blvd. Free. Call 703-768-6983 or visit www.patriciauchello.com for more.

SATURDAY/JULY 15

Native American Yard Sale. 7 a.m.-2 p.m. at the Church of St. Clements 1701 N. Quaker Lane. The American Indian Society of Washington D.C. is

sponsoring this. Call 571-269-3307 for more.

Dump Your Junk Event. 9 a.m.-noon at John Carlyle Square Park, 300 John Carlyle St. The Carlyle Community Council, the City of Alexandria and the Alexandria Economic Development Partnership invites residents the chance to purge and dump their junk for free at the Carlyle Purge. Free. Visit www.AlexandriaVA.Gov/CarlyleFun for more.

Tons of Trucks Event. 10 a.m.-1 p.m. at Chinquapin Park, 3210 King St. All ages are invited to explore and get behind the wheel of more than 20 different vehicles from seven City departments. Parking is available at T.C. Williams High School, 3330 King St. and First Baptist Church, 2932 King St. \$5 per person or \$15 per family of four. Visit www.alexandriava.gov/Recreation, call 703-746-5457 or email lindsay.burneson@alexandriava.gov.

Meet the Artists. 10 a.m.-5 p.m. at Gadsby's Tavern Museum, 134 North Royal St. Artists Stewart Watson and Lauren Frances Adams will talk about how they created the artworks on display throughout the museum. Visit www.alexandriava.gov/GadsbysTavern or call 703-746-4242.

Garden Stroll and Ice Cream Social. 10 a.m.-11:30 at Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Rd. Stroll the summer gardens with a Master Gardener docent, then cool down at an ice cream social in the 1784 Historic House. \$12. Call 703-941-7987 or visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/greenspring/.

Write Like a Woman Networking Workshop. 1:30-3:30 p.m. at the Athenaeum Gallery, 201 Prince St. KaNikki Jakarta will lead a networking workshop for women writers that uplifts and inspires through writing. Call 703-548-0035 or visit nvfaa.org for more.

Mount Vernon Nights Concert Series. 6 p.m. at Workhouse Arts Center, 9601 Ox Road, Lorton. Traditional country musical performance by the Robin and Linda Williams. Free. Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/performances or call 703-780-7518.

APPLICATION DEADLINE JULY 15

Alexandria Amplify. Small business start-ups looking for tools and guidance to succeed. Over three months, workshop will provide six

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ENTERTAINMENT



Art Exhibit

Artwork of Marine Weiss and Jennifer Brewer Stone is featured in the "Light and Depth Exhibit," through July 31 in the The Associates Gallery at the Torpedo Factory, 105 North Union St. Visit torpedofactory.org.

sessions full of small business ideas and guidance recommendations. \$250. Participants who successfully complete all six sessions will be refunded half their fee. Contact Gloria Flanagan at gflanagan@alexandriasbdc.org for more.

SUNDAY/JULY 16

Children's Art Workshop. 3 p.m. at The Lyceum, 201 S. Washington St. The Washington Metropolitan Philharmonic Association presents violinist Sergey Prokofyev and pianist Wei-Hsien Lien playing sonatas by Debussy, Mozart, and Brahms as part of their chamber music series. Free. Visit www.wmpmusic.org for more.
Jazz at Meade. 4 p.m., at the Meade Memorial Episcopal Church, 322 N. Alfred St. Musicians Tony Craddock, Jr., and Cold Front. \$20 donation. Visit www.meadechurch.org/.

TUESDAY/JULY 18

Genealogy Talk. 9 a.m.-noon at Hollin Hall Senior Center, 1500 Shenandoah Road. Learn how to use multiple sources to assemble accounts of historic ancestral events and create biographies of ancestors from genealogist John Philip Colletta, Ph.D. Free. Call 703-768-4101 or visit www.mvgenalogy.org.
Salute American Vodka. 7 p.m. at Union Street Public House, 121 S. Union St. The event will mark the start of sales of the patriotic spirits in Virginia restaurants and retailers, thus increasing the brand's charitable impact nationwide. The first dollar of every bottle sold is donated to nonprofit organizations that support veterans and other American heroes. Call 617-269-7171 for more.
The Mastersons in Concert. 7:30 p.m. at The Birchmere, 3701 Mt. Vernon Ave. \$59.50. Visit www.birchmere.com for more.

WEDNESDAY/JULY 19

Women and Wine. 6-8 p.m. at Salon Amarti & Spa, 1010 King St. Proceeds of this event support Volunteer Alexandria. \$25. Email development@volunteeralexandria.org or call 703-836-2176 for more.

THURSDAY/JULY 20

Garden Tour and Tea. 1-3 p.m. at Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road. Tour the demonstration gardens with a Master Gardener docent who will narrate with stories of Green Spring past and present. Afterwards, a traditional English

afternoon tea. \$32. Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/parktakes or call 703-642-5173.

SATURDAY/JULY 22

Mount Vernon Flea Market. 8 a.m.-1:00 p.m., at 8717 Fort Hunt Road. The flea market features: furniture, art, china, glass, porcelain, pottery, books, photographs, lighting, tools, comic books, vinyl records, novelties clothing & sewing, toys, jewelry, collectibles, and homemade items. Refreshments will also be on sale. Free. Visit mountvernonflea.market.wordpress.com for more info.

Mount Vernon Nights Concert Series.

6 p.m. at Workhouse Arts Center, 9601 Ox Road, Lorton. Free old-time musical performance by the Sheets Family. Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/performance or call 703-780-7518.

Russian Folk Music.

7:30 p.m. at the Holiday Inn, 625 First St. Festival concert of more than 100 musicians from all over the world marks the end of the International Music Convention of Russian Folk Instruments. Visit www.bdaa.com.

SUNDAY/JULY 23

Children's Art Workshop. 2-4 p.m. at The Athenaeum, 201 Prince St. Artists Joan Dreyer, Ginny Smith, and Lesly-Claire Greenberg for a hands-on art workshop recommended for children ages 5 to 12 who must be accompanied by an adult. Free. Visit www.nvfaa.org or call 703-548-0035.

THURSDAY/JULY 27

40 Under 40 Celebration. 6-9 p.m. at United Way Worldwide, 701 N. Fairfax St. The 40 under 40 program was established in 2016 by the Alexandria Chamber of Commerce 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. \$89. Visit alexandriavacoc.com.

JULY 28-30

Bacon Brothers Concert. 7:30 p.m. at The Birchmere, 3701 Mt. Vernon Ave. Kevin and Michael Bacon's band, find out if the six degrees of Kevin Bacon separation are true. Visit www.birchmere.com for more.
Emmett on Stage. various times at Metrostage, 1201 North Royal St. Janet Langhart Cohen's play based on an imaginary conversation between

Anne Frank and Emmett Till, both teenage victims of racial intolerance and hatred. Call 703-548-9044 or visit www.metrostage.org for more.

SATURDAY/JULY 29

Mount Vernon Nights Concert Series. 6 p.m. at Workhouse Arts Center, 9601 Ox Road, Lorton. Free musical performance by Jarekus Singleton. Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/performance or call 703-780-7518.

JULY 31-SEPTEMBER 3

Ceramics Exhibition. Various times at the Torpedo Factory Art Center, 105 N. Union St. Exhibit called "Flexibility in Clay: Gymnastics and Gyration." Call Scope Gallery at 703-548-6288, visit www.scopegallery.org for more.

SATURDAY/AUG. 5

English Garden Floral Design Workshop. 9:30-11 a.m. at Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road. Create the look of a summer English garden for the home using an assortment of cut flowers, greens and garden materials. Ages 16+. \$38 for the program plus \$25 supply fee. Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/parktakes using code 2903883301 or call 703-642-5173.

Saturday Cinema at Carlyle. 8:14 p.m. on John Carlyle Square, 300 John Carlyle St. Caddyshack is the second of this series. Free. Visit www.AlexandriaVA.gov/CarlyleFun.

SUNDAY/AUG. 6

Afternoon Teas with a Difference. 3-4:30 p.m. at Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road. Celebrate Britain's National Afternoon Tea Week with a "Royale Tea," offering your choice of a glass of champagne at the beginning or sherry at the end of afternoon tea. \$42. Adults 21 yrs. +. Call 703-941-7987 or visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/greenspring.

TUESDAY/AUG. 8

Simpson Gardens Stroll. 11 a.m. at Simpson Park Demonstration Gardens, 420 E. Monroe St. Stop by and chat with the VCE Master Gardeners who maintain the Simpson Park Demonstration Gardens and see what is in bloom. Have all your gardening questions answered too. No registration necessary. Visit mgnv.org/events/mgnv-events/.

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LETTERS

FROM PAGE 20

the very people victimized in the shooting.

A newspaper's job is to report, not distort.

John C. Kiyonaga
 Alexandria

Much To Lose

To the Editor:

The Gazette Packet article about the Alfred Street Church monstrosity-building that, with City Council complicity, will disfigure a neighborhood, burden its members with a massive mortgage and result in less, not more, services to the needy it serves is now going to destroy 22 houses built with Federal assistance.

Of these three outcomes, the first two are self-inflicted harm; the third strikes me as wrong. At a minimum, it's repugnant. Based on the information in the article, it appears the Alfred Street Church availed itself of a Federal program to construct "affordable" homes with a financial subsidy courtesy of U.S. taxpayers.

In so doing, again according to the article, the church obliged itself to rent these properties only to tenants of modest incomes through 2019. But to keep on its construction schedule, it's terminating leases for occupants of the 22 affordable houses two years early. It needs to get rid of these houses. It needs the space they occupy for its monstrosity-building.

And of their tenants? The Alfred Street Church is washing its hands of them. They're being dumped onto the Alexandria Housing and Redevelopment Authority. And, offended by the criticism for doing so, the ASC defends itself by saying the church didn't have to help its tenants at all, now in the hour of their need.

Of all the landlords, a church would be the landlord most likely to assist its tenants acquire talents demanded by well-paying employers thereby allowing them to move up in the world and out of "affordable" housing.

Sad too to learn that the tenants are upset, but not because ASC failed to help them better themselves. They are unhappy because the welfare housing they are being offered as equivalent housing is inferior to the housing the ASC provided.

Clearly, even the poor have standards as self-serving as their ASC landlord.

Jimm Roberts
 Alexandria

Parking Woes

To the Editor:

When I moved into Old Town Alexandria in 1985, I had one major requirement and that was owning a parking space, or I would have remained in suburban Fairfax County. Without a dedicated parking space (which is not a possibility for many Old Town homes), I would have had to search for parking on the street, which can be a daunting experience when laden with shopping bags, or returning late from work. Finding a parking space is also a common problem for visitors to Old Town.

Although tourists can park at a meter, a parking lot, or in one of the residential parking areas, there are strings attached. First, meters offer only two hours of parking in most cases, especially those meters east of Alfred Street. This is insufficient time for an enjoyable shopping and dining experience.

Next, parking lots and garages often charge huge fees, which is a disincentive for parking at these locations. Most non-expense account visitors will seek out free parking spaces in one of the residential areas, which diminishes opportunities for residential parking. The bottom line is that potential visitors to Old Town see parking as an issue, so they take their business elsewhere.

To add to the mix, for a number of years the City Council has not emphasized affordable parking facilities. Moreover, it has exacerbated the situation by allowing parking to be reduced for new developments, or eliminated altogether — what can they be thinking? An example is the 100 parking spaces opposite Chadwicks on the waterfront, the 66 parking spaces at the King Street Metro, and the list goes on. The parking crisis just adds to the mix, since there are numerous traffic problems and unchecked traffic violations that are ignored. This is not acting on behalf of the public good.

Townsend A. "Van"
Van Fleet
 Alexandria

Making Sense Of Health Care

To the Editor:

Richard E. Merritt's op ed inquires "Who Takes Care of the Uninsured Poor?" while railing against congressional Republicans' feckless attempts to "repeal and replace" ObamaCare (when they should be straight-forwardly repealing it as they've voted to do a

SEE LETTERS, PAGE 22

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UPCOMING GAMES AT FRANK MANN FIELD

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Yard Sale

The American Indian Society of Washington DC Yard Sale July 15, 2017
Church of St. Clements
701 N Quaker Lane Alexandria Va 22302
7-2 PM Rain or Shine. If it Rains it will be held indoors in the Parish Hall

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

Legals

Legals



ALEXANDRIA CITY PUBLIC SCHOOLS
REQUEST FOR INFORMATION NUMBER 170601

The Alexandria City School Board dba Alexandria City Public Schools is seeking bids from qualified bidders for prep work for temporary trailers at James K. Polk Elementary School and T.C. Williams High School. The work includes both site related work as well as minor work within the schools to extend appropriate utilities to classroom trailers.

A non-mandatory pre-bid conference will be held July 18, 2017 at 10:00 a.m. at ACPS Central Office located at 1340 Braddock Place, Alexandria, VA 22314. The pre-bid conference will take place in the 6th Floor Conference Room 610-2, with a site visit following.

All questions must be submitted via email, with the notation, "ITB NO.170701 GC for Temporary Trailers" before 3:00 p.m. on July 19, 2017. If necessary, an addendum will be issued and posted to the ACPS Vendor Self Service site (registration with login is required).

Sealed electronic proposals shall be received in ACPS' Vendor Self-Service System on or before 3:00 p.m. July 31, 2017. The time of receipt shall be determined by the system time stamp in the Vendor Self-Service System. Mailed paper bids shall not be accepted.

Offerors submitting bids in the Vendor Self-Service System should also send (1) one original response on a USB flash-drive and original bid surety, labeled as "ITB NO.170701 GC for Temporary Trailers", on or before 3:00 p.m. on July 31, 2017 to Central Procurement Office, 1340 Braddock Place, Suite 620, Alexandria, Virginia 22314. The time of receipt for the mailed or hand-delivered USB and bid surety shall be determined by the time clock stamp in the Procurement Office.

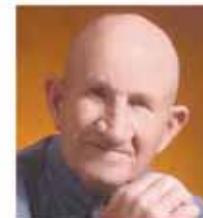
Bids appropriately received will be opened and the names of the offerors responding will be read aloud. ITB documents may be obtained at the above Procurement Office or by calling 703-619-8181, or by downloading the RFP from the ACPS website at <https://www.acps.k12.va.us/purchasing>. **Registration on the Vendor Self Service system at <https://acps.munisselfservice.com/> is required.**

Information submitted may not be withdrawn. However, ACPS reserves the right to cancel this ITB.

Meloni Hurley
Procurement Manager

Obituary

Obituary



James Smith Eudy, 91, of Alexandria, Virginia passed away on Friday, July 7, 2017 at his home. He was born in Lake Worth, Florida on September 30, 1925 to Troy and Emma Eudy. He was the second son of four children, John, Richard and Joann. His brothers John and Richard preceded him in death. Jim's father moved the family to Durham, NC for job opportunities in home construction. Shortly thereafter, war came, and his father moved to Alexandria to work at the Torpedo Factory and developed several patents. The family stayed behind in Durham. At 17, despite battling asthma, Jim lied about his age and joined the Navy. During the war, he served on a submarine tender in the South Pacific. He was honorably discharged and came to Alexandria. He started working at Memscow where he learned the trade of welding. Jim met the love of his life, Ruby Ellen Jessup, while she was working for her sister, Inez Wray, and brother in law, Tommy Wray, at their grocery store on Duke Street. The story is Jim was so smitten by Ruby that he asked her to marry him that day. It took several tries, but he finally won her over, and they were married on May 31, 1946 at The Downtown Baptist Church on Washington Street. They remained happily married for over fifty years. Ruby quit her teaching job, and they decided to start their own business, James Steel Fabricators and Steel Construction. Jim was the first entrepreneur to bring cranes to this area, and his company thrived. One of his proudest accomplishments was winning the bids to do reconstructive work on The White House gates, The Truman Balcony and the US Capitol. During this time, they decided to open their hearts and home and adopted two daughters, Suzanne and Amy Jo. They built their home in Alexandria and moved into it with their daughters on November 22, 1963. They lived there for the rest of their lives.

Jim retired from his business in June of 1988. During retirement, he had more time to enjoy golf. He was so pleased to have had a hole in one on November 20, 2004 at Fairfax Country Club. As much as he loved golf, his passion was flying. He held both a commercial and private pilot's license and loved to fly his plane. He flew well into his early eighties.

Jim was very active in the Alexandria community. He was a member of the Board of Trustees for I nova Alexandria Hospital, the Eisenhower Partnership Group, The First Baptist Church, the Friendship Firehouse, and Belle Haven Country Club for over 34 years. He and his wife supported many charities in Alexandria and contributed to the Children's Home Society in Richmond where they adopted their oldest daughter from. Jim was truly a great man and will be missed by all who had the pleasure to know him. He is survived by a sister, Joann Duncan of Pinehurst, NC, his daughter, Suzanne Eudy Backus of Alexandria, VA, his daughter, Amy Jo Eudy Newell of Warrenton, VA and her husband, J. Patrick Newell, his grandchildren, Andrew James Redel, Jack Patrick Newell, Glenn Edward Backus, Jr., Troy James Backus (Audrey Bly) and Frances Jessup Backus, sister in law Joanne Sullivan Davis (Richard's wife) whom he enjoyed many lunches and rides with as well as many nieces and nephews. The family would like to thank Shermaine Frederick for caring for him for the last 6 years. She wasn't just his main caretaker, she was his best buddy. They formed a friendship that was amazing. Shermaine took exceptional care of him, went above and beyond for him and became part of our family. Anchors Away! Funeral services and interment are private.

Be a part of our **Wellbeing** pages, the first week of every month.

Delight in our **HomeLifeStyle** sections, the second week of every month. Peek at the top real estate sales, glimpse over-the-top remodeling projects, get practical suggestions for your home.

Celebrate students, camps, schools, enrichment programs, colleges and more in our **A-plus: Education, Learning, Fun** pages, the third week of every month.

Questions? E-mail sales@connectionnewspapers.com or call 703-778-9431



A Near Catastrophe, Always

By KENNETH B. LOURIE



As I bring our two cat carriers up from the basement in order for "The Buff Boys" to acclimate in anticipation of their impending visit to the veterinarian, I can't help but think back to the spring of 1976. That's when an appointment to mend my male cat, Tillie, nearly went very wrong.

To this day, the circumstances still haunt me. Tillie had been a surprise birthday gift given to me in September 1975, along with a puppy I named Gus (both named after a W.C. Fields' movie, "Tillie and Gus").

Tillie was an all-black domestic short hair. Gus was a German Shepard/St. Bernard mix. He was beautiful. He had a white-ish beige coat, floppy ears and a curly tail.

Introduced to one another at 6 weeks old, Tillie and Gus were the best of friends/siblings. Though I made sure they spent their evenings inside, during the day, both were outside. (We had a fenced-in yard so Gus was confined. Tillie however, as you might imagine was not. He had the run of the neighborhood.)

Sure enough, one day, Tillie got into a cat fight. His tail had been bitten and was beginning to abscess. I knew I had to take him to the veterinarian. However, I was in college and had very little money to spare. Nor did I have a credit card either. (Those were the days before credit card companies solicited college students.) In a financial bind, I called my parents and asked for money (I did work in the dining hall all through college but lived in a house off campus and had the usual room and board-type expenses).

They sent me \$25. (In my mind, I can still see the check.) In addition to whatever other money I could scrape together, I guess it was enough so I took Tillie to the "vet" for repair. He stayed overnight. The next day, I got the call that he was ready for pick-up. That's when the event occurred that has affected me/my animal-owning life going on - four decades plus.

I went by myself. I had a car; a 1970 Ford Maverick, but no cat carrier. I was, apparently, planning on simply holding Tillie in my arms as I had done the day before. However, the pick-up was not nearly as uneventful as the drop-off.

Once I got outside the building, Tillie began squirming (his tail had been shaved and had stitches where the abscess/bite had been inflicted) and broke free from my grasp. He ran off about 20 yards - or so to the rear of this modest one-story building and stopped just shy of a chain-link fence which separated where we all were to another neighborhood - beyond my reach. My fear: had Tillie climbed over that fence somehow, he likely would have been gone forever.

Slowly I approached Tillie, repeatedly calling his name as quietly and reassuringly as I could, trying not to rattle, startle or scare him in any way; presuming post-surgery, in an unfamiliar place, possibly in pain, it might not take much from his father to cause him to scamper off and disappear.

As I casually walked toward him, amazingly, Tillie sort of stood still, enough for me to scoop him up. Which I did and then carefully walked back to my car and drove us both home without any further ado - except for the rest of my taking-cats-to-the-"vet" life. And yes, that means now.

And though I'm not stupid enough to transport cats without cat carriers anymore, I am only at ease once we're back home and have let the cats out of their boxes and released them into the house (all our cats are indoor cats). Throughout this process, I must check the latches on their carriers a half-a-dozen times; in the house, in the car, in the parking lot outside the "vet's" office, in the waiting room, in the examining room and then again afterwards; back in the waiting room while I pay, in the car on the way home and finally in the driveway as I prepare to carry the carriers/cats across the yard and into the house. Once inside with the cats/carriers in hand, finally I can relax. Home at last.

Forty-one years ago; it seems like yesterday, or maybe tomorrow if the "vet" can see us. And that's what worries me. Been there and unfortunately, have done that.

Kenny Lourie is an Advertising Representative for The Potomac Almanac & The Connection Newspapers.

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LETTERS

FROM PAGE 20

dozen times), before slamming the Virginia legislature and 18 other states which have declined "free" federal funding for Medicaid expansion.

Amidst the handwringing about the poor, readers should instead focus on what the liberals don't tell us, which is (1) ObamaCare was lied into existence by low-balling the cost estimates, (2) it was written by the pharmaceutical, health insurance, and hospital industry lobbyists to underwrite their business models with insurance for the poor as a byproduct, (3) insurers are exiting the marketplaces in droves because their lobbyists didn't do good math, (4) it is partly funded by morally repugnant taxes on medical equipment such as a hospital-type bed for someone in home hospice, and (5) Medicaid expansion is funded primarily by deficit spending such that the 19 stalwart states refusing it are preventing the federal government from living further beyond its means.

Liberals assure us that ObamaCare will afford us a healthier, more productive workforce, which will be good for economic growth, but only a small percentage of these reputed benefits finds its way back to the treasury. By this perverse logic of deficit spending, economic growth relies on red ink.

Let me assure letter-writer Cedar Dvorin ["Why Not Health Care for All?"] that our Republican state legislators are not "too mean" to expand Medicaid; their sort is too scared of constituents like me who are more numerous in their districts and are motivated to vote in primaries. Where we might agree is that "Medicare for all," which pays for itself and covers everyone, makes more sense than ObamaCare.

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FROM PAGE 11

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Commission on HIV/AIDS. 6 p.m. Alexandria Health Department, 4480 King St. Contact Nechelle Terrell at nechelle.terrell@vdh.virginia.gov or 703-746-4933.

MONDAY/JULY 24

Alexandria Citizen Corps Council. 7 p.m. Fire Station 204, 900 Second St. Visit alexandriava.gov/CitizenCorps.
ARHA Board Meeting. 7 p.m. Alexandria Redevelopment & Housing Authority. Contact Roy Priest at 703-549-7115.

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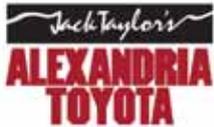
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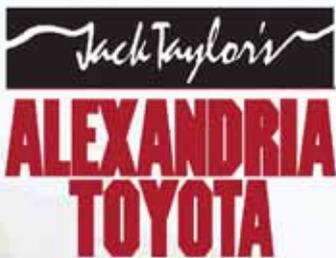
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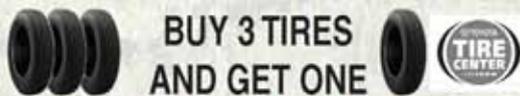
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